

SANJAY JOSHI
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EDUCATION

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia 1988-95
Ph.D. *South Asian History*.

University of Delhi, Delhi 1983-85
M.A. Modern Indian History.

Hindu College, University of Delhi, Delhi 1980-83
B.A. (Honours) History.

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Professor of History, Northern Arizona University from fall 2010
Ashraf B. Nasir Fellow in the Honors College from 2025

Associate Professor with Tenure, Northern Arizona University 2002-2010

Assistant Professor, Northern Arizona University 1996-2002

Visiting Assistant Professor, University of Cincinnati 1995-96

Instructor, University of Pennsylvania 1993-94

Teaching Assistant, University of Pennsylvania 1989-90

LANGUAGES

Fluent in **Kumaoni and Hindi**, reading, writing, and conversational.

Fluent in spoken **Urdu**, with some reading and writing competence.

RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

Books

[Brahmins of the Himalaya: Upper-Caste Ways of Belonging, 1850–1950](#). Ranikhet: Permanent Black and Albany: State University of New York, 2026.

Edited. *The Middle Class in Colonial India*. Oxford University Press *Themes in Indian History* Series. Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2010. Second and third hardback impressions 2010, 2011.

Fractured Modernity: The Making of a Middle Class in Colonial North India. Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2001. Second hardback impression, 2002, paperback edition, 2005.

Peer-Reviewed Articles

[“India’s Middle Class”](#), *The Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Asian History* David Ludden ed. (2017)

[“Juliet Got it Wrong: Names and Identities among Christian converts in Kumaon, 1850-1930.”](#) *Journal of Asian Studies*. 74, 4, (November 2015): 843-862.

[“Thinking About Modernity from the Margins: The Making of a Middle Class in Colonial India.”](#) In, Abel Ricardo López and Barbara Weinstein ed.s *The Making of the Middle Class: A Transnational History*. Durham: Duke University Press, 2012, pp. 29-44.

“The Specter of Comparisons: Studying the Middle Class of Colonial India.” In, Amita Baviskar and Raka Ray eds. *Both Elite and Everyman: The Cultural Politics of the Indian Middle Classes*. Delhi: Routledge, 2011, pp. 83-107.

[“Contesting Histories and Nationalist Geographies : A Comparison of School Textbooks in India and Pakistan.”](#) *South Asian History and Culture* 1, 3 (July 2010): 357–377.

[“Virtually There: Cricket, Community, and Commerce on the Internet.”](#) *International Journal of the History of Sport* 24, 9 (September 2007): 1225 – 1240. Republished in Subhas Ranjan Chakraborty, Shantanu Chakrabarti, Kingshuk Chatterjee ed.s. *The Politics of Sport in South Asia*, by J. A Mangan, Boria Majumdar, Mark Dyreson. New York: Routledge: 2009.

“Indian Independence Movement.” In James V. DeFronzo ed. *Encyclopedia of Modern Revolutions*, Vol. II. Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO, 2006, pp. 383-94.

“Re-Publicizing Religiosity: Modernity, Religion and the Middle Class.” In, Derek Peterson and Darren Walhof eds. *The Invention of Religion: Rethinking Belief and Politics in History*. New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 2002, pp. 79-99.

“The Indian Independence Movement, 1885-1947” and “Regional Revolts in India.” In, Jack Goldstone ed., *Encyclopedia of Political Revolutions*. Washington, DC: Congressional Quarterly Press, 1998, pp. 232-36.

In Preparation

“Historicizing the Archive: Making of the Native Newspaper Reports in Colonial India.” Scholarly essay.

Editorially Reviewed Essays (selection)

[“Casting Race in Another Light: Colonialism, Orientalism and Isabel Wilkerson’s Caste.”](#) *The India Forum* (October 1, 2021)

[“That Chink in The Wall”](#) *Outlook Magazine* (April 9, 2018).

“[My Patriot Versus Yours](#)” *Outlook Magazine* (February 19, 2018).

“[Create, but don't destroy](#)” Editorial page article in *The Hindu* (September 24, 2015). [Alternative Link](#)

“[What Does it Mean to Belong](#)” Lead article in *The Hindu* (June 8, 2015). [Alternative Link](#)

“[AAP and the 1935 Parallel.](#)” Lead article in *The Hindu* (April 2, 2015). [Alternative Link](#)

“The Middle Class: A History of Our Present.” Invited essay for the October 2014 issue of *Welt-Sichten*, Germany.

“The Local and the Global: Overseas Travel and Communities in Kumaon, ca. 1911.” [NAU Global \(Fall 2011\)](#), pp. 12 and 18-19.

