

AJITA SINGH, MPA

Columbia University School of Social Work
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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Social Policy Analysis and Economics
Global Health, Migration, Refugees, and Gender

EDUCATION

PhD Student	Columbia University School of Social Work, anticipated graduation: May 2024 Concentration: Social Policy and Policy Analysis, Economics
Master of Public Administration	Columbia University School of International and Public Affairs, May 2016 Concentration: Economic and Political Development, Management
Bachelor of Business Administration	Kathmandu College of Management, Kathmandu University, May 2011 Concentration: Finance and Economics

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Columbia University Doctoral Scholarship (2019-2023)
- Columbia University Committee for the Doctoral Program Student Representative (2020-2021)
- Columbia University Dean's Leadership Scholarship (2014-2016)
- Communications Chair, Columbia University South Asia Association (Jan 2015-May 2015)

PUBLICATIONS IN PROGRESS

- Financial dependence and intimate partner violence (IPV) among Syrian refugee women living in non-camp settings in Jordan. Singh, A., El-Bassel, N., Kaushal, N., Meinhart, M., Hartmann, J., Mukherjee, T., Khadra, M., Jaber, R., Al-Qotob, R., Dasgupta, A.
- Associations between intimate partner and family violence, mental health status and suicidal ideation among Syrian refugee women in Jordan. Mukherjee, T., El-Bassel, N., Kaushal, N., Meinhart, M., Brooks, M.A., Hartmann, J., Singh, A., Khadra, M., Dasgupta, A.
- Barriers to care: factors associated with unmet need for mental health care among Syrian refugee women in Jordan. Dasgupta, A., Mukherjee, T., Al-Salman, Y., Brooks, M.A., El-Bassel, N., Meinhart, M., Singh, A., Jaber, R., Al-Qotob, R., Khadra, M.
- Implications for economic empowerment interventions among Syrian refugee women living in non-camp settings in Jordan. Dasgupta, A., Meinhart, M., El-Bassel, N., Mukherjee, T., Singh, A., Jaber, R., Al-Qotob, R., Khadra, M.
- Examining prevalence and correlates of early marriage and women's desires for age at marriage for daughters and sons. Dasgupta, A., Mukherjee, T., El-Bassel, N., Meinhart, M., Singh, A., Jaber, R., Al-Qotob, R., Khadra, M.
- Prevalence and correlates of gender-based violence among Syrian refugee women in Jordan. Mukherjee, T., El-Bassel, N., Singh, A., Meinhart, M., Hartmann, J., Al-Salman, Y., Al-Qotob, R., Khadra, M., Dasgupta, A.

JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS (<https://ajitasingh.wordpress.com/publication/>)

- Singh, Ajita. "Focus for Planners: Rising Inequality." *Molung Research Journal*. 4.2 (2013): 1 – 19. Print.
- Singh, Ajita. "Remittance and Nepalese Economy: Some Issues." *Molung Research Journal*. 3.2 (2012): 1 – 13. Print.

EDITORIAL PUBLICATIONS (<https://ajitasingh.wordpress.com/publication/>)

- Singh, Ajita. "Exploiting youth potential: Engines of growth, not political tools." *The Himalayan Times* [Kathmandu] 28 Oct 2013, Weekly Editorials. Print.
- Singh, Ajita. "Violence against Women: It takes more than legislation." *The Himalayan Times* [Kathmandu] 22 Aug 2013, Weekly Editorials. Print.
- Singh, Ajita. "Child Labor: Case for Government Intervention." *The Himalayan Times* [Kathmandu] 17 Jul 2013, Weekly Editorials. Print.
- Singh, Ajita. "Domestic Violence: Time for Action." *The Himalayan Times* [Kathmandu] 19 Jun 2013, Weekly Editorials. Print.
- Singh, Ajita. "Foreign Direct Investment: Crucial Constraints." *The Himalayan Times* [Kathmandu] 23 May 2013, Weekly Editorials. Print.

- Singh, Ajita. "Nepal and MDGs: Alarming Figures." *The Himalayan Times* [Kathmandu] 23 May 2013, Weekly Editorials. Print.
- Singh, Ajita. "CPN-M war against foreign films: Not patriotism or nationalism." *The Himalayan Times* [Kathmandu] 01 Nov 2012, Weekly Editorials. Print.
- Singh, Ajita. "Seeking a paradigm shift in development: Formidable challenges." *The Himalayan Times* [Kathmandu] 15 Oct 2012, Weekly Editorials. Print.
- Singh, Ajita. "Health goals still off the mark." *The Himalayan Times* [Kathmandu] 27 Sep 2012, Weekly Editorials. Print.
- Singh, Ajita. "Government-private partnership in education expenditure priorities." *The Himalayan Times* [Kathmandu] 22 Aug 2012, Weekly Editorials. Print.
- Singh, Ajita. "Migrant labor: leaving behind economic lethargy?" *The Himalayan Times* [Kathmandu] 01 Aug 2012, Weekly Editorials. Print.
- Singh, Ajita. "Resolution of contentious issues: Go for referendum." *The Himalayan Times* [Kathmandu] 15 Jul 2012, Weekly Editorials. Print.
- Singh, Ajita. "Nepali people short-changed in search of statute. What now?" *The Himalayan Times* [Kathmandu] 31 May 2012, Weekly Editorials. Print.
- Singh, Ajita. "Of pious intentions." *The Himalayan Times* [Kathmandu] 19 Apr 2012, Weekly Editorials. Print.
- Singh, Ajita. "The flip side of remittance." *The Himalayan Times* [Kathmandu] 28 Feb 2012, Weekly Editorials. Print.
- Singh, Ajita. "In search of clean governance." *The Reporter* [Kathmandu] 27 Nov 2011, Weekly Editorials. Print.
- Singh, Ajita. "Fighting the scourge of poverty." *The Himalayan Times* [Kathmandu] 25 Oct 2011, Weekly Editorials. Print.

