

KING'S
College
LONDON

**KING'S
INDIA
INSTITUTE**

10
YEARS

In 2022, King's India Institute celebrates its 10th anniversary

We do so at a time in which India is at the forefront of the world's most pressing transformations – whether that's arriving at a global net-zero future while adapting to the reality of climate change, contributing to global health innovation in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, or the promises and associated risks of the digital revolution for the economy, politics and society.

India is the world's fifth largest economy and will soon be the world's most populous country – home to more than one in six people in the world. The Indo-Pacific region is also one of the most strategically significant theatres for global geo-politics.

Meanwhile, at home, the entrenchment of majoritarian politics has raised concerns about the resilience of democratic institutions, while young Indians are at the forefront of new forms of activism and protest.

For these reasons and more, the need for a hub of research and teaching excellence to deepen public understanding of contemporary India remains pressing.

More than 200 students have graduated from the Institute's master's and PhD programmes since our launch under our founding director Professor Sunil Khilnani.

We have also led a range of executive education programmes, including the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office's South Asia Diplomatic Academy, as well as the Chevening Financial Services Leadership and Chevening Gurukul Leadership Programmes.



Our teaching is complemented by a rigorous research culture. We have attracted over £2.6 million in research grants and fellowships, from funders including the British Academy, Economic and Social Research Council, European Commission, Leverhulme Trust, Science Museum and the UK-India Education Research Initiative.

Now, as we look to the future, we continue to nourish our many valuable partnerships and are honoured to host the Avantha Chair – a prestigious position responsible for advancing the mission of the King's India Institute – as well as the Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Lecture series and the Inlaks-King's India Institute visiting PhD fellowship.

I invite you to read about some of the journey over this last decade, including more about our staff and students, and our research and publications.

Professor Louise Tillin
Director, King's India Institute

OUR STAFF



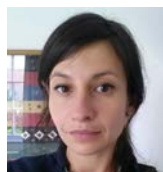
Christophe Jaffrelot

Avantha Chair and
Professor of Indian
Politics and Sociology



Srilata Sircar

Lecturer in India and
Global Affairs



Anastasia Piliavsky

Senior Lecturer in
Anthropology and Politics



Kriti Kapila

Lecturer in Social
Anthropology and Law



Ketan Reddy

Research Associate



Harsh V Pant

Professor of
International Relations



Sunil Mitra Kumar

Senior Lecturer
in Economics



Rudra Chaudhuri

Senior Lecturer
(on leave; currently
Director, Carnegie India)



Niraja Gopal Jayal

Avantha Chair

'King's has a vibrant community and I'm honoured to bring my experience and expertise to my interactions with students, and to contribute to research and debate taking place at the college on significant issues in the Indian context.'

Professor Niraja Gopal Jayal

Avantha Chair, King's India Institute

'King's is one of the few universities in the world where scholars can engage in interdisciplinary and comparative studies, in the framework of research projects as well as teaching, thanks to the diversity and expertise of the faculty – and the quality of the students.'

Professor Christophe Jaffrelot

Avantha Chair and Professor of Indian
Politics and Sociology

The India Institute also has affiliated faculty members in more than 15 departments across King's who are engaged in teaching, research and public events on India and South Asia.

OUR LATEST RESEARCH

Reimagining India's health system

Despite the heavy toll of COVID-19 and a history of under-investment in public health, Indian voters still don't typically highlight health as a factor bearing on their voting decisions. Similarly, most politicians don't foreground health in their electoral campaigns or priorities in office. Professor Louise Tillin and partners are investigating why exactly this is. The findings from

their five-state survey will give a better indication as to whether there is latent public demand for greater government prioritisation of this sector. The project is funded by a British Academy grant, in partnership with Lokniti (Centre for Study of Developing Societies), the Lancet Citizen's Commission on Reimagining India's Health System and Royal Holloway, University of London.



