

**Sanjeev Routray**  
**Institute of Asian Studies**  
**Universiti Brunei Darussalam**  
**Jalan Tungku Link, Gadong**  
**Brunei Darussalam**  
**BE 1410 Email: sanjeevkroutray@gmail.com**

## **EDUCATION**

Ph.D., Sociology, University of British Columbia, 2014 (November 27, 2014)  
Dissertation: *Between Eviction and Existence: Urban Restructuring and the Politics of Poverty in Delhi.*  
Best doctoral dissertation prize, Department of Sociology, University of British Columbia, 2014.

Research Training Program in Social Sciences, Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta, 2005.

M.Phil., Social Medicine, Jawaharlal Nehru University, 2004.  
Dissertation: *Urban Planning and Public Health Consequences for Poor Migrants: A Study of Delhi*

M.A., Sociology, University of Hyderabad, 2001.

B.Sc. (Zoology Hons.), Utkal University, 1998.

## **ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

Assistant Professor, Institute of Asian Studies, Universiti Brunei Darussalam, May 2022–

Sessional Lecturer, Department of Sociology, University of British Columbia, 2019–2021

Urban Studies Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow, School of Public Policy and Urban Affairs, Northeastern University, Boston, June 2016 to June 2019

Sessional Lecturer, Department of Sociology, University of British Columbia, Spring and Fall 2015, Spring 2016.

Sessional Instructor, School for International Studies, Simon Fraser University, Fall 2015.

## **VISITING APPOINTMENTS**

External Affiliate, The Prentice Institute for Global Population and Economy,  
University of Lethbridge, October 2023–

Visiting Postdoctoral Fellow, Centre de Sciences Humaines (CSH), Delhi, October  
2016 to September 2017.

Visiting Researcher, School for International Studies, Simon Fraser University, July  
to September 2016.

Visiting PhD student (as part of Graduate Student International Research Mobility  
Award), Department of Sociology, Delhi School of Economics, Delhi  
University, November 2009 to November 2010.

## **RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS**

### **Research Interests:**

Migrants and their Lives, Urban Transformations, Experience of Poverty,  
Postcolonial Politics, Trans(regionalism)nationalism, Cosmopolitanisms, Caste and  
Social Mobility

**Teaching Interests:** Classical Sociological Theory; Contemporary Directions in  
Theory; Migrants and their Lives; Cities of the Global South; Transnationalism and  
Society; Citizenship: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives; Caste Today:  
Inequality and Discrimination in India and Beyond; Critical Perspectives on  
Development; The Informal Economy; Planning Theory; Ethnographic Research  
Methods; Historical Research Methods; Theories of Family and Kinship

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Book:**

Routray, Sanjeev (2022). *The Right to be Counted: The Urban Poor and the Politics  
of Resettlement in Delhi*. California: Stanford University Press. (Bloomsbury  
India, 2023)

### **Journal Articles:**

Routray, Sanjeev (2023). "Paper Struggles: Documents, Inscriptions, and Citizenship  
Negotiations in Delhi." *City: Analysis of Urban Change, Theory, and Action*.  
27 (1-2): 137-161.

Routray, Sanjeev (2022). 'Timepass' and 'Setting': The Meanings, Relationships, and  
Politics of Urban Informal Work in Delhi. *Urban Studies*. 59 (10): 1981-1997.

Routray, Sanjeev (2014). "The Postcolonial City and its Displaced Poor: Rethinking 'Political Society' in Delhi," *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*. 38 (6): 2292-2308.

### **Book Reviews:**

Recio, Redento B., Erich Wolff, Ashraf Alam, **Sanjeev Routray**, Eric Gaisie, Adriana Marin-Toro, Ishita Chatterjee, and Nabanita Islam (2023). "Urban Citizenship in the Global South: Critical Reflection on the Tactics and Counter-tactics of the Urban Poor." *New Zealand Geographer*. 79 (1): 46-53.

Routray, Sanjeev (2018). "The Judge as an Urban Planner: Law, Interests and Politics in India." *La Vie des Idees/ Books and Ideas*. 12 February. ISSN: 2105- 3030. (Review of Gautam Bhan's *In Public's Interest: Evictions, Citizenship, and Inequality in Contemporary Delhi* and Anuj Bhuwania's *Courting the People: Public Interest Litigation in Post-Emergency India*).

