United States of India: An Alternate Genealogy of Indian Federalism

In partnership with the South Asia Center, Dept. of South Asia Studies, and Dept. of History

Thursday, February 22 | 12 pm (in-person)

Sarith Pillai is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Center for the Advanced Study of India, University of Pennsylvania. His monograph project examines the crisis of federation in late colonial India and brings forth a world of federal ideas that held sway in India in the first half of the twentieth century. His research stands at the intersection of postcolonial, global, and legal histories. His writings have appeared in both peer-reviewed journals and public forums like Comparative Studies in Society and History, Law and History Review, Economic and Political Weekly, Scroll.in, Himal Southasian, The New Rambler, and Los Angeles Review of Books, among others. He received a Ph.D. in History with distinction from the University of Chicago, and his dissertation won the Sardar Patel Award for the best dissertation on modern India conferred by UCLA. In 2022-23, he worked as an archival intern at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania.