

Satyajit Singh

Professor, Departments of Political Science and Global Studies,
University of California Santa Barbara

Summary:

- Working experience of more than thirty years in leading academic institutions and multi-lateral organizations such as The World Bank and the United Nations Development Programme. Held position of Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Delhi, Founding Dean and Professor at the School of Development Studies and Professor at the School of Human Ecology, at Ambedkar University, Delhi (August 2009 – August 2010). International academic positions include India Chair at Ryukoku University, Kyoto, Japan, Leverhulme Fellow at the Centre for the Comparative Study in Culture, Development and the Environment (CDE), *University of Sussex*, UK; Visiting Fellow at the *Institute of Development Studies (IDS)*, University of Sussex, UK; Asia Visiting Fellow, *Philippine Institute of Development Studies*, Manila, Philippines.
- Taught courses in Government and Politics of South Asia, Politics of Water, Politics in India, Democracy & Institutions in India, Administrative Theory, Public Policy, Comparative Politics, Local Governments, Rural Development, Institutions, Governance & Poverty, Development Studies, Environmental Politics.
- The focus of my research work has been on analytical and applied work on institutional reforms & governance, decentralization, local & micro-politics, environmental conflicts, large dams and irrigation, displacement and resettlement, community forestry, water and sanitation.
- Provided policy inputs in various capacity to multilateral and bilateral organisation such as The World Bank, UNDP, UNICEF, UNCDF, The European Commission, DFID, Danida and Dutch development assistance program as well as to the Governments of Mongolia, Philippines, Cambodia, Indonesia, Maldives, Myanmar, Pakistan, Bangladesh, as well as Government of India, and State Governments of Uttarakhand, Maharashtra, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Chattisgarh and Jharkhand.
- Books published in University Press include *The Local in Governance: Politics, Decentralization and Environment* (OUP, 2016); (co-ed) *Decentralization: Institutions and Politics in Rural India* (OUP, 2007 & 2008); *Taming the Waters: The Political Economy of Large Dams in India* (OUP, 1997 & 2002); (co-ed) *The Dam and the Nation: Displacement and Resettlement in the Narmada Valley* (OUP, 1997 & 2000). Also published in journals including *Asian Survey*, *Policy & Society*, *Social Science Probings and Economic and Political Weekly*.
- Worked in partnership/ invited to present papers with the World Bank, UNDP; Institute of Development Studies, Sussex; AFRAS, University of Sussex; London School of Economics; University of Cambridge; Philippine Institute of Development Studies, Manila; Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore; City University of Hong Kong; University of Hong Kong; Asia Scholarship Foundation, Bangkok; Mongolian University of Science & Technology, Ulaanbaatar; and Ryukoku University, Japan. Associated with various NGOs and civil society groups working on environmental and developmental issues.

CURRICULUM VITAE

Name: Satyajit Singh

Occupation: Professor, Department of Political Science, Department of Global Studies, University of California at Santa Barbara

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Santa Barbara CA 93106-9420, USA
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EDUCATION

1. Post-doctoral research as a Visiting Fellow at the Institute of Development Studies (IDS) & Leverhulme Fellow for Environment & Development at the Centre for the Comparative Study in Culture, Development and the Environment (CDE), University of Sussex, UK.
2. Department of Political Science, Delhi University: Ph.D., August 1994 (thesis: *Political Economy of Large Dams*)
3. Institute of Development Studies at the University of Sussex: M.Phil, Development Studies, August 1990. 2 yr program. ODASS scholarship.
4. Department of Political Science, Delhi University: M.Phil, Political Science, September 1988, First Class.
5. Hindu College, Delhi University: M.A., Political Science, June 1987, First Class, Rank 4th. 2 yr program.

PREVIOUS POSITIONS

1. Professor in Political Science, Department of Political Science, University of Delhi (since 1 January, 2009-July, 2019).
2. India Chair at Ryukoku University, Kyoto, Japan (November 2014-April 2015).
3. Founding Dean and Professor at the School of Development Studies and School of Human Ecology, Ambedkar University, Delhi (August 2009–August 2010 on leave from University of Delhi).
4. Reader & Associate Professor in Political Science, Department of Political Science, University of Delhi (February 2002–December 2008).
5. Asia Visiting Fellow, Philippine Institute of Development Studies, Makati City, Manila, Philippines (November 2005–August 2006).

