

# Shantanu Kulshreshth

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## Education

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**2021 - Ongoing** University of Melbourne. PhD, School of Geography, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences

- Passed viva with minor revisions (2 February 2026).
- Funded under ARC Project: Youth and the Politics of Liberalism in India. Supervisors: Prof. Craig Jeffrey (Principal Supervisor) and Prof. Jane Dyson (Co-Supervisor).
- Thesis title: Precarity, Islam, and marginalised young people's cultural production of work in North India

**2020 - 2021** Ashoka University. M.A (Hons.) by Research, Department of Political Science

- Thesis title: The Revolution Will Be Tweeted: Bhim Army and Social Media Mobilisation.
- CGPA: 3.82/4

**2019 - 2020** Young India Fellowship, Ashoka University. PGD in Liberal Arts

- Recipient of Rosey Blue Foundation Scholarship. CGPA of 3.68/4

**2016 - 2019** University of Delhi, Kirori Mal College. Bachelor of Arts (Honours), Department of Political Science

## Research Outputs

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### *Peer-reviewed Journal Articles* →

**Kulshreshth, Shantanu.** 2026 (Online). 'Becoming serious young men: Joblessness, platform enterprising, and the contradictory production of Amazon reselling in North India'. *Geoforum* 172

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.geoforum.2026.104621>

**Kulshreshth, Shantanu.** 2024. 'Kaam: Youth, Religiosity, and the cultural production of good work in a North Indian Madrasa'. *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space* 43 (3): 543-564.

<https://doi.org/10.1177/02637758241302198>.

**Kulshreshth, Shantanu.** 2023. "'Social Media Is the Second Ambedkar": Bhim Army and Social Media Mobilisation in North India'. *South Asia: Journal of South Asian Studies* 46 (5): 934-55.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/00856401.2023.2216514>.

**Kulshreshth, Shantanu.** 2023. "'The State Is the Biggest Goonda": Civic Masculinity, Radical Victimhood, and Power in Bhim Army Discourse'. *South Asia Multidisciplinary Academic Journal*, no. 31.

<https://doi.org/10.4000/kjzb>.

**Kulshreshth, Shantanu.** (In Revision). 'Love, Sex, and Other Drugs: Youth, Islam, and the everyday poetics of Infrastructures in North India'. *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute*

### *Reports and Policy Briefs* →

Verma, Rahul, and **Shantanu Kulshreshth.** 2022. 'Democratizing the Digital Space: Harnessing Technology to Amplify Participation in Governance Processes in the Global South'. Tech4Change Policy Briefs. United Nations Development Programme. <https://doi.org/10.13140/RG.2.2.18535.42404>

**Politics Initiative,** Centre for Policy Research. 2022. 'Regional Party Systems in India'. Report and brief for Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung (RLS) South Asia

### *Book chapters* →

Jaffrelot, Christophe, and **Shantanu Kulshreshth.** (Forthcoming, March 2026). 'Who Rules Madhya Pradesh?', in *Resilient elitism. The changing profile of India's regional assemblies* ed.s. Christophe Jaffrelot & Gilles Verniers. Routledge India

### *Non-traditional research outputs* →

**Kulshreshth, Shantanu.** 2024. 'In Chandrashekhara Azad's win in Nagina, Mayawati and the BSP's tale of decline'. *The Indian Express*, June 7 2024, sec. Opinion (Online).

<https://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/columns/chandrashekhara-azad-nagina-lok-sabha-election-results-9377649/>

**Kulshreshtha, Shantanu.** 2021. ‘Dalit Resistances to “Indian Political Modernity”’. *Final Draft: A Journal of the YIF Critical Writing Programme*, no. 4 (August).

### Datasets →

Verniers, Gilles, TCPD, and **Shantanu Kulshreshth.** 2023. “TCPD Indian Elections Data v2.0” –Madhya Pradesh Assembly Elections Caste Profile ’ (Available on Request)

### Academic Meetings (Conferences, Talks, Seminars)

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#### Conferences (selected)→

