

ANAND RAJA, MPhil, PhD
Mobile: 7974644298
Email: anandraja19890@gmail.com

Anand Raja is currently Assistant Professor of Sociology, at the Prof. Rajendra Singh (Rajju Bhaiya) University, Prayagraj. He has an MPhil and DPhil in Social Sciences from the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, postgraduate degree in Sociology from University of Rajasthan and a bachelor's degree in Psychology from University of Birmingham, United Kingdom. His research interest is in Semiotics, the life of signs in society. This helps explore the nature of meaning in our socio-political life, which defines his research.

Anand Raja takes a psycho-semiotic approach to the creation of sign. He has explored how an individual turns himself into a sign using big ideas. His writing interests lie in the intersection of Semiotics, Social Theory, and Political Science, with an abiding tilt towards the individualist dimension.

Invited to give written and oral evidence to Westminster's Standing Committee, United Kingdom.

Experience

August 2020 to the present

Assistant Professor of Sociology at the Prof. Rajendra Singh (Rajju Bhaiya) University, Prayagraj

July 2019 to May 2020

Lecturer in Sociology at the S.S. Jain Subodh P.G. (Autonomous) College, Jaipur

Publications

Journals

1. Reality and Intentionality. (Forthcoming) *Semiotics: Yearbook of the Semiotic Society of America*. *Semiotics is a peer-reviewed series sponsored by the Semiotic Society of America*. 2023.
2. Mann Ki Baat and National Consciousness. *Chapter 1. Beyond Boundaries: A Study of Social Impact of Mann Ki Baat. Creating Intellectual Heritage Project*. National Book Trust. India 2023
3. Modi's Journey from a *Chowkidar* (Watchman) to Great God: A Durkheimian Analysis. *Durkheimian Studies*. *Durkheimian Studies / Études Durkheimiennes is the scholarly journal of the British Centre for Durkheimian Studies*. UK. Volume 26, 2022: 180-208
4. The Hegemon and the Ghosts in the Indian Electoral Semiosphere. *Lexia: Journal of Semiotics*. published by the Department of Philosophy and Educational Sciences (DFE) of the University of Turin, Italy. 39-40. *Lexia. Rivista di semiotica*, 39-40. Re-

Thinking. Juri Lotman in the Twenty-First Century. pp. 359-373 (dicembre 2022). ISBN 979-12-218-0426-3

5. How “Good Days” Resolve Precarity: A Dystopia From India? *Semiotics: Yearbook of the Semiotic Society of America* p. 127-142. ISBN: 978-1-63435-076-1. *Semiotics is a peer-reviewed series sponsored by the Semiotic Society of America.* 2022.
6. Structure and Meaning of the Gondi Punem Flag: A Semiotic Analysis. *Review of Research*, 8(9), 2019.
7. Tribals: Not Backward, But Special. *Review of Research*, 6(4), 2019.
8. God Hanuman, the Dalits and the Tribals. *Suraj Punj Journal for Multidisciplinary Research*, 9(6), 2019.
9. Mr. Modi: Deliberately Appearing Dionysian . *International Journal of Research and Analytical Review*, 5(4), 2018.
10. On the Development of Painful Experience. (along with Derbyshire SWG). *Journal of Consciousness Studies*. 18(9-10), pp 233-256, 2011.

Writings in magazine and newspapers

1. Premchand Ki Kavita. *Jansatta*, 26 April, 2005.
2. The Great Indian Dream. *Today's Youth Asia*, March-April, 2007.

Writings in the print pipeline

1. Contributions to forthcoming *Hindi Sahitya Kosh*: Slavoj Zizek, Anthhony Giddens.

Academic Writings on Internet Magazines and E Journals

1. Modi Ji Ke ‘Acche Din’ Aur Titliyon Ke Havale Loktantra. (along with M. K. Jha), *Satya-Hindi*, 2019. <https://www.satyahindi.com/opinion/narendra-modi-loksabha-election-2019-achhe-din-102400.html>
2. Why Nehru Would not have taken sides in JNU Debate. *Governance Now*, 15 March, 2016. <https://www.governancenow.com/views/columns/why-nehru-will-not-take-sides-in-the-jnu-debate>
3. Shopping and the Stone Age Brain. (Derbyshire SWG), *Spiked*. 2008. <https://www.spiked-online.com/2009/03/31/shopping-and-the-stone-age-brain/>

(The article was one of the advised readings for Battle of Ideas, 2009. It was also translated in Swedish.)
4. Memorandum 38. Innovation, Universities, Science & Skills Committee. Students and Universities. *Memoranda of Evidence*. (2008). <https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmselect/cmdius/memo/170/170memo0902.pdf>

5. The World Wide Web is Nothing Like a Brain. (Derbyshire SWG), *Spiked*. 2008. <https://www.spiked-online.com/2008/07/03/the-world-wide-web-is-nothing-like-a-brain/>
 6. How do we break free of the rules of biology? (Derbyshire SWG), *Spiked*. 2008. <https://www.spiked-online.com/2008/06/27/how-do-we-break-free-of-the-rules-of-biology/>
 7. Jim Crow dressed up in Multicultural Drag. (Derbyshire SWG), *Spiked*. 2008. <https://www.spiked-online.com/2008/05/30/jim-crow-dressed-up-in-multicultural-drag/>
 8. What makes humans special. (Derbyshire SWG), *Spiked*. 2008. <https://www.spiked-online.com/2008/02/29/what-makes-humans-special/>
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Key Achievements

1. Ideas from ‘On the development of Painful Experience’ reflected in the report of Foetal Awareness Committee of Westminster, discussed by the Royal College of Gynaecologists (2008-10).
 2. Gave written and Oral evidence to Westminster’s Standing Committee ‘An enquiry into Students and Universities’. Contribution appreciated in letters from Westminster (2009).
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Contribution in Seminars and Lectures

