

LEARNING MATERIALS

The Image Complex: Photography, Vision, and Belief in South Asia

Facilitated by Aastha D and Impart

Session 7

New Models: Image, Screen, and Algorithmic Vision

September 10, 2026 | 7:00 pm IST

With Chinar Shah, Premjish Achari, and Sukanya Deb

These learning materials are intended to support and enrich your insights and takeaways from the upcoming lecture. They include resources that the co-facilitator and guest speakers may draw upon during the session, as well as recommended readings, and a reflective prompt. While not necessary, we encourage you to engage with these materials prior to the session. For a broader range of references on the themes and ideas we explore throughout this series, scroll down to the 'Further Resources' section.

Read

1. Crawford, Kate. *Atlas of AI: Power, Politics, and the Planetary Costs of Artificial Intelligence*. Yale University Press, 2021.
<https://www.essra.org.cn/upload/202105/The%20Atlas%20of%20AI%20Power,%20Politics,%20and%20the%20Planetary%20Costs%20of%20Artificial%20Intelligence.pdf>
2. Noble, Safiya Umoja. *Introduction to Algorithms of Oppression: How Search Engines Reinforce Racism*. New York University Press, 2018.
<https://files.commonsgc.cuny.edu/wp-content/blogs.dir/6105/files/2019/01/SAFIYA-NOBLE.pdf>
3. Paglen, Trevor. "Invisible Images (Your Pictures Are Looking at You)." *The New Inquiry*, December 8, 2016.
<https://thenewinquiry.com/invisible-images-your-pictures-are-looking-at-you/>
4. Rashid, Nurul Huda. "Annotative Notes on *Her*/Caring for the Image." In *Can, Cannot, and Other Options: Between Defiance and Desire, Towards Fuller Lives*, edited by Wayne WJ Lim and Soh Kay Min. A Weekend Affair, 2021.

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[https://www.academia.edu/96640377/Annotative notes on Her Caring for the Image](https://www.academia.edu/96640377/Annotative_notes_on_Her_Caring_for_the_Image)

5. Steyerl, Hito. "Mean Images." *New Left Review* 140/141 (March–June 2023): 82–97. https://monoskop.org/images/1/19/Steyerl_Hito_2023_Mean_Images.pdf

Watch

1. Anthony, Theo. "ALL LIGHT, EVERYWHERE - Official Trailer." Posted May 18, 2021, by Super. YouTube, 2:12. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=luHmSqY0Xsk>
2. Anthony, Theo. "Documentary: All Light Everywhere." Posted August 4, 2025, by Incarcerated Nation Network INC Media. YouTube, 01:55:43. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IEY2MHvDMcY>

Listen

1. "Public Program: Meet the Democracy Machine Fellows." Eyebeam. <https://eyebeam.org/program/the-democracy-machine/#public-program>

Think

Open Google Images. Search for the following terms: "Teacher," "CEO," "Terrorist," "Beautiful woman." What do you make of the search results? What do these results tell you about the search engine? Rather than analysing the images, analyse the search engine.

Feel free to share your response with the rest of the learning community on our Discussion Forum.

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1. Anthony, Theo. "ALL LIGHT, EVERYWHERE - Official Trailer." Posted May 18, 2021, by Super. YouTube, 2:12.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=luHmSqY0Xsk>
2. Anthony, Theo. "Documentary: All Light Everywhere." Posted August 4, 2025, by Incarcerated Nation Network INC Media. YouTube, 01:55:43.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IEY2MHvDMcY>
3. Azouley, Ariella. Introduction to *The Civil Contract of Photography*. Zone Books, 2008.
<https://jpgenreblog.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/ariella-azoulay-the-civil-contract-of-photography.pdf>
4. Azouley, Ariella. "Citizens of Disaster." In *The Civil Contract of Photography*. Zone Books, 2008.
<https://jpgenreblog.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/ariella-azoulay-the-civil-contract-of-photography.pdf>
5. Berger, John. "Ways of Seeing by John Berger." <https://www.ways-of-seeing.com/>
6. Berger, John, and Mike Dibb. "John Berger / Ways of Seeing, Episode 1 (1972)." Posted July 27, 2020, by Enlight Studies. YouTube, 30:04.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P-4LwAuTw7k>
7. Campt, Tina. "Imagine Otherwise: Tina Campt on Listening to Images." Interview by Cathy Hannabach. Posted May 16, 2018. Ideas on Fire, 27:10.
<https://ideasonfire.net/63-tina-campt/>
8. Campt, Tina. "The Sound of Defiance." Interview by Brian Wallis. *Aperture*, October 25, 2017.
<https://aperture.org/editorial/tina-campt-conversation-brian-wallis/>

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9. Edwards, Elizabeth, and Janice Hart. "Introduction: Photographs as Objects." In *Photographs Objects Histories: On the Materiality of Images*. Routledge, 2004.
https://yale.imodules.com/s/1667/images/gid6/editor_documents/yacol/ycba_readings/week_6_elizabeth_edwards_and_janice_hart_introduction_to_photographs_objects_histories.pdf?sessionid=853c3754-3ece-442a-92ec-f75cb01e1bc9&cc=1
10. Edwards, Elizabeth, and Janice Hart. "Mixed Box: The Cultural Biography of a Box of 'Ethnographic' Photographs." In *Photographs Objects Histories: On the Materiality of Images*. Routledge, 2004.
11. "Keynote: The Rise of Techno-Authoritarian Control - Safiya Noble in Conversation with Gina Neff." Posted April 25, 2025, by Minderoo Centre for Technology and Democracy. YouTube, 31:58.
<https://youtu.be/Y9tydzKE2lE?si=bExDgQcFR8WVd1>
12. Paglen, Trevor. "Invisible Images (Your Pictures Are Looking at You)." *The New Inquiry*, December 8, 2016.
<https://thenewinquiry.com/invisible-images-your-pictures-are-looking-at-you/>
13. Papa, Stephanie. "Stories Behind Revolutions." *Magnum*, April 3, 2026.
<https://www.magnumphotos.com/newsroom/the-stories-behind-revolutions/>
14. "PARI - People's Archive of Rural India." PARI. <https://ruralindiaonline.org/>
15. Pinney, Christopher. Prologue to *Camera Indica: The Social Life of Indian Photographs*. University of Chicago Press, 1997.
https://books.google.co.in/books?id=CVzqAQAAQBAJ&printsec=frontcover&source=gbg_summary_r&cad=0#v=onepage&q&f=false
16. Sekula, Allan. "The Body and the Archive." *October* 39 (Winter 1986): 3–64.
https://monoskop.org/images/6/65/Sekula_1986_The_Body_and_the_Archive.pdf

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17. Steyerl, Hito. "In Defense of the Poor Image." *e-flux Journal* 10 (November 2009).
<https://www.e-flux.com/journal/10/61362/in-defense-of-the-poor-image>
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This document is part of the lecture series 'The Image Complex,' facilitated by Aastha D and Impart. Click [here](#) to start learning.

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Impart is an online platform that encourages greater engagement with South Asia's art and cultural histories. We are a unit of the Art & Photography Foundation, and an institutional partner of the Museum of Art & Photography (MAP), Bengaluru.