

Curriculum Vitae  
**Vasabjit Banerjee**

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**ACADEMIC POSITIONS**

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| Spring 2021 | Associate Professor<br>Department of Political Science and Public Administration<br>Mississippi State University          |
| Spring 2017 | Coordinator of the International Studies Minor<br>College of Arts and Sciences  |
| Fall 2015   | Assistant Professor<br>Department of Political Science and Public Administration,<br>Mississippi State University         |
| 2014-2015   | Assistant Professor,<br>Department of Political Science and Public Service,<br>University of Tennessee at Chattanooga     |
| 2013-2014   | Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow and Visiting Assistant Professor,<br>Department of International Studies, Indiana University |
| 2012-2013   | Postdoctoral Research Fellow,<br>Department of Sociology, University of Pretoria<br>Supervisor: Jonathan Hyslop           |

**EDUCATION**

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 2005-2012 | Doctor of Philosophy, Political Science, Indiana University<br>Co-Advisors: Jack Bielasiak and Armando Razo |
| 2002-2004 | Master of Arts, Political Science, Miami University, Ohio   |
| 1998-2002 | Bachelor of Arts, Political Science and English, Wabash College, Indiana                                    |

**BOOK (Temple University Press, Spring 2019)**

*Undoing the Revolution: Comparing Elite Subversion of Peasant Rebellions*

The book explains why popular mobilizations create elite dominated state institutions. I argue that given collective action barriers, popular mobilizations succeed when they are localized and acquire resources from allied local elites. Subsequently, allied local elites leverage their resources to control these mobilizations and, still later, bargain among themselves to determine national level

institutions. The findings improve on prior research that explains the formation of state institutions as determined by nation-wide mobilizations and/or negotiations between national level groups.

Reviewed in: *Contemporary Sociology*; *Perspectives on Politics*; *Political Science*; and *International Journal of Comparative Sociology*

Recognition: 2020 *War on the Rocks* Holiday Reading List.

## **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

- Theoretical Interests: Conflict, Contentious Politics, Electoral Politics, Political Development, Political Economy, and Electoral Politics.
- Regional Interests: South Asia, Latin America, and Southern Africa

## **LANGUAGES**

- English
- Spanish
- Hindi/Urdu
- Bengali

## **RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS**

Prashant Hosur and Vasabjit Banerjee. "The Association of Electoral Volatility and Religious Riots in India." *Politics and Religion* 14.4 (2021): 787-808.

Vasabjit Banerjee and Carolyn Holmes. "Checking Trust: Measuring Social Capital at the Individual Level." *Journal of Modern African Studies* 58.2 (2020): 213-234.

Timothy Rich and Vasabjit Banerjee. "When the Choice is Made Matters: Voting in Japan's 2012 House of Representatives Election." *Political Science* 70.1 (2018): 26-40.

Jha, Anand, Christopher J. Boudreaux and Vasabjit Banerjee. "Political Leanings and Social Capital." *Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Economics* 72 (2018): 95-105.

Vasabjit Banerjee, Srobana Bhattacharya and Anand Jha. "Inequality and Elections: The Nationwide Origins and State-Level Dynamics of India's Maoist Insurgency." *Asian Affairs: An American Review* 44.3 (2017): 72-97.

Vasabjit Banerjee and Timothy Rich. "Lesotho's 2015 Legislative Election: Providing or Undermining Stability?" *Journal of Asian and African Studies* 52.5 (2017): 586-597.

Vasabjit Banerjee and Timothy Rich. "District level competition in Mexico's chamber of deputies: an embedded analysis." *Journal of Elections, Public Opinion and Parties* 26.4 (2016): 412-422.

Timothy Rich and Vasabjit Banerjee. "District Competition in Japan's 2014 Election: The Roles of Nominations, Incumbency, and Dual-Listing." *Representation* 52.2/3 (2016): 227-238.

Vasabjit Banerjee. "The Religious Origins of Class Coalitions: Elite Participation in Religiously-motivated Peasant Rebellions in Mexico, Zimbabwe, and India." *International Political Science Review* 36.5 (2015): 545-561.

Vasabjit Banerjee and Prashant H. Suhas. "Regime Type or Political Instability? Why Pakistan De-escalates or Enters Wars." *International Journal on World Peace* 32.2 (2015): 51-79.

