

S. MITRA KALITA

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PROFILE

Award-winning journalist; published author; founding editor of three startups; nonprofit president; adjunct professor at three universities; frequent speaker on media, race, gender

EXPERIENCE

Quartz, Atlantic Media Co., New York, N.Y.; *Executive editor*, September 2014—present

- Oversee global expansion, including verticals for India (staff of five) and Africa (planned staff of four)
- Oversee four-member Ideas team, responsible for much of the site's most viral content
- Coordinate with ad sales, marketing, social media, legal, events teams on special projects and campaigns
- Report directly to editor in chief as one of his three senior editors; handle hiring, recruitment, mentoring of interns, training, contract writers, new hires

Ideas editor, July 2012—present

- Section produced seven of the site's 10 most viral stories of 2014
- Solicited, commissioned and edited all third-party content
- Wrote columns and pieces, namely on India, gender, tech, education, governance
- Conceived of a section that straddles commentary, interactivity, dialogue, and became known for bringing authentic voices of the global economy to the fore, from 9-year-olds on the World Cup to finance ministers to Bill Gates

The Wall Street Journal, New York, N.Y.

Senior special writer, December 2010—July 2012

- Report on housing and economy for page 1 and other parts of paper; coverage areas include foreclosures, lending, changes in housing stock and ways we live, homeownership.

Senior deputy editor, *Greater New York*, 2010

- Oversaw reporters covering New York City, New Jersey and Connecticut; run morning meeting and dispatch reporters, freelancers, photographers and daily coverage; at peak had 22 direct reports
- Founding editor of startup section; helped hire and assemble team, implemented processes.

Deputy global economics editor, 2008-2009

- Oversaw reporters covering economy, demographics and Federal Reserve; daily economic indicators
- Coordinated with reporters and editors in other bureaus, foreign and domestic, on economic coverage
- Write feature stories and biweekly New Global Indian column for the WSJ India web site

Mint, New Delhi, India.; *National editor/ columnist* for startup publication of Hindustan Times and Wall Street Journal, member of senior leadership determining content and direction; 2006-2008

- Oversaw reporters covering eclectic beats as nonprofits, sports, steel, education, entertainment, workplace, religion; oversaw special series and sections, such as MBA guide
- My reporters won several awards, including CNN's Young Journalist of Year and many internal recognitions; handled awards entries, hiring, training and internship program

- Wrote popular weekly column on life, work, family, gender, politics, New India
- Launched paper's first blog, coordinated business development with new online ventures, regularly appeared on video and worked with broadcast side to get stories into print and vice versa
- Coordinated coverage with Wall Street Journal editors across the world

The Washington Post, Washington, D.C.; *Business reporter*, 2003-2006

- Covered immigration, globalization, outsourcing and its effect on local, national and global economy
- Reported and blogged from India several stories on changing economy and society
- Covered education, schools, youth and immigration trends in 2003-'04

Newsday, Queens, N.Y.; *Business Reporter*, 2000-2003

- Wrote daily and feature stories on business trends and New York City economy
- Covered aftermath of 9/11, from downtown to terrorism trial in Lackawanna, N.Y.
- Carved beat out of minority/immigrant entrepreneurs, small business, Gen-X workplace
- Reported series on India 10 years after liberalization; reported from Houston on Enron

India Abroad, New York, N.Y.; *Monthly Columnist*, 2002-2003

The Associated Press, Trenton, N.J.; *Newswoman*, 1998-1999

- Covered breaking news in New Jersey for print and broadcast wires; national stories included racial profiling and Kosovo refugees' arrival
- Supervised desk, copy-edited, coordinated coverage among writers and photographers

The Daily Targum, New Brunswick, N.J.; 1994-1996, 1997 as Editor in Chief

- Directed all editorial operations of the non-profit, \$2 million Targum Publishing Co., which produces Rutgers University's newspaper. Circulation 17,000, average 20 to 24 pages

INTERNSHIPS: Wall Street Journal, Baltimore Sun, Patriot Ledger, WSJ Classroom Edition

EDUCATION

Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, M.S., May '00 (concentration: new media)

