

## AUDREY TRUSCHKE

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<http://audreytruschke.com>

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### EDUCATION

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| 2012 | Ph.D., Columbia University,<br>Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies (with distinction) |
| 2008 | M.Phil., Columbia University, Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies                     |
| 2007 | M.A., Columbia University, Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies                        |
| 2004 | B.A., University of Chicago, Religious Studies (general honors)                                    |

### ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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|-------------|---|
| 2023 –      | Rutgers University, Newark, Department of History<br>Professor of South Asian History           |
| 2020 – 2023 | Rutgers University, Newark, Department of History<br>Associate Professor of South Asian History |
| 2015 – 2020 | Rutgers University, Newark, Department of History<br>Assistant Professor of South Asian History |
| 2013 – 2016 | Stanford University, Department of Religious Studies<br>Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow    |
| 2012 – 2013 | University of Cambridge, Gonville and Caius College<br>Research Fellow in History               |

### FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

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| 2022 | Karwaan Book Award, Karwaan: The Heritage Exploration Initiative       |
| 2021 | National Endowment for the Humanities Public Scholars Fellowship       |
| 2020 | Global Equity Grant from Princeton University Press                    |
| 2020 | Rutgers Board of Trustees Research Fellowship for Scholarly Excellence |
| 2020 | Rutgers Research Council Award   |
| 2019 | National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship                       |

2019	Visiting Professor Fellowship at Ecole des hautes études en sciences sociales
2017	John F. Richards Prize in South Asian History, American Historical Association
2014	NEH Fellowship for Summer Institute on Problems in the Study of Religion
2012 – 2013	Caius Fund Research Fellow
2012	Perso-Indica Visiting Fellowship at the University Sorbonne Nouvelle Paris III
2011 – 2012	Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship
2009 – 2010	Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship
2006	Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship for Urdu
2004	Phi Beta Kappa Honors Society

## PUBLICATIONS

### Books

In preparation *India: A History*, under contract with Princeton University Press. Estimated publication date 2025.

- 2021 *The Language of History: Sanskrit Narratives of Indo-Muslim Rule*. New York: Columbia University Press. Indian edition by Penguin India, under the title *The Language of History: Sanskrit Narratives of Muslim Pasts*. Winner of the 2022 Karwaan Book Award, Karwaan: The Heritage Exploration Initiative
- 2017 *Aurangzeb: The Life and Legacy of India's Most Controversial King*. Stanford: Stanford University Press. Indian edition by Penguin India and Pakistani edition by Oxford University Press - Karachi, both under the title *Aurangzeb: The Man and The Myth*. Indian edition translated into Bengali, Hindi, Tamil, and Urdu; also available as an audiobook.
- 2016 *Culture of Encounters: Sanskrit at the Mughal Court*. South Asia Across the Disciplines Series. New York: Columbia University Press. Indian edition by Penguin India. Winner of the 2017 John F. Richards Prize, American Historical Association.

### Peer Reviewed Journal Articles

- 2023 “Hindu: A History.” *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, 65.2 (2023): 246–271.
- 2022 “The Mughal Self and the Jain Other in Siddhicandra’s *Bhanucandraganicarita*.” *Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa and the Middle East* 42.4 (2022): 341–347.
- 2020 “Hindutva’s Dangerous Rewriting of History.” *South Asia Multidisciplinary Academic Journal (SAMAJ)* 24/25 (December 14): <https://journals.openedition.org/samaj/6636>.
- 2020 “A Padshah like Manu: Political Advice for Akbar in the Persian *Mahābhārata*.” *Philological Encounters* 5.2: 1–22.

- 2018 “The Power of the Islamic Sword in Narrating the Death of Indian Buddhism.” *History of Religions* 57.4: 406–435. Reprinted in *Encountering Buddhism and Islam in Premodern Central and South Asia*, edited by Blaine Auer and Ingo Strauch, 14–47. Berlin: de Gruyter, 2019.
- 2015 “Contested History: Brahmanical Memories of Relations with the Mughals.” *Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient* 58.4: 419–452.
- 2015 “Dangerous Debates: Jain Responses to Theological Challenges at the Mughal Court.” *Modern Asian Studies* 49.5: 1311–1344.
- 2012 “Defining the Other: An Intellectual History of Sanskrit Lexicons and Grammars of Persian.” *Journal of Indian Philosophy* 40.6: 635–668.
- 2012 “Setting the Record Wrong: A Sanskrit Vision of Mughal Conquests.” *South Asian History and Culture* 3.3: 373–396.
- 2011 “The Mughal Book of War: A Persian Translation of the Sanskrit *Mahabharata*.” *Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa and the Middle East* 31.2: 506–520.

### **Edited Volumes / Book Chapters**

- 2023 “Displacing and Disciplining Muslims in India’s Burgeoning Hindu Rashtra,” *Islamophobia in an Era of Populism*, edited by Sahar Aziz, forthcoming in 2023.
- 2023 “Sanskrit and vernacular literatures at the Mughal court,” co-authored with Allison Busch. In *Oxford Handbook of the Mughal World*, edited by Richard Eaton and Ramya Sreenivasan, forthcoming in 2023.
- 2022 “The Hindu Right in the US,” *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of American History*, edited by Jon Butler and Editor David Yoo, October 2022.
- 2016 “Deceptive Familiarity: European Perceptions of Access at the Mughal Court.” In *The Key to Power? The Culture of Access in Princely Courts, 1400–1750*, edited by Dries Raeymaekers and Sebastiaan Derks, 65–99. Leiden: Brill.
- 2015 “Reimagining the ‘Idol Temple of Hindustan’: Textual and Visual Translation of Sanskrit Texts in Mughal India,” co-authored with Qamar Adamjee. In *Pearls on a String: Artists, Patrons, and Poets at the Great Islamic Courts*, edited by Amy Landau, 141–165. Baltimore: Walters Art Museum; Seattle: University of Washington Press.
- 2015 “Regional Perceptions: Writing to the Mughal Court in Sanskrit.” In *Cosmopolitismes en Asie du Sud. Sources, itinéraires, langues (XVIe–XVIIIe siècle)*, edited by Corinne Lefèvre, Ines Županov, and Jorge Flores, 251–274. Paris: Editions de l’EHESS.

