

Aparupa Bhattacharjee

PhD Scholar

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Professional Experience:

A last year PhD scholar in the School of Conflict and Security Studies at the National Institute of Advanced Studies (August 2018-present), the research focuses on "Role of religion in contemporary Nation-building: A case study of Sri Lanka, Myanmar, and Thailand."

August 2018- Current

PhD Scholar at National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS), Bangalore

- Currently writing my chapters which will approximately be submitted by the end of 2023.
- Organised several events including Track II dialogue among India, Myanmar and Vietnam.
- Manage websites and outreach for the School of Conflict and Security Studies, and the institute.

September 2016 - July 2018

Project Associate at National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS), Bangalore

- Coordinated the BRICS S&T and Young Scientist conclave funded by the Department of Science and Technology, India
- Content edited and assisted in designing the web portal for the BRICS Young Scientist Conclave project.
- Co-organised events such as 'NIAS-DST Course: Multidisciplinary perspective on Science, Technology and Society,' held at NIAS, 5-16 December 2016 and 'BRICS Young Scientist Forums: Bangalore Conclave 2016,' held at NIAS, 25 September-1 October 2016.

September 2015 - September 2016

Project Assistant at Jhpiego, an affiliate of John Hopkins University

- Assisted in the research and documentation of the work under the Maternal and Child Survival Program (MCSP) funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.
- Studied and compiled reports on Maternal, Childcare and Hygiene conditions in government hospitals across India.

June 2013 - February 2015

Research Officer and Programme Coordinator, Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies (IPCS)

- The research focuses on involved political, economic, and security dynamics of the Southeast Asian countries, for example, insurgency and peace processes, and domestic politics of countries such as Myanmar, Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand.
- Coordinated the Southeast Asia Research Programme (SEARP) for the institute.

January - June 2013

Research Intern, IPCS

- Research focuses on the political and economic scenario in Malaysia and Thailand
- Organised events both nationally such as 'Malaysia: Election 2013' on 17 May 2013 and international conferences such as in Kathmandu titled 'South Asia Regional Dialogue: COSATT' on 24-25 May 2013.
- Assisted the outreach program for the organization.
- Rapporteur for several conferences, seminars, and panel discussions such as 'Armed Conflict in South Asia' on 29-30 January 2013.

Publications & Papers Presented:

Book Chapters:

- "BIMSTEC: A solution to the Rohingya Problem?", in Adhuri Subramanyam Raju and Anasua Basu Ray Chaudhury (eds), *New Futures for BIMSTEC: Connectivity, Commerce and Security*. 2022. Routledge Taylor & Francis Group, India.
- "Insurgencies and Ungoverned Territories on the India-Myanmar Border: Implications of Bilateral Relations," (co-authored with Dr Anshuman Behera), in Samatha Mallempati (edited), *Enhancing India-Myanmar Ties: The Way Ahead*. 2021. KW Publishers Pvt. Ltd, and Indian Council of World Affairs, New Delhi.
- "Indo-Pacific: The Shifting Rhetoric an Indian Perspective" *Security and Economic Challenges in the Indo-Pacific*, pp. 163-172. A consortium of South Asian Think Tank (COSATT) and Political Dialogue Asia Programme, Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS): Kathmandu, Nepal. 2020.
- "The Common features of Religious Radicalism in South and Southeast Asia", in Nishchal N. Pandey (eds), *Deeper Integration for peace and prosperity in South Asia*. 2015. Kathmandu: Centre for South Asian Studies (CSAS).
- "South-Southeast Asia: Northeast India as a Bridge", in Nishchal N Pandey (eds), *Realizing the Vision of a Common South Asian Union*. 2014. Kathmandu: Centre for South Asian Studies (CSAS).

Journal Briefs:

- "India-Bangladesh Relations: Past cannot be taken for granted," Debate: India- Bangladesh Relations in the Context of Recent Elections in Bangladesh, *Indian Foreign Affairs Journal*, Vol. 13, No. 4, 2019, p.267-315.
- "Rohingya Crisis: Policy Options and Analysis," Special Report, *Bangladesh Institute of Peace and Security Studies (BIPSS)*, 25 August 2017.
- "IPCS Forecast: Myanmar in 2015," *IPCS Report*, January 2015.

