



Sharika Thiranagama

Assistant Professor of Anthropology

 Curriculum Vitae available Online

Bio

BIO

Sharika Thiranagama's research has focused on various aspects of the Sri Lankan civil war. Primarily, she has conducted research with two different ethnic groups, Sri Lankan Tamils and Sri Lankan Muslims. Her research explores changing forms of ethnicisation, the effects of protracted civil war on ideas of home in the midst of profound displacement and the transformations in and relationships between the political and the familial in the midst of political repression and militarization. She has also conducted other research on the history of railways in Sri Lanka, on the political culture of treason amongst Sri Lankan Tamils, the BBC World service in South Asia etc. She is currently undertaking new research in Sri Lanka on post war life in the Jaffna Peninsula mapping new post war social configurations. The second fieldwork project that she is conducting fieldwork on currently is entitled "The Local Level Social Life of Global Ideologies" and will be based in Kerala, South India. It is based in the Palakkad district of Kerala and will examine three generations of transformation among agricultural workers and the rural library movement."

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Assistant Professor, Anthropology

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

- Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Stanford University, (2013- present)
- Visiting Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Stanford University, (2011-2013)
- Assistant Professor of Anthropology, The New School for Social Research, (2009-2012)
- Visiting Research Fellow, Department of Social Anthropology, London School of Economics (LSE), (2007-2010)
- Research Consultant, Open University (UK) and ASSR, University of Amsterdam, (2007-2009)
- Economic and Social Research Council of Great Britain (ESRC) Postdoctoral Fellowship, Edinburgh University, (2005-2006)
- Nancy L Buc Postdoctoral Fellow, Pembroke Center, Brown University, (2005-2006)

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Grant for project: The Local Level Social Life of Global Ideologies (Kerala), The National Science Foundation. Cultural Anthropology Program (2015-2017)
- Post PhD Research Grant, Wenner Gren Foundation (2015-2016)
- Nancy L Buc Postdoctoral Fellowship, Pembroke Center, Brown University (2004-2005)
- ESRC Overseas Award for study abroad - taken at Department of Anthropology Johns Hopkins University, Economic Social Research Council of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (2004)
- ESRC Postgraduate Studentship, Economic Social Research Council of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (2001-2005)
- Davidson Prize, St Johns College, Cambridge University (2000-2001)
- Isaac Newton Trust Bursary, St Johns College, University of Cambridge (2000)

- Rajiv Gandhi Commonwealth Travelling Scholarship, University of Cambridge (2000)
- Scholar of St Johns, St Johns College, Cambridge University (2000)
- Isaac Newton Trust Bursary, St Johns College, University of Cambridge (1999)
- Rajiv Gandhi Commonwealth Travelling Scholarship, University of Cambridge (1999)

BOARDS, ADVISORY COMMITTEES, PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- Elected Director, Board of Directors, American Institute of Sri Lankan Studies (2013 - present)
- Elected Director, Board of Directors, American Institute of Sri Lankan Studies (2010 - 2013)
- Institutional Representative, New School, Board of Directors, American Institute of Sri Lankan Studies (2010 - 2011)
- Manuscript Reviewer, Stanford University Press, Routledge, Indiana University Press
- Reviewer, Modern Asian Studies, American Ethnologist, Ethnography, JRAI,
- Reviewer, Dialectical Anthropology Medical Anthropology, Anthropology and Education Quarterly,
- Reviewer, Feminist Review, South Asia Diaspora, Contemporary South Asia, Culture Medicine and Pyschiatry,

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

- Ph.D., University of Edinburgh , Social Anthropology (2006)
- MSc by Research, University of Edinburgh , Social Anthropology (2002)
- B.A. (Hons), St John's College Cambridge , Social Anthropology (2001)

LINKS

- In My Mother's House: Civil War in Sri Lanka: http://www.amazon.com/My-Mothers-House-Ethnography-Political/dp/0812222849/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1434046755&sr=8-1&keywords=sharika+thiranagama
- Traitors: Suspicion, Intimacy and the Ethics of State Building: http://www.amazon.com/Traitors-Suspicion-Intimacy-Ethics-State-Building/dp/0812222377/ref=sr_1_2?ie=UTF8&qid=1434046755&sr=8-2&keywords=sharika+thiranagama
- Zubaan Books - Indian Edition of In My Mothers House: Civil War in Sri Lanka: <http://zubaanbooks.com/shop/in-my-mothers-house-civil-war-in-sri-lanka/>

Teaching

COURSES

2018-19

- Anthropology Capstone: Contemporary Debates in Anthropology: ANTHRO 193 (Aut)
- Ethnicity and Violence: Anthropological Perspectives: ANTHRO 27N (Win)
- History of Anthropological Theory, Culture and Society: ANTHRO 301 (Aut)
- Queer Anthropology: ANTHRO 363 (Aut, Win, Spr)
- Undergraduate Reading Group: ANTHRO 89 (Win)

2017-18

- Anthropology Capstone: Contemporary Debates in Anthropology: ANTHRO 193 (Aut)
- Archival Research for Social Science: A Practicum: ANTHRO 360A (Spr)
- Ethnicity and Violence: Anthropological Perspectives: ANTHRO 27N (Win)
- Reading Theory Through Ethnography: ANTHRO 300 (Spr)

