

## **Curriculum Vitae**

Rajshree Chandra  
Professor  
Department of Political Science  
Janki Devi Memorial College  
University of Delhi  
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### **Educational Qualifications**

**Ph.D.: (2009)** – Centre for the Study of law and Governance  
Intellectual Property Rights and the Politics of Knowledge: Questions of Knowledge, Property and Rights. Centre for the Study of Law and Governance, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU)

**M.Phil. (1987)** - Centre for Political Studies, JNU

**M.A (1986)** – Centre for Political Studies, JNU

**B.A. (1984)** - Political Science, Lady Shri Ram College, Delhi University

### **Research Interests**

My research interests include political theory, science & technology studies, property and rights discourse and constitutional law.

### **Work Experience**

#### *As Permanent Faculty:*

1995 - till date – Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, Janki Devi Memorial College (JDMC), University of Delhi.

Courses taught over the years include, Political theory, Indian Political Thought, Colonialism and Nationalism in India, Constitutional Democracy and Governance in India, Social Movements in India.

Other (short) teaching assignments:

Taught an M.Phil course at CSLG (JNU) - Theories of Knowledge and Philosophy of Method – 2009, 2010, 2011

Taught a short M.A module on John Locke at the department of Political Science, Delhi University - 2012

**Publications**

*Competing Nationalisms: The Sacred and Political Life of Jagat Narain Lal* (Penguin Random House, 2021)

*The Cunning of Rights: Law, Life, Biocultures* (Delhi: OUP, 2016)

*Knowledge as Property: Issues in the Moral Grounding of Intellectual Property Rights* (Delhi: OUP, 2010)

**Articles, Research Papers, Chapters in Books:**

Forthcoming: “The Inscription of Technology in Life”. *Journal of Indian Law and Society* (Jan 2022)

Forthcoming: “ The Inscription of Law in Life”, *Journal of Indian Law and Society* (Jan 2022)

Rajshree Chandra, "India's Forest Rights Act: Righting Indigeneity, Subverting Property" in *Human Rights in India*, ed. Satvinder Juss (Routledge, 2020)

“The Moral Economy of the Cosmopolitan Commons”, *TWAIL Review*. Issue 1 (2020)

"Forest Rights Act of India: Purring Indigeneity in Place", *Indian Law Review*. Vol. 3. issue 2, July 2019

“Farmers’ Rights in India: Globally Sui Generis”, *South Asia Chronicle*, , Band 6 – Focus: Law in Context: Case Studies from India (Jan 2017)

“Understanding Change With(in) Law: The Niyamgiri Case”, *Contributions to Indian Sociology* 50, 2 (2016): 1–26

Co-authored: “Partial Publics: The Political Promise of Traditional Medicine in Africa: A Comment” *Current Anthropology*, Volume 56, Number 4, University of Chicago Press, August, 2015

“The Curious Case of Farmers’ Rights in India”, Australia India Institute, *ELF Report*, Vol 6. Melbourne University, October 2015

“The Inscription of Technology in Law”, Working Paper Series, No. 26, Centre for Policy Research Publications May 18, 2015

“The Inscription of Law in Life”, Working Paper Series, No. 27, Centre for Policy Research, May 18, 2015

“Tocqueville for Our Times”, *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol - XLVIII No. 10, March 09, 2013, of Partha Chatterjee and Ira Katznelson (eds), *Anxieties of Democracy: Tocquevillean Reflections on India and the United States*. OUP, 2012

“The 3d Effect: The Novartis-Glivec Case”, *Economic and Political Weekly (EPW)*, Sept 10, 2011

“Role of National Laws in Reconciling Constitutional Right to Health with TRIPS obligations: An Examination of the Glivec Patent Case in India”, in *Incentives for Global Health: Patent Law and Access to Essential Medicines*, (Eds) Thomas Pogge, Matthew Rimmer, Kim Rubenstein. CUP, 2010

“Intellectual Property Rights: Excluding Other Rights of Other Peoples”. *Economic and Political Weekly*. 1 Aug, 2009

“Nature of the Indian State” in, *Essays on Indian Government and Politics*. (eds) Meera Verma, Mrinal Mehta and Rumki Basu (Jawahar Publishers, New Delhi: 2004)

“Development Strategies Since Independence”, in *Essays on Indian Government and Politics*. (eds) Meera Verma, Mrinal Mehta and Rumki Basu (Jawahar Publishers, New Delhi: 2004)

## Opinion Articles

“Defamation: The Weapon of Choice to Stifle Pursuit of Justice and Free Speech”. *The Wire*. 11 March 2021.

