

## Brief Bio of Osama Manzar

Osama Manzar is an **entrepreneur, author, speaker, editor, columnist, and new media specialist** who is spearheading the mission to overcome the information barrier between India's rural sector, and the so-called developed society, through Digital Empowerment Foundation – <http://www.defindia.net> – the not-for-profit organisation founded to accomplish the mission.

Osama is a part of Social-Impact International, <http://www.social-impact.org>, and has attended a **one-year Professional Social Entrepreneurship Program** to take his organization Digital Empowerment Foundation to the next level of a successful social venture.

He has **launched India's first ever award for choosing the best e-content practices in India**. The Manthan Award could be seen at <http://www.manthanaward.org>. Osama is the Chairman of the Manthan Award [India's Best e-Content for Development].

Osama and his organisation DEF are part of the Rural Entrepreneurship Program developed by IIM Ahmedabad and IL&FS Education & Technology Services Ltd.

He has authored titles like: “**e-Content: Voices from the Ground** (<http://www.econtentworldwide.org>)”; Internet Economy of India; and “India's Best e-Contents”.

Manzar is e-Content Expert for India for World Summit Award (WSA), Grand Jury Member and also Board of Directors. WSA is at <http://www.wsis-award.org>;

Osama passionately speaks on the topics related to ICT for Development, Social Entrepreneurship, India's social sector, and Information Economy in general. His mission to make India enriched with digital content is being recognized by the government, and thus he is on advisory group of many bodies as far as e-content in India is concerned, like Department of Information Technology (DIT), National Institute of Smart Governance (NISG), and so on.

Osama has the un-confirmed credit of coining the phrases like “India 2.0” [way back in early 2000] and gLocalisation [globalizing local products, knowledge and services including content].

He is a physics graduate and post graduate in Journalism. He was awarded a joint Chevening/Young Indian IT Professional Programme 2002 Scholarship by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office to study Advanced IT Management Programme at Manchester Business School, University of Manchester from 2001-2002.

His detailed biography can be accessed at [www.manzar.info](http://www.manzar.info)

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## **WORK EXPERIENCE (IN BRIEF)**

- 2003 – Till date : FOUNDER DIRECTOR OF DIGITAL EMPOWERMENT FOUNDATION  
FOUNDER DIRECTOR OF INOMY MEDIA PVT. LTD.
- 1999 – 2003 : C E O & CO-FOUNDER OF FOUR C PLUS INTERNET COMPANY LIMITED
- 1997 – 1999 : HEAD, INTERACTIVE MEDIA DIVISION, HINDUSTAN TIMES
- 1995 – 1997 : ASSTT. EDITOR, COMPUTER WORLD
- 1994 – 1997 : CORRESPONDENT IN DOWN TO EARTH MAGAZINE
- 1990 – 1994 : FREELANCE WRITER FOR VARIOUS PUBLICATIONS