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INFORMATION Ronald O. Perelman Center Office: 215.898.1731
133 S. 36th Street, Suite 230 thachil@upenn.edu
Philadelphia, PA 19104-6215 www.tariqthachil.com

APPOINTMENTS

University of Pennsylvania, 2020-

- Professor of Political Science, 2022-.
- Madan Lal Sobti Professor for the Study of Contemporary India. 2020-
- Director, Center for Advanced Study of India. 2020-
- Associate Professor of Political Science. 2020-2022.

Vanderbilt University, 2016-2020.

- Associate Professor of Political Science.

Yale University, 2009-2016.

- Peter Strauss Family Assistant Professor (2015-2016).
- Assistant Professor of Political Science and South Asian Studies (2010-2015).
- Malathy Singh Postdoctoral Fellow, South Asian Studies Council (2009-2010).

EDUCATION

Cornell University, M.A. (2007) and Ph.D. in government (2009).

- **Gabriel Almond Award**, for best dissertation in comparative politics, APSA (2010).
- **Sardar Patel Prize** for best dissertation on modern India, UCLA (2010).
- **Esman Prize** for best dissertation on Government, Cornell University (2010).

Stanford University. B.A. in economics. 2003.

BOOKS

Migrants and Machines: How Party Networks Form in an Urbanizing India (with Adam Auerbach).
Princeton University Press (Studies in Political Behavior Series), 2023.

- **Giovanni Sartori Book Award**, Qualitative and Mixed-Methods Section, APSA (2024).
- **Best Book Award** (co-winner), Experiments Section, APSA (2024).
- **Honorable Mention, Gregory Luebbert Award**, Comparative Politics Section, APSA (2024).
- **Featured in:** [Hindustan Times](#), [Grand Tamasha](#), [New Books Network](#).

Reviews: [International Journal of Urban and Regional Research](#), [LSE Review of Books](#), [Pacific Affairs](#).

Elite Parties, Poor Voters: How Social Services Win Votes in India. Cambridge University Press (Studies in Comparative Politics series), 2014.

- **Gregory Luebbert Award** for best book published in comparative politics, APSA (2015).
- **Leon Epstein Award** for best book on political organizations and parties, APSA (2015).
- **Gaddis Smith Prize** for best first book on an international topic by Yale faculty (2015).
- **Featured in:** *Outlook, Deccan Herald, Scroll, Indian Express, Mumbai Mirror*.

Reviews: *Perspectives on Politics, Journal of Politics, Journal of Asian Studies, Critical Asian Studies, Pacific Affairs, Foreign Affairs, and Studies in Indian Politics*.

REFEREED PAPERS

2024. “Who Knows How to Govern? Procedural Knowledge in India’s Small Town Councils” (with Adam Auerbach and Shikhar Singh). *American Political Science Review*: 1-19.

- Featured in: World Resource Institute’s [City Fix](#) Blog, and APSA’s [Political Science Now](#) Blog.

2022. “Rethinking India and the Study of Electoral Politics in the Developing World.” *Perspectives on Politics*. (with Adam Auerbach, Jennifer Bussell, Simon Chauchard, Francesca Jensenius, Gareth Nellis, Mark Schneider, Neelanjan Sircar, Pavithra Suryanarayan, Milan Vaishnav, Rahul Verma, Adam Ziegfeld. 20, 1: 250-264.

2021. “How Does Covid-19 Affect Urban Slums? Evidence from Settlement Leaders in India.” (with Adam Auerbach). *World Development*, 140: 1-11.

- **Featured in:** *Hindustan Times*. [GLD Governance Podcast](#).

2020. “Does Police Repression Spur Everyday Cooperation? Evidence from Urban India.” *Journal of Politics*, 82, 4: 1474-1489.

- **Featured in:** *ThePrint*.

2020. “Who Do Political Brokers Serve? Reputation, Responsiveness, and Ethnic Indifference in India’s Slums” (with Adam Auerbach). *American Journal of Political Science* 64, 3: 471-487.