“[Colonial Notions of South Asia.](#)” *South Asian Journal*, 1, (August-September 2003), pp. 6-9.

“Net Vision: Following Cricket from the U.S.” *Outlook Cricket Special: 75 Years of Indian Cricket* (Winter 2004), pp. 106-07.

“Many Faces of a Fanatic.” (Original title, “Many Fundamentalisms”) *Hindustan Times*. September 25, 2002.

“[Pride not Piety: The Middle Class Roots of Hindutva.](#)” *Himal South Asia*, May 1996.

“[The ‘Imperialist’ Tendency is Not New to India.](#)” *Times of India* August 15, 1989.

“[Be Indian the British Way](#)” (a critique of textbooks used in Calcutta schools) *The Telegraph* (Sunday) July 22, 1984.

“[ACKs \[Amar Chitra Kathas\]: Distorted History or Education?](#)” *The Telegraph* (Sunday) November 13, 1983.

Book Reviews

[Tales of Justice and Rituals of Divine Embodiment: Oral Narrative from the Central Himalayas.](#) Aditya Malik. *American Ethnologist* 44, 3 (August 2018): 432-33.

[The Calling of History: Sir Jadunath Sarkar and his Empire of Truth.](#) Dipesh Chakrabarty. *Canadian Journal of History* (Winter 2016): 661-63.

[The Pity of Partition: Manto's Life, Times, and Work Across the India-Pakistan Divide.](#) Ayesha Jalal. *Journal of Asian Studies* 73, 4 (November 2014): 1152-1154.

[Imperial Gurkha: An Account of Gorkhali Rule in Kumaun \(1791-1815\)](#). Mahesh C. Regmi. *Studies in Nepali History and Society* 18, 1 (2013): 190-94. (delayed publication).

Empire's Garden: Assam and the Making of Modern India. Jayeeta Sharma. *Social History* (UK) 38, 3 (2013).

The Making of Awadh Culture. Madhu Trivedi. *The Book Review* (India), XXXV, 3 (March, 2011): 82.

Middle Class Values in Indian and Western Europe. Imtiaz Ahmad and Helmut Reifeld eds. *Contributions to Indian Sociology* 43, 2 (June, 2009): 327-29.

[Being Modern in the Middle East: Revolution, Nationalism, Colonialism and the Arab Middle Class](#). Keith David Watenpaugh. *Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa, and the Middle East* 29, 2 (2009): 334-36.

Men, Women and Domestics: Articulating Middle-Class Identity in Colonial Bengal. Swapna M. Banerjee. *Journal of Asian Studies* 66, 2 (May 2007): 564-566.

Conflict Unending: India-Pakistan Tensions since 1947. Sumit Ganguly. *The Historian* 67, 02 (2005): 341-42.

Subaltern Studies Vol. XI: Community, Gender, and Violence. Partha Chatterjee and Pradeep Jeganathan eds. *Journal of Asian Studies* 62, 4 (November 2003): 1273-74.

Gender, Caste, and Religious Identities: Restructuring Class in Colonial Punjab. Anshu Malhotra. *H-Asia* (September 2003).

Castes of Mind: Colonialism and the Making of Modern India. Nicholas B. Dirks. *American Historical Review*, 108, 1 (February 2003): 180.

Peasants and Monks in British India. William Pinch. *Contemporary South Asia*, 6, 2 (1997).

SELECTED RESEARCH AWARDS

National Competitive Fellowships

Senior Short-Term Research Fellowship, American Institute of Indian Studies 2024

Fulbright-Hays Faculty Research Abroad Fellowship

U.S. Department of Education 2004

Senior Research Fellowship, American Institute of Indian Studies,
(NEH funds for “superior scholars/Indologists in the humanities”)

2003

<i>Senior Short-term Fellowship, American Institute of Indian Studies</i>	2000
<i>Junior Research Fellowship, American Institute of Indian Studies</i>	1991-92
<i>Junior Research Fellowship, University Grants Commission, India</i>	1985-86
Major University-Wide Competitive Fellowships	
<i>Scholarly and Creative Activities Grant, Northern Arizona University</i>	2024
<i>Faculty Mentor Professional Learning Grant, Office of Undergraduate Research, Northern Arizona University</i>	2024
<i>CAL Dean's Research Grant, Northern Arizona University</i>	2018
<i>Scholarship and Creative Activities Grant, Northern Arizona University</i>	2015-16
<i>Faculty Research Grant, Northern Arizona University</i>	2012
<i>President's Academic Diversity and Equity Research Grant, Northern Arizona University</i>	2008-09
<i>Intramural Grant, Northern Arizona University</i>	2006
<i>Organized Research Grant, Northern Arizona University</i>	1999, 1997
<i>Chimicles Fellowship for the Teaching of Writing, University of Pennsylvania</i>	1993-94
<i>Andrew Mellon Dissertation Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania</i>	1992-93
<i>Mellon Dissertation Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania</i>	1990-91
UNIVERSITY HONORS	
<i>A. B. Nasir Fellowship, Honors College, NAU</i>	2025
<i>Provost Award for Faculty Excellence in Global Learning.</i>	2016
<i>Named Most Influential Faculty Member at NAU by winner of the Gold Axe & Distinguished Senior Award</i>	2008
<i>Among Faculty who positively influenced student experiences at NAU</i>	2006
<i>Named Most Influential Faculty Member at NAU by winner of the</i>	

