

VITA

Janaki Bakhle

PERSONAL

Office Address: 3209 Dwinelle Hall
Berkeley, CA 94720

Email: jbakhle@berkeley.edu

ACADEMIC TRAINING

Columbia University, New York, NY, 1997-2002
Ph.D., Department of History, May 2002

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, 1995-1996
M.A., Department of History, May 1996

University of Bombay, Bombay, India, 1979-1983
B.A., Major: Economics, July 1983

EMPLOYMENT

Full Professor with tenure, Department of History, UC Berkeley, July 1, 2023

Visiting Professor, Bard College and the Open Society Network, Fall 2023

Associate Professor with tenure, Department of History, UC Berkeley, July 2013 –

Associate Professor with tenure, Department of History, Columbia University, July 2010 - 2013

Associate Professor, South Asian History, Department of History, Columbia University,
September 2005-2010

Assistant Professor, South Asian History, Middle East and Asian Languages and Cultures,
Columbia University, July 2002-2005

Adjunct Lecturer, Department of Anthropology, Columbia University, Spring 2002

Senior Acquisitions Editor, University of Minnesota Press, 1990-1995.

Assistant Editor, Temple University Press, 1988-1990

SCHOLASTIC AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Italian Academy for Advanced Studies Research Fellowship, 2021-2022

Stanford Humanities Institute Fellowship, 2016-2017

Senior Short-term Fellowship, American Institute of Indian Studies, 2007

Senior Fellowship Award, National Endowment for the Humanities, 2007

Hettleman Award for Junior Faculty Research, Columbia University, 2005

Senior Short-term Fellowship, American Institute of Indian Studies, 2005

Junior Research Fellowship, American Institute of Indian Studies, 1999

Fulbright-Hays Junior Research Fellowship, declined, 1999

Vice President's Fellowship, Columbia University, 1997-2001

Foreign Language and Area Studies Grant, Languages: Urdu and Marathi, Title VI, University of Pennsylvania, 1995-1996

PUBLICATIONS

Books:

Two Men and Music: Nationalism and the Making of an Indian Classical Tradition. New York: Oxford University Press, 2005; New Delhi: Permanent Black, 2006. Shortlisted for Hutch Crossword Book Award (India); shortlisted for the Lionel Trilling Award, Columbia University.

Savarkar and the Making of Hindutva. Princeton University Press, 2024. Since its publication, the book has been positively reviewed in every major newspaper and publication including *The London Review of Books*, *The American Historical Review*, *Project Syndicate*, *Sabrang*, *Politics, Religion and Ideology*, *The India Forum*, *The Indian Express*, *India Today*, *The Hindu*, *The Hindustan Times*, *The Scroll*, *The Wire*, *Swarajya*, *Caravan*, *New Left Review*, *Lokasatta* (Marathi), *Open Magazine*, excerpted in *The Print*, mentioned in Good Reads, reviewed as well in *Dawn* (Pakistan) among others. It has been shortlisted for the PEN Biography Awards, and the NIF Kamaladevi Chattopadhyaya prize. *The Grand Tamasha*, a podcast hosted by Milan Vaishnava, listed the book as one of the three best books of 2024. The book has also stayed at #3 on the Asian Age's List of best non-fiction books of 2024.

Articles and Review Essays:

Review of Vikram Sampath, *Savarkar: Echoes from a Forgotten past*, India Today, October 2, 2019

“Putting Global Intellectual History in its Place” in *Global Intellectual History*. Eds. Moyn, Samuel and Sartori, Andrew. New York: Columbia University Press, December 2012.

“Savarkar (1883-1966), Seditious, and Surveillance: the rule of law in a colonial situation,” in *Social History*. vol. 35, no. 1, February 2010.

“Country First? Vinayak Damodar Savarkar (1883-1966) and the Writing of Essentials of Hindutva,” *Public Culture* 22:1, February 2010.

“Music as the Sound of the Secular,” *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, January 2008.

Review of “Peasant Pasts: History and Memory in Western India,” by Vinayak Chaturvedi in *Journal of Anthropological Research*. vol. 64, 2008.

