

Angshuman Choudhury

Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies,
18 Link Road, LGF, Jungpura Extension,
New Delhi (India) - 110014
Mobile: +91-7042384658

Professional Experience

March 2022 - present
Senior Research Associate,
Centre for Policy Research (CPR)

August 2018 - February 2022
Senior Researcher and Coordinator,
South East Asia Research Programme
Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies (IPCS), New Delhi

October-December 2019
GIBSA Visiting Fellow
German Institute for International and Security Affairs, Berlin

July 2016 - August 2018
Researcher and Coordinator,
South East Asia Research Programme
Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies (IPCS)

April 2016 - June 2016
Research Intern,
South East Asia Research Programme
Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies (IPCS)

Academic Qualifications

M.Sc. Conflict Prevention & Peacebuilding

Durham University (United Kingdom) / **2015** / Merit
Dissertation: 'Periodising the United Liberation Front of Asom (ULFA): A Structural Analysis of the Transformation of ULFA Through a Social Movement Theory Framework'

B.A. (Hons) History

Ramjas College, University of Delhi (New Delhi) / **2014** /
First Class, 63.36 per cent

Certificate Course, 'Global Politics of Protest & Change'

London School of Economics & Political Science / **2013** /
Grade A

Class 12, CBSE Board (Physics, Chemistry, Math, Economics)- Delhi Public School, R.K. Puram/ **2011**/ 88%

Primary Research Profile

Area Focus

Myanmar, Southeast Asia,
Northeast India/South Asia

Thematic Focus

Armed conflict, peace processes, foreign policy,
citizenship and identity, forced displacement

Relevant Research Skills

- Ability to evaluate current local and global issues in broader epistemological and normative models;
- Ability to interpret and analyse empirical data, according to competing explanatory frameworks;
- Advanced knowledge of conflict analysis approaches applied to a conflict case study, including specific analytical tools;
- Ability to analyse topical news through theoretical and analytical frameworks, and contextualise them in broader events.

Relevant Research and Related Experience

1. **IPCS | Research supervision:** Leading a compact team (4-5 members) of researchers; directing project-based and topical research on Southeast Asia; coordinating internships & multimedia output; liaising with management for projects;
2. **IPCS | Publication & editing:** Authored 25+ analytical commentaries; supervised interns and junior staff on drafting and writing evidence-based articles;
3. **IPCS | OSINT Analysis:** Prepared daily OSINT briefs for Myanmar & Bangladesh – collected news from various domestic and international sources and provided contextual analysis;
4. **IPCS | Project Coordinator, Oct 2016:** Context analysis project for GIZ, Germany; conducted field visit to conflict-sensitive areas in central & east India; first-hand data collection, interviews, and preparation of report;
5. **GIBSA Visiting Fellowship, SWP:** Research on Myanmar, ASEAN and Indian foreign policy towards SE Asia; co-authored one commentary;
6. **Real-time data collection/conflict mapping (Apr 2021-present):** managing a dynamic tracker of post-coup conflict events in Myanmar– [map](#) + [database](#) + [analytical Twitter thread](#);
7. **Public media:** Authored 100+ articles and op-eds for various publications (media websites, newspapers and journals);
8. **Durham University (2015):** Conducted a public interview of Dr Emile Nakhleh, former Director, Political Islam Program, CIA

Secondary profile

Relevant Non-Research Experience

- ◆ **IPCS:** Designed official publications (Issue Briefs, Research Papers, Policy Briefs and Annual Reports) & 2017-18 Annual Edition of *The Diplomatist Magazine* for digital and print formats;
- ◆ **IPCS (2016-2020):** Recorded and edited podcasts;
- ◆ **IPCS:** Edited and published video interviews and trailers under 'Parallax' vodcast series;
- ◆ **IPCS:** Leading the current social media (SM) team; supervision of SM content, design and overall strategy across multiple platforms;
- ◆ **RNCN:** Website design, content regulation, social media strategy, graphic design (research report and social media content);
- ◆ **Durham University:** Participated in an academic simulation of an international humanitarian intervention in Dadaab Refugee Camp (Northern Kenya), organised by Durham Global Security Institute (UK), as a press correspondent – produced two video and one written reports.
- ◆ Served as member of adjudication panel for Gibson Memorial Debate 2015, the annual national-level debating tournament hosted by Mayo College, Ajmer, India.