College of Arts and Sciences, Outstanding Senior 2000

Named Most Influential Faculty Member at NAU by winner of the
College of Arts and Sciences, Outstanding Senior 1999

PAPERS and PRESENTATIONS

Resentful Docility and Incomplete Belonging: Women, Men and Marriages in Almora 1890-1940s. Presentation at the Association of Asian Studies in Asia Conference, Lahore, Pakistan, September 2026.

Self-Silencing on Race: Mari Sommerville and the Silence of a Perpetual Subaltern. Presentation at the Association of Asian American Studies Conference, Hawaii, April 2026.

What does India teach us about diversity? Invited Public Lecture and Discussion for the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at Yavapai College. March 12, 2025.

Dressing to Endure: Outsiderhood in the Life of Mari Sommerville. Presentation at the Mussoorie Heritage Center, Uttarakhand, India. November 13, 2024.

The Enduring Outsider: Dress and Belonging in the Life of Marie Sommerville. Presentation at the Association for Asian American Studies Annual Conference, Long Beach, CA. April 6, 2023.

Casting for a Hook? The Implications of Isabel Wilkerson Deploying Caste to Understand Race in America. Presentation at “ALSB Reads” at the 96th Annual Conference of the Academy of Legal Studies in Business. August 2, 2021.

A Contested Kumaon? Challenges to Elite Representations of Belonging in Kumaon in the 1920s and 1930s. Paper presented at the Association of Asian Studies in Asia conference, New Delhi, India, July 7, 2018.

Too Small For Their Ambition: Almora’s Brahmins and Changing Sources of Social Capital in the Early Twentieth Century. Paper presented at the Annual South Asia Conference at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. October 22, 2016.

Kumaon’s Ramsay and Ramsay’s Kumaon: Exploring Ideas of Belonging through Himalayan Histories, ca. 1850-1900. Association of Asian Studies Annual Conference. Philadelphia, March 2014.

Clans, Communities, and Capital in Colonial Kumaon, ca. 1910. Paper presented at the Annual South Asia Conference at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. October 14, 2012.

Aap Kaun Hue? Or What it Means to Belong: Studying Community in early twentieth-century

colonial Kumaon. Invited presentation at the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library Seminar, New Delhi, India. July 12, 2012.

What Makes a Community? Emotions, Expediency and the Politics around Overseas Travel in early Twentieth Century Kumaon (north India). Invited presentation at the Max Planck Institute for Human Development, Program in History of Emotions, Berlin, Germany. July 12, 2011.

Juliet Got it Wrong: Naming and the complications of identity among Christian converts in Kumaon, ca. 1850-1930. Paper presented at the World Christianity Conference, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India. February 2-4, 2011.

“Free to Wander”: Some Questions, Predicaments and Possibilities about Family Histories and Domestic Archives. Invited presentation at University of Michigan, South Asia Center. March 20, 2009.

Familiarizing History: Writing About the History of the Family in Colonial India. Paper presented at the Twentieth Meeting of the International Association of Historians of Asia, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India. November 14-17, 2008.

The Specter of Comparisons: Studying the Middle Class of Colonial India. Invited presentation at “*The Middle Classes in India: Economy, Identity and the Public Sphere*.” Institute of Economic Growth, University of Delhi, Delhi, India. March 15-17, 2007.

Beyond A Hyper-Real Europe? The Issue of Comparisons in Studying the Middle Class of Colonial India. Paper presented at the Nineteenth European Conference on Modern South Asian Studies, Leiden, the Netherlands. June 27-30, 2006.

Thinking About Modernity from the Margins: The Making of a Middle Class in Colonial India. Invited presentation at “*We Shall Be All’ Toward a Global History of the Middle Class*.” International Conference on the Middle Class, University of Maryland, College Park. April 27-29, 2006.

