

Malathi de Alwis

Education

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO, Division of Social Sciences, Chicago, IL.

PhD in Socio-Cultural Anthropology, June 1998

MA in Socio-Cultural Anthropology, June 1989

MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE, South Hadley, MA

Bachelor of Arts degree in Asian Studies, June 1985

Awards & Honours

Visiting Fellow, Programme in Women's Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. January 2008.

International Marie Jahoda Chair in Feminist Studies, Ruhr-Universitat-Bochum, Germany,

October 2000-February 2001 (declined)

Ron Lister Postdoctoral Fellowship, University of Otago, New Zealand, Fall 2000

Sylvia Forman Prize for best essay in Feminist Anthropology, Association for Feminist Anthropology, 1997

Ruth Murray Memorial Prize for best essay in Gender Studies, University of Chicago, 1996

Committee on Southern Asian Studies Dissertation Write-up Fellowship, 1994--1996

Dissertation Research Fellowship, 1992--1993

Mount Holyoke College Class of 1905 Fellowship for Dissertation Research, 1992--1993

MacArthur Dissertation Research Fellowship, University of Chicago, 1991--1992,

Summer Travel Fellowship, June-August 1990

Visiting Fellow, International Centre for Ethnic Studies, Colombo, 1992--1994

American Institute of Indian Studies Fellowship for Language Study in Madurai, June-August 1990

University of Chicago Fellowship for Graduate Study in Anthropology, 1987--1991

Magna cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa, 1985

International Scholarship for Undergraduate Study, Mount Holyoke College, 1982--1985

National Award for best short story, Association of English Writers & Playwrights, Sri Lanka, 1981

Teaching

UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO, Sri Lanka

Faculty of Graduate Studies/Master's Program in Women's Studies

Visiting Professor, 2005- Module on "Women, Politics, History"

NEW SCHOOL FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH, New York

Visiting Associate Professor of Anthropology, Spring 2004
Graduate Core Class: "Anthropological Theory & Ethnography"
Undergraduate Core Class: "Topics in Contemporary Anthropology"

NEW SCHOOL FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH, New York
Visiting Associate Professor of Anthropology, Fall 2003
Graduate Core Class: "Contemporary Social and Cultural Theory"
Graduate Seminar: "Problematizing the Political"

NEW SCHOOL FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH, New York
Visiting Associate Professor of Anthropology, Spring 2003
Graduate Core Class: "Contemporary Social Theory"
Graduate Seminar: "Debates in Feminist Theory"

NEW SCHOOL FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH, New York
Visiting Associate Professor of Anthropology, Spring 2002
Graduate Core Class: "Contemporary Social Theory"
Graduate Seminar: "Contemporary Feminist Theory"

NEW SCHOOL FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH, New York
Visiting Associate Professor of Anthropology, Spring 2001
Graduate Core Class: "Scale and Complexity"
Graduate Seminar: "Anthropological Approaches to Gender"

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY, Hannover
Visiting Lecturer, September 2000
Graduate Seminar: "Colonialism, Nationalism & Gender"

NEW SCHOOL FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH, New York
Visiting Associate Professor of Anthropology, Spring 2000
Graduate Seminar: "Anthropological Approaches to Gender"
Undergraduate Seminar: "Anthropology of Suffering and Sentiment"

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO, Gender Studies Program
Undergraduate Seminar on Feminist Theory: "Problems in Gender Studies"
Co-teacher with Prof. Lauren Berlant, Dept. of English, Fall 1996

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO, Gender Studies Program
Graduate Seminar: "Practicum in Gender Studies Pedagogy"
Teaching assistant to Prof. Norma Field, Dept. of East Asian Languages & Civilizations, Spring 1996

UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO, Sri Lanka
Faculty of Graduate Studies/Master's Program in Women's Studies
Visiting Lecturer, 1992-1993: Module on "Post-Structuralism and Gender"
Program Director: Dr. Kumari Jayawardena

Publications/Monographs

Maternalist Politics: Its Conditions of Possibility in Sri Lanka. Delhi: Women Unlimited, forthcoming.

Casting Pearls: The Women's Franchise Movement in Sri Lanka. With Kumari Jayawardena. Colombo: Social Scientists' Association, 2001. Also translated into Sinhala and Tamil.

Maternalist Politics in Sri Lanka: A Historical Anthropology of its Conditions of Possibility, PhD Dissertation in Anthropology. Ann Arbor: University Microfilms International, 1998.

Publications/Editor

Feminists Under Fire: Exchanges Across War Zones. With Wenona Giles, Edith Klein & Neluka Silva. Toronto: Between the Lines (2003). Also translated into Serbian/Bosnian/Croatian, Sinhala & Tamil.

