

ASHISH KOUL

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2018-till date Assistant Professor of modern South Asian history, Department of History, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL.
- 2017-18 Postdoctoral Associate and Lecturer in South Asian Studies, MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies, Yale University, New Haven, CT.

EDUCATION

- 2017 Ph.D. in South Asian history, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN.
- 2006 M.A. in Modern Indian History, Center for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India.
- 2004 B.A. (Hons.) in History, Lady Shri Ram College for Women, Delhi University, New Delhi, India.

RESEARCH FIELDS

19th-20th century South Asia; Panjab; caste, religion, and politics.

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

- 2019 “Whom can a Muslim Woman Represent? Begam Jahanara Shah Nawaz and the politics of party building in late colonial India” Under review.
- 2017 “Making New Muslim Arains: Reform and Social Mobility in Colonial Punjab, 1890s-1910s.” *South Asian History and Culture*, 8: 1 (2017), 1-18.
- 2008 “Representing the Community in Late Colonial Punjab” *Social Science Probings* (December 2008).
- 2008 “Gender and Politics in Late Colonial India: Women Activists in the Muslim League” *Social Science Probings* (June 2008).

Book Review

- 2016 Review of Edward E. Curtis IV's *The Call of Bilal: Islam in the African Diaspora* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2014). *Religious Studies Review*, 42: 4 (Dec. 2016), 305.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Monograph

- Provisional title: "The Politics of Muslim Caste: Arains in Twentieth Century South Asia"
Focuses on the Arains, a Punjabi Muslim community, to investigate caste, Islam, and politics in twentieth century South Asia. Traces and analyzes the intellectual evolution of the Arains' identity as a Muslim caste and the community's emergence as a bounded, albeit ideologically heterogeneous, political unit distinct from other South Asian Muslims.

Journal Articles

- Provisional title: "Family, Property, Community: the Mians of Baghbanpura and the Challenges of Quranic Inheritance"
Examines inheritance practices among the Mian family of Baghbanpura, a well-known Arain family of Lahore in British Panjab. Uncovers the ways in the Arains' purported Arab descent cemented one family's reformist actions, especially those pertaining to women's inheritance rights.

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

- 2020 "Whom can a Muslim Women Represent? Begam Jahanara Shah Nawaz and the politics of party-building in late colonial India" SEC-AAS Conference, New College of Florida, Sarasota, FL.
- 2019 "Whom can a Muslim Woman Represent? Begam Jahanara Shah Nawaz and the politics of party-building in late colonial India, 1930s-1940s" Gender In and Out of Punjab: Regional Heterogeneity and Specificity in Transnational Asian Studies, Yale University, New Haven, CT.
- 2018 Discussant for Shenila Khoja-Moolji's *Forging the Ideal Educated Girl*. Perspectives symposium at the Institute for the Study of Islamic Thought in Africa, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL.
- 2018 "Making a Muslim Caste in South Asia: Arab Genealogy and Arain Identity, 1910s-1980s" Annual Conference of the American Academy of Religion, Denver, CO.
- 2018 "The Politics of Muslim Caste: Arains in Twentieth Century South Asia" South Asia Colloquium, Yale University, New Haven, CT.
- 2018 "The Making of a Muslim Caste in Colonial India" MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies, Yale University, New Haven, CT.

- 2017 “Narratives of Muslim Belonging in South Asia” panel organized for the 46th Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, Wisconsin.
- 2017 “The Making of a Muslim Caste: Arains and Arab Genealogy in Colonial Punjab” conference paper at the 46th Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, Wisconsin.
- 2016 “Recovery, Reform and Progress: Marking Arain Identity in Colonial Punjab, 1890s-1910s” poster at the 45th Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, Wisconsin.
- 2016 “Reviving Arab-ness in British India: Arain Identity in Colonial Punjab, 1890s-1910s” conference paper at the 6th Annual Islamic Studies Graduate Student Conference, University of California, Santa Barbara, California.
- 2015 “Moving up the Social Ladder: Biradari Identity in British India, 1890-1920” conference paper at Graduate History Association Conference, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee.
- 2015 “History-writing as a ritual of belonging and un-belonging” short paper at Vanderbilt History Seminar graduate student workshop on ‘Rituals of Belonging,’ Nashville, Tennessee.
- 2015 “Personal Law and Arains’ Muslim Identity in Colonial Punjab, 1910s-1930s” conference paper at the 44th Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, Wisconsin.
- 2010 “Jahanara Shahnawaz and the Muslim League” conference paper at the conference on Women and Public Space organized by International Association of Women in Radio and Television, India International Centre, New Delhi, India.
- 2008 “Representing the Community in Late Colonial Punjab” conference paper at the 20th International Association of Historians of Asia Conference, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India.

FELLOWSHIPS AND HONORS

- 2015-16 Graduate Student Fellowship from Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Sawyer Seminar on ‘When the Fringe Dwarfs the Center: Vernacular Islam Beyond the Arab World’ at the Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities, Vanderbilt University.
- 2015 Summer Research Award from College of Arts and Sciences, Vanderbilt University.
- 2013-14 International Dissertation Research Fellowship awarded by Social Science Research Council.
- 2011 Summer Research Award from College of Arts and Sciences, Vanderbilt University.
- 2010 Harold Sterling Vanderbilt Scholarship from Department of History, Vanderbilt University.

- 2010 University Fellowship and University Tuition Scholarship from Vanderbilt University Graduate School.
- 2004 First rank in Lady Shri Ram College for Women and second rank in Delhi University in B.A. History (Hons.).

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Northwestern University, Department of History

- 2019-20 History of South Asia, ca. 1750 to the present. Undergraduate lecture.
South Asians in the World, 19th century to the present. Undergraduate lecture.
Islam, Gender, and the Modern World. First-year undergraduate seminar.
Frontiers, Borderlands, Nationalisms. Undergraduate seminar.
- 2018-19 History of modern South Asia, 1750 to the present. Undergraduate lecture.
Islam, Gender, and the Modern World. First-year undergraduate seminar.
Frontiers, Borderlands, Nationalisms. Undergraduate seminar.

Yale University, South Asian Studies Council and Department of History

- 2018 Spring Caste and Religion in Modern South Asia. Undergraduate seminar.
Weekly seminar discussing the intersection of caste and various South Asian religious traditions. Covers caste among Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs, Christians, and Jains in South Asia. Themes include religious articulations of caste, caste hierarchies, caste-class overlaps, social mobility, caste-based discrimination, and caste-based political mobilization in colonial and post-colonial South Asia.
- 2017 Fall Islam and Gender in South Asia, 1750-2000. Undergraduate seminar.
Weekly seminar examining the complexity of the Islamic tradition in South Asia by focusing on controversial gender issues from the eighteenth to the twentieth centuries. Topics include reformist education, Muslim women reformers, seclusion, polygamy, divorce, women's inheritance rights, women's franchise, and modes of political expression.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Manuscript reviewer for *International Feminist Journal of Politics*.

Manuscript reviewer for *Journal of Asian Studies*.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Historical Association

RESEARCH LANGUAGES

Urdu	advanced (reading, writing, and speaking)
English	advanced (reading, writing, and speaking)
Hindi	advanced (reading, writing, and speaking)
Arabic	introductory (reading and writing)
Kashmiri	native fluency