

# Continued significance of the national

The internet portal [www.theinder.net](http://www.theinder.net)



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# Structure



1. Research project
2. The Indian portal
3. located in Germany
4. catering for hybrid identities
5. imagining transnationality

# Research project

- „The virtual second generation
- - On the negotiation of ethnicity on the internet – „
- funded by Volkswagenstiftung
- social and cultural anthropology
- ethnography of internet portal
- identity construction in context of alienation



# Indian online portal

„We are a young **Indian internet community** and portal, founded in July 2000, named "the InderNet" ("Inder" is the German word for an Indian, so it becomes an "**Indian Network**").“



„The fact that in this IT era more and more people getting internet access, made us creating a project that should be a **global information and communication platform.**“

# Germany's Indian online portal

- „Our target group is primarily 2nd generation Indians living in Germany.“
- located in Germany
  - editors and users
  - language and content
- caters for needs developed in Germany
- no transnational interaction
- ‚India‘ imagined in Germany



# ‚Other Germans‘

- concept by Paul Mecheril and Thomas Teo
- second generation Indians in Germany
- do not fit national dichotomies
- national identities are ascribed
- most think in these categories
- as hybridity not easily thinkable
- many long for national belonging
- thus use theinder.net



# Imagining transnationality

- link to India
- and transnational Indian diaspora
- imagined in Germany
- as reaction to experiences in Germany



# Thank you!



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