Newspapers and Magazines:

- "[The Killing of Activists in Myanmar and its Aftermath](#)," *The Hindu*, 26 July 2022
- "[Myanmar: Will 2019 be better for the Rohingya?](#)" *Rising Kashmir*, 16 January 2019.
- "[Behind Bangladesh's Protests: Rising Frustration](#)," *The Diplomat*, 22 August 2018.
- "[India-Bangladesh: What if the BNP returns?](#)" (co-authored with Sourina Bej), *Mainstream*, 28 April 2018.
- "[Myanmar: New Parliament, Suu Kyi and the Rohingyas](#)" *Mainstream*, VOL LIV, No. 17, New Delhi, 15 April 2016.
- "[The Rohingya Insurgents: Myanmar creates its own Frankenstein](#)," *The Diplomat*, 9 February 2017.
- "[Bangladesh: Look at the Iceberg and Not its Tip](#)," *Mainstream*, VOL LIV, No.32, New Delhi, 2 August 2016.
- "[Myanmar: New Parliament, Suu Kyi and the Rohingyas's](#)," *Mainstream*, VOL LIV, No. 17, New Delhi, 15 April 2016.
- "India-Thailand: Time to Get Real," *Extraordinary & Plenipotentiary Diplomatist*, August 2014.
- "Indifference towards Migrant workers in Singapore results into Street Violence," 12 December 2013, *Hindustan Times (Hindi)*.
- "India-Thailand: Strengthening Ties," *Extraordinary & Plenipotentiary Diplomatist*, August 2013.

Commentaries:

- "Myanmar: The coup and after," CWA #863, *2022 The World This year*, 31 December 2022.
- "Sri Lanka: Significance of Aragalaya as a unifying factor," IPRI # 319, *Conflict Weekly Special Issue*, 17 November 2022.
- "Civilian protests vs military: Three factors will decide the outcome in Myanmar," CWA # 429, *Global Politics*, February 2021.
- Thailand: For the pro-democracy protests, it is a long march ahead," CWA # 406, *Global Politics*, December 2020.
- "One year after the Easter Attacks in Sri Lanka: Who and Why of the Perpetrators," CWA # 267, *Global Politics*, April 2020.
- "Malaysia: New PM, Old Challenges," CWA # 247, *Global Politics*, March 2020.
- "Myanmar in 2020: Old problems to persist with no solutions in the near term," CWA # 206, *Global Politics*, January 2020.