Relevant Non-Academic Skills

- ◆ Highly proficient in English & Hindi (spoken and written); fluent in Assamese (spoken and written) and Bengali (spoken and written);
- ◆ Non-professional proficiency in digital photography and DSLR filmmaking: shot short-films and video features on Canon 550D, 70D, 5D-Mark III; comfortable with Adobe Photoshop Lightroom and Apple Final Cut Pro;
- ◆ Graphic designing: comfortable with Canva, Apple Pages, Microsoft Word

Editorial & reviewing experience

- ◆ **IPCS (2016-present):** Edited and peer reviewed analytical short commentaries and longer Issue Briefs and Research Papers;
- ◆ Member, panel of commentators for '**Securing Citizenship: India's legal obligations towards precarious citizens and stateless persons**' (Sep 2020), published by the Centre for Public Interest Law, Jindal Global Law School, Sonapat. Empanelled for second edition, to be published in 2022.
- ◆ **Eleventh Column (2017-present) [website currently under maintenance]:** Webzine on foreign policy, politics, society and culture; commissioned and edited (including copyediting) 600+ short-form (800-1000 words) and long-form (1500-3000 words) analytical articles and op-eds for digital publication.

Blog

- ◆ **Barbed Wires/Substack:** A blog on conflict, politics, society, culture and personal narratives.
 - Views (as of 19/1/2022): 19,947
 - Subscribers (as of 19/1/2022): 141
 - Selected for web archiving by the US Library of Congress – to be listed in Sep 2022.

Not-for-Profit

Dec 2021-present

Member, Board of Trustees

Development and Justice Initiative (DAJI)

A registered public charitable trust in Delhi that works with refugees, migrant workers, returnees and stateless people for more than a decade

Website: <https://www.daji.org.in/>

August 2021-present

Co-founder

The Myanmar India Collective (Myicol)

An online platform created by a group of Myanmar researchers, scholars and enthusiasts aimed at promoting knowledge and understanding of Burmese politics, society, economy and culture through open source data bases.

Website: www.themyicol.org

October 2020-present

Co-founder

Right to Nationality & Citizenship Network (RNCN)

A non-profit public advocacy collective undertaking research, documentation and advocacy campaigns to protect the right to nationality and prevent statelessness in the Indian context.

Website: www.right2nationality.in

Speaking/Chairing Experience

- 17/12/2021: Panelist on 'Digital and Social Media', Khabarhub Media Summit (virtual), Kathmandu
- 27/11/2021: Chaired panel on 'Prospects & Opportunities for Nepal', Understanding Nepal's Foreign Policy conference (virtual), Nepal Institute of International Cooperation and Engagement (NIICE), Kathmandu
- 9/10/2021: 'Can PDFs gain control of territory?', BBC Burmese
- 1/10/2021: Speaker at webinar on 'ASEAN and the Political Crisis in Myanmar', Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA), New Delhi
- 28/8/2021: Chaired panel discussion on 'The Situation in Myanmar: The Coup and COVID-19', International Studies Convention 2021, NIICE Nepal
- 25/8/2021: 'What has the past 4 years been like for Rohingya Muslims?' TRT World News
- 16/5/2021: Panelist-moderator at webinar on 'Rohingya Muslims and their Exodus: India's Response to the Humanitarian Crisis', Council of International Law and International Relations, National Law School of India University
- 11/5/2021: Panelist on 'Responding to COVID-19 Upsurge in India and Nepal', NIICE Nepal
- 26/3/2021: Panelist at webinar on 'Protest and Resistance in Burma: Local and Regional Perspectives on the Coup', South Asian Progressive Alliance, Princeton University
- 2/2/2021: 'Can India influence Myanmar to return to democracy?' in TRT World news
- 31/8/2020: Panelist at webinar on 'Post-Pandemic World Order: Navigating the New Normal', NIICE
- 5/2/2020: Panelist at panel discussion on 'NRC and Citizenship: Issues and Challenges', O.P. Jindal Global University in collab. with Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (CHRI)
- 11/12/2019: Delivered a guest lecture on 'The National Register of Citizens: Contested Citizenship and Statelessness in India's Assam', Department of South Asian Studies, Bonn University, Germany
- 29-31/10/2019: Represented IPCS/India and spoke at GIBSA 2019 Quadrilateral Dialogue held in Berlin, Germany
- 26/9/2019: Speaker at panel discussion on 'Papery Lives: Citizenship from Accord to NRC and Beyond', Ashoka University
- 24/9/2019: Moderated panel discussion on 'Assam's National Register of Citizens (NRC): What Happened, And What Now', IPCS