Cat's Eye: A Feminist Gaze on Current Issues. Colombo: Social Scientists' Association, 2000.

Embodied Violence: Communalising Women's Sexuality in South Asia. With Kumari Jayawardena. Delhi: Kali for Women/London: Zed Press, 1996.

Publications/Reports

Capacity-Building in Conflict Zones: A Feminist Analysis of Humanitarian Assistance in Sri Lanka, with Jennifer Hyndman. Colombo: ICES, 2002.

Publications/Book Reviews & Review Essays

Review of *Recovering Subversion: Feminist Politics Beyond the Law* (2004), Nivedita Menon, in *www.lines-magazine.com*, November 2004.

"Review Essay: Exploring Psychic Suffering and Healing" in *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 18(1), March 2004.

Publications/Articles

"Reflections on Rights Discourses" in *Beyond the Merely Feasible: Transnational Women's Movements' Politics Today*, eds. Uta Ruppert, Andrea Jung & Beatrix Schwarzer. Baden-Baden, Germany: Nomos Verlag (forthcoming).

"Interrogating the 'Political': Feminist Peace Activism in Sri Lanka" in Special Issue of *Feminist Review* 91. Guest eds, Firdous Azim, Nivedita Menon & Dina Siddiqi.

"Tracing absent presence: Political community in the wake of atrocity" in *States of Trauma*, eds. Parama Roy, Piya Chatterjee & Manali Desai. Delhi: Zubaan.

"Remembering natural disaster: Politics and culture of memorials in Gujarat and Sri Lanka," with Edward Simpson, in *Anthropology Today* 24(4), August 2008.

"Reconstituting the Subject: Displaced Women and Humanitarian Assistance in Sri Lanka," with Jennifer Hyndman, in *Not Born a Refugee Woman*, eds. Nazilla Khanlou & Maroussia Ahmed. NY & Oxford: Berghahn Press, 2008.

"Domesticity and its Discontents" in *At the Cutting Edge: Kumari Jayawardena Felicitation Volume*, eds. Neloufer de Mel & Selvy Thiruchandran. Delhi: Women Unlimited, 2007.

"Women of Sri Lanka", "Sirimavo Bandaranaike" and "Chandrika Kumaranatunga" in *Encyclopaedia of Women in World History*. Oxford University Press, 2007.

"Louis Althusser" in *International Encyclopaedia of the Social Sciences, 2nd Edition*. Macmillan, 2007.

“Performing the Pass: Conflict, Mobility and Displacement in Sri Lanka,” with Jennifer Hyndman, in *Asian Migrations: Sojourning, Displacement, Homecoming and Other Travels*, eds. B.P. Lorente, N. Piper & Shen Sui-Hua and Brenda Yeoh. Singapore: Asian Research Institute, 2005.

“Bodies, Shrines and Roads: Violence, (Im)mobility and Displacement in Sri Lanka,” with Jennifer Hyndman, in *Gender, Place and Culture* 11(4), 2004.

“Feminism” in *A Companion to the Anthropology of Politics*, eds. Joan Vincent and David Nugent. Boston: Blackwell, 2004.

“A Rising in the East” in *Polity* 2(1), May-June 2004.

“The Moral Mother Syndrome” in *Indian Journal of Gender Studies* 11(1), Jan-April 2004.

“The Costs of Belonging: International Civil Society and Feminism” in *Ethnicity, Pluralism and Human Rights: Neelan Tiruchelvam Commemoration Conference Papers*, ed. A. J. Canagaratna. Colombo: International Centre for Ethnic Studies, 2004.

“The 'Purity' of Displacement and the Re-territorialization of Longing : Muslim Women Refugees in North-Western Sri Lanka”, in *Sites of Violence: Feminist Politics in Conflict Zones*, eds. Wenona Giles & Jennifer Hyndman. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2004.

“Reflections on Gender and Ethnicity in Sri Lanka” in *Feminists Under Fire: Exchanges Across War Zones*. With Wenona Giles, Edith Klein & Neluka Silva. Toronto: Between the Lines, 2003.

“Beyond Gender: Towards a Feminist Analysis of Humanitarianism and Development in Sri Lanka” in *Women's Studies Quarterly*, Vol. XXXI: 3&4, Fall/Winter 2003. With Jennifer Hyndman.

“Critical costs: negotiating feminism ‘at home’” in *Inter-Asia Cultural Studies Journal*, October 2002 .

“The Changing Role of Women in Sri Lankan Society” in *Social Research*, Vol. 69(3), Fall 2002.

