

## PRERNA SINGH

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### CONTACT INFORMATION

Watson Institute of International  
and Public Affairs  
111 Thayer St.  
Providence, RI 02912

+1 (401)863-6350  
[prerna\\_singh@brown.edu](mailto:prerna_singh@brown.edu)  
[www.prenasingh.net](http://www.prenasingh.net)

## APPOINTMENTS

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### **Brown University (2018-)**

Mahatma Gandhi Associate Professor of Political Science and International Studies,  
Department of Political Science

Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs

Secondary appointments

- Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences, School of Public Health
- Department of Sociology
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Director, Graduate Program in Development (2022-)

Faculty associate and member of Steering Committee, Center for Contemporary South  
Asia (2014-)

Mahatma Gandhi Assistant Professor of Political Science and International Studies  
(2014-2018)

### **American Political Science Association (APSA), Comparative Politics section**

President (2021-2023)

Vice-President (2019-2021)

### **Canadian Institute for Advanced Research (CIFAR)**

- Boundaries, Membership, and Belonging Program (2018-), Fellow
- Successful Societies Program (2015-2019), Fellow

Brown-Harvard-MIT Seminar on South Asian Politics

Co-convenor (2009-)

### **Harvard Yenching Institute**

Faculty Advisory Committee, Member (2019-)

Boston University, Pardee School of Global Studies.

Steering Committee, Member (2021-)

## Harvard University (2010-2014)

- Assistant Professor, Department of Government (2010-2014)
- Assistant Professor (by courtesy), Department of South Asian Studies (2012-2014)

## EDUCATION

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Princeton University, Ph.D., Department of Politics, 2010.

Cambridge University, U.K. (2000-2002), M.A and 2<sup>nd</sup> B.A in Social and Political Sciences

St. Stephen's College, Delhi University, India (1997-2000), B.A (Honours) in Economics

## FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, AND GRANTS

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- 2022-
  - Canadian Institute for Advanced Research (CIFAR), Boundaries, Membership, and Belonging, Associate Fellow
- 2021
  - Stanford University, Center for Advanced Study of Behavioral Sciences Fellowship
  - Social Sciences Research Council, COVID-19 Rapid Response Grants
- 2020
  - Andrew Carnegie Fellowship
- 2018
  - Berlin Prize, American Academy of Arts and Sciences
  - Brown University Writing Across the Curriculum Prize
- 2016
  - Best Article Prize, *Comparative Political Studies*
  - Harvard Academy Scholars Fellowship, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs
  - Brown University Office of Global Engagement Research Grant (\$8000)
  - India Initiative Research Grant (with Rose McDermott) (\$10000)
  - Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs Collaboration Grant (with Rose McDermott) (\$5000)
- 2015
  - Barrington Moore Prize, Section on Comparative Historical Sociology, American Sociological Association
  - Leubbert Prize, Section on Comparative Politics, American Political Science Association
  - Mary Parker Follett Prize, Section on Politics and History, American Political Science Association
  - Outstanding Faculty Article, Sociology of Development Section, American Sociological Association

- 2013
  - Harvard Academy Scholars Fellowship, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs
  - Harvard University Asia Center Research Grant (\$25000)
- 2012
  - Harvard University South Asia initiative Research Grant (\$15000)
  - Dean's Research Award (\$30000)
- 2011
  - Harvard University Junior Faculty Research Award (\$30000)
- 2010
  - Research Enabling Grant (\$40000)
  - Juan Linz Prize, Honorable Mention, Section on Comparative Democratization, American Political Science Association
- 2009
  - University of Pennsylvania Center for Advanced Study of India Pre-Doctoral Research Fellow
- 2008
  - Princeton University Center for Human Values Graduate Prize Fellowship
- 2007
  - Charlotte S. Elizabeth Procter Honorific Fellowship, Graduate School
  - American Institute of Indian Studies, Chicago IL, Priscilla M. Boughton-Stanley A. Kochanek Graduate Fellowship in India Studies
- 2006
  - UNICEF Knowledge Community on Children in India Fellowship, UNICEF, New Delhi (declined)
- 2002
  - Cambridge University, U.K. University Roll of Honour
  - Cambridge Commonwealth Trust Scholarship, Trinity College, Cambridge, U.K.
  - Aga Khan Foundation Scholarship, Geneva, Switzerland
- 2001
  - New Hall College, Cambridge University, U,K. Fulford Scholarship
  - J.N. Tata Foundation Scholarship, Mumbai, India
  - Sahu Jain Trust Scholarship, New Delhi, India
- 1997
  - National Talent Search Examination (NTSE) Fellowship, National Council of Education, Research and Training (NCERT), India

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Books

[How Solidarity works for Welfare: Subnationalism and Social Development in India](#), Cambridge University Press, Studies in Comparative Politics (2015).