17. Dec 2018: Panelist at workshop on 'Transitional Justice Framework for Manipur,' Centre for Human Rights Studies, OP Jindal Global University, Sonapat
- 24/10/2018: Spoke on ASEAN-led mission to Myanmar on Rohingya repatriation on Channel NewsAsia (CNA) TV news bulletin
- May 2018: Delivered guest lecture on the Rohingya crisis in Myanmar at OP Jindal School of International Affairs, New Delhi
- Oct 2017: Represented IPCS/India at GIBSA 2018 Quadrilateral Dialogue held in Cape Town, South Africa
- Sept 2017: Delivered a closed-door briefing on the Rohingya crisis to political counsellors from European Union (EU) member states at EU Mission, New Delhi

Notable Citations & Quotes

1. Report of the UN International Fact-Finding Mission (IFFM) on Myanmar, Human Rights Council, A/HRC/42/CRP.5, 16 Sep 2019. Cited in footnotes 585 and 595.
2. Abhishek Saha (2021). *No Land's People: The Untold Story of Assam's NRC Crisis*. HarperCollins India. Cited in pg 10;
3. Sanjoy Hazarika (2018). *Strangers No More: New Narratives from India's Northeast*. Aleph Book Company. Cited in pgs 145-146;
4. Kavita Krishnan (2020). *Fearless Freedom*. Penguin. Cited in Chapter 4 (see reference no. 15).
5. European Foundation for South Asian Studies (EFSAS). '[The Scramble for Rakhine](#)'. 24 Aug 2020. Cited in pg 4 (also see ref. on pg 9).
6. Oomen C. Kurian (Oct 2020). 'In the Shadow of COVID-19: Reimagining BIMSTEC's Health Futures'. [ORF Issue Brief No. 414](#). For citation, see endnote 9.
7. Strangio, Sebastian/The Diplomat (30/12/2021): 'UN Special Rapporteur Calls for 'New Year's Ceasefire' in Myanmar'.
8. Ankita Mukhopadhyay/Deutsche Welle (30/7/2020): '[India's Nagaland conflict: No end in sight](#)'.
9. Mihir Bhonsale (Apr 2020). 'Bhutan's 20-Year Economic Development and Transition to Democracy: An Assessment of India's Role'. ORF Issue Brief No. 354. For citation, see endnote 25.
10. Lokesh Mewara, (18/3/2019), The Wire: '[Deportation of Rohingyas Violates International Law, Legal Precedents in India](#)'.
11. Barbara Crosette (5 Sep 2018)/PassBlue: '[Kashmir's Long Tragedy Rears Its Head in the News and at the UN](#)'.
12. AFP, 26/5/2017: '[China-backed militia power-brokers in Myanmar peace process](#)'.
13. Voice of America, 23/11/2016. '[China Looks for New Approach as Myanmar Conflict Threatens Border](#)'.

Selected Publications

ARTICLES/COMMENTARIES/OP-EDs

Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies

1. 30/6/2021: [2010-20 Decadal Review | India and Southeast Asia: New Energy; Old Hiccups](#)
2. 14/9/2020: [Of Guarantees and Stalemates: An Assessment of Myanmar's Fourth 21st Century Panglong Peace Conference](#)
3. 2/9/2019: [Amending Myanmar's Military-Drafted Constitution: The Prime Agendas and Actors](#)
4. 12/4/2019: [Decoding the Arakan Army: Understanding the Myanmar State's Response \(Part-3\)](#)
5. 27/3/2019: [Decoding the Arakan Army: Insurgent Strategies and Tactics \(Part-2\)](#)
6. 25/2/2019: [Decoding the Arakan Army: Emergence and Political Framing \(Part-1\)](#)
7. 2/8/2018: [The Third 21st Century Panglong Conference: A Review](#)
8. 19/2/2018: [Fragility of the Process: Myanmar's Long Road to Peace](#)
9. 21/11/2017: [The Pangsangh Alliance and the Future of Myanmar's Peace Process](#)
10. 8/9/2017: [Myanmar: Contextualising the Violence In Northern Rakhine](#)
11. 26/8/2017: [Fifty Years of ASEAN: Between Assertion and Reinvention](#)
12. 28/6/2017: [Second 21CPC and Myanmar's Stuttering Peace Process](#)
13. 6/5/2017: [New Complexities in Myanmar's Peace Process](#)
14. 8/12/2016: [Muse Rebel Attacks: Dangers of Myanmar's Two-Faced Peace Process](#)
15. 8/11/2016: [A Patchy Road to Peace: The Panglong Experiment in Myanmar](#)
16. 21/10/2016: [The Myanmar Border Attacks: Whodunit?](#)

Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (SWP)/German Institute for International & Security Affairs

