

MITRA SHARAFI *Assistant Professor, UW Law School & Legal Studies (with History affiliation)*

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South Asian Legal History Resources website : <http://hosted.law.wisc.edu/wordpress/sharafi/>

EMPLOYMENT

- **July 2007-present: Assistant Professor, University of Wisconsin Law School** (Legal Studies cluster position), with affiliation appointment in History, UW-Madison; Madison, Wisconsin
- **Sept 2005-June 2007: Research Fellow**, Sidney Sussex College, **Cambridge University**; Cambridge, UK

EDUCATION

- **2000-6: PhD (History), Princeton University**; Dissertation: "Bella's Case: Parsi Identity and the Law in Colonial Rangoon, Bombay and London, 1887-1925," Advisors: Gyan Prakash & Hendrik Hartog; Princeton, NJ
- **1998-9: Bachelor of Civil Law (LLM-equivalent), Oxford University** (Magdalen College), Grade: I; Oxford, UK
- **1996-8: Bachelor of Arts (Law) (JD-equivalent), Cambridge University** (Sidney Sussex College), Grade: I; Cambridge, UK
- **1992-6: Bachelor of Arts (History)**, McGill University, Cum. GPA: 3.92; Montréal, Canada

I. RESEARCH

SELECTED AWARDS

- **National Science Foundation (NSF) "Law and Social Sciences" Research Grant:** funding for 50%-time project assistant for 12 months, computer equipment, and four months' archival research expenses in London & Mumbai for book project, "Parsing Law: Zoroastrians and Litigation in Colonial South Asia," \$87,212, 1 June 2009-31 May 2011
- **UW Graduate School Research Committee Awards:** Project Assistantship funding, 2008-10

- **UW Law School Summer Salary Support:** one summer month in 2008, 2010
- **South Asia Council's 2007 Dissertation Award Grand Prize (Canada):** for best dissertation relating to South Asia written at a Canadian university or by a Canadian abroad, Cdn \$1,000; 2007
- **Visiting Fellowship at the Socio-Legal Research Centre, Griffith University (Australia):** two-week visiting fellowship, Australian \$3,500; spring 2007
- **Social Science Research Council (SSRC): International Dissertation Research Fellowship:** funding for archival research in Britain and India, \$14,000; July 2003-July 2004
- **Social Science and Humanities Research Council (Canada):** Doctoral Fellowship Cdn \$66,480 over 4 years; 2000-2004

PUBLICATIONS

For electronic versions, see <http://hosted.law.wisc.edu/wordpress/sharafi/my-publications/>

- **Book:** *Colonial Parsis and Law: A Cultural History. Government Fellowship Lectures 2009-2010* (Mumbai: K. R. Cama Oriental Institute, 2010)
- **Journal Article:** "The Marital Patchwork of Colonial South Asia: Forum Shopping from Britain to Baroda," *Law and History Review* 28: 4 (2010), 979-1009
- **Journal article:** "The Semi-Autonomous Judge in Colonial India: Chivalric Imperialism meets Anglo-Islamic Dower and Divorce Law," *Indian Economic and Social History Review* 46:1 (2009): 57-81
- **Retrospective article:** "Justice in Many Rooms since Galanter: De-romanticizing Legal Pluralism through the Cultural Defense," *Law & Contemporary Problems* 71 (spring 2008), 139-46
- **Article in edited volume:** "Judging Conversion to Zoroastrianism: Behind the Scenes of the Parsi Panchayat Case (1908)" In John R. Hinnells and Alan Williams, ed. *Parsis in India and the Diaspora* (London: Routledge Curzon, 2007), 159-80
- **Review article:** "A New History of Colonial Lawyering: Likhovski and Legal Identities in the British Empire" *Law and Social Inquiry* 32:4 (fall 2007), 1059-94
- **Encyclopedia articles:** "Insurance" (750 words) and "The Nancy" (500 words), Toyin Falola and Amanda Warnock, eds., *Encyclopedia of the Middle Passage* (Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 2007), 230-1, 286-7
- **Journal article:** "The Slave Ship Manuscripts of Capt. Joseph B. Cook: A Narrative Reconstruction of the Brig *Nancy's* Voyage of 1793," *Slavery & Abolition* 24: 1 (April 2003), 71-100

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

2010:

