

Salik Ahmad

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Delhi-based independent journalist with over four years of reporting and news writing experience. Have written on wide-ranging topics such as society, politics, human rights, identity, nutrition, crime, education, and wildlife among others. Specialise in long-form, features, and human interest stories. Can do photos and independently produce videos.

EXPERIENCE

- **Outlook Magazine**

- Special/Senior Correspondent (May 2018 – July 2020)

Authored nearly a dozen cover stories, besides anchoring several national story packages. Travelled to multiple states for reporting purposes. Contributed regularly to the Outlook website, and at times, commissioned pieces.

- **Hindustan Times**

- Correspondent (June 2016 – May 2018)

Covered Rajasthan for two years with focus on education. Broke major stories, most notably those related to the changes in curriculum.

EDUCATION

- **AJK MCRC, Jamia Millia Islamia** – M.A. Convergent Journalism (2016)
- **Delhi College of Arts and Commerce, University of Delhi** – English Honours (2014)

REFERENCES

Satish Padmanabhan

Executive Editor, Outlook
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SELECT PORTFOLIO

LONG READS

[Charting the history of crime in Uttar Pradesh](#) – from the era of dacoits to modern day gangsters, how crime came to dovetail with politics and criminals became caste icons.

[What after home?](#) Lakhs of migrant workers returned to their villages during lockdown. What lay ahead for them? Besides the main piece, did reports from [Hamirpur](#) and [Basti](#).

[How the anti-CAA protests triggered a social churning within Indian Muslims](#), and led them to a renegotiation with their cusped identity.

[What's wrong with our rights](#) – after seven decades of India being a constitutional republic and most freedoms legislated, how free Indians really are?

IMPACTFUL STORIES

[Made a case against 'both-sides' journalism in an open letter to my editor](#). It sparked a major debate with top editors weighing into the discussion. The piece was picked up by The Washington Post for its daily global newsletter.

[Kajodi, a 90-year old woman walking back to her village in Sawai Madhopur](#), 400 km from Delhi, when the lockdown happened. The image got 3,000 retweets and the lady and her family were helped by the Noida police. Also got an enquiry from Rajasthan CM's office.

STORY PACKAGES ANCHORED

[From Ravish Kumar to Ruskin Bond, we did several a-day-in-the-life-of pieces](#) for an Outlook anniversary issue. My work involved drawing up the list of subjects, assigning stories to colleagues, often doing the line up, and coordinating with photographers.

[Revisiting people who once made national headlines](#) – Sher Singh Rana, Phoolan Devi's murder accused; Graham Staines' family; Prince, who fell in the borewell; and others.

STORIES BROKEN

[The death of Pehlu Khan](#), a dairy farmer who was attacked by cow protection vigilantes in Alwar. Did a follow up on the victim's family [a month later](#).

[Veer Savarkar overshadows Gandhi and Nehru in new Rajasthan textbooks.](#)

[Women should grind chakki, sweep floors to stay fit](#): Rajasthan education dept magazine

MULTIMEDIA STORIES

[The tricolour weavers of Rajasthan's Banetha are dwindling](#). Banetha, a village in Dausa, is one of the four places in the country where the cloth for the tricolour is made.

[Pakistani pilgrims visiting Ajmer dargah](#) on the death anniversary of Sufi saint Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti.

PIECES COMMISSIONED

[Remembering Ramchandra Siras ten years after his death](#). Siras was a professor at Aligarh Muslim University and was hounded for his sexual orientation; he died by suicide later. The piece was written by his friend and fellow professor Tariq Islam.

[Aruna Roy and Nikhil Dey, writing on the character of protests](#) that erupted after the Citizenship Amendment Act.

[Former UP police chief on how he feels diminished every time a cop falls](#) in the line of duty. Sought this when gangster Vikas Dubey's men gunned down eight cops in Kanpur.
