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Points of Departure for a Post-2030 Development Agenda
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Renunciation: Practices for a Post-Prosperity and Pandemic Age

Asceticism is an ancient practice in many communities, but how does it become reimagined in times of material insecurity? This presentation explores lives of modern renunciates living in the midst of bustling cities, focusing on the Global South where self-denial has received far less attention than the orientation towards prosperity. The choice to renounce worldly possessions is shaped by factors such as gender, age, and occupation as well as considerations such as communal housing and food-sharing that reveal the social and cultural factors that make sustainable practices ultimately local, personal, and pious acts.