

## Anindita Adhikari

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### EDUCATION

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**Post-Doctoral Fellow, Center for Emerging Democracies, University of Michigan** 2023-2025

**PhD, Department of Sociology, Brown University** 2023

Dissertation: *Redeeming Rights and Democratization of the Local State in India.*

Affiliations: Graduate Program in Development trainee, Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs, Graduate Fellow, Centre for Contemporary South Asia

**MA, Sociology, Brown University** 2017

**MA, Development Studies, Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex, UK** 2008

**BA, Political Science, Lady Shri Ram College, University of Delhi** 2007

### PUBLICATIONS

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#### *PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES*

Levine, Adam C, Park, Anna, [Adhikari, Anindita](#), Alejandria, Carinnes P Maria, Bradlow, Benjamin, Lopez-Portillo, Maria F, Mutwafy, Salma, Zumbyte, Ieva, Heller, Patrick. 2023. The role of civil society organizations (CSOs) in the COVID-19 response across the Global South: A multinational, qualitative study. *PLOS Global Public Health*

Adhikari, Anindita. 2021. Development and Accountability in Urban India: Party Workers, Citizens and Public Services, Review of *Demanding Development* by Adam Auerbach, Economic and Political Weekly Vol. LVI No 21

[Adhikari, Anindita](#), Navmee Goregaonkar, Rajendran Narayanan, Nishant Panicker, and Nithya Ramamoorthy. 2020. Manufactured Maladies: Lives and Livelihoods of Migrant Workers During COVID-19 Lockdown in India". *The Indian Journal of Labor Economics*, 63 (4): 969-997.

[Adhikari, Anindita](#), and Vasudha Chhotray. 2020. "The Political Construction of Extractive Regimes in Two Newly Created Indian States: A Comparative Analysis of Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh". *Development and Change*. 51 (3): 843-873.

Chhotray, Vasudha, [Anindita Adhikari](#), and Vidushi Bahuguna. 2020. The political prioritization of welfare in India: Comparing the public distribution system in Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand. *World Development*, vol 128.

[Adhikari, Anindita](#) and Bhatia, Kartika. 2011. NREGA Wage Payments: Can we bank on the banks? *Economic and Political Weekly* Vol. 45 No. 1. Republished in Khera, R. (ed) (2011) *The Battle for Employment Guarantee*, Oxford University Press: New Delhi

#### *BOOK CHAPTERS AND REPORTS*

[Adhikari, Anindita](#), Alejandria, C., Bradlow, B., Heller, P. , Lopez-Portillo, M., M.F. Mutuwafy, S. and Zumbyte, I. 2022. Public Action and the Pandemic: The Role of Civil Society in Shaping State Responses, Centre for Human Rights and Humanitarian Studies, Brown University.

[Adhikari, Anindita](#) and Taylor, Peter. 2016. *Transformative education and community development: Sharing learning to challenge inequality in an Indian context*, in *Class, Inequality and Community Development*, edited by Mae Shaw and Marjorie Mayo, Policy Press: University of Bristol

#### *WORKS IN PROGRESS*

Adhikari, Anindita. "From Charismatic to Legal Redress: How welfare bureaucrats learn to perform fairness" (in preparation)

Adhikari, Anindita. "State-Sponsored Civic Action: Social Audits and making rights claims actionable" (in preparation)

Adhikari, Anindita and Heller, Patrick. "Civil Society, the State and Institutionalizing Welfare Rights in India" (revise and resubmit)

Adhikari, Anindita, A, Kalaiyarasan, Heller, Patrick and Zumbyte, Ieva. Care and Welfare: Subnational Responses to the Pandemic in Kruks-Wisner, Gabrielle and Roychowdhury, Poulami (eds) *Pandemic Inequality: Citizens, States, and COVID-19 in India* (under review)

Singh, Prerna and Adhikari, Anindita. "Public goods provisioning and social development" in Roy, Indrajit and Desai, Manali (eds) *Cambridge Companion to Indian Politics and Society* (in preparation)

## ***PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP***

### *OP-EDS AND ARTICLES*

Adhikari, Anindita and Mundoli, Seema. 2020. To Get Trains, Migrants Stuck With English Forms, OTPs And More, NDTV, May 12th

Adhikari, Anindita and Naik, Mukta. 2020. Gurugram: Tackling food distress needs urgent intervention, systemic state action. *The Wire*, May 6<sup>th</sup>.

