Rajesh Komath, PhD

Associate Professor in Social Sciences, School of Social Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam

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Date of Birth: 20.03.1978 Nationality: Indian

Education

- **PhD** in Interdisciplinary Social Sciences [Economics], School of Social Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam.
- **M.PHIL IN APPLIED ECONOMICS**, Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram (Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi), 2001-2003.
- M.A, SOCIOLOGY, Indira Gandhi National Open University [IGNOU], New Delhi, 2007-2008
- M.A, DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS, Dr. John Matthai Centre, University of Calicut,1999-2000
- **B.A, ECONOMICS**, Nirmalagiri College, Kannur University, 1995-1998.

Awards/Academic Distinctions

- UGC Teacher Fellowship Award for Doctoral Thesis, 2010.
- Qualified UGC National Eligibility Test (NET) for Lectureship in Sociology, 2011.
- G. Rajesh Kumar Media Fellowship, 2009.
- Independent Fellow of Centre for Studies in Developing Societies, Sarai, New Delhi, 2006.
- Dr. Ambedkar Fellowship Award 2003 by the Bharatiya Dalit Sahitya Academy, New Delhi on December 05-06 2003.
- Qualified UGC National Eligibility Test (NET) for Lectureship in Economics, 2000.

Areas of Research and Teaching

Social Theory, Political Economy, Folkloristics, Social Transformation and Empowerment, Sociology of Religion, Sociology of Development, and Development Issues of marginalized castes and communities.

Teaching Experience

- Assistant Professor in Social Sciences at School of Social Sciences from 23.05.2006 to 23.05.2019.
- Associate Professor in Social Sciences at School of Social Sciences from 23.05.2019 onwards.

Member, Board of Studies

School of Social Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam Heritage Studies, Malayala Sarvakalasala, Thirur Folklore Studies, University of Calicut, Calicut

Courses Taught

Political Economy and Cultural Dynamics, Economic Anthropology, Approaches to Development, Social Transformation and Empowerment, Folkloristics, and Colonial Representation of Kerala

Publications

Course Material Preparation

Prepared Block 3 titled "Emancipation of Marginalised Section" for the Certificate Programme/Course on Life and Thought of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, IGNOU, School of Social Sciences, Faculty of Sociology.

Books

- Green Economics: Need of the Contemporary World (Department of Economics, NMSM Government College, Kalpetta, ISBN: 978-93-5254-254-3).
- Theyyam: The Other Gods (Stark World Publishing Private Ltd, 2012: ISBN 978-81-906936-1-5), Co-authored with Bhawani Cheerath-Rajagopalan.
- Nattudaivangal Samsarichu Thudangumbol (When Local Gods Start Speaking) Mathrubhumi Books, 2013: ISBN : 978-81-8265-868-4.

Research Projects (Completed)

- "Unfavorable Inclusion of Dalits in Higher Education: A Study on the Linkages of Colonies, Schools and Colleges in Kerala" funded by Kerala State Higher Education Council, Government of Kerala.
- **"Theyyam Kettu of Kerala: The Economy and Labour of Performance"** funded by Indian Council of Social Science Research (Ministry of Human Resource Development), New Delhi.

Research Projects (On going)

"Self-Help Groups in Kerala: A Study in Economic Sociology" funded by University Grants Commission, New Delhi.

Articles (English)

- Twin Lives in Malayalam Dalit Writings in English Translation, 2020, edited Vishnu Narayanan, p: 222-270, Mythri Books, Trivandrum.
- Dalit as Margin Body: Re-reading Untouchability and Exclusionary Process in Histories Unbounded: Selected Papers of third Kerala History Congress, 2019, edited by T. Muhammadali, p: 308-319, DC Books, Kottayam.
- Ambedkar Will Teach the Nation from His Statues in Economic and Political Weekly, Vol. 52, Issue No. 25-26, 24 June, 2017.
- The Subversion of Institutions and Creation of a Cultural Discourse in Economic and Political Weekly, Vol. 52, Issue No. 16, 22 April, 2017.
- How did Untouchability Deprived India? Contextualising Ambedkar's Perspective in the Journal of Parliamentary Affairs, Government of Kerala, Vol. 8, 2017.
- Addressing Caste Prejudice in Economic and Political Weekly, Vol L9, No. 19.May 7, 2016.
- Social Barriers of Caste: Ambedkar's Perspective on Working Classes in the Journal of Parliamentary Affairs by the Institute of Parliamentary Affairs, Government of Kerala, Vol. 6. Issue 1, January-June, pp: 82-88, 2014.
- E-Grantz for Dalit Students in Economic and Political Weekly, Vol. 45, No. 50, December 11, P. 5, 2010.
- When a Ritual Enters the Market in a volume *Folklores in India*, edited by Ratnamuthu Sugathan, Publication by Research India Press, New Delhi, [Forthcoming]
- Census of Castes, co-authored: in Indian Journal of Politics and International Relations, 2010, Vol. 3. Nos. 1&2: ISSN 0973-5011.
- Shaping the Life: Kerala Youth in a Changing Socio-economic Order, co-authored: in TAPASAM, A Quarterly Journal for Kerala Studies, 2010, Vol. V, Issue 1-4, pp: 204-22.
- Intergenerational Occupational and Educational Mobility: Case of Village Social Structure of North Malabar, Kerala, Calicut University Research Journal, Publication Division University of Calicut, Vol.5, issue 1, 2005: ISSN 0972334-X
- Theyyam Performance: Resistance of the Oppressed, in Left Angle, Vol-1, Issue-1. http://www.leftangle.net/leftangle magazine 2005 book 1.htm

