

# NAVYA ASOPA

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## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

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Investigative journalist with a master's from Columbia Journalism School and a proven track record of deeply reported stories on immigration, criminal justice, and labor in India and the US. Experienced in data analysis, public records research, and interview techniques. Currently seeking to tell stellar stories in global newsrooms.

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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### BBC NEWS INDIA | Collective Newsroom

08/2025 – Present | New York

*Freelance Reporter*

- Publishing multimedia reports on India-US relations, like the impact of [tariffs](#) on local shopkeepers, the [H1B fee](#) hike on tech professionals, and the [city's mayoral](#) race.

### INDIA ABROAD | Local Digital Newsroom

08/2025 – Present | New York

*Freelance Reporter*

- Producing multimedia stories on the South Asian diaspora in the city, including the [first Indian director](#) to win in Venice, [Nepali vigil](#) for protest deaths, and [Zohran Mamdani's](#) campaign.

### CENTRAL DESI | Local Digital Newsroom

12/2025 – Present | New Jersey

*Reporting Fellow*

- Reporting on the politics, people, and art of the South Asian community in the Garden State.

### NEWSREEL | News App Startup

12/2025 – Present | New Jersey

*Editorial Fellow*

Editing and publishing a dozen stories per week about politics, human interest, business, technology, and lifestyle for an interactive news app designed for modern attention spans.

### COLUMBIA JOURNALISM INVESTIGATIONS | Research Lab

10/2024 – 05/2025 | New York

*Research Assistant*

- Investigated wrongful conviction cases in New York by examining ongoing lawsuits and analyzing exoneration datasets under the guidance of Kristen Lombardi.

### COLUMBIA NEWS SERVICE | University News Website

10/2024 – 05/2025 | New York

*Reporter*

- Published three New York City stories covering a [union contract dispute](#), the mayor's indictment, and sex workers' push for [decriminalization](#).

## THE REPORTERS' COLLECTIVE | Investigative News Site

03/2024 – 05/2024 | New Delhi

*Reporting Intern*

- Scooped two long-form [financial investigations](#) on the government's Annual Budget from 2000 to 2022 and reported on the discrepancies in the allocation of funds for welfare benefits directed towards marginalized groups.

## THE TIMES OF INDIA | National News Daily

12/2023 – 01/2024 | New Delhi

*Reporting Intern*

- Broke news and produced 6 in-depth articles on gender, education, and civic issues in North Indian state Rajasthan's [educational reforms](#), [women commission's](#) stagnation, and [homeless shelters](#) for the City edition.

## EDUCATION

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### COLUMBIA GRADUATE SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM

08/2024 – 05/2025 | New York

*MS Journalism*

- Toni Stabile Investigative Fellow
- Coursework: Investigative Techniques; Business Reporting; Journalism Law; Videography; Data Analysis

### ASHOKA UNIVERSITY

08/2021 – 05/2024 | New Delhi

*B.A. (Hons). Political Science, Minor: Media Studies*

- Dean's List, GPA: 3.7/4.0

## SKILLS

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**Technical:** MS Excel, FOIA filings, OSINT research, Legal analysis, R programming, Python

**Languages:** Hindi, Spanish, Gujarati, Punjabi

**Certifications:** Fundamentals of Economics by UC Berkeley, Digital Journalism by Reuters

## AWARDS

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**People's Choice Award**, *Columbia University*

02/01/2025

Awarded in Journalism Business class for a fact-checking news product to combat misinformation

**Media Excellence Award**, *Ashoka University*

05/15/2024


Awarded by the Media Studies Department for achieving excellence in journalism during undergraduate studies

## PUBLICATIONS

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**As Trump signs bill to end US government shutdown, staffers describe 43 days of stress they faced**, *Scroll.in* 

11/13/2025

**'H-1B Rules Designed To...': Indian Workers, Employers On Trump's Visa Fee Hike**, *The Quint* 

09/25/2025