## Short Articles and Translations

- 2023 “Hindu Supremacists in a White World.” *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*, published online 2023.
- 2023 “Intertwined History: Hindutva Attacks and the Study of Hinduism” (co-authored). *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*, published online 2023.
- 2023 “Hearing Hindu Stories.” *Method and Theory in the Study of Religion*, forthcoming 2023.
- 2022 “Hindutva Appropriations of Indigeneity.” *The Immanent Frame*, October 2022.
- 2022 “Decolonizing” Indians through Hindutva Ideological Control. *Shuddhashar* 29, May 2022 (translated into Malayalam in [Turuq](#), January 2023).
- 2022 “Caste Control: Towards a Frank Reckoning of Who Represents Hinduism in History,” Canopy Forum, March 9, 2022.
- 2020 “The Persian Text of the Doha Ramayana.” In *The Ramayana of Hamida Banu Begum, Queen Mother of Mughal India*, co-authored by Marika Sardar, John Seyller, and Audrey Truschke, 24-31. Cinisello Balsamo (Italy): Silvana Editoriale, 2020.
- 2020 “Hate Male.” *The Revealer*, July 2020, <https://therevealer.org/hate-male/>.
- 2019 “A Mughal Debate about Jain Asceticism” In *The Empires of the Near East and India: Source Studies of the Safavid, Ottoman, and Mughal Literate Communities*, edited by Hani Khafipour, 107–123. New York: Columbia University Press. Book was winner of the 2021 Jameson Award, American Historical Association.
- 2019 “Mughal Sanskrit Literature: The Book of War and the Treasury of Compassion.” In *The Empires of the Near East and India: Source Studies of the Safavid, Ottoman, and Mughal Literate Communities*, edited by Hani Khafipour, 450–477. New York: Columbia University Press. Book was winner of the 2021 Jameson Award, American Historical Association.
- 2016 “Translating the Solar Cosmology of Sacred Kingship.” *Medieval History Journal* 19.1: 136–141.
- 2015 “Indo-Persian Translations: A Disruptive Past.” *Seminar* 671 (July 2015).

## Encyclopedia Articles

- 2022 “Praśnottarāvalī,” *Masterpieces at the Jaipur Court*, edited by Giles Tillotson and Mrinalini Venkateswaran. Kolkata: Niyogi Books, 2022.

- 2020 “Jains and Muslims,” *Brill Encyclopedia of Jainism*, edited by Knut A. Jacobsen, John Cort, Paul Dundas, and, Kristi Wiley, 330–341. Leiden: Brill, 2020.
- 2012 “Jainism and Islam” articles, *Jainpedia.org*. Four articles on: Jainism and Islam, Jains and the Delhi Sultanate, Jains and the Mughals, Jains and Muslim Iconoclasm.  
<http://www.jainpedia.org/themes/places/jainism-and-islam.html>.

### **Book Reviews**

- 2021 “Recovering Hindustan and India,” Review of Manan Ahmed Asif, *The Loss of Hindustan: The Invention of India*. *Current History* 120.825: 162–64.
- 2018 “Mughal Lite,” Review of Ruby Lal, *Empress: The Astonishing Reign of Nur Jahan* and Parvati Sharma, *Jahangir : An Intimate Portrait of a Great Mughal*. *Open Magazine* (Dec. 3): 56–59, <http://www.openthemagazine.com/article/books/mughal-lite>
- 2018 “Parasite Found: The Nearly Forgotten University of Mughal Persian Poetry,” Review of Sunil Sharma, *Mughal Arcadia: Persian Literature in an Indian Court*. *The Wire*, Jan. 18, 2018. <https://thewire.in/214948/paradise-found-nearly-forgotten-universe-mughal-persian-poetry/>
- 2017 Review of Cynthia Talbot, *The Last Hindu Emperor: Prithviraj Chauhan and the Indian Past, 1200-2000*. *H-Asia*, February 2017, <https://networks.h-net.org/node/22055/reviews/167599/truschke-talbot-last-hindu-emperor-prithviraj-chauhan-and-indian-past>.
- 2016 Review of Deven M. Patel, *Text to Tradition: The Naiṣadhiyacarita and Literary Community in South Asia*. *International Journal of Hindu Studies* 20.1: 120–122.
- 2014 Review of A. Azfar Moin, *The Millennial Sovereign: Sacred Kingship and Sainthood in Islam*. *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 46.4: 809–811.
- 2013 Review of Munis D. Faruqi, *The Princes of the Mughal Empire, 1504–1719*. *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies* 76.3: 543–545.

### **Public-Facing Publications**

- 2023 Contributor to “Hindu nationalism: A roundup of reporting and resources.” *Religion Link*, May 2, 2023. <https://religionlink.com/source-guides/hindu-nationalism-a-roundup-of-reporting-and-resources/>
- 2022 “The Edison bulldozer scandal is a wake-up call for people to learn about Hindutva hate.” *New Jersey Star-Ledger*, September 2, 2022. <https://www.nj.com/opinion/2022/09/the-edison-bulldozer-scandal-is-a-wake-up-call-for-people-to-learn-about-hindutva-hate-opinion.html>

