

# CONTRIBUTORS' BIONOTES

# Contributors

**Agnes D'Costa:** is an Associate Professor at Pushpanjali College of Education, Vasai. She has 25 years of experience as a teacher-educator and has conducted many sessions for college faculty on 'Learning through Cyberspace'. In 2012, she received the NCERT Award for Innovations in Teacher Education for her research on 'Open Education Resources'. She has published two textbooks for the Two Year B.Ed Course.

**Annakutty Findeis:** is an Associate Professor in German Lit. Banaras Hindu University 1979-1988; joined as Professor of German Lit. and Head, Department of Foreign Languages, University of Bombay (now Mumbai) in 1988; retired as Head, Dept. of German, in 2003; initiated teaching and research in Intercultural German Studies; guided 12 Ph.D. scholars; organized 4 international conferences. Professor Emeritus Fellow of University Grants Commission 2005-2007. She was the first Asian Woman Representative Member by election representing India in the Executive Committee of the International Association of German Scholars for ten years (1990-2000). She has held the DAAD Fellowship for six times, and has been invited as a Visiting Professor to Universities in Germany, France, Austria, Thailand etc. She has published more than 80 Research Articles on Literature and Intercultural Studies on German poetry and Indian Aesthetics in reputed international Research Journals besides books. She has also published books on poetry in German and Malayalam.

**Kamala Ganesh:** is former Professor and Head, Dept. of Sociology, University of Mumbai. Her fields of interest include Gender and Kinship, Women's history and Archiving for women, Culture and Identity and Indian Diaspora Studies. Earlier this year she was Scholar in Residence at Shiv Nadar University. She has been awarded the M.N. Srinivas Chair professorship for 2020-21 by the Institute of Social and Economic Change. Her book 'Boundary Walls: Caste and Women in a Tamil Community' won the Silver medal of the Asiatic Society of Mumbai. The book co-edited by her 'Zero Point Bombay: In and Around Horniman Circle' was listed by the Guardian in 2013 as among the 10 best books set in Mumbai. She has done field work in Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra,

Netherlands and Germany with national and international fellowships. She has been Convenor of the Research Committee on Migration and Diaspora Studies of the Indian Sociological Society, and also on its Managing Committee; Secretary of the Commission on Women of the International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences and Joint Secretary of the Indian Association of Women's Studies

**Jayashree Inbaraj:** an educationist with more than two decades of experience in Teacher Education. She is the principal of Smt. Kapila Khandvala College of Education, Juhu, Mumbai. In her 25 years of experience, she has fostered several international partnerships with UK, & Kenya and now Israel for schools, colleges with a focus especially on teacher education to develop capable professionals and youth to believe in global citizenship and instill a wider perspective for learning and innovation. Her specializations are in subjects like Psychology, Action research, Global Citizenship, Inclusive Education and social studies education. She has to her credit several published research papers in local and international journals. She is a consultant to many reputed organizations in the education space like British council, CENTA, Tata Trusts.

**Gomathi Jatin:** Associate Professor with the Centre for Education Innovation and Action Research at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences. With a Ph.D. in Education from the University of Mumbai, she has taught across courses in teacher education institutions and also nurtures keen interest in school and classroom practices. Her areas of interest include teacher education, school education, classroom pedagogy and practices, adolescent psychology, educational leadership and management and research. She has conducted workshops related to classroom management, blended learning, cooperative learning and mentoring for action research. Her recent work includes research on school management committees across the states in India. She is actively involved in the formation, management and facilitation of the TALC Communities of Practice for teacher educators across the country. She has conducted Design thinking workshops for teacher educators and pre-service teachers on curating OERs and evaluating them. She is currently working on two projects, 1) related to the mainstreaming of child labour and 2) study related to the concept of teaching learning in Teacher Education Institutions.

**Anjali Sandesh Kale:** Assistant Librarian in the Knowledge Resource Centre, University of Mumbai since February 2009. Her area of specialization is Information Literacy, Preservation and Conservation,

Information Technology and Human Resource Management. She is teaching in Dept. of Library and Information Science, University of Mumbai as a visiting faculty. She is also a research guide in the Library and Information Science Faculty. She has to her credit more than 10 research articles in different renowned journals. She has also worked as Librarian for 8 years in K. J. Somaiya Comprehensive College of Education, training and Research. She is also invited by different departments of University of Mumbai, colleges and SHPT School of library and information science to deliver lectures on varied topics like citation styles, referencing, information literacy etc. She is a member of the Library Advisory Committee of some college libraries.

