NISHITA TRISAL

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NH 44, Rajiv Gandhi Educational City
Sonipat, Haryana, India 131029

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2023-	Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Ashoka University
2021-23	Postdoctoral Fellow, Harvard Academy for International and Area Studies, Harvard University
2020-21	UCI ADVANCE Chancellor's Postdoctoral Fellow, University of California-Irvine, Department of Anthropology

EDUCATION

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
Ph.D. in Socio-cultural Anthropology, August 2020

Columbia University
Visiting Ph.D. Scholar, South Asia Institute, 2011-2012

University of California, Santa Cruz
M.A. in Cultural Anthropology, June 2011

DePauw University
B.A. in Communication, *magna cum laude*, May 2007

PUBLICATIONS

Book manuscript

Under review *Banking on Uncertainty: Debt and Interdependence in Kashmir*. The University of Chicago Press.

Peer-reviewed publications

2025 How to Sustain a Strike: Rules, Routines, and the Essential in Kashmir. *Cultural Anthropology*. 40(1): 162-190.

2025 The Debts of Others: Guarantors, Defaulters, and Tripartite Relations in Kashmir. *Current Anthropology* 66(S27): S85-S95.

2017 Fluid Landscapes, Sovereign Nature: Conservation and Counterinsurgency in Kashmir, India (co-authored with Dr. Mona Bhan). *Critique of Anthropology* 37(1): 67-92.

Edited collections

2017 Demonetization: Critical Responses to India's Cash(less) Experiment. Co-edited with Namita Dharia. Hot Spots, *Cultural Anthropology* website, September 27.

Chapters in edited volumes

2023 Collaborations and Disclosures in Authoritarian Fields. Co-authored with A. *In* [Redacted]: Writing in the Negative Space of the State. Charlene Makley, Franck Billé, and Lisa Sang Mi Min, eds. Santa Barbara: punctum books.

2020 This is (Not) a Betrayal: Notes from a Rogue Kashmiri Pandit. *In* Kashmir: Dialogues on Women, Gender, Intersectionality, and Militarization. Nitasha Kaul and Ather Zia, eds. Delhi: Women Unlimited. Pp. 65-74

Other publications

2024 Commentary on Bassier and Ranchhod, 'Can Minimum Wages Effectively Reduce Poverty Under Low Compliance? A Case Study from the Agricultural Sector in South Africa,' *Review of Political Economy* 36(2): 420-422.

2020 "The Kashmirization of India": Comparison, Solidarity, and "Paranoid" Reading. Speaking Justice to Power Series, Association of Political and Legal Anthropology. August 14. https://politicalandlegalanthro.org/2020/08/14/the-kashmirization-of-india-comparison-solidarity-and-paranoid-reading/.

2017 Introduction: Anthropology in the Age of Executive Orders. Co-authored with Namita Dharia. Hot Spots, *Cultural Anthropology* Website, September 27. https://culanth.org/fieldsights/introduction-anthropology-in-the-age-of-executive-orders.

2017 Improvising Demonetization in a Kashmiri Bank. Hot Spots*, Cultural Anthropology* Website*,* September 27. https://culanth.org/fieldsights/improvising-demonetization-in-a-kashmiri-bank.

2008 Those Who Remain: The Survival and Continued Struggle of the Kashmiri Pandit 'Non-Migrants.' *Journal of Immigrant and Refugee Studies* 5(3): 99-114.

Public scholarship

2019 India must stop weaponizing the pain of Kashmiri Pandits. *Washington Post,* Aug. 22. https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2019/08/22/i-am-kashmiri-pandit-india-must-stop-weaponizing-pain-our-past/.

2015 In Kashmir, Nehru's golden chains that he hoped would bind the state to India have lost their lustre. *Scroll.in*, November 30.

2009 Fluid Landscapes: The Politics of Conservation and Dislocation. *Greater Kashmir* June 29, Main Edition (second author with Dr. Mona Bhan).

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

External

2025-2028	European Research Council Starting Grant (InsubordinateFINANCE). UMR DEVSOC, Institut de recherche pour le développement, and Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne. Research Associate.
2025	Themis Fellowship Programme, Fondation Maison des Sciences de l'Homme
2024	Wenner-Gren Foundation Hunt Postdoctoral Fellowship
2024	Business History Conference Kaufman Research Fellowship
2019	Harold K. Schneider Graduate Student Paper Prize in Economic Anthropology
2019	Mellon Foundation/American Council of Learned Societies Dissertation Completion Fellowship
2019	American Association of University Women Dissertation Fellowship (*Declined*)
2019	Charlotte Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship Finalist
2016	Social Science Research Council International Dissertation Research Fellowship
2015	Wenner-Gren Foundation Dissertation Fieldwork Grant
2015	National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant
2013-2014	Foreign Language and Area Studies Scholarship, Intermediate Urdu
2011-2014	National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship
2011	Social Science Research Council Dissertation Proposal Development Fellowship
2011	Institute for Money, Technology and Financial Inclusion Research Grant
2011	U.S. State Department Critical Language Scholarship Program Alumni Development Small Grant, Beginning Oriya
2010	U.S. State Department Critical Language Scholarship Program, Advanced Hindi
2007-2008	English Teaching Assistant Fellowship, U.S. Student Fulbright Program in Indonesia