- 2024** *Ajeeb sa (Strange-ish): inter-gender sociality and the awkward production of youth masculinities in North India*. Institute of Australian Geographers (IAG) 2024 Conference, University of Adelaide. (July 2024)
- 2023** *B.A. fir Biya? Education Policy and Young Muslim Women's Contested Mobilities in North India*. Workshop on “Unequal Graduate Outcomes: International perspectives over the Long-Term”, Centre for Global Higher Education, London. (September 2023)
- 2023** *“Why To Be Scared When We Only Loved”: Love Marriage, Gender, and Citizenship in an Indian Muslim Neighbourhood*. European Consortium of Political Research (ECPR) General Meeting, Charles University, Prague. (September 2023)
- 2023** *Thinking Through Kaam: Work, Leisure, and youth mobilities in a North Indian neighbourhood Madrasa*. Summer School on Modern History and Anthropology of Work, Jagiellonian School of History and Culture, Jagiellonian University, Cracow. (August 2023)
- 2022** *Azad Samaj Party: Inter-bloc Dalit reconfiguration and micro-party formation*. CPR Conference on India’s Political Parties, India International Centre, New Delhi. (December 2022)
- 2022** *The CAA-NRC Protests: Analyzing New Ecologies of Youth Protest in India*. 50th Annual Conference on South Asia, University of Wisconsin-Madison. Co-presented with Avishek Jha (October 2022)
- 2021** *The Revolution will be Tweeted: Anti-Caste Mobilisation and the Dalit Cybersphere in India*. Sixth International Conference on Communication and Media Studies, University of Toronto. (October 2021)
- 2021** *Immunity from Bloc Fragmentation: Madhya Pradesh’s Dalit legislators*. 49th Annual Conference on South Asia, University of Wisconsin-Madison. Co-presented with Christophe Jaffrelot. (October 2021)
- 2020** *Working Paper - Caste in Madhya Pradesh Assembly Elections*. Social Profile of India’s National and Provincial Elected Representatives (SPINPER) Conference, Sciences Po, Paris. (November 2020)

#### Invited Talks and Workshops →

- 2024** *Being young and doing Bakhodi: Reflections on humour, fun, and 'nonsense' in fieldwork.* Geography Postgraduate Society Travelogue Series, University of Melbourne
- 2022** *“Social Media is the Second Ambedkar”: Bhim Army and Social media mobilisation in North India*. Geography India Group (GIG), University of Melbourne.
- 2021** *Digital Methods for Political Research*. Politics Initiative, Centre for Policy Research.

#### Academic Events Convened (selected)→

- 2024** Queer(ing) South Asia in Australia Seminar Series. Monthly talks delivered by Queer South Asian artists and performers based in Australia
- 2024** UoM South Asia Forum Conference. Participation from 40+ international speakers across 7 panels.
- 2022-** South Asia Forum Fortnightly Seminars. Forum bringing together 200+ international ECRs and GR scholars.
- 2021** Two SouthernVoice-UNDP-CPR Expert Roundtables on Digitisation in the Global South. Supported by Government of Denmark’s Tech for Democracy Conference

### Scholarships, Grants, and Awards

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## Educational Scholarships →

**2021 - 2025** Melbourne Research Scholarship, University of Melbourne

- Awarded to pursue Doctor of Philosophy - Science at the University of Melbourne
- Inclusive of tuition costs, stipend, healthcare, and moving allowance.

**2019 - 2020** Rosey Blue Foundation Scholarship

- Merit scholarship awarded as a fee offset during the Young India Fellowship

## Non-remunerative awards →

**2019** Excellence in Debating. Kirori Mal College, University of Delhi

**2016** International Award for Young People–Gold Standard. Duke of Edinburgh Foundation

## Selected Grants (More than AUD\$2,000; Overall Total: AUD\$60,000) →

Year	Title/Purpose	Total Value (in AUD):
2025	Faculty of Science, University of Melbourne. Various small postgraduate writing up grants. <b>Shantanu Kulshreshth</b>	AUD\$8000
2024	Chancellery Global, Culture and Engagement & School of Geography, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences University of Melbourne. Event Support Grant. <i>South Asia Forum Conference</i> . Nishtha Tewari, <b>Shantanu Kulshreshth</b> , and Avishek Jha.	AUD\$5250
2024	Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF) Selection Panel, University of Melbourne. <i>South Asia Graduate Researchers' Collective 2024-2025 Support</i> . <b>Shantanu Kulshreshth</b> , Avishek Jha, and Nishtha Tewari.	AUD\$5000
2024	Caldwell Trust and Queen's College Melbourne. <i>Caldwell Graduate Humanities/Social Sciences Scholarship</i> . <b>Shantanu Kulshreshth</b> .	AUD\$5,200
2023	Faculty of Science, University of Melbourne. <i>Riady Scholarship to support exceptional fieldwork in Asia</i> . <b>Shantanu Kulshreshth</b> .	AUD\$2,000
2023	Norman Macgeorge Bequest Committee of Management, University of Melbourne. <i>Norman Macgeorge Scholarship to support travel to prestigious international research institutions</i> . <b>Shantanu Kulshreshth</b> .	AUD\$5,000
2023	Research Development Unit, University of Melbourne. <i>RDU Initiative Grant to support the creation of UoM South Asia Graduate Researchers' Collective</i> . Nishtha Tewari, Avishek Jha, and <b>Shantanu Kulshreshth</b> .	AUD\$9,000
2022	Faculty of Science, University of Melbourne. <i>Science Abroad Travelling Scholarship (SATS) to support fieldwork</i> . <b>Shantanu Kulshreshth</b> .	AUD\$2,000
2022	Russel and Mab Grimwade Miegunyah Fund, University of Melbourne. <i>Miegunyah International Scholarship to support international conference presentations</i> . <b>Shantanu Kulshreshth</b> .	AUD\$10,000
2020	Campus France-French Embassy of India. <i>Charpak Scholarship to pursue research at CNRS-Sciences Po</i> . <b>Shantanu Kulshreshth</b>	EUR€4,500

