

Paranjoy Guha Thakurta is a journalist and an educator. His works cut across different media: print, radio, television and documentary cinema. His areas of interest are the working of India's political economy and the media.

He was born on October 5, 1955 and educated at St. Stephen's College, University of Delhi (1972-75) and at the Delhi School of Economics (1975-77) in the same university from where he obtained his Master's degree in economics. He started his career as a journalist in June 1977 and has worked in various media organizations including in companies bringing out publications such as *Business India*, *BusinessWorld*, *The Telegraph*, *India Today* and *The Pioneer*. He worked with Television Eighteen India Limited for almost six years. During this period between 1995 and 2001, he anchored a daily interview and discussion programme called "India Talks" on the CNBC-India television channel – nearly 1,400 half-hour episodes of the programme were broadcast. He currently anchors two weekly programmes for Lok Sabha Television. He is editor, 'Realpolitik' monthly, a regular contributor to newspapers, magazines and websites and is frequently featured on television channels and radio programmes as an analyst and commentator. He is a visiting faculty member at various educational institutions including two Indian Institutes of Management at Ahmedabad and Kolkata, the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, the Film & Television Institute of India, Pune, the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, Mussoorie, besides the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade and educational institutions affiliated to the University of Delhi, Jawaharlal Nehru University and Jamia Millia Islamia. He is a member of the Press Council of India nominated by the University Grants Commission. He is a media trainer and a consultant/adviser on India's political economy. He is non-executive director of the School of Convergence (SoC), a unique educational institution that had for the first time in India combined the curricula of a journalism school, a film school and a management school. The SoC conducts certificate courses for undergraduate students at St. Stephen's College and other colleges affiliated to the University of Delhi.

Paranjoy is a writer, speaker, anchor, interviewer and commentator in three languages: English, Bangla and Hindi. His main areas of interest are the working of India's polity, its economy and its media. He is also interested in regional economic cooperation and South-South relations. He lectures on these topics for various audiences, besides teaching and training aspiring – and working -- media professionals. He has participated in a number of seminars and workshops and has travelled widely. He has been associated with projects of the United Nations Development Programme.

He has directed a number of documentary films. One entitled "Idiot Box or Window of Hope" examines the impact of television on Indian society – it was produced by the Public Service Broadcasting Trust (PSBT) in 2003 and has been broadcast on Doordarshan, India's public broadcaster. In 2006-07, he produced and directed a five-part documentary series in partnership with the PSBT entitled: "Hot As Hell: A Profile of Dhanbad". In 2007, he directed a documentary "Grabbing Eyeballs: What's Unethical About Television News in India" for PSBT. He is currently engaged in directing/producing a number of documentary films. He has co-authored a book with Shankar Raghuraman entitled: "A Time of Coalitions: Divided We Stand", published by Sage Publications India in March 2004. The book was able to anticipate the outcome of the 14th general elections in India, the results for which came out in May that year. A substantially revised, updated and enlarged version of the book titled "Divided We Stand: India in a time of Coalitions" was published in late-2007. He is currently working on a number of books, including authoring a textbook on media ethics.

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