- 2021 “North America Has a Hindu Nationalist Problem, and Scholars are On the Frontlines of These Right-Wing Attacks” (co-authored). *Religion Dispatches*. October 19, 2021. <https://religiondispatches.org/north-america-has-a-hindu-nationalist-problem-and-scholars-are-on-the-frontlines-of-these-right-wing-attacks/>
- 2021 “What the myth of ‘love jihad’ tells us about the Hindu Right.” *Scroll.in*. September 27, 2021. <https://scroll.in/article/1006000/audrey-trushke-what-the-myth-of-love-jihad-tells-us-about-the-hindu-right>
- 2021 “Hindu Supremacists Threaten Academic Freedom in the United States.” *Academe* by AAUP. September 18, 2021. <https://academeblog.org/2021/09/18/hindu-supremacists-threaten-academic-freedom-in-the-united-states/>
- 2021 Hindutva’s Threat to Academic Freedom (co-authored piece). *Religion News Service* (republished in *Washington Post*). July 7, 2021. <https://religionnews.com/2021/07/07/hindutvas-threat-to-academic-freedom/>
- 2021 “The Hindu Right Chokes Academic Freedom.” *Academe* by AAUP. June 14, 2021. <https://academeblog.org/2021/06/14/the-hindu-right-chokes-academic-freedom/>
- 2021 “Sanskrit with a Persian Accent.” *Open Magazine*. January 22, 2021. <https://openthemagazine.com/essay/sanskrit-with-a-persian-accent/>
- 2020 “The Living Mahabharata.” *Aeon*. November 6, 2020. <https://aeon.co/essays/the-indian-epic-mahabharata-imparts-a-dark-nuanced-moral-vision>
- 2020 “Hindutva: la política nacionalista del odio que recorre india” (Hindutva: The Nationalist Politics of Hate Sweeping India). *CIDOB’s International Yearbook 2020*. July 2020. <http://anuariocidob.org/hindutva-la-politica-nacionalista-del-odio-que-recorre-india/>
- 2020 “Exclusion, affect, and violence in the many sites of Indian history.” *Indian Cultural Forum*. June 9, 2020. <https://indianculturalforum.in/2020/06/09/exclusion-violence-indian-history-constitution-truschke/>
- 2019 “The Ayodhya verdict is a cornerstone of the Hindu Rashtra.” *The Caravan Magazine*. December 5, 2019. <https://caravanmagazine.in/religion/ayodhya-babri-masjid-ram-mandir-supreme-court-audrey-truschke>
- 2019 “Rediscovering Forgotten Indo-Persian Works on Hindu-Muslim Encounters.” Coauthored with Fabrizio Speziale. *The Wire*. May 12, 2019. <https://thewire.in/history/india-persia-manuscripts-hindu-muslim>

- 2018 "Anti-Semitism of Hindu Nationalists." *India Abroad and Scroll*. November 2018. <https://scroll.in/article/901309/how-indias-hindu-nationalists-are-increasingly-using-anti-semitism-as-a-ready-tool-of-hate>
- 2018 "Silencing Scholarly Voices, One Event at a Time." *The Wire*. August 20, 2018. <https://thewire.in/communalism/silencing-scholarly-voices-audrey-truschke>
- 2018 "Silencing Sita: Why the Ramayana's Many Voices Provoke Outrage." *The Caravan Magazine*. June 1, 2018. <https://caravanmagazine.in/perspectives/sita-ramayana-many-voices-outrage>
- 2018 "The Many Criticisms of Rama and the 'Anger' of the Hindu Right." *The Wire*. April 25, 2018. <https://thewire.in/religion/the-many-criticisms-of-rama-and-the-anger-of-the-hindu-right>
- 2018 "Pakistan's Indian History." *Newsweek Pakistan*. March 12, 2018. <http://newsweekpakistan.com/pakistans-indian-history/>
- 2018 "Monumental Debate: The Taj Mahal." *BBC World Histories Magazine*. February/March 2018: 8–9.
- 2017 "Why Aurangzeb's Name should not be used as an Insult by Modi and Hindu Nationalists." *DailyO*. December 7, 2017. <https://www.dailyo.in/politics/aurangzeb-colonialism-narendra-modi-rahul-gandhi-taj-mahal-mughal-rulers/story/1/20991.html>
- 2017 "Taj and Bigotry." *The Indian Express*. October 24, 2017. <http://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/columns/taj-mahal-controversy-sangeet-som-blot-remark-bjp-yogi-adityanath-mughal-empire-4903344/>
- 2017 "India at 70: Why Hindu Nationalists are Afraid of Mughals." *DailyO*. August 14, 2017. <http://www.dailyo.in/politics/mughal-history-mughalsarai-hindu-right-rss-hindutva/story/1/18955.html>
- 2017 "Censoring Indian History." *History Today*. 67.8 (August 2017): 14–17.
- 2017 "Modern Politics in Premodern History: How national narratives have obscured the history of India's most controversial king." Stanford University Press Blog. May 24, 2017. <http://stanfordpress.typepad.com/blog/2017/05/modern-politics-in-premodern-history.html>. Republished on TheWire.in and Scroll.in.
- 2017 "A Much-Maligned Mughal." *Aeon*. April 5, 2017. <https://aeon.co/essays/the-great-aurangzeb-is-everybodys-least-favourite-mughal>

- 2016 “The Right’s Problem with History.” *DNA India*. October 26, 2016.  
<http://www.dnaindia.com/analysis/column-the-right-s-problem-with-history-2267464>
- 2016 “Imaginative Outsiders: Empowering Undergraduates to Analyze Religion.” In “Forum: Insiders, Outsiders, and Disclosure in the Undergraduate Classroom.” *Teaching Theology & Religion* 19.3: 282–286.
- 2016 “The Great Mughal Whitewash.” *India Today*. March 10, 2016.  
<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/the-great-mughal-whitewash-audrey-truschke-south-asian-history/1/616345.html>
- 2016 “It is High Time to Discard the Pernicious Myth of India’s Medieval Muslim ‘Villains’.” *The Wire*. January 9, 2016. <https://thewire.in/18919/high-time-discarded-pernicious-myth-indias-medieval-muslim-villains/>
- 2015 “What We Can Learn from India’s Medieval Past.” *The Wire*. September 20, 2015.  
<https://thewire.in/11106/what-we-can-learn-from-indias-medieval-past/>
- 2015 “Dissertation Embargoes and Publishing Fears” (a four-part series). *Dissertation Reviews*, April 2015. <http://dissertationreviews.org/dissertation-embargoes-and-publishing-fears/>

