

CURRICULUM VITAE

Dr. ANIL GOPI

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SPECIALIZATIONS

Anthropology of Religion, Caste and Social Hierarchies, Indigenous Peoples and Tribes, Anthropological Theories, Ethnographic Theories, Visual Anthropology, Cultural Ecology, and Economic Anthropology.

EDUCATION

Postdoc. 2022-24. Human Ecology, Indigenous Knowledge and Survival of Communities: An Anthropological Study of Idukki District, Kerala. IUCSSRE, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kerala.

Ph.D. Anthropology. 2021. Religion and Society: An Anthropological Study on the Kaliyattam in North Malabar. Supervisor: Dr. George Tharakan C. Department of Anthropology, University of Hyderabad.

M.Phil. Anthropology. 2015. Traditional Political System and Marriage Regulation Among the Anchunadu Vellalar of South India. Supervisor: Dr. George Tharakan C. Department of Anthropology, University of Hyderabad. CGPA 8.83/10.

M.A. Anthropology. 2014. Department of Anthropology, University of Hyderabad. CGPA 8.06/10.

M.Sc. Chemistry (Polymer Science). 2010. School of Chemical Sciences. Mahatma Gandhi University, Kerala. CGPA 7.32/10.

B.Sc. Chemistry. 2008. Mahatma Gandhi University, Kerala. 94.2% Marks.

EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor, September 2025 onwards -School of Social Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi University

Research Associate 07/2024 – 9/2025-Inter University Centre for Social Science Research and Extension, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kerala.

Assistant Professor (Adhoc) 10/2021-06/2022- Department of Anthropology, University of Hyderabad. Courses taught: Indian Civilization, Anthropological Theories of Human Society, Theories of Culture, Approaches to Socio-cultural Change.

Assistant Professor (on contract) 07/2019-09/2021 -Department of Rural and Tribal Sociology, Kannur University, Kerala. Courses taught: Tribal Studies, Indian Population, Tribes in Development, Environment, Society and Culture; Courses developed: Visual Ethnography, Religion and Society.

JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

Engaging in Public Discourse with Anthropology and Ethnography: The Case of Lakshadweep. *EPW-Engage*. Accepted.

The Cultural Economies of Traditional Livelihood Systems and Adivasis in Kerala Western Ghats: An Appraisal. *Journal of Rural Development*. NIRD&PR. Accepted.

Livelihood, Employment, and Survival of tribal People: A South Indian Case on the Possibilities of Traditional Socio-economic Systems. *Journal of State and Society*. **1(2)**. **2023**. 66-86.

‘Tribal Development’ -Perspective from Below. *Journal of State and Society*. **1(1)**. **2023**. 85-101.

Gods and Oppressed: A Study on *Theyyam* Performers of North Malabar, *Contemporary Voice of Dalits* (Sage). **13(2)** **2021**. 199–207. DOI: 10.1177/2455328X211008363.

Feasting ritually: An ethnography on the implications of feasts in religious rituals, *Oriental Anthropologist*, (Sage Q2). **21(2)**. **2021**. 359–374. DOI: 10.1177/0972558X211057159.

Creating Pantheon -Nature, Colours, and Beliefs: A Visual Narrative of Kaliyattam in Kerala. *Visual Ethnography*. Q4. **9 (1)**. **2020**. 138-158. ISSN2281-1605. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.12835/ve2019.1-0141>.

Representing Feminine Divinity: A Visual Ethnography of *Theyyam* in North Malabar. *Society and Culture in South Asia*, (Sage Q1). **6(1)**. **2020**: 165–173. ISSN 2393-8617. DOI: 10.1177/2393861719892445.

BOOK CHAPTERS

The Bachelor Houses of Muthuvan of Kerala: Social Organizations and Changing Community Structures. Edited Book by Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, New Delhi. Accepted.

Religion in Cyberspace: An Ethnographic Study on *Theyyam* Ritual in Kerala. (With Joly Puthussery). Sudhakar Rao, N. and Arbind Sinha (eds.) 2022. in *Culture, Communication and India's Development*. New Delhi: Concept Publishing Company Pvt. Ltd. Pp 139-156.

