

CURRICULUM VITAE

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Education

PhD Student in Sociology (2022 – Ongoing)

University of Pittsburgh (UPitt), Pennsylvania

M.A. Sociology, 2015

South Asian University (SAU), New Delhi, India

Dissertation: Devil's Backbone: Life, Politics and Media Representation of the Gangsters

M.A. Social Anthropology, 2012

Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, Nepal

Dissertation: Children Libraries in Kathmandu: Availability, Accessibility and Consumption

B.A. in English Literature, 2006

Sagarmatha Multiple College, Purbanchal University, Kathmandu, Nepal

Professional Experience

June 2017-2022

Program Manager at Afghanistan Center at Kabul University, Kabul

- Responsible to overlook the three main Programs 1) Research, 2) ACKU Box Library Extension (ABLE), and 3) Library;
- lead and supervise the project teams working under the aforementioned Programs;
- work closely with the donors and raise funds for the financial sustainability; write concepts, proposals and donor reports.

September 2016-June 2017

Counselor/Program Officer at Sambandh Health Foundation, Gurgaon, Haryana

- Responsible to conduct awareness workshops and street plays on mental health; edit and publish newsletters and online contents;
- work with persons with mental illness (PMIs) on their strength;
- work as a case coordinator with the members (PMIs) of Community Integration Center (CIC), a part of Civil Hospital, Haryana Government and help them with their (long term and short term) goals and overcome stigma;
- provide one on one service to outreach members to help them integrate back to society.

July 2015-November 2015

Freelance Data Analyst at the Centre for Culture, Media and Governance, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi

Name of the Project: Tracking Access under Digitization: A Policy Research Initiative 2013-2015; Study 3: A Study on User Experiences Under Digitalization of Television Distribution:

June 2015

Short-term Researcher at the Department of Sociology, South Asian University, New Delhi

- Responsible to conduct an ethnographic study of selected laborers, which included, observation (both work place and home), interviews/conversation with the laborer and his/her family members, etc. and write a report based on the study.

April 2008- July 2013

Editorial Assistant at Martin Chautari (MC), Thapathali, Kathmandu

- Responsible to maintain status files on contributions to *Studies in Nepali History and Society* (SINHAS) journal;
- correspond with SINHAS contributors, reviewers and editors and maintain a SINHAS planning master list;
- basic text editing and proofreading;
- prepare contents, collect the article abstracts and coordinate with the publisher of the journal;
- help in organizing programs/events on various social issues.

April 2011-May 2011

Program Assistant at Nepal Institute of Development Studies (NIDS), Kathmandu

Project 1: Combating Trafficking in Persons (CTIP)

Project 2: Advocacy of Land Rights of Women in Nepal (ALRWN):

2007-2010

Executive Member of Promise for Action and Social Studies Nepal (PASS Nepal), Kathmandu

- Responsible to organize discussion programs on various topics of social science at Martin Chautari hall, Kathmandu.

2007-2008

Research Co-worker on the “*History of Tourism in Nepal*” Research Project by Prof. Mark Liechty, University of Illinois at Chicago, USA

- Responsible to carry out basic archival research (e.g. searching old newspapers for tourism related material);
- identify and locate interview subjects and then schedule and carry out interviews;
- work with Dr. Liechty to transcribe and translate the digitally recorded interviews into English.

Publications

Journal Articles, Edited Volumes, and Translations

- “Civil Society in Nepal: A Selective Bibliography” (Version 3.0), compiled by Moktan, Sanjila, Rashmi Sheila and Harsha Man Maharjan, Available at www.martinchautari.org.np/files/bibliography/Civil-Society-in-Nepal_A-Selective-Bibliography_CBS-2022-2.pdf, 2022
- “Celebrating Womanhood: Politics Behind the Portrayal of Women in Art,” *Silence No Longer: Activism of Ashmina*, Kathmandu: Vajra Books, 2018
- “Laxmi Prasad Devkota,” *Encyclopedia of South Asian Thinkers*, Dev Pathak and Sanjeev Kumar, eds., New Delhi: Sage, 2018.
- “Identity and Representation of Gangsters and Gangs,” *Studies in Nepali History and Society* 21(1): 61–83 June 2016, delayed issue
- “Being Me,” a personal narrative, in Archana Thapa, ed., *Telling a Tale*, 2010.
- Translation from English to Nepali, Mary Des Chene, “*Is Nepal in South Asia? The Condition of Non-Postcoloniality*,” in *Studies in Nepali History and Society* (SINHAS), Vol. 12(2), republished in Nepali in *Rupantaran* journal, April 2009
- Translation from English to Nepali, “*The Pre-election Period*,” for The Carter Center, February 2009

Book Reviews

- Book Review, *Purple Hibiscus*, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, in *Women Chapter: Towards a Change*, 17 December 2017. Available at: womenchapterenglish.com/a-review-of-chimamanda-ngozi-adichies-purple-hibiscus/
- Book Review, *Swaastitwako Khoj* [In Search of Self], Archana Thapa, ed., in *Studies in Nepali History and Society* (SINHAS), Vol 18(2), December 2013.
- Book Review, *Hamra Hajurama*, photo.circle, in *Studies in Nepali History and Society* (SINHAS), Vol 15(1), June 2010.