**Ramesh Kamble:** Formerly, Head, Department of Sociology, University of Mumbai; and student of Prof. Momin. Areas of academic work and interests: Critical Caste Studies, Cultural Studies, STS studies, and Social Theory

**Ashwini Karwande:** is an Assistant Professor at the Dept of Education, University of Mumbai. She has more than 22 years of teaching experience, starting her career as a school teacher, teaching in B.Ed. colleges and since then working as an Assistant Professor. As a research guide, she has supervised 7 students who are awarded with PhD degrees, 6 students awarded with M.Phil. degree and 65 M.Ed. students for their Research Dissertations. She has co authored two books with her mother Mrs. Malti Halbe in 2008 and edited one book in 2017. She is also Involved in Designing the Curriculum of M.Ed. M. Phil., Pre Ph.D. and PGDME courses at the Department of Education and preparing Course Materials for IDOL, Mumbai University and SNTD university for MA Education programme. She possess Administrative Experience for being IQAC-NACC coordinator and is also the organizing secretary for organizing seminars and workshops at the Department of Education

**Virendra Kumar:** joined the department of law in Panjab University as a Lecturer in 1967. In 1969 he proceeded for his doctoral studies at the University of Toronto, Canada and was conferred the Degree of Juridical Sciences (SJD) in 1973. Dr Kumar joined as Professor of Law at Punjabi University Patiala in 1979 and later joined the parent Panjab University (PU) Chandigarh as Professor in 1981. Thereafter Dean, Faculty of Law from 1984-87, Chief Editor Panjab University Law Review (1982-85), Fellow (nominated), PU. In 1988, he was invited to be a member of the UGC Curriculum Development Centre in Law

(11-member committee led by Professor Upendra Baxi, Delhi University, Delhi) which produced report of the Curriculum Development Centre in law (UGC, New Delhi, 1990) – a comprehensive report on legal education in India in order to promote excellence in teaching and research. He was awarded UGC Emeritus Fellow in Law (200–2004) and in 2004, he had the privilege of being invited to contribute an article on the Hindu Law: Overview, to The Oxford International Encyclopaedia of Legal History (Oxford University Press, USA) published in multi-volumes in 2009. He has been invited to address the International conferences, delivered special lectures under the aegis of Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) at PU, Chandigarh since the year 2002, and he has to his credit 85 published papers. He is a resource person and nominated member of various law universities and institutes in the country and has been contributing (by invitation) his Critique of Judicial decisions of the High Courts and the Supreme Court mostly in the arena of Election Law since the year 1984; his critique is published every year in Annual Survey of Indian Law. He is founding Director (Academics) Chandigarh Judicial Academy (2009–12) – an institution for training judges of subordinate judiciary for training judges of subordinate judiciary the states of Punjab and Haryana, the Union Territory of Chandigarh; and member of the Three-member committee constituted by the Chief Justice of India under the Chairmanship of Justice KTS Thomas, Former Judge Supreme Court of India, for examining the functioning of the National Law School University, Bangalore (2008–2009)

**Sachin Labade:** is an Associate Professor at the Department of English, University of Mumbai. He has been teaching Literature in English as well as English Linguistics for 20 years. He explored ESL pedagogy at the undergraduate level in his M.Phil. dissertation, while his doctoral thesis attempted a semiotic investigation of the Queer in Indian film narratives. He has been actively involved in collaborative projects on English in India and ESL pedagogical practices. His current research interests include Queer Studies, English Language Pedagogy, Contact Languages, South Asian Englishes, and Diaspora Studies. He has published a few of his research articles and a Marathi translation of Anthony Bertini and Jenifer Goldsmith's *Where Happiness Hides*. Recently, he co-authored a chapter on English in India in *Modelling World Englishes: A Joint Approach towards Postcolonial and Non-Postcolonial Varieties* (eds. Sarah Buschfeld and Alexander Kautzsch) published by Edinburgh University Press. Besides, he has also been working as the honorary coordinator of Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute University Centre (SICIUC) as well as Indo-Canadian Studies Centre (ICSC).