UNITED NATIONS PUBLICATIONS

- Singh, Ajita, et al. "Climate Partnerships for a Sustainable Future: An initial overview of South-South cooperation on climate change in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty." The United Nations [New York] 13 November 2017, Biannual Publication. Print
- Singh, Ajita, et al. "Catalyzing the Implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions in the Context of the 2030 Agenda through South-South Cooperation." The United Nations [New York] 18 May 2017, Annual Publication. Print.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

KATHMANDU COLLEGE OF MANAGEMENT, KATHMANDU UNIVERSITY Faculty Member, Teaching Assistant

Nepal, NP
Aug 2011 – July 2012

- Instructed six classes of economics and economic development per week

RESEARCH AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP) Programme Analyst, United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation

New York, NY
Jul 2017 – June 2019

- Co-authored policy reports, strategy papers, briefing notes, concept notes, presentations, speeches and correspondences for the United Nations Secretary-General and the Envoy of the Secretary-General on South-South Cooperation (SSC)
- Established inter-agency arrangement to promote SSC by liaising with UN Agencies and Funds and Programmes
- Monitored the intergovernmental processes and provided policy guidance for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda
- Contributed to the establishment of Regional Training Centers to enhance the work of Member States and relevant United Nations entities, including Regional Commissions and Country Teams
- Advanced publications and organize events (incl. at the UN General Assembly, UNFCCC Conference of the Parties, Development Cooperation Forum, Regional Climate Weeks) to support policy and advocacy activities of SSC and to scale development solutions
- Managed and programmed budget, monitored expenses, and procured services from external vendors

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS Research Associate for Dr. Jan Svejnar, Director, Center on Global Economic Governance

New York, NY
Jun 2016 – Jul 2019

- Constructed income and wealth data using Forbes Magazine's annual world-wide listing of billionaires for 1987-2012
- Analyzed the effects of politically connected billionaire's wealth on economic growth, wealth accumulation and inequality

UNITED NATIONS, SECRETARIAT, EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (EOSG) Policy Analyst, Sustainable Development Unit

New York, NY
Jun 2016 – Jun 2017

- Authored speeches, talking points, op-eds, video messages, background notes, policy briefs, strategy papers and draft reports on sustainable development and advocacy work pertaining to the office of the Secretary-General and Deputy Secretary-General

- Maintained interagency coordination and liaised with the United Nations departments, Agencies and Funds and Programmes
- Provided written communications and logistical/administrative support, co-authored reports, managed UN websites and organized UN events to advance the work of Sustainable Development Unit

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION (IOM)

New York, NY

Finance Consultant (Capstone)

Sep 2015 – May 2016

- Conducted desk review of best international crowd-funding practices and legislation to provide recommendations to IOM
- Built comprehensive crowd-funding platform and regulatory framework for Moldovan Government to channel remittances into sustainable development projects in consultation with the Bureau for Diaspora Relations (BDR) and the UNDP, Moldova

UNITED NATIONS, THE PERMANENT MISSION OF AFGHANISTAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS

New York, NY

Adviser to the Ambassador/Intern

Jun 2015 – May 2016

- Authored statements, op-eds, proposals and reports for the Ambassador and the Counselor under the Second, Third and Fifth Committee of the General Assembly— Economic, Financial, Social, Humanitarian, Cultural and Budgetary Committee at the UN
- Followed high-level inter-governmental, bilateral and multilateral negotiations and provided strategic advice to the Ambassador

LONDON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (LCCI)

Nepal, NP

Faculty Member

Aug 2012 – Jul 2014

- Developed professional and vocational training and certification programmes
- Negotiated contracts and built partnerships with universities in 5 development regions of Nepal to conduct training programs
- Conducted classes, developed training curricula and trained undergraduate students in entrepreneurship and management
- Prepared annual and quarterly work plans, progress reports, and monitoring and evaluation reports

SAFERWORLD, U.K.

Nepal, NP

Research Consultant

Aug 2013 – Jul 2014

- Administered 18 focus group discussions and 60 interviews in six districts of Nepal on elections, governance, migration, gender, crime and armed groups, and identity and resource-based conflicts and contributed to the report on Justice Mechanisms and Conflict Dynamics in Nepal

THREE H MANAGEMENT (3H)

Nepal, NP

Research Analyst

Aug 2011 – Jul 2012

- Analyzed the operations of 5 corporate houses and non-profit organizations by administering field surveys
- Created models to enhance the performance of the clients of Three H Management based on literature reviews and field research

LANGUAGES

- English (Native)
- Nepali (Native)
- Hindi (Proficient)

COUNTRIES OF PROFESSIONAL WORK: Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Colombia, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, India, Israel, Jordan, Malta, Mexico, Moldova, Nepal, Poland, Singapore, Thailand, Turkey, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Uruguay, and Vietnam