

CONTRIBUTORS' BIONOTES

Contributors

Amrita Banerjee is Associate Professor of Philosophy at the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology Bombay. She received her Ph.D. in Philosophy and the Graduate Certificate in Women's and Gender Studies from the University of Oregon, USA. Banerjee held the position of Assistant Professor of Philosophy at Allegheny College, Pennsylvania, USA prior to joining IIT Bombay. She specializes in Moral and Socio-Political Philosophy, which she approaches from the perspectives of Feminist Philosophy, Classical Pragmatism, and Twentieth century Continental philosophy. Banerjee focuses on marginalized intellectual spaces within Philosophy, and especially work by women philosophers and philosophers of color within these traditions. Her papers have appeared in prestigious journals such as *Hypatia*, the *Journal of Speculative Philosophy*, *The Pluralist*, and *Philosophy in the Contemporary World*. She is co-editor of the special issue titled, "Mothering from the Margins" of *Philosophy in the Contemporary World*.

Rajeev Bhargava is Honorary Fellow and Director of Parekh Institute of Indian Thought, CSDS. He was Professor and Director of CSDS, Delhi (2007–2014). He was Professor, JNU, New Delhi (1980–2005), and was Head, Department of Political Science, University of Delhi (2001–2005). He is Honorary Fellow, Balliol College, Oxford. He was Professorial Fellow, ACU, Sydney. He has been a Fellow at Harvard University, University of Bristol, Institute of Advanced Studies, Jerusalem, Wissenschaftskolleg, Berlin, and the Institute for Human Sciences, Vienna. He has also been Distinguished Resident Scholar, Institute for Religion, Culture and Public Life, Columbia University, and Asia Chair at Sciences Po, Paris. He has also been a Berggruen Fellow at Stanford, Tsinghua and New York Universities between 2015–2017. Bhargava's publications include *Individualism in Social Science* (1992), *What is Political Theory and Why Do We Need It?* (2010), and *The Promise of India's Secular Democracy* (2010). His edited works include *Secularism and Its Critics* (1998) and *Politics and Ethics of the Indian Constitution* (2008). His work on secularism and methodological individualism is internationally acclaimed.

Alessandro Ferrara is Professor of Political Philosophy at the University of Rome Tor Vergata and teaches Legal Theory at Luiss Guido Carli University in Rome. He has served as President of the Italian Society for Political Philosophy (2005–2010) and is Co-Director of the Prague Conference on *Philosophy and Social Science*. Among his recent volumes are *Legitimation by Constitution. A Dialogue on Political Liberalism* with Frank Michelman, (OUP, 2021); *Rousseau and Critical Theory* (Brill, 2017) and *The Democratic Horizon. Hyperpluralism and the Renewal of Political Liberalism* (CUP, 2014). Ferrara is also the author of *The Force of the Example. Explorations in the Paradigm of Judgment* (Columbia UP, 2008); *Justice and Judgment* (Sage, 1999), *Reflective Authenticity; Rethinking the Project of Modernity* (Routledge, 1998). He is currently completing a new volume entitled *Sovereignty Across Generations. Constituent Power and Political Liberalism*, on the opposition of sequential and serial conceptions of democratic popular sovereignty.

Rudolf C. Heredia is an independent writer / researcher. He has his doctorate in Sociology from the University of Chicago (1979), and taught sociology at St Xavier's College, Mumbai, where he was the founder director of the Social Science Centre. In 1992–94 he was director, department of research, at the Indian Social Institute and edited the institute's journal, *Social Action*, 1993–95 and again in 2005 – 2008. From 2004 – 2010 he was a research fellow at the Indian Social Institute, N. Delhi, and research consultant 2016–2020. Some of his earlier publications are: *Voluntary Action and Development: Towards a Praxis for Non-Government Agencies*, Concept, N. Delhi, 1988; *Tribal Education for Community Development: A Study of Schooling in the Talasari Mission Area*, *ibid.*, 1992; *Urban Housing and Voluntary Agencies: Case Studies in Bombay*, *Institute of Social Sciences*, N. Delhi, 1989; *Tribal Identity and Minority Status: The Katkari Nomads in Transition*, 1994. His recent publications include, *Changing Gods: Rethinking Conversion in India*, Penguin, N. Delhi, 2007; *Taking Sides: Reservations Quotas and Minority Rights*, Penguin, India, 2012; *Reconciling Difference: Collective Violence in India*, Speaking Tiger, N. Delhi, 2021.