### Podcasts (Select)

- 2023 New Books interview on *The Language of History: Sanskrit Narratives of Indo-Muslim Rule*, March 2023, <https://newbooksnetwork.com/the-language-of-history-sanskrit-narratives-of-indo-muslim-rule>
- 2021 Sensing the Sacred, “Sanskrit, Indo-Muslim History, and Twitter,” July 2021, <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/sensing-the-sacred/id1559394794?i=1000530322277>
- 2021 Trending Globally, “Hindu Nationalism, Contested Histories, and Challenging the Fascism Blueprint,” July 2021, <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/hindu-nationalism-contested-histories-challenging-fascism/id1173544870?i=1000530302801>
- 2020 Brown History, “Aurangzeb,” January 2021, <https://www.brownhistorypodcast.com/episodes/ep-14-aurangzeb-w-dr-audrey-truschke>
- 2020 New Books, “Aurangzeb,” September 2020, <https://newbooksnetwork.com/audrey-truschke-aurangzeb-the-life-and-legacy-of-indias-most-controversial-king-standford-up-2017>

- 2019 Take Me to Coffee (mentorship podcast), September 2019,  
[https://fireside.fm/s/tsP7Mr2s+4LrqkWDw?fbclid=IwAR2OZpey8EaW-ZBMLajh-ibOKkPI-G\\_ZyPzqoUowaHtE0no-hYvR-ElxcQ4](https://fireside.fm/s/tsP7Mr2s+4LrqkWDw?fbclid=IwAR2OZpey8EaW-ZBMLajh-ibOKkPI-G_ZyPzqoUowaHtE0no-hYvR-ElxcQ4)
- 2019 Globely News's "Narendra Modi's Dark Vision of a New India," May 2019,  
<https://globelynews.com/south-asia/narendra-modis-dark-vision-of-a-new-india/>
- 2019 BBC's When Greeks Flew Kites (episode on Fake History), May 2019,  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m0004sjn>
- 2017 New Books interview on *Culture of Encounters: Sanskrit at the Mughal Court*, April 2017,  
<https://newbooksnetwork.com/audrey-truschke-culture-of-encounters-sanskrit-at-the-mughal-court-columbia-up-2016/>

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### Rutgers University (2016 – present)

21:510:285: History of Hinduism (Fall 2021, Spring 2021 as History of Hinduisms, 21:510:226)  
 21:510:280: History of South Asia 1: Ancient – 1500 (Fall 2016, Fall 2017, Fall 2020; Fall 2021)  
 21:510:281: History of South Asia 2: 1500 – present (Spring 2017, Spring 2020, Spring 2021)  
 21:510:397: Religion, Identity and Power in Modern India (Spring 2017)  
 21:510:490: Research Seminar – Muslim Lives (Spring 2020)  
 26:510:543 / 21:525:252: Archiving COVID-19 (Fall 2020)

### Stanford University (2013 – 2016)

RELIGST 81: Exploring Indian Religions (Fall 2014)  
 RELIGST 108/COMPLIT 148B: Indian Epics: Past and Present (Winter 2014; Fall 2015)  
 RELIGST 111/HISTORY 195X: Islam in India: Conflict and Accommodation (Winter 2014)  
 RELIGST 255/355 and HISTORY 297F: Religion and Power in the Making of Modern South Asia (Spring 2015; Spring 2016)

### Columbia University (2008)

AHUM V3399: Asian Humanities: Major Texts of India and the Middle East (Spring 2008, co-taught)

### Language Courses (2008 – 2013)

Elementary Sanskrit  
 University of Wisconsin-Madison (Summer 2011)  
 University of Cambridge (Lent Term 2013)

Intermediate Sanskrit

Columbia University (Fall 2008, Spring 2009); University of Cambridge (Lent Term 2013)

**INVITED TALKS (UNIVERSITIES)**

- 2023 “Narrating South Asian History: Sources, Authority, and Multiplicity,” Keynote Address at UCLA Center for India and South Asia’s Graduate Student Conference, April 28, 2023.
- 2022 “Early Modern South Asia, ca. 1500–1800 CE” At National Endowment for the Humanities Seminar Art and Composite Culture in South Asian History, for K–12 educators, San Diego, July 13, 2022.
- 2021 “Creating and Destroying Sacred Spaces in North India,” Speaker series on Sites of Memory in Asia: Remembrance and Redemption, Seattle Art Museum and Jackson School of International Studies at the University of Washington, April 3, 2021 (virtual talk)
- 2021 “Hindutva History and Other Modern Problems with the Indian Past,” Center for Contemporary South Asia, Brown University, March 5, 2021 (virtual talk; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RCyL2wb5B3I>)
- 2021 “History Before Us: Sanskrit Narratives of Indo-Muslim Rule,” Aligarh Muslim University and Ganga Jamuni Heritage, January 15, 2021 (virtual talk; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=932GjICQIVM>)
- 2020 “Empathy, Facts, and Violence in Narrating Indo-Muslim History,” Centre for Asian and Transcultural Studies and South Asia Institute, University of Heidelberg, November 16, 2020 (virtual talk; <https://youtu.be/3i8mtq1jmjY>).
- 2020 “Exclusion, Affect, and Violence in the Many Sites of Indian History,” Keynote Address at the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Global SouthAsia@NYU Conference, February 28, 2020.
- 2019 “Mughal Kingship as seen through Sanskrit Archives,” Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, Tokyo, Japan, Kingship and legitimacy of Islamic dynasties project, October 13, 2019.
- 2019 “Controversial History: Sanskrit Narratives of Indo-Muslim Rule, c. 1190 – 1721.” Department of Near Eastern Studies, Princeton University, Princeton, Brown Bag Lunch Series, September 23, 2019.
- 2019 “Practice Without a Genre: Sanskrit Literary Histories of Muslim-led Incursions and Rule.” University of Washington, Seattle, South Asia Center, May 30, 2019.
- 2019 “Courting Controversy: Toxic Masculinity, Social Media, and Mughal History.” Northwestern University, Chicago, History Department Women’s Group, May 15, 2019.