**Indra Munshi:** retired as professor and head of department of Sociology, University of Mumbai. She has taught courses on sociology of tourism, sociological perspective on environment, adivasi communities in India and methodology of social research in universities in India, Germany, and Austria. She has researched and published extensively in Indian and foreign journals on a variety of subjects, which include adivasi communities and issues of land and forest; adivasi women's revolts; Indian forest policies and its impact on adivasi communities' lives and livelihood; degradation of environment and its consequences; tourism and gender issues; and urban planning and design with special focus on Patrick Geddes' work. Her major publications include books, edited jointly with Manorama Savur, *Contradictions in Indian Society*. She also has several notable essays on diverse issues to her credit. Professor Munshi was on the Senate of University of Mumbai; the Governing Board of Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai. Currently, Chairperson, Institutional Review Board (IRB), Tata Institute of Social Sciences, TISS, Mumbai; Member, advisory board for *Sambhāṣaṇ* a free open access peer-reviewed bilingual interdisciplinary journal of the University of Mumbai; Trustee, Participatory Urban Design and Development Initiative (PUDDI), Mumbai; Trustee and advisor, Aseema, a Mumbai based NGO for education of underprivileged children. She is executive editor of *Indian Journal of Secularism (IJS)*, Centre for Study of Society and Secularism (CSSS), Mumbai.

**Smriti Nevatia:** has worked as a film and theatre critic, and as researcher, scriptwriter, and co-director on film projects. She was part of the core team on 'Bharat ki Chhap' (Doordarshan, 1989), a 13-part series on the history of science and technology in the Indian subcontinent, directed by Chandita Mukherjee. She has collaborated with filmmaker Nishtha Jain on award-winning documentaries such as 'City of Photos', 'Lakshmi and Me', and 'Gulabi Gang', and served on the selection committees and juries of various national and international film festivals. Smriti has curated themed film festivals on LGBTQIA+ lives and concerns, gender-based violence, social justice movements, and masculinities, besides co-curating for IAWRT India's annual Asian Women's Film Festival. She teaches occasionally, works as text editor and translator in Hindi and English, and is co-author of 'No Outlaws in the Gender Galaxy' (Zubaan, 2015). Crime fiction is her passion; feminism her touchstone.

**Rhea Pillai:** is a Senior Analyst for Talent Management and Organizational Development at PepsiCo in New York. She has a Master's

in Industrial- Organizational Psychology from Mumbai University and a Masters in Social-Organizational Psychology from Columbia University, New York. Prior to working at PepsiCo, she has worked at the United Nations in their Global Assessments Team and at VNSNY, a healthcare based in New York, in their Organizational Development team. She also currently helps out with sustainable efforts in New York as part of Grow NYC, an organization that aims to improve the quality of life through environmental programs that transform communities. She spends her free time gardening, hiking and reading books.

**Geetika Varde Qureshi:** a vocalist of the Jaipur-Atrauli Gharana, has learnt under the tutelage of the renowned Guru and performer Smt. Manik Tai Bhide. Geetika has been a recipient of the Sangeet-Research-Academy (SRA) Scholarship and has been a graded artiste of All-India-Radio. She has performed at several venues. She has particularly been applauded for her successful lecture-demonstrations at many institutes in India (Such as NID Ahmedabad, M.S. University, Baroda, NCPA Mumbai), many universities – USA (Such as CAL Arts, UCLA, Duke University, New York) and other places abroad (such as Guildhali School of Music London, Nehru centre London, Bharati Vidya Bhavan, London, Lucern, Zurich – Switzerland). She has released albums/songs which are self-composed (some also penned by her), and also of traditional classical and semi-classical types, and has featured on other artistes' albums. She has sung for various genres like fusion and jingles. She holds a First Class-Masters Degree in Biochemistry from Bombay University. She is a thinking musician and likes to write on music, on the lines of exploring perspectives rather than information and grammar.

**Brother Joseph Sebastian:** heads the main projects at Welfare Society for Destitute Children, a non-profit organization in Mumbai. Closely work with children and their families on the street through its many rehabilitation projects from the last 26 years. A religious brother, with keen interests in practical religion who got trained under his Guru & Mentor Rev Fr Anthony Elenjmittam who believes in the cosmic effect of thought 'One World, One Humanity and One World Citizenship' as we are all God's children. Keen on living and applying inter religious understanding on daily life. Also is a qualified practicing arts-based therapist based on Buddhist principles. Studied Vipassana and Buddhist Studies at Mumbai University. Studied bachelors in arts (Economics) at Maharaja's college, Ernakulam Kerala.