

# Khetrinmayum Monish Singh

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## Overview

I work primarily on data governance and the impact of data-driven practices and analytics on individuals, communities, and groups, specifically with regard to access, security, and identity.

## Research Interests

Data governance; infrastructure studies; open data; open source methodologies.

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## Education

**Centre for Studies in Science Policy, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi**

Doctoral thesis titled: **'From Ration Card to 'Data Citizen': A Study of E-Governance in Assam' (under review)**

My PhD thesis examines how digital infrastructures enable governance to intervene in new conditions and practices of citizenship. It ethnographically analyses appropriation of rural/urban internet kiosks, the National Register of Citizens (NRC), and the Aadhaar project in Assam as sociotechnical infrastructures through subsequent coproduction of digital initiatives, access, legal processes, and identity politics.

**Thesis Supervisor:** Dr. Rohan D'Souza and Dr. Saradindu Bhaduri.

2011-2016

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Master of Philosophy in Science Policy Studies, Master's thesis titled: **'Technology, Networks and Control: A Study of Digital Politics and Social Movements in India'**

**Thesis Supervisor:** Dr. Rohan D'Souza

2009-2011

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**Centre for Political Studies, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University**

Master of Arts in Political Science

2005-2008

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**Hindu College, University of Delhi**

Bachelor of Arts (Honours) English

2000-2003

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## Work Experience

**Researcher, Centre for Internet & Society, New Delhi**

Conceptualizing and co-investigating the project 'Life of a Tuple' which examines the National Register of Citizens update in Assam. The project analyzes the location of a citizen in a state driven database infrastructure, defined and situated within a specific political narrative, and a legal and bureaucratic framework. It aims at documenting the life stories of tuples (rows of citizen information in an identification database) – their production, management, circulation, usage, and functions – in the ongoing reconfiguration of the citizen identification in Assam.

Ongoing Sep  
2017

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**Senior Research Associate, International Institute of Information Technology, Bangalore**

Worked on the 'Identities Research Project', in collaboration with Caribou Digital, UK.

Mar – Jun  
2017

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**Research Associate, HT Research, Hindustan Times, New Delhi**

Worked on the project, 'My India, My Vote 2009', a pre-poll media analysis of the Lok Sabha Elections in India in 2009.

Mar – Apr  
2009

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**Research Associate, Intercultural Resources, New Delhi**

Worked on a report titled, 'FIs in India's NorthEast', prepared by Intercultural Resources, New Delhi and Forum for Indigenous Perspectives & Action, Manipur.

Jul 2008 –  
Mar 2009

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## Publications

**'Illegal Infrastructures: Technology as Other Practices'**, *EASST Review*, Vol. 35, No. 4, December 2016.

Dec 2016

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**'Dark Side of Digital Democracy'**, *The Hindu Business Line*, November 9, 2011.

Drawing on my research for MPhil thesis, this article was a critical analysis of the emergent social media practices in India, the new forms of government interventions in the digital space, and online resistance movements.

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Nov 9, 2011

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## Conferences

Paper presentation titled, **'Inclusions/ Exclusions: Databases and the Politics of Citizen-Making'**, in the session 'Digital Migration/ Space', Open Workshop on *Digital Objects and Social Transformations in a Global World - Indo-French Perspectives*, Digital Studies in the Global South Research Group, Universite Paris Descartes, Paris.

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Jul 2017

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Paper presentation titled **'Inclusions/ Exclusions: Databases and the Politics of Citizen-Making'**, in the session 'Digital Governance and Technological Imperialism', 6th French Network for Asian Studies International Conference (FNASIC), Sciences Po, Paris.

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Jun 2017

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Chair/ discussant, **'Digital Governance and Databases'** session, Open Workshop on *Indo - French Perspectives on Digital Studies*, an IFRIS - JNU Initiative organized by Digital Studies Group, New Delhi.

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Mar 2017

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Paper presentation titled **'Citizenship and Database Politics: Analyzing Aadhaar and the National Register of Citizens in Assam'**, Manipur Research Forum (MRF) Young Scholars Seminar Series, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

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Mar 2017

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Co-lead and paper presentation in sessions **'#DigitalIdentities'** and **'#ObjectsofDigitalGovernance'** session, Internet Researchers' Conference 2017, Bangalore.

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Mar 2017

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Discussant, **'Wired: Decoding Tech and Encoding Society'**, Miranda House, University of Delhi, New Delhi.

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Feb 2017

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Paper presentation titled, **'Citizenship by design: Aadhaar, NRC and the immigrant'**, in the track 'Infrastructures, Subjects, Politics', 4S/EASST Conference 2016, Barcelona.

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Aug – Sep  
2016

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Co-lead and paper presentation in **'Many Publics of Internet'** session, Internet Researchers' Conference 2016: Studying Internet in India, New Delhi.

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Feb 2016

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Workshop Participant, CSU-CODATA International Workshop on Big & Open Data: Evolving Data Science Standards & Citation Attribution Practices, held at Indian National Science Academy, New Delhi.

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Nov 2015

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Paper presentation titled, **'Technology, Networks and Control: Internet, Digital Politics and Digital Possibilities'**, at the XV International Conference on 'Media & Utopia: Imagination, History, Technology', organized by Forum on Contemporary Theory, Allahabad.

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Dec 2012

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