- **AJPS Best Article Award** for best article published in the *American Journal of Political Science* in 2020, MPSA.
- **Political Ties Award** for best paper on political networks published in 2020, Political Networks Section, APSA.
- **Honorable Mention** for 2019 Best Paper Award, Comparative Democratization Section, APSA.
- Featured in: *India in Transition, Hindu Business Line*.

2018. “How Clients Select Brokers: Competition and Choice in India’s Slums?” (with Adam Auerbach), *American Political Science Review* 112, 4: 775-791.

- **Heinz I. Eulau Award** for best article published in the *American Political Science Review* in 2018, APSA.
- **Featured in:** *Livemint, Hindu Business Line, India in Transition, Economic Times, [Not Another Politics](#) podcast*.

2018. “Improving Surveys Through Ethnography: Insights from India’s Urban Periphery.” *Studies in Comparative International Development*, 53, 3: 281-299.

2018. “The Strategic and Moral Imperatives of Local Engagement: Reflections on India” (with Milan Vaishnav), *PS: Political Science & Politics*, 51, 3: 546-549.

2017. “Do Rural Migrants Divide Ethnically in the City? Ethnographic and Experimental Evidence From India.” *American Journal of Political Science*, 61, 4: 908-926.

- Featured in: *Livemint*, [Penn in India Faculty Series](#).

2015. “Ethnic Parties and Public Spending in the Indian States” (with Emmanuel Teitelbaum), *Comparative Political Studies*, 48, 11: 1389-1420.

2014. “Elite Parties and Poor Voters: Theory and Evidence from India.” *American Political Science Review*. 108, 2: 454-477.

2011. “Embedded Mobilization: Nonstate Service Provision as Electoral Strategy in India.” *World Politics*, 63, 3: 434-469.

- Featured in: *Wall Street Journal’s* [India Realtime blog](#), *Business Standard*.

2009. “Neoliberalism’s Two Faces in Asia: Globalization, Educational Policies, and Religious Schooling in India, Pakistan and Malaysia.” *Comparative Politics*, 41, 4: 473-494.

2008. “Poor Choices: dealignment, development and Dalit/Adivasi voting patterns in Indian states.” *Contemporary South Asia*, 16, 4: 441-64.

IN PROGRESS

“The Politics of Air Pollution: Evidence from Delhi” (with Shikhar Singh).

“Expressive Disengagement: Municipal Underspending and the Social Contract in India’s Small Towns” (with Shikhar Singh and Adam Auerbach).

“The Impact of Seasonal Migration on Political Beliefs and Social Norms.” (with Ahmed Mushfiq Mobarak, Maira Emy Reimao, and Ashish Shenoy).

AWARDS AND GRANTS

2024 Giovanni Sartori Book Award, Qualitative and Mixed-Methods Section, APSA.

2024 Best Book Award (co-winner), Experiments Section, APSA.

2024-2025 University Research Foundation Grant, University of Pennsylvania.

2023-2025 India Research and Engagement Fund Grant, University of Pennsylvania.

2022-24 India Research and Engagement Fund Grant, University of Pennsylvania.

2021-22 Penn Faculty Fellow, Office of the Vice Provost for Faculty.

2020 Best Article Award for Political Ties Award for best paper on political networks published in 2020, Political Networks Section, APSA.

2020 Best Article Award for best article in the American Journal of Political Science, MPSA.

2019 Heinz I. Eulau Award for best article in the American Political Science Review, APSA.

2019 Honorable Mention for Best Paper Award, Comparative Democratization Section, APSA.

2015 Luebbert Award for best book in comparative politics, APSA.

2015 Leon Epstein Award for best book on political organizations and parties, APSA.

2015 Gaddis Smith Prize for best first book by Yale faculty, Macmillan Center.

2015 Macmillan Faculty Research Grant, Yale University.

2015 *Open Magazine*, selected as one of 31 Open Minds.

