

**Message from President-elect of Harvard University and Dean of the Radcliffe Institute for
Advanced Study Drew Gilpin Faust**

I am delighted to send greetings on the occasion of this conference to honor Professor Padma Desai, distinguished alumna of Radcliffe and Harvard. As a scholar of great distinction, Padma Desai has made wide-ranging and transformative contributions, reaching audiences within and far beyond the academy. Her work has been lauded throughout the world, described as “particularly ingenious and innovative”, “stimulating and path-breaking” and as combining “theoretical elegance, econometric sophistication and precise handling of empirical evidence”. I join her family, friends and admirers in recognizing her outstanding achievements.