Timothy Rich and Vasabjit Banerjee. "Running Out of Time? The Evolution of Taiwan's Relations in Africa." *Journal of Current Chinese Affairs (China Aktuell)* 44.1 (2015): 141-161.

Vasabjit Banerjee. "Party Organizations in Multiethnic and Homogenous Societies: Comparing India and Japan." *Journal of Contemporary Eastern Asia* 13.2 (2014): 57-68.

Timothy S. Rich, Vasabjit Banerjee and Sterling Recker. "Identifying the Institutional Effects of Mixed Systems in New Democracies: The Case of Lesotho." *Journal of Asian and African Studies* 49.6 (2014): 637-653.

### **WORKING PROJECTS**

Vasabjit Banerjee. "Leaders, Ideas and Resources: Insurgent Group Fragmentation in El Salvador and Guatemala's Civil War." Revise and Resubmit at *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism*.

Vasabjit Banerjee and Sean Webeck. "The Constitutional Perils of Civil-Military Relations in America." Revise and Resubmit at *Armed Forces and Society*.

Vasabjit Banerjee and Charley Willison. "City-Coups: How Militarized Police are Capturing City Governments." *Article submitted to journal*.

Vasabjit Banerjee. "With Friend's Like These: Israel and Taiwan's defense ties with Central America." *Article submitted to journal*

Vasabjit Banerjee and Prashant Hosur. "From Deterrence to Diversion: Comparing Belize and the Falklands." (Working Title). *Article under development*.

Carolyn Holmes and Vasabjit Banerjee. "Religious Riots and Electoral Effects: Vernacular-Language Media Framing of the 2002 Violence in Gujarat and Consequences for Indian Secularism". *Article under development*.

### **INVITED TALKS**

"Why Early Insurgent Groups Fail to Dominate Insurgencies: Comparing El Salvador with Guatemala." Latin American Studies Programme, Center for Canadian, US, & Latin American Studies, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, April 23, 2021.

"American Democracy at a Moment of Change." National Security Podcast, Australia National Security College, Australia National University, November 17, 2020.

"Peasant Rebels and International Capital: Britain and the Formation of the Post-1979 Zimbabwean Regime." Department of Political Science and International Relations' Research Colloquium, University of Delaware, May 13, 2015.

"From Revolution to Reform: Understanding the 1980 Regime in Zimbabwe." Center for African Studies Brown Bag Lecture Series, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, Feb. 12, 2014.

"New Institutions and Old Rulers: Multilateral Foreign Policy and US Decline." Vivekananda International Foundation, New Delhi, Jan. 3, 2013.

**SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

Vasabjit Banerjee and Sean Webeck. “The Constitutional Perils of Civil-Military Relations in America,” at the Inter-University Seminar on Armed Forces and Society, October 16, 2021.

Vasabjit Banerjee and Charley Willison. “City-Coups: How Militarized Police are Capturing City Governments,” at the American Political Science Association’s Annual Meeting, October 1, 2021.

Vasabjit Banerjee. “A Client’s Principles: Israel and Taiwan’s Defense Ties with Central America,” at the American Political Science Association’s Annual Meeting, September 10, 2020.

Vasabjit Banerjee. “The Second Insurgency: Explaining the Rise of Late-Entering Insurgent Groups in El Salvador and Guatemala,” at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, January 19, 2019.

Vasabjit Banerjee. “With Friends Like These: Israel and Taiwan’s Defense Ties with Central America,” at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, January 17, 2019.

Vasabjit Banerjee. “From Rationales to Institutions: Explaining Taiwan’s Defense Ties with Central America,” at the Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales Sede Ecuador and International Studies Association Joint International Conference, July 26, 2018.

Vasabjit Banerjee and Carolyn E. Holmes, “Trust Points and Check Points: Measuring Social Capital at the Individual Level,” at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, January 13, 2017.

Vasabjit Banerjee. “The Other Insurgency: Comparing Colombia’s ELN and Sri Lanka’s JVP,” at the Annual Conference of the International Studies Association – Midwest, November 18, 2016.

Vasabjit Banerjee and Carolyn E. Holmes, “Measuring Social Capital at the Intersection of Individuals and Society,” at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, September 3, 2015.