- 2019 Four lectures on Sanskrit literary histories of Indo-Muslim rule. Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris, France, March 27 and April 2, 4, and 9, 2019. Titles:  
Finding History: Sanskrit Narratives of Indo-Islamic Incursions and Rule  
New 'Hindu' Values in an Indo-Persian World  
Before Indo-Muslim: Indian Views of the Islamic Other and Persian speakers  
Beyond Indo-Persian: The Place of the *Rajataranginis* in Indian History Writing
- 2019 "Situating Sulh-i Kull in Mughal India." University of Texas, Austin, South Asia Seminar Series, February 15, 2019.
- 2018 "Found in Translation: Hamida Banu Begum's copy of the Akbari *Ramayan*." Columbia University's Seminar on Iranian Studies, December 5, 2018.
- 2018 "Affective History: Feeling and Thinking about the Past in the Indian Public Sphere." University of Notre Dame, Indiana, November 27, 2018.
- 2018 "Aurangzeb Alamgir: Justice, Power, and Hate in the Interpretation of Mughal History" and "Becoming Indian Kings: Sanskrit Literary Histories of Indo-Islamic Rule." Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, India, August 13 and 14, 2018.
- 2018 "Becoming Indian Kings: Sanskrit Literary Histories of Indo-Islamic Rule." Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi, India, August 11, 2018.
- 2018 "Difference that Mattered: Defining the Ghurid threat in North India circa 1192 CE." University Seminar on South Asia, Columbia University, New York, April 30, 2018.
- 2018 "Hated History: Islamic Rule in Early Modern India and the Politics of Rewriting the Past." Lafayette College, Easton, PA, March 28, 2018.
- 2017 "Aurangzeb: Writing about the most hated man in Indian history and becoming hated myself." University of Toronto, Toronto, September 15, 2017.
- 2016 "Exploring the Other, Inventing Oneself: Mughal Encounters with "Hindu" Thinkers, Texts, and Thought." Princeton University, Princeton, March 1, 2016.
- 2015 "Forging an Indian Empire: Mughal Engagements with Sanskrit Texts, Thinkers, and Thought." Indiana University, Bloomington, September 17, 2015.
- 2014 "A Persianate Empire? Sanskrit Literature and Literati at the Mughal court, 1560-1660." Center for South Asian Studies, University of California, Berkeley, February 12, 2014.
- 2013 "Charting Frontiers: Sanskrit Literary and Intellectual Cultures at the Mughal Court." School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, London, April 17, 23, and 26, 2013. Series of three talks with individual lecture titles:  
Sanskrit Textual Production for the Mughal Elite  
Rewriting the Social History of the Multicultural Mughal Court

## Imperial Indo-Persian Treatments of Sanskrit Stories and Knowledge Systems

- 2012 “Revolutionary Knowledge: Abū al-Fazl’s Persian Account of Sanskrit Knowledge Systems.” Mondes Iranien et Indien-UMR 7528. Paris, France, June 7, 2012.

### INVITED TALKS (OTHER)

- 2023 Public-oriented and School talks  
Cornell University First Amendment Law Clinic Bootcamp, January 21, 2023  
“India: Democracy to Authoritarian State,” Democratic Backsliding and the Rise of Authoritarianism Colloquium, Rutgers-Newark, January 25, 2023  
Speaker at Wednesday Workshop, Anthropology Department, Rutgers-New Brunswick, February 1, 2023  
Speaker at “Rise of Hindu Nationalism in the United States.” *Religions for Peace*, June 27, 2023
- 2022 Public-oriented and School talks  
“History in the Present,” University of California-Berkeley journalism course, February 2, 2022  
“Aurangzeb,” Godolphin and Latymer School, UK, March 3, 2022  
“Research and Writing History Book,” Instagram Live, June 13, 2022  
Panelist on “Modern Fascism from India to the US,” Progressive Caucus of California Democrats, June 13, 2022  
“Whose History? Uses and Abuses of Indian Pasts,” Friends of India-Texas, August 15, 2022  
Panelist on Briefing on India’s Political Prisoners who Protested the CAA, September 28, 2022
- 2021 Public-oriented and School talks  
“India’s Muslim Rulers,” Indian American Muslim Council, Webinar, Jan 24, 2021  
“Passion and Plurality” panelist, Bangalore International Centre and Kala Ghoda Arts Festival, February 10, 2021  
“Aurangzeb,” Aligarh Muslim University Alumni Assoc of Canada, Feb 20, 2021  
“Reflections of Teaching Hinduism and Hindu Students,” Sadhana: Coalition of Progressive Hindus, March 27, 2021  
“The Language of History,” India Speaks, Clubhouse, April 30, 2021  
“Rebuilding Hindutva History,” EU-India People’s Summit, May 4, 2021  
“Politics in the Past and the Present in Indian History,” Indian Diaspora Washington DC Metro, May 29, 2021  
“The Language of History: Sanskrit Narratives of Indo-Muslim Rule,” Australia India Muslim Forum, June 10, 2021  
“A Primer on Transnational Hindutva,” Countering Islamophobia Roundtable, Institute for Social Policy and Understanding, August 3, 2021  
In conversation with Rohit Chopra on *The Gita for a Global World*, Scroll.in, August 19, 2021

- “Cancelling History,” Chicago Coalition for Human Rights in India, Lombard, IL, August 28, 2021
- “Congressional Briefing: Hindu Supremacist Attacks on Academic Freedom,” September 8, 2021
- “Understanding Hindutva in North America,” Hindus for Human Rights – Chicago branch, September 30, 2021
- “Hindutva, Art History, and History,” Arts of South Asia NYU course, October 20, 2021
- “Mughal Decline: How, When and Why.” Darrick Wood School, United Kingdom, November 10, 2021
- “Hindu Nationalism And The Growing Threat To Academic Freedom,” Critical Conversations hosted by *The New Polis*, November 15, 2021
- 2020 Public-oriented talks on Aurangzeb  
Tamarind Society, Marlton, New Jersey, February 9, 2020  
Karwaan - The Heritage Exploration Initiative, Facebook Live, May 4, 2020  
IslamicCourses Virtual/Online ‘Muzlamic’ Series, August 9, 2020  
Tawarikh Khwani, September 2, 2020
- 2019 “Biographer’s Ball” and “What Did the Mughals Ever Do For Us?” panels. Jaipur Literature Festival, Jaipur, India, January 26, 2019.
- 2019 Public-oriented talks on Aurangzeb  
The Hindu Lit for Life, Chennai, India, January 12, 2019  
University of Texas-Austin, community outreach in Houston, February 16, 2019  
Indian American Muslim Council, Dallas, October 6, 2019
- 2018 Public and School talks on Aurangzeb  
Friends Seminary (High school), New York, October 20, 2018  
American Embassy School (High school), Delhi, India August 7, 2018  
India Habitat Centre, Delhi, India, August 9, 2018  
Lahore Literary Festival, Lahore, Pakistan, February 24-25, 2018
- 2017 “Culture of Encounters: Sanskrit at the Mughal Court.” Jaipur Literature Festival, Jaipur, India, January 20, 2017.

