

Dr Vijaya Ramadas Mandala
PhD (History) The University of Manchester
Office: Room No. 105
School of Social Sciences Building
University of Hyderabad, India.
Emails: vrmsss@uohyd.ac.in
m.vijayramdas@gmail.com



Vijaya Ramadas Mandala is an Associate Professor in the Department of History at the University of Hyderabad, India. His expertise includes environmental history, Indian wildlife history, modern Indian history, Revolutionary Europe, and, more recently, the business history of India. His research interests are diverse, encompassing the history of ideas, environment and empire, British imperial and Commonwealth history, animal studies, cultural geography, ecology and conservation, the environmental histories of the Gonds and the Baigas, colonial education and architecture, and the French Revolution of 1789. Before joining the University of Hyderabad, he was a Junior Fellow at the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library (2014-2016). He has taught in India since 2014 and at the University of Manchester, U.K. (2006-2011).

Publications

Books:

- **Shooting a Tiger: Big Game Hunting and Conservation in Colonial India** (Oxford University Press, 2018). <https://academic.oup.com/book/25521>
<https://india.oup.com/product/shooting-a-tiger-9780199489381?>
- A 300-page edited book under my sole editorship, titled ***Power and Authority in Indian History Across the Ages***, was published by Springer (Singapore and New York, USA) in June 2025. <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-96-1679-4>

Journal articles/book chapters.

- Mandala, Vijaya Ramadas (November 2024). "Political Ecology in Transition in the Global South: Examining the Interplay of Environment, State, and Society in Colonial India (1800-1947)." *Global Journal of Cultural Studies* 3 (Canada): pp. 126-139.
<https://doi.org/10.6000/2817-2310.2024.03.14>

- Research Discussion topic: Mandala, Vijaya Ramadas, “Source Author Positionality and Power” in *AM Research Methods: Interrogating Colonial Archives and Narratives* (Marlborough: AM, 2023): 1-26 pages. The online link is unavailable.
- Book chapter: Vijaya Ramadas Mandala, Chapter 11. “Wild Ecology” of Hunting and Forest Beasts in Colonial India: British Imperial and Indian Adivasi Attitudes (1820-1910) in Aloka Parasher-Sen (ed.), *Conversations with the Animate ‘Other’ Historical Representations of Human and Non-Human Interactions in India* (Bloomsbury: 2023).
<https://www.bloomsbury.com/in/conversations-with-the-animate-other-9789356406902/>
- “Contesting the Colonