

# Noopur Raval

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## Education

### 2014-2020 (Expected to graduate in July 2020):

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Department of Informatics, University of California Irvine. Advised by Professor Paul Dourish

Dissertation Topic: Platforms as Infrastructure: how platformization reshapes work, life and urban culture. GPA: 3.94

### 2012-2014:

Master of Philosophy (M.Phil.) in Cinema Studies. School of Arts & Aesthetics, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Advised by Professor Ranjani Mazumdar

Dissertation Title: 'Staging the media sensorium: Mapping religion, politics and the new media scandal'

### 2010-2012:

Master of Arts (M.A.) in Arts & Aesthetics. School of Arts & Aesthetics, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

### 2010:

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) with triple majors in Media Studies, English Literature and Psychology. Christ University, Bangalore

## Peer-reviewed publications

Raval, N. (2019) 'Automating Informality: on AI and labor in the Global South', thematic report for GISWatch 2019

Raval, N. (Forthcoming) 'An agenda for decolonizing data science'. Special Issue on "Spectres of AI", Spheres Journal of New Media and Technology

Noopur Raval and Joyojeet Pal. 2019. Making a Pro: professionalism after platforms in beauty-work. J. ACM 37, 4, Article 111 (August 2019), 17 pages. <https://doi.org/10.1145/1122445.1122456>

Lindley, S., **Raval, N.**, Alavi, H. S., Lindtner, S., & Wang, D. (2019, April). The Future of Work. In Extended Abstracts of the 2019 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (p. W28). ACM

Raval, N. and Lindley, S. (Under review) Flexibility and Productivity in Atypical Work

A critique of sex-disaggregated data for gender development (Commissioned White Paper for Center for Internet & Society, Bangalore; forthcoming)

Mudliar, P. and **Raval, N.** (2018) "They are Like Personalized Mini-Goggles": Seeking Information on Facebook Groups. Proc. HICSS 2018, Hawaii, Jan 3-6, 2018 (nominated for best paper)

Raval, N. (Forthcoming) *Hisaab Kitaab* in Big Data: In edited collection titled 'Lives of Data', published by CSDS, New Delhi

Raval, N. and Dourish P. (2016) Standing Out from the Crowd: Emotional Labor, Body Labor, and Temporal Labor in Ridesharing Proc. CSCW 2016, San Francisco, Feb 27-March 2, 2016

Raval, N. (2014) The encyclopedia must fail! – Notes on queering Wikipedia. *Ada: A Journal of Gender, New Media, and Technology*, No.5

## Lightly reviewed publications and blogposts

Raval, N (2019) co-edited and contributed to a series of blog posts on 'Gig-Economy in India'. Platypus, The CASTAC (Committee for the Anthropology of Science, Technology & Computing) blog. <http://blog.castac.org/category/series/indias-gig-work-economy/>

Raval, N (2018). Data Doppelgängers and Issues of Consent. Platypus, The CASTAC (Committee for the Anthropology of Science, Technology & Computing) blog. Published as a part of the Law & Computation Series

## Book Reviews & Interviews

Raval, Noopur. "Book review: Nicholas A. John, The age of sharing." (2018): 146-147. *Mobile Media & Communication*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/2050157917735735>

(Interview): Thinking Digital Beyond Tools: Interview with Dr. Nishant Shah by Noopur Raval (2013). HASTAC

## Public Writing and Mentions

Soumya Chatterjee. "No easy exit as Ola and Uber drivers in India face spiraling debt trap" *The News Minute* <https://www.thenewsminute.com/article/no-easy-exit-ola-and-uber-drivers-india-face-spiralling-debt-trap-102558> (quotes me)

Gopal Sathe. "On Maid-Rating Apps India's Entitled Baba-Log Hit New Low" *Huffington Post* [https://www.huffingtonpost.in/2018/11/18/how-apartmentadda-mygate-commonfloor-make-class-privilege-in-gated-colonies-visible\\_a\\_23591186/](https://www.huffingtonpost.in/2018/11/18/how-apartmentadda-mygate-commonfloor-make-class-privilege-in-gated-colonies-visible_a_23591186/) (quotes me)

Gopal Sathe. "How Andhra Pradesh built India's first police state using Aadhar and a census". *Huffington Post*. [https://www.huffingtonpost.in/2018/07/23/how-andhra-pradesh-built-indias-first-police-state-using-aadhaar-and-a-census\\_a\\_23487838/](https://www.huffingtonpost.in/2018/07/23/how-andhra-pradesh-built-indias-first-police-state-using-aadhaar-and-a-census_a_23487838/) (quotes my research)

Raval, N (2018). "Here's why #DeleteFacebook is more than business as usual." *FactorDaily* (Digital News Publication)

Raval, N (2018). 'Google Arts app has a data problem.' *FactorDaily* (Digital News Publication)

Raval, N (2018). 'Othering the Godman', *The Baffler Magazine*

Raval, N (2016). "How playing Pokémon Go around Bengaluru connected me to a city I had never explored before." *FactorDaily* (Digital News Publication)

Raval, N (2016). "Change your Facebook profile picture to get colonized", *The Indian Express*

Raval, N (2016). 'Casually Sexist Humour and the Limits of Feministing.' In *PlainSpeak* (A digital magazine on sexuality in the Global South)

## Awards and Honorable Mentions

(2019) Invited to attend the Microsoft PhD Summit

(2018-19) **Co-PI and Lead Researcher** - Azim Premji University Research Grant Award for multi-city study of gig economy work in India (Amount: USD 21,000)