- [Woodrow Wilson prize](#) for the best book published in politics and international relations in 2015 by the American Political Science Association, Winner.
- [Barrington Moore prize](#) for the best book published in comparative historical sociology in 2015 by the American Sociological Association, Winner.
- [Best books of 2016](#), Indian Express.

REVIEWS | [Journal of Development Studies](#), [Journal of Social Policy](#), [Policy Options Politiques](#), [LSE Review of Books](#), [Interventions](#), [Nationalities Papers](#), [Studies in Indian Politics](#), [Nationalism and Ethnic Politics](#), [Millennial Asia](#), [Commonwealth & Comparative Politics](#), [Czech Sociological Review](#), [Asian Studies](#).

MEDIA | [Indian Express](#), [The Hindu](#), [The Economic Times](#), [Hindustan Times](#), [The Wire 1](#), [The Wire 2](#), [The Wire 3](#), [India Ink](#), [Mint 1](#), [Mint 2](#), Royal Society of Canada, [New Books Networks](#), [Epicenter](#), [Mainstream Weekly](#), [Forbes India](#), [DNA India](#), Dawn (Pakistan).

Edited volumes

[‘Special Issue: Ethnic Diversity and Public Goods Provision’](#). Co-edited with Matthias vom Hau. *Comparative Political Studies*, September 2016; 49 (10) and September 2016; 49 (11).

[Handbook of Indian Politics](#), Routledge (2013). Co-edited with Atul Kohli.

## Articles

### *Peer-reviewed articles*

[Political Science and Global Health Policy-making](#), *Lancet*. Volume 399, Issue 10341, May 2022. Co-authored with Ed Gomez, Jeremy Shiffman and Lorena Barberia.

[How Exclusionary Nationalism has made the World Socially Sicker from Covid-19](#). *Nationalities Papers*, Volume 50, Issue 1: Special Issue on Pandemic Nationalism, January 2022, pp. 104 – 117.

[Populism, Nationalism and Populist Nationalism](#). Special issue of *Populism and Nationalism*. *Studies in Comparative International Development (SCID)*. Volume 56, Issue 2, June 2021.

[‘The Theoretical Potential of the Within-Nation Comparison: How Subnational Analyses Can Enrich Our Understandings of the National Welfare State’](#). *American Behavioral Scientist*, Volume 61, Issue 8, July 2017.

[‘Census Enumeration and Group Conflict: A Global Analysis of the Consequences of Counting’](#). *World Politics*. Volume 69, Issue 1, January 2017. Co-authored with Evan Lieberman.

[‘Ethnicity in Time: Politics, History, and the Relationship between Ethnic Diversity and Public Goods Provision’](#). *Comparative Political Studies*, September 2016; 49 (10). Co-authored with Matthias vom Hau.

- [Prize for the best article published in Comparative Political Studies in 2016](#).
- Media: <https://www.browndailyherald.com/2017/10/10/singh-awarded-paper-ethnic-diversity/>

'Subnationalism and Social Development: A Comparative Analysis of Indian States'. *World Politics*, Vol. 67, No. 3, July 2015.

- Gregory M. Luebbert prize for the best article published in *Comparative Politics* in 2014 and 2015 by the American Political Science Association, Winner.
- Mary Parker Follett prize for the best article published in *Politics and History* in 2015 by the American Political Science Association, Winner.
- Outstanding faculty article prize in the *Sociology of Development* in 2015 by the American Sociological Association, Winner.

'The Ties that Bind: National Identity Salience and Pro-Social Behavior towards the Ethnic 'other''. *Comparative Political Studies*. March 2015 48: 267-300. Co-authored with Volha Charnysh and Christopher Lucas.

'Conceptualizing and Measuring Ethnic Politics: An Institutional Complement to Demographic, Behavioral and Cognitive Approaches'. *Studies in Comparative International Development*. Volume 47, Number 3 (2012), 255-286. Co-authored with Evan Lieberman.

'The Institutional Origins of Ethnic Violence'. *Comparative Politics*. Volume 45, Number 1 (2012), pp. 1-24. Co-authored with Evan Lieberman.

'We-ness and Welfare: A Longitudinal Analysis of Social Development in Kerala, India'. *World Development*, Volume 39, Issue 2 (2011).

