

Ashis Nandy



Ashis Nandy is an Indian political psychologist, social theorist and contemporary cultural and political critic.

Nandy has worked for more than thirty-five years on two diametrically opposite domains; social existence, human potentialities or creativity and human destructiveness, particularly mass violence. During the last thirty years he has served in a number of commissions, hearings and investigations into communal riots, violence of development, racist crimes against women, electoral malpractices and human rights abuses. Trained as a sociologist and clinical psychologist, Nandy is also known for his work in political science and future studies.

However, during the last three decades, has travelled through some of the less familiar territories of social knowledge, such as scientific creativity, future studies, post-developmental and post-secular visions, cities of the mind, myths of nation-states, and alternatives. He is associated with the Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, of which he was a director for a number of years. He has been also a Fellow at the Woodrow Wilson International Centre, Fellow of the Institute for Advanced Study, Berlin, and is Regent's Fellow at the University of California in Los Angeles. Nandy received the Fukuoka Asian Culture Prize in 2007.

In 2008 he appeared on the list of the Top 100 Public Intellectuals Poll of the Foreign Policy magazine, published by The Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.