Exploring the future of UK-India trade

Led by Dr Sunil Mitra Kumar and Dr Kamini Gupta (King's Business School), this project studies the key enablers and obstacles of UK-India trade: first by building a macro-picture of trade between the two countries, particularly the ongoing negotiations towards a free trade agreement. Then by analysing the role of small, skill-intensive firms in India's exports to the UK and the interlinked role of access to credit and social networks in supporting their growth. The three-year project is funded by the UK Economic and Social Research Council and the Indian Council of Social Science Research. It is a collaboration with the Indian Institute of Management Bangalore and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

Understanding India's politics in its own terms



The logic of Indian citizens' political choices, decisions and judgments does not lend itself readily to Euro-American analytical concepts: rights, identity, secularism and so on. 'India's Politics in its Vernaculars' is a European Research Council-funded project led by Anastasia Piliavsky that seeks to understand India's politics through Indian citizen's own terms. Twenty-four scholars are working in seventeen Indian languages (including English and Hinglish) to describe key vernacular words and analyse key concepts across India's political terrain. Together, we hope to prompt a shift away from exogenous, perpetually imperial theorising towards a truly Indian theory of India's political life.

Artefacts of Resistance

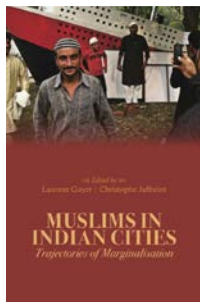
'Artefacts of Resistance: creating archives of transnational protest movements', by Dr Srilata Sircar and Manu Luksch from Somerset House Studios, is a digital media archive documenting contemporary protest movements that build on transnational solidarity networks. While building an accessible, dynamic portal for protestors, researchers, artists and students, the project's innovative audio-visual performance demonstrates the project's capacity to communicate, inspire and unite. It was funded by the King's x Somerset House Studios research and development scheme.



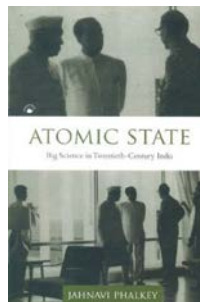
Populism in Indian and US foreign policy

Undertaking a comparative study on the role of populism in different contexts, this project examined how foreign policy and international relations can be used for populist mobilisation, and how populism impacts international order. Led by Thorsten Wojczewski during a Leverhulme Early Career Fellowship at the India Institute (2018–21), it found that populism can shape the style of foreign policymaking and result in personalisation, simplification and emotionalism due to attempts to appeal directly to people – but that it does not necessarily influence its content.

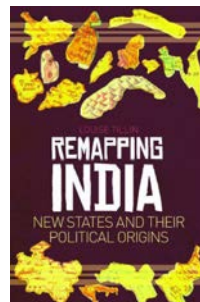
SELECTED PUBLICATIONS



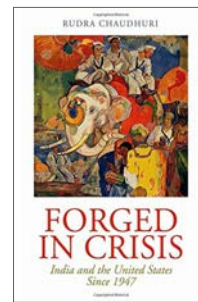
Edited by Laurent Gayer and Christophe Jaffrelot (2011)



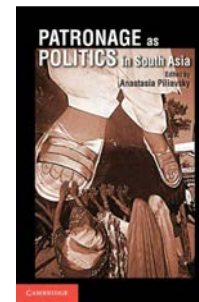
Jahnavi Phalkey (2013)



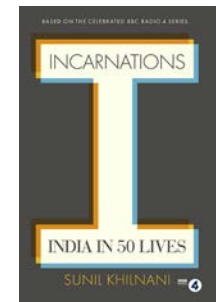
Louise Tillin (2013)



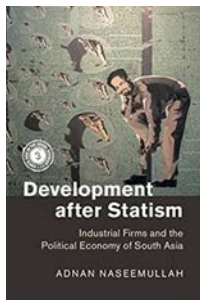
Rudra Chaudhuri (2014)



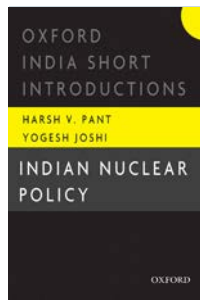
Anastasia Piliavsky (2014)



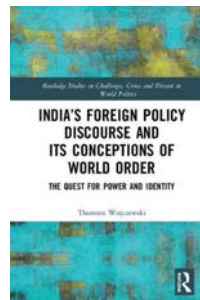
Sunil Khilnani (2017)