Op-eds/Commentaries

- “The Prospects of Women’s Struggle in Afghanistan,” *Tahleelnama*, 15 December 2019. Available at: <https://acku.edu.af/2019/12/15/the-prospects-of-womens-struggle-in-afghanistan/>
- “Living among the dead,” *Repubblica*, 25 August 2018. Available at: <https://myrepublica.nagariknetwork.com/news/living-among-the-dead/>
- “Between Hope and Hopelessness,” *Women Chapter: Towards a Change*, 21 August 2017. Available at: womenchapterenglish.com/between-hope-and-hopelessness/
- “Selling Womanhood at a Cheap Price,” *Fair Observer*, 8 March 2017. Available at: https://www.fairobserver.com/region/central_south_asia/gender-inequality-womens-rights-culture-south-asia-news-71002/

- “Bollywood Still Haven’t Changed,” *Fair Observer*, 28 January 2017. Available at: https://www.fairobserver.com/region/central_south_asia/bollywood-news-india-film-culture-35443/
- “Relationships, Categories and Mental Illness, Sambandh Health Foundation, 20 January 2017. Available at: <https://sambandhhealth.wordpress.com/2017/01/20/relationships-categories-and-mental-illness/>
- “In South Asia, Violence Against Women in on Rise,” *Fair Observer*, 9 January 2017. Available at: https://www.fairobserver.com/region/central_south_asia/south-asia-violence-against-women-news-headlines-89152/
- “Nostalgic Memories: Sociology and Anthropology in Nepal,” *Rickshaw: A Students’ Collective*, 26 May 2016. Available at: <https://sausociology.wordpress.com/2016/05/26/nostalgic-memories-sociology-and-anthropology-in-nepal-rashmi-sheila/>
- “Oh Dyslexic History: See I Am still Me!,” *Rickshaw: A Students’ Collective*, 27 January 2014. Available at: <https://sausociology.wordpress.com/2014/01/27/oh-dyslexic-history-see-i-am-still-me/>
- “*Sambodhanko Laingik Paato*” [Greeting the Gendered Way], in *Hasana Magazine*, July 2011

Paper Presentations

- “Work and ‘self’: Creation of Gangster Identity on the Streets of Kathmandu,” at the conference on Work, Identity and Livelihood in Nepal: Theoretical Challenges and Contemporary Practices for South Asia, organized collaboratively by South Asian University, Martin Chautari, Centre for Social Sciences and Humanities (CSH) and Centre for the Study of Developing Societies (CSDS), Akbar Bhawan, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi, India, 22-23 July 2017.
- “Laxmi Prasad Devkota,” at the National Seminar on Reimagining South Asia: An Exploration into the History of Ideas, organized at Department of Political Science, University of Delhi, New Delhi, India, 17-18 February 2017.
- “Nepali Migrants in Delhi,” at the International Conference on Migration, Diaspora and Development organized by Global Research Forum on Diaspora and Transnationalism (GRFDT), New Delhi, India, 20-21 February 2016.
- “Devil’s Backbone: Life, Politics and Media Representation of the Gangsters,” at the graduate student seminar organized by the School of Public Policy and Governance, Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Hyderabad, India, 27-29 April 2015.
- Discussed on Tasleema Nasreen’s book *Selected Columns* (English translation by Debjani Sengupta), Youth Book Discussion Series, Martin Chautari, 16 March 2010.
- Discussed on John Wood’s book *Microsoft dekhi Bahundanda samma*, Book Discussion Series, Martin Chautari, 16 Nov 2008

Participation and Training

- Participant and third prize holder in the Art Camp, organized by the Department of Sociology at South Asian University on February 8, 2015.
- Co-organizer, *Jatra '14: A Cultural Journey*, a department fest at South Asian University, New Delhi, India on October 18, 2014.
- Participant in *Annual International Studies Convention 2013: Re-imagining Global Orders: Perspectives from the South*, Convention Center, JNU, New Delhi, India from December 10-12, 2013
- Volunteered in *Kathmandu Literary Jatra* at Patan, Kathmandu, Nepal from September 16 to 18, 2011
- Participant in a 3 days Photo Story Writing Workshop organized by photo.circle, Kathmandu, Nepal on August 21, 27 and September 4, 2011.
- Participant in 7 days Script Writing Workshop (training) organized by Indigenous Film Archive (IFA), Kathmandu, Nepal from August 8–15, 2011 and submitted a movie script “Manjari” in February 2012.
- Participant in *KathaSatha*, a short prose-writing workshop, Kathmandu, Nepal on June 26, and continued from July 1st to 3rd, 2011.
- Participant in *Aba Ke Garne*, a story-writing workshop, Kathmandu, Nepal from June 6, 2010 to June 18, 2010.
- Organizer of different Discussion Programs for *Research Series* under Martin Chautari and a regular program of Social Science Discussion Series under PASS Nepal at Martin Chautari, Kathmandu, Nepal, April 2008 to June 2013.
- Participant in Nepal Youth Social Forum, two-day workshop on creating youth vision for future Nepal, organized by Youth Action Nepal, Kathmandu, 2007.
- Participant in Civic Concerns, a workshop on raising awareness for the youth about their civic duties, organized by Youth Initiative, Kathmandu, 2007.

Awards and Fellowships

- Silver Jubilee Scholarship, South Asian University, 2013-2015
- Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences Graduate Fellowship, University of Pittsburgh, 2022-2027

Research Interests

- Women’s movement and resistance practices, Women rights, Violence and suffering, Women and popular media

Languages

- Fluent in English, Nepali, Newari, Hindi, Urdu and proficient in Persian