Rethinking the Middle Class: Antinomy and Anxiety in Middle-Class Domesticity in Early Twentieth Century North India. Paper presented at the American Historical Association, Washington DC. January 2004.

Sundari, Manjari, Khanjari: Thinking About Middle Class Domesticity in Colonial India – Kumaon, 1815-1931. Invited presentation at the University of California, Davis, Department of History. January 2004.

Benighted Folk, Modern Families: Nayak Reform and Middle Class Domesticity, 1850-1931. Paper presented at the Association of Asian Studies, New York. March 2003.

Common Pasts, Contesting Histories, and Divergent Geographies: A Comparison of History and Social Science Textbooks from India and Pakistan. Paper presented at the American Historical Association, Chicago. January 2003.

Historicizing the Archive: Making of the Native Newspaper Reports in Colonial India. Paper presented at the Western Conference of the Association for Asian Studies, Provo, Utah. September 2002.

Beyond the Recasting of Women: Gender and the Contradictions of Middle Class Politics in Twentieth Century Colonial India. Paper presented to the Sixth Women in Asia Conference, Canberra, Australia. September 2001.

Publicizing Religiosity: Modernity, Religion and the Middle Class. Paper presented at the conference, "After Religion/Secularism: Interpretation, History and Politics." University of Minnesota, Minneapolis. May 2000.

Gender and the Contradictions of Middle Class Politics in Colonial Lucknow. Paper presented at the Annual South Asia Conference at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. October 1999.

Rise of the Middle Class in North India. Paper presented at the South Asia Regional Studies Seminar, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia. February 1998.

Re-reading the Archive: Vernacular Newspaper Reports and 'Native' Agency. Paper presented at the Annual South Asia Conference at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. October 1996.

Impermanent Identities: Middle Class and Hindu Communalism in Colonial Lucknow, 1890-1930. Paper presented at the Annual South Asia Conference at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. November 1994.

Oppressive Present and Empowering Past: Religion, Tradition, and the Lucknavi Middle Classes in late Nineteenth Century. Paper presented at the South Asia Regional Studies Seminar, University of Pennsylvania. November 1993.

Confronting with Words: Newspapers and the Lucknavi Middle Classes. Paper presented at the Annual South Asia Conference at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. November 1993.

Research or Teaching/Diversity Related Presentations at NAU

Commentary and Context for the film Earth: 1947. Queer and Women of Color Film Series organized by WGS, ES, and SOC, April 25, 2024.

Welcome & Introduction: Panel Discussion on the Global Dimensions of the Local: Crisis in Palestine-Israel. Organized by the Committee on Global Diversity, October 23, 2023.

Decolonizing the Academy: Anti-Colonial or Postcolonial? Presentation at *Decolonizing the Academy*, a roundtable at Northern Arizona University, October 27, 2021.

Finding Marie Sommerville: The Global Life of a Small Town Teacher in India. Paper presented to the faculty and student body at Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff. April 4, 2019.

"Globalizing the Curriculum": A Postcolonial Perspective. Presentation at "Insights from Postcolonial Studies", Northern Arizona University. October 31, 2008. Part of the University series on "New Directions in Diversity Symposium: Insights in Teaching and Scholarship."

It is Broke and Does Need Fixin': A Note About the Use of Numbers in Student Evaluation of Teaching. Presentation at a Forum on Student Evaluation, conducted by the Faculty Development Office, Northern Arizona University. April 26, 2005.

Archives in the Dwelling: Thinking About Middle Class Domesticity in Colonial India – Kumaon, 1815-1931. Paper presented to the faculty and student body at Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff. December 2004.

COURSES TAUGHT (Syllabi and details at <http://jan.ucc.nau.edu/~sj6/teaching.htm>)
Historiography and Methodologies (Graduate Seminar)

Worlding the Middle Class (Readings in World History). (Graduate Seminar)

Readings in Colonialism and Nationalism. (Graduate Seminar)

Subaltern Subjects and Postcolonial Histories. (Graduate Seminar)

Religion, Politics and Power in the Modern World. (Also taught as co-convened Senior Undergraduate and Graduate Seminar)

Gandhi in His Time and Ours (Undergraduate Capstone Seminar)

Film and History: The Partition of India. (Undergraduate Capstone Seminar)

Cricket, Colonialism, and Nationalism. (Undergraduate Senior Seminar)

History of South Asia Through Film. (Undergraduate Honors Seminar)

Film and History: Colonialism and Nationalism in India. (Undergraduate Senior Seminar)

Religion and the Politics of Identity in South Asia, 1857-Present. (Senior Seminar)

Colonialism and Nationalism in India. (HIS 300W designed to meet the Junior Writing Requirement)