“ ‘Housewives of the Public’: The Cultural Signification of the Sri Lankan Nation” in *Crossing Borders & Shifting Boundaries*, Vol.2, eds. Ilse Lenz, Helma Lutz, Mirjana Morokvasic-Muller, Claudia Schoning-Kalender & Helen Schwenken. Opladen: Leske + Budrich, 2002.

“How to Wage War the American Way” in *www.lines-magazine.com*, August 2002.

“The Contingent Politics of the Women's Movement in Sri Lanka”, with Kumari Jayawardena, in *Women in Post-Independence Sri Lanka*, ed. Swarna Jayaweera. Delhi: Sage, 2002.

“Ambivalent Maternalisms: Cursing as Public Protest in Sri Lanka” in *The Aftermath: Women in Post-Conflict Transformation*, eds. Sheila Meintjes, Anu Pillay & Meredith Turshen. London/New York: Zed Books, 2002.

“Counterpoints: *Meridians* Roundtable on Peace” (with Rita Arditti, Sandra Azar, Amrita Basu, Cynthia Cockburn, Carol Cohn & Val Moghadam /moderated by Kumkum Bhavnani) in *Meridians*, Vol. 2 (1), 2001.

“The 'Language of the Organs': The Political Purchase of Tears in Sri Lanka” in *Haunting Violations: Feminist Criticisms & the Crisis of the 'Real'*, eds. Wendy Hesford and Wendy Kozol. Champagne: Univ. of Illinois Press, 2000.

"Capacity building, accountability and humanitarianism in Sri Lanka," with Jennifer Hyndman, in *Forced Migration Review* 8, August 2000.

"Changing Role of Women and Nationalist Politics in Sri Lanka" in *Sri Lanka's Conflict Context and Options*, ed. Jayadeva Uyangoda. Colombo: Consortium of Humanitarian Agencies, 2000.

"Gender and Ethnicity" in *Identity, Culture & Politics* Vol. 1(1), January 2000.

"Millennial Musings on Maternalism" in *Asian Women*, Vol 9, December 1999.

" 'Respectability', 'Modernity' and the Policing of 'Culture' in Colonial Ceylon" in *Gender, Sexuality and Colonial Modernities*, ed. Antoinette Burton. London/NY: Routledge, 1999.

"Moral Mothers and Stalwart Sons: Reading Binaries in a Time of War" in *The Women and War Reader*, eds. Lois Lorentzen & Jennifer Turpin. New York: New York University Press, 1998.

"Motherhood as a Space of Protest: Women's Political Participation in Contemporary Sri Lanka" in *Appropriating Gender: Women's Activism and the Politicization of Religion in South Asia*, eds. Amrita Basu & Patricia Jeffrey. London/NY: Routledge/Delhi: Kali for Women, 1997.

Republished in *Women in Peace Politics*, ed. Paula Bannerjee. New Delhi: Sage, 2008.

"The Production and Embodiment of 'Respectability': Gendered Demeanours in Colonial Ceylon" in *Sri Lanka. Collective Identities Revisited, Vol. I*, ed. Michael Roberts. Colombo: Marga Institute Press, 1997.

"Sexuality in the Field of Vision: The Discursive Clothing of the Sigiriya Frescoes" in *Embodied Violence: Communalising Women's Sexuality in South Asia*, eds. Kumari Jayawardena & Malathi de Alwis. Delhi: Kali for Women/London & New Jersey: Zed Press, 1996.

"Notes Towards the Discussion of Female Portraits as Texts" in *Pravada* Vol 4 (5&6), 1996

"Gender, Politics and the 'Respectable Lady'" in *Unmaking the Nation: The Politics of Identity and History in Modern Sri Lanka*, eds. Pradeep Jeganathan & Qadri Ismail. Colombo: Social Scientists' Association, 1995.

"Towards a Feminist Historiography: Reading Gender in the Text of the Nation" in *Introduction to Social Theory*, eds. Radhika Coomaraswamy & Nira Wickremasinghe. Delhi: Konark Press, 1994.

"Reading the 'Body' in Rumours of Death" with Pradeep Jeganathan in *Pravada*, Vol 3 (6), August 1994.

Republished in *Matters of Violence: Reflections on Social and Political Violence in Sri Lanka*, eds. Jayadeva Uyangoda and Janaka Biyanwila. Colombo: Social Scientists' Association, 1997.

"The Articulation of Gender in Cinematic Address: Sinhala Cinema in 1992" in *Images*, ed. Selvy Thiruchandran. Colombo: WERC, 1994. Republished in *Nivedini: A Feminist Journal*, May 1995.

"The 'Manliness of War' and the Abstraction of Death: A Feminist Critique of Operation Desert Storm" in *Economic and Political Weekly of India*, September 1991.

Republished in *Lanka Guardian*, September 1991 & *Pravada*, Vol 1 (2), January 1992.