Vasabjit Banerjee, “The Regional (social) Origins of Semi-Authoritarianism: Post-Revolutionary Mexico,” at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA), April 6, 2014.

Vasabjit Banerjee, “Regime Transitions and War: Pakistan,” at the Annual Conference of the International Studies Association – Midwest, November 9, 2013.

Vasabjit Banerjee, “For Land and God: Elite Participation in Religious Mobilizations in Agrarian Societies,” at the Biennial Conference of the South African Association of Political Science, August 30, 2012.

Vasabjit Banerjee, “Local Mobilizations and Institution Formation in Developing Societies,” at Annual Congress of the South African Sociological Association, Cape Town, July 3, 2012.

Vasabjit Banerjee, “Between Rational and Moral Peasants: The Micro-Structural Origins of Peasant Mobilizations,” at Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA), Chicago, 2012.

Vasabjit Banerjee and Rafael Khachaturian, “Back to the Structure: Power in Mobilization,” at Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA), Chicago, 2012.

Vasabjit Banerjee, “Victorious Rebels and the Lost Revolution: The Establishment of the Semi-Authoritarian PRI Regime in Mexico,” at Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA), April 1, 2011.

Vasabjit Banerjee, “Peasant Uprisings and Bourgeois Rule: Decolonization and Democratization in India,” at Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA), March 31, 2011.

Vasabjit Banerjee, “The PRI in Mexico: Peasant Rebellions, Lordly Remnants, and a Bourgeois Revolution,” at Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA), April 2, 2009.

Vasabjit Banerjee, “The India Pakistan Rivalry as a Security Dilemma,” at Roundtable organized by SAPRA, India, titled *Is a Strong Pakistan in India's Interest?*, India International Center, Delhi, 26 June, 2006.

### **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

- June 2016: Led a team that conducted surveys and interviews in Johannesburg and Pretoria in South Africa.
- July 2014: Exploratory Trip to Mexico, in order to conduct preliminary research at the *Instituto Nacional de Estudios Históricos de las Revoluciones de México* (INEHRM).
- May 2013: Exploratory Trip to Zimbabwe, in order to meet scholars and acquire institutional support for future field-research.
- July 2012-July 2013: Post-Doctoral Fellowship in the University of Pretoria to study South Africa and Zimbabwe, in order to transform the dissertation into a book.
- Summer 2010: Collected data from archives in New Delhi, to support the Indian case study part of my dissertation.
- Fall 2009: Collected data from archives in Mexico City, to support the Mexican case study part of my dissertation.
- August 2007: Interviewed academics and collected comprehensive statistical data on Mexican federal elections from 1991-2007.
- Summer 2006: Interviewed policy makers and academics in India, which resulted in several policy articles about the domestic level determinants of South Asian states' foreign policies.
- Summer 2004: Constructed a database on conventional weapons and weapons systems, and an interactive database on major military formations, of the Indian and Pakistani Armed Forces.
- Summer 2004: Interviewed Members of Parliament and Bureaucrats on Indian foreign policy and national security, focusing on construction and perception of Indian identity in international relations.

### **RESEARCH HONORS and AWARDS**

- ACADEX-ORED Exploratory Research Grant: \$1,250.
- John C. Stennis Summer Research Grant, 2016: \$5,000.
- Selected as Visiting Scholar to *Centro de Investigaciones y Estudios Superiores en Antropología Social* (CIESAS), México City: Fall, 2009

- Selected for The Seventh Arizona State University Institute on Qualitative and Multi-Method Research: 2007. Indiana University, Dept. of Political Science.
- Katharine Greenough Fellowship: 2007, Indiana University.
- Pre-Dissertation grant for exploratory research in Mexico: 2007. Tinker Foundation.
- Best Paper in Comparative Politics, Political Science Graduate Student Conference at Indiana University: 2006
- Teaching Assistantship: 2006-2008. Indiana University, Dept. of Political Science.
- India Studies Fellowship: 2005-2006, Indiana University, India Studies Program.
- Research Grant: 2004. Miami University, College of Arts and Sciences.
- Graduate Research Grant: 2003, 2004. Miami University, Dept. of Political Science.
- Research Grant: 2003, 2004. Miami University, Dept. of Political Science.
- Graduate Assistantship: 2002-2005. Miami University, Dept. of Political Science.
- International Merit Scholar, Full Tuition Scholarship: 1998-2002, Wabash College.