Sanhita Joshi is an Assistant Professor at the Department of Civics and Politics, University of Mumbai since 2012. Before that she taught at Ramnarayan Ruia College from 2010 to 2012 and also has taught at Anthony's Arts Academy. She secured a gold medal in her B.A. (Political science) and 3rd position in University at M.A. (Political Science). She has published her PhD thesis as a book titled: *Rethinking Panchayati Raj* in 2017 by Rawat publishers. She also has to her credit

many academic articles published in national and international journals. Her research interests include Ancient Indian Political Thought, Political Theory/ Philosophy, Governance (Rural & Urban), Public Policy, Development and Gender. She was awarded with President of India Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma Gold Medal Mumbai University (2004-05) which is given to the best all-rounder student of the University. She is a poet at heart and has a knack of translating difficult socio- political themes and ideas into lucidly written poetry (in Hindustani) in which she is able to capture community experiences as well.

Vamsi or Sri Vamsi Matta is a theatre artist, writer based out of Bengaluru. She is a science graduate from the Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru, although theatre started out as a hobby during her undergraduate years. It soon grew into a significant aspect of her life, until her love for the art form led her to pursue theatre as a full-time profession. Born into a Dalit family, her art as a theatre practitioner is strongly informed by her identity. She believes that she has a huge responsibility to ask questions around the idea of identity and find some relief, if not proper answers. She has been part of over 30 theatre productions in various capacities, ranging from on-stage acting, writing, directing to technical and production design. In 2019 she started her own theatre company, Chandrāto Collective, which has had two major productions since. With each project, her artistic identity has led her towards nuanced subjects (such as critique of the caste system, mental healthcare, poor governance, homosexuality, child sex abuse, violence against women) which amplify the voices and stories of the marginalized.

Vibhuti Patel with a PhD in Economics (is Vice President of Indian Association for Women's Studies. She superannuated from TISS, Mumbai in 2020. She has worked at the Advanced Centre for Women's Studies, School of Development Studies, Tata Institute of Social Sciences from 2017 to 2020 after her retirement from SNDT Women's University, Mumbai in 2017. She had prepared base paper on "Gender" for Mumbai Human Development Report (2010), Maharashtra Human Development Report (2012) and MMRDA Human Development Report (2013) for Government of Maharashtra. She had contributed 3 chapters for an Expert Committee Report on Socioeconomic Status of Muslims in Maharashtra for Maharashtra State Minority Commission, Government of Maharashtra, 2013. As an Expert Committee member of the Working Group on Discrimination against Women and Girls of

United Nations Human Rights Council, she contributed to preparing a Report on Women's Human Rights in Changing World of Work, 2020.

Leena Pujari is Associate Professor and Head, Department of Sociology, K C College, Mumbai. Her research interests include Sociology of Development and Gender Studies in particular issues of feminist pedagogy, feminist resistance and feminist jurisprudence.

Nalini Rajan is Professor and Dean of Studies at the Asian College of Journalism, Chennai. She has a doctorate specialising in political philosophy from the Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium. She has held postdoctoral fellowships at the Centre for Socio-Legal Studies, University of Oxford, Institute of Social Sciences, University of Edinburgh, and the Hastings Center for Bio-Ethics, New York. She has been a Homi Bhabha Fellow and a recipient of the Charles Wallace Grant, UK. She has published five books on political philosophy, of which two were on Rawlsian theory – *Secularism, Democracy, Justice – Implications of Rawlsian Principles in India* (1998) and *Democracy and the Limits of Minority Rights* (2002). She has also written three works of fiction and edited six books on the media. Her novel, *The Pangolin's Tale*, was long-listed for the 2007 Man Asian Literary Prize. She is presently engaged in writing a book on secularism for the publication, *Speaking Tiger*.

Michael Roseneck received his PhD in Political Theory in 2020 with a thesis on the legitimacy of religious demands in the democratic discourse of pluralistic societies. In his thesis, he developed an independent approach to the possibility of including religious reasons in public discourse, based on Habermas's theory of communicative action. Previously, he received a Master of Arts in Empirical Democracy Studies at Johannes Gutenberg University, Mainz and a Master of Arts with distinction in Philosophy of Religion at Johann Wolfgang Goethe University Frankfurt. Since 2020, he has been a research assistant at the professorship for Philosophy of Religion in Frankfurt. Before that, he was a research assistant for Political Theory in Mainz. Furthermore, from 2017 to 2019, he was a member and a junior speaker of the Gutenberg Academy, an institution for the advancement of excellent doctoral students at the University of Mainz. His research and publications focus on practical and political philosophy, for example the theory of deliberative democracy or the relationship between truth and democracy. He also works on question of the philosophy of religion in connection with the issue of religion in modern societies.

Mayavee Singh has researched on the notion of liberty and equality from the prospective of Mill, Berlin, Rawls and Dworkin for her Ph.D. at Department of Philosophy, Lucknow University. She was awarded ICPR General Fellowship to do post-Doctoral research on Liberal Equality and Ethics at the Department of Philosophy, Goa University. Her primary research interest is Social and Political Philosophy. Her publications generally explore the philosophical perspectives of John Rawls and Ronald Dworkin.