

# Nihar Gokhale

DPhil Candidate in International Development  
Oxford Department of International Development  
St Catherine's College, University of Oxford  
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## Research Interests

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Political economy of green transitions; environmental politics; energy social science; resource governance; political ecology.

## Education

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**University of Oxford**, Oxford, UK Oct 2025 – Present  
DPhil, International Development  
Oxford Department of International Development; St Catherine's College  
Thesis: *The Political Economy of Renewable Energy in India*

**TERI School of Advanced Studies**, New Delhi, India 2013 – 2015  
M.Sc. Economics (with specialisation in Environment & Resource Economics)  
CGPA: 8.6/10  
Thesis: *God's Own Value: Intrinsic Values and "Sacredness" as a Language of Valuation in Ecological Conflicts*

**Fergusson College, University of Pune**, Pune, India 2006 – 2009  
B.A. Economics, First Class with Distinction

## Academic Publications

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Nielsen, Kenneth Bo, and Nihar Gokhale. 2026. "Christian environmental activism in a Hindu majoritarian context." In *Religion and Climate Change in Asia: Spiritual Responses to Environmental Crisis*, eds. Mette Halskov Hansen and Kenneth Bo Nielsen. Leiden University Press.

Nielsen, Kenneth Bo, Nihar Gokhale, and Alaknanda Shringare. 2025. "Goa: A Hardening of Hindutva." *Forum for Development Studies*, 1–11. Routledge.

Gokhale, N. 2016. Review of *Conflicts over Natural Resources in the Global South*. *South Asian Water Studies Journal* 6(1): 117–119.

## Professional Experience

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**Independent Researcher, Editor and Journalist** Aug 2023 – Oct 2025  
Researcher, University of Oslo  
Story Mentor, Environmental Data Journalism Academy (Thibi Co & Internews USA)  
Coordinator (Content), Bob Brown Foundation, Australia

**The Morning Context**, New Delhi Oct 2021 – Aug 2023  
Editor (Environment & Policy)  
Led coverage on climate policy, energy transitions and environmental governance; managed editorial team; produced long-form analytical reporting on renewable energy and political economy.

**Land Conflict Watch**, New Delhi

Jan 2019 – Sep 2021

Associate Editor, Researcher and Writer

Led research on land governance and environmental conflict; edited policy briefs; coordinated dissemination with media outlets.

Environment Reporter, Catch News (2015 – 2017)

Correspondent-cum-Copy Editor, The Economic Times (2011 – 2012)

Associate, D. E. Shaw & Co. (2009 – 2010)

## **Academic Engagement & Workshops**

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Presented draft chapter at invited workshop, University of Oslo

May 2024

Workshop on Religion and Climate Change in Asia. Chapter forthcoming in *Religion and Climate Change in Asia* (Leiden University Press, 2026).

Attendee, Summer School on Degrowth

June 2024

Research & Degrowth, Barcelona, Spain

Attendee, International Summer School on Political Ecology

July 2024

University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia

## **Grants & Fellowships**

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Climate Change Media Partnership Fellow, Earth Journalism Network & Stanley Center (2022)

Biodiversity Media Grant, Earth Journalism Network (2021)

Smitu Kothari Fellowship for Young Writers (2020)

Land Rights Reporting Grant, Thomson Reuters Foundation & Pulitzer Center

Impact Journalism Grant Finalist (2018, 2019)

## **Selected Public Writing**

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“Making sense of India’s sudden optimism on green hydrogen.” *The Morning Context*, July 2023.

“In India’s long-term strategy to cut emissions, coal continues to find a place.” *Earth Journalism Network*, Nov 2022.

“The uncounted costs of coastal erosion.” *The Caravan*, May 2021.

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