6. Rural Development Specialist, WSP-SA, The World Bank, 55 Lodi Estate, New Delhi 110003 India (September 1999–February 2002).
7. Coordinator, United Nations (IAWG-WES), United Nations Development Programme, 55 Lodi Estate, New Delhi 110 003, India (April-September, 1999).
8. Leverhulme Fellow for Environment & Development, CDE, School of African and Asian Studies, University of Sussex, Falmer, Brighton, U.K. – 3 years (1996-8).
9. Visiting Fellow, Institute of Development Studies (IDS) at the University of Sussex, Falmer, Brighton BN1 9RN, UK - 1 year (1995).
10. Lecturer, Department of Political Science, Hindu College, Delhi University, Delhi 110 007, India (December 1990–December 1994).

PUBLICATIONS

Books:

1. Satyajit Singh, 2016, *The Local in Governance: Politics, Decentralization and Environment*, Oxford University Press, Delhi.
2. Satyajit Singh (co-ed), 2007, *Decentralization: Institutions and Politics in Rural India*, Oxford University Press, Delhi (second edition 2008).
3. Satyajit Singh, 1997, *Taming The Waters: The Political Economy of Large Dams in India*, Oxford University Press, Delhi (paperback 2002).
4. Satyajit Singh, Jean Dreze & Meera Samson (co-ed.), 1997, *The Dam and the Nation: Displacement and Resettlement in the Narmada Valley*, Oxford University Press, Delhi (paperback 2000).

On-Going Work:

1. Satyajit Singh (ed volume), *Polity as Fiction, Fiction as Polity: Raag Darbari*, (expected 2020).
2. Satyajit Singh (co-ed volume), *Politics of the Local in Natural Resource Governance*, (expected 2020).

Monographs:

1. Satyajit Singh & D. Basandorj, 2009, *Improving Local Service Delivery for the Millennium Development Goals: Rural Water Supply and Sanitation in Mongolia*, UNICEF, UNDP & Government of Mongolia.

Refereed Articles:

1. 'Decentralisation, Autonomy and Power: State and Politics of Forest Governance', in Vidhu Verma (ed), *The State in India: Ideas, Norms & Politics*, Orient Blackswan, Delhi, 2018.
2. 'Decentralization of Village Forest Councils in North India: Conflict Resolution, Recentralization and Politics', *Intercultural Studies*, University of Ryukoku, Japan, Vol 20, 2016.
3. 'Decentralizing Water Services in India: The Politics of Institutional Reforms', *Asian Survey*, Vol 54, No 4, University of California Press, July-August, 2014.
4. 'Diverse Property Rights, Institutions and Decentralisation: Forest Management by Village Councils in Uttarakhand', *Policy and Society*, Vol 31, No 1, 2013, Elsevier, St Louis, USA.
5. 'State, Planning & Politics of Irrigation Development: A Critique of Large Dams in India', in Rajeev Bharghav and Achin Vanaik (eds), *Politics in Contemporary India*, Orient Longman, Hyderabad, 2010.
6. 'Environment & Justice: The Public Purpose of Water', in Rajeev Bharghav, Michael Dusche & Helmut Reifeld (eds), *Justice: Social, Political, Judicial*, Sage, New Delhi, 2008.
7. 'Decentralising Water: Reforming the Rural Water Sector in South Asia', *South Asian Journal*, No 19, January-March, 2008, pp. 102-119.
8. 'Reforming the Centralized State: Assessing Decentralization Paradigms in the Drinking Water Sector in the Philippines', *Policy and Society*, Vol 26, No 2, December 2007, pp. 109-128, Elsevier, St Louis, USA.
9. 'Introduction: Decentralisation - Institutions and Politics in India' in Satyajit Singh & Pradeep Sharma (eds), 2007, *Decentralization: Institutions and Politics in Rural India*, Oxford University Press, Delhi.
10. 'Water and Local Governments: Institutional Design, Politics & Implementation', in Satyajit Singh & Pradeep Sharma (eds), 2007, *Decentralization: Institutions and Politics in Rural India*, Oxford University Press, Delhi.
11. 'Irrigation in India: Equity & Sustainability', in Michael Redclift & Graham Woodgate (eds.), 1997, *The International Handbook of Environmental Sociology*, Edward Elgar Publishing Ltd, Cheltenham.
12. 'Introduction', in Jean Dreze, Meera Samson & Satyajit Singh (eds.), 1997, *The Dam and the Nation: Displacement and Resettlement in the Narmada Valley*, Oxford University Press, Delhi.
13. 'The Forest Policy in India and its Implications', *Social Science Probings*, Vol. 4, No. 3, Sept. 1987, New Delhi.

14. 'Collective Dilemmas and Collective Pursuits: Community Management of *Van Panchayats* (forest councils) in the UP Hills', *Wasteland News*, Sept-Oct, 1999, SPWD, New Delhi.
15. 'Evaluating Large Dams', *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. XXV, No. 11, March 17, 1990, Bombay.
16. 'From the Dam to the Ghettos - a case study of the Rihand', *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. XX, Nos. 39 - 40, 28th Sept. & 5th Oct. 1985, Bombay.