### **RELEVANT TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**Mississippi State University** Department of Political Science and Public Administration  
*Assistant and Associate Professor*

Courses Taught: International Conflict; Introduction to International Relations; Latin American Politics; Introduction to Comparative Politics.

**University of Tennessee  
At Chattanooga** Department of Political Science and Public Service  
*Assistant Professor*

Courses Taught: Introduction to Comparative Politics; Latin American Politics; Globalization; Introduction to International Relations; Politics of South Asia; Social Movements.

**Indiana University** Department of International Studies  
*Visiting Assistant Professor*

Courses Taught: Diplomacy, Security, and Governance.

**University of Pretoria** Department of Sociology  
*Guest Lecturer*

Courses Taught: Globalization; Social Movements.

**Indiana University** Department of Political Science  
*Instructor*

Courses Taught: Latin American Politics in a New Age; International Political Controversies; American Political Controversies

### **TEACHING HONORS and AWARDS**

- Shackouls Honors College Faculty, 2018. Selected by the Dean of the Honors College, Mississippi State University.
- Outstanding Undergraduate Professor in the Department of Political Science and Public Administration, 2017. Selected by graduating majors at Mississippi State University.

## **SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION/UNIVERSITY**

- Reviewer** Perspectives on Politics  
Journal of Modern African Studies  
Journal of Contemporary African Studies  
Journal of International Relations and Development  
Comparative Political Studies  
International Political Science Review  
Armed Forces and Society  
African Security Review  
Foreign Policy Analysis  
Democracy and Security  
Research and Politics  
Journal of Elections, Public Opinion, and Parties
- Committees** *University of Tennessee at Chattanooga*  
Departmental Committee on Curriculum Mapping, 2014  
Search Committee for Assistant Professor in American Politics, 2015
- Mississippi State University*  
Departmental Committee on Fifth Year MPPA Program, 2016-2017  
Departmental Undergraduate Committee, 2016-2017  
College of Arts and Sciences, Diversity Committee, 2021-Present  
Mississippi State Model Security Council, 2015-2017  
College of Arts and Sciences, General Liberal Arts Committee, 2016-2017  
International Institute Advisory Committee, 2016-2017
- Southern Political Science Association, Annual Conference, 2017*  
Section Chair: Comparative Politics, Developing Societies

## **POLICY EXPERIENCE**

- Visiting Fellowships 2012, January-2015, January, Vivekananda International Foundation,  
New Delhi, India
- 2006, May-July, Security and Political Risk Analysis, India  
(SAPRA, India), New Delhi
- 2004, May-July, Security and Political Risk Analysis, India  
(SAPRA, India), New Delhi
- Foreign Policy 2003-2004, United States India Political Action Committee  
Consultant (USINPAC), Washington DC

## **RELEVANT POLICY ARTICLES PUBLISHED WITH STUDENTS**

Feifei Zeng and Vasabjit Banerjee. "China Has Embedded Global Lending Institutions in Its Belt and Road Initiative." The News Lens International 16 April 2019.

Zachery Abunemeh and Vasabjit Banerjee. "How External Actors Have Worsened Venezuela's Long Crisis." Georgetown Journal of International Relations. July 2019.

Vasabjit Banerjee and Marisa Laudadio. “Praetorians in the time of Pandemic: Militaries in Latin American Populist Regimes.” Columbia, SIPA: Journal of International Affairs. 16 May, 2020.

### **RELEVANT POLICY AND MEDIA ARTICLES**

Vasabjit Banerjee and Charlie Thomas. “A Friend in Need: A Call for Rejuvenating U.S.-South African Defense Relations.” The Strategy Bridge 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter, November 2021.

Timothy S. Rich, Vasabjit Banerjee, and Alianna Casas. “What does Mexico’s legislative election tell us?” Election Watch 19 July 2021.

Vasabjit Banerjee and M. P. Broache. “Could America’s Electoral Process Foment Political Violence?” Just Security 23 November 2020.