2014 Macmillan Faculty Research Grant for “Does State Repression Divide or Unite Internal Migrants?”.

2013 Macmillan Faculty Research Grant, Yale University.

2010 Gabriel A. Almond Award for best dissertation in the field of comparative politics, American Political Science Association.

2010 Sardar Patel Award for best dissertation on modern India in the humanities, education, fine arts, or social sciences, UCLA Center for India and South Asia.

2010 Milton J. Esman Prize for best dissertation, Government Department, Cornell University.

International Dissertation Research Fellowship, Social Science Research Council. 2007-08

2006 -2009 Walter Lafeber Grant for Collaborative Research, Cornell University.

2007 Dissertation Research Grant, Graduate School, Cornell University.

2007 Walter Lafeber Prize for Teaching Excellence, Cornell University.

2007 Einaudi Center International Research Grant, Cornell University.

2005 Sage Fellowship, Cornell University.

REVIEWS AND COMMENTARY

'Revealing Exclusion of India's Migrants.' *Penn Urban Link* Newsletter, January 2021.

'How does poor service delivery shape politics in clientelist settings?' APSA Annals of Comparative Democratization, Vol. 17, No. 3 (September 2019).

"Making Sense of the 2019 General Election" (with Yogendra Yadav, Vandita Mishra, Shekhar Gupta, and G. Sampath), *Seminar*, 720, (August 2019).

Review of Tarangini Sriraman, *In Pursuit of Proof*, Oxford University Press, in *Studies in Indian Politics*. 7(2): 285-287 (2019).

Review of Sanjay Ruparelia, *Divided We Govern*, Oxford University Press, in *Journal of Asian Studies*, 77(3): 833-835 (2018).

Review of Melani Cammett and Lauren MacLean, *The Politics of Non-State Social Welfare*, Cambridge University Press, in *Perspectives on Politics*. 13(3): 880-882 (2015).

Review of Christophe Jaffrelot and Sanjay Kumar, *Rise of the Plebians*, Routledge, in *Pacific Affairs*, 84 (September): 592-4 (2011).

POPULAR PRESS

"Despite Covid-19, why did migrant workers go back?" *Hindustan Times*, April 3, 2020.

"Expert Explains: India's coronavirus lockdown will spotlight migrants' role in cities." *Indian Express*, April 3, 2020.

"India's election results were more than a 'Modi Wave'." *Washington Post* (Monkey Cage blog), June 1, 2019.

"Does Hindutva Trump Caste"? *India Today* (Cover Story), April 19, 2019.

"In India, the world's largest elections have started. Keep an eye on these five things." *Washington Post* (Monkey Cage blog), April 12, 2019.

"Do rural migrants favor caste or class in the city?" *Livemint*, October 5th 2017.

"India's Slum Leaders: Part 1" (with Adam Auerbach). *India in Transition*, published by the University of Pennsylvania (2016).

- Reprinted in *Hindu Business Line* and the Ideas4India blog (run by International Growth Centre).

“India’s Slum Leaders: Part 2” (with Adam Auerbach). *India in Transition*, published by the University of Pennsylvania (2016).

- Reprinted in *Hindu Business Line* and the *Ideas4India blog*

“The People Tree Needs Deep Roots.” *Outlook* (2014).

“Facing Off.” *Caravan* (2014).

- Media mention: Financial Times
- Nominated for Ramnath Goenka Excellence in Journalism Award.

“Counting on cities.” *Indian Express* (2014).

“The strength of a leader.” *Indian Express* (2013).

“Is Indian Politics Populist?” *Indian Express* (2013).

“Can Hindutva Win Votes?” *Indian Express* (2013).

“The Shadow in the Middle.” *Indian Express* (2012).

“Do Policies Matter in Indian Elections?” *India in Transition*, published by the University of Pennsylvania, (2010)

INVITED TALKS

2024: *Council for Foreign Relations, Centre for Policy Research, London School of Economics* (Department of Political Science), *Yale University* (South Asia Council), *Harvard University* (Kennedy School), *Stanford University* (Department of Political Science), *Cornell University* (South Asia Program).