#### *Other scholarly articles*

'Development' in *Cambridge Companion to Indian Politics and Society* (Edited by Manali Desai and Indrajit Roy; forthcoming in 2024).

Book review of The Power of Place: Contentious Politics in Twentieth-Century Shanghai and Bombay by Mark Frazier. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2019.

#### *Perspectives on Politics*

'COVID-19 And Group Relations: Q & A'. *Newsletter of the Organized Section in Comparative Politics of the American Political Science Association* (2020).

'The Case for Reclaiming Indian Nationalism'. *Seminar*. India 2019: A Symposium on the Year that Was.

'Nationalism and the Provision of Public Goods'. *The Annals of Comparative Democratization*. Volume 17, Issue 3 (2019).

'Studying the Subnational Welfare State in India' in *Inside Countries*. Edited by Agustina Giraudy, Eduardo Mancada and Richard Snyder, Cambridge University Press, 2019).

'Ethnicity, State Capacity, and Development: Reconsidering Causal Connections' in *The Politics of Inclusive Development: Interrogating the Evidence*. Edited by Sam

Hickey, Kunal Sen, and Badru Bukenya. Oxford University Press (2014). Co-authored with Matthias vom Hau. Names are listed alphabetically. Both authors contributed equally.

'Introduction' in *Handbook of Indian Politics*. Edited by Atul Kohli and Prerna Singh. Routledge (2013). Co-authored with Atul Kohli. Names are listed alphabetically. Both authors contributed equally.

'Public Goods Provision in India' in *Handbook of Indian Politics*. Edited by Atul Kohli and Prerna Singh. Routledge (2013).

'[Revisiting the Relationship between Ethnic Diversity and Public Goods Provision](#)'. Co-authored with Matthias vom Hau. *Newsletter of the Organized Section in Comparative Politics of the American Political Science Association* (2017).

'Measuring State Institutionalization of Ethnic Categories across Time and Space' [co-authored with Evan Lieberman]. *Newsletter of the American Political Science Association Organized Section for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research* (2009).

## **In progress**

### *Articles*

Moral Vaccination (invited for submission to *Lancet*, Art of Medicine)

The Politics of Contagion: The Study of Infectious Disease in Political Science (invited for submission to *Annual Review of Political Science*)

How Nationalism can prevent the Diversity Deficit: State institutions, Religious Fractionalization, and Development (with Daniel Schulte)

The Nation, Its Own and Others: How Inclusive Nationalism shapes responses to COVID-19 violations across ethnic groups in India (with Sebastian Lucek and Saurabh Pant)

### *Book manuscripts*

National Solidarities and Strong States: When and Why Ethnic Diversity is not a Curse for Development and Democracy (co-authored with Matthias vom Hau). Under contract with Cambridge University Press, Elements in Politics of Development

Moral Vaccination: States, Societies and the Control of Contagion in China and India. Invited for submission by Cambridge University Press and Princeton University Press

## Popular writing

[Subnational good for nation: Regional parties once checked Congress, now they check BJP.](#) Times of India. 11 January 2022.

[India has become an 'electoral autocracy.' Its covid-19 catastrophe is no surprise.](#) The Washington Post, The Monkey Cage blog. July 5 2021.

[How anti-democratic politics make India's COVID calamity worse.](#) LA Times, 8 May 2021  
['How Solidarity is Controlling Contagion in Kerala'.](#) University of Pennsylvania Center for the Advanced Study of India, June 8, 2020.

['In India, protesters are singing the national anthem and waving the national flag. Here's why that matters'.](#) The Washington Post, The Monkey Cage blog. January 20, 2020.

['Flag belongs to the left, too'.](#) The Providence Journal, November 14, 2019.

['Nationalism can have its good points. Really'.](#) The Washington Post, The Monkey Cage blog. January 26, 2018.

## PUBLIC AND SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS

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Keynote addresses

Sociology of Development conference, American Sociological Association, August 2021.

India's International Movement to Unite Nations (I.I.M.U.N.), September 2021  
University of Manchester. ['The Politics of Managing Covid-19 in China and India: a Comparison'](#), June 2020.

Effective States and Inclusive Development (ESID) conference on ['The Politics of Growth and Human Development'](#), University of Manchester, September 2019.

World Bank Human Development Forum, Washington D.C., June 2019.

Institute for Advanced Study in Toulouse (IAST), February 2019.

[Annual meeting of the Nordic Sociological Association](#), August 2018.

Zentrum für interdisziplinäre Forschung (ZIF), Conference on Understanding Southern Welfare, Bielefeld, Germany, December 2017.

