

POLI 322
Fall 2008
Tue, Thur 11:35 a.m. - 12:55 p.m.
Arts W-120

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or by appointment

POLITICAL CHANGE IN SOUTH ASIA

The course introduces students to political change in South Asia. It considers patterns of state formation, democratic and authoritarian tendencies, political parties and mass politics, identity politics, the determinants and consequences of economic and social policy, and patterns of social dominance and challenges to them. The course gives greatest attention to changes in India, the region's largest country, but also explores aspects of the political experiences of Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. It begins with an overview of features of society, culture and the colonial experience. The exploration of postcolonial politics in the rest of the course is organized thematically.

Readings for different sections will be drawn from the following text, which is available for purchase at the bookstore:

Maya Chadda, Building Democracy in South Asia: India, Nepal, Pakistan, Lynne Rienner, 2001

Some of the other readings (marked with a (W) in front of them) can be accessed at the course website. A reader containing all other readings is available for purchase at the bookstore. The readings are also on reserve at the library. The readings should be done before the lectures and sections where they are discussed.

Course Requirements

Students will be expected to take a mid-term exam and a final exam, write a research paper, attend the lectures, and participate actively in the conferences. The midterm and the final exams will be based on the required reading and lecture material. The midterm exam will cover the first half of the course. The final exam will be cumulative in scope, with an emphasis on material covered in the second half of the course.

The paper should explore in depth some issues central to the course, using both required readings and additional pertinent materials. If you are uncertain about whether the paper topic is appropriate, you may consult the instructor or TA about it. The paper should be ten to fifteen pages long (double-spaced and typewritten) and will be due on November 25, one week before the last day of classes.

McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures (see <http://www.mcgill.ca/integrity> for more information). L'université McGill attache une haute importance à l'honnêteté académique. Il

incombe par conséquent à tous les étudiants de comprendre ce que l'on entend par tricherie, plagiat et autres infractions académiques, ainsi que les conséquences que peuvent avoir de telles actions, selon le Code de conduite de l'étudiant et des procédures disciplinaires (pour de plus amples renseignements, veuillez consulter le site <http://www.mcgill.ca/integrity>).

Grading

The course grade will be determined in the following way:

Midterm Exam	20%
Paper	25%
Formal Final Exam	35%
Conference participation	10%
Conference presentation	10%

Students must write the midterm and final exams as well as the paper to pass the course. A supplemental final exam will be offered, and will be worth 35% of the total course grade. Extensions will not be granted for the paper unless there are serious problems preventing a student from completing the paper on time. Students will face a penalty of 3 points per week day that the paper is late. No papers will be accepted after December 2. Students cannot get incompletes in the course unless they face serious problems and provide appropriate proof.

Plan of the Course

Sept 2: Introduction to the Course

Part A: Society, The Colonial Experience and Colonial Legacies

I Society and Culture: An Overview

Sept 4, 9: Ayesha Jalal, "The Colonial Legacy in India and Pakistan", Democracy and Authoritarianism in South Asia (New York: Cambridge University Press, 1995): 9-28

Robert L. Hardgrave and Stanley A. Kochanek, "The Context of Political Development in India". India: Government and Politics in a Developing Nation (Fort Worth: Harcourt Brace College Pub., 1993): 4-14

Oliver Mendelsohn & Marika Vicziany, The Untouchables: Subordination, Poverty and the State in Modern India (New York and Cambridge: CUP, 1998): 1-14, 29-43

II The Politics of Religious Identity

Sept 11, 16: Kenneth Jones, "Religious Identity and the Indian Census" in N. Gerald Barrier, ed., The Census in British India: New Perspectives (New Delhi: Manohar, 1981): 73-101

Gyanendra Pandey, excerpt from The Construction of Communalism in Colonial North India (New York: Oxford University Press, 1990): 6-7, 158-200

Paul Brass, "Elite Groups, Symbol Manipulation and Ethnic Identity among the Muslims of South Asia" in Ethnicity and Nationalism: Theory and Comparison (Newbury Park, CA: Sage Publications, 1991): 75-108

III Indian Nationalism

Sept 18: Bipan Chandra, "The Long Term Strategy of the Indian National Movement" in B.Chandra, A.Mukherjee, M.Mukherjee, K.N.Panikkar & S.Mahajan, India's Struggle for Independence (Hammondsworth: Penguin, 1988): 505-517

IV The Pakistan movement and Partition

Sept 23: Ayesha Jalal, The State of Martial Rule: The Origins of Pakistan's Political Economy of Defence (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1990): 9-24

Gyanendra Pandey, "The Three Partitions of 1947" in Remembering Partition: Violence, Nationalism and History in India (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2001): 21-44

PART B: Post-Colonial Politics

I Democracy and Authoritarianism: The First Post-Colonial Generation

Sept 25: Chadda, M. Building Democracy in South Asia (Boulder : Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2000): 23-50, 60-61

Omar Noman, "1947-58...The Disenchantment with Freedom" and excerpts from "Military Rule and Civil War" Pakistan: Political and Economic History Since 1947 (New York: Kegan Paul International, 1990): 3-15, 27-35, 43-48

Sept 30: Myron Weiner, "Institution Building in India" in The Indian Paradox: Essays in Indian Politics (Newbury Park, CA: Sage Publications, 1989): 77-95.

