

Notes on Contributors

Abhiti

Abhiti (she/her) is a people's person who likes to familiarise with experiences she hasn't lived. She is a proud feminist and loves to read on caste and its intersections.

Aditya Jain

Aditya Jain is a student of National Law University, Jodhpur

Adrija Bose

Adrija Bose is an associate editor with the News 18 network. She reports on the issues of gender justice, violence against women and human rights.

AGHS Lahore, Pakistan

AGHS Legal Aid Cell was co-founded by Asma Jahangir in 1980 to provide free legal representation for vulnerable women, children, bonded labourers, people in prison and religious minorities. It is now the leading law firm in constitutional and family law related legal work in Pakistan. The fundamental principles of AGHS policy are essentially concerned with strengthening respect for human rights through providing free legal representation and by building a stronger constituency of activists, mainly women to challenge non-discrimination, violence and threats against the vulnerable. AGHS highlights violations of human rights and provides free legal representation to end impunity for perpetrators of human rights violations.

Amarinder Arora

Amarinder Arora is an urban practitioner who is fascinated by cities at large, and engages with them through multiple lenses. He has worked in the social

development sector as a designer and researcher- actively exploring different ways to make a city more inclusive.

Anupriya

Anupriya is an interdisciplinary soul who works in Behavioural science research by day and becomes a musician by night

Ayushi Agarwal

Ayushi Agarwal graduated from National Law School of India University, Bangalore in 2018 as a gold-medallist. While at NLSIU, she served as the Editor of Socio-Legal Review and Chief Editor of Indian Journal of International Economic Law. Ayushi subsequently read for the BCL at Oxford as a Weidenfeld-Hoffmann in 2018-19. She was awarded a fellowship by the Bonavero Institute of Human Rights to work on a project to improve Colombian Afro-communities' access to justice at DeJusticia in Bogota, Colombia. She presently teaches at Jindal Global Law School, and is most interested in international human rights law, medical ethics, and discrimination theory.

Aqsa Shaikh

Dr Aqsa Shaikh is a medical doctor and Community Medicine Specialist. She is an Associate Professor of Community Medicine at HIMSR, Jamia Hamdard, Delhi. Born and brought up in Mumbai, she completed her education from Seth GS Medical College. Before joining Jamia Hamdard, she worked at HLFPPPT. She lives in Delhi now for the last ten years and calls it home. She is a Proud Transgender Woman and works on LGBTQIA+ rights, Rights of Persons with Disability, and Mental Health. She has a keen interest in Medical Ethics, Medical Humanities, and Medical Education Technology and is a Fellow of Advanced Course in Medical Education. She is member of Association for Transgender Health in India. She has authored many medical books and blogs with Times of India, Women's Web, and Youth ki Awaaz along with other publications. She received the Youth ki Awaaz Award for the best article on Mental Health. She is also the recipient of Himalayan Green Awards for her services in Health Education. Aqsa is a poet and writes in English, Hindi, and Urdu. She is the Founder - Director of Meezaan Commercial Enterprises and Human Solidarity Foundation through which she carries her social work.

BMMA

Bhartiya Muslim Mahila Andolan ('BMMA') is an autonomous, secular, rights-based mass organisation led by Muslim women. Formally established in January 2007, BMMA was organised as a small group of Muslim women in the aftermath of the 2002 communal riots. It was formed with an aim to bring Muslim women together under a democratic organisation, as a progressive voice for the Muslim community. The BMMA has more than 100,000 members. It has worked for the economic empowerment of women by establishing Karwaan Centres in various cities. It has campaigned for law and policy reform by engaging in activities to foster literacy and education, increasing employment opportunities and improving the livelihood of women.

Ermiza Tegal

Ermiza Tegal is an Attorney at Law practicing before the Supreme Court of Sri Lanka. She has a Masters Degree in Law, Governance and Development from the School of Oriental and African Studies, UK. She leads an all female legal chambers in a practice focused on public law and family law. Ermiza represents victim survivors of human rights violations particularly victims of torture and domestic violence and is involved in advocacy for reform relating to Muslim personal law, female genital cutting, family law and domestic violence, land rights and counter terrorism.

Gowthaman Ranganathan

Gowthaman Ranganathan is a legal researcher interested in human rights and critical legal studies. He has worked on gender and sexuality at Chennai and Bengaluru. He holds an LLM in Human Rights and Comparative Constitutional Law from the University of Texas School of Law where he was a Fulbright scholar. He also holds an LLM in Law and Development from the Azim Premji University and a B.A., LL.B. (Hons). from the National Law School, Bengaluru.

Iram Khan

Iram Khan is a PhD Scholar at Faculty of Legal Studies, South Asian University, New Delhi, India. She completed her M.Phil and LL.M from South Asian University and B.A.LL.B(Hons.) from Aligarh Muslim University. Her core

research interests include Rights of Women and Minority Rights in South Asia, Feminist Legal Theory and Gender in International Law.