CONFERENCES, PODCASTS, AND PAPERS

Savarkar and Hindutva, University of Minnesota, April 2, 2025

Savarkar and Hindutva, University of California, Berkeley, March 13, 2025

Savarkar and Hindutva, Brown University, Feb 21, 2025

Savarkar and Hindutva, Stanford University, Feb 12, 2025

Savarkar and Hindutva, Jaipur Literary Festival, Jan 31, 2025 and Feb 2, 2025

Savarkar and Hindutva, Podcast, The Pakistan View, with Shehzad Ghias, Karachi, Jan 8, 2025

Savarkar and Hindutva, International Business Academy, Karachi Jan 7, 2025

Savarkar and the Making of Hindutva, University of Pennsylvania, Oct 2, 2024

Book Talk, St. Anthony’s College, University of Oxford, May 2, 2024

Podcast, “Savarkar: In His Own Words”, The Grand Tamasha hosted by Milan Vaishnav, March 26, 2024. Book noted as one of the three best books in 2024.

Book Talk, Princeton University, March 7, 2024

Book Talk, with Prof Gopal Guru, SRM University, Vijayawada, India, Feb 19, 2024

“Savarkar and the Making of Hindutva,” Bard College, March 9, 2023

“The Poetics of Hindutva,” University of Chicago, May 5, 2022

“The Poetics of Hindutva,” Wesleyan University, April 28, 2022

“Savarkar and Hindu fundamentalism,” Symbiosis Institute, Pune, Sept 6, 2020

“Gandhi, Savarkar and the Muslim Question,” Institute for South and Southeast Asian Studies, Oct 2, 2019, UC Berkeley

“V.D. Savarkar and the Anthem of Nationalism: Music, Poetry and Rightwing Politics in India,” April 12, 2019, Symposium on Sound and Secularity, Stonybrook University

“Biography of a Hindu Nationalist,” Institute for Advanced Study in Humanities and Social Sciences, Tsinghua University, Jan 2018

“V.D. Savarkar and Hindu fundamentalism,” Department of Humanities, Tsinghua University, Jan 2018

“Poetry as the Archive of the Popular: Savarkar and the Brahminization of Peasant History,” invited lecture at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge University, June 3, 2015

“Zakir talks, Zakir plays,” Regents Lecture, Interview and conversation with Ustad Zakir Husain, Institute for South Asia Studies, March 5, 2015

“Poetry as the Archive of the Popular: Savarkar’s use of the *Powadas*,” invited lecture at the Center for South Asia, Stanford University, October 15, 2014

“Putting Global Intellectual History in its Place,” invited lecture at Tsinghua University, Department of History, April 18, 2014

“Poetry as the Archive of Popular History,” invited lecture at Center for Asian Studies, Beijing University, April 18, 2014

“Putting Global Intellectual History in its Place,” invited lecture at NYU-Abu Dhabi, April 14th, 2014

“Poetry as the Archive of Popular History,” paper presented at History Department, NYU-Abu Dhabi, April 15th, 2014

“Hindu Fundamentalism’s Unholy Author: V.D. Savarkar and the Hindu Right,” paper presented at “Holy War” conference, Nov 15-16, 2013, UIUC, Chicago

“V.D. Savarkar and Modern Indian Intellectual History,” invited lecture at Gyanapravaha, Mumbai, Sept 2011

“The Peculiar Politics of Essentials of Hindutva,” invited lecture, at Sciences-Po, Paris, June 2011

“Savarkar’s Poetry: The Folk and the Classical,” paper presented at conference on “Reconceptualizing the Classical/Folk Divide in India Culture,” Cornell University, May 2011

“Religious Fundamentalism or Political Fundamentalism: Reflections from South Asia,” invited lecture, Columbia University Middle East Research Center, Amman, Jordan, December 2010

“Savarkar, Sedition, and the role of law,” paper presented at Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies colloquium series, Columbia University, April 2010

“Is there a Global Intellectual History?” paper presented at workshop convened by Samuel Moyn and Andrew Sartori, Columbia

“Savarkar, Secularism, and Gender,” invited lecture at Utrecht University, and University of Göttingen, April 2009

“Savarkar in the Marathi Imagination,” paper presented at conference, Association of Asian Studies, March 2009

“Savarkar and the Writing of a New Intellectual History,” paper at workshop on Questions and Themes in Indian Intellectual Traditions, November 2008

“Savarkar, and the Writing of Essentials of Hindutva,” paper presented at conference on Religion, Conflict and Accommodation, Columbia University, November 2008

“Music and Secularism,” paper, Committee on Global Thought, Columbia University, December 2007

“Savarkar, Sedition, and Surveillance,” invited lecture, University of California Los Angeles, May 2007

“The Core Curriculum and Insularity,” lecture, Core Conference, Columbia University, March 2007

“The Art of Exchange,” discussant, Columbia University, October 2006

“Music and Social history,” invited lecture, St. Stephens College, New Delhi, November 2005

