



# Harshit Mishra

## Interdisciplinary Researcher

I am a curious environmental researcher with an interdisciplinary background in the environment. My aim is to learn and work on issues at the interface of Development, Pastoralism, Environmental Policy, Human-Animal Interactions (Coexistence) and Environmental History in the Himalayan landscape. I am keen on including an interdisciplinary approach to my work and have a working knowledge of the ecological and social sciences. I aim to have a combination of knowledge generation and on-ground action as part of my work.

## Contact

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## Education

2021-2023 (Ongoing)

### M.Sc. Environmental Studies (Conservation Practice)

The Trans-Disciplinary University of  
Health Sciences and Technology (TDU) in  
partnership with the Ashoka Trust for  
Ecology and the Environment (ATREE)

2018-2021

### B.Sc. Microbiology, Biochemistry, Chemistry

Bhavan's Vivekananda College of Science,  
Humanities and Commerce, Autonomous  
College, Affiliated to Osmania University  
CGPA- 8.74/10

2016- 2018

### Intermediate- Biology, Physics, Chemistry

Sri Chaitanya Junior Kalasala, Board of  
Intermediate Education, Telangana  
Percentage- 88.5%

## Areas of Interest

- Environmental History
- Ecology
- Environmental Policy and Governance
- Development and Environment
- Pastoralism
- Community based Conservation and Stakeholder Engagement
- Science Communication and Outreach

## Experience

### ○ Feb 2023- Jul 2023

#### Nature Conservation Foundation (NCF)

#### Guides- Dr. Saloni Bhatia and Dr. Kulbhushansingh Suryawanshi Intern (Final Semester Project as part of M.Sc. degree)

The aim of the project is to conduct a content analysis of tourism and tourism-related policies for Ladakh UT and understand how Environment and Development are represented in them. After the removal of Article 370 and 35 A on 5th August 2019, the Ladakh UT is governed by the central government. Since then there has been a major focus on improving tourism in Ladakh as it constitutes 50 % of its GDP. This analysis will be crucial to understand how the government views the environment and its vision for tourism in the landscape. We also aim to construct a stakeholder map for the tourism sector in Ladakh and understand how they interact with each other.

### ○ Oct 2022- January 2023

#### Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE)

#### Guide- Dr. Sharachchandra Lele Field Immersion Course and Intern

As part of the field immersion course, I and two of my classmates worked on a project related to the Forest Rights Act in Baiga Chak, Dindori district, Madhya Pradesh. Our work involved training the local community, the Baigas (ST and PVTG), in using GPS apps to map their agricultural lands, village boundaries and community forest boundaries. The maps made out of this activity would be used to file for IFR and CFR titles under the FRA, 2006. In addition to this, we also trained the people to conduct a basic vegetation survey to help them better manage their community forests in the long term. Post the fieldwork I was involved in compiling the data collected from the vegetation surveys (this was done part-time).

### ○ Jan 2021-Feb 2021

#### National Centre for Biological Sciences (NCBS)

#### Guide- Dr. Krushnamegh Kunte

#### Intern (as part of the Science Academies' Summer Research Fellowship 2020)

The project was related to the quantification of wing shape to estimate convergence in the flight morphology of mimetic butterflies. My work involved generating morphological data of wing shape by assigning landmarks on butterfly wing photos in tpsdig software and preliminary analysis of this data through Principal Component Analysis (PCA) plots to derive results with respect to mimicry in butterflies belonging to 3 different mimicry rings found in North-East India. The hypothesis was mimetic butterflies (mimics) will have a similar wing shape to their models (aposematic).

### ○ 2nd May 2019- 6th July 2019

#### Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE)

#### Guide- Dr. T. Ganesh Intern

I was part of a long-term ecological monitoring project on leaf fall and leaf litterfall and in the Kalakad Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu. My work involved sampling leaf and leaf litter on a monthly basis from three plots in the evergreen rainforests, separating leaf and litter and documenting the component of litter for each month in each plot. I was also involved in assisting in conducting various outreach activities by ATREE in the field- nature trails for school children, snake bite mitigation workshops and clean-up drives. I also assisted in the fieldwork for a project on owl survey in agricultural landscapes and bat survey in temples in Tirunelveli.

# Projects as part of M.Sc. coursework final exam

- A Critical Analysis of the Edeyarahalli - Doddasampige (ED) Corridor Securement Project: A Review of Multi-Stakeholder Interrelations, Participation and Action

As part of C3: Interdisciplinary Perspectives Course

- Socio-Economic Conditions of a Displaced Solega Community in two parts of Northern Cauvery Wildlife Sanctuary, Karnataka.

As part of Qualitative Methods Course

- Documentary- People, Lakes and their Evolving Relationships: A case of two lakes in Bengaluru, one under municipality and the other not under it.

As part of Environmental Sociology Course

# Domain Knowledge and Skills

## • Domain Knowledge:

Environmental Science, Ecology, Evolution, Conservation biology, Natural History, Qualitative Research, Sociology, Environmental Policy, Ecological Restoration, Research Ethics

## • Domain Skills:

Qualitative methods- Interviews, Focus group discussions, Content Analysis, Qualitative data analysis with R.

Basic understanding of quantitative methods.

Fieldwork- Wildlife surveys, vegetation plots, camera trapping, stakeholder engagement, working with local communities, citizen science and outreach, etc...

Literature Review and secondary research and data collection

Microsoft Office- Powerpoint, Word, Excel

Academic Writing, Article Writing, Nature Journaling

Soft Skills- Teamwork, Flexible, Communication, Analytical thinking, Problem-Solving

# Languages

- Hindi- Proficient
- English- Proficient
- Telugu- Conversational

# Workshops, Conferences and Mentorship

- Gender and Livestock: Evolving Research Strategies Workshop  
Conducted by Anthra from 6th to 8th March 2023 at IISER, Pune
- Student Mentor for international students during the International Student Exchange Program between Kanazawa University, Japan and the University of Trans-Disciplinary Health Sciences and Technology (TDU), in collaboration with the Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE) conducted between 20th to 28th February 2023.
- 13th Annual Convention of Association of Indian Zoo and Wildlife Veterinarians & International Conference on "Advancements in Veterinary Sciences for Wildlife Conservation"  
Conducted by Laboratory for the Conservation of Endangered Species (LaCONES), CSIR-Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB), India between 13th to 15th November 2019.

# Scholarships and Grants

- Gaur & Chopra Escape Velocity Grant- recieved for covering a part fo the fees for M.Sc. degree program.
- TATA Elxsi Scholarship- covers the tution fess for the M.Sc. degree program.

# Additional Coursework

- Indian Institute for Human Settlements (IIHS) Research Methods Suite
  1. Data Visualisation in Research and Practice
  2. Qualitative Research Methods in the Urban
  3. Quantitative Skills for Urban Research and Practice
  4. Unlocking the Power of Geospatial Data
  5. Writing for Research and AnalysisRegistered. To be completed between 23rd June 2023 and 26th August 2023.
- Frugal Science BIOE 271, Stanford University 15th Sep 2020- 4th Dec 2020 An online course by Dr. Manu Prakash from Stanford University.
- Coursera Online Courses:
  1. Big History: Connecting Knowledge- by Macquarie University
  2. Emergence of Life- by University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
- SWAYAM Online Courses:
  1. Wildlife Ecology- by IIT Kanpur
  2. Wildlife Conservation- by IIT Kanpur
  3. Forests and their Management- IIT Kanpur
- Basic Course in Butterfly Studies- by Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS), India | Grade- "A" | August 2019-January 2020.