

ADITI ATHREYA, PhD

SOCIAL SCIENTIST

+918087595398

aditiathreya@gmail.com

CORE SKILLS

- Qualitative Research and Anthropology
- Analytical and Problem-solving Skills
- Critical Thinking
- Flexible, Proactive Working Style
- Multilingual proficiency (English, French (C1)*, Dutch (B2)*, Tamil, Marathi, Hindi)

Experience

April 2026 – Assistant Professor at Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts

January 2025-March 31, 2026 Visiting Faculty at Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts

- **Understanding India (Core)**
- **Research Methodology (Core),**
- **Anthropology (Major/Minor)**
- **Comparative Religion: Their Greater Similarities and Finer Differences (Elective)**

May 2024-July 2025. Manager-Research and Documentation at Lighthouse Communities Foundation (<https://lighthousecommunities.org/>)

- Conducting baseline studies of macroeconomic indicators in low-income areas
- Developing and implementing Monitoring Evaluation Learning (MEL) frameworks
- Responsible for documenting organizational knowledge
- Training Survey Personnel.

February 2024-May 2024. Field Researcher with Remaking One Health-Indies (<https://rohindies.org/>)

Feb 2019 – September 2023. Doctoral Fellow in History (Faculty of Arts), KU, Leuven, Belgium

Research Topic: Missionaries in a Postcolonial Context: The evolution of Jesuit educational institutions in Jharkhand, India (1947-)

- Conducted ethnographic fieldwork in Jharkhand in 2019 and 2020.
- Conducted over 20 formal and informal interviews for data collection
- Carried out secondary and archival research, including analysis of over 10,000 documents from the Ranchi Jesuit Archives
- Presented my project findings to diverse, including non-academic, audiences.

EDUCATION

PhD in History. KU Leuven, Faculty of Arts (2023)

Thesis Topic: Missionaries in Post-Colonial India: Jesuit Education in India after 1947

M.Sc. (Social & Cultural Anthropology), KU Leuven, Faculty of Social Sciences (2018)

Grade: Cum Laude (Distinction)

Thesis Topic: Social Work and Bureaucracy: A study of Social Workers' Engagement with Cultural Differences while fulfilling their Professional Duties at the *Centre Regional de Verviers pour l'Integration*.

BA in Liberal Arts, Symbiosis International University, Pune, India (2016):

Grade: 3.5/5 GPA

Major Subjects: Political Science and Public Policy

Minor Subjects: Anthropology and International Relations

PUBLICATIONS

1. **Goddeeris, I., & Athreya, A.** (2024). Whom to cater to? The challenges and choices of Jesuit education in Ranchi, 1947–1960s. *Brill Academic Publishers*. **(SCOPUS Q1)**
2. **Athreya, A, Goddeeris, I.**(2023). Indian authorities and mission schools in the aftermath of independence: Jesuit education in Chotanagpur, Bihar, Jharkhand. *Contemporary Education Dialogue*, 20(2), 187–205. **(SCOPUS Q1)**
3. **Athreya, A.** (2022). Objectivity in research: From Eurocentrism via decolonisation to transmodernity. *C@hiers du CRHiDI. Histoire, droit, institutions, société*, 45.
4. **Athreya, A., D'Souza, R., & Goddeeris, I.** (2021). The Postcolonial Expansion of a Mission: Jesuit education in Ranchi, India, after 1950. In P. Verstraete, I. Goddeeris, & K. Christiaens (Eds.), *Missionary education: Historical approaches and global perspectives* (pp. 80–117). Louvain: Leuven University Press.
5. **Athreya, V. H.** (2020). Modi's New Education policy: A Next step in Saffronisation of India? *Mondiaal Nieuws*.

CONFERENCES and SEMINARS – Presenter

1. January 2023. **Missionaries in a post-colonial context: The case of the Jesuit mission in Ranchi, India (1947-).** IGNIS 2023 Conference at the KADOC Documentation and Research Centre on Religion, Culture and Society.
2. September 2022. **Decolonizing Academia: A Personal Account from Belgium.** Monuments, Public Spaces, and Colonial Heritage, University of Helsinki,
3. June 2022. **The Fight for Autonomy in Education: The relationship between Jesuits and the Indian State.** Seminar organised by the Research Unit "Modernity and Society", KU Leuven, Belgium
4. September 2021. **The Role of Religion in Education.** European Educational Research Association

Internships and Other Engagements

Member of the Diversity Council Network, KU Leuven 2020-23

- Worked towards integration of minority students in the faculty
- Part of the communications team for “gender-sensitive sanitation” and “decolonisation of the faculty”. Responsible for taking meeting minutes and communicating with the vice-dean for decisions
- Worked for diversity-sensitive communications

Rayatraj Kamgar Sanghatana (2014)

Rayatraj Kamghar Sanghatana is a trade union that works for Mumbai’s marginalised working class.

- Represented the organisation at meeting with union members for improving the living conditions in Aarey Milk Colony, Mumbai
- Translated documents from Marathi to English
- Co-authored a proposal to the Government of Maharashtra to regularise the contracts of sanitation workers and provide permanent housing.

With Mr Tarun Vijay, Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha 2013

- Prepared press briefings and speeches for Parliament sessions
- Research Analyst (China Desk) on India’s foreign policy