Rutgers College (General Honors Program), May '98, GPA: 3.7, Phi Beta Kappa

Majors: History/Journalism & Mass Media, Minor: Spanish

Financed 75 percent of college education through summer internships and college newspaper job

BOOKS

- *Suburban Sahibs: Three immigrant families and their passage from India to America* (Rutgers University Press 2003; Penguin India 2004)
- *My Two Indias: A Journey to the Ends of Opportunity* (Harper Collins India, November 2010)
- *Get to Work: Entering, managing and understanding the Indian office* (co-authored with Shashi Ravichandran, forthcoming Harper Collins India 2013)

TEACHING

- Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, 2009-2011 -- present, adjunct faculty teaching "New York World" workshop, a class focused on accountability journalism of city and state government. Also advise master's students on their long-form requirement for graduation)
- U-Mass Amherst, taught online course on Opinion Writing, 2011-2012

- St. Johns University, Jamaica, N.Y., adjunct, “History of Journalism,” Fall 2010 (27 students), Spring 2011 (37 students). Approach to course is lecture on aspects of journalism history and then half-hour discussion relating it to present day. Areas of interest are women, minorities in media, the future of print, journalism entrepreneurship, social media, partisanship in media.
- Have lectured at New School, NYU, University of Illinois, Rutgers, Harvard, Montclair State, U-Penn, University of Virginia, Washington & Lee (latter as Donald Reynolds Visiting Scholar in Business Reporting)

CHAPTERS IN ANTHOLOGIES

- At Ground Zero: 25 Stories from Young Reporters Who Were There (Thunder’s Mouth Press 2002)
- Best Business Stories of 2003 (Vintage); series from India included
- Telling True Stories (Penguin, 2007): a chapter on reporting on one’s own community, from talk delivered at the Nieman Narrative Writing Conference.
- Innovating Women: The Changing Face of Technology (Diversion, 2014): a chapter on rejecting having it all or leaning in debates and embracing most women’s reality: doing it all

DOCUMENTARY

- Served as story consultant on “Crossing Lines,” (2007) award-winning documentary about an Indian woman’s search for identity after her father dies
- Working on documentary about heavy metal and its lure in India’s troubled, militant northeast

HONORS

- South Asian Journalists Association, Outstanding commentary, 2014
- Society of American Business Writers and Editors award for coverage of global recession, 2010
- South Asian Journalists Association, Finalist, Outstanding editorial/commentary for WSJ column, 2009
- South Asian Journalists Association, Finalist, Daniel Pearl Award; First Place in Overall News Feature for coverage of globalization, 2007
- Frank C. Porter Memorial Award for Labor and Business Reporting from the Washington Baltimore Newspaper Guild, 2006
- Print Excellence Award for Coverage of Race and Ethnicity, “Let’s Do It Better” workshop, Columbia University, 2006
- Celebration of Immigrant Voices Award from the International Institute of New Jersey, 2005
- New Jersey Authors Award from the New Jersey Studies Academic Alliance and New Jersey Library Association, 2004
- Caring for Children award from the Coalition for Asian American Children and Families, 2004
- Work published in “Best Business Stories in 2003”
- Named “Young Journalist of the Year” by New York Associated Press Association, 2002
- Named “Best New Reporter” by New York Newswomen’s Club, 2001
- Newsday Publisher’s Award for Specialist Reporting, 2001
- Women’s Economic Roundtable Prize for coverage of Entrepreneurship, 2002
- Society of Silurians News Analysis Award for LaGuardia Airport series, 2000
- Robert Harron Award from Columbia University for journalistic excellence, 2000
- N.J. Press Association First Place News Writing, 1998

ADDITIONAL

- Fluent in Spanish (lived in Puerto Rico, covered immigration), Assamese (North Indian language), some spoken Hindi (studied one year), Bengali (conversational), Mandarin (studied one year)
- Past president of the South Asian Journalists Association
- Frequent speaker at various events around the world; appearances include World Bank, Harvard's Nieman Narrative Writing Conference, moderated New York City's mayoral debates