

MYTHRI JEGATHESAN

500 El Camino Real
 Santa Clara, CA 95053
 Telephone: 408 551 3323
 Email: mjegathesan@scu.edu

EDUCATION

Columbia University, New York, NY

Ph.D., Anthropology, May 2013

M.A., Anthropology, May 2005

Research Interests: gender and kinship, labor, plantations, development, Sri Lanka, South Asia

Georgetown University, Washington, DC

B.A., Classics and Anthropology, May 2003

Honors: Magna Cum Laude, Horace Medal in Classics

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Santa Clara University, Santa Clara, CA

Assistant Professor, September 2014 – present

Courses: Introduction to Social and Cultural Anthropology; Women, Gender, and Sexuality; Senior Project; Anthropological Methods; Internship; Culture and Ideas Sequence: Human Rights & Humanitarianism

The College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA

Visiting Assistant Professor, August 2013 – August 2014

Courses: Introduction to Cultural Anthropology; Anthropology of Development; Freshman Seminar: Visual Anthropology

Georgetown University, Washington, DC

Adjunct Lecturer, August 2012 – August 2013, January – May 2014

Courses: Introduction to Cultural Anthropology; Anthropology of Development; Qualitative Field Research Methods (Department of Anthropology and School of Foreign Service)

Columbia University, New York, NY

Teaching Fellow, August 2010– May 2012, August 2006-May 2008

PUBLICATIONS (SINGLE-AUTHORED)

Peer-Reviewed Articles

“Deficient realities: expertise and uncertainty among tea plantation workers in Sri Lanka” Original article, *Dialectical Anthropology*. April 2015. DOI: 10.1007/s10624-015-9386-1

Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters

“Negotiating History and Attending to the Future: Formations of Solidarity and Community among *Malaiyaha* Tamils in Sri Lanka,” in Tamil Communities and the Sri Lankan Conflict. 2011. *Géographie et Cultures*. Paris: L’Harmattan. 45-71.

Invited Book Reviews

Review of Daniel Bass. Everyday Ethnicity in Sri Lanka (Routledge, 2012). Forthcoming in *Asian Ethnologist*.

Review of Nira Wickramasinghe. Sri Lanka in the Modern Age (Oxford University Press, 2014). Forthcoming in *South Asia: Journal of South Asian Studies*.

Review of Sonali Deraniyagala. Wave (Vintage, 2013). *Columbia Magazine*. Summer 2013.

Public Anthropology and Other Publications

“A year on, Sri Lanka suffers.” May 30, 2010. Global Post.

Website: <http://www.globalpost.com/dispatch/worldview/100519/colombo-sri-lanka-war-tamil-tigers>

“Bargaining for a Living Wage: Reflections on the Economic Rights of Tamil Tea Plantation Workers in Sri Lanka” *Himal Southasian*. February 2010. 23(2): 38-41.

“Sri Lanka’s Time of Reckoning.” May 19, 2009. Global Post.

Website: <http://www.globalpost.com/dispatch/worldview/090522/sri-lankas-time-reckoning>

“Silenced in Sri Lanka” February 16, 2009. Global Post.

Website: <http://www.globalpost.com/dispatch/asia-at-large/090216/silenced-sri-lanka>

“Reflections on Development in the Hill Country.” *Satyodaya Centre for Social Research and Encounter Bulletin* (April 2009) 208: 20-22.

PANELS AND PRESENTATIONS

Invited Lectures

“The unbecoming coolie: connectivities of labor and landscape among Malaiyaha Tamils on Sri Lanka’s tea plantations” Invited lecture. Centering Mobility in Tamil Worlds. National University of Singapore (NUS). October 15, 2015.

“Falling short of the ideal: negotiating a woman’s worth from age attainment to marriage among Malaiyaha Tamils on Sri Lanka’s tea plantations” Invited lecture. Workshop on Kinship and Marriage (American Institute of Sri Lankan Studies). September 5, 2015. Kandy, Sri Lanka.

“What to do? Plantation Life and the Politics of Development, Visibility, and Risk in Sri Lanka.” Department of Anthropology. Georgetown University. February 8, 2013.

Conference/Conference Panel Organization

“Labor, Landscape, and (De)colonial Desires: Rethinking the Plantation as a Socio-Ecological Category.” [Co organized with Sarah Besky] American Anthropological Association Annual Meetings; Denver, CO, November 18, 2015.

“The Decolonial Future: Gender, Trust, and Solidarity in South Asia.” Panel Organizer and Chair. Annual Conference on South Asia. Madison, WI, October 23, 2015.

“Destabilizing "Tamilness" in Sri Lanka” Panel Organizer and Chair. Tamil Studies Conference, University of Toronto. Toronto, Canada. May 14, 2011.

Sri Lanka in South Asia: Future Horizons for Scholarship. Indo-China Institute, New School for Social Research and American Institute for Sri Lankan Studies, New York, NY. Conference Co-Organizer. April 16, 2010.

Paper Presentations

“Unbecoming coolie: deconstructing colonial ideals on Sri Lanka’s tea plantations.” Paper presentation. American Anthropological Association. Denver, CO. November 18, 2015. Panel organizer/paper presenter.

