

# NAYANA KIRASUR

New Brunswick, US/Bengaluru, India

Email: [nayana.kirasur@rutgers.edu](mailto:nayana.kirasur@rutgers.edu)

Website: [nayanakirasur.in](http://nayanakirasur.in)

## EDUCATION

**Ph.D. in Communication, Information, and Media** | 2023-present

Rutgers School of Communication and Information, Department of Library of Information Science

Advised by [Dr. Britt Paris](#)

**M.A. in Media and Cultural Studies** | 2018-2020

Tata Institute of Social Sciences | Mumbai, India

M.A. Thesis: Caste in Private Schools - A qualitative study to understand how caste is addressed and communicated in private schools and textbooks in India

**B.A. in Psychology, English and Communication Studies** | 2014-2017

Mount Carmel College, Bangalore University | Bengaluru, India

## RESEARCH

### PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

1. **Kirasur, N.** & Jhaver, S. Understanding the Force of Caste: An Examination of Reddit Discussions Around Inter-caste Relationships. [**under review**]
2. **Kirasur, N.**, & Paris, B. (2026). Developing a critical caste analysis within information science and technology: A research review: An annual review of information science and technology paper. Journal of the Association for Information Science and Technology, 1–20. <https://doi.org/10.1002/asi.70073>
3. **Kirasur, N.** (2025). Navigating the state from the margins: Understanding the material and affective aspects of women's engagement with identity documents in rural India. Journal of Documentation, 1–22. <https://doi.org/10.1108/JD-05-2025-0145>

### REFEREED CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

1. **Kirasur, N.**, & Jhaver, S. 2025. Understanding the Prevalence of Caste: A Critical Discourse Analysis of Caste-based Marginalization on X. Proc. ACM Hum.-Comput. Interact. 9, 7, Article CSCW337 (November 2025), 35 pages. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3757518> [**Best Paper Award, represents 1% of all submitted papers**]

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

1. Kirasur, N. (2025a). Navigating an Inscriptive State: Understanding the Documentation and Affective Practices Among Women in Rural India [Panel Discussion]. 4S, Seattle, Washington. <https://www.4sonline.org>
2. Kirasur, N. (2025b). Understanding the Datafied State in India: How Identity Documents and Digital Data Impact Marginalized Women's Access to Social Welfare in Rural Mysuru. [Doctoral Colloquium]. iConference 2025, Bloomington, Indiana. <https://www.ischools.org/iconference>
3. Kirasur, N. (2024a). Profiling Caste: Examining Caste (Re)articulations on Community Profiles on X. [Research]. NetSCI Lab Research Ideation, New Brunswick, New Jersey.
4. Kirasur, N. (2024b). Reinscribing Caste Power on Social Media: Strategies of Community Profiles on X. [Research]. Research Café, New Brunswick, New Jersey.
5. Kirasur, N. (2024c). Understanding the Mechanics of Caste Power on Social Media: Insights for DEI Research [Research]. Communicating Diversity Conference, New Brunswick, New Jersey.

## PUBLIC WRITING

1. **Kirasur, N.**, & Jhaver, S. (2025). How does studying caste-based marginalization on social media expand our understanding of online harm? ACM CSCW Blog. <https://medium.com/acm-cscw/how-does-studying-caste-based-marginalization-on-social-media-expand-our-understanding-of-online-24cfaca71ea3>
2. Kirasur, N. (2022a). How Does Aadhaar-Enabled Welfare Delivery Exclude Women? IT for Change. <https://itforchange.net/notes-from-field-how-does-aadhaar-enabled-welfare-delivery-exclude-women>
3. Kirasur, N. (2022b). Recording the Unorganized Sector: Reflections on the e-Shram Database. IT for Change. <https://itforchange.net/notes-from-field-recording-unorganized-sector-reflections-on-e-shram-database>
4. Kirasur, N. (2022c). What it Takes to Maintain Access to the Digital: Experiences of Adolescent Girls in Rural Mysuru. IT for Change. <https://itforchange.net/notes-from-field-what-it-takes-to-maintain-access-to-digital-experiences-of-adolescent-girls-rural>
5. Kirasur, N. (2022d). Wielding Informational Power as a Feminist Practice: Vignettes from Rural Mysuru. IT for Change. <https://itforchange.net/notes-from-field-wielding-informational-power-as-a-feminist-practice-vignettes-from-rural-mysuru>.