1. Paper “Linguistic Inequality and why Gondi Stands” presented in a National Seminar on ‘Identity and Politics of Stateless Languages with special reference to Sindhi’ (22 August, 2023) organized at Satyawati College & National Council for Promotion of Sindhi Language, Ministry of Education, Government of India in collaboration with Centre for Independence and Partition studies, University of Delhi.
2. Paper "The Meeting of Hindu Nationalism and Vikas: A Power Ploy," will be presented as a Distributed Paper to the Research Committees session "New Theories of Political Sociology: Power, Social Psychology, and Macro-Bargaining" ([16937](#)) at the XX ISA World Congress of Sociology (June 25-July 1, 2023) held in Melbourne, Australia.
3. Paper ‘Semiotics of a Predictable Explosion: The Case of a Hindu Nationalist India’ presented in the International Seminar „Semiotics of Unpredictability“. University of Sao Paulo, Brazil and online in English, Portuguese, Spanish. 26. – 28. October 2022
4. *Navodit Lekhak Karyashaala* (Workshop for New Writers) organized by *Saamajik Vimarsh and Saamajiki*, 16-17 May, 2022, India International Centre Annexe, New Delhi
5. Paper ‘Kristeva and a Collective Semiotic in the Semiosphere’ presented in the conference ‘Semiotization and Transubstantiation: Julia Kristeva for the 21st Century’ (The Kristeva Circle, May 22-23, Sofia, Bulgaria, 2022) Hosted by the Southeast European Centre for Semiotic Studies, New Bulgarian University
6. Paper ‘Strategic Communication and Invincibility of Modi’s Semiotic System’ presented in the conference called 15th World Congress of Semiotics ‘Semiotics in the Lifeworld’. (29 August 2022-3 September 2022, in Thessaloniki, Greece). Panel: 'Political Semiotics and Strategic Communication: Problems and Potentialities' held on 1 September, 2022.

7. Paper 'Mann Ki Baat and Imagined Community' presented in the conference 'Vikas Yatra: A Dialogue on Creating Intellectual Heritage in India' on 11 September, 2022. Presented at G.B. Pant Social Science Institute, Prayagraj, India.
8. Paper 'The Intentionality of Freedom' presented in the The 46th Annual Conference of the Semiotic Society of America (Virtual) 'Intentionality and Semiotic Labyrinths' held online between October 12–16, 2022
9. Paper 'How Modi's 'Good Days' resolve Precarity: A Dystopia from India?' presented in the 45th Annual Conference of the Semiotic Society of America 'Addressing Precarity: Semiotics, Semiosis, and Semioethics' held online between October 20–23, 2021
10. Paper 'Reason in the Era of Big Actions' presented in Annual National Conference of Philippine Sociological Society held online between 2-9 October 2020.
11. Paper Presented 'How Does Middle Class Reason?' in National Seminar 'Experiences, Aspirations and Struggles: New Middle Class in Indian Cities'. Organized at TATA Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, 26-27 July, 2018 and organized by ICSSR, New Delhi.
12. Welcome Speech, TISS Literary Festival, Mumbai, 2018
13. On the Development of Painful Experience. School of Psychology, University of Birmingham (Presented along with Derbyshire S.W.G., (2011).

Fellowships

1. Grant 'The Social Symbolism of Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojna: Informing policy and management' received from Uttar Pradesh Government's Research and Development Scheme. (with Prof. Archana Chandra as Principal Investigator).
2. TATA Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai Research Scholar Fellowship (Mphil).
3. University of Birmingham International Office Scholarship, 2007-2011
4. University of Birmingham, Department of Psychology Bursary, 2007-2011
5. Honeypot, University of Birmingham Alumni Funding for Research. 2010.
6. School of Psychology, University of Birmingham Funding for Research, 2010
7. DAV School Scholarship for classes 8, 9 and 10.

Awards

1. Outstanding Researcher National Award 2023 from the 'The Kamarajar Institute of Education and Research'.
2. National Best Speaker Award by the Outlook Group, 2004, Award competed for by 240 Schools across India.
3. Best Speaker Award by the Hindustan Times Group, 2005 Award competed for by several schools across North India.
4. Outstanding Speaker Award, Maharaja Sawai Mansingh Vidyalaya, 2003-04, 2004-05
5. Prizes in several other National and Regional Debating Competitions

Scholastics

Course/Degree	Year	Subject/Specialization	University/College/Board	CGPA/ %
Doctoral Degree	2019	Individual Ways of Creating Symbols:	TATA Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai.	

		Study of a Political Symbol		
M.Phil. Social Science	2015	Social Sciences	TATA Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai	7.1
MA	2013	Sociology	University of Rajasthan, Jaipur, Rajasthan	67.7%
BSc	2011	Psychology	University of Birmingham, United Kingdom	66.062%
BA (First Year)	2007	English, Psychology, Logic, Philosophy, Economics	University of Pune, Fergusson College, Pune	71.3%
Diploma Course	2007	Women Studies	University of Pune, Fergusson College, Pune	71.33%
Class 12	2006	Psychology, Economics. Political Science, Geography, English	Maharaja Sawai Mansingh Vidyalaya, Jaipur, Rajasthan	90.8%
Tabla, Second Year	2005	Tabla	Prayag Sangeet Samiti, Allahabad	56.6%
Class 10	2004	General	DAV Centenary Public School, Jaipur, Rajasthan	87.8%

Personal Dossier

Date of Birth: November 5, 1989

Address: B 50 Jamuna Nagar, Ajmer Road, Sodala
Jaipur, Rajasthan (302006)

Languages Known: English, Hindi & German (Learning)

Skills: SPSS, MS Office, Playing Tabla