Ishan Bhatnagar

Ishan Bhatnagar is currently pursuing BA LLB (Hons.) at National Law University, Delhi. He is passionate about criminal law and its intersection with constitutional rights and gender justice, prison reforms, due process etc. He represented NLU Delhi at the Frankfurt International Moot Court Competition (India rounds). The team has now qualified for the World Rounds. He is presently a student associate at Centre for Innovation, Intellectual Property and Competition and has interned with the National Human Rights Commission in the past. He presently has a publication on 'Child Labour and Caste' and a blog article on the legislative framework surrounding the Coronavirus Pandemic coauthored by him was recently cited by Dr. Upendra Baxi.

Kiruba Munusamy

Kiruba Munusamy is a practicing advocate at the Supreme Court of India. She is working against various human rights violations in India that includes caste and gender based discriminations, caste based atrocities against Dalits, violence against women, discrimination in the academic spaces, death penalty, state repression and prohibition of the inhuman practice of manual scavenging. She started Legal Initiative For Equality to equip lawyers from marginalized communities with professional skills and a working space to act independently.

Khushali Mahajan

Khushali Mahajan is a student at Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, Patiala.

Pinki Mathur Anurag

Pinki Mathur Anurag is Director - Technical at the Lawyers Collective. Pinki's primary academic interests lie in understanding the evolution of international law responses in addressing violence against women. Her most recent

publication is “Conflict in the Shared Household: The Law and Domestic Violence in India” Oxford University Press, 2019, Editors: Indira Jaising, Pinki Mathur Anurag, that she has co-edited with Indira jaising. She is currently working on a book on the representation of the Feminist Movement in the 21st Century.

Prof Asha Bajpai

Dr Asha Bajpai is a Professor of Law at the Center for Socio Legal Studies and Human Rights in the School of Law, Rights and Constitutional Governance. She is a PhD in Law with specialization on Child Rights. Her PhD thesis was on the ‘Best Interest of the Child in the Indian Legal System’ She has been involved in, teaching, research, training and legislative reform, for more than three decades. She was the founder Dean of the School of Law, Rights and Constitutional Governance at TISS. As the founder Dean, she designed and coordinated the unique LLM course on Access to Justice . LLM in Access to Justice is a socially relevant course aimed to prepare community and people’s lawyers for social change and legal research. Dr Asha Bajpai has been appointed as commissioner by the Mumbai High Court in several Public Interest litigation. Currently she is serving as an Amicus Curiae in a ongoing suo motu PIL in Bombay High Court on sexual abuse of orphan children in institutions.

Malavika Rajkumar

Malavika is a Research Fellow at the Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy and the Content Lead at Nyaaya. She is a graduate of Symbiosis International University and holds a B.B.A.LLB degree. Her main areas of research include womens’ rights, child rights, social welfare legislations, gender based violence and information design. She also writes regularly on publications such as Live Law and Firstpost. Before joining Vidhi she completed a summer course on International Relations from Kings College London in 2017. She has worked on the Legal Development Project funded by WHO on ‘Road Safety and Design’ and in the National Policy and Research Team by IDIA (Increasing Diversity by Increasing Access).

Association for Advocacy and Legal Initiative

Association for Advocacy and Legal Initiatives (AALI) is a feminist legal advocacy and resource group having presence in 45 districts across Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Jharkhand. Established in 1998, the association works with an aim to create an egalitarian social system that recognises women as equal agents in the society. AALI works through network of trained case workers and lawyers for providing women with required legal and non-legal assistance in cases of gender based violence.

Md Sadriwala

In his own words, Mohammed Sadriwala, is a storyteller: one for the kitchen and one for the soul.

Maria Rashid- Pakistan

Dr Maria Rashid is feminist practitioner, trainer and researcher who has been working with various non- governmental organizations in Pakistan for the last 22 years. She has a doctorate in Politics and International Studies from School of Oriental and African Studies, London and her research interests are militarism, masculinities and, violence against women and children. She has worked with Rozan for over 14 years as Director. Currently, she is an advisor for Rozan and supports its four core programmes technically and has been involved in Rozan's response to COVID-19.

Marium Jabyn

Marium Jabyn, (Ph. D), is the current Secretary General of the Bar Council of the Maldives. She has been active in legal education, human rights, access to justice and organisational governance in the Maldives for over fifteen years, and has contributed to advocacy and human rights law reform in the Maldives in various ways. A Fulbright Scholar (UPENN, USA), a Commonwealth Scholar, and a Kings College London Fellow (2015), she has also been the recipient of multiple other international research grants and has published in the areas of human rights law, feminist legal theory and clinical legal & justice education.

Monalisa Minz

Monalisa Minz is an Assistant Public Prosecutor in Jharsuguda, Odisha.