“Music as the Sound of the Secular,” invited lecture, Department of History, Delhi University, November 2005

“Anti-anti Secularism: The case of Indian classical music,” paper presented at conference, Utrecht University, October 2005

“Gandhi's India,” College Day (Columbia University), Washington, D.C., September 2004

“Rethinking Music's History,” invited lecture, South Asia Regional Studies, University of Michigan, September 2004

“Indian Music and Nationalism,” invited lecture, Hitotsubashi University, Tokyo, June 2004

“Tilak and Savarkar: The Politics of Sedition,” conference, “Empire and Terror,” South Asian Institute, Columbia University, May 2004

“Music and the Modern,” invited lecture, South Asia Regional Studies, University of Pennsylvania, April 2004

“Two Men and Music: Rethinking Music's History in India,” invited lecture, University of Chicago, March 2004

“Music and Nostalgia,” paper presented at Barbara Stoler Miller Conference, Columbia University, February 2004

“Colonial Modernity, Music and the Nation,” paper presented at Subaltern Studies, Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, New Delhi, January 2004

“Gandhi and his Interlocutors,” Deans Day, Columbia University, April 2003

“Bhatkhande and Paluskar: The janus face of Indian music's modernity,” conference, “On Knowledge and its Objects in South Asia,” Columbia University, November 2001

“Modern Hinduism and Classical Art: V.D. Paluskar's syndicated music nationalism,” paper presented at panel at Annual Conference on South Asia, University of Wisconsin, October 2001

“Interpreting the Past through Objects, Texts and Music,” teacher-training workshop on “New Ways of Looking at the World,” The Hill Center for World Studies, June 2000

Presenter/Visiting Scholar at the teacher-training workshop on the teaching of World history, The Hill Center for World Studies, March 2000

“The Emergence of the Classical Modern: Pandit V.N. Bhatkhande, the All India Music Conferences and Hindustani Music, 1870-1957,” workshop on “Questions of Modernity,” the Hagop Kevorkian Center, New York University, February 1999

“Indian Cinema and Music,” 1999 Film Festival, Dancing in the Rain: Indo-Egyptian Musical Films, The Hagop Kevorkian Center, New York University, January 1999

“Film, Music and History,” paper presented in workshop on South Asian Cinema, Princeton

University, May 1996

“Demystifying Publishing,” invited lecture, Asian American Renaissance Conference, Minneapolis, MN, June 1994

“How to Build a list without a Backlist,” panelist at Midwest University Presses Meeting, Minneapolis, MN, May 1994

Invited speaker, Minneapolis High School for the Arts, May 1994

“The Mystery of Book Publishing,” panelist at Emergent Literatures Conference, University of Minnesota, March 1992

“How to turn a dissertation into a Book,” invited lecture at Ford Foundation Conference of Fellows, 1991

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

1988-1990: Assistant Editor, Temple University Press.

1990- 1995: Senior Acquisitions Editor, University of Minnesota Press.

As acquisitions editor at the University of Minnesota Press, I was responsible for acquiring between 25-30 titles a year, in the fields I was mandated with building from scratch: Anthropology, Cultural Geography, Media Studies, Gay Studies, and American Studies. I recruited prominent authors to the Press, and managed the budget, production, business marketing, and promotion of the titles from their inception as ideas, through the manuscript stage and peer review, and beyond the production process. In my capacity as Senior Acquisitions editor, I liaised on a regular basis with the heads of three other departments in the press: Marketing, Production, and Business. I presented acquired manuscripts every month to the Committee on the Press, comprised of full professors from different disciplines at the University of Minnesota, and worked directly with many of them on the development of the manuscripts. To recruit potential authors, I traveled to nine academic conferences a year. I recruited academic editors to the Press to build the list in areas in which I could not spend time. In that capacity I supervised not only a staff at the Press, but also academic editors who were building a sub list. I was approached for the position of Director of the Press, but since I had at the time left publishing, I declined to be considered.

Director, South Asia Institute, Columbia, 2007-2013.

As Director of the South Asia Institute (SAI) I was responsible for the academic administration, operational and financial management, long term academic and financial planning, and overall intellectual direction of the Institute. SAI coordinated all activities at Columbia University that related to the countries of Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. I was responsible for three main activities that the institute undertook: curricular,

programmatic, and outreach, in addition to managing (and renewing) the Title VI grant from the Department of Education, engaging in fundraising and overseeing a small endowment. I organized conferences, seminars, exhibits, films and lecture series that brought together faculty and students with widely varying interests and backgrounds. SAI partnered with Columbia departments, centers, and institutes to coordinate teaching resources and develop new areas of teaching, while also working to reach new audiences and facilitate a broad exchange of knowledge about South Asia. The Institute worked with many South Asia groups, on- and off-campus, situated as it was in the midst of the largest South Asian community in North America. Because of its location in New York, the Institute had ties with persons serving in the United Nations, the diplomatic community, and international agencies.