Routray, Sanjeev (2018). Review of Surajit Chakravarty and Rohit Negi's edited *Space, Planning, and Everyday Contestations in Delhi: Exploring Urban Change in South Asia*. New Delhi: Springer India, 2015. Xii, 233 pp. *Pacific Affairs*. 91 (1): 178- 181.

Routray, Sanjeev (2016). Review of Ipsita Chatterjee's *Displacement, Revolution, and the New Urban Condition: Theories and Case Studies*. New Delhi: Sage Publications India, 2014. xvi, 158 pp. *Pacific Affairs*. 89(4): 923-926.

Routray, Sanjeev (2016). Review of Liza Weinstein's *The Durable Slum: Dharavi and the Right to Stay Put in Globalizing Mumbai*. Minneapolis and London: University of Minnesota Press, 2014. ix, 216 pp. *Pacific Affairs*. 89(2): 468-469.

### **FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS**

Urban Studies Foundation Knowledge Mobilization Awards, UK, July 2022 to January 2023. Grant to provide support to organize plumbers to receive state welfare entitlements in Delhi.

Hari Sharma Foundation Grant for Research and Publication Related to South Asia or South Asian Diaspora, Canada, 2021.

Urban Studies Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship Award, UK, 2016 to 2019. Fellowship to provide support for postdoctoral study at a university of scholar's choice).

Humanities Center, Northeastern University, Boston, 2019. Grant to support a one-day workshop titled “Emergent Urban Transformations: Explorations of State, Society and Politics in India,” co-organized with Gavin Shatkin and Liza Weinstein.

The Foundation for Urban and Regional Studies Studentship Award, UK, 2008 to 2010; 2011 to 2012.

Zeit-Stiftung Ebelin und Gerd Bucerius PhD Scholarship in Migration Studies, Germany, 2008 to 2011.

International Development Research Centre Doctoral Research Award, Canada, 2010 to 2011.

Hari Sharma Foundation Grant for Research and Publication Related to South Asia or South Asian Diaspora, Canada, 2014.

Bottom Billion Fieldwork Fund, Liu institute for Global Issues, University of British Columbia, 2011.

University of British Columbia Graduate Student International Research Mobility Award and Go Global International Learning Programs Award, University of British Columbia, 2009.

The Pacific Century Graduate Scholarship, University of British Columbia, 2008-2010. Declined.

University of British Columbia Graduate Fellowship 2008-2010. Declined.

Kurt and Anne Paulus Memorial Scholarship in Sociology, University of British Columbia, 2007.

Graduate Entrance Award, University of British Columbia, 2006.

The Paul Foundation Scholarships, India, 2006. (Initially awarded to study at New School for Social Research, New School University, New York, Declined. Accepted to meet initial expenses at University of British Columbia, Vancouver)

University Merit Scholarship, University of Hyderabad, July 2000 to April 2001.

## **AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS**

Recipient, Best Dissertation Prize, Department of Sociology, University of British Columbia, 2014.

Nominee, PhD thesis, Department of Sociology, UBC for the Canadian Association of Graduate Studies/ University Microfilms International (CAGS/UMI) distinguished dissertation awards, 2015.

Liu Scholar, Liu Scholar Program of Liu Institute for Global Issues, University of British Columbia, 2010-2014.

Recipient, National Eligibility Certificate in Sociology, University Grants Commission, India, 2003.

First Rank, All India Entrance Examination, M. Phil. in Social Medicine, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, 2001.

University Gold Medal, University of Hyderabad, 2004.

### **INVITED LECTURES**

“Who is a Construction Worker? Bureaucratic Arbitrariness, Entrepreneurial Unions, and Performances of Eligibility in Delhi.” Sussex Asia Centre, University of Sussex, UK, virtual talk, May 10, 2023.

“Emplacements: Production and Social Reproduction in an Industrial Neighborhood of Delhi.” Institute of Asian Studies Seminar Series, Universiti Brunei Darussalam, April 12, 2023.

“Field and Friendships: Ethnographic Reflections on Urban Poverty Research in Delhi.” Winter School, “Doing Ethnographic Research,” Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, New Delhi, April 4-8, 2022. (Over Zoom).

“Numerical Citizenship Struggles in Contemporary Delhi,” Centre for the Advanced Study of India, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, April 22, 2021. (Over Zoom).

“Law and Urban Displacements: Everyday Negotiations of the Judicial System in Delhi,” School of Public Policy and Urban Affairs, Northeastern University, Boston, November 9, 2017.

“Law and Urban Displacements: Everyday Negotiations of the Judicial System in Delhi,” Centre for the Study of Social Systems, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi, August 24, 2017.