6. Kirasur, N. (2021a). How Has the Pandemic Deepened Inequalities in India's School Education? IT for Change. <https://itforchange.net/has-pandemic-deepened-inequalities-india%E2%80%99s-school-education>
7. Kirasur, N. (2021b). What Our Textbooks Aren't Telling Us About Caste in India. *THE BASTION*. <https://thebastion.co.in/politics-and/education/syllabus-and-pedagogy/what-our-textbooks-arent-telling-us-about-caste-in-india/> **[Editors' Pick 2021 (Education)]**

## AWARDS / GRANTS/ SCHOLARSHIPS

1. Jhaver S., **Kirasur, N (Assistant PI)**. **Grants for Individual Faculty Research (GIFR)** for research on online information-seeking practices of people in inter-caste relationships. Rutgers School of Communication and Information | 2025
2. Kirasur, N. **Narayan Surve Silver Medal** to the second-best student, Media and Cultural Studies, Tata Institute of Social Sciences | 2020
3. Kirasur, N. **Waqar Pyare Khan Memorial Prize** for the best media project group, School of Media and Cultural Studies, Tata Institute of Social Sciences | 2020

## INTERVIEWS / QUOTES / MEDIA MENTIONS

1. Ovadia, D. (25 November, 2025). *The Daily Targum* U. study finds social media app X spreads pro-caste system messaging in India. <https://www.dailytargum.com/article/u-study-finds-social-media-apps-like-x-spread-pro-caste-messaging-in-india-20251126>

## RESEARCH POSITIONS

### **Graduate Research Assistant | Fall 2023 - present**

Social Computing Lab directed by [Dr. Shagun Jhaver](#)

Department of Library and Information Science, School of Communication and Information

- Projects focus on understanding how the internet – particularly the social media platforms – constructs and reifies social categories of caste and gender in India

### **Graduate Research Assistant | Fall 2023**

RaveGuardian Review Project led by [Dr. Britt Paris](#)

Department of Library and Information Science, School of Communication and Information

- Conducted a privacy, data, and surveillance review of the RaveGuardian Personal Safety App.

## Project Associate (Research and Communication) | January 2021 - July 2023

IT for Change, Prakriye | Mysuru, India

- Conduct extensive fieldwork and research in rural Mysuru focusing on digital inclusion, gender, and governance
- Implement development projects including conducting gender awareness programs and capacity-building for women and adolescents, media production, process documentation, funder reporting, and social media outreach
- Ideating and writing grant proposals for development projects

## MEDIA PROJECTS

1. Anand, O., Balachandran, V., Doke, M., **Kirasur, N.**, Usha Vijaykumar, P. (2020) Mumbai Mumbai, Majhi Priya Rande. Documentary. *Tata Institute of Social Sciences*. (A film that visualizes the city of Mumbai through Dalit Poetry keeping the politics of space, caste, class, and gender at the center.)
2. Anand, O., Haloi, P., **Kirasur, N.**, Pandey, P., Smrithi, A., Shrivastava, I. (2019) 119 People Per Seat. Documentary. *Tata Institute of Social Sciences*.
3. **Kirasur, N.**, Rakesh, L., Roy Chowdhry, S., Saraf, V., Shukla, A., (2019) Jaago Piya. Music Video. *Tata Institute of Social Sciences*.
4. Kirasur, N., Rakesh, L., Roy Chowdhry, S., Saraf, V., Shukla, A., (2019) Jaago Piya. Music Video. *Tata Institute of Social Sciences*.

## TEACHING

- **Course Instructor** | Fall 2025-Spring 2026

Course: Ethics, Values, & Change in Information Practices

Program: Master's in Information

Department of Library and Information Science | Rutgers School of Communication and Information

- **Teaching Assistant** | Fall 2024-Spring 2025

Course: Ethics, Values, & Change in Information Practices

Department of Library and Information Science | Rutgers School of Communication and Information

- **Instructional Student Assistant** | Spring 2024

Course: Ethics, Values, & Change in Information Practices

Program: Master's in Information

Department of Library and Information Science | Rutgers School of Communication and Information

## SERVICE

**Vice President, Doctoral Student Association**, Rutgers School of Communication and Information | Fall 2024- Spring 2025

**Core Committee Member, Fatima Ambedkar Periyar Phule Savitri Students and Workers' Association (FABPPSSWA)**, Rutgers University | 2024 - present

**Co-convener, Global Anti-caste Thought Working Group**, Rutgers University | 2026 - present

### Conference and Journal Reviewer

- Peace Review | 2025
- ACM CHI conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems | 2025 and 2026
- Cogent Arts & Humanities | 2025
- Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences (HICSS) | 2023

### Professional Memberships

- SIG on Computer-Human Interaction (SIGCHI) Membership | 2025-present
- Society for the Social Studies of Science (4S) | 2025 - present