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WELCOME TO SASPA!

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SASPA

SOUTH ASIAN SECTION FOR PUBLIC
ADMINISTRATION

THIS ISSUE

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DR. MEGHNA SABHARWAL FOUNDING CHAIR, SASPA



Dr. Sabharwal is Professor and Department Head at The University of Texas at Dallas in the Public and Nonprofit Management program. Her research expertise lies in public human resource management, specifically related to workplace diversity, job satisfaction, performance, comparative human resource management, and high-skilled immigration.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Welcome to the South Asian Section for Public Administration (SASPA) - the newest addition of the American Society of Public Administration (ASPA). The conversations to start such a section began almost six years ago among peers and friends at an ASPA conference. However, it was not until 2018 at the conference in Denver, Colorado, where a few graduate students and faculty sat together in the corner of the lobby and worked out the details to lay the foundation of a new section. It was an exciting night, to say the least! I cannot thank all the pioneers enough for making this dream a reality. Unfortunately, the world came to a stop in early 2020 and we were unable to launch our new section at the annual ASPA conference. While 2020 has been a blur for most of us, the board members, especially SASPA's Vice-Chair, Dr. Aroon Manoharan, and in-coming chair Dr. Sabithulla Khan, have been working diligently behind the scenes. We highlight some of the objectives of SASPA in this newsletter.

One of the goals for the section is to build awareness of South Asian Public Administration at the ASPA national conference and the regional conferences through panels and workshops. Toward that end, we were able to organize our first ASPA sponsored panel that will bring scholars from India, Bangladesh, Pakistan and the U.S. together to discuss responses to the pandemic in South Asia. We hope you will attend the live Q&A (April 13, 8:45 p.m. EST). Look out for more details in this newsletter.

We are also working hard to get our membership to 75 members by the end of 2021. To be a SASPA member one has to be an ASPA member too. We understand the financial burden scholars, students and practitioners from South Asia face to join international organizations. Thanks to generous donations from SASPA members, we have funded 3 students and 1 early career faculty from the region. We want to acknowledge a generous donation by a long-standing ASPA member, and now a SASPA member, Professor Krishna Tummala. His generosity will allow us to open a bank account and file for nonprofit exempt status.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR CONTINUED



In this digital age, we understand the importance of marketing and branding. We look forward to sharing SASPA's logo and a preview of our website at the business meeting (April 14th, 11:30 a.m. EST). We also are sharing snippets of the website in this newsletter. Thanks to the dedication and tireless efforts of Ms. Lauren Loyless, a Ph.D. student at the University of Texas at Dallas, for bringing this newsletter to you. She received help from Ms. Meril Antony, a doctoral candidate at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey-Newark. Both serve as SASPA's Digital Media representatives.

The unique purpose of the South Asian Section for Public Administration will be to take the activities and networks of ASPA National to the South Asian region, while simultaneously allowing for South Asian scholars and practitioners to get involved in ASPA activities in the United States. The idea is to ultimately build a free-flowing professional network of scholars and practitioners in South Asia and scholars and practitioners in the United States interested in South Asian public administration.

We could not launch this section without the support and encouragement from you! We depend on your continued collaboration for the success of this section. As you can all appreciate, there is a lot that goes into starting a new section and giving it wings. At this point we are taking baby steps, but I am confident we will soon spread our wings and fly high.

Hoping we meet in person at the 2022 ASPA conference!

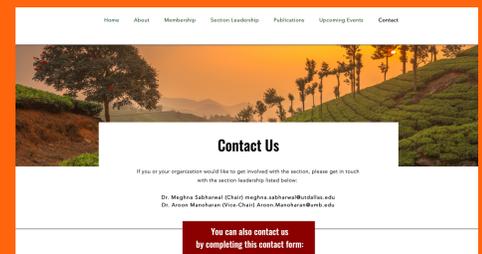
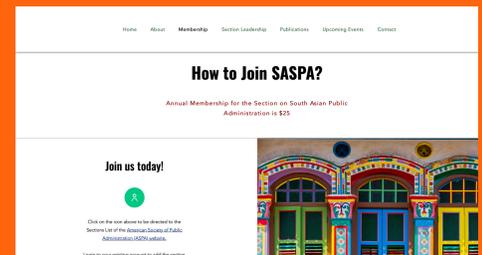
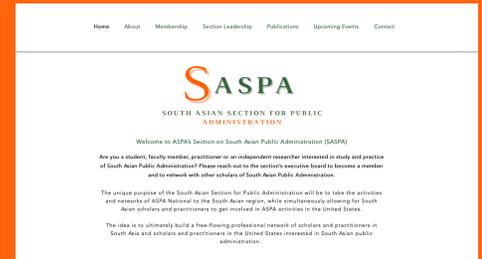
Best wishes,

Meghna Sabharwal
Founding Chair, SASPA

SOUTH ASIAN SECTION FOR PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (SASPA) OBJECTIVES

South Asia is a term used to represent the southern region of the Asian continent, comprising Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. The population of South Asia is about 1.891 billion or about one fourth of the world's population, making it both the most populous and the most densely populated geographical region in the world. Overall, it accounts for about 40% of Asia's population, over 24 percent of the world's population, and is home to diverse societies. In the recent past, the field of Public Administration in the United States has had a rising number of students and scholars studying administrative and policy issues of South Asia, hence validating the need for a formal platform to bring together scholars of South Asian Public Administration in the United States.

