



## **Arpit Gaiind**

Teaching Fellow

Ashoka University, Sonapat



### **Bio**

Arpit Gaiind's MA and MPhil training in Development Studies and Development Practice sensitized and oriented him to issues of discrimination, marginalization and well-being to critically observe the linkages of subjectivity and everyday forms of power impositions and subversions. His understanding of cultural and political history has been informed and my imagination sustained by an array of courses in post-colonial thought and global developmental debates of the twentieth century. For the past seven years he has been involved in both scholarly as well community art based practices and actions research work (both in Urban as well as Rural-Adivasi spaces) where he has worked with diverse group of communities including (but not limited to) migrants, women, kids, school headmasters and teachers and adivasi.. The MPhil project paved the way and provided opportunity to present the work at an international conference for which he earned the Emerging Scholar Award. The research also resulted in two publications that highlight the experiences of field practitioners and explores Action Research Methodology.

After completing MPhil, Arpit started collaborating on a Ford Foundation supported project at Center for Development Practice, Delhi. As part of it, he has been making culturally sensitive films for the last three years around the adivasi belt of Eastern India – predominantly Odisha, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand. These have focussed on questions of community practices and alternative possibilities of creative expression emerging in indigenous spaces, thus opening up questions of media, authorship and knowledge production. These films in turn are informed by his extensive experience and orientations in Pedagogic Content, Teaching, and Assistant-ships on Research & Book Projects as well as Organizing Academic Conferences. Arpit is currently working as a Teaching Fellow at Ashoka University, Sonapat for courses such as Politics of Development; Nation & Decolonization and Introduction to Political Ideologies.