Conferences/Presentations

International Conference on Feminist Research Methods, Stockholm University [Invited Presentation]

"No Space for Politics? Revisiting the 'Awkward' Relationship between Anthropology and Feminism," February 2009

[Chair: Alice Szezepanikova]

Seminaire International Genre, Mobilites et Mobilisations, Maison Max Weber, Nanterre [Invited Presentation]
“Political Violence, War and Displacement in Sri Lanka,” January 2009 [Chair: Mirjana Morokovasic-Muller]

Genre et Conflict Seminaire, Centre de Recherches Politique de Sorbonne [Invited Presentation]
“Tracing Absent Presence in the Wake of Atrocity,” January 2009 [Chair: Jane Freedman]

Conference on Organising for Social Justice and Poverty Reduction, London School of Economics [Invited Presentation]
“Masculinity, Mourning and Memorialisation in Eastern Sri Lanka,” January 2009 [Chair: Stephen Morse]

Department of Anthropology, SOAS, University of London [Invited Presentation]
“Tracing Absent Presence in the Wake of Atrocity,” October 2008 [Chair: Parvathi Raman]

Department of Sociology, University of Nottingham [Invited Presentation]
“Interrogating the ‘Political’: Rethinking Feminist Peace Activism in Sri Lanka,” October 2008 [Chair: Srila Roy]

Conference on Bodily States in South Asia, Institute of Advanced Study, University of Warwick [Invited Presentation]
“On Bodily Traces and the ‘Disappeared’ in Sri Lanka,” September 2008 [Chair: Sarah Hodges]

Centre for Media and Cultural Studies, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai [Invited Presentation]
Tracing the ‘Disappeared’: Political Community in the Wake of Atrocity,” August 2008 [Chair: Shilpa Phadke]

International Conference on Ethnographies of Suicide, Brunel University, London [Invited Presentation]
“Suicide as Social Protest?,” July 2008 [Chair: Melissa Parker]

Department of Sociology/Alternative Globalizations Forum, Keele University, UK [Invited Lecture]
“A Community of Dependents? Political Activism in Post-tsunami Sri Lanka,” June 2008 [Chair: Jane Krishnadas]

School Seminar on Memory & Trauma, University of East London [Invited Lecture]
“The Politicization of Loss: Memorializing Natural Disasters in India & Sri Lanka,” with Edward Simpson, June 2008
[Chair: Nira Yuval-Davis]

Post-Crisis, Post-Conflict Colloquium, CRASSH, Cambridge University, UK [Invited Lecture]
“The Politicization of Loss: Memorializing Natural Disasters in India & Sri Lanka,” with Edward Simpson, June 2008

WICZNET Conference on Revisioning & Reimagining the Future, Inter University Centre, Dubrovnik, Croatia [Invited Presentation], “WICZNET: A Southern Perspective”, May 2008 [Chair: Leanne MacMillan]

Center for India & South Asia, University of California, Los Angeles [Invited Lecture]
“A Community of Dependents? Political Activism in Post-tsunami Sri Lanka,” May 2008 [Chair: Saloni Mathur]

International Conference on Gender of ‘Terror’, University of California, Los Angeles [Invited Presentation]
“Politicizing Grief in the Wake of Atrocity”, May 2008 [Respondent: Akhil Gupta]

Center for Feminist Research/Center for Refugee Studies, York University, Toronto [Invited Lecture]
“Landscapes of Loss: Political Community in the Wake of Atrocity”, April 2008 [Chair: Alison Crosby]

Gender & Globalization Center/South Asia Center, Syracuse University, New York [Invited Lecture]
“Landscapes of Loss: Political Community in the Wake of Atrocity”, April 2008 [Chair: Jennifer Hyndman]

Conference on South Asian Feminisms: Gender, Culture & Politics, University of Pennsylvania [Invited Presentation]
 “Interrogating the ‘Political’: Reflections on Feminist Peace Activism in Sri Lanka,” March 2008

Programme in Women’s Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi [Invited Lecture]
 “Landscapes of Loss: Political Community in the Wake of Atrocity”, January 2008 [Chair: Anuradha Chernoy]

International Conference on Re-examining Disaster, Recovery and Reconstruction: Social Science Perspectives on the
 Tsunami, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi [Invited Presentation]
 “The Politicization of Loss: Memorializing Natural Disasters in India & Sri Lanka,” with Edward Simpson, January 2008
 [Chair: Harish Naraindas]

International Conference on Re-examining Disaster, Recovery and Reconstruction: Social Science Perspectives on the
 Tsunami, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi [Invited Presentation]
 “A Community of Dependents: ‘Doing Politics’ in Post-Tsunami Sri Lanka,” January 2008 [Chair: Gurpreet Mahajan]

