

CONTRIBUTORS' BIONOTES

Contributors

Indrani Bhattacharjee is Assistant Professor of Philosophy at the Jindal School of Liberal Arts and Humanities, OP Jindal Global University, Sonapat. She has doctoral degrees in philosophy from Jadavpur University and University of Massachusetts, Amherst. She has taught for close to nine years at Azim Premji University, and for shorter stints at Tufts and Bridgewater State University in the United States. While her writing and teaching are strongly influenced by her training in analytic philosophy, Indrani is also interested in exploring veins of philosophical enquiry that actively combine dialectical thought with the deliverances of a synoptic and/or poetic vision and imagination. Her research and teaching interests include the philosophy of the Later Wittgenstein, philosophy of education, epistemology and Indian aesthetics. Her dominant research interest at this time is the early philosophical thought of Rabindranath Tagore (circa 1908-1916), a topic on which she is writing a book. In this book, she explores the sources of Tagore's humanism and cosmopolitanism through his essays in Bengali and English.

Arudra Burra teaches at the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Delhi. His research interests are in moral, political, and legal philosophy on the one hand, and on Indian constitutional and intellectual history on the other. His current projects include the documentation of neglected strands of Indian liberalism through the work of civil liberties activism; understanding the colonial roots of Indian constitutionalism; and questioning the importance of claims to indigeneity in Indian political thought.

Gita Chadha teaches Sociology at the University of Mumbai. Her research interests are in sociological theory, critical studies of science, feminist theory and visual cultures. Gita has written extensively in these fields. She believes that the classroom is a site for cultural transmission, transgression and transformation.

Neera Chandhoke is distinguished Fellow at the Center for Equity Studies, New Delhi. She was formerly Professor of Political Science and the Director of Developing Countries Research Centre at the University of Delhi. She has held several fellowships abroad and has authored many research papers and books. Some of her recent books include *Violence in Our Bones* (2021), *Rethinking Pluralism, Secularism, Tolerance: Anxieties of Co-Existence* (2019), *Democracy and Revolutionary Politics* (2015) and *Contested Secessions*, 2012. She routinely writes essays and columns in mainstream media publications such as *The Hindu*, *The Wire*, *The Indian Express* and *The Tribune*.

Rajlaxmi Ghosh has done her B.A. and M.A. from the Department of Comparative Literature, Jadavpur University, and her second M.A. from the Department of Film Studies, Jadavpur University. She has completed her Ph.D. thesis from the School of Women's Studies, Jadavpur University, and the Indian Council of Philosophical Research. Rajlaxmi is also a recipient of the Junior Research Fellowship of the Indian Council of Philosophical Research, New Delhi. At present, she is working as an independent researcher. Her Ph.D. thesis deals with the interface between philosophy and literature. She has worked as an Assistant Professor of Media Studies at iLEAD College, Kolkata, and also at the Department of literature at Assam Don Bosco University. Rajlaxmi has presented many papers at different seminars and workshops. She has published extensively on Continental philosophy, Feminism, Cultural Studies, Literary Theory, Ethics, and Deconstruction. She is one of the associated editors of the e-journal *Cetana*, Centre for Phenomenological Studies, India.

Jeff Shawn Jose is a Ph.D. student in Political Philosophy at Tilburg University in the Netherlands. His research is on the intersection of religion and radical pluralism focusing on John Rawls and Mahatma Gandhi. He is the author of the book *National Identity Cards and Human Dignity: A Theological Critique of Aadhaar*. His research interests include philosophy of science (Chaos Theory) and the interaction of Catholicism and secular modernity.

Sebastiano Maffetone is an Italian philosopher, currently Full Professor of Political Philosophy at Luiss Guido Carli University in Rome, where he was formerly also the Dean of the Faculty of Political Science. He specialized in Social Philosophy at the London School of Economics and among other appointments, has been a visiting professor at Harvard, Tufts and New York University. He is a

member of many scientific committees supported by Adriano Olivetti, Einaudi and Ernst & Young foundations. Professor Maffettone is also Director of *Filosofia e Questioni Pubbliche*, a semi-annual review of political, moral and social philosophy and applied ethics. Professor Maffettone's research concerns the development of an original vision of public ethics within the context of Italy and international themes of contemporary political philosophy. He also takes interest in the philosophy of John Rawls and has produced an Italian translation of *A Theory of Justice*.

