Name: Arijit Bhattacharyya

Country: India

Participated As: Artist

Proposed subject: "How political is our Curry?"

Project Description-

In one of the most well-known quotes, Michel Foucault claims "Where there is power, there is

resistance" (1978:95–96). On the contrary, Lila Abu-Lughod states "where there is resistance, there is power" (1990: 42) thus understanding resistance is helpful to recognize power. Our cuisines are a political and social expression towards fundamental power structures that we tend to overlook. When the ships first came to the coast of Calicut history was taking a new shape for the cuisines and a lot more for two different parts of the world. The 'How Political is our Curry?' is a socio-political dialogue about the gastronomy of India and its relationship with colonialism. It attempts to negotiate power in a postcolonial context through food and wishes to develop an argument that investigates efforts of neo-colonialism in postcolonial culture through gastronomy.

A version of this talk was first presented as a lecture-performance in an exhibition named 'Owned by Others' in Berlin in September 2020 curated by Raul Walch and Lutz Henke.

Proposed version of the work supported by Art and Artisans(India)

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