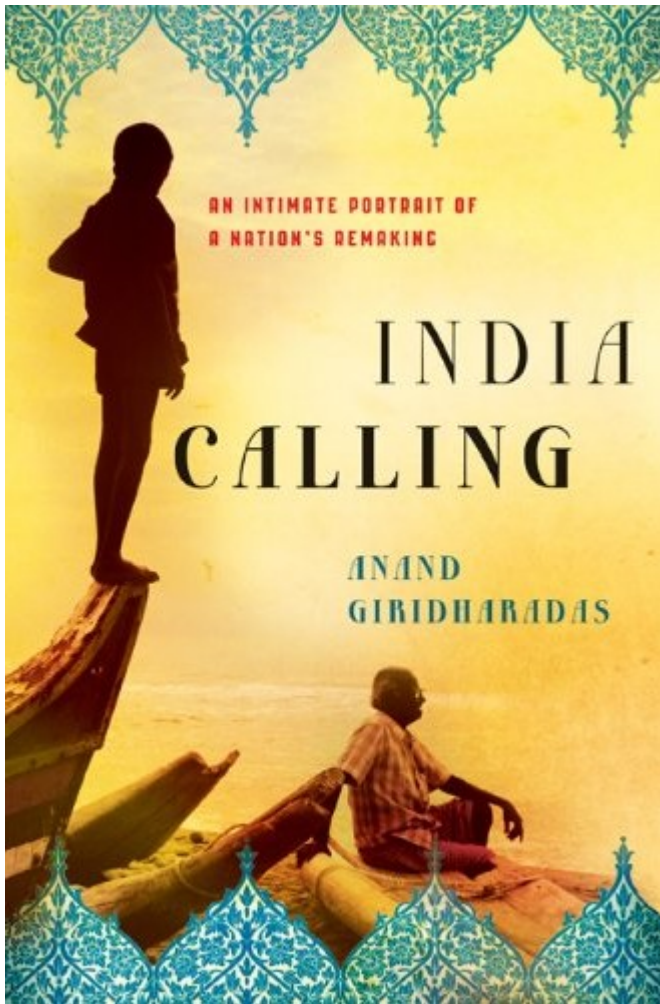


India Calling, by Anand Giridharadas

Books in the [April 19, 2011](#) issue

In Review



India Calling

by Anand Giridharadas

Times Books

India is a country predicted to pass China in economic growth, even as 80 percent of its more than 1 billion people live in persistent and extreme poverty with incomes of less than \$2 a day. An Indian American, Giridharadas weaves together the story of

his grandparents, who were professionals in India; of his parents, who left India in the 1970s for the U.S.; and of himself, an American with a vague and mostly secondhand picture of India. Seeking to remedy this, in 2003 he moved to Bombay as a consultant and then began writing for the *International Herald Tribune*. Poised between the past and the future, Giridharadas's observations remove a layer or two of India's mystery, only to reveal more layers.