



## Sharika Thiranagama

Associate Professor of Anthropology

 Curriculum Vitae available Online

### Bio

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#### 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

- Associate Professor, Anthropology

#### ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

- Associate Professor of Anthropology, Stanford University, (2019- present)
- 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

- Stanford Humanities Center Faculty Fellowship, Stanford Humanities Center (2021-2022)
- Stanford Asian American Faculty Award for contributions to undergraduate and graduate community., Asian American Studies, Stanford (2021)
- 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**

- President, American Institute for Sri Lankan Studies (2017 - 2020)
- Co-Director, Center for Global Ethnography, IRISS, Stanford (2018 - 2020)
- President, American Institute for Sri Lankan Studies (2020 - present)
- 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, *Dialectical Anthropology* *Medical Anthropology*, *Anthropology and Education Quarterly*,
- Reviewer, *Modern Asian Studies*, *American Ethnologist*, *Ethnography*, *JRAI*,
- Reviewer, *Feminist Review*, *South Asia Diaspora*, *Contemporary South Asia*, *Culture Medicine and Psychiatry*,

## **PROGRAM AFFILIATIONS**

- Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

## **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](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](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**

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### **COURSES**

#### **2023-24**

- Emancipation: Theories and Experiences: ANTHRO 365A (Aut)
- Ethnicity and Violence: Anthropological Perspectives: ANTHRO 27N (Aut)
- Graduate Workshop: Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies: ARTHIST 499, FEMGEN 299 (Spr)
- Introduction to Cultural and Social Anthropology: ANTHRO 1, ANTHRO 201 (Win)
- Proposal Writing Seminar in Cultural and Social Anthropology: ANTHRO 308 (Spr)

#### 2022-23

- A Family Romance: The Family in Contemporary Society: ANTHRO 334A (Aut)
- Anthropology Capstone: Contemporary Debates in Anthropology: ANTHRO 193 (Spr)
- Ethnicity and Violence: Anthropological Perspectives: ANTHRO 27N (Aut)
- Strangers and Intimates: Exploring Public Life: ANTHRO 387 (Spr)

#### 2020-21

- Cultural and Social Dissertation Writers Seminar: ANTHRO 400 (Aut, Win, Spr)
- Ethical Life with Strangers: Sociality and Civility: ANTHRO 123, ANTHRO 223 (Spr)
- Ethnicity and Violence: Anthropological Perspectives: ANTHRO 27N (Aut)

### STANFORD ADVISEES

#### Doctoral Dissertation Reader (AC)

Miray Cakiroglu, Elix Colón, Byron Gray, Munir Gur, Saad Lakhani, Isabel Salovaara, shandana waheed

#### Doctoral Dissertation Advisor (AC)

Alisha Cherian, Zaith Lopez, Alexa Russo

#### Doctoral Dissertation Co-Advisor (AC)

Salma Elkhaoudi, Tiên-Dung Hà, Shantanu Nevrekar, Chun-Yu (Jo Ann) Wang

#### Master's Program Advisor

Salma Elkhaoudi

#### Doctoral (Program)

Alisha Cherian, Deniz Demir, Huzaafa Huzaafa, Shantanu Nevrekar, Sunidhi Pacharne, Alexa Russo, Chun-Yu (Jo Ann) Wang

### Publications

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#### PUBLICATIONS

- **The names of the leader: the political deification of prabhakaran** *RELIGION*  
Thiranagama, S.  
2022
- **Figures of Menace: Militarisation in Post-War Sri Lanka** *SOUTH ASIA-JOURNAL OF SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES*  
Thiranagama, S.  
2022
- **Protestant Textuality and the Tamil Modern: Political Oratory and the Social Imaginary in South Asia (Book Review)** *ANTHROPOLOGICAL QUARTERLY*  
Book Review Authored by: Thiranagama, S.  
2021; 94 (4): 725-735
- **Afterword: A "Division of Laborers"** *ANTHROPOLOGY OF WORK REVIEW*  
Thiranagama, S.  
2020; 41 (2): 133–37
- **The Leader as Image: Prabhakaran and the Visual Regimes of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam**.  
Thiranagama, S.  
Tasveerghar: A Digital Network of South Asian Popular Visual Culture .  
2020

- **Respect Your Neighbor as Yourself: Neighborliness, Caste, and Community in South India** *COMPARATIVE STUDIES IN SOCIETY AND HISTORY*  
Thiranagama, S.  
2019; 61 (2): 269–300
- **Rural Civilities: Caste, Gender and Public Life in Kerala** *SOUTH ASIA-JOURNAL OF SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES*  
Thiranagama, S.  
2019; 42 (2): 310–27
- **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**  
Obeysekere, 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