SASPA WEBSITE SNEAK PEEK!



SASPA OBJECTIVES CONTINUED



THE PRIMARY OBJECTIVES OF THE SECTION ON SOUTH ASIAN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION ARE:

1. To advance research and study on public administration and policy in South Asia, and promote international and comparative analysis of administrative systems from the region.
2. To provide a platform for networking of scholars and practitioners interested in the issues and policies in South Asia and to encourage collaborative research between South Asian scholars and their international counterparts.
3. To promote global and comparative perspectives by increasing awareness and understanding of factors affecting policy and administration in South Asia.
4. To promote the goals and activities of ASPA in the South Asian region and facilitate cooperation between universities in South Asia and in the United States.



THE SECTION FOR SOUTH ASIAN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION WILL ALSO STRIVE TO ACHIEVE THESE SECONDARY OBJECTIVES:

1. Encourage member participation in international, national and regional conferences, including organizing and conducting panels and workshops on South Asian public administration and publishing proceedings.
2. Encourage and support activities and programs on South Asian Public Administration.
3. Publish a journal, newsletter and other publications for the section membership periodically to disseminate and exchange information on activities and research opportunities in South Asian public administration.
4. Establish liaison with professional organizations and schools of South Asian public administration through the consideration of common purposes and issues.
5. Encourage schools of public affairs and administration to develop academic requirements and courses in the cooperative programs with South Asian universities in order to equip future public managers and administrators with the skills required for job performance and accountability.

AWARDS

Rumki Basu

2021 recipient of International Chapter's, ASPA, Mary Hamilton Award; in recognition for the contributions made to field of public administration.

James L. Perry

Outstanding Book Award: *The Section on Personnel Administration and Labor Relations (SPALR) of the American Society for Public Administration (ASPA)*

James L. Perry, *Managing Organizations to Sustain Passion for Public Service* (Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 2020).

Alasdair Roberts

Received 2021 Best book award by the Section on Public Administration Research of the American Society for Public Administration (ASPA)

Book: *Strategies for Governing: Reinventing Public Administration for a Dangerous Century*

Meghna Sabharwal

Outstanding Scholar Award: *The Section on Personnel Administration and Labor Relations (SPALR) of the American Society for Public Administration (ASPA)*

Sabith Khan

"Islamic Education in the United States and the Evolution of Muslim Nonprofit Institutions" (published by Edward Elgar) has been awarded the Virginia A. Hodgkinson Research Book Prize by the Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action (ARNOVA).

MARK YOUR CALENDARS : *ASPA 2021*

Click [HERE](#) for a full list of ASPA 2021 Conference Panels and Presentations led by our SASPA members.

MEMBER PUBLICATIONS



Meghna Sabharwal

- Imran Hameed, Muhammad Umer Ijaz and Meghna Sabharwal. 2021. "The Impact of Human Resources Environment and Organizational Identification on Employees' Psychological Well-being." *Public Personnel Management*.
- Charlene L. Roach, Meghna Sabharwal, Romeo Abraham*, and Wayne-Charles- Soverrall. 2021. "Does the Public Service Motivation Model hold in the Caribbean" *Review of Public Personnel Administration*.
- Jeannine E. Relly, Fazle Rabbi*, Meghna Sabharwal, Rajdeep Pakanati, and Ethan Schwalbe. 2020. "A decade into making: Study of implementation of India's Right to Information Act." *World Development*.

Pooja Paswan - Published in PA Times

- [Re-Localization and Re-Socialization of Food Production Using Public Distribution System Jennifer Brick Murtazashvili](#)
- [The Endurance and Evolution of Afghan Customary Governance - University of California Press](#)
- [Is decentralizing authority key to Afghanistan's path to peace?](#)

Prajapati Trivedi

- Trivedi, P. (2020). India's Response to Coronavirus Pandemic: Nine Lessons for Effective Public Management. *The American Review of Public Administration*, 50(6-7), 725-728.

Nandhini Rangarajan

- Ancira, J., Rangarajan, N., & Shields, P. (2021). Bridging the academic-practitioner divide: Findings from a survey of public administration faculty and practitioners. *Journal of Public Affairs Education*, 1-21.

Sanjay K Pandey

- de Geus, C. J., Ingrams, A., Tummers, L., & Pandey, S. K. (2020). Organizational citizenship behavior in the public sector: A systematic literature review and future research agenda. *Public Administration Review*, 80(2), 259-270.