2023: *Brown University* (Watson Center), *Villanova University* (Department of Economics), *University of Virginia* (Seminar in Global Politics), *Harvard University* (Department of Government), *World Bank* (Washington D.C), *University of Louisville* (Center for Asian Democracy), *Ashoka University* (New Delhi), *University of Pennsylvania Institute of Advanced Study of India* (UPIASI, New Delhi),

2022: *University of California, Santa Cruz, WPESA* (virtual), *IMPRI* (New Delhi).

2021: *Oxford University* (Department of Politics), *University of Wisconsin* (Political Science), *University of London* (Department of Politics and International Relations), *Harvard University* (Ash Center), *Georgetown University* (Department of Economics and McCourt School of Public Policy), *London School of Economics* (Department of International Development), *UC Berkeley* (Book Discussion w/ Comparative Politics Graduate Seminar).

2020: *Social Science Research Council, University of Pennsylvania* (Penn in India Speaker Series), *King’s College London* (Department of Political Economy), *Pittsburgh* (Department of Political Science), *Princeton*

(Department of Politics), *Georgetown* (Department of Political Science), *University of Chicago* (Department of Political Science), *University of Michigan* (Center for Political Studies).

2019: *University of Pennsylvania* (Political Science), *UC-Merced* (Political Science), *London School of Economics* (Department of International Relations), *Harvard* (Department of Government), *Tata Institute of Social Science* (Kothari Memorial Annual Lecture), *Center for Policy Research*, *Ashoka University*.

2018: *University of Virginia* (Political Science), *Cornell University* (Government), *Harvard University* (Government).

2017: *University of Minnesota* (Political Science), *MIT* (Political Science), *Northwestern University* (Political Science), *University of Washington* (Simpson Center for Humanities), *McGill University*, *Columbia* (Political Science), *University of Washington* (Political Science and South Asian Studies), *IGIDR* (Mumbai).

2016: *Harvard* (Government Department), *Duke* (Political Science Department), *MIT* (Political Science Department), *Center for Policy Research* (New Delhi), *Carnegie Institute (2)*, *New School for Social Research* (China-India Colloquium).

2015: *Stanford University* (Political Science) *Vanderbilt University* (Political Science), *Duke University* (Summer School, Udaipur, India), *University of California-Berkeley* (Political Science), *University of California-Berkeley* (India Politics Workshop), *Yale University* (South Asian Studies Council), *Princeton University* (Political Science), *University of Pennsylvania* (Center for Advanced Study of India), *Yale University* (Political Science), *Columbia University* (South Asia Institute), *University of Chicago* (Political Science), *University of Chicago* (South Asia Elections Roundtable).

2014: *Duke University* (Sanford School), *Brown University* (Watson Institute for International Affairs), *Princeton University* (South Asia Program), *Johns Hopkins* (School of International Affairs). *University of Pennsylvania* (Center for Advanced Study of India).

2013. *Juan March Institute*, Madrid.

2012: *Amherst College* (Political Science), *Columbia University* (Political Science), *University of Pennsylvania* (Political Science).

2011: *Amherst College*, (South Asia), *Columbia University* (South Asia Program), *Yale University* (Program on Democracy).

2010: *Brown University* (Watson Institute for International Affairs), *Yale University* (Leitner Political Economy Conference), *Yale University* (Political Science), *RAND* (Summit on Indo-US Relations), *Yale University* (Ethnography and Social Theory Seminar), *Yale University* (South Asia Brown Bag).

2009: *Dartmouth College* (Political Science), *University of Chicago* (Political Science), *University of Maryland* (Political Science), *University of Toronto* (Political Science), *Yale University* (Political Science), *School of Oriental and African Studies* (Department of Politics), *Cornell University* (Peace Studies Program), *Cornell University* (South Asia Program).