BOOKS/ MONOGRAPHS

An Ethnography of the Vellalar of Anchunadu Valley, Idukki. (Forthcoming Monograph)

WORKING PAPERS

Visual Documentation of Religious Rituals and their Ethnographic Values: Analysing Kaliyattam in North Malabar. Inter University Centre for Social Science Research and Extension, Mahatma Gandhi University. *Forthcoming*.

INVITED LECTURES

Anthropological and Ethnographic Methods in Field Studies of Religious Rituals. Indian Institute of Management, Kozhikode. 8-9 January 2025.

Debating Efficacy and Entertainment between the Sacred and Secular: Studying Kaliyattam in North Malabar. Centre for Folk Culture Studies, University of Hyderabad. 8th February 2024.

Anthropological and Ethnographic Approach to Community Studies: Perspectives and Methods. Induction Programme for Master of Social Work. 20th July 2023. Inter University Centre for Disability Studies, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kerala.

Reading and Reviewing: Checks, Balances, and Purpose in Writing. DoHSS NIT Trichy & Dept. of Humanities IIST Thiruvananthapuram jointly organize. 24th to 28th, July 2023. Five Day Online Workshop on Academic Writing & Publishing.

An Ethnography on the Ethos and Values of Traditional Religious Practices and Change in Northern Kerala. International Conference on Exploring Universal Brotherhood -Avenues and Opportunities for Youth. 15th October 2022. School of Humanities, PG & Research Department of History, Holy Cross College (Autonomous), Tiruchirappalli, Tamil Nadu.

A Visual-Anthropological Study of Pilgrimage Complex in the Himalayas: Exploring the Interrelations and Dynamics. Faculty Development Program on Audio-Visual Methods in Research: Locating Theory in Practice. 26th April to 2nd May 2022. Department of Anthropology, Punjab University, Chandigarh.

SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

Stories and Alternate Stories: The Emic Narratives of Agrarian and Tribal Communities in Forest and near-Forest Settings of Western Ghats. International Workshop on Languages and Traditions of Challenge and Change. 14–16 December 2025. Glasgow Centre for International Development (GCID), University of Glasgow.

Narratives on Ethos and Development: Emic and Etic Perspectives. Two-Day national Conference on Many Voices: Contemporary Tribal research and Cultural Expressions in Kerala. 4 & 5 November 2025. School of Social Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam and KIRTADS, Kozhikode.

The Embeddedness and Cultural Economy of Adivasis: A Discourse on Livelihood. Three-day National Seminar on Environment and Society: Perspectives across Disciplines. 30,31st January and 1st February 2025. Department of Anthropology, Kannur University, Kerala.

The Cultural Economies of Traditional Livelihood Systems and Adivasis in Kerala Western Ghats: An

Appraisal. National Seminar on Tribal Communities and Sustainable Use of Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs) for Livelihoods. 7-8 October 2024. National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Hyderabad.

Acculturation, Social Change and the ‘Survival of Communities’: The Case of Tribes in Kerala. National Seminar on Anthropology of Development and Sustainability. 9-10 February, 2024. Department of Anthropology, University of Hyderabad.

Tourism and its Sociocultural and Economic Repercussion among Indigenous People: A Case of Kerala. National Seminar on “Past and Future of Tribal Knowledge and Applied Anthropology”. 9-11 August 2023. Dr. Ram Dayal Munda Tribal Welfare Research Institute. Jharkhand, India.

The Bachelor Houses of Muthuvan of Kerala: Social Organizations and Changing Community Structures. National Seminar on Halma and Other Community-driven Traditions of the Indian Tribes. 19-20 June 2023. Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) and National Commission for Scheduled Tribes. New Delhi.

Aspirations, Affluence, and Social Change: The Case of Tribes of Kerala. National Seminar on Development of Anthropology in India. 3-5, May 2023. Prof. (Dr.) A. Aiyappan Chair -Department of Anthropology, Kannur University, Kerala in Collaboration with Anthropological Survey of India, Kolkata.

Participatory Research, Indigenous Methodology, and Visual Ethnography -Enquiries on the Possibilities in Tribal Studies. Indian Anthropology Congress 2021. February 21-23, 2021. Organized by the Department of Anthropology, Delhi University, and the Indian National Confederation and Academy of Anthropologists (INCAA).

Photographing Rituals: Engagement of Visual Enthusiasts with Religious Festivals. National Seminar on 100 Years of Indian Anthropology: History, Progress and Challenges. 26-30 December 2020. Organized by The Indian Anthropological Society.