Aroon Manoharan

- Ingrams, A., Manoharan, A., Schmidhuber, L., & Holzer, M. (2020). Stages and determinants of e-government development: a twelve-year longitudinal study of global cities. *International Public Management Journal*, 23(6), 731-769.
- Manoharan, A. P., Ingrams, A., Kang, D., & Zhao, H. (2020). Globalization and worldwide best practices in E-Government. *International Journal of Public Administration*, 1-12.

Sabith Khan

- Khan, S. (2020). Leadership, professionalisation and impact: lessons from a national survey of non-profit leaders in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. *Voluntary Sector Review*, 11(1), 79-97.
- [Khan, S., & Merritt, D. M. \(2020\). Remittances and International Development: The Invisible Forces Shaping Community. Routledge.](#)

Imane Hijal-Moghrabi

- Hijal-Moghrabi, Imane. (2020). Budgeters' Perceptions of the Scope, Support, and Patterns of Implementation of Performance Budgeting in Texas Cities. *Public Administration Quarterly*, 45(1), 79-104.
- Hijal Moghrabi, Imane, Sabharwal, Meghna, & Ramanathan, Kannan. (2020). "Innovation in Public Organizations? Do Government Reforms Matter". *International Journal of Public Sector Management*, 33(6/7),731-749.
- Suh, Jiwon & Hijal-Moghrabi, Imane. (2021). "The Effects of Fairness on Female Managers' Perception of Career Prospects and Job Satisfaction: A Study across Sectors." *International Journal of Public Administration*.

#STOPASIANHATE



A Joint Statement by the:

- Section on Chinese Public Administration (SCPA),
- **South Asian Section for Public Administration (SASPA),**
- Section on Korean Public Administration (SKPA),
- Conference of Minority Public Administrators (COMPA),
- Section on Democracy and Social Justice (DSJ), and
- Section on International and Comparative Administration (SICA)



We, the sections above, declare that anti-Asian bias and hate must STOP.

Over the past year, the world, and the United States in particular, has witnessed a rapid and unprecedented increase in anti-Asian hate. According to the Center for the Study of Hate & Extremism, in 2020 in the U.S., there was a 149% surge in anti-Asian hate crime while overall hate crime dropped 7%. Anti-Asian hate has intensified into 2021. Between March 19, 2020 and February 28, 2021, the Stop AAPI Hate Reporting Center received reports of 3,795 incidents, ranging from verbal harassment (68.1%), shunning (20.5%), physical assault (11.1%), civil rights violations (8.5%), and online harassment (6.8%). The brutal killing in March 2021 of eight people, six of whom were Asian women, in a series of spa shootings in Atlanta, Georgia, is one of several recent horrendous incidents. Verbal as well as physical attacks have taken place repeatedly on Asian people, their families, businesses, property, and more ([Jeung, 2020](#); [Phillips, 2020](#); [Tavernise & Oppel, 2020](#)). These patterns are tragic, disturbing, and unacceptable.

Everyone in public administration must act to protect human rights.

We cannot ignore how these acts of hate are embedded within worrying historical, socio-political precedents. As the Washington Post commented, “[p]eople of Asian descent have been living in the United States for more than 160 years, and have long been the target of bigotry,” which includes but is not limited to: the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882; the San Francisco plague in 1900; Japanese internment during WWII; the attacks on Vietnamese shrimpers by the KKK; and the Los Angeles riots targeting Korean American businesses. Additionally, the South Asian community has been subject to bigotry since 9/11, especially the Sikh community which has reported more than 700 hate crimes. The COVID-19 pandemic, as [U.N. Secretary General Antonio Guterres said](#) in May 2020, “continues to unleash a tsunami of hate and xenophobia, scapegoating and scare-mongering.” He called on the global community to “act now to strengthen the immunity of our societies against the virus of hate.”

As practitioners, students, and academics of public administration, we are disheartened by the comments and behaviors of some government officials. [Click HERE to review the statement in its entirety.](#)



SASPA LEADERSHIP



SECTION EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP (FOUNDING MEMBERS)

Chair: Dr. Meghna Sabharwal, University of Texas at Dallas
Vice Chair: Dr. Aroon Manoharan, University of Massachusetts at Boston
Treasurer: Dr. Suparna Soni, SUNY Buffalo State College
Incoming Chair: Dr. Sabith Khan, California Lutheran University

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Alasdair Roberts, University of Massachusetts Boston
Rumki Basu, Jamia Millia Islamia University, New Delhi
Sanjay Pandey, George Washington University



GET INVOLVED

Please make sure to send us your Op-Eds, publications, ideas for the newsletter, and any awards as we desire to further share your accomplishments with our section members and beyond.

Email Sabith Khan at: khanpgg@vt.edu.

If you are not connected with the section channel on Twitter already, follow us at <https://twitter.com/SASPA ASPA>