Nijera Kori

Established in its present form in 1980, Nijera Kori is a social mobilization focused, activist NGO in Bangladesh. Since inception, Nijera Kori has worked in rural Bangladesh with the objective of building a strong autonomous organization of the rural poor and deprived, rejecting micro-credit and other service delivery approaches. Composed of local-level landless groups, the landless organisation is a collective through which members develop themselves as critical citizens, mobilise for their rights and participate in the broader political and economic processes. At present, Nijera Kori is working in 1,168 villages, 147 unions, 32 *upazila* and 14 districts of Bangladesh.

Pawan Dhall

Pawan Dhall has been engaged with queer community mobilization in eastern and other parts of India since the early 1990s. He was a founder member of Counsel Club, Kolkata (1993–2002) and “Pravartak” (1991–92), among the first queer support forums and publications in India. He spent over a decade with SAATHI, an NGO that promotes universal access to health and social justice. Pawan now leads Varta Trust, a Kolkata-based gender and sexuality publishing and advocacy non-profit, and edits its monthly webzine “Varta”. His recent works include the book “Out of Line and Offline: Queer Mobilizations in ‘90s Eastern India” published by Seagull Books, Kolkata.

Parth Maniktala

Parth Maniktala is a final year student of Campus Law Centre, University of Delhi.

Rachna Mudroboyina

Rachna Mudroboyina is a board member for the Human Rights Law Network and their Acting Director for LGBT Issues. She is one of the founding members of the Telangana Hijra Intersex Transgender Committee, which was formed in

2014, and of the YouTube channel TransVision. She has previously worked as a technical consultant for training NGOs in HIV prevention and communication skills with the NGO Path in India, as well as a research assistant with various other projects.

Reeta Minz

Reeta Minz is an Assistant Public Prosecutor in Jharsuguda, Odisha.

Ruchika Baweja

Ruchika Baweja is a student of National Law University, Jodhpur

Renu Adhikari

Renu Adhikari is the founder of the Women's Rehabilitation Centre (WOREC). WOREC is a leading women's rights organisation based in Nepal. After working as a medical doctor in the remote areas of Nepal for several years, Renu became a women rights activist upon meeting a trafficked woman in the 90s. She has been a strong advocate for women's rights and has played an important role in empowering women of various communities affected by conflict and violence. She is the Chairperson of the National Women Human Rights Defender and a founding coordinator of the Alliance Against Trafficking in Women and Children.

Sarala Emmanuel

Sarala Emmanuel has been part of feminist networks, working in Batticaloa, Sri Lanka, for more than 15 years. Her experience has been in supporting women survivors during the war, in the post- tsunami context and more recently following the Easter attacks, as well as now in the COVID- 19 context. She works extensively with a lot of local women's networks: her longest involvement was with Suriya Women's Development Centre, where she worked for over a decade, which provides everyday support for women survivors of gender based violence such as legal support, immediate emergency responses, group processes of healing and individual psychosocial support. Currently she is also working with women in the informal sector on labor rights.

Shruthi Venkatachalam

Shruti Venkatachalam is a PhD Candidate at the Center for Gender and Violence Research, School for Policy Studies, University of Bristol, UK. Her research interests include gender, disability and access to justice. Her post-graduate research was focused on the encounters of disabled women with the criminal justice system with a specific emphasis on disabled women rape survivors and my current ongoing research investigating how disabled women survivors understand and perceive the right to access justice.

Stuti Srivastava

Stuti Srivastava is a student at Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, Patiala.

Surbhi Karwa

Surbhi Karwa is an alumna of RMLNLU-Lucknow and NLU-Delhi. She has worked on issues of gender violence as Convenor of Legal Aid Committee, Lucknow and as volunteer of various civil society organisations. She frequently writes at various platforms including EPW, The Wire, Outlook and Mainstream Weekly. She is currently working for publication of her LL.M. thesis where she undertook a feminist critique of Constituent Assembly of India.

Ujjwala Kadrekar

Ujjwala Kadrekar is a women and child rights lawyer, a researcher and a National Trainer. She has contributed in the drafting of the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, (PWDVA) the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace and the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act 2013 and has been part of monitoring and evaluation of the PWDVA for 10 years. She worked as Officer on Special Duty with Maharashtra State Commission for Women and Director-Training for Lawyers Collective. She conducts trainings of Judicial Officer, Police and other stake holders on laws related to women and children. She has worked on UNTF, UNDP, UN Women, British High Commission projects. She is currently working as an Independent consultant with UNFPA and Oxfam India



Vatsal Raj

Vatsal Raj is a second-year law student at the National Law University, Delhi.

Zakia Soman

Zakia Soman is the co-founder of the BMMA along with Noorjehan Safia Niaz. Influenced by the women she was helping in the aftermath of the Gujarat communal riots, Zakia began social work. After meeting Noorjehan and many other women, she worked to organize Muslim women in various parts of the country. Currently, Zakia is a member of the South Asian Alliance for Poverty Eradication and is the leader of the Peace and Human Security theme at ActionAid. She has also been a university lecturer and a newspaper editor in Ahmedabad.

THE SHADOW PANDEMIC