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

American Political Science Association (2021, 2019, 2018, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2011, 2010), Annual South Asia Conference (2016, 2015, 2014, 2009, 2008), Social Science History Association (2010), Midwest Political Science Association (2019, 2010, 2009), Association for Asian Studies (2010), International Studies Association (2010), European Social Science History Conference (2008), British Association of South Asian Studies Conference (2007), Conference on Religious and Social Fragmentation in South Asia, Cornell University (2006).

INVITED CHAIR OR DISCUSSANT

American Political Science Association (2024, 2023, 2019, 2018, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2011), Modern South Asia Workshop (2015), Conference on Urban India (Mysore, 2012). Institute for Advanced Study, Shimla (2012), Yale University, Agrarian Studies Workshop (2011). Yale University, Conference on Rural Modernities (2011).

Book Manuscript Workshops: Gautam Nair (scheduled), Feyaad Allie (scheduled), Anirvan Chowdhury (2024), Rebecca Weitz-Shapiro and Matthew Winters (2024), Alisha Holland (2023), Tanushree Goyal (2022), Nathan Grubman (2021), Soledad Prillaman (Stanford, 2020) Mattias Poertner (Texas A&M, 2020), Nikhar Gaikwad (Columbia 2020), Amrita Basu, (Amherst College 2012).

TEACHING

Graduate: Research in Comparative Analysis, Identity Politics, Comparative Political Parties.

Undergraduate Courses: Democracy and Development in India, Development in South Asia, Identity Politics. Indian Democracy in Comparative Perspective, Democracy in South Asia, Social Movements in India, Political Parties in the Developing World.

Dissertation Committees:

Appurva Bamezai*, University of Pennsylvania PhD Student.

Shashwat Dhar*, Vanderbilt PhD Student.

Rashi Sabherwal*, University of Pennsylvania PhD Student.

Yajna Sanguhan*. University of Pennsylvania PhD Student.

Tanya Vaidya*, University of Pennsylvania PhD Student.

Deepaboli Chatterjee*, University of Pennsylvania PhD Student.

Rithika Kumar, University of Pennsylvania (Notre Dame Postdoc, Rice University, tenure-track)

SangEun Kim, Vanderbilt, (Aspen Institute).

Daniela Osorio Michel, Vanderbilt (postdoc German Institute for Global and Area Studies).

Madhavi Devasher Yale, (Princeton University Postdoc, University of New Hampshire-tenure track).

Shivaji Mukherjee, Yale (University of Toronto-tenure track).

Paul Kenny, Yale (Australian National University-tenure track).

Selim Erdem Aytac, Yale (Koc University, Istanbul-tenure track).

Luis Schiumerini, Yale (Oxford University postdoc, Notre Dame- tenure track).

Niloufer Siddiqui, Yale (SUNY-Albany tenure track).

SERVICE

Political Science and South Asian Studies

2021 Selection Committee, Political Ties Award, Political Networks Section, APSA.
2021 Selection Committee, Theda Skocpol Prize for Emerging Scholars, Comparative Politics Section, APSA.
2019-, Scientific Board, Trivedi Center for Political Data, Ashoka University.
2019, Co-organizer, Midwest Workshop in Empirical Political Economy.
2018-, Publications Committee, American Institute for Indian Studies.
2018, Selection Committee, Heinz Eulu Prize for best article published in *APSR*.
2018, Co-Division Chair (w/Sarah Brooks, OSU), APSA Comparative Politics of Developing Countries.
2018, Reviewer, International Dissertation Research Fellowship, Social Science Research Council.
2017 Prize Committee, Luebbert Award for Best Book in Comparative Politics.
2015-18. Board Member, APSA Urban and Local Politics Section.

