This talk will identify characteristics and the diverse nature of the indigenous groups throughout Bangladesh. After a historical introduction, several well-known cases of problems with state development policies geared towards Bengali (majority) community will be discussed. A contemporary picture of these groups will be presented, along with Dr. Khan's research activity and plans.

Dr. Farida Khan is Associate Professor and Chair of Economics at UCCS. She is a development economist who has researched Bangladesh for the past 30 years. Her interest in the indigenous populations in this region came about twenty years ago when she met the Chakma Raja in the southeastern hills of Bangladesh. She has published several articles and book chapters on this topic during the last two decades.