Book Reviews

- Art that brings out the invisible, Review of the Book 'Dalit Art and Visual Imagery by Gary Michael Tartakov, 2014. <u>http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-features/tp-bookreview/art-that-brings-out-the-invisible/article5935404.ece</u>
- Religion as a Barrier in Women's Empowerment, Review of the book 'Religion, Patriarchy and Capitalism' by Jayanti Alam, 2013. <u>http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-business/religion-as-a-barrier-in-womens-empowerment/article5366075.ece</u>
- Social Implications of Economic Reforms in India, Review of the book 'Economic Reforms and Social Exclusion: Impact of Liberalization on Marginalized Groups in India', by K S Chalam, Sage Publications, New Delhi, India, esocialsciences, Mumbai, December 26, 2011. http://www.esocialsciences.org/Articles/showArticle.aspx?acat=Book+Reviews&aid=4660
- **Paraiyans' Self-assertion for Identity**, Review of Nandanar's Children: The Paraiyans' Tryst with Destiny Tamil Nadu 1850—1956, Raj Sekhar Basu, Sage India, New Delhi, 2011, 492 pp, Rs 895, esocialsciences, Mumbai, October 11, 2011 http://www.esocialsciences.org/Articles/showArticle.aspx?acat=Book+Reviews&aid=4503
- Lives on the Margins of British Colonialism, Review of the book 'Subaltern Lives: Biographies of Colonialism in the Indian Ocean World, 1790-1920: Clare Anderson; Cambridge University Press India Pvt. Ltd., 4381/4, Ansari Road, Daryaganj, New Delhi-110002. Rs. 995. The Hindu, October 15. 2012. <u>http://www.thehindu.com/books/lives-on-the-margins-of-british-colonialism/article3999774.ece</u>

Articles (Malayalam)

- Vimarsham Nindayayi Kanunna Bhakti, Madhyamam Weekly, 2014 November 17, p. 22-29
- Padikantha Padabgal: Randu Sarkar Schoolukalude Katha, co-authored (Unfinished Lessons: The tale of Two Government Schools) Samakalika Malayalam Varika (April 27: 2012: pp: 35-47)
- Nandanarude Makkal (Nandanar's Children) Samakalika Malayalam Varika (March 30: 2012: pp: 88-90)
- Keralathile Dalit Vidyabhyasa Charithrathinu Oramukham, co-authored (Preface to the History of Education of the Dalits in Kerala), Vijnanakairali, a publication of the Institute of Language, Government of Kerala (December 2011: pp. 61-72)
- Savarna Madambithathinde Aslelathakal, co-authored: Samakalika Malayalam Varika (November 11: 2011: pp: 22-24)
- Jathi Vazhakavum Samuhikaparathayum (Theyyam: caste and sociality) Samakalika Malayalam Varika (October 21: 2011: pp: 54-59)
- Theyyam: William Logan muthal William Dalrymple Vare (Theyyam: From William Logan to William Dalrymple) Samakalika Malayalam Varika (October 14: 2011: pp: 46-52)
- Eratta Jeevithangal (Double Lives), Samakalika Malayalam Varika Annual Issue (June 17: 2011: pp: 217-238)
- Ananthamoorthy Commission Report: Oru Dalit Vicharam: co-authored: Sasthragathi (January 2011: pp. 9-13)
- Censusinde Jathi, Co-authored: Samakalika Malayalam Varika (December 24: 2010: pp: 42-44)
- Samagrathayude Vazhiyil E-Grants, Co-authored: Deshabhimani News Paper (November 15: 2010: p.6)
- Chathooti Mash, Mathrubhumi Weekly (June 06-12: 2010: p. 77)
- Jathi Vyavasthayil Theyyam (Theyyam in Caste System), Mathrubhumi Weekly (March 26: 2006: pp. 72-73)
- Randum Kanda Janmangal (Lives of two worlds) in Pachakkuthira (October 2004: pp. 25-27)