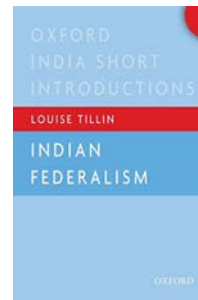
Adnan Naseemullah (2017)



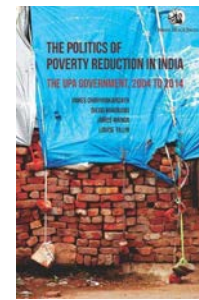
Harsh V Pant and Yogesh Joshi (2018)



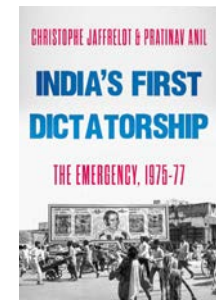
Thorsten Wojczewski (2018)



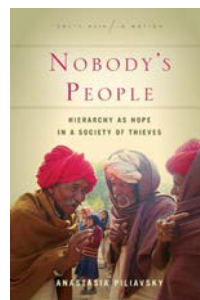
Louise Tillin (2019)



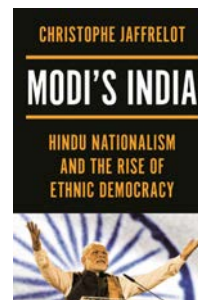
James Chiriyankandath, Diego Maorano, James Manor and Louise Tillin (2020)



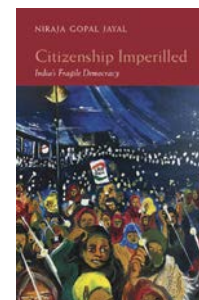
Christophe Jaffrelot and Pratinav Anil (2020)



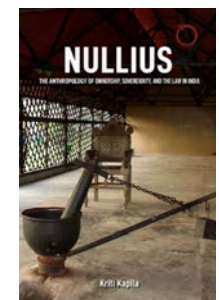
Anastasia Piliavsky (2020)



Christophe Jaffrelot (2021)



Niraja Gopal Jayal (2021)



Kriti Kapila (2022)





CELEBRATING OUR STUDENTS

Saawani Raje-Byrne

South Asia & Global Security Studies MA, 2014 and Contemporary India PhD, 2021



'Having done both my MA and PhD with them, I can truly say that I am a product of the Institute. As an Indian myself, studying at the Institute has allowed me to rethink my own country through various other disciplines and perspectives with people who are just as passionate about India as I am.'

Saawani Raje-Byrne is a Lecturer in International History at the Department of War Studies.

Jean-Thomas Martelli

Contemporary India PhD, 2018



'The Institute approaches researching India with a truly postcolonial lens. It's filled with people

who genuinely care about contributing to scholarship on India. As someone not of Indian origin, I was encouraged to spend time in India and understand it from the grassroots. Being given the freedom to explore topics I was interested in fundamentally shaped my intellectual personality.'

Jean-Thomas is a political scientist and researcher at the Centre Des Sciences Humaines in New Delhi. He works on issues related to political representation in India, student politics and populism.

Sharik Lalilwala

Contemporary India MA, 2017



'My time at the Institute and the courses I took were instrumental in shaping my academic career. Home to

some of the world's foremost scholars on India, with connections to various other organisations, the community I gained from my time there is something I continue to cherish to this day. The King's India Institute is one of a kind.'

Sharik is an incoming PhD student in Political Science at the University of California, Berkeley. His research looks at governance in small town India and the impact of nationalism on Hindu-Muslim relations in India.

King's President and Principal Professor, Shitij Kapur opening alumni discussion on Data, Technology and Society, Delhi April 2022. Pictured from left to right: Avantha Chair Professor Niraja Gopal Jayal, Primit Bhattacharya (MRes Contemporary India, 2016) and Dr Sarayu Natarajan (PhD Contemporary India, 2018).



Study at King's India Institute

- **MSc Global Affairs**
- **PhD Contemporary India** (with option of joint PhD with National University of Singapore).

To learn more visit our website: www.kcl.ac.uk/india

Together, we have achieved a great deal over the last 10 years. However, India faces new challenges and with your support, we can nurture the next generation of scholars and propel the impact of our research even further. If you are interested in supporting our ambition, contact mylen.namocatcat@kcl.ac.uk.

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