#### CONFERENCES

- 2023 “Irreverent, Unqualified, Conspirator: Life as a Public-Facing Scholar of Hinduism.” Boardman Symposium 2023 | The Scholar of Religion in the Public Sphere, University of Pennsylvania, February 10–11, 2023.
- 2022 “Corrupting History in Court,” Afterlives of Babri Masjid: 30 Years Later, South Asia Institute, Columbia University, New York, December 9, 2022.
- 2022 “Hindutva and the Rewriting of History, The Hindutva Turn, conference organized by SAMAJ, the Centre d’Etudes de l’Inde et de l’Asie du Sud at EHESS, and SciencesPo, Paris

- 2022 Panelist on “The Babri Masjid and Hindu Nationalism: A Thirty-Year Retrospective,” 50th Annual Conference of South Asia, Madison Wisconsin, October 22, 2022.
- 2022 “A History of India with Caste,” Provincializing Brahmins: New Directions in the Study of Caste in Premodern South Asia, full-day symposium at the 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on South Asia. Madison, Wisconsin, October 19, 2022.
- 2022 “Caste Control: Towards a Frank Reckoning of Who Represents Hinduism in History,” Religion and its Publics in South Asia conference, Center for the Study of Law and Religion, Emory University, February 24–25, 2022.
- 2022 “Hindutva and Historiography: Narrating South Asian Pasts in the US Academy,” panelist and organizer. American Historical Association’s annual meeting, Virtual component, February 23, 2022.
- 2022 “Hearing the Listeners: Jain Perspectives from India’s Islamic Past.” Conversation with Steven M. Vose and Audrey Truschke, moderated by Alka Patel. Feb 22, 2022.
- 2022 “India and Hindutva,” Lightning Talk at Academics Online: Digital Harassment Across Asias, Association of Asian Studies Digital Dialogues, February 16, 2022.
- 2021 “Hate Mail/Male: Negotiating Online Terror as Scholars and Activists in South Asian Religious Contexts,” panelist, American Academy of Religion Annual Conference. San Antonio, Texas, November 20-23, 2021.
- 2021 “Epic India: Mahabharata and Ramayana,” Towards a Better Understanding of Indian Society and Culture Conference, Columbia University’s South Asia Institute and Reinhardt University, November 19, 2021.
- 2021 Panelist on “Rewards and Risks of Public Scholarship,” Sacred Writes, August 18, 2021 (virtual event).
- 2021 “The Text of the Doha Ramayana,” part of “A Mughal Queen and her Manuscript: the Ramayana Made for Hamida Banu Begum,” Museum of Islamic Art in Doha, Qatar (online webinar), April 12, 2021.
- 2021 “Imagining Kashmir in the Mughal Empire and the Modi Sarkar,” The 17th century in India: Events, Society, Thought and Art Workshop, Institut für Iranistik der Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften, April 7–10, 2021.
- 2021 Panelist on “Applying for a Grant from the NEH (National Endowment for the Humanities),” Annual Association for Asian Studies Conference, (virtual event), March 21-26, 2021.

- 2020 “Hindi and Sanskrit in Mughal India: Commemorating Allison Busch,” Braj Camp, (virtual event), July 24, 2020.
- 2020 Panelist on “The Rise of Fascism in India,” hosted by The Concordia Forum (virtual event), June 7, 2020.
- 2020 “Displacing and Disciplining Muslims in India’s Burgeoning Hindu Rashtra,” Global Islamophobia in an Era of Populism Conference, Rutgers University-New Brunswick, March 12, 2020.
- 2019 “Intolerant Sulh-i Kul.” Workshop - Peace with All Religions (Sulh-i Kull): Indo Persian Political Theology and Cosmopolitanism, University of Texas, Austin, December 7, 2019.
- 2019 “Local Stories in Fourteenth-Century Gujarat and Fifteenth-Century Kashmir.” First Annual Jainism Summer School, Reading the Jain Prabandhas, Writing the History of Islamicate South Asia. University of Toronto-Mississauga, July 30, 2019.
- 2019 “Leveraging Spiritual Power in a Political World: How Jain Monks negotiated with Mughal elites.” American Historical Association’s 133<sup>rd</sup> annual meeting, Chicago, January 3-6, 2019.
- 2018 “‘Aurangzeb Raj’ and More: Defining India’s Muslim rulers in the Past and the Present.” 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on South Asia. Madison, Wisconsin, October 11-14, 2018.
- 2018 “The Shape of Cultures through Indian History- 2nd Millennium A.D.: Romila Thapar and Audrey Truschke in Conversation.” The Idea of Culture. Kolkata, India, August 3-5 , 2018.
- 2017 “Prithviraja’s Kingship on the Eve of Indo-Muslim Rule.” *Rāja-maṇḍala: In the Kings’ Circle — Court Society as Paradigm in India*. Paris, France, June 8-9, 2017.
- 2017 “Difference that Mattered: Defining the Ghurid threat to North India.” A History of Difference: Piety and Space in Early Modern West Asia. Institute for Religion, Culture, and Public Life at Columbia University. New York, May 4-5, 2017.
- 2017 “The Mongol Kshatriya: Mahimasahi’s devotion to Hammira in the *Hammiramahakavya*.” Annual Association for Asian Studies Conference. Toronto, March 16-19, 2017.
- 2016 “Translating Indian History: Mughal Genre Expectations of the Sanskrit Epics.” The Fourth Perso-Indica Conference. Translation and the languages of Islam: Indo-Persian tarjuma in a comparative perspective. Paris, France, December 8-9, 2016.
- 2016 “Lauding Prithviraja at the Dawn of Indo-Islamic rule.” American Academy of Religion Annual Conference. San Antonio, Texas, November 19-22, 2016.