- "Myanmar: Will prosecuting Suu Kyi resolve the Rohingya problem?" CWA # 171, *Global Politics*, October 2019.
- "ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific: Worth all the Hype?" CWA # 155, *Global Politics*, August 2019.
- "India & Sri Lanka: Modi's Colombo Visit: Four issues to watch," CWA # 135, *Global Politics*, June 2019.
- "Thailand: Between Elections and Instability," CWA # 105, *Global Politics*, March 2019.
- "Trump-Kim Summit & Regional Stakes: For Vietnam, it's a big deal," CWA # 98, *Global Politics*, March 2019.
- "The Other Conflict in Rakhine State," CWA # 92, *Global Politics*, March 2019.
- "Myanmar: Will 2019 be better for the Rohingya?" CWA # 76, *Global Politics*, January 2019.
- "Malaysia's China Moment: The Mahathir Gamble," CWA # 58, *Global Politics*, September 2018.
- "The 8888 Uprising: Thirty Years Later," CWA # 50, *Global Politics*, August 2018.
- "Myanmar: Why won't they do anything for the Rohingya?" CWA # 35, *Global Politics*, June 2018.
- "Malaysia's China Moment: The Mahathir Gamble," CWA # 58, *Global Politics*, September 2018.
- "IPCS Forecast: Myanmar in 2015," *IPCS Commentary*, 21 January 2015.
- "Myanmar: Why the Islamic State Failed Here," *IPCS Commentary*, 19 November 2014.
- "Myanmar: Violence in Rakhine State and a Way Forward," *IPCS Commentary*, 31 October 2014.
- "Myanmar's Ashin Wirathu: Five Reasons for His Rise," *IPCS Commentary*, 29 October 2014.
- "Islamic State and Southeast Asia: Answering the Call for Jihad," *IPCS Commentary*, 30 September 2014.
- "Anti-Rohingya and Anti-Muslim Sentiments in Myanmar: Mutually Reinforcing?" *IPCS Commentary*, 24 September 2014
- "India-ASEAN FTA: Gap Between Expectation and Reality," *IPCS Commentary*, 5 September 2014
- "India in Myanmar: Strengthening the Economic Commons," *IPCS Commentary*, 26 August 2014
- "Myanmar: How Free is the Contemporary Media?" *IPCS Commentary*, 30 June 2014
- "Myanmar's National Census: Fueling Ethnic Crises," *IPCS Commentary*, 18 June 2014
- "Thailand: Why is History Repeating Itself?" *IPCS Commentary*, 30 May 2014
- "Myanmar: Is Tatmadaw Assuming a Proactive Role?" *IPCS Commentary*, 20 May 2014
- "Myanmar: Peace in Kachin State?" *IPCS Commentary*, 30 April 2014
- "Indonesia: The 2014 Legislative Elections," *IPCS Commentary*, 22 April 2014
- "China, Myanmar, and the Myitsone Dam: Uncertain Future," *IPCS Commentary*, No. 4281, 31 January 2014
- "Southeast Asia: Elections, Instability and Reconciliation," *IPCS Commentary*, No. 4246, 12 January 2014
- "Thailand: Challenges to Democracy?" *IPCS Commentary*, No. 4230, 31 December 2013
- "Thailand & Cambodia: End of Clashes over Preah Vihear?" *IPCS Commentary*, No. 4203, 30 November 2013
- "Philippines: Recovering from Typhoon Haiyan," *IPCS Commentary*, No. 4186, 21 November 2013
- "Myanmar: Kachin State and the State of Peace," *IPCS Commentary*, 11 November 2013
- "China-Malaysia: Is the Tilt Real?" *IPCS Commentary*, 15 October 2013
- "Philippines and Thailand: Need for Regional Peace Initiatives," *IPCS Commentary*, 25 September 2013
- "Human Trafficking in Southeast Asia: A Crime Against Humanity," *IPCS Commentary*, 17 July 2013
- "Myanmar: The New Tourism Brand," *IPCS Commentary*, 3 July 2013
- "India and Thailand: Bilateral Trajectory after the Indian Prime Minister's Visit," *IPCS Commentary*, 16 June 2013
- "Malaysia Elections 2013: Vote for Change?" *IPCS Commentary*, 10 June 2013
- "IPCS Discussion: Society, Politics, Governance & Security in Indonesia," *IPCS Commentary*, 9 May 2013
- "Malaysia: A Race to the Finish Line," *IPCS Commentary*, 30 April 2013
- "Thailand: The story after the Peace Deal," *IPCS Commentary*, 30 April 2013
- "Laos: Liberalisation at the Crossroads," *IPCS Commentary*, 3 April 2013
- "Malaysia: A Comeback for Barisan Nasional?" *IPCS Commentary*, 26 March 2013
- "Thailand: A Peace Deal with Insurgents," *IPCS Commentary*, 16 March 2013
- "Indonesia: "Unity in Diversity"?" *IPCS Commentary*, 8 March 2013

Papers Presented:

International Conferences

- "Pandemic and its impact on peace, democracy, and youth," GPPAC South Asia - RCSS Youth Workshop on Peace, Democracy, and Youth: An Agenda for the 2020s, 8 January 2022.
- "Women in politics in South Asia: A introduction," Centre for South Asian Studies (CSAS) and Women Policy Nepal webinar on Women in Politics in South Asia, 2 August 2021
- "Myanmar and its dual enemy: A crumbling state and a Pandemic," JAIR International Conference 2021 on The Developing World and the COVID-19 Pandemic: Issues, Challenges and Policy Responses, 20 August 2021