“Theory, Politics, and Slumdog Millionaire” (two lectures/parts), Department of English, Ravenshaw University, Cuttack, July 9 and 10, 2010.

## **BOOK TALKS/DISCUSSIONS**

- “The Right to Be Counted: The Urban Poor and the Politics of Resettlement in Delhi.” Book Discussion, co-sponsored by Hari Sharma Foundation and Institute for the Humanities, Simon Fraser University, SFU Harbor Center, July 26, 2023.
- “The Right to Be Counted: The Urban Poor and the Politics of Resettlement in Delhi.” Prentice Institute Speaker Series, Prentice Institute for Global Population and Economy, University of Lethbridge, July 12, 2023.
- “The Right to Be Counted: The Urban Poor and the Politics of Resettlement in Delhi.” Delhi Book Panel from Stanford University Press’ South Asia in Motion Series, virtual talk, Centre for South Asia, Stanford University, February 28, 2023.
- “The Right to Be Counted: The Urban Poor and the Politics of Resettlement in Delhi.” Space for Engagement and Epistemic Diversity (SEED), Informal Urbanism Research Hub, University of Melbourne, online book talk and discussion, September 23, 2022.
- “The Right to Be Counted: The Urban Poor and the Politics of Resettlement in Delhi.” Department of Sociology, University of Hyderabad, online book talk and discussion, September 19, 2022.
- “The Right to Be Counted: The Urban Poor and the Politics of Resettlement in Delhi.” The Centre de Sciences Humaines (CSH) and Centre for Policy Research (CPR), digital Urban Workshop (no. 150), New Delhi, August 30, 2022.

## **SELECT ACADEMIC PAPER PRESENTATIONS**

- “‘Almost like Engineers! Material and Symbolic Practices of Plumbers in Delhi.’ XX ISA World Congress of Sociology, Melbourne, Australia, June 25 to July 1, 2023.
- “Migration Narratives: Delhi as an Imagined Space of Belonging and Citizenship.” XX ISA World Congress of Sociology, Melbourne, Australia, June 25 to July 1, 2023.
- “Emplacements: Production and Social Reproduction in an Industrial Neighborhood of Delhi.” American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Denver, Colorado, March 23 to 27, 2023.

- “Who is a Construction Worker? Bureaucratic Arbitrariness, Entrepreneurial Unions, and Performances of Eligibility at the BOCWs Boards.” Development Studies Association Online Conference at University College London, UK, July 6 to 8, 2022.
- “Timepass” and “setting”: The meanings, relationships, and politics of urban informal work in Delhi.’ International Workshop on “Formalization, Informalization and the Labour Process: Comparative Perspectives,” Georg-August-University, Gottingen, November 20 to 22, 2019.
- “Varieties of Cosmopolitanism: Subaltern Navigation of Urban Living.” American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, April 3 to 7, 2019.
- “Labouring Poor in Delhi: The Meanings, Relationships, and Politics of Accumulation.” XIX International Sociological Association World Congress of Sociology, Toronto, July 15 to 21, 2018.
- “Repertoires of Political Contestation: Strategies of the Urban Poor and Cultural Idioms of Resistance in Delhi.” Research Committee 21 (RC21) conference titled “The Transgressive City”, El Colegio De Mexico, July 21 to 23, 2016.
- “The Politics of Letter Writing and Office Visits.” South Asia Conference of the Pacific Northwest, University of British Columbia, March 6 to 7, 2015.
- “Numerical Citizenship in Delhi: Notes on Proof Documents, Legal Imagination, and State Practices.” RC 21 Conference “Resourceful Cities,” Humboldt University, Berlin, August 29 to 31, 2013.
- “The Equivocation of Law: Relational Aspects of Law and Urban Displacements in Delhi.” “Law on the Edge” Conference, University of British Columbia, July 1 to 4, 2013.
- “The Politics of Urban Planning in Delhi in the 1970s.” South Asia Conference of the Pacific Northwest “The Long Nineteen Seventies in South Asia,” School of International Studies, Simon Fraser University, October 26 to 27, 2012.
- “Politics of Poverty: Participation, Negotiation, and Resistance.” International Workshop “The Politics of Poverty and the Politics of the Poor in Modern South Asia,” Centre for Modern Indian Studies (CeMIS), University of Gottingen, July 6 to 8, 2011.
- “Considerations on Political Society and Sovereignities in Delhi.” Workshop “Law’s Imperial Field,” International Institute for the Sociology of Law, Onati, Spain, June 24 to 25, 2010.