Reports:

1. *Village Immersion and Rural Sanitation*, University of Delhi, Institute of Development Studies & Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council, Geneva, 2019. (Based on field work by 54 Masters students across 14 states and 58 villages across India conducted in June 2018).

Major Seminars Organised:

1. International Conference on *Public Policy & Politics*, 4-6 February 2019, as Convener of International Public Policy Network (IPPN).
2. International Conference on *Polity as Fiction & Fiction as Polity: Fifty Years of Raag Darbari*, University of Delhi, January 29-30, 2018.
3. *Decentralisation: Institutions and Politics*, University of Delhi and the United Nations Development Programme, August 2004.
4. *World Bank Round Table on Public Sector and Institutional Reforms* at the Annual World Bank Infrastructure Forum, Washington D.C., April 2001.
5. *The Narmada Forum: Displacement and Resettlement in the Narmada Valley*, with Jean Dreze at Delhi School of Economics and the Institute of Economic Growth, December 1993.
6. Organized Refresher Courses on 'Democracy and Development' in April 2003 and on 'Democracy and Conflict', in March 2013 in Delhi University.

Policy Related Work (1999-2017):

1. Worked as a Rural Development Specialist at **The World Bank** (1999-2002). I managed the Rural portfolio of the India Country Team of the Water and Sanitation Program, South Asia. I was given a Performance Award and two Spot Awards.
2. Consultant to The World Bank (2004-7) providing knowledge management and support as an institutional specialist.

3. Worked as a Senior Governance, Institutional and Capacity Development Advisor/Team Leader/Specialist with the **UNDP Asia Pacific Regional Bureau** (2007-17) in a dozen projects providing high level policy support to the Governments of Bangladesh, Myanmar, Mongolia, Maldives and Cambodia.
4. Monitoring & Evaluation Expert for designing a **European Union** project 'Local Governments for Human Development' for the Government of Chattisgarh, 2005.
5. Invited as an expert by the *National Advisory Council, Government of India* to provide inputs to the 'National Rehabilitation Policy' (November 2004); expert by the *Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India* to provide inputs to the draft National Rehabilitation Policy (December 2006); expert by the *Department of Drinking Water Supply, Government of India* to be part of their Expert Review Group on *Swachh Bharat Mission* (2017) and *Rural Water and Sanitation Sector Reforms Program* (2005 & 2017).

Teaching, Research, Supervision & Community:

1. Founding Dean of the School of Development Studies & School of Human Ecology in the newly formed Ambedkar University, Delhi. Took the lead in all aspects of the Schools development including curricula & research design, MA, MPhil & PhD program, as well as faculty recruitment.
2. Taught courses in Government and Politics of South Asia, Politics of Water, Politics in India, Democracy & Institutions in India, Administrative Theory, Public Policy, Comparative Politics, Local Governments, Rural Development, Institutions, Governance & Poverty, Development Studies, Environmental Politics.
3. Chaired committees for curricula revision on Public Administration and Indian Politics for BA Program, BA (Hons) Political Science, MA Political Science and MPhil Political Science (2002-17), University of Delhi. Invited to be a Subject Expert for Political Science by University Grants Commission; Member of Board of Research at Centre for Culture, Media and Governance, Jamia Millia Islamia; Gautam Budh University; Amity University; and Agra University. Assisted the Centre for Environmental Studies, University of Delhi prepare an MA Program in Environmental Studies, Jindal University for MA in Public Policy and Amity University for MA in Public Policy. Member of Expert Group for TERI University MA Program on Public Policy and Development.
4. Invited as an expert for faculty selection committees in various colleges of University of Delhi as well as in Birla Institute of Technology & Sciences, Pilani, Ambedkar University, Delhi and research institutions such as Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi and Gujarat Institute of Development Research, Ahmedabad. Invited as an Expert by the Ministry of Human Resources Development for Commonwealth Scholarship, Agatha Harrison post-doctoral fellowship for Oxford; expert for Union Public Services Commission, other state Public Services Commissions, Inlaks Scholarships and such.
5. Research Supervision – 6 students have been awarded PhD degrees and 10 students were awarded MPhil degrees.