International Conference Moving Cultures, Shifting Identities, Flinders University, Adelaide [Invited Keynote Speaker],
 “Landscapes of Loss: Political Community in the Wake of Atrocity,” December 2007 [Chair: Jane Haggis]

Department of Anthropology, University of Ireland, Maynooth [Invited Lecture]
 “A Community of Dependents? ‘Doing Politics’ in Post-Tsunami Sri Lanka,” November 2007
 [Chair: Chandana Mathur]

International Conference on Development’s Futures, University of Ireland, Galway
 “A Community of Dependents: ‘Doing Politics’ in Post-Tsunami Sri Lanka,” November 2007

Department of Anthropology, National University of Ireland, Maynooth [Invited Lecture]
 “Tracing Absent Presence: Rethinking Political Community in the Wake of Atrocity,” [Chair: Chandana Mathur]

Centre for International Studies, Oxford University [Invited Lecture]
 “Landscapes of Loss: Political Community in the Wake of Atrocity,” November 2007 [Eva-Lotta Hedman]

South Asia People’s Summit, India Islamic Cultural Centre, New Delhi [Invited Presentation]
 “Patriarchal Wars & Feminist Praxis,” April 2007 [Chair: Kamla Bhasin]

Imagine New South Asia, Institute of Human Development, New Delhi [Invited Keynote Speaker]
 “A Feminist Critique of Rights Discourses,” March 2007 [Chair: Kamla Bhasin]

International Workshop on Representation & Displacement/State & Nation, Refugee Studies Centre, Oxford University
 [Invited Super Discussant], February 2007 [Convenors: Eva-Lotta Hedman & Graeme Rodgers]

Cornelia Goethe Centrum, Universitat Frankfurt am Main [Invited Lecture]
 “Interrogating the ‘Political’: Rethinking Feminist Peace Activism in Sri Lanka,” January 2007 [Chair: Uta Ruppert]

International Conference on Transnational Women’s Movements, Universitat Frankfurt am Main [Invited Presentation]
 “Feminist Reflections on Rights Discourses,” January 2007 [Chair: Uta Gerhard]

IDRC/ICES Conference on Post-tsunami Reconstruction in Contexts of Conflict, CIS, Universiti Sains Malaysia, Penang
 [Convenor & Presenter]. “A Community of Dependents?: Doing Politics in Post-tsunami Sri Lanka,” December 2006 [Chair:
 Francis Loh]

International Conference A World in Transition: New Challenges to Gender Justice, GADNET/CWDS, New Delhi [Invited Keynote Speaker], “Tracing Absent Presence: Rethinking Political Community in the Wake of Atrocity,” December 2006 [Chair: Mary John]

Silver Jubilee International Conference, Eastern University of Sri Lanka, Chenkaladi [Invited Presentation]
“Tracing Absent Presence: Rethinking Political Community in the Wake of Atrocity,” December 2006 [Chair: Sitralega Maunaguru]

Regional Conference on Self-Immolation, AIHRC/Medica Mondiale, Kabul, Afghanistan [Invited Presentation]
“‘Girl still burning inside my head’: A Feminist Analysis of Suicide in Sri Lanka,” November 2006 [Chair: Farid Hamidi]

South Asian Feminist Conference, SANGAT/Women & Media Collective, Negombo, Sri Lanka [Invited Presentation]
“Rethinking Feminist Peace Activism in Sri Lanka,” July 2006 [Chair: Amrita Chachchi]

Meetings of the South Asia Anthropologist Group, Goldsmiths College, UK [Invited Presentation]
“A Community of Dependents?: Doing Politics in Post-tsunami Sri Lanka.” July 2006 [Discussant: Patricia Jeffrey]

Annual Meetings of the International Association for the Study of Forced Migration, York University, Toronto
“Women in Conflict Zones Network: A View from the South.” June 2006 [Discussant: Doreen Indra]

Meetings of the Postnational Collective, Institute of Economic Growth, New Delhi
“Interrogating the ‘Political’: Rethinking Feminist Peace Activism in Sri Lanka,” August 2005

Institute for International Integration Studies, Trinity College, Dublin [Invited Presentation]
“Interrogating the ‘Political’: Feminist Peace Activism in Sri Lanka, July 2005 [Chair: Chandana Mathur]

Conference on Activism and Civil Society in South Asia, Oxford University, UK [Invited Presentation]
“Interrogating the ‘Political’: Feminist Peace Activism in Sri Lanka,” June 2005 [Discussant: Laurie Vasily]

Conference on Women & Politics: Eastern Europe & the Third World, Inter University Centre, Dubrovnik, Croatia [Invited Presentation]
“Refiguring Feminist Politics post-NAM”, May 2005 [Discussant: Milica Antic Gaber]