- “Notes on the Numerical Citizenship of Urban Poor.” Second Student Conference of the “Bucerius Ph.D. Scholarships in Migration Studies” Zeit-Stiftung Foundation, Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin, April 28 to 30, 2010.
- “Leadership at the Margins: Conceptual Notes on Democratic Practices in Contemporary Urban India.” “Transatlantic Academy meets Settling into Motion” Workshop, Zeit Stiftung Foundation, Amerang (Bavaria), June 12 to 14, 2009.
- “The City and its Poor: Mapping the Relations of Poverty in Delhi.” First Student Conference of the “Bucerius Ph.D. Scholarships in Migration Studies” Zeit-Stiftung Foundation, Hamburg, April 23 to 24, 2009.
- “The Production of Globalizing Delhi: Some Lefebvrian Insights.” “Fourteenth Annual Cultural Studies” Workshop, North-Eastern Hill University, Shillong, February 1 to 6, 2009.
- “Resettlement, Poverty, and Public Health: An Account.” IDRC Expert Meeting Conference “Housing, Urban Poverty and Environment,” Kampala, December 2 to 4, 2008.
- “Bourdieu’s Marx.” British Sociological Association Theory Study Conference “1968: Impact and Implications,” Birkbeck Institute for Social Research, University of London, July 3 to 4, 2008.
- “Footloose in Delhi: Considerations on Rural Dispossession and Urban Proletarianization.” Peter Wall Institute Graduate Symposium “The End of the Peasant? Urban Hegemony, Agrarian Societies and Governance in the Global South,” University of British Columbia, June 23 to 28, 2008.
- “Reordering Delhi: An Enquiry into Social Relations Constituting ‘Spaces of Capital’ in Delhi.” “43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Canadian Sociological Association, University of British Columbia, June 3 to 6, 2008.
- “Straddling Between Political Economy and Post-colonial Schemas: Notes Toward an Understanding of Non-western Societies.” “Graduate Student South Asia Conference of the Pacific Northwest, University of British Columbia, February 29, 2008.
- “Mediating the ‘Other Backward Classes’ Reservation Fracas: Notes on Citizenship, Merit, and Publics.” “7th East West Centre” Graduate Student Conference” Honolulu, February 14 to 16, 2008.

## **TEACHING**

### **UBD:**

- Social Thought (AZ 2201), UBD, (Fall 2022; Fall 2023)
- Urban Society (AZ 4307), UBD, (Spring 2022; Spring 2024)

### **UBC and SFU:**

- Theories of Family and Kinship, UBC, (SOC 415 202 and 203: two sections in Spring 2021; SOC 415 104: in Fall 2020; SOC 415 101 and 104: two sections in Fall 2019)
- Sociology of Family (SOC 200 104), UBC, Fall 2020
- Contemporary Directions in Theory (SOC 372 201), UBC, Spring 2020
- Economic Sociology (SOC 440A 002), UBC, Spring 2016.
- Technology, Work, and Society (SOC 260A 002), UBC, Spring 2016.
- Transnationalism and Society (IS 230 D100), SFU, Fall 2015.
- Interpersonal Dynamics (SOC 476 001), UBC, Fall 2015.
- Organization of Work (SOC 352 001), UBC, Spring 2015.
- Social Movements (SOC 464A 002 and 003: two sections), UBC, Spring 2013.

### **Teaching Assistant (UBC and IIT, Delhi):**

- Introduction to Sociology (SOC 100 002), UBC, Fall 2011 and Spring 2012.
- Introduction to Sociology (SOC 100 003), UBC, Fall 2007 and Spring 2008.
- Ethnic Relations (ANTH/ SOC 201A 002), UBC, Spring 2007.
- Race and Ethnic Inequality (SOC 302A), UBC, Fall 2006.
- Teaching and Research Assistant, Department of Humanities and Social Science, Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi, January to June 2004.

### **Guest Lectures:**

- “State, Civil Society, and Political Society.” Course: Political Sociology, University of British Columbia, September 29, 2011.
- “Neo-liberalism.” Course: Introduction to Sociology, University of British Columbia. March 6, 2012,
- ‘Neighborhoods of Delhi,’ Woodward Centre, Simon Fraser University, January 10, 2013.