Oct 2: Ayesha Jalal, "State Formation and the Political Process in India and Pakistan, 1947 to c. 1971". Democracy and Authoritarianism in South Asia (New York: Cambridge University Press, 1995): 29-65.

II Secession: The Formation of Bangladesh

Oct 2, 7: Craig Baxter, Bangladesh: A New Nation in an Old Setting (Boulder : Westview Press, 1984): 29-47

Leo Rose & Richard Sisson, War and Secession: Pakistan, India and the Creation of Bangladesh, (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1990): 1-6, 266-280

III Uncertain Democratization, Recurrent Authoritarianism: Pakistan

Oct 9: Chadda, M. Building Democracy in South Asia: 67-108

IV Democracy and Mass Politics: India Over the Last Generation

Oct 14: Chadda, M. Building Democracy in South Asia: 143-153, 173-187

Atul Kohli, “Centralization and Powerlessness: India's Democracy in a Comparative Perspective” in Joel S. Migdal, Atul Kohli & Vivienne Shue , eds., State Power and Social Forces: Domination and Transformation in the Third World (New York: Cambridge University Press, 1994): 89-107

Oct 16: Midterm Exam

Oct 21: Presentation on Library Research for Term Papers

V The Economy

Oct 23, 28: Vernon Hewitt, excerpts from “South Asia and the World Economy: transition and the imperatives of reform”, The New International Politics of South Asia.)New York: St. Martin’s Press, 1997): 206-220, 230-248

Paul Brass, “Introduction” and excerpts from “Politics, Economic Development, and Social Change”. The Politics of India Since Independence (New York: Cambridge University Press, 1990): 269-283, 289-295

Rob Jenkins, “Theorising the Politics of Economic Adjustment: Lessons from the Indian Case”, Journal of Commonwealth and Comparative Politics, 32.1 (March 1995): 1-24

Bina Agarwal, “Women, Land and Ideology in India” in Haleh Afshar and Bina Agarwal, eds., Women, Poverty and Ideology in Asia: Contradictory Pressures, Uneasy Resolutions (Basingstoke: Macmillan, 1989): 70-98

VI Nationhood and Religion

Oct 30: John L. Esposito, excerpt from Islam and Politics (Syracuse: Syracuse University Press, 1990): 170-187

(W) Muhammad Qasim Zaman, "Sectarianism in Pakistan: The Radicalization of Shi'i and Sunni Identities", Modern Asian Studies (1998), 32: 689-716

Nov 4, 6: Donald Eugene Smith, "India as a Secular State" in Rajeev Bhargava, ed., Secularism and Its Critics (New York: Oxford UP, 1998): 177-233

Christophe Jaffrelot and Thomas Blom Hansen, "Introduction", The Compulsions of Politics: BJP and Competitive Politics in India (New York: Oxford University Press, 1998): 1-21

VII Ethnicity and Pluralism

Nov 11, 13: Narendra Subramanian, "Ethnicity and Pluralism: An Exploration with Reference to Indian Cases", Canadian Journal of Political Science, XXXII:4 (December 1999): 715-744

Kanchan Chandra, "Elite Incorporation in Multi-Ethnic Societies", Asian Survey, XL.5 (October 2000): 836-855

VIII Ethnicity, Religion and Collective Violence

Nov 18, 20: Chadda, M. Building Democracy in South Asia: 153-172

Neil Devotta, "Ethnolinguistic Nationalism and Ethnic Conflict in Sri Lanka" in P. Sahadevan and Neil Devotta, eds., Politics of Conflict and Peace in Sri Lanka (New Delhi: Manak, 2006): 30-69

(W) Ashutosh Varshney, "Ethnic Conflict and Civil Society: India and Beyond", World Politics, 53.3 (April 2001): 362-398

(W) Paul Brass, "Riots, Pogroms, and Genocide in Contemporary India: From Partition to the Present" (Paper prepared for the Hiroshima Peace Institute Conference on Comparative Research into Genocide and Mass Violence, Hiroshima, Japan, March 22-26, 2004)

Papers due: Nov 25

IX Gender Relations and Women's Mobilization

Nov 25, 27: Ayesha Jalal, "The Convenience of Subservience: Women and the State of Pakistan" in Deniz Kandiyoti (ed.), Women, Islam and the State (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 1991): 77-114

Radha Kumar, "From Chipko to Sati: The Contemporary Indian Women's Movement" in Amrita Basu, ed., The Challenge of Local Feminisms: Women's Movements in Global Perspective (Boulder: Westview Press, 1995): 58-86

(W) Narendra Subramanian, "Family Law and Cultural Pluralism" and "Judicial Reform of Muslim Law" in Stanley Wolpert and Raju G.C. Thomas, eds., *Encyclopedia of India* (Charles Scribner's Sons, 2005), Volume II