

## AAP, Apps and WhatsApp: Participation in the low tech and high-tech practices of the Aam Aadmi Party



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« Metropolitan democracy from below: participation and rescaling in Delhi », *Territory, Politics, Governance*, (Published online: 5 November 2020): 1-16.

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/21622671.2020.1837218?journalCode=rtep20>

*Emotions, Mobilisations and South Asian Politics* (co-edited with Amélie Blom) Delhi, Routledge, 2019.

“Political Representation in the Discourse and Practices of the “Party of the Common Man” in India”, *Politics and Governance* Volume 7, Issue 3, pp. 179–188, 2019.

<https://www.cogitatiopress.com/politicsandgovernance/article/view/2122>

**Abstract:** Participation – the need to govern *with* the people - was a major theme of the Aam Aadmi Party’s discourse when this party was created in 2012. Eight years and three elections later, how has this key word been interpreted? What practices has it translated into? And what has been the role of digital technologies in such practices?

This paper situates the AAP’s discourse on participation with regard to the party’s genesis, and identifies the main meanings attached to this word. It describes the three main types of participatory experiments implemented (however briefly in some cases) by the AAP government in Delhi, drawing a distinction between the low tech and high-tech practices at work in each case. Finally, it shows that participation has undergone a high tech turn from 2019 onwards, and reflects on what such evolution does to participation, and what it says about the place of participation in the party/government.

Date: **November 24, 2021**

Time: **04:00 – 5:30 pm**

Google Meet: [meet.google.com/xxc-fstm-pvy](https://meet.google.com/xxc-fstm-pvy)