1. December 2019, co-authored with Felix Heiduk: [Aung San Suu Kyi at the International Court of Justice](#)

The Diplomat

1. 9/6/2021: [Why the National Unity Government's Statement on Myanmar's Rohingya Is Important](#)
2. 2/4/2021: [Why India Must Provide Political Asylum to Chin Refugees Fleeing Myanmar](#)
3. 24/2/2021: [Indian Businesses Need to Take Action on the Myanmar Coup](#)
4. 25/8/2020: [How Facebook Is Complicit in Myanmar's Attacks on Minorities](#)
5. 4/6/2020; co-authored with Ashutosh Nagda: [India's COVID-19 Opportunity in Southeast Asia](#)
6. 4/2/2020: [What Does the ICJ Preliminary Ruling Really Mean for the Rohingya?](#)
7. 5/11/2019; co-auth. with P. Dhawan: [Why the European Parliament Group's Kashmir Visit Backfired on India](#)
8. 20/10/2018: [India Continues to Play Safe With Myanmar Over the Rohingya Issue](#)
9. 25/9/2018: [Why Are Myanmar's Neighbors Ignoring the Rohingya Crisis?](#)
10. 5/4/2018: [Will Rohingya Refugees Ever Be Repatriated to Myanmar?](#)
11. 22/11/2017: [What Tillerson's Myanmar Visit Means](#)
12. 13/9/2017: [Rakhine Violence: Unraveling the Context and State Response](#)
13. 28/7/2017: [Unpacking the Myanmar Commander-in-Chief's Grand India Visit](#)

Economic and Political Weekly (EPW)

1. 29/5/2019: [How India Funds the World: Financial Assistance in the Immediate Neighbourhood](#)
2. 3/6/2019: [How India Funds the World: Financial Assistance in the Extended Neighbourhood](#)

Asia Times

1. 7/1/2022: [Why govts won't call out Modi for India's democratic downslide](#)
2. 11/2/2019: [Myanmar takes over Naga camps near Indian border](#)
3. 18/4/2018: [ASEAN turns blind eyes to Rohingya crisis](#)
4. 25/9/2018: [A deeper look at Myanmar's genocidal intent](#)
5. 21/6/2018: [India's response to UN's Kashmir report is distasteful, erroneous](#)
6. 1/11/2018: [Rohingya refugee crisis pushes ASEAN to the edge](#)

Channel NewsAsia (CNA)

1. 9/10/2019: [How my mother briefly became an illegal immigrant in India](#)
2. 12/11/2018: [Why the Rohingya refugees should not be repatriated yet](#)

Tea Circle Oxford

3. 7/6/2018: [Myanmar's violent road to 'peace'](#)
4. 28/11/2017: [Resolving the Northern Stalemate is the Key to Peace in Myanmar](#)
5. 11/5/2017: [New Fissures in Myanmar's Peace Process](#)
 - Republished in *The Irrawaddy* 'Guest Column', 12/5/2017: <https://www.irrawaddy.com/opinion/guest-column/new-fissures-myanmars-peace-process.html>

Firstpost

1. 2/2/2021: [Myanmar's military coup has pulled the plug on its much-touted democratic transition](#)
2. 29/10/2020: [Emmanuel Macron could become European poster boy for India's right-wing](#)
3. 3/6/2020: [George Floyd protests in US: With Donald Trump in the White House, the fight for racial justice gets nastier](#)
4. 30/1/2020: [Assam NRC exercise and citizenship determination drive hold warning to other states of the shape of things to come](#)
5. 20/6/2019: [India's foreign policy for next 5 years: New Delhi must stave off Chinese influence on Myanmar through trade, development assistance](#)
6. 20/11/2017: [Myanmar's institutional subversion of the Rohingya identity makes repatriation problematic](#)
7. 12/9/2017: [By not calling out Aung San Suu Kyi over Rohingya crisis, Narendra Modi has chosen logic over morals](#)

The Wire

1. 5/4/2020: [No, the Shameful Attack on Sikhs in Kabul Still Doesn't Justify the CAA](#)
2. 24/2/2020: [Oppose the NRC, but Not Just for the Bureaucratic Incompetence Accompanying it](#)
3. 31/9/2019: [Rohingya Refugees in Bangladesh Refusing to Go Back Is a Good Thing](#)
4. 11/5/2019: [A Hollow Pardon: Reuters Journalists Released, but Press Freedom a Far Cry in Myanmar](#)
5. 5/10/2018: [India's Decision to Deport the Rohingya Is a Violation of International and Domestic Obligations](#)

