

AUTHORS' BIOGRAPHY:

Ganesh N Devy was educated at Shivaji University, Kolhapur and the University of Leeds, UK. Among his many academic assignments, he held fellowships at Leeds University and Yale University and has been THB Symons Fellow (1991-92) and Jawaharlal Nehru Fellow (1994–96). He was a Professor of English at the Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda from 1980 to 96. In 1996, he gave up his academic career in order to initiate work with the Denotified and Nomadic Tribes (DNT) and Adivasis. During this work, he created the Bhasha Research and Publication Centre at Baroda, the Adivasis Academy at Tejgadh, the DNT- Rights Action Group and several other initiatives. Later he initiated the largest-ever survey of languages in history, carried out with the help of nearly 3000 volunteers and published in 50 multilingual volumes. He is a thinker, cultural activist and an institution builder, best known for the People's Linguistic Survey of India and the Adivasi Academy created by him. He is credited to start the Bhaashaa research and Publication Centre. He writes in three languages—Marathi, Gujarati and English. His first full length book in English *After Amnesia* (1992) was hailed immediately upon its publication as a classic in literary theory. Since its publication, he has written and edited close to ninety influential books in areas as diverse as Literary Criticism, Anthropology, Education, Linguistics and Philosophy.

Lakshmi Puri is a former Assistant Secretary-General at the United Nations and the former Deputy Executive Director of UN Women. She was Director of the flagship International Trade division and the acting Deputy Secretary-General of United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. She led the preparations for the Fourth Least Developed Countries Conference as Director at OHRLLS. Before her 15-year stint at the United Nations, she served as an Indian diplomat for 28 years. Lakshmi joined the Indian Foreign Service in 1974 and served in Japan, Sri Lanka, Switzerland (Geneva), and as an Ambassador to Hungary and accredited to Bosnia and Herzegovina. She was active in conceptualising and negotiating India's many bilateral, plurilateral and multilateral economic diplomacy initiatives. Throughout her career, she has interacted with global leaders, decision-makers and opinion influencers at the highest levels. She has developed transformative partnerships with governments, civil society, academia, youth, the private sector, and the media. She has received international awards and accolades for her work and contribution to international development, human rights, humanitarian, peace and security policy-making and norm-setting. These include the prestigious Eleanor Roosevelt Human Rights Award, Novus Award for Championing the Sustainable Development Goals, the Millennium Campus Award 2015 and Global Generation Awards as Inspiration for Youth.

Himanshu Jha is a Lecturer and Research Fellow at the Department of political science, South Asia Institute, Heidelberg University, Germany. Jha's most recent research is to explore the processes of institutional change where he examined the evolution of Right to Information Act in India. He broadly engages with institutions, institutional change, the Indian State, Indian politics and bureaucracy. He holds a PhD in Political Science(South Asian Studies) from National University of Singapore (NUS), an M. Phil in Public Policy from the Australian National University, Masters in Political Science from Jawaharlal Nehru University and Bachelor with Honors in History from University of Delhi. While at the NUS he held distinguished research awards such as the president's fellowship and his doctoral thesis has recently won the prestigious Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce and industry (SICCI) award for the best PhD dissertation at the National University of Singapore. He has published widely in academic journals, edited books and contributed his views in the popular media. Prior to his academic engagement, he was working in the developmental sector, where he served as the national coordinator of a policy think tank called Social Watch and published numerous policy relevant papers.

Rajeev Raman obtained his PhD from the Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB), Hyderabad, India. In Jan 2016, he joined as a post-doctoral researcher in NPlast group at Leibniz Institute for Neurobiology, Magdeburg, Germany. At present, he is working as Associate Scientist in the same group. His expertise includes protein biochemistry, structure and functions.

Vishal Chauhan is an Indian Administrative Officer of 1998 batch with 22 years of experience in the Energy, Health, and Finance sector. He has done his graduation from Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee with Bachelor of Engineering in Electrical Engineering. He has done Post Graduate Diploma in Industrial Engineering from National Institute of Industrial Engineering, Mumbai. Author is also an alumnus of King's College, London, UK where he has completed MSc in Public Policy and Management with specialization in energy policy.

Author has vast field experience as he has postings as District Collector and Magistrate in Namchi, South Sikkim, Gangtok, East Sikkim, Mathura in Uttar Pradesh and as Divisional Commissioner in Faizabad Uttar Pradesh. He has also worked in the Finance Department, Government of Sikkim, Managing Director State Bank of Sikkim, Secretary Agriculture & Horticulture and as Principal Secretary Health and Family Welfare with portfolios such as health, medical education and food & drugs administration. He also has vast experience in the renewable energy sector, power generation, transmission and distribution sector as he has held posts of MD UP Power Corporation, MD UP Power Transmission Corporation, MD UP Power Generation and Hydro Power Corporation in Uttar Pradesh. Presently Author is posted as Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, New Delhi.

Kartik Agrawal is a student of O.P Jindal Global University where he is pursuing his Bachelors' degree in Arts & Law (BA. LLB). His areas of interests broadly include corporate law, finance, cyber law, and artificial intelligence. With keen interest in academic research culminating from diverse experiences of internships, research assistantships and meaningful conversations with education focused colleagues, Kartik wishes to push the boundaries of Academia towards evolving areas of Technology focused law. An avid gamer, it is extremely easy to engage in dialogues over the latest happenings in the entertainment world with him.

Nandini Agarwal is currently pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Arts & Law (BA. LLB) at O.P Jindal Global University. Her interests include Alternate Dispute Resolution, Intellectual Property Rights, Constitutional Law and Child Rights Law. She aspires to write about various social as well as legal issues with hopes that her work would make a difference in due course of time.

Saber Salem has received his PhD from the Jindal School of International Affairs, where he is currently teaching. Previously, he worked for humanitarian and donor organisations such as the United Nations (UN) and Canadian International Development Agency CIDA) in different roles and capacities. He has conducted extensive research in Fiji and the wider Pacific region on climate change and foreign aid.