“Organizing the unorganized: negotiating solidarities among working women in Sri Lanka.” Paper presentation. Annual Conference on South Asia. Madison, WI. October 23, 2015. Panel organizer/paper presenter.

“The unbecoming coolie: constructing “home” among Tamil plantation residents in Sri Lanka” Paper presented at the University of Hawai’i Manoa Center of South Asia Symposium. April 15-17, 2015.

“Reimagining development: forging transnational solidarity through rights-based programming in Sri Lanka’s tea plantation sector” Paper presented at Sri Lanka Roundtable. Universiteit van Amsterdam. December 11-12, 2014.

“In search of solidarity: transnational connections and rights-based programming on tea plantations in Sri Lanka” Paper presented at 2014 Annual Conference on South Asia. Madison, WI. October 17, 2014.

“Neither *ūr* nor owned: deconstructing the plantation labor regime and the politics of development, visibility, and risk in Sri Lanka” Paper presented at 2013 Annual Conference on South Asia. Madison, WI. October 18, 2013.

“The stigma of plantation labor: marking undesirability among development workers in Sri Lanka.” Paper presented at 2012 American Anthropological Association General Meeting. San Francisco, CA. November 18, 2012.

“Documenting place among Hill Country Tamils in Sri Lanka.” Panel organized/paper presented at the Tamil Studies Conference. Toronto, Canada. May 14, 2011.

“Taming uncertainty: the signification of doubt and belief in a healing ritual among Hill Country Tamil tea estate residents in Central Sri Lanka.” Paper presented at 109th Annual American Anthropological Association General Meeting. New Orleans, LA. November 17, 2010.

“Articulating Life Choices and Attributing Value among Hill Country Tamil Women in Sri Lanka.” Paper presented at the Tamil Studies Conference. Toronto, Canada. May 14, 2010.

“A community ‘on the move’: perceptions of belonging and possibility among Hill Country Tamil tea estate residents in Sri Lanka.” Conference co-organized and paper presented at Sri Lanka in South Asia: Future Horizons for Scholarship. Indo-China Institute, New School for Social Research, New York, NY. April 16, 2010.

“Negotiating history and attending to the future: formations of solidarity and community among *Malaiyaha* Tamils in Sri Lanka,” Paper presented at Tamil Communities and the Sri Lankan Conflict Conference organized by *Espaces, Nature, and Culture Research Laboratory*. Paris IV (Sorbonne) France. February 13, 2010.

Guest Lectures

“Housing and land rights on Sri Lanka’s tea plantations.” In undergraduate course, International Environment and Development (Environmental Studies, Patrick Gallagher). May 28, 2015.

“Labor, landscape, and (de)colonial desires on Sri Lanka’s tea plantations” Department of Anthropology Speaker Series. Santa Clara University. April 29, 2015.

“Deconstructing the Plantation Labor Regime and the Politics of Development, Visibility, and Risk in Sri Lanka” Department of Anthropology Brown Bag Speaker Series. The College of William and Mary. October 30, 2013.

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

External Research Grants

- Research Fellowship, American Institute for Sri Lankan Studies (AISLS), 2014-2015
- Dissertation-to-Book Travel Grant, American Institute for Sri Lankan Studies (AISLS), October 2013
- American Dissertation Fellowship, American Association of University Women (AAUW), 2012-2013
- Green Harbor Financial (GHF) Prize for Anthropological Fieldwork, July 2009
- National Science Foundation (NSF) Dissertation Research Improvement Grant, October 2008
- Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Summer Fellowship Award (AIIS, Madurai), May 2007
- Language Instruction Award, American Institute for Sri Lankan Studies (AISLS), April 2006
- Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship (FLAS) Award (Tamil, South Asia), AY 2003-2005

Internal University Grants

- Critical Gender Studies Research Initiative, Santa Clara University, January 2016
- Penstemon 2.0 Project Sustainability Faculty Stipend, Santa Clara University, July 2015
- Deans Grant, International Conference Travel, Santa Clara University, December 2014
- Travel Grant, Reves Center for International Studies, The College of William and Mary, October 2013
- Sheldon Scheps Fellowship Travel Award, Columbia University May 2006; May 2007

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND AFFILIATIONS

Co-Founder and Member. *Lanka Solidarity*. Scholarly and Activist Collective on Sri Lanka. Writing, solidarity network-building, policy analysis collective.

Member, *American Anthropological Association (AAA)*

Section and Interest Groups: Association for Feminist Anthropology, Society for the Anthropology of Work, Interest Group on NGOs and Non-Profits, Anthropology & Environment Society

Member and Graduate Student Workshop Selection Committee Member Organizer, *American Institute for Sri Lankan Studies (AISLS)*

LANGUAGES

- Advanced writing, reading, and oral proficiency in Tamil
 - Advanced written and reading proficiency in Classical Latin
 - Advanced written and reading proficiency in Ancient Greek
 - Basic spoken and reading knowledge of Italian
 - Basic spoken knowledge of Sinhala
- Tamil to English interpreter for Girl Ambassadors for Human Rights Program. American Alliance of Museums and International Coalition for Sites of Conscience. United States State Department. April 2013.