International Conference on Asian Women’s/Gender Studies, Dalian University, China [Invited Presentation]
“Feminist Politics & Pedagogy”, Sept 2004 [Chair: Mary John]

Women’s Leadership Institute, Mills College, Oakland, CA [Invited Lecture]
“Tears and Curses: Maternalized Mobilizations in Sri Lanka”, March 2004 [Chair: Margo Okazawa-Rey]

Plenary Panel on Feminist Contestations on Gender and Political Violence, New School University [Invited Presentation],
March 2004 [Moderator: Hilla Dayan]

Graduate College of Postcolonial Studies, University of Munich [Invited Lecture]
“The ‘Purity’ of Displacement Reconsidered”, June 2003 [Chair: Frank Heidemann]

South Asia Seminar Series, Columbia University, New York [Invited Lecture]
“The ‘Language of the Organs’: The Political Purchase of Tears in Sri Lanka”, March 2003
[Chair: Gowri Viswanathan]

CODESRIA/ICES Afro-Asian Dialogue on State & Nation Making, Pretoria. South Africa

Invited Panel Discussant on “The Perpetration and Survival of Violence”, February 2003

Forschungskolloquium –Space-Boundaries-Distances. Faculty of Sociology, Univ. of Bielefeld [Invited Lecture]
"The 'Purity' of Displacement Reconsidered", January 2003 [Chair: Joanna Pfaff-Czarnecka]

Faculty Seminar, Dept. of Sociology, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka [Invited Lecture]
"The 'Language of the Organs': The Political Purchase of Tears in Sri Lanka", November 2002
[Chair: Amarasiri de Silva]

Xth National Conference of the Indian Association of Women's Studies, Bhubaneswar, Orissa [Invited Plenary
Presentation], “Reflections on Peace & the Professionalisation of Activism”, October 2002
[Chairs: Ritu Menon & Kamla Bhasin]

Fifth International APMRN Conference, Coral Coast, Fiji [Invited Presentation]
“Gendering Displacement in a Fissured Land”, September 2002 [Chair: Robyn Iredale]

Reconstituting Transnational Cultural Studies: Post/Colonial Condition of Knowledge Production, Kangwon National
University, Korea [Invited Presentation], “Critical Costs: Negotiating Feminism ‘at home’”, July 2002
[Chair: Kwan-Yeol Lee, Discussant: Yun-Geum Ha]

New Dimensions of Cultural Studies: Globalization, War, and Media, University of Tokyo, Japan [Invited
Presentation], “How to Wage War the American Way”, July 2002
[Chair: Shunya Yoshimi, Discussant: Ashish Rajadhyaksha]

Feminist Interventions: Rethinking South Asia, University of California, Santa Cruz [Invited Presentation]
“Re-thinking Feminist Peace Activism in Sri Lanka”, May 2002 [Chair: Anjali Arondekar]

International Workshop on Feminisms in Asia. Centre for the Study of Culture & Society, Bangalore [Invited
Presentation], "Re-thinking Feminist Peace Activism in Sri Lanka", October 2001

Feminist Peace Activism in South Asia, Nilaveli, Sri Lanka [Conf. Organizer & Presenter]
"What is Politics?", September 2001 [Chair: Radhika Coomaraswamy]

Discipline, Location, Politics: A Conversation. Interdisciplinary Faculty Seminar. Institute of Global Studies,
University of Minnesota [Invited Presentation] "Culture, Politics & Feminism", May 2001
[Respondents: Nivedita Menon & Vasuki Nesiah]

The Ron Lister Lecture in Social Sciences, University of Otago, Dunedin [Invited Presentation]
"The 'Language of the Organs': The Political Purchase of Tears in Sri Lanka", November 2000
[Chair: Michael Lawson, Dean]

The Language of 'Crisis', the State of the Field: South Asia, Sexuality, Violence, Center for Gender Studies,
University of Chicago [Invited Presentation]. "The Politics of Writing and the Writing of Politics", April 2000
[Chair: Riaz Khan]

WISCOMP Summer Symposium on Human Security in the New Millennium, Delhi [Invited Presentation]
"The Moral Mother Syndrome", August 2000 [Chair: Uma Chakravarti]

Neelan Tiruchelvam Commemoration Conference, Colombo [Invited Presentation]
"International Civil Society & Feminist Praxis", January 2000 [Chair: Sunila Abeyesekera]

Marie Jahoda Chair Workshop on Gender, War and Violence, Ruhr-Universität, Bochum [Invited Presentation]
"Is Maternalism a Feminist Issue?", January 2000 [Chair: Mirjana Morokvasic-Muller]