Memory, Representation, and History: Constructions of Nationalism in Colonial and Postcolonial Societies. (Capstone Seminar)

Gandhi's India. (Modern South Asian History)

Contemporary India. (India since 1947)

Pre-modern India. (Also taught as an interactive television class)

The Making of Modern Asia. (Comparative Histories of Colonialisms and Nationalisms in China, Japan, and India)

Making of the Modern World 1300-2000 (Undergraduate Freshman Survey)

Asian Civilization: India. (A single-quarter survey of South Asian history from the earliest to contemporary times)

Historians and the Study of History. (Freshman Seminar)

PROFESSIONAL and PUBLIC SERVICE

Evaluator, National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)
Fellowship Programs at Independent Research Institutions 2022

Manuscript Review Workshop, University of Oklahoma 2016

Vice President, American Institute of Indian Studies 2012-13

Chair, Selection Committee, Indian Institute of Indian Studies 2013-14

American Institute of Indian Studies, Selection Committee 2011-14 and 2004-06

American Institute of Indian Studies, Executive Committee 2011-13 and 2003-06

National Screening Committee (India), Junior Fulbright-Hays Program 2011

Founding President, *South Asian Caucus*, American Historical Association 2007-08

Now the “Society for Advancing the History of South Asia” (SAHSA)

Executive Committee, *Society for Advancing the History of South Asia* 2008-09

Chair and Organizer, “Crossing Borders with South Asian Historiography.”
Roundtable discussion on South Asian historiography at the American Historical Association,
Washington DC 2008

University Trustee (now Delegate), American Institute of Indian Studies Since 2002

Senior Thesis, External Examiner. Swarthmore College, PA 2006

Manuscript Review. Cambridge University Press, *Ethnohistory*, *Journal of Asian Studies*, *Cultural Anthropology*, *South Asia Multidisciplinary Academic Journal* (SAMAJ), *Himalaya* (Journal of the Association for Nepal and Himalayan Studies), *India Review*.

External reviewer, promotion and tenure. Carleton College, Dartmouth College.

Screening Committee, Fulbright Lecturer Awards, New Delhi 2003

Panelist on *Odyssey: A Daily Talk Show of Ideas*. WBEZ Chicago
(National Public Radio station), on “Culture and Middle Class” December 2002

Two public lectures presented at Northern Arizona University in the aftermath of September 11th
2001: “Where To Now” and “Many Fundamentalisms” September 2001

Chair and panel organizer, “Rethinking the Middle Class.” Annual South Asia Conference at the
University of Wisconsin, Madison. October 1999

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE and UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Chair, Committee on Global Diversity 2020-present

Coordinator, Program in Asian Studies 2016-17

Search Committee, Lecturer in Global and Islamic World History 2021

Chair, Search Committee, Native/Indigenous History 2016-17

Search Committee, for Chair of Department of History 2015-16

Annual Review Committee/Faculty Status Committee,
Department of History, NAU (chair, 2014-15) 2023-2024, 2020-21,

	2012-2016, 2009-10, 2001- 2002, 1998- 1999
Graduate Studies Committee. Department of History, NAU	2025-current, 2018-2020, 1997-2009
College of Arts and Letters, Promotion and Tenure Committee.	2011-12 and 2004-07
Curriculum Subcommittee of the Task Force on Global Education, NAU	2007-2010
Coordinator, Program in Asian Studies, NAU	2007-08
Search Committee, Asst. Prof of Britain, Empire and World History	2007-08
Search Committee, Asian History Visiting Professor, NAU	2005-06
University Intra-Mural Grants Committee, NAU	2005-06
Joint Coordinator, Program in Asian Studies, NAU	Fall 2002
Co-chair, Search committee, Asst. Prof Islamic World and World History	2000-01
Undergraduate Curriculum Committee. Department of History, NAU	1998-2000 and 2011-12
University Asian Studies Committee, NAU	Since 1996
Commission on Ethnic Diversity, NAU	1998-2008
Intellectual Property Rights Committee, NAU	2000-2002
University Graduate Committee, NAU	Fall 2001-02
University N.E.H. Summer Fellowship Committee, NAU	1999

RELATED ACTIVITIES

Journalism

Freelance journalist. Published articles in leading national dailies in India on social and historical themes. 1983-present.

Community Work

Volunteer, *Nagrik Ekta Manch*, helped with relief and documentation work among victims after the 1984 riots in Delhi 1984-85

Volunteer, *SPIC-MACAY*, the society to promote classical music and culture among youth, Delhi University 1982-85

TV and Video

Assisted in research, script and direction of documentary and fiction-based programs for national television and video in India 1986-88