(2018) **Phi Beta Kappa International Scholarship Award** (Amount: USD 2000)

(2017-18) **Technology, Law & Society Fellow at UC Irvine**

(2016) **Harvard Berkman-Klein Center Affiliate**

Associate Graduate Students Travel Grant Awards (2016, 2018)

**Winner, Global Outlook: Digital Humanities Essay Prize, 2013**

## Workshops Presentations and Invited Talks

- Panelist and presenter, 'Infrastructures and Inequalities: Media Industries, Digital Cultures and Politics' (Annual ECREA conference – 2019)
- Invited participant, Workshop on the 'Future of Work' at the University of Michigan (2019)
- Paper presentation on 'algorithmic remediation and postcolonial cities' at the Bangalore Research Network meeting (2019)
- Paper Presentation – SSRC InterAsian Connection Workshop – Hanoi (Workshop: the Network of the New Asian Economy under the Industrial Revolution 4.0) (2018)
- Selected Workshop Participant – 'Big Data and Urban Governance on the Margins of the City' (co-organized by ESRC-ICSSR Group at King's College London) (2018)
- Selected Participant at Princeton University's South Asia Studies Graduate Conference (2018)
- Panelist on Digital Studies and Money Studies panel at ICA 2018
- Demonetization and digital citizenship at 'Money Studies and Internet Studies' fishbowl at AoIR 2017.
- 'Materialities of Ridesharing: notes and questions from Bangalore, India' – presented as a part of the ICA 2017 panel titled 'Technology, Profession, and Digital Labor: A Comparative Perspective' (2017)
- 'Small Acts Alongside Big Data: Counting and Computing Within Ubering' – presented as a draft paper at 'Algorithms in Culture' conference at UC Berkeley (2016)
- 'Private/Public Infrastructures: the case of Free Basics in India' – presented as a part of the 4S/EASST panel titled 'Digital subjectivities in the global context: new technologies of the self' (2016)
- Invited Talk: 'Ridesharing and Geospatiality in Bangalore' at MapBox, Bangalore (2016)

## Professional Experience

**Co-PI and Research Mentor, Project title: 'Mapping the landscape of digital labour in India' (2019)**

*Funded by the Azim Premji University Research Grants Program (Award amount: USD 21,000)*

Recruited and mentored four graduate researchers to conduct a comparative ethnography of app-based taxi-driving and food-delivery work in Mumbai and New Delhi. Editing and co-producing a series of research outputs (ongoing) including blogposts, semi-academic and academic publications.

### **Microsoft Research, India**

*Research Intern* – Technology for Emerging Markets (TEM) (January – June 2019)

Worked with Dr Joyojeet Pal to study the inter-action of socio-cultural hierarchies and algorithmic platforms in the work of app-based beauty and wellness workers in India. Produced a CSCW publication.

### **Microsoft Research, Cambridge (UK)**

*User Experience Research Intern* –Future of Work Group (June – September 2018)

Did exploratory qualitative research on the work processes, task scheduling, information capture and gathering behaviours among trade and service workers as well as gig-economy workers in the UK.

Produced design insights, implications and co-authored an academic paper on the study. Mentor: Sian Lindley

### **Microsoft India Development Center - Hyderabad, India**

*User Experience Intern* – Project Sangam (June – September 2017)

Led UX research on Project Sangam (skill-training and job discovery platform for blue-collar workers in Emerging Markets). Worked with designers, engineers and product managers to understand mobile-first user preferences, learning patterns, aspirations. Used qualitative and design research methods (usability studies, interviews, focus groups) to produce product insights and design recommendations.

### **Microsoft Research, India**

*Research Intern* – Technology for Emerging Markets (TEM) (June – November 2016)

Studied multiple forms of ridehailing prevalent within Bangalore city, both app-mediated and others. Mentored by Jacki O'Neill

### **XRCI (Xerox Research Center, India) - Bangalore, India**

*Research Intern* - Human Computer Interactions (June - September 2015)

Worked in the Human Interactions Group to study social Q&A and information search behaviors on Facebook Groups in India. Mentored by Preeti Mudliar

### **Wikimedia Foundation, Centre for Internet & Society, Bangalore (Joint Program)**

*Program Manager* – Access to Knowledge (A2K) (2011-2012)

Engaged with members of 10 Indic language Wikipedia communities in India to train, support and expand participation in Indic language Wikipedia editing.

## **Teaching and Mentoring Experience**

(2019) Taught a day-long workshop on 'Digital Ethnography' to 45 first-year management and communications students at the Mudra Institute of Communications, Ahmedabad (MICA)

(2019) Invited lecture on 'Privacy in the time of IoT' at Srishti Institute of Art, Design and Technology

(2018) Guest Lecture on Platform-Work. Communications Studies Department, University of Michigan

(2018) Guest Lecture on Platform-Work and Invisible Labor. Liberal Studies undergraduate program, Azim Premji University, Bangalore

(2015-2017) Teaching Assistant, Donald Bren School of Information and Computer Sciences, UC Irvine  
Courses:

Human Factors on the Web (w/ Dr Oliver Haimson)

Video Games and Society (w/ Dr Rebecca Black)

Global Disruption and Information Technology (w/ Dr Bonnie Nardi)

Social analysis of Computerization (w/ Dr Darren Denenberg)

## **Professional Memberships**

International Communications Association (ICA)

Association of Computing Machinery (ACM)

European Communications Research and Education Association (ECREA)

Association of Internet Researchers (AoIR)