## Plenary panels

American Political Science Association, Washington D.C., September 2019. Populism and Nationalism.

American Sociological Association, Montreal, August 2017. [The Pursuit of Inclusion through Law, Policies, Narratives and Other Means.](#)

## Public presentations

Longnow Foundation. [State, Society and Vaccines.](#)

Center for Advanced Study of Behavioral Sciences, Series on 'Social Science for a World in Crisis'. "How Social Science Advances Our Understanding of Pandemics".

Asia Society, India. Panoptical Views on Politics, Conversation on Nationalism with Dr. Sunil Khilnani.

Carnegie Council for Ethnic in International Affairs. Panel on Illiberal Democracy on the Rise: Examining Brazil, Hungary, & India.

- Excerpt at: <https://watson.brown.edu/southasia/news/2021/prerna-singh-nature-nationalism-india>

Global Development Institute, University of Manchester. Panel on 'The Politics of Managing Covid in India and China'.

Intelligence Squared US via The German Marshall Fund of the United States, 'Nationalism is a Force for Good', June 2020.

Horasis India, 'Targeting the Politics during post-Covid', June 2020.

The Walrus Talks, Canadian Museum of History, Ottawa, September 2019.

American Academy in Berlin, Robert Bosch Lecture on 'States, Societies, and the Control of Contagion in China and India', February 2019.

## Podcasts

Longnow Foundation. [State, Society and Vaccines](#), April 2022.

Trending Globally: Politics & Policy, We Finally Have Covid-19 Vaccines. But Will Enough People Take Them?. Watson Institute podcast series, Brown University, March 2021

The Arthur Brooks Show, Vox Media. Season 2, Episode 5, Do you love your country?, March 2019.

CPR Thoughtspace, Subnationalism and Social Development in India, 2017

Trending Globally: Politics & Policy, How Solidarity Works for Welfare, Watson Institute podcast series, Brown University, August 2017.

New Books Network, How Solidarity Works for Welfare, September 2016.

Panels on 'How Solidarity works for Welfare':

[Brown University, Center for Contemporary South Asia](#), September 2016.



[Center for Policy Research](#), New Delhi, January 2017.

[Jaipur Literary Festival](#), Jaipur, January 2017.

Interview with Cambridge University Press, February 2017

Commencement addresses

[Lincoln School](#), Providence, RI, June 2018.

### **Invited scholarly talks and workshops**

2022-23 | Harvard University and MIT, Graduate seminar on State Capacity; Pell Center on U.S. Polarization, Salve Regina University; BU Pardee Center for Global Studies, Global Health Politics Workshop (scheduled); U Wisconsin, Madison, Comparative Politics Research Workshop (scheduled); UC Berkeley, Comparative Politics Research Workshop (scheduled); Center for Advanced Study of Behavioral Sciences (CASBS), Moral Economy workshop (scheduled); University of Cyprus (scheduled)

2021-22 | Harvard University, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs; Center for Advanced Study of Behavioral Sciences (CASBS), Moral Economy workshop; Asia Society, India Center, Panoptical Views on Politics; Bar Ilan University, Israel, Workshop on Nationalism; UC Berkeley, Indian Politics Workshop; Consequences of Nationalism, IBEI, Barcelona.

2020-21 | R.F. Harney Lecture Series in Ethnic, Immigration, and Pluralism Studies, University of Toronto Munk School for Global Affairs and Public Policy and the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity; University of Pennsylvania, Comparative Politics Research Workshop; Center for Advanced Study of India; Center for Advanced Study of Behavioral Sciences (CASBS), Stanford, Board of Directors meetings; Center for Advanced Study of Behavioral Sciences (CASBS), Stanford; University of California, Berkeley, Graduate proseminar in Comparative Politics; Effective States and Inclusive Development (ESID) webinar on 'Covid-19 in India and China', University of Manchester; The Wharton School, Understanding Inequality in South Asia and the Middle East; Einaudi center, Cornell University, Panel on Global Approaches to Race, Ethnicity and Inequality.

2019-21 | University of Wisconsin-Madison, Comparative Politics Speaker Series (postponed because of Covid-19); Uppsala University, Sweden, Department of Government Workshop; Lancet offices, London; Ford Foundation and Canadian Institute for Advanced Research Workshop on Inequality, New York; Harvard University, Mittal Institute, Current Events Seminar.

2019-18 | The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, The Beijer Institute of Ecological Economics, Stockholm; European University Institute, Florence; Max Planck Institute for Human Development, Berlin; Stanford University, Center for Advanced Study of Behavioral Sciences, Workshop on New Moral Economy; Max Planck Institute for History of Science, Berlin; University of Oslo.