- "BIMSTEC: A solution to the Rohingya crisis?" in the international conference on 'BIMSTEC: Constructing New Pathways in the Context of Rising Asia,' organized by UGC Centre for Maritime Studies, Pondicherry University in collaboration with Observer Research Foundation (ORF), Kolkata, at Pondicherry, on 11-12 February 2020
- Chaired a session at the conference on "United by Violence, Divided by Cause? A Comparison of Drivers of Radicalization in Asia and Europe" organized by Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Regional Programme, Political Dialogue Asia, at Singapore on 13 January 2020
- "Indian Ocean: The Shifting Rhetoric-An Indian Perspective," at Authors' Meeting: Book Project organized by Consortium of South Asian Think Tanks (COSATT) in collaboration with KAS, held at Colombo on 19 October 2019
- "Understanding the Conflict in Rakhine and its impact on Bangladesh" at The Nepal Armed Police Force Academy, Kathmandu, Nepal on 12 April 2019 • "The Impact of Social Media: Living in the Virtual World" in a national workshop on 'Cyber Radicalism: Challenges and Way Forward,' held at Dhaka, Bangladesh, 25 January 2018
- "Socio-Edu-Culture Aspects of CVE" in a capacity building workshop on 'Countering Violent Extremism (CVE), held at Dhaka, Bangladesh, 22-24 January 2018
- "External refugees in South Asia: The Curious Case of the Rohingya" in an international workshop on 'Human Security in South Asia: Emerging Trends and Challenges, held at UNESCO Madanjeet Institute of South Asian Regional Cooperation (UMISARC) & Centre for South Asian Studies, Pondicherry University, 16-18 March 2016
- "Northeast: Connecting SAARC and ASEAN: in COSATT November meeting titled 'Expectation from the 18th SAARC Summit,' held at Kathmandu, Nepal from 22-24 November 2014

National Conferences/Discussions

- "Sri Lanka in 2022" by Dr N Manoharan, NIAS Strategic Forecasts: The Indian Neighbourhood in 2022, 7 January 2022
- "South Asia" by Dr Anshuman Behera, The State of Peace and Conflict in 2021: Development, Trends, Forecast, organised by KAS and NIAS, 9 December 2021
- Discussant at "State Elections in India: Results | Factors | Implications," Global Politics, Young Voices, organised by NIAS GP Course Scholars, 3 May 2021
- "Sri Lanka's geopolitical challenges: Conundrum of an Island," Book Discussion, organised by NIAS-IPRI, Manipal Academy of Higher Education and Mysore University, 21 April 2021
- "One year after the Easter Attacks in Sri Lanka: Who and Why of the Perpetrators," at Webinar on Sri Lanka: One Year after the Easter Sunday Attacks at NIAS, 9 May 2020,
- "Myanmar in 2020: Old problems to persist with no solutions in the near term," Global Politics class at NIAS, 9 January 2020
- "Southeast Asia in 2020: Will it be Peaceful?" at NIAS Strategic Forecast 2020, a capacity-building workshop held at the National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS), 16 November 2019.
- "The Easter Attacks: Understanding Sri Lanka's Return to Violence" at NIAS Wednesday Discussion, held at NIAS on 17 July 2019.
- "Myanmar: Understanding the Violence against the Minorities" in NIAS Wednesday Discussion, held at National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS), 31 October 2018
- "Early Warning: Treat of Radicalism in Bangladesh" in Decennial Review of Armed Conflicts, Peace Audit and Early Warning, held at National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS), 9-10th June 2016.
- "Forecast on Southeast Asia and Myanmar: 2015" in IPCS Forecast Series, organized by IPCS in collaboration with India International Centre (IIC) and Department of East Asian Studies, Delhi University, held at India International Centre (IIC), 28 January 2015 "Southeast Asia: Rise of Religious Radicalism" in IPCS Peer Review", held at IPCS Conference room, 18 July 2014.
- "China-Myanmar: Soured Relations" in IPCS Peer Review, held at IPCS Conference room, 13 July 2014
- "Malaysia Election 2013" in Malaysia Election 2013," organized by IPCS, held at IPCS Conference room, May 2013