Vasabjit Banerjee, Prashant Hosur Suhas and Timothy S. Rich. “India-Taiwan Defense Ties: A Future Area of Collaboration.” Centre on Asia and Globalization, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, China-India Brief #170, 31 October 2020 – 10 November 2020.

Vasabjit Banerjee. “Is the United States Heading for a Rural Insurgency?” Just Security 5 October 2020.

Vasabjit Banerjee and Timothy S. Rich. “View: American policy makers support the Quad, but does the public?” The Economic Times 30 August 2020.

Vasabjit Banerjee and Timothy S. Rich. “Which side would the US public choose in an India-China conflict?” The Interpreter (Lowy Institute) 30 July 2020.

Vasabjit Banerjee. “Robert Mugabe has Died. But Zimbabwe’s institutional legacies that shaped his repressive regime live on.” Washington Post: Monkey Cage 8 September 2019.

Vasabjit Banerjee and Prashant Hosur. “Indian Air Strategy After Balakot: The China Factor.” The Diplomat 1 March 2019.

Vasabjit Banerjee. “Even after Mugabe, Zimbabwe’s elections do not appear free or fair.” Washington Post: Monkey Cage 22 August 2018.

Vasabjit Banerjee and Prashant Hosur. “Amid Domestic Strife, Maldives Military Takes to International Stage.” The News Lens International 31 May 2018.

Vasabjit Banerjee and Prashant Hosur. “The Rafale Acquisition Scandal: A Potential Threat to France-India Defense Relations.” The Diplomat 12 December 2017.

Vasabjit Banerjee and Timothy Rich. “Diamonds and the Crocodile: China’s Role in the Zimbabwe Coup.” The Diplomat 22 November 2017.

Ashraf Haidari (Director-General of Policy and Strategy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan) and Vasabjit Banerjee. “Privatization of Security Can Derail US-Led Stabilization of Afghanistan.” The Diplomat 21 August 2017.

Vasabjit Banerjee and Timothy Rich. “Lesotho needs a new electoral system.” Mail and Guardian 21 July 2017.



Timothy Rich and Vasabjit Banerjee. "Panama Switch Marks China's Return to Checkbook Diplomacy." The Diplomat 14 June 2017.

Timothy Rich and Vasabjit Banerjee. "Time to End Checkbook Diplomacy, Taiwan." The News Lens International 15 June 2017.

Vasabjit Banerjee. "The New India-US Foreign Policy: Dual Audiences and Track II Diplomacy." The News Lens International 14 March 2017.

Timothy Rich and Vasabjit Banerjee. "Future Opportunities for Indo-Taiwanese Collaboration lie in the Spheres of Trade and Security". Taiwan Sentinel 2 February 2017.

Vasabjit Banerjee. "India's Great Expectation of Trump's Foreign Policy: Keeping Russia in, China Down and Pakistan Out." The News Lens International 26 January 2017.

Timothy Rich and Vasabjit Banerjee. "Lesotho and the limits of electoral reform." Africa Research Institute 26 April 2016.

Vasabjit Banerjee. "Crisis in Mali: Policy Report." Vivek: Issues and Options 2.5 (2013): 58-62.

Vasabjit Banerjee. "The Future of Indian Alliances: Relations with Australia, Japan, and Singapore." SAPRA India Bulletin December 2007.

Vasabjit Banerjee and Dipanjan Roy Chaudhury. "India and the US: Divided on Pakistan." SAPRA India Bulletin September 2006.

Vasabjit Banerjee and M. K. Dhar (Former Joint Director, Intelligence Bureau of India). "India's Bangladesh Dilemma." SAPRA India Bulletin July 2006.

Vasabjit Banerjee. "The Iran Nuclear Standoff: The Great Powers and the Indian Response." SAPRA India Bulletin June 2006.

Vasabjit Banerjee and Dipanjan Roy Chaudhury. "India and the US: Convergence and Divergence." Journal of Peace Studies 13.3 (2006): 83-88.

Vasabjit Banerjee. "Untitled": Report on the Indian nuclear doctrine and command structure, to inform Democratic presidential candidates, 2003, on behalf of USINPAC.

Vasabjit Banerjee. "Untitled": Report on Human Rights violations by authorities in Pakistani Administered Kashmir for USINPAC, used for presentation during Congressional Hearing on Kashmir, 2004.