Internal

2015	Rackham International Research Award, University of Michigan
2014	International Institute Individual Fellowship, University of Michigan
2010	Center for Tropical Research in Ecology, Agriculture and Development Tropical Research Award ("Aluminum Encounters: Diasporic Capital and Corporate Social Responsibility in Orissa, India")
2009-2011	Eugene Cota-Robles Fellowship, University of California, Santa Cruz
2007	Phi Beta Kappa, DePauw University
2006	Frank W. Howes Summer Grant, DePauw University
2003-2007	Margaret Scott Grady Scholarship, DePauw University

MEDIA PRESENCE

2020	Kuthar, Greeshma. Voices from Lockdown, Episode 28: "Who Gets to Speak for Kashmiri Pandits." *Firstpost*. https://audioboom.com/posts/7660618-episode-28-in-conversation-with-nishita-trisal-who-gets-to-speak-for-kashmiri-pandits.
2019	Ali, Rozina. "The Kashmir Narrative." *Columbia Journalism Review*. August 28. https://www.cjr.org/analysis/the-kashmiri-narrative.php.
2019	Javaid, Azaan. "J&K Bank—the 'RBI of Kashmir'—is in crisis and its customers are taking it personally. *ThePrint*. June 26. https://theprint.in/india/governance/jk-bank-the-rbi-of-kashmir-is-in-crisis-and-its-customers-are-taking-it-personally/253321/.

INVITED TALKS

2026	The Debts of Others Guarantors, Defaulters, and Tripartite Relations at a Kashmiri Bank. Future of Money Research Network.
2025	How to Sustain a Strike: Rules, Routines, and the Essential in Kashmir. SciencesPo.
2025	The Debts of Others: Guarantors, Defaulters, and Tripartite Relations at a Kashmiri Bank. Invited talk for International STS Online Seminar Series, Centre Population et Développement, Université Paris Cité.
2024	Banking on Uncertainty? HAU of Finance Online Seminar Series.
2024	Banking on Uncertainty: Debt and Interdependence in Kashmir. Department of Social Anthropology, University of Edinburgh.
2023	Kashmir, Inc.: Credit, Collateral, and the Bank as "State Subject." Currency & Empire Workshop.
2022	Access, Acceptance, and Availability of Cash in India. Global Currency Forum. Tarragona, Spain.
2022	Negotiating the Essential: Banking amidst Volatility in Kashmir. Department of Anthropology, Ashoka University.
2021	How to Sustain a Strike: Rules, Routines, and Logistics in Kashmir. Department of Anthropology, UC Santa Barbara.
2021	The Debts of Others: Guarantors, Defaulters, and Tripartite Relations. UC Irvine Global and International Studies Forum.
2021	How to Sustain a Strike: Rules, Routines, and Logistics in Kashmir. Princeton South Asia Graduate Workshop.
2021	Cultures and Institutions of Capitalism in South Asia. Center for South Asia, Stanford University.
2021	How to Sustain a Strike: Rules, Routines, and Logistics in Kashmir. Department of Anthropology, University of California, Los Angeles.
2021	Scheduling the Revolution: Rules and Routines in the Kashmiri Indefinite Strike. Critical Militarization, Policing, and Security Studies Research Cluster, University of California, Davis.
2021	How to Sustain a Strike: Rules, Routines, and Logistics in Kashmir. Department of Anthropology, University of California, Irvine.
2020	How to Sustain a Strike: Rules, Routines, and Logistics in Kashmir. Department of Anthropology, Wesleyan University.
2020	Answering for the Debts of Others: Guarantors, Defaulters, and Tripartite Relations. Schneider Award Lecture at the Society for Economic Anthropology Annual Meeting.

PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS

2026	Debt and Interdependence at a Kashmiri Bank. Paper presented at the AAA Annual Meeting, St. Louis, MO.
2024	The Business of War. Paper presented at Impact HAU? Ethnographic Critiques of Sustainable Finance, Bertinoro, Italy.
2024	How to Sustain a Strike: Rules, Routines and the Essential in Indian-Administered Kashmir. Paper presented at Markets in Society: A Meeting and a Network, Ashoka University.