Preparing the Goddess: A Visual Ethnography of Theyyam in North Malabar. Indian Anthropology Congress 2019, Anthropology for Developing India: Pathways to Policy Planning and Implementation, 21-23 February 2019. Organized by Department of Anthropology, Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune and the Indian National Confederation and Academy of Anthropologists (INCAA)

Feasting Ritually: Implications of Communal Feasts in Religious Rituals, Indian Anthropology Congress 2019, Anthropology for Developing India: Pathways to Policy Planning and Implementation, 21-23 February 2019. Organized by Department of Anthropology, Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune and the Indian National Confederation and Academy of Anthropologists (INCAA)

Changing Identity of Simple Societies: A Case Study from South India. World Bank-OHEPEE Sponsored International Seminar on Understanding Tribes in Neo-liberal Era. 9th&10thMarch, 2019. Organized by PG. Department of Anthropology, UGC-Centre for Advanced Study (CAS), Utkal University, Bhubaneswar.

Religion in Cyberspace: An Ethnographic Study on Theyyam Ritual in Kerala. (Co-authored with Joly P.). Culture Communication and India’s Development: Contributions of Anthropology of Communication, Media and Communication. 27th -29th August 2019. Organized by the Department of Anthropology, University of Hyderabad.

The Pertinence of Indigenous Political Systems: A Study on Anchunadu Vellalar of South India, National Seminar on Culture: Through Ages, 26&27 February 2019, Organized by Department of History, Berhampur University, Orissa Sponsored by World Bank

Society and Culture in Islands: An Anthropological Study on Lakshadweep. The Inter Disciplinary National Seminar on Socio Economic and Cultural Issues: Challenges and Opportunities of Lakshadweep, 14-16

February 2017, Organized by Calicut University Centre, Kadmat, Union Territory of Lakshadweep

WORKSHOPS

One Day Online National Workshop on Current Challenges for Tribal Policy in India: Some Issues. 11 July 2024. Organized by Research Committee 07 on Adivasi and Tribal Studies, Indian Sociological Society.

Online Training Programme on Development Strategies and Sustainability among Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) in Scheduled Areas, June 1-5, 2021. Organized by the National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Hyderabad.

Online Hands on Training on MOODLE Learning Management System. 17-26 July 2020. Organized by Internal Quality Assurance Cell, Kannur University, Kerala.

Participatory Digital Methodologies and Ethnographic Filmmaking-Ten Day Research Methodology Course for Research Scholars. 14-24 January 2019. Organized by the Department of Anthropology, University of Delhi, Sponsored by ICSSR.

SYMPOSIUMS ORGANIZED

Changing Ecological Consciousness: Religious Beliefs and Altering Interventions with Nature Dr. Joly Puthussery and Dr. Anil Gopi. As a part of India Anthropology Congress -2022. February 21-23, 2022. INCAA and Dept. of Anthropology, University of Hyderabad.

EXHIBITIONS

Theyyam: Cult, Culture and Cosmos. Centre for Folk Culture Studies, University of Hyderabad. 18-24 October 2023.

PROJECTS

ICSSR Major funding on Family and Family Systems in India 2025-26. Title of the project: Family and Birthright (Cherujanmam) in the Sacred Complex of Kaliyattam in South India. Total grant amount: Rs. 21,00,000.

IQAC Seed Grant from Mahatma Gandhi University. Title of the project: An Anthropological Study on the Interrelationship between Indigenous Knowledge, Craft and Livelihood of Uraly Tribes in Idukki. Total grant amount: Rs. 50,000.

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

2022-2024 Chief Minister's NavaKerala Post-Doctoral Fellowship (NKPDF), Government of Kerala

2014-2019 UGC-JRF in Anthropology, 7122(NET-DEC. 2013)

MEMBERSHIP

Life Member: Indian National Confederation and Academy of Anthropologists (INCAA), West Bengal.

JOURNAL REVIEW

Peer Reviewer for the Journal of the Anthropological Survey of India by Anthropological Survey of India, Kolkata, Published by Sage India.

Peer Reviewer for Ethnography, Published by Sage UK.

Peer Reviewer for Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute, Royal Anthropological Institute. UK.

REFEREES

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