

Tariq Thachil

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EDUCATION

Cornell University (2004-Present)

Ithaca, New York

PhD Candidate (Expected August 2009).

Degree Awarded: Master of Arts, August 2007.
Major Field: Comparative Politics (*Distinction*)
Minor Field: Political Economy (*High Pass*)

DISSERTATION ABSTRACT:

Dissertation Title: *Organizing Religious Nationalism: An Analysis of Poor People's Hindu Nationalism in India.*

How do religious parties with historically elite support bases win the mass support required to succeed in democratic politics? This dissertation examines why the world's largest such party, the upper-caste, Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has experienced variable success in wooing poor Hindu populations across India. Briefly, my research demonstrates that neither conventional clientelist techniques used by elite parties, nor strategies of ideological polarization favored by religious parties, explain the BJP's pattern of success with poor Hindus. Instead the party has relied on the efforts of its 'social service' organizational affiliates in the broader Hindu nationalist movement. The dissertation articulates and tests several hypotheses about the efficacy of this organizational approach in forging party-voter linkages at the national, state, district, and individual level, employing a multi-level research design including a range of statistical and qualitative techniques of analysis. In doing so, the dissertation utilizes national and author-conducted local survey data, extensive interviews, and close observation of Hindu nationalist recruitment techniques collected over thirteen months of fieldwork.

Princeton University (2003-2004)

Princeton, New Jersey

Enrolled in M.A./PhD program in Politics .

Stanford University (1999-2003)

Stanford, California

Degree Awarded: Bachelor of Arts
Major Field: Economics
Minor Field: Political Science.

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

University of Michigan (July 2007)

Ann Arbor, Michigan

Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research.
Completed coursework in intermediate regression analysis, maximum likelihood estimation, and statistical computing in STATA and R.

PUBLICATIONS:

Journal Articles:

Tariq Thachil, "Neoliberalism's Two Faces in Asia: Globalization, Educational Policies, and Religious Schooling in India, Pakistan and Malaysia" (forthcoming) *Comparative Politics*, July 2009.

Tariq Thachil and Ronald Herring, "Poor Choices: dealignment, development and Dalit/Adivasi voting patterns in Indian states" *Contemporary South Asia*, 16(4) December 2008, pp. 441-64.

Tariq Thachil, "The BJP's Attempts at Social Expansion", *Economic and Political Weekly*, (accepted).

General:

Tariq Thachil, "Hindutva, Racism and Diasporic Guilt", *Cornell South Asia Newsletter*, Spring 2008.

Tariq Thachil, "It's a Wild, Wild Veld" *Pioneer* (New Delhi), April 27, 1997.

WORKING PAPERS:

Tariq Thachil and Emmanuel Teitelbaum, "Economic Voting in Indian States" (data collection)

Tariq Thachil, "Symbiotic Saffronization: The Diasporic Funding of the Hindu Right" (draft)

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Postdoctoral Fellowship, MacMillan Center for International Affairs, Yale University
2009-2010

Summer Doctoral Institute, Center for International Business and Research, George Washington University (collaboration with Emmanuel Teitelbaum)
2009-2010

Andrew Mellon Dissertation Fellowship, Cornell University (declined)	2009-2010
Dissertation Research Grant, Graduate School, Cornell University	2008-2009
International Dissertation Research Fellowship, Social Science Research Council	2007-2008
Walter Lafeber Grant for Collaborative Research, Cornell University	2008-2009 2007-2008 2006-2007
Graduate School, Conference Grant, Cornell University	2008-2009 2006-2007
Einaudi Center International Research Grant, Cornell University	2006-2007
Sage Fellowship, Cornell University	2004-2005
Graduate University Fellowship, Princeton University	2003-2004
University Summer Prize, Princeton University	2003-2004
Bobst Prize for the Study of Peace and Justice, Princeton University	2003-2004
Century Fellowship, University of Chicago (declined)	2003-2004

PROSPECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS

Introduction to Comparative Politics (Graduate and Undergraduate)
 Political Economy of Development (Graduate and Undergraduate)
 Politics of South Asia (Graduate and Undergraduate)
 Comparative Methods and Research Design (Graduate)
 Political Parties and Representation (Graduate)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Yale University, Instructor	2009-2010
Development in South Asia (Fall)	
Social Movements in India (Spring)	

Cornell University, Teaching Assistant	2005-Present
Politics of the Middle East	2008-2009
Prisons	2008-2009 2006-2007 2005-2006
Introduction to Comparative Politics	2006-2007 2005-2006
<i>Awarded the Walter Lafeber Prize for Teaching Excellence, Cornell University</i>	2006-2007
Cumulative Rating for 5 classes (11 sections, 122 evaluations): 4.75/5	

INVITED TALKS AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- “Organizing Nationalism: Surveying the Rise of Poor People’s Hindu Nationalism”
Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois
April 2-5, 2009
- “The Saffron Wave Meets the Silent Revolution”
School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, London, United Kingdom
March 19th, 2009
- “Saffron Forests: The BJP’s Efforts with ‘Tribals’ in Central India”
Cornell South Asia Program, Ithaca, New York
February 2nd, 2009
Annual Conference for South Asia, University of Wisconsin, Madison
October 18th, 2008
- “Domestic Responses to the Mumbai Blasts”
Cornell Peace Studies Program, Ithaca, New York
January 29th, 2009
- “Notes from the Field”
Social Science Research Council Workshop, Albuquerque, New Mexico.
September 28th, 2008
- “Poor Choices: SC and ST Voting Patterns in Indian Elections”
European Social Science History Conference (ESSHC) University of Lisbon, Portugal (with Ronald Herring)
February 2nd, 2008
British Association of South Asian Studies Conference, St. Catherine’s College, Cambridge University.
March 28th-30th, 2007

‘The Politics of Educational Spending in Asia’,
 Department of Government Annual Graduate Conference, Cornell University
April 24th, 2007

‘Free Markets and Other Fundamentalisms: The Privatization of Education in India
 and Pakistan’
 Conference on Religious and Social Fragmentation in South Asia, invited
 presentation, Cornell University **October 17th, 2005**

‘Bridging the Gap: An Analysis of Indian Education’
 Annual Graduate Student Conference at Cornell University
October 16th, 2004

WORK EXPERIENCE

Center for Study of Developing Society, New Delhi , Visiting Researcher	2007-2008
Pratham Education Initiative, New Delhi, Researcher	2001-2002
Nirantar for Women, New Delhi and Uttar Pradesh, Researcher	2002
Stanford Residential Education, Stanford, CA, Writing Tutor	2001-2002

LANGUAGE AND RESEARCH SKILLS

Hindi: Fluent reading, writing and speaking skills.
 Computer programs: Comfortable with SPSS, STATA, and R.

RESEARCH AND PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:

Cornell South Asia Center , Graduate Committee Organizer	2004-2008
American Political Science Association, Member	2005-2008

REFERENCES:

Ronald Herring
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 313 White Hall
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Kenneth Roberts
 Professor
 Department of Government
 203 White Hall
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Tina Slater
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212 White Hall
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