Papers Presented

- Presented a paper on **"Social Justice and Human Equality"** at GKVK Campus, University of Agricultural Sciences in Dr. B. R. Ambedkar International Conference, 2017, Quest for Equity, July, 21-23, 2017.
- Presented a paper on "Dalits and Human Rights" at Maharaja's College, Ernakulam on the lecture series of "Human Rights" conducted by the Department of Political Science on 15th February, 2017.
- Participated and Presented a paper titled **"What is Small is beautiful: Methodological Issues** of Development Induced Displacement" in a UGC Sponsored National Seminar on "Development Induced Displacement: Issues and Challenges" organised by School of Gandhian Thought and Development Studies, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam on 31st January, to 2nd February, 2017.
- Presented a paper on "Economics: Beyond Its Rigidities" in the occasion of the inauguration of Economic Association, Department of Economics, Ambedkar College of Arts and Science, Wandoor, on 8th February, 2017.
- Participated and presented a paper titled "**Political Economy of "Theyyam": A History of Uses and Appropriation"** in the Panel on Dalit History and Politics, Indian History Congress (77th Session), University of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram, organised by the Centre for the Study of Discrimination and Exclusion (CSDE), School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, on December 29, 2016.
- Particpated and presented a paper titled "Dalits and Contemporary Politics in India" in the National Seminar on 'Contemporary Indian Politics: Theoretical and Practical Manifestations' organised by Department of Political Science, Maharaja's College, Ernakulam on 15th and 16th December, 2016

- Participated and presented a paper titled "Culture as Practice: History of a Ritual Form of Northern Kerala" in the first annual session and international conference of Kerala History Congress organised by the Department of History, University College, Thiruvananthapuram held on 29, 30, and 31 January 2016.
- Participated and presented a paper titled **"Mythical Ideologies and Distortion of History"** in the National Seminar on 'Ideological Intervention and the Practice of History' organised by the Department of History, University College, Thiruvananthapuram held on 7 and 8 January, 2016.
- Participated National seminar on **Development**, **Decentralization and Democracy**" organized by Kerala Economic Association (KEA) & Institute for sustainable Development and Governance (ISDG), Thiruvananthapuram on October 12, 2015
- Participated and presented a paper titled "Green economics- conceptual and Mythological premises" in the two day national seminar on the topic "Green Economics need of the contemporary world" organized by the Department of Economics , N.M.S.M Govt college Kalpatta, Wayanad with the sponsorship of the UGC on 7th and 8th October 2015.
- Participated and presented a paper titled 'Is Adivasis's Cultural Forms A Knowledge' in the National Seminar on "Understanding the Indigenous Knowledge Systems of the Tribals in Kerala: A Historical Enquiry" organised by Government College, Tripunithura, Department of History on 19th and 20th November, 2014.
- Participated and presented a paper titled 'Ritual Rootedness of Political Martyrdom in Kerala', in the National Seminar on '**Martyred in History-Men and Causes**' organized by Department of history, University of Kerala held at the University Senate Chamber on 16, 17, 18, January 2014.
- Participated in the ICHR National Seminar on '**Modern Kerala**' organized by the Department of History, University of Kerala held at University Senate Chamber on 3, 4, 5 October, 2013.
- Paper presented on 'Theyyam: Reflections to the Social Processes of North Malabar' at H.H.M.S.P.B. NSS College for Women, Neeramankara, Thiruvananthapuram, Department of History, as part of UGC State Level Seminar on 'Folkore as a Source of Local History', 7 & 8 October, 2013.
- Presented a paper titled 'Political Economy of Education: A Reference to the Study of Adivasis in Kerala' in the National Seminar held at Nirmalagiri College on '**The Impact of Tribal Education on Health and Nutrition—Need for an Effective Strategy**' on 16, 17, 18, August, 2013.
- Presented a paper titled 'Ethnographic I: Dancing Theyyam in north Malabar, Kerala' at the International Conference on '**Traditions of Dissent in Subcontinental Literatures and Cultures'** conducted by Central University of Kerala, Kasaragod on October 15-17, 2012.
- Participated and Presented a paper titled "Shaping the Life: Kerala Youth in a Changing Socio-economic Order" in the ICSSR sponsored one day International Seminar on Social Change in Contemporary India, organized by Department of Anthropology, Kannur University on 19th March, 2008.
- The Paper titled "Theyyam: From Cult to Ritual: Space for Appropriation of Subaltern Performance to Social Oppression—North Malabar, Kerala", Presented at an International Seminar on Kerala History, conducted by Kerala Council for Historical Research (KCHR), Trivandrum, March 16,17 and 18, 2006.
- Participated and presented a research paper titled "The Living Cult of the Theyyam and Social Behavior: Certain Anthropological Observations" at the **Regional Seminar on the Socio-economic Conditions of the Tribal Society in Malabar** organized by Nirmalagiri College, Kuthuparamba and under the auspices of IRISH (Institute For Research In Social Sciences And Humanities) in Association with Anthropological Survey of India, Kolkata on 11th and 12th March 2004.
- Participated and presented a research paper titled 'Intergenerational Occupational and Educational Mobility: Case of Village Social Structure of North Malabar, Kerala', at the Third Development Convention on Social Security, Human Development and Growth:

Linkages and Disparities by the ICSSR Research Institutes located in South India on January 29-30, 2004.

• Presented the paper titled "Social and economic mobility of Traditional Social Groups in Kerala" at Center for Development Studies, Trivandrum on June 27th 2002.

Workshops Participated

- Participated in the ICSSR sponsored **Ten Days Workshop on Interpreting Key Texts of Ambedkar for Contemporary India** conducted by Department of Political Science, University of Delhi and presented a paper entitled "How can Marxist's go along with 'Customary Auto Court'? Reflecting Atrocities against Dalits in Kerala" from 18th to 27th February, 2016.
- Participated five day workshop "**On methodologies**" conducted by Inter University centere for Social Science Research and Extension (IUCSSRE) in association with School of Social Sciences (SSS), September 14th to 18th, 2015.
- Participated in Two Day National Workshop "Doing Research in History: Recent Trends" Organized by the Department of History, University College, Thiruvananthapuram on 17th and 18th November, 2014.
- Attended and presented a paper titled 'Re-Imagining the Cultural Past through Folklore' in the Two Day Workshop on 'Kerala Historiography and Modern Kerala' held on 12, 13 December 2013, organized by the **Department of History, Government College for Women**, Thiruvananthapuram.
- Participated in 'National Workshop on Historical Method and Historiography', 11, 12, 13 November, 2013, conducted by **University of Kerala, Department of History**. 'A' grade has been awarded for the participation and interaction.
- Participated in the 13th Annual Cultural Studies Workshop, Pune Feb 5—10, 2008, Conducted by Centre for Studies in Sciences, Kolkotta
- Participated in the Four Week Refresher Course in Economics organized during 05-03-2007 to 30-03-2007, at Academic Staff College, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.
- Participated in the Writing Workshop (October 12/13/14: 2007) Conducted by the Contemporary Education Dialogue, National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangalore.
- Participated in a Three Week Summer School on "Philosophy of Social Sciences and Humanities" Conducted by National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangalore, June 5-22, 2007.
- Participated in a workshop for Ph.D. Scholars on Agrarian Studies in India, organized by the **Foundation for Agrarian Studies, Bangalore** from March 26th to 29, 2004.

Lectures Delivered

- Delivered a lecture on "Understanding Myth and Society" to the participants of 5th Refresher Course in Research Methodology in Social Sciences being conducted by UGC-HRDC, University of Calicut from 05.08.2015 to 25.08.2015.
- Delivered a lecture titled "Myth and Society" in a Refresher Course in Humanities for teachers on 30.06.2014 at UGC-Academic Staff College, Kannur University.
- Deliverd a lecture on the topic "Myth and Society" to the participants of UGC sponsored orientation Programme being conducted by the UGC-HDRC, University of Calicut from 12.11.2015 to 09.12.2015
- Delivered a lecture on "Methodologies" for the participants of the Special Winter School conducted by the UGC- Academic Staff College, University of Calicut on 04.12.2013.