2023 Kashmir, Inc.: Credit, Collateral, and the Making of the "State Subject." Paper presented at the Annual South Asia Conference, Madison, WI.

2023 The Public Bank: Transparency and Sovereignty in Kashmir. Harvard Academy for International and Area Studies, Harvard University.

2022 The Public Bank: Transparency and Sovereignty in Kashmir. Paper presented at the AAA Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA.

2021 Deserving Subjects: Responsibility and Rehabilitation at a Kashmiri Bank. Paper presented at the AAA Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD.

2020 Roundtable on "Data/Sovereignty" at "Raising our Voices" Virtual Conference. American Anthropological Association.

2019 Keeping, Giving, and Waiting in Line: Ethnographies of the Bank. Co-organized panel at the AAA Annual Meeting, Vancouver, Canada.

2019 Do me a favor: guarantors, borrowers, and tripartite relations. Paper presented at the AAA Annual Meeting, Vancouver, Canada.

2019 No Guarantees: Managing Risk and Volatility in Kashmir's Economy. Paper presented at Beyond Crisis: Science and Technology Studies in the Age of Emergency, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

2019 Strike Calendars and Curfew Orders: Rules, Routines, and Recognition in Indian-Administered Kashmir. Paper presentation at the Yale Modern South Asia Workshop, New Haven, CT.

2018 No Guarantees: Managing Risk and Volatility in Kashmir's Economy. Paper presented at the AAA Annual Meeting, San Jose, CA.

2018 Control (after Computerization). Paper presented at Technosemiotics Workshop, Department of Anthropology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

2018 Strike Breakers and the "Battle of the Minds" in Kashmir. Paper presented at the Annual South Asia Conference, Madison, WI.

2018 Freezing Accounts, Tracking (Bank) Notes: Control after Computerization. Paper presented at Lives of Data v.2 Workshop. Center for the Study of Developing Societies, New Delhi, India.

2017 The Day(s) After: Backstage at the Jammu & Kashmir Bank. Paper presented at Markets and Languages Workshop. Shiv Nader University, New Delhi.

2011 Material Cultures of Finance Literacy among Rural and Urban Poor in Orissa, India. Paper presented at IMTFI Annual Conference, Irvine, California. With Katherine Martineau and Pradeep Baisakh.

2011 Indebted: Financial Inclusion, Economic Sociality, and Rural Politics in Orissa, India. Paper presented at Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, WI.

2011 A Dialogue on Ethnography, Intimacy, and Adivasi Difference. With Dr. Megan Moodie. Paper presented at Feminist Pre-Conference at Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, Wisconsin.

2009 Water Has the Right of Way: The Cultural Politics of Conservation in Kashmir, India. With Dr. Mona Bhan. Paper presented at Society for Applied Anthropology Annual Meeting, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

2008 The Human Cost of Environmental Conservation. Presentation delivered at Wednesday Forum, Universitas Katolik Soegijapranata, Semarang, Indonesia.

2007 Those Who Remain: The Survival and Continued Struggle of Kashmiri Hindu 'Non-Migrants.' Paper presented at Annual Peace Studies Conference, Notre Dame, Indiana.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of Record
Thesis Workshop I, Ashoka University (India) (Fall 2026)
Thesis Workshop II, Ashoka University (India) (Spring 2027)
Anthropology of Violence, Ashoka University (India) (Spring 2026, Fall 2024)
Anthropology's Methods, Ashoka University (India) (Spring 2027, Spring 2026, Spring 2024)
Critical Writing Workshop for PhD Students, Ashoka University (India) (Fall 2024)
Experts and Expertise, Ashoka University (India) (Spring 2024)
Strike!, Ashoka University (India) (Fall 2023)
Boom and Bust: The Politics of Economic Crisis, Ashoka University (India)(Fall 2023)

Graduate Student Instructor
Introduction to Anthropology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor (Spring 2016)
Culture, Thought, and Meaning, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor (Fall 2015)
Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Feminist Studies, UC Santa Cruz (Winter 2013)

SERVICE ACTIVITIES

2026	Reviewer, AAS in Asia Conference
2025-2027	Reviewer, Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research
2024-	Organizer, Faculty Colloquium Series, Ashoka University
2023-	Board Member, Society for Economic Anthropology
2018-2019	Editorial Assistant, *Comparative Studies in Society and History*
2014-2015	Co-coordinator, Kitabmandal, Graduate Student/Faculty South Asia Workshop, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
2012-2013	Committee Member, Association for Political and Legal Anthropology (APLA) Graduate Workshop Committee
2010-2011	Co-coordinator, Ethnographic Engagements, Graduate Student/Faculty Workshop UC Santa Cruz
2009-2010	Editorial Intern, *Cultural Anthropology*

LANGUAGES

Hindi: Advanced Proficiency; Urdu and Kashmiri: Professional Proficiency