## Research Employment

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**2021-2024** Sparx Centre for Livelihood Research. *Research Associate* (Remote)

- Prepared a handbook on Indian Politics and Governance
- Prepared reports and briefs on unemployment, labour, youth, and agricultural incomes in India

**2021-2022** Centre for Policy Research. *Research Associate* (New Delhi)

- Managing the Uttar Pradesh taskforce to coordinate interdepartmental research before the 2022 elections
- Undertaking independent fieldwork based research on political families and local political economy

**2021** Albert Hirschman Centre on Democracy. *Research Affiliate* (Geneva)

- Working with Professor Shalini Randeria on the 'Everyday State in India' at the Graduate Institute, Geneva

**2020-2021** Trivedi Centre for Political Data. *Research Assistant* (Sonipat)

- Compiling caste data for MLA Candidates in Madhya Pradesh from 1962-2018
- Working on enhancing parameters for publicly available electoral data with the Lokdhaba project

## Service

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### To the profession →

**2024** Co-convenor and organiser, South Asia Forum Graduate Research Conference, University of Melbourne

**2024-Ongoing** Elected At-large Board Member, Geographies of Religion and Belief Systems Group, American Association of Geographers (AAG)

**2023-Ongoing** Co-Convenor, University of Melbourne South Asia Forum

*Peer Reviewer for Urban Studies, Society, SAMAJ, and Journal of South Asian Development*

### To the community →

**2024-2025** Academic Committee Member, Queen's College Graduate Students Club, Melbourne

**2019** Academic Committee Member, Young India Fellowship, New Delhi

**2019-2021** Co-founder (along with Centre for Studies in Gender and Sexuality, Ashoka University), Queer Infoline, India

## Teaching Portfolio (University Level)

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### University of Melbourne →

Year	Subject	Level	# Students	Contact Hours	Position	Teaching	Course Co-ord
2025	Global Youth <i>Guest lecturing and design</i>	1	~150	2	Guest Lecturer	100% (Lecturing)	0%
2024-ongoing	Local Sites, Global Connections <i>Tutoring, supervising research projects, and marking</i>	3	~40	36	Sessional Tutor	100% (Tutoring)	0%
2024	Human Geography (at-large) <i>Employed by Queen's College Melbourne</i>	1-3	10	NA	Casual Tutor	100% (Tutoring)	100%
2024-ongoing	Fertility, Mortality, and Social Change <i>Tutoring, grading, research supervision, and coordination</i>	2	~100	72	Sessional Senior Tutor	100% (Tutoring)	10%

**Ashoka University →**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Level</b>	<b># Students</b>	<b>Contact Hours</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Teaching</b>	<b>Course Co-ord</b>
2021	Party Politics in India <i>Graded assignments, Provided individual feedback to students on research projects. Independently conceptualised, designed, and delivered workshops on Data Visualisation and Digital Ethnography.</i>	Postgrad	~100	30	Teaching Assistant	25% (Demonstrating and Lecturing)	25%
2021	Electoral and Party Politics in India <i>Delivered two lectures: “Beyond Dalit Parties: Bhim Army Mobilisation”, and “Internet and New Forms of Electoral Mobilisation”. Graded assignments, Provided individual feedback to students on research projects.</i>	3	~60	40	Graduate Teaching Assistant	25% (Lecturing)	25%

**Personal**

Languages: Hindi (Fluent), English (Fluent), French (A2 French Standard), Urdu (Intermediate)

Certifications: Key Concepts and Critical Thought (Awarded by St. Stephen’s College, University of Delhi)

Memberships: American Association of Geographers (AAG), South Asian Studies Association of Australia (SASAA), Institute of Australian Geographers (IAG), Graduate Researchers’ Collective - South Asia Forum

Website: <https://shantanukul.in/>