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

Research Assistant, Caste, Class, and Land Relations in a Tamil Village, Kathleen Gough Archives, UBC. (Prof. Chris Fuller, London School of Economics and Prof. John Harriss, Simon Fraser University). Summer 2008

Research Assistant, The Komagata Maru: A Global Voyage in the Age of Empire, National Archives of India, New Delhi and Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, Delhi. (Prof. Renisa Mawani, UBC). Summer 2007, Summer 2008, and Fall 2012

Projects Editor/Coordinator, Panos Institute South Asia, India Office, Delhi, January 2006 to June 2006.

Field Investigator, UNIFEM Project on Gender and Governance in Two Cities, New Delhi. (Prof. Mary E. John, Jawaharlal Nehru University). Fall 2002

### **FIELD RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

“The Plumbers of Delhi: Migration, Plebeian Sociality, and Citizenship in an Occupational Community.” Fieldwork for postdoctoral research and community engagement work (October 2016 to September 2017; April 2019; July 2022; December 2022).

“Between Eviction and Existence: Urban Restructuring and Politics of Poverty in Delhi.” Fieldwork for PhD in Delhi. April 2010 to August 2011; June to August 2017; April 2019.

“Urban Planning and Public Health Consequences for Poor Migrants: A Study of Delhi.” Fieldwork for M.Phil. January 2002 to March 2003.

One month of field research and writing of a report in collaboration with an NGO (Sambandh) in Similipal (an adivasi/ indigenous area). 1998 to 1999.

### **FIELD TRIP EXPERIENCE:**

“From African Dreams to Lived Realities in Europe.” Zeit-Stiftung Foundation fieldtrips in Morocco and Spain around issues of transit, legal situation, and living conditions of refugees and immigrants from Sub-Saharan Africa in Morocco and Spain and migration and security policies of Morocco, Spain, and European Union. October 2 to 8, 2008.

“From Emigration to Immigration: The Changing Face of Turkey.” Zeit-Stiftung Foundation fieldtrips to Tarlabasi neighborhood in Istanbul, Kadifekale, and Afro-Turk villages in Izmir around issues of migration, urban transformations, and citizenship especially with respect to minorities including Armenians,

Romas, and Afro-Turks and Kurdish internal displacement in Turkey. October 17 to 23, 2010

### **LABORATORIES, SUMMER SCHOOLS, WORKSHOPS**

Antipode's 7<sup>th</sup> Institute for the Geographies of Justice (IGJ), Mexico City, Mexico, June 17 to June 21, 2019.

Brown International Advanced Research Institute (BIARI) on "Forced Populations Displacements and the Making of the Modern World," Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, U.S.A., June 2 to June 16, 2018.

Third Summer Institute in Urban Studies (SIUS), University of Manchester, U.K., June 26 to June 30, 2016.

The Materiality of Citizenship and State-Society Interaction: Ethnographic and conceptual explorations of official documents, cards and paperwork in South Asia, Workshop at the University of Sussex, U.K, June 21, 2016.

Third RC 21 IJURR-FURS Summer School on Comparative Urban Studies, Berlin, August 17 to September 3, 2013.

Ninth International Sociological Association International Laboratory for PhD students Shonan Kokusai Village, Hayama, October 3 to 9, 2009.

First Winter Institute of PUKAR (Partners for Urban Knowledge Action and Research), Mumbai, January 2004.

### **CO-ORGANIZER:**

The International Sociological Association (ISA) Economy and Society Research Committee (ISA RC02) Pre-Congress Early Career Sociologist Workshop. Melbourne, June 24, 2023.

Emergent Urban Transformations: Explorations of State, Society, and Politics in India. Northeastern University, Boston, May 10, 2019.

Urban Practices, Legal Encounters: Intersects Beyond the Grid and the Survey. Liu Institute of Global Issues, University of British Columbia, June 3, 2013.

## **REVIEWER FOR JOURNALS**

*American Ethnologist*  
*Annals of the American Association of Geographers*  
*Anthropology of Work Review*  
*City: Analysis of Urban Change, Theory, and Action*  
*Cities: The International Journal of Urban Policy and Planning*  
*Contemporary South Asia*  
*International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*  
*Journal of Cultural Geography*  
*Journal of South Asian Development*  
*Suomen Antropologi: Journal of the Finnish Anthropological Society*  
*Southeast Asia: A Multidisciplinary Journal*  
*Urban Studies*  
*World Development Perspectives*

## **REVIEWER FOR BOOK MANUSCRIPTS**

*Routledge*

## **REVIEWER FOR WORKING PAPER SERIES**

*Ashank Desai Centre for Policy Studies Working Paper Series*