Sanil M. Neelakandan is an independent researcher based in New Delhi. He received his Ph.D. and M.Phil. in Sociology from the Centre for the Study of Social Systems, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. He writes in English and Malayalam languages. He has published in international and national journals-magazines such as *Capital and Class*, *Journal of Social Inclusion*, *The Little Magazine*, *DoubleSpeak*, etc.

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.

Biraj Mehta Rathi is Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, Wilson College, Mumbai. Her post doctoral research project topic was "Martha Nussbaum's Cosmopolitanism: A Critique" (under the aegis of the Indian Council of philosophical Research, Delhi and Department of Philosophy, University of Mumbai). She has completed a UGC approved Minor Research Project at the University of Mumbai on "The Disabled Subaltern of India: A Foucauldian Perspective". Former faculty at Department of Philosophy, Sophia College for Women and Visiting faculty at Department of Philosophy, Department of Civics and Politics, University of Mumbai, she is a resource person at various courses, workshops, seminars and conferences across eminent institutions of the city. She has read papers and published in prestigious national and international academic journals. She frequently reviews books for the *Free Press Journal*. She has initiated unique courses, such as Certificate Course in Disability Studies, Introduction to Experimental and Documentary Films, Screenplay Writing and Local Diversity. She is Co-ordinator of the Bachelors of Vocational Program (B.Voc in Theatre and Stage Craft) at Wilson College. She is the Convenor of Andrews Vision Centre (AVC), Wilson College that aims at making Wilson college campus inclusive and enriching lives of students with disabilities on campus.

Aakash Singh Rathore is a Permanent Visiting Professor of Global Politics and International Fellow (ETHOS CENTER) at LUISS University in Rome, Italy. He is the author of *Ambedkar's Preamble: A Secret History of the Constitution on India* (Penguin, 2020), and of the forthcoming book, *B.R. Ambedkar: A Biography*. Rathore was a Fellow of the Indian Institute for Advanced Study, Shimla and had earlier explored bodily self-representation in life writing, publishing *A Philosophy of Autobiography Body & Text* (Routledge, 2019). He is also the editor of the 5-volume box set, *B.R. Ambedkar: The Quest for Justice* (Oxford University Press, 2020). He tweets at @ASR_Metta.

Panchali Ray is Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Gender Studies at Krea University, Sri City. She writes and researches on gender, caste, labour, and migration. Her publications include the monograph *Politics of Precarity: Gendered Subjects and the Health Care Industry in Contemporary Kolkata* (2019) and the edited volume *Women Speak Nation: Gender, Culture and Politics* (2020).

Thomas M. Schmidt is Professor of Philosophy of Religion at the Department of Catholic Theology and adjunct faculty member at the Department of Philosophy at the Goethe-University in Frankfurt, Germany. His fields of specialization are philosophy of religion, political philosophy, German idealism and the philosophy of Jürgen Habermas. He has taught at California State University, Long Beach, at Saint Louis University and the University of Washington, Seattle, USA. In 2009 he was invited as Distinguished Visiting Fellow at the Helsinki Collegium for Advanced Studies, and in 2011 as Fellow at the Max Weber Center for Advanced Cultural and Social Studies at the University of Erfurt. Some of his key recent publications include, "Dialectics and Despair: Negativity after Hegel", in: *The Meaning and Power of Negativity*, Ed. Ingolf Dalferth/Trevor Kimbell. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck 2021, 169-184 "Human Nature and Genetic Manipulation: The Future of Human Nature (2001)" in: *The Habermas Handbook*, Ed. Hauke Brunkhorst/Regina Kreide/Christina Lafont. New York: Columbia University Press 2018, 461-473, "Recognition and Absolute Disruption. Brandom's and Bataille's Hegel on Experience and Religion", in: *The Origins of Religion. Perspectives from Philosophy, Theology, and Religious Studies*. Ed. Hanne Appelqvist and Dan-Johan Eklund. Tampere 2017, 270-280.