- **Paper:** "Minority Litigiousness and Legal Consciousness: The Parsis or Zoroastrians of Colonial India," Yigal Arnon Law and History Workshop, Buchmann Faculty of Law, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, Israel (15 March 2010)
- **Paper:** "The Marital Patchwork of Colonial South Asia: Forum Shopping from Britain to Baroda," presented at "New Perspectives on Legal Pluralism" symposium, Center for Comparative Early Modern Legal History, Newberry Library, Chicago (23 April 2010)
- **Panel talk:** "Legal Consciousness in Legal History: the Colonial Zoroastrian Case Study," Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, Chicago (28 May 2010)
- **Panel talk:** "Managing Marriage: The Zoroastrian Jury in Colonial India," American Society for Legal History Annual Meeting, Philadelphia (19 Nov 2010)

2009:

- **Paper:** "A Court for Poor Wives: How Zoroastrian Women Litigated Marriage in Colonial Bombay," American Bar Foundation/Illinois Legal History Seminar, ABF, Chicago (30 March 2009)
- **Panel talk:** "Poverty, Women and Divorce in a Colonial Bombay Court," Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, Denver (28 May 2009)
- **Annual lecture series:** 2009 Government Fellowship Lectures, an annual series of three lectures over three days: "Parsing Law: Strategy and Paradox in Zoroastrian Legal History (8 Oct 2009), "Parsing Gender: the Parsi Marriage and Divorce Acts (1865 & 1936) (9 Oct 2009), "Parsing Religion: the Rangoon Navjote Case (1925)" (10 Oct 2009); K. R. Cama Oriental Institute, Mumbai, India

2008:

- **Panel talk:** "Of Truth and Toxicology: Medico-Legal Dialogues on Abortion and Contraception in Late Colonial Bombay," Center for South Asian Studies' 25th Annual Spring Symposium: The Body in South Asian Contexts, University of Hawaii-Manoa, Honolulu (11 April 2008)
- **Panel talk:** "The Parsi Chief Matrimonial Court of Bombay, 1893-1929," "Zoroastrians Past and Present" conference (7-8 June 2008), Ancient Iran and India Trust, Cambridge, UK (7 June 2008)

COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH INITIATIVES

- **South Asia Collaborative Research Network (CRN), Law and Society Association:** co-organizer, 2005-present
- **South Asian Legal Studies Working Group (UW-Madison):**
http://www.law.wisc.edu/gls/sa_legal_studies_working_group.html
- **UW Legal History Working Group**

II. TEACHING

COURSES TAUGHT AT UW-MADISON

- Law 711: Contracts I
- Legal Studies & History 510: Legal Pluralism
- Legal Studies & History 502: Law & Colonialism

III. SERVICE

UW COMMITTEES

- **Law School:** Appointments Committee, Library Committee, 2010-11
- **Legal Studies:** Core Faculty Steering Committee, spring 2008-present
- **Center for South Asia:** FLAS Committee, 2010-11
- **India Initiative:** Steering Committee, 2008-present

CONFERENCES ORGANIZED

- **Annual South Asia Legal Studies Preconference Workshop:**
<http://hosted.law.wisc.edu/wordpress/sharafi/files/2010/07/2011-Call-for-Preconf-Panels1.pdf>
one-day workshop every October; sponsored by UW Law School, Global Legal Studies & Center for S. Asia
- **Legal History and Religion Workshop:**
<http://www.law.wisc.edu/ils/2010legalhist-religion/homepage.html>
one-day workshop; sponsored by UW Institute for Legal Studies; UW Law School, Madison, 24 Sept 2010

EXTERNAL SERVICE

- **Oakton Community College Faculty Area Mentor:** South Asian history and law, 2010-11
- **J. Willard Hurst Summer Institute in Legal History Selection Committee member and Wisconsin representative:** 2009-present
- **American Society for Legal History (ASLH) Program Committee:** spring 2009
- **Peer reviewer for:** *Journal of Colonialism and Colonial History*, *Law and Social Inquiry*, *Australian Feminist Law Journal*, Oxford University Press India, National Science Foundation's Law & Social Sciences program

IV. OTHER

LANGUAGES

- **English:** native speaker
- **French:** near fluency
- **German:** reading knowledge
- **Gujarati:** reading knowledge
- **Persian:** reading knowledge
- **Hindi:** basic knowledge
- **Latin:** basic knowledge