The Southern Asian Institute had long been designated as a National Resource Center by the U.S. Department of Education (USED). There are approximately 150 such Centers across the US, for fourteen world regions, and designation as such is the highest mark of excellence in area studies. (For South Asia, there are ten Centers.) USED funding comprises the bulk of the Institute's funding, in two distinct grants: one that funds administrative, language, library and outreach salaries, as well as library acquisitions and events programming; and a second grant that funds academic year and summer graduate fellowships. I oversaw and managed the overall four-year budget of about \$2.4 million. Under my direction, I expanded the mandate of the SAI to include the work of scholars from Environmental Sciences, Health Sciences, Public Health, and Education in order to make the institute more broadly representative of the full range of scholarly and professional activities across the University. I appointed and convened an Executive Committee composed primarily of full professors across the disciplines in South Asia. In my role as Director I had administrative, budgetary, fundraising, and supervisory responsibilities.

Every four years, NRC/FLAS Centers must apply in open competition for authorization by the US Department of Education. During my term in office, the current application for the 2010-14 cycle competition succeeded in securing the largest ever grant the Institute has received. USED funding is intended to support long-term strengthening of language and area studies programs. USED is particularly interested in supporting instruction in the Less Commonly Taught Languages – which include the languages of South Asia – and in raising language proficiency and instructional standards to professional levels. As Director of the institute, I worked directly with Deans, Department Chairs, institute directors, and senior faculty to ensure that the curriculum for South Asia had coherence.

I also established a Master's program in South Asian Studies, which generated significant income for the institute.

I also served as the senior faculty coordinator for Columbia University's Global Center in Mumbai. I traveled regularly to India to fundraise with donors in Bombay and Delhi. In all of these activities, I reported to the Office of the Executive Vice President of the Arts and Sciences at Columbia University.

Associate to the Chancellor, University of California, Berkeley, 2013-2017 (hosted events for the University, assisted with fundraising and public outreach, represented the university as required).

NEH Panelist for South and Southeast Asia

Manuscript reviewer for Columbia University Press, University of California Press

Regular reviewer for *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, *Social History*

Member of the Association for Asian Studies

ACLS Fellowship Reviewer, 2023, 2024

INSTITUTIONAL COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Vice Chair for Curriculum, History Department, UC Berkeley, 2024--

Committee on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, History Department UC Berkeley, 2013-2014, 2022-2023

Advisory Council, SRM University, AP, Amravati, 2018 –2020

Consultant on South Asian Studies, Tsinghua University, Jan 2018

Chair, Committee on the History Undergraduate Major, Berkeley, 2018-

Graduate Advisory Committee (GAC), History Department, UC Berkeley, 2017-2018

GAC Appeals Committee, UC Berkeley, 2017-2018

Interdisciplinary Studies Faculty Advisory Board, UC Berkeley, 2015-2016

Graduate Admissions Committee, History Department, UC Berkeley, 2014-2015, 2023-2024

Gender and Diversity Taskforce Committee, History Department, UC Berkeley, 2013-2014

Department Climate Committee, History Department, 2013-2014

Director, Southern Asia Institute, Columbia University, Fall 2009-Spring 2013

Interim Director, Southern Asia Institute, Columbia University, Spring 2009

Space Committee, Department of History, Columbia University, Fall 2009-

Undergraduate Education Committee, Department of History, Columbia University, 2008-

Executive Committee, Southern Asian Institute, Columbia University, Fall 2006

Director of Graduate Studies, Middle East and Asia Languages and Cultures, Columbia University, Fall 2004

Executive Committee of Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Columbia University, Fall 2003

Member of Admissions and Fellowships Committee, Middle Eastern and Asian Languages and Cultures, Columbia University, Spring 2002

Advisory Board, Hill Center for World Studies, Ashfield, MA, 2001-

Board Member, Center for Arts Criticism, Minneapolis, MN, 1991-1993

Consultant, Guthrie Theater's production of Girish Karnad's play, *Nagamandala*, Minneapolis, MN, 1993

LANGUAGES

Marathi, native fluency in reading, writing and speaking, equal to that in English

Hindi, native fluency in reading, writing and speaking, equal to that in English

Urdu, Punjabi and Gujarati, basic understanding