In the cosmopolitan Indian city of Calcutta, a vibrant Baghdadi Jewish community thrived in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Jael Silliman, author of *Jewish Portraits, Indian Frames: Women’s Narratives from a Diaspora of Hope*, will talk about how the Jews of Calcutta made their way in multiple worlds as British imperialism gave way to an independent India. Through the lives of several generations of remarkable women in her family, Dr. Silliman will discuss how Indian and Jewish identities frame the history of a community that finds home, and hope, through transnational movement and changing local traditions.

**Dr. Jael Silliman** was born into the Baghdadi Jewish community of Calcutta, and is a scholar, researcher, and activist in the area of women’s rights. She is currently a Program Officer for Women’s Rights and Gender Equity in the Human Rights Unit, Peace and Social Justice Program of the Ford Foundation. Previous positions include tenured Associate Professor of Women’s Studies at the University of Iowa. Dr. Silliman has spoken widely in the US and internationally on issues of transnational feminist movements, population and reproductive rights, women of color organizing, and environmental justice concerns. She is the recipient of the Iowa City Human Rights Commission International Human Rights Award and an Open Society Fellow.

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