Women and Peace: War, Resistance and Justice, Baker Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies, Pennsylvania
"Motherhood as a Space of Protest", September 1999 [Chair: Donna Weimer]

The Aftermath: Women in Post-war Reconstruction, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa, [Invited
Plenary Presentation], "The Binary Logic of Losses and Gains in Women's Experiences of War," July 1999
[Chair: Anu Pillay]

Social Science Research Council Workshop on Gender and Ethnicity, Sri Lanka Foundation Institute,
Colombo [Invited Presentation], "Feminist Scholarship on Gender and Ethnicity: Preliminary Notes", January
1999 [Chair: Neloufer de Mel]

IGU conference on Gendered Sites, Human Rights, Gendered Sights, Human Rites, Univ. of Otago, New
Zealand [Invited Presentation], "The 'Purity' of Displacement & the Re-territorialization of Longing: Muslim
Women Refugees in Northwest Sri Lanka," February 1999 [Chair: Sarah Turner]

CODESRIA/ICES Africa-Asia Consultation on Ethnicity, Dakar, Senegal [Invited Presentation]
"Gender and Ethnicity", December 1998 [Chair: Robert Krieger]

Transnational Feminism: A Differentiated Global Social Movement. AFA Invited Panel at the AAA,
Washington D.C. "Is 'Maternalism' a Feminist Issue?", November 1997 [Discussant: Henrietta Moore]

Gender, Militarization, and the Nation-State, Women's Studies Research Center, University of Wisconsin-
Madison [Invited Presentation], "Moral Mothers and Stalwart Sons: Reading Binaries in a Time of War",
October 1997 [Moderator: Sharon Hutchinson]

Space/South Asia/Globalization, Wilder House, University of Chicago [Invited Presentation]
"The 'Purity' of Displacement and the Re-territorialization of Longing: Muslim Refugees in North-Western Sri
Lanka", May 1997 [Chair: Carol Breckenridge]

Department of Asian Studies, Mount Holyoke College [Invited Presentation]
"Motherhood as a Space of Protest: Women's Political Participation in Contemporary Sri Lanka", April 1997
[Chair: Indira Peterson]

Annual Meetings of the Asian Studies Association, Chicago
"Motherhood as a Space of Protest in Sri Lanka", March 1997 [Discussant: Nilanjana Chatterjee]

Frontline Feminisms: Women, War & Resistance, Riverside, CA [Invited Presentation]
"Feminist Responses to Maternalised Protests", January 1997 [Moderator: Parama Roy].

Rethinking the Third World: History/Development/Politics, Kingston, Jamaica ([Invited Presentation])
"Locating Motherhood, Spatializing Politics", December 1996 [Discussant: Partha Chatterjee].

Conference on Women in Conflict Zones, York University, Toronto, Canada [Invited Presentation]
"Gendering Violence and Displacement in Sri Lanka", November 1996 [Chair: Wenona Giles].

25th Annual Conference on South Asian Studies, Madison, Wisconsin

“Motherhood as a Space of Protest: Women’s Political Participation in Contemporary Sri Lanka”, Oct. 1996 [Discussant: Carol Breckenridge].

International Centre for Ethnic Studies, Lecture Series on Ethnicity and Identity [Invited Presentation]
"The Production and Embodiment of Respectability: Gendered Demeanours in Colonial Ceylon", Aug 1996 [Chair/Discussant: Radhika Coomaraswamy].

Symposium on Subaltern Studies, Whitman College, WA [Invited Presentation]
"Notes Towards the Discussion of Female Portraits as Texts", October 1995 [Chair: Jonathan Walters].

Conference on Aspects of Violence in Sri Lanka, Centre for Asian Studies, Amsterdam, The Netherlands [Invited Presentation], "Paternal States and Baby Brigades: Violence in the Name of the Nation", June 1995 [Discussant: Joke Schrijvers].

5th Annual Subaltern Studies Conference, Colombo, Sri Lanka [Competitive Selection]
"Motherhood as a Space of Protest", June 1995 [Discussant: Neloufer de Mel].

SSRC Conference on Appropriating Gender: Women’s Activism and the Politicization of Religion in South Asia, Bellagio, Italy [Invited Presentation], "The Seduction and Subversion of Motherhood: Gender and Nationalism in Sri Lanka", August 1994 [Discussant: Patricia Jeffrey].

Conference on Children and Nationalism, Centre for Child Research, Trondheim, Norway [Invited Presentation] "Making Soldiers in a Sri Lankan Classroom", May 1994 [Chair: Marianna Gullestad].