- Annual Lecture Series on Social Transformation and Empowerment at Malayala Manorama's Mass Communication [MASCOM] Course, Kottayam, 2009; 2010.
- Conducted a One Week Lecture Series [10th Octoaber to 17th October, 2008] on Folk Arts of Kerala with Special Reference to an Oral Tradition – Theyyam at Mahindra United World College of India, Puad, Pune.

Coordination

UGC Sponsored Remedial Coaching Scheme for 'SC/ST/OBC/Minorities and other Poor Students' at School of Social Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi University, 2014.

Coordinator, Join Coordinator and Principal Coordinator

• **K. R. Narayanan Chair** for Human Rights and Social Justice, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam.

19th and 20th January, 2017: Coordinated Two day lecture series on "Challenges of Higher Education in India", Prof. G. Haragopal, Former Professor of Political Science, Central University of Hyderabad, and Professor N Sukumar, Professor of Political Science, Department of Political Science, Delhi University has led the lecture series.

ABILITY Project, School of Social Sciences, MG University

Archives sans Borders, School of Social Sciences, MG University: Open Access Website is under preparation for Visually Impaired Researchers of Social Sciences.

Dissertations submitted under my Supervision

M Phil Dissertations

1. Jiny John (2017) "Muziris as a market: Commodification of Heritage in Kerala", M Phil in General Social Sciences (Economics) dissertation submitted at School of Social Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam.

2. Aswathi A (2017) **"Temple and Social Life: A Study of Kidangoor Temple"** M Phil in General Social Sciences (Sociology) dissertation submitted at School of Social Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam.

3. Mohamed Anees M (2017) **"Dalits and Economic Freedom: Locating Local Implications"**, M Phil in General Social Sciences (Economics) dissertation submitted at School of Social Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam.

4 Neethu Parameswaran (2016) **Space, Economy and Community: A Study of Kudumbis,** M Phil in Social Transformation and Empowerment (Economics) dissertation submitted at School of Social Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam.

5 Arun KL (2016) **"Of Elephants and Men: Labour Process in Kerala's Captive Elephant Economy,** M Phil in General Social Sciences (Economics) dissertation submitted at School of Social Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam.

6. Sajna Salim (2016) "Woman and Capital: The Syrian Christian Woman Enterpreneurship in Kerala's Highlands", MPhil in General Social Sciences (Economics) dissertation submitted at School of Social Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam.

7. Sumi M Nair (2016) **"Of Public Distribution System in Kerala: What Ration Dealers and Consumers Says about its Contemporary Status?** M. Phil in General Social Sciences (Economics) dissertation submitted at School of Social Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam.

8. Deepa Jayakumar (2015) "Understanding Ritual Forms: A Study on Mudiyettu in Kerala" Mphil in general social sciences (History) dissertation submitted at School of Social Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam.

9. Rintu Sunny (2014) "**On the Margins of Market: Street Vendors in Kottayam**" MPhil in General Social Sciences (Economics) dissertation submitted at School of Social Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam.

10. Abdu Rahiman (2014) **"Gulf Migration: A Study on its Local Implications"**, MPhil in General Social Sciences (Sociology) dissertation submitted at School of Social Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam.

11. Santhi R (2012) "Transformation of Space: A Case of Fort Cochin" Mphil in general social sciences (Human Ecology and Environmental History) dissertation submitted at School of Social Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam.

12. George Alexander (2011) **"Forest Management: Aspects of Community Participation"**, Mphil in general social sciences (Social Transformation and Empowerment) dissertation submitted at School of Social Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam.

13. Pradeep P (2008) "**Caste, Inequality and Differences: A Case of Manjoor Village, Kottayam, Kerala**", Mphil in general social sciences (History) dissertation submitted at School of Social Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam.

Supervision of Doctoral Thesis (going on)

- Remyamol MS (2017) Economic Life and Dalits in Colonies: A Case of Central Travancore, Kerala at School of Social Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam.
- Teresa (2017) **Sisterhood Lives: Towards a State of Secular World** at School of Social Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam.
- George Antony (2017) Caste and Tharavadus in North Malabar: A history of social power in the late 19th century to late 20th century at School of Social Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam.
- Sooraj MV (2016) **Transgendering Lives: Locating Gender and Society in Kerala** at School of Social Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam.
- Dinu Monachan (2016) **Popular Culture: A History of Kathaprasangam in Kerala** at School of Social Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam.
- Shynu VC (2015) Intra-community Relationship: Nomadic and the Colonised (Sedentariness) Malapandaram at Inter University Centre for Social Science and Extension (IUCSSRE), MG University, Kottayam.