- 2016 “Thinking About Indo-Islamic Rule in Sanskrit.” India’s Politics in Its Vernaculars. University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, November 11-12, 2016.
- 2016 “Telling the Story: The Historiography of Jain Communities in Mughal India.” 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on South Asia. Madison, Wisconsin, October 20-23, 2016.
- 2016 “Tradition and the Other: Writing about Indo-Islamic Rule in the Prithvirajavijaya.” Patterns of Literary Composition in a Multilingual World, Preconference at 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on South Asia. Madison, Wisconsin, October 20, 2016.
- 2016 “Aurangzeb Alamgir’s Vision of Justice.” Annual Association for Asian Studies Conference. Seattle, March 31-April 1, 2016.  
\*Organized panel “Conflict and Civility: Theorizing Self and Other in Mughal India”
- 2016 “Arenas of Kingship: Sanskrit and Hindi in the Multilingual Mughal Court.” The Frontiers of Persian Learning: Testing the Limits of a Eurasian Lingua Franca, 1600-1900, Conference 2: The Social Frontiers of Persian Learning. University of California, Los Angeles, February 5, 2016.
- 2015 “The Power of the Sword in Narrating Muslim and Buddhist Interactions.” Buddhist and Muslim Encounters in Premodern South Asia. University of Lausanne, Switzerland, October 12-13, 2015.
- 2015 “History Enshrined: Venerating Kavindracharya’s Negotiations with the Mughals in Sanskrit Praise Poetry.” Annual Association for Asian Studies Conference. Chicago, March 26-29, 2015.  
\*Organized panel “Languages of Power, Idioms of Devotion: Intersections of the Political and the Religious in Early Modern India”
- 2014 “Serving the Faithful: Building Hindu and Jain Temples under Mughal Patronage.” American Academy of Religion Annual Conference. San Diego, November 22-25, 2014.
- 2014 “In the Eye of the Beholder: The Multiple Resonances of Akbar’s Sun Worship.” 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference on South Asia. Madison, Wisconsin, October 20-23, 2014.  
\*Organized panel “Multivalent Ideas, Texts, and Practices in Early Modern India”
- 2013 “Sounds of Empire: Hearing Sanskrit in Early Modern Indo-Persian Courts.” Conference on Inter-Asian Connections IV, The Sounds and Scripts of Languages in Motion Workshop. Istanbul, Turkey, October 2-5, 2013.
- 2013 “Lost in Translation: Colonial Attempts to Understand the Persian Mahabharata.” CHAM: Colonial (Mis)understandings: Portugal and Europe in Global Perspective, 1450-1900. Lisbon, Portugal, July 17-20, 2013.

\*Organized panel “Text or Image?: Western Receptions of Indo-Persian Manuscripts”

- 2013 “Contested History: Brahmanical Memories of the Relations with the Mughals.” Oxford Early Modern South Asia Workshop: Discipline, sect, lineage and community: Scholar-intellectuals in India, c. 1500-1800. Oxford, United Kingdom, May 31-June 1, 2013.
- 2013 “Commemorating Cross-Cultural Relations in Sanskrit Praise Poetry.” British Association for South Asian Studies Annual Conference. Leeds, United Kingdom, April 3-5, 2013.  
\*Organized panel “Historical Silences: Reading Between the Lines in Early Modern India”
- 2012 “Negotiating Religious Difference in the Mughal World: Jain Defenses Against the Charge of Atheism.” American Academy of Religion Annual Conference. Chicago, November 17-20, 2012.
- 2012 “European Experiences and Interpretations of Access at Indian Courts.” The Key to Power? The Culture of Access in Early Modern Courts, 1400-1700. Antwerp, November 8-9, 2012.
- 2012 “Valuable Texts: A Case Study of Akbar’s Persian Ramayana.” Histories of Material Life in South Asia, 1500-1900. Cambridge, England, September 27, 2012.
- 2012 “Contested Translation in Akbar’s Persian Ramayana.” 1<sup>st</sup> Perso-Indica Conference: Translating and Writing Indic Learning in Persian. Paris, France, May 30-31, 2012.
- 2012 “Regional Perceptions: Writing to the Mughal Court in Sanskrit.” Cosmopolitanism in the Early Modern World: The Case of South Asia (16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> centuries). Paris, France, May 24-25, 2012.
- 2012 “The Power of Patronage: Mughal Relations with Sanskrit Intellectuals.” Annual Association for Asian Studies Conference. Toronto, Canada, March 15-18, 2012.  
\*Organized panel “Indo-Persian Power: Practice and Dynamics in the Mughal Empire”
- 2011 “Multicultural Mughals: Jain Experiences at Akbar’s Court.” 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on South Asia. Madison, Wisconsin, October 20-23, 2011.  
\*Organized panel “Outsider Perspectives on Mughal Power”
- 2011 “Mughal India: A Case Study in the Power of Empire.” Empires: Comparing the Semantics Behind Concept, Metaphor and Ideology, An Interdisciplinary Conference and Research Training Course, in connection with CONCEPTA. Central European University Budapest, October 13-15, 2011.