Division of the Social Sciences, Nanyang Technological Institute, Singapore [Invited Presentation]
"'Housewives of the Public': The Cultural Signification of a Nation", November 1993 [Chair: Wei Wan Ling]

ACFOD Conference on Re-thinking the Future of Feminism, Manila, Philippines [Invited Presentation]
“Gendered Violence and Feminist Politics in Sri Lanka”, November 1993 [Chair: Abha Bhaiya]

Senior Research Colloquium on Violence, Suffering and Healing in South Asia, Univ. of Delhi, India [Invited Presentation], "Paternal States and Mourning Mothers", August 1993 [Discussant: Patricia Uberoi].

SSRC Conference on Nationalising the Past, Goa, India [Invited Presentation]
"The Sacred and the Sexual: Nationalized History in the Modern Sri Lankan Landscape" with Pradeep Jeganathan, May 1993 [Discussant: Valentine Daniel].

ASR Conference on Feminist Theory and Praxis, Abbotabad, Pakistan [Invited Presentation]
"Gendering Politics and Politicizing Gender in Contemporary Sri Lanka", July 1992 [Chair: Nighat Said Khan].

Women: The State, Fundamentalism and Cultural Identity in South Asia, Hendela, Sri Lanka [Invited Presentation] “Sexuality in the Field of Vision”, March ‘92 [Chair: Uma Chakravarti].

National Lawyers Guild Regional Convention, Chicago [Invited Presentation]
“The ‘New World Order’ and the Re-masculinization of America”, April 1991 [Chair: Ora Schub].

Women’s Conference on Peace and Justice, Chicago [Invited Plenary Presentation]
“War: The Ultimate Aphrodisiac ?”, March 1991 [Chair: Bernadeen Dohrn].

Creative Work

"The Daughters of *Samsara*: Women and Buddhism", "Is *Shakti* Reborn ? : Women and Hinduism" and "A Woman's Cross: Women and Christianity" --ICES Documentary Videos, Assistant Director.

Poetry published in: *South Asia Bulletin*, *Lanka Guardian*, *Thatched Patio*, *Voice of Women*, *Grécourt Review*, *Vassar Poetry Broadsheet*, *Pegasus*, *Mt Holyoke News*, *International Newsletter*, *Nethra*.

Employment

INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR ETHNIC STUDIES, Colombo, Sri Lanka

Senior Research Fellow, August 1998-

Research Fellow, Social Sciences Division, January 1992-June 1994

Coordinator, Four Decades of Independence Conference, 1989

Researcher, Alternative Media Project, June 1986-July 1987

CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES, University of Chicago

Co-ordinator & Rapporteur, Regional Worlds/Globalization Project to re-conceptualize Area Studies & Cultural Studies, September 1995-June 1997

COUNCIL ON ADVANCED STUDIES IN THE HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES, Univ. of Chicago

Co-ordinator, South Asia Workshop, January 1995-June 1996.

SOCIAL SCIENTISTS' ASSOCIATION, Colombo, Sri Lanka

Consultant, Gender Studies Unit, June 1993-June 1994, Aug 1998-

Positions

NIVEDINI: A feminist Journal

Editorial Board, 2002-

INTER-ASIA CULTURAL STUDIES JOURNAL

Editorial Board, 2001-

ASIA PACIFIC MIGRATION RESEARCH NETWORK

Coordinator , Sri Lanka 2001-

CANADIAN WOMAN STUDIES/LES CAHIERS DE LA FEMME

Editorial Board, 2000

HARRY FRANK GUGGENHEIM FOUNDATION, New York

International Working Group on Gender and Violence, 1999-2002

WOMEN'S EDUCATION & RESEARCH CENTRE, Colombo

Board of Directors, 1999-

WOMEN'S COALITION FOR PEACE, Sri Lanka

Founder Member, August 1998

WOMEN IN CONFLICT ZONES NETWORK

Founder Member, 1996

SRI LANKA NATIONAL NGO FORUM ON WOMEN FOR BEIJING 1995

Founder Member, 1993

Represented this Forum at the Asia-Pacific Regional Conference in Manila, Nov. 1993 and at the UN Conference on the Status of Women in New York, March 1994

WOMEN AGAINST WAR COALITION, University of Chicago

Founder Member, 1991

GRADUATE COUNCIL FOR THE SOCIAL SCIENCES, University of Chicago

Department Representative, 1990-1991

CHICAGO ANTHROPOLOGY EXCHANGE, University of Chicago

Editorial Committee, 1990-1991

SOUTH ASIA GRADUATE STUDENT FORUM, University of Chicago

Founder member, 1990-1991

WOMEN FOR PEACE, Colombo

Executive Committee member, Jan-Dec 1989, Jan 1992-September 1994

SHAKTI : Feminist Study and Action Group, University of Chicago

Founder member, Sept. 1988.