Adhikari, Anindita and Swamy, Rakshita. 2019. Undermining MGNREGA, *Deccan Herald*, 29 March

Adhikari, Anindita and Chhotray, Vasudha. 2018. After 15 years of BJP rule, will vote for change bring in a coalition government in Chhattisgarh?, *Scroll.in*, 1 December

Adhikari, Anindita and Sabhikhi, Inayat. 2017. Survey of social security pensions in Jharkhand shows the problems Universal Basic Income could face, *Scroll.in*, 8th August 2017

Adhikari, Anindita and Sabhikhi, Inayat. 2017. Holes in the Security Net, *Indian Express*, 23rd February

Adhikari, Anindita and Sabhikhi, Inayat. 2014. Slow and steady: Lessons from MNREGA, *Ideas for India*, November.

Adhikari, Anindita, Sabhikhi, Inayat and Swamy, Rakshita. 2014. Putting out the Guarantee, *Indian Express*, March 15.

Adhikari, Anindita. 2012. Jharkhand: Strong Revival, *Frontline*, Volume 28 - Issue 27: Dec. 31, 2011-Jan. 13

### *SELECTED POLICY REPORTS*

Co-author, Stranded Workers Action Network. 2020a. 21 Days and Counting: Migrant Worker Crisis and the National Lockdown in India

Co-author, Stranded Workers Action Network. 2020b. 32 Days and Counting: COVID-19 lockdown, migrant workers and the inadequacy of welfare measures in India

Co-author, Stranded Workers Action Network. 2020c. To leave or Not to Leave: Lockdown, Migrant Workers, and Their Journeys Home

Adhikari, Anindita, Bradlow, Ben, Heller, Patrick, Jamil, Rehan, Li, Kristine, Pheiffer, Chantel, Schrank, Andrew and Walton, Marcus. 2017. Grassroots Reform in the Global South. USAID Research and Innovation Grants Working Paper Series.

Co-author. 2011. Inside Primary Schools: Understanding teaching and learning in India, UNICEF and the ASER center, New Delhi (2011)

### ***SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND WORKSHOPS***

'Claims, Complaints and Democratization of the Local State in India' at American Sociological Association

Conference, Los Angeles, August 2022

‘Claims, Complaints and Democratization of the Local State in India’ at Eastern Sociological Society Annual Conference, Boston, March 2022

‘Institutionalizing Welfare Rights and Accountability in India’, Indian Politics Workshop of the Center on Contemporary India (CCI), UC Berkeley, May 2022

Participant, Training Initiative for Asian Law and Society Scholars (TRIALS), National University of Singapore, Faculty of Law, December 2019

Presenter and organizer, ‘The Political Prioritization of Welfare in India: Comparing the Public Distribution System in Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh’ at the Development Studies Association Conference, Manchester, UK, June 2018

‘The Political Prioritization of Welfare in India: Comparing the Public Distribution System in Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh’ at the 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on South Asia, University of Wisconsin-Madison, October 2018

‘Newly Created Indian States and Inclusive Development: The Sub-National Political Settlements of Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh’, Conference on Global Inequalities, Institut Barcelona d’Estudis Internacionals, Spain, May 2017

#### **SELECTED INVITED PRESENTATIONS AND INTERVIEWS**

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‘Accountability for Public Services in India’, organized by the American Society for Public Administration, UMass Amherst School of Public Policy and Jindal School of Public Policy, October 2022

Stranded Workers Action Network, interview for Amandla! Media, South Africa, July 2022