2018-17 | Stanford University, Center for Advanced Study of Behavioral Sciences, Workshop on New Moral Economy; University of Pennsylvania, Perry World House, Workshop on Populism; Yale University, Comparative Politics Speaker Series; Cornell University, Comparative Politics Speaker Series; Columbia University, Comparative Politics Speaker Series; University of Connecticut, Political Economy Workshop; New York University, Wagner School; India International Center, New Delhi Public Lecture; Department of East Asian Studies, Brown University; Northwestern University, Comparative Politics Speaker Series; Boston University, Global Health Symposium; Brown University, Respondent to Prof Mark Lilla, [‘After Identity Liberalism’](#).

2017-16 | Institute of Social Sciences, the Government of Kerala and UNICEF, Public Lecture, New Delhi; Fudan University, Shanghai, Advanced Research Training Workshop organized by the Harvard Yanqing Institute and Fudan University; Hong Kong University; Brown University, East Asian Studies Colloquium Series; Harvard University, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Director’s Lunch Seminar; Princeton University, Democracy and Development Speaker Series; MIT, Comparative Politics Speaker Series; University of California, San Diego, Comparative Politics Speaker Series; Georgetown University, Comparative Politics Speaker Series; Boston University, Comparative Politics Speaker Series; Brown-Harvard-MIT Seminar in South Asian Politics, Harvard University; Harvard University, Fairbank Center 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Symposium; UNU-WIDER, Public Lecture, Helsinki.

2016-15 | Sun Yat-Sen University, Guangzhou, Advanced Research Training Workshop organized by the Harvard Yanqing Institute and Sun Yat-Sen University; University of Oslo, Conference on Welfare Regimes in Asia and Scandinavia; New School, India-China Institute; Azim Premji University, Bengaluru, Conference on ‘Regional Political Economy of Asia’; Harvard University, Fairbank Center and South Asia Institute; University of Chicago, Comparative Politics Speaker Series; Tata Literature Festival, Mumbai; Harvard Academy for International and Area Studies, Author’s Conference for Jennifer Pan.

2015-14 | Harvard University, Comparative Politics Speaker Series; University of Quebec, Montreal; Azim Premji University, Bengaluru, Conference on ‘Law, Politics and Governance in India’; Northwestern University, Comparative Politics Speaker Series; National University of Singapore (NUS), Conference on the Changing Role of the State in Asia; Princeton University, Conference on ‘India 2030: Political Consequences of High Growth’; Oxford University, Nuffield College, Comparative Politics Speaker Series; Oxford University, Princeton-Oxford State-Building Workshop; MIT, Comparative Politics Speaker Series; Harvard Academy for International and Area Studies, Junior Scholar Seminar Series; University of Pennsylvania, Comparative Politics Speaker Series; Dartmouth College, Workshop on Ethnic Politics.

2014-08 | Harvard Yen-ching Institute, Roundtable on 'State Capacity and Local Governance: China and India Compared'; Harvard University, Center for European Studies, Conference on Qualitative Social Science at Harvard; Canadian Institute for Advanced Research, Successful Societies Meeting, Cambridge, MA; Brown University, India Initiative, Conference on India; Center for Policy Research, New Delhi, Princeton-CPR State Building Workshop; University of California, Berkeley, Comparative Politics Seminar Series; World Bank, Washington D.C., Social Science and Development Seminar Series; Yale University, Comparative Politics Speaker Series; American University, Washington D.C.; Central European University, Budapest; UNC Chapel Hill; Duke University; Dartmouth College.

#### Professional meetings

- American Political Science Association, 2006–2011 [& 2012 cancelled], 2013-2022
- American Sociological Association, 2015, 2017, 2021.
- Midwest Political Science Association, 2007-08, 2012-13.
- International Studies Association Meeting, 2007.
- Laboratory in Comparative Ethnic Processes, Princeton University, May 2006.

#### **SELECT PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

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American Political Science Association, Comparative Politics Section, President (2021-23)

American Political Science Association, Comparative Politics Section, Vice-President (2019-2021)

Annual Review of Political Science, Guest editor (2020-2022)

Harvard-Yenching Institute, Faculty Advisory Committee, Member (2019-)

Center for Contemporary South Asia, Brown University, Steering Committee Member (2019-).

Cambridge University Press series' Elements in Politics of Development, Advisory board (2018-)

Member, Editorial collective, Studies in Comparative International Development (2015-2020).