

Stanford



Kabir Tambar

Associate Professor of Anthropology

Bio

BIO

Kabir Tambar is a sociocultural anthropologist, working at the intersections of political anthropology and the anthropology of religion. He is broadly interested in the politics of history, performances of public criticism, and varieties of Islamic practice in Turkey.

Tambar's first book is a study of the politics of pluralism in contemporary Turkey, focusing on the ways that Alevi religious history is staged for public display. More generally, the book investigates how secular states govern religious differences through practices of cultural and aesthetic regulation. Tambar is currently working on a new project that examines the politics and ethics of nonviolence in Turkey.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Associate Professor, Anthropology

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Hellman Faculty Fellowship, Hellman Fellows Fund (2014)
- Member, School of Social Sciences, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, NJ (2011)
- Sakip Sabanci International Research Award, First Prize, Sabanci University, Istanbul, Turkey (2009)

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

- Ph.D., University of Chicago , Anthropology (2009)
- M.A., University of Chicago , Anthropology (2003)
- B.A., State University of New York at Buffalo

LINKS

- Kabir Tambar - Anthropology: <https://anthropology.stanford.edu/people/kabir-tambar>

Teaching

COURSES

2020-21

- Anthropological Research Methods: ANTHRO 306 (Win)
- Cultural and Social Dissertation Writers Seminar: ANTHRO 400 (Spr)
- Populism: ANTHRO 331 (Win)
- Prefield Research Seminar: ANTHRO 93 (Spr)

- Reading Group: ANTHRO 442 (Aut)

2019-20

- Cultural and Social Dissertation Writers Seminar: ANTHRO 400 (Aut, Win, Spr)
- Prefield Research Seminar: ANTHRO 93 (Spr)
- Reading Group: ANTHRO 442 (Aut)
- Semiotics for Ethnography: ANTHRO 166A, ANTHRO 266A (Spr)
- Time and Temporality: ANTHRO 368A (Aut)

2018-19

- Cultural and Social Dissertation Writers Seminar: ANTHRO 400 (Aut, Win, Spr)
- Prefield Research Seminar: ANTHRO 93 (Spr)
- Reading Group: ANTHRO 442 (Aut)
- Religion and Politics in the Muslim World: ANTHRO 132 (Aut)
- Semiotics for Ethnography: ANTHRO 366W (Win)
- Undergraduate Reading Group: ANTHRO 89 (Win)

2017-18

- Anthropology of Ethics: ANTHRO 332 (Spr)
- Prefield Research Seminar: ANTHRO 93 (Spr)
- Reading Group: ANTHRO 442 (Aut)

STANFORD ADVISEES

Shikha Nehra

Doctoral Dissertation Reader (AC)

Samil Can, Paul Christians, Byron Gray, Saad Lakhani, Jameelah Morris, Kerem Ussakli, Adela Zhang

Orals Chair

Catherine Baylin Duryea

Doctoral (Program)

Noor Amr

Publications

PUBLICATIONS

- **Professions of Friendship Revisiting the Concept of the Political in the Middle East** *COMPARATIVE STUDIES OF SOUTH ASIA AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST*
Tambar, K.
2019; 39 (2): 249–63
- **The Uncanny Medium: Semiotic Opacity in the Wake of Genocide** *Current Anthropology*
Tambar, K.
2017; 58 (6): 762-784
- **BROTHERHOOD IN DISPOSSESSION: State Violence and the Ethics of Expectation in Turkey** *CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY*
Tambar, K.
2016; 31 (1): 30-55

- **The Reckoning of Pluralism: Political Belonging and the Demands of History in Turkey**
Tambar, K.
Stanford University Press.2014
- **Historical Critique and Political Voice after the Ottoman Empire** *HISTORY OF THE PRESENT*
Tambar, K.
2013; 3 (2): 119-139
- **Islamic reflexivity and the uncritical subject** *JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL ANTHROPOLOGICAL INSTITUTE*
Tambar, K.
2012; 18 (3): 652-672
- **Iterations of lament: Anachronism and affect in a Shi'i Islamic revival in Turkey** *AMERICAN ETHNOLOGIST*
Tambar, K.
2011; 38 (3): 484-500
- **The Aesthetics of Public Visibility: Alevi Semah and the Paradoxes of Pluralism in Turkey** *COMPARATIVE STUDIES IN SOCIETY AND HISTORY*
Tambar, K.
2010; 52 (3): 652-679
- **Secular Populism and the Semiotics of the Crowd in Turkey** *PUBLIC CULTURE*
Tambar, K.
2009; 21 (3): 517-538