“Free speech is a basic right that empowers marginalised lives”. *The Indian Express*. 4 November, 2020

“Questions of Belonging” (Book review of *The Deoliwallahs* by Dilip D’ Souza and Joy Ma). *The Open Magazine*. 18<sup>th</sup> April, 2020

“India's Auto-Immune Disorder: The Gap Between Law and Rule of Law”. *The Wire*. 31 August, 2019.

“Liberalism as the biggest casualty of triumphalism”. *Mint*. 30 May, 2019

“PepsiCo’s attempt to sue farmers highlights the lacunae in IPR laws”, *The Indian Express*. 2 May, 2019.

“Why Forest Rights Matter”. *The Indian Express*. 17 March, 2019.

“How the FRA Is Being Cut Down to Size, and Tribals With It”. *The Wire*. 23 Feb, 2019.

“One Man, One India” (Book review of Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel: The man who saved India, by Hindol Sengupta). *The Open Magazine*. 29 Nov 2018.

“Activists' Arrests: The Exceptional Has Been Made the New Normal”. *The Wire*. 1 Nov, 2018

“Alternate Realities” (book Review of Gender, Alterity and Human Rights by Ratna Kapur). *The Open Magazine*. 14 December 2018

“M.J. Akbar Defamation Case: From News Room to Court Room, the Game is the Same”. *The Wire*. 18 Oct 2018

“The Quest for Sovereign Identity” (Book review of *The Mortal God* by Milinda Bannerjee). *The Open Magazine*. 25 July 2018

“The Elusive India” (Book review of *The Indian Instincts* by Miniya Chatterjee). *The Open Magazine*. 9 May 2018

“The Curious Case of no Profit in 'Office of Profit’”. *The Wire*. 27 March, 2018

“By the People” (book review of *How India Became Democratic* by Ornit Shani). *The Open Magazine*. 7 March 2018

Understanding the Ratio of Malice to Legality in the AAP MLAs Disqualification Case. *The Wire*. 22 Jan, 2018

Delhi University Can No Longer Turn a Blind Eye to Systemic Flaws Dragging the Institution Down. *The Wire*. 9 Sept 2011

We Need an Anti-SLAPP Law To Encourage and Protect Free Press, *The Wire*. 12 October, 2017

“GM mustard about to be approved for use: 10 facts that ought to worry you”, *Catch News*, 24 May 2017

A Lawless Law, *Indian Express*, 28 Sept. 2016.

DU’s Photocopy Kiosk Should Be Allowed to Remain For the Greater Good, *The Wire*, 20 Oct. 2016

The Success of This GM Tech Depends on Numerous Unanswered Questions, *The Wire*, 20 Sept. 2016

The ‘Jung’ Between Modi and Kejriwal and the Travails of a Quasi State, *The Wire*, 6 Aug. 2016

In Nobel Laureates V. Greenpeace, Don’t Ignore the Sociology of GM, *The Wire*, 6 July, 2016

Rajiv Malhotra Plagiarism row, *Scroll.in* 8 July, 2015

What is Novelty? *Indian Express*, 30 October, 2014

Un-owning: Archives in General, Ambedkar in Particular, *Kafila*, 19 Oct, 2014

Against Complacency, *Indian Express*, 6 May, 2014

Is There Anything Like Copying Fairly? *Kafila*, 3 May, 2013

Copyright Vs. the Right to Copy, *Kafila*, 30 August, 2012

### **Paper Presentations**

Paper titled, *Occupy Law: Re-Placing Indigeneity*, presented at the Law Society Association Conference, Washington DC, 1 June, 2019

Paper titled, *Occupy Law: In Pursuit of Indigeneity*, presented at the TWAIL (Third World Approaches to International Law) Conference. Singapore, 22 Jul, 2018.

Panel discussion on paper by Adil Hasan, *Bihar Famine, Green Revolution and Disaster Imaginaries*. Jindal Law School. Sonapat. 2 Feb 2018.

Panel discussion on book by Ajay Gudavarthy, *Revolutionary Violence Versus Democracy: Narratives from India* (Sage 2016), Jindal Global University, School of Public Policy. 13 Nov 2017.