‘COVID-19 and Migration’, Hidden Backbones: Understanding India’s Migrant Workers, Centre for the Advanced Study of India, University of Pennsylvania, October 2021

‘The Coronavirus Pandemic: How to Secure the Lives of Migrant Workers’, podcast interview for Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi, May 2020

How much India’s Coronavirus Relief Package Helps the Poor? video interview for ScoopWhoop, April 2020

‘Social Audits and Inspection Culture in Bihar’, Workshop on ‘Audit and Anti-Corruption Measures in India’, The Centre for Policy Research and the Global Integrity Anti-Corruption Evidence Research Programme (GI-ACE), New Delhi, September 2019

#### **FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS AND AWARDS**

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Andrew Mellon International Dissertation Research Fellowship, Social Science Research Council	2019
Graduate Program in Development Summer Research Award, Brown University	2018
Joukowsky Research Award, Brown University	2017
Graduate Program in Development Fellowship, Brown University	2016
Centre for Contemporary South Asia, Research Fellowship, Brown University	2016
Commonwealth Scholarship for a Masters in the UK, 2014 (declined)	2015

#### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE AND CERTIFICATION**

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Instructor of Record (Visiting Assistant Professor), Institute of Public Policy, National Law School, India  
Accountability and governance, core course, Masters of Public Policy (2019, 2020, 2021)  
Masters thesis supervision

Teaching Assistant, Brown University  
Classical Sociological Theory (2022)  
Power Knowledge and Justice in a Globalizing World (2022)

Macro-Organizational Theory (2021)  
Introduction to Sociology (2019)  
Market and Social Surveys (2018)  
Globalization and Social Conflict (2018)  
Micro-Organizational Theory (2017)

Brown University Sheridan Centre for Teaching- Teaching Certificate I and II

#### **SELECTED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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Director, <a href="#">Social Accountability Forum for Action and Research Trust</a> , India	2019
Research Associate, <a href="#">Centre for Policy Research</a> , New Delhi	2014-2015
Consultant, Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India, New Delhi	2012-2014
Consultant, Rural Development Department, Government of Bihar, Patna	2010-2012
Research Associate, South Asia Poverty Reduction and Economic Management Unit, World Bank	2012
Research Associate, <a href="#">ASER Centre</a> (Pratham), New Delhi	2009- 2010
Research Assistant to Professor Jean Dreze, G.B Pant Social Science Institute, Allahabad	2008-2009
Research Assistant to Dr. Peter Taylor, Institute of Development Studies, UK	2007-2008
Selected independent field research experience	2006-2015

#### *Research for Action with Professors Jean Drèze and Reetika Khera, India*

Survey on the implementation of the National Food Security Act in Bihar (December 2014)

Coordinated team in Jharkhand for a 3 week survey of the government's five major entitlement-based programs (May-June 2013)

Public Distribution System Survey Team (2011).

National Rural Employment Guarantee Act Social Audit Team (2007)

National Rural Employment Guarantee Act Survey Team (2006)

#### *Tata Institute of Social Sciences and Pension Parishad, Mumbai and other states*

Designed, coordinated and co-authored report on a 5 state study on the status of the National Social Assistance Pension Scheme (2014)

#### **UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

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Graduate Student Liaison, Centre for Contemporary South Asia, Watson Institute, Brown University	2017-18
Graduate Student Representative, Department of Sociology, Brown University	2016-17

#### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

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American Sociological Association

Eastern Sociological Association

Law and Society Association

#### **REFERENCES**

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##### **Patrick Heller**

Lyn Crost Professor of Social Sciences

Professor of Sociology and International and Public Affairs

Brown University

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**Prerna Singh**

Mahatma Gandhi Professor of Political Science and International and Public Affairs  
Brown University  
[prerna\\_singh@brown.edu](mailto:prerna_singh@brown.edu)

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Harmon Family Professor of Sociology and International and Public Affairs  
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