June 2011 - July 2012**Bachelor of Education, Jadavpur University, Kolkata**

- Awarded a first division.
- Completed a course work that includes teaching the discipline of History and English in Modern School, Kolkata

June 2009 - May 2011**Master of Arts in International Relations, Jadavpur University, Kolkata**

- Thrust areas: Advanced Political Theory, International Law of Peace, International Law of war, Strategic Studies, Politics and Economy of Southeast Asia, Role of Regional Powers in Asia-Pacific, Indian Foreign Policy, Third World Politics
- Awarded a first division.
- Actively participated in all the conferences and seminars organized by the Department.

July 2006 - May 2009**Bachelor of Arts in Political Science (Hons) Miranda House, University of Delhi**

- Thrust areas: Political Theory, Comparative Government and Politics, International Relations, Western Political Thought, Indian Political Thought, India's Foreign Policy, Public Administration, Political Process in Africa, Asian Political Organization, and Political Economy and Society
- Awarded a second division.
- Contributed to the Departmental Magazine '*Vox Populi*'

April 2004 - March 2006**Indian School Certificate (ISC) Examination, Carmel School, Durgapur**

- Thrust areas: English, History, Geography, Political Science, Bengali, and Economics
- Awarded a first division.
- Received awards for excellence in academics.

Skills

Editing and Designing

- Co-coordinated and edited weeklies such as Conflict Weekly (2020-2021) and Global Politics (2018-2019), and the research series 'Peace and Conflict this Week'.
- Editor of the quarterly Southeast Asia Research Programme magazine at IPCS (2013-2015).
- Reviewed a manuscript for Oxford University Press (OUP), New Delhi titled 'Myanmar Political Transition: A History.'
- Well-skilled in designing tools such as 'Microsoft Publisher,' and 'Canva.'

Outreach and Coordination

- Part of the NIAS outreach team from September 2016 to 2022- comprises the management of the website, Facebook, and Twitter, and sending of alerts at regular intervals.
- Well-skilled to work with social alert-sending platforms such as 'Madmimi' and 'Mailchimp.'
- In charge of the BRICS Young Scientist Conclave Conferences website and outreach.
- Part of consortiums such as COSATT-Consortium of South Asian Think Tanks and closely associated with international Think Tanks such as the Centre for South Asian Studies (CSAS), Nepal, and Bangladesh Institute of Peace and Security Studies, Bangladesh.
- Prior member of the Myanmar Academic Core Group of the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA), New Delhi.
- In Jhpiego: coordinator of MCHIP and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Projects and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW).

- In IPCS: independently coordinated the Southeast Asia Research Programme and the outreach, websites and Internship programme of the institute.
- Executive member of the Jadavpur Association of International Relations (JAIR) (2009-2012)
- An active member of Community Radio Service, Radio JU, Jadavpur University (2009-2011)
- Was an active member of the 'Society for the Promotion of Indian Culture and Music amongst Youth' (SPIC MACAY) and the Women Development Cell

Organising Capabilities

- Organised numerous national conferences and international conferences in Nepal, and Singapore.
- Active Participation in International Relations Scholastic Conclave 2010
- Completed a short-term certificate course on "Women and Law" Women's Development Cell, Miranda House
- Rapporteur for the Technical Session in a seminar on 'India Emergence: Through Young Eyes, a joint venture by 'Jadavpur Association of International Relations (JAIR), Department of International Relations, Jadavpur University, Kolkata
- Assisted in organizing the annual departmental festival 'Ecclesia' in 2006 and 2008

Teaching and Teaching Assistance

- Conceptualised and co-coordinated NIAS Online Certificate Course on Contemporary Peace Processes, Thinkers and Theories.
- Guest lecture on research methodology at the International Relations department at Mysore University.
- Co-conceptualised the course and syllabus structures for the course on Global Politics and Peace and Conflict.

Language proficiency

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| • English: Proficient | • Hindi: Proficient |
| • Bengali: Native language | • French: Beginners (currently learning A2 level) |