Paper titled, *Forest Rights: Notes on an Alternative Agenda for Property*, presented at the Law Society Association. Mexico City. 20 May 2017,

Paper titled, *Old Tragedies, New Ethics: Reframing the Moral Economy of Commons*, presented at the Law Society Association (LSA), New Orleans. 3 June, 2016.

Panel Discussion on the book, *The Cunning of Rights: Law, Life, Biocultures* (OUP: 2016). 24 Feb, 2016,

Paper titled, *Understanding Change With(in) Law: Jurisdictional Thoughts on the Niyamgiri Case*. presented at the IGLP, Harvard Law School, 2 June, 2015

Panel discussion on the book, “Critical Studies in Politics”, ed: Nivedita Menon, Sanjay Palshikar, Aditya Nigam. CSDS, Delhi. 8 August, 2014.

Paper titled, “*The Curious Case of farmers’ rights in India*”, presented at the Australia India Institute, Melbourne. 26 June, 2014.

Discussion paper on Richard Epstein’s paper titled, ‘*Good and Bad Contracts: How Consequentialism helps Define Moral Theory*’, Centre for Civil Society and Michigan State University. 5 Jan, 2014, New Delhi.

Paper titled, *Bringing Indigeneity Back In*, presented at the Melbourne law School, Melbourne University. 10 December, 2013

Paper titled, “*Laws of Nature*”, presented at the Australia India Institute. Melbourne University. 11 December 2013

Paper titled, “*The Cunning of Rights: Understanding Biocultural Entitlements*”, presented at the at the Harvard Law School, IGLP, Conference, titled, “New Directions in Global Law and Policy”. 3 June, 2013

Panel discussion: “*Propriety and Property in a Postcolony: Reflections from India*”, IGLP, Harvard law School. 4 June, 2013.

Paper titled, “*Rethinking Property and the Emergence of Biocultural Rights*”, presented at the Kings College London. 11 May, 2012

Lecture titled, “*Situating Intellectual Property Rights in the Political Theory and Practice of Rights*”, delivered at the Department of Political Science, Central University, Hyderabad. March, 2012

Paper titled, “*Rights as Justice –The case of Farmers’ rights in India*”, presented at the at Developing Countries’ Research Center (DCRC), Delhi University. 31 August, 2011

Paper titled, “ *Exploring the Content of Farmers’ Rights in the Context of Proprietary Claims in Agriculture – A Bt Cotton Case Study*”, presented at the Brown International Advanced Research Programme (BIARI, 2009), Brown University. 8 June, 2009

Paper titled, “*Intellectual Property Rights: Excluding Other Rights of Other Peoples*”, presented at the Lassnet Conference, JNU, Jan, 2009. 9 Jan, 2009.

Paper titled, “The Role of National laws in Reconciling Constitutional Right to health with TRIPS Obligations: An Examination of the Glivec Patent Case in India”, presented at the Australian National University. 29 May, 2008

## **Workshops/ Advanced Research Programmes**

2011, September: Was the Co-convenor of an international workshop organized with a grant from BIARI, Brown University, titled, Human Rights Beyond the Law: Politics, Practices and Performances of Protest, at Jindal Global Law School, Sonapat, India

2010, 2012, June: Was a participant at the workshop on 'Global Law and Economic Policy' hosted by the IGLP, Harvard Law School. The aim of the Workshop was to promote innovative ideas and alternative approaches to issues of global law, economic policy and social justice.

2009: Was a participant at the Brown International Advanced Research Institute (May, 30 – 12, June. I was with the institute titled 'Towards Critical Humanities: Critical Perspectives from the Global South'

## **Fellowships and Awards**

Writing Fellowship, Institute of Human Sciences (IWM), Vienna,: 1 March - 31 May, 2020

New India Foundation Fellowship, India: November 2018 – October 2019 the

ICSSR Post-Doctoral Fellowship: December 2013 – June 2015

Emerging leader Fellowship, Australia India Institute: June, 2014

Visiting Fellowship, Centre for the Study of Developing Society (CSDS), Delhi. December 2012 – November 2013

UKIERI (UK-India Education and Research Initiative) Staff Exchange fellowship, King's College, London.

## **Networks**

Member of :

- LSA (Law Society Association) network
- IGLP, Harvard Law School, The Workshop
- BIARI (Brown International Advanced Research Institute), Brown University



- Lassnet (Law and Social Science Network), JNU.
- TWAIL (Third World Approaches to International Law).

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