

DEMOCRACY IN THE BALANCE

August 13, 2020 at 4:00pm Hawaii

Speaker Biographies



Khaldoun BARGHOUTI

Israeli Affairs Editor, Alhayat Aljadida, Ramallah, Palestine @KHBarghouti

Khaldoun Barghouti is a Palestinian journalist and Israeli affairs editor for the *Alhayat Aljadida* newspaper in Ramallah. He also hosts a daily radio program on Ajyal Radio Network where he reviews Israeli news. In addition, Mr. Barghouti contributes analysis of Israeli events and news to a quarterly research publication for the P.L.O. Research Center. He will soon join The Palestinian Forum for Israeli Studies as a permanent writer. Mr. Barghouti previously worked as a project coordinator at Birzeit University Media Development Center and was named a fellow of the East-West Center Senior Journalists Seminar in 2014. He holds a master's in Israeli studies from Al-Quds University and a bachelor's in journalism from Birzeit University.



Lillian CUNNINGHAM

Creator and Host "Presidential" and "Constitutional" podcasts, The Washington Post, Washington, DC, USA @lily_cunningham

Lillian Cunningham is a journalist with *The Washington Post*, focusing on American politics and history. She is the creator and host of three of *The Post's* most popular podcasts: "Presidential," "Constitutional" and "Moonrise." "Presidential" explored the past leadership and current legacy of each American president, through interviews, reporting and research into their administrations. Previously a feature writer for and editor of *The Washington Post's* On Leadership section, Ms. Cunningham received two Emmy Awards for her interviews with leaders in politics, business and the arts. Additionally, she is a Webby Award honoree, an Academy of Podcasters finalist, and a former Jefferson Fellow with the East-West Center.



Arfa KHANUM

Senior Editor, The Wire, New Delhi, India @khanumarfa

Arfa Khanum is senior editor at The Wire, a financially and editorially independent multimedia news website published in English, Hindi and Urdu. The Wire has about 20 million unique readers and viewers of all its multimedia platforms, which includes 15 million page views a month. The website mainly covers politics, policy governance, and science journalism. Ms. Khanum is also co-founder of South Asian Women in Media and former vice president of the Aligarh Muslim University's alumni association. She was previously a founding member and senior anchor at Rajya Sabha Television, the official broadcaster of the Upper House of Indian parliament. Before that, she was a principle correspondent at New Delhi Television and a production executive at Sahara Samay News Network.

Ms. Khanum won the 2019 Chameli Devi Jain Award for outstanding woman media person for her reports on Kashmir, and the prestigious RedInk Award in 2018. She earned her PhD and master's degree in political science from Jamia Millia Islamia University in New Delhi. Her doctoral thesis focused on a socio-political analysis of Dalits and Muslims in India. She also holds a post-graduate degree in journalism from Aligarh Muslim University.



D.J. YAP

Senior Reporter, Philippine Daily Inquirer, Manila, Philippines @deejayapINQ

D.J. Yap is a senior reporter covering politics, elections, and the legislature for the *Philippine Daily Inquirer*, the largest and most influential English-language daily newspaper in the Philippines. Prior to assuming his current role, Mr. Yap covered Manila city and police beats as well as national assignments that included the environment, defense, and foreign affairs. In 2014, he won runner-up honors for excellence in feature writing from the Hong Kong-based Society of Publishers in Asia for a personal essay on typhoon Haiyan. His series of reports on Haiyan also won Best News Coverage for Print at the Catholic Mass Media Awards. Mr. Yap was named a fellow of the East-West Center Senior Journalists Seminar in 2018 and was selected Journalist of the Month in February 2019 by the International Journalists' Network, a project of the International Center for Journalists. Mr. Yap earned his journalism degree from the University of the Philippines.

Moderator:



Seth C. MCKEE

Professor of Political Science, Oklahoma State University, and Editor-in-Chief, Political Research Quarterly, Stillwater, OK, USA

Seth C. McKee is a professor of political science at Oklahoma State University. Previously, he taught at Texas Tech University, the University of South Florida St. Petersburg, and the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. He is a scholar of American politics with expertise in American institutions, political parties, and political behavior. Dr. McKee is the editor-in-chief of *Political Research Quarterly* and serves on the editorial boards of *American Politics Research* and *Political Behavior*. He is also author of *Republican Ascendancy in Southern U.S. House Elections*, editor of *Jigsaw Puzzle Politics in the Sunshine State*, and author of the textbook, *The Dynamics of Southern Politics: Causes and Consequences*. He has published numerous articles on such topics as political participation, public opinion, vote choice, redistricting, party switching, minority representation, strategic voting behavior, and state legislative voting behavior. Dr. McKee received his PhD in government from the University of Texas as well as his master's in economics and bachelor's in political science from Oklahoma State University.