University of Pennsylvania (2020-)

University Service

Director, Center for Advanced Study of India. 2020-current
Member, Committee on Academic and Related Affairs, 2024-25.
Member, Committee on Undergraduate Education 2021-24
Member, Fulbright Faculty Committee 2021-
Member, Graduate Group, Lauder Institute, 2021-current
Member, India Strategic Working Group, School of Arts and Sciences, 2021-current
Member, Faculty Advisory Board, South Asia Center, 2020-current.
Member, Committee on Academic and Related Affairs, 2024-25

Department Service

Member, Undergraduate Executive Committee, 2024-25.
Hiring Committee, 2023-24.
Graduate Admissions Committee 2022-23.
Co-Organizer, Comparative Politics Speaker Series (2022-24).
Hiring Committee 2021-22
Tenure Promotion Committee, 2021-22
Diversity in Seminars Committee, Department of Political Science, 2020-21.
Comparative Politics Exam Committee, Department of Political Science, 2020-21.
Faculty Advisory Committee, South Asia Center, 2020-21.

Vanderbilt University (2016-2020)

Co-Director, Comparative Politics Speaker Series (2016-).
Faculty Affiliate, Asian Studies Program (2016-).

2019-20

Placement Director (Department).

University Faculty Council (elected by faculty peers, University).
Junior Advisory Review Committee (University).
University Curriculum Committee (University).

2018-19

Faculty Review Committee (Department).
Search Committee (Department).
Exam Committee (Department).
Asian Studies Program, Steering Committee.
Junior Advisory Review Committee (University).
University Curriculum Committee (University).

2017-18

Faculty Review Committee (Department).
Faculty Workshop Coordinator (Department).
Search Committee (Department).
Global Studies Director Search Committee (University).

2016-17:

Faculty Review Committee (Department).
Planning Committee on Global Studies Major (University).

Yale University (2010-2016)

Member, Yale Program on Democracy 2010-2016.
Member, Executive Council, South Asian Studies Council 2010-2016.

2015-16:

Co-director, Comparative Politics Workshop.
Faculty Search Committee, Chinese Politics.

2014-15:

Director of Undergraduate Studies, South Asian Studies.
Selection Committee, Comparative Politics Senior Essay Prize, Department of Political Science.
Comparative A-Exam Committee, Department of Political Science.
Comparative Politics Teaching Coordinator, Department of Political Science.
Selection Committee, MacMillan Center Dissertation Yearlong Fellowships.
Selection Committee, MacMillan Center Graduate Summer Fellowships.
Selection Committee, Fox Fellowship.
Selection Committee, Senior Essay Prize, South Asian Studies Council.
Selection Committee, Summer Travel Awards, South Asian Studies Council.
Selection Committee, Language Awards, South Asian Studies Council.
Selection Committee, Rustogi Awards, South Asian Studies Council.

2012-13: Graduate Admissions Committee, Department of Political Science (Diversity Representative).

2011-12:

Graduate Admissions Committee, Department of Political Science.
Co-director, Comparative Politics Workshop.
Comparative A-Exam Committee, Department of Political Science.
Director of Undergraduate Studies, South Asian Studies Council.
Selection Committee, Summer Travel Awards, South Asian Studies Council.
Selection Committee, South Asian Studies Council, Postdoctoral Fellowships.
Co-organizer, Conference on Indian Democracy, Institute for Advanced Study, Shimla.

2010-2011:

Selection Committee, South Asian Postdoctoral Fellowships.
Co-organizer, Modern South Asia Workshop, Yale University.
Co-organizer, Conference on “Indian Democracy: Its Economic, Political and Cultural Dimensions”, South Asian Studies Council, Yale University.

EDITORIAL BOARD

Cambridge University Press, Studies in Comparative Politics Series.
Princeton University Press, Studies in Political Behavior.
American Political Science Review

JOURNAL REFEREE

American Political Science Review, American Journal of Political Science, American Journal of Sociology, British Journal of Political Science, Commonwealth and Comparative Politics, Comparative Politics, Comparative Political Studies, Contemporary South Asia, India Review, Journal of Politics, PS: Political Science and Politics, Perspectives on Politics, Studies in Comparative International Development, Studies in Indian Politics, World Politics, World Development.

BOOK REFEREE

Cambridge University Press, Oxford University Press, Routledge, Yale University Press.

LANGUAGES

English (native), Hindi (native).