Scroll

1. 30/12/2021: [India may be walking a diplomatic tightrope but is dangerously close to recognising the Myanmar coup](#)
2. 24/11/2021: [Why the Modi government is unlikely to repeat the farm laws pullback with the citizenship law](#)
3. 21/6/2021: [Why did India abstain from voting on the Myanmar resolution at the UN General Assembly?](#)
4. 1/5/2021: [Modi government exported vaccines to boost its global image amidst Covid-19 – but at what cost?](#)
5. 27/3/2021 (co-authored with Suraj Gogoi): [The BJP has doubled down on identity politics in Assam. Why is the Congress steering clear of it?](#)
6. 13/7/2020: [Saving 'jaati, maati, bhethi': Assamese civil society needs to recognise where the real threat lies](#)
7. 29/3/2020: [Coronavirus outbreak: How Narendra Modi has used crisis management to strengthen his cult following](#)
8. 30/10/2019: [Why is the Indian state shockingly blind to the problem of statelessness?](#)

Mint Lounge

1. 12/11/2021: [A window into the Chinese diplomatic mindscape](#)
2. 26/8/2021: [India has to find a way to deal with Afghanistan and Myanmar](#)

The Hindu

1. 12/9/2019 (co-authored with Suraj Gogoi): [A narrow nationalism again](#)
2. 21/5/2019: [Moral ambiguity on the Rohingya](#)

Others

1. 7/12/2021, *The Quint*: [Nagaland Deaths: How Govt Apathy Created a Permanent 'State of Exception'](#)
2. 9/3/2021, *9DashLine*: [Myanmar Coup: What Happens To The Peace Process Now?](#)
3. 20/11/2020, *Outlook*: [For India, Myanmar Matters. But Let's Not Forget The Cost](#)
4. 23/9/2020, *9DashLine*: [As Its Election Approaches, 'Democratic' Myanmar Faces A Multidimensional Crisis](#)
5. 13/8/2020, *The Quint*: [Who Is An 'Assamese'? Why New 'Cut-Off Date' Proposal Is Dangerous](#)
6. 7/2/2018, *Outlook*: [Where Are The Moral Concerns Over India's Growing Intimacy With The Myanmar Military?](#)
7. 24/7/2017, *WION*: [How jade, the precious stone, is funding ethnic conflicts in Myanmar](#)
8. 23/6/2017, *WION*: ['My gun is taller than me': Child soldiering in Myanmar is far from over](#)

JOURNAL ARTICLES

1. Choudhury, Angshuman. "A New BIMSTEC? : Reforms, Possibilities and Complexities" National Security, Vivekananda International Foundation Vol.III (1) (2020) pp. 91-118. URL: <https://www.vifindia.org/sites/default/files/national-security-vol-3-issue-1-article-AChoudhury.pdf>

BOOK CHAPTERS

Published

1. Choudhury, Angshuman. "The Role of the Global Compact on Refugees in Addressing Statelessness in India". Field, Jessica, Burra, Srinivas (eds). *The Global Compact on Refugees: Indian Perspectives and Experiences*. New Delhi: Academicians Working Group & UNHCR India, 2020. pp. 115-130. URL: https://digitallibrary.in.one.un.org/TempPdfFiles/4882_1.pdf

Commissioned

1. Chapter (5000 words) on 'India-Myanmar Relations' in edited volume on India's relations with the neighbourhood, published by the Centre for Air Power Studies (CAPS) - to be submitted in March 2022
2. Chapter (8000 words) on 'The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) in Myanmar' in edited volume on 'Indo-Pacific and the BRI', edited by Bhavna Singh; publisher TBD.

PAPER PRESENTATIONS

Delivered

1. 24/9/2021: 'Half Citizen or Non-Citizen? A Comparative Analysis of Manufactured Liminality of the Rohingya Muslims in Myanmar and Bengal-origin Muslims in Assam' delivered at online conference on 'Reimagining Citizenship in South Asia'. Organised by the Department of Politics, University of York, UK, and supported by the UK Arts and Humanities Research Council and the South Asia Specialist Group, Political Studies Association.

Selected/to be delivered

1. 14/6/2022: '#IndiaStandsWithIsrael: Digital, participatory, transnational militarism on Indian Twitter during Israel's May 2021 assault on Gaza', to be co-presented with Derek Verbakel at the virtual stream of British International Studies Association (BISA) 2022 Conference.

BOOK REVIEWS

1. Angshuman Choudhury (2020). 'Rebel Politics: A Political Sociology of Armed Struggle in Myanmar's Borderlands'. *Civil Wars*, 22:4, 591-594, DOI: 10.1080/13698249.2020.1858526
2. Angshuman Choudhury (Jan 2019). 'Many Shades of Inclusion and Exclusion', review of *Bangladeshi Migrants In India: Foreigners, Refugees, or Infiltrators?*. *The Book Review* (Vol. XLIII, No. 1) South Asia XXXIV.