2016-17

- Anthropology Capstone: Contemporary Debates in Anthropology: ANTHRO 193 (Aut)
- Authority: Anthropological Perspectives: ANTHRO 377 (Spr)

- Reading Group: ANTHRO 442 (Aut)
- Ritual, Politics, Power: ANTHRO 152, SOC 156 (Spr)

2015-16

- Reading Group: ANTHRO 442 (Aut)

STANFORD ADVISEES

Danee Conley

Doctoral Dissertation Reader (AC)

Elix Colón, Byron Gray, Torin Jones, Anthony Medina, Ashveer Pal Singh, Cristopher Vazquez Munoz, Grace Zhou

Doctoral Dissertation Advisor (AC)

Dilshanie Perera, Nethra Samarawickrema

Doctoral (Program)

Noor Amr, Alisha Cherian, Dilshanie Perera, Nethra Samarawickrema, Chun-Yu (Jo Ann) Wang

Publications

PUBLICATIONS

- **The civility of strangers? Caste, ethnicity, and living together in postwar Jaffna, Sri Lanka** *ANTHROPOLOGICAL THEORY*
Thiranagama, S.
2018; 18 (2-3): 357–81
- **Introduction: Whose civility?** *ANTHROPOLOGICAL THEORY*
Thiranagama, S., Kelly, T., Forment, C.
2018; 18 (2-3): 153–74
- **Making Tigers from Tamils: Long-Distance Nationalism and Sri Lankan Tamils in Toronto** *AMERICAN ANTHROPOLOGIST*
Thiranagama, S.
2014; 116 (2): 265-278
- **Sri Lanka's Lingering State of War** *CURRENT HISTORY*
Thiranagama, S.
2014; 113 (762): 163-164
- **The Self at a Time of War in Northern Sri Lanka** *JOURNAL OF HISTORICAL SOCIOLOGY*
Thiranagama, S.
2013; 26 (1): 19-40
- **Reconciliation, Popular Aspirations, and the State** *Humanity: An International Journal of Human Rights, Humanitarianism, and Development*
Thiranagama, S., Biner, O.
2013; 4 (1):
- **Claiming the State: Reconciliation Processes in Sri Lanka** *Humanity: An International Journal of Human Rights, Humanitarianism, and Development*
Thiranagama, S.
2013; 4 (1)
- **'A Railway to the Moon': The post-histories of a Sri Lankan railway line** *MODERN ASIAN STUDIES*
Thiranagama, S.
2012; 46: 221-248
- **Muslims, Ethnicity and Minority Identity in Sri Lanka** *Religion and Politics in South Asia*
Thiranagama, S.
edited by Jaffrelot, C., Arif, A.

Purushartha, Sciences Sociales en Asie du Sud. Paris: EHESS.2012

- **Ethnic entanglements: The BBC Tamil and Sinhala services amidst the civil war in Sri Lanka** *JOURNALISM*
Thiranagama, S.
2011; 12 (2): 153-169
- **In My Mother's House: Civil War in Sri Lanka**
Obeyesekere, G., Thiranagama, S.
Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press.2011
- **Spectres of Treason** *Traitors: Suspicion, Intimacy and the Ethics of State Building*
Kelly, T., Thiranagama, S.
edited by Thiranagama, S., Kelly, T.
Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press.2010
- **Praise of Traitors: Intimacy, Betrayal and the Sri Lankan Tamil Community** *Traitors: Suspicion, Intimacy and the Ethics of State-Buildin*
edited by Thiranagama, S., Kelly, T.
Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press.2010
- **Traitors: Suspicion, Intimacy and the Ethics of State-Building**
edited by Kelly, T., Thiranagama, S.
Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press.2010
- **South Asian Diasporas and the BBC World Services: Contacts, Conflicts, and Contestations** *South Asian Diaspora*
edited by Gillespie, M., Thiranagama, S., Pinkerton, A., Baumann, G.
2010
- **Partitioning the BBC: From Colonial to Postcolonial Broadcaster** *South Asian Diaspora*
Thiranagama, S.
2010; 2 (1): 39-55
- **A New Morning? Reoccupying home in the aftermath of violence in Sri Lanka** *Struggles for Home: Violence, Hope, and the Movement of People*
Thiranagama, S.
edited by Jansen, S., Löfving, S.
Oxford and New York: Berghahn Books.2009
- **Review of Ritualizing on the Boundaries: Continuity and Innovation in the Tamil Diaspora by F.W. Clothey** *Religion*
Thiranagama, S.
2008; 30: 195-218
- **The Shadow Diaspora: Sri Lankan Tamils in Colombo** *Infochange Agenda*
Thiranagama, S.
2008
- **The right of return to Jaffna** *Himal South Asian*
Thiranagama, S.
2008; 21 (1)
- **The Eviction of Tamils and Muslims from Jaffna** *Daily Mirror*
Thiranagama, S.
2008
- **Moving on? Memory, generation and home for displaced Northern Muslims in Sri Lanka** *Ghosts of Memory: Essays on Remembrance and Relatedness*
Thiranagama, S.
edited by Carsten, J.
Oxford: Blackwell Publishing.2007
- **A New Morning? Reoccupying home in the aftermath of violence in Sri Lanka** *Focaal: European Journal of Anthropology*
Thiranagama, S.

2007; 49 (1): 45-61

- **A Dream of Return: Northern Muslims in Sri Lanka** *ISIM Review*
Thiranagama, S.
2007; 20