6. Examiner for numerous PhD and MPhil dissertations for National University of Singapore, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, Punjab University, Chandigarh and National University of Educational Planning and Administration, New Delhi.
7. Invited as peer reviewer for publishers like Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press, Sage, Routledge, Orient Blackswan; for journals like BMJ Global Health, International Journal of Public Administration, International Journal of Asian Studies, Journal of Rural Studies, Water History, Indian Journal of Public Administration, India Review, Social Change, Amity Journal of Politica, Shodarty; and for institutions such as the Ford Foundation, UNDP, Indian Institute of Public Administration, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, Indian Council for Social Science Research, EU-India Social Sciences and Humanities Platform (EqUIP) and Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India.
8. Member of International Public Policy Association (IPPA), Indian Public Policy Network (IPPN), Asian Political and International Studies Association (APISA), Indian Pheasant Society, Watchdog & Action Group (WAG), Kalpavriksh and Peoples' Environment Group (1982-1999), Asian Studies Foundation, Asian Association of Social Welfare, Solutions Exchange & Capacity Net, UNDP.

Participation as Invited Speaker (2013-19):

1. 'Negotiating Ideas on Development, Environment and Local Governance', Conference on *Ideas on Development*, University of Cambridge, September 18-19, 2019.
2. 'Village Immersion as a Methodology to Study SBM(G): From Rhetoric to Reality', India Public Policy Forum, Feb 5-6, 2019, New Delhi.
3. 'Reforming the Centralized State: Decentralization Paradigms in India and the Philippines', Department of Global Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara, Oct 16, 2018.
4. 'The Local in Governance: Institutional Design and Local Politics', Department of Political Science, University of California, Santa Barbara, Oct 15, 2018.
5. 'The Local in Governance: Institutional Design and Local Politics', Pradip Kumar Memorial Lecture, Department of Political Science, Punjab University, Chandigarh, Sept 27, 2018.
6. 'Village Immersion as Methodology', Inaugural Lecture at Human Resource Development Centre, Panjab University, Chandigarh, Sept 25, 2018.
7. 'Democratic Institutions & Political Capacity', *IPPN International Conference on Public Policy and Governance*, KIIT, Bhubaneswar, Feb 28-Mar 1, 2018.
8. 'Rethinking Administrative Theory from Rural India', *International Conference on Polity as Fiction, Fiction as Reality: Fifty Years of Raag Darbari*, University of Delhi, 29-30 January, 2018.

9. 'The 'Political' in the Local: Institutions & Governance for Sustainable Development', *Third International Conference on Public Policy*, National University of Singapore, 27-30 June, 2017.
10. *Special Lecture Series: 103*, 'The Local in Governance', May 2, 2017, Institute of Social Sciences, New Delhi.
11. 'Reforming NGO Affairs Bureau', *UNDP-Government of Bangladesh*, Dhaka, Dec 4, 2016.
12. Key Note Address at Indian Institute of Mass Communication for international students of Development Journalism, 'Development beyond Markets', New Delhi, 29th March, 2016.
13. 'Jogard for 'Nyaya' from Sarkariat: Everyday moral/ethical claims and politics of conservation in rural Garhwal', in *International Workshop on Law, Institutions and Political Philosophy*, University of Delhi, Yale & Birmingham, August 21-22, 2015.
14. *ICCR India Chair Public Lecture* 'A Political Perspective on Decentralization' at Ryukoku University, Kyoto, Japan, 10 February, 2015.
15. 'Capacity Development for Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation in Myanmar' at *Government of Myanmar & UNDP Workshop on Meeting Challenges of DRR & CCA*, 28-29 August, 2014, Naypyitaw.
16. 'Bringing together Knowledge, Innovation, and Capacity: Rethinking the Methodology and Tools', 18-19 December, 2013, *UNDP Workshop*, Bangkok.
17. 'Capacity Building Strategy for Environmental NGOs in Mongolia', *UNDP Mongolia*, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, Dec 10, 2013.
18. 'A Political Perspective on Decentralization', *International Political Science Association International Conference on 'Rethinking Politics, Policy and Governance in Federal Systems: India and the World'*, Ramjas College, University of Delhi, 14-16 November, 2013.
19. 'Politics, Decentralization and the Environment', *International Conference on "Federalisms v. Localisms: Competing Demands and Conflicting Aspirations?"* held during 10-11 October, 2013 at Jindal Global University Campus, Sonapat.
20. 'Capacity and Climate Change in the Maldives' *UNDP Public Lecture* before the Minister for Environment and Senior Officers, Male, Maldives, Oct 8, 2013.
21. 'Local Service Delivery for Rural Water Supply in Mongolia', *UNDP and Ministry of Construction and Urban Development*, Hotel Summit, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, Sept 16, 2013.
22. *Special Lecture Series: 31*, 'Unfolding the Political in Decentralisation: Village Forest Councils in Uttarakhand', April 2, 2013, Institute of Social Sciences, New Delhi.