- 2011 “Islamic Translation? The Treatment of Religion in Persian Translations of the Indian Epics.” Middle East History and Theory Conference. University of Chicago, Chicago, IL, May 13–14, 2011.
- 2011 “Setting the Record Wrong: A Jain Vision of Mughal Conquests.” Association for Asian Studies and International Convention of Asian Scholars Joint Conference. Honolulu, HI, March 31–April 3, 2011.  
\*Organized panel “Old Voices, New Visions: Reinterpreting Jain Perspectives in Early Modern India”
- 2010 “Cosmopolitan Encounters.” International Winter School: Textual Practices Beyond Europe 1500–1900. American University, Cairo, Egypt, December 5–16, 2010.
- 2010 “A King like Manu: Political Advice to Akbar in the *Razmnamah*.” 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on South Asia. Madison, Wisconsin, October 14–17, 2010.  
\*Organized panel “Mughal Translations: Sanskrit and Persian Literary Encounters”
- 2010 “That Black Book: Translating the Ramayana in Akbar’s Court.” Third International Ramayana Conference. Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, Illinois, September 18–19, 2010.
- 2010 “Praises and Petitions: Sanskrit Texts Written for the Mughal Court.” Through a Pre-Modern Prism: Intertextuality in Mughal Art, History and Literature Seminar. Jawaharlal Nehru University Institute of Advanced Study, Delhi, India, April 17, 2010.
- 2010 “The Mughal Book of War: A Persian Translation of the Sanskrit *Mahābhārata*.” National Seminar on Composite Culture: Reflections in Literature, Art and Architecture of Medieval India. Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh, India, April 6–8, 2010.
- 2009 “Akbar as Shah or Raja? Reimaginings of Encounters with the Mughal Court in Jaina Sanskrit Literature.” 14<sup>th</sup> World Sanskrit Conference. Kyoto, Japan, September 1–5, 2009.
- 2009 “Mapping the Mughals in Sanskrit Literary Culture: Cross-Cosmopolitan Encounters in Siddhicandra’s *Bhanucandraganicarita*.” South Asia Graduate Student Conference. University of Chicago, Chicago, April 17–18, 2009.
- 2008 Panel Participant: “Medieval India” at Religion, Conflict and Accommodation Conference. Columbia University, New York, November 8, 2008.
- 2008 “Imperial Knowledge: Mughal Reflections on the translation of the *Mahābhārata*.” 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on South Asia. Madison, Wisconsin, October 16–19, 2008.

- 2008 “The Power of Translation: Reflections on Akbar’s Sanskrit-Persian Translation Project.” Sanskrit-Persian Conference, part of the Seventh Biennial Conference on Iranian Studies. Toronto, Canada, July 31-August 3, 2008.
- 2008 “The Mughal Book of War: A Persian Translation of the Sanskrit Mahabharata.” Persian Literature in Multilingual India Conference. Cambridge, England, June 16-18, 2008.
- 2008 “Late 16<sup>th</sup> Century Sanskrit-Persian Translations: The *Mahābhārata* Becomes the Book of War.” 218<sup>th</sup> American Oriental Society Meeting. Chicago, IL, March 14-17, 2008.

#### HOME INSTITUTION TALKS

- 2022 “Hindu Supremacists in a White World,” part of Sawyer Mellon series Natives and Nativists, Migrants and Immigrants in an American City, Rutgers-Newark, October 27, 2022.
- 2015 “Invoking History to Confront Hindu-Muslim Tensions in India.” The Bechtel International Center, Stanford University, California, November 19, 2015
- 2014 “Beyond Conventions: Praising Cross-Cultural Interactions with the Mughals in Sanskrit.” Center for South Asia, Stanford University, California, May 20, 2014.
- 2013 “Redefining Islamicate Knowledge: Abu al-Fazl’s Persian Account of Indian Learning.” Abbasi Program in Islamic Studies. Stanford University, California, November 21, 2013.
- 2012 “Dangerous Debates: Jain Responses to Mughal Theological Challenges.” South Asian Seminar, University of Cambridge. Cambridge, England, October 31, 2012.

#### CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION

- 2015 Sanskrit in Persianate India. Preconference at the 44th Annual Conference on South Asia in Madison, Wisconsin, <https://sanskritinpersianateindia.wordpress.com>. October 22, 2015.
- 2015 Polyvocal Hindustan: Literatures, Languages, and Publics. Stanford University, March 6-7, 2015.

#### ACADEMIC PROJECTS

- 2021 – Contributor to Hindutva Harassment Field Manual, <https://www.hindutvaharassmentfieldmanual.org/>
- 2013 – 2014 External Collaborator for Sanskrit Manuscripts Project, Cambridge, UK, <https://www.ames.cam.ac.uk/research/project/sanskrit-manuscripts-project>
- 2012 – Editor and Contributor for *Perso-Indica: A Critical Survey of Persian Works on Indian Learned Traditions*, <http://www.perso-indica.net/>

2010 – 2017 Sanskrit and Persian Literary Cultures Online,  
<https://www.audreytruschke.com/basement-sanskrit-and-persian-literary-cultures-online>

#### SELECT ACADEMIC AND PUBLIC SERVICE

2021 – Board Member for New Jersey Council for the Humanities  
2021 – Founding Member of South Asia Scholar Activist Collective  
2020 – Advisory Board member for SAHI: Students Against Hindutva Ideology  
2017 – Advisory Board member for the Journal of South Asian Intellectual History  
2017, 2020 – Asian Studies Minor Advisor, Federated Department of History, Rutgers-Newark  
2016 – 2017 Co-organizer for Federated Department of History Teach-Ins, Rutgers-Newark.  
2015 – 2016 Organizer of speaker series, The Presence of the Past, Center for South Asia, Stanford University  
2015 – 2016 Editor for Advisor series on Dissertation Reviews  
2015 – 2019 Steering Committee Member for Jain Studies Group, American Academy of Religion  
2012 – 2019 INDOLOGY Governing Committee Member, <http://indology.info/>  
2008 – 2009 Founder and Coordinator, South Asia Graduate Student Forum, Columbia University

#### LANGUAGES

Sanskrit, reading fluency  
Persian, reading fluency  
Hindi, Urdu, and Braj Bhasha, reading competency

#### OTHER HONORS

##### Hindu Nationalist Attacks

2023 Youngest of ten scholars named as enemies of far-right Hindu nationalism in plagiarist Rajiv Malhotra's attack on academics in *Ten Heads of Ravana*.  
2021 Scholar [most attacked](#) in connection with the "Dismantling Global Hindutva" Conference, which I neither organized nor spoke at.  
2021 Sued by the Hindu American Foundation, in an attempt to frustrate my research project on the US-based Hindu Right (2020–21); lawsuit was dismissed on multiple grounds in December 2022. [Results of the research project](#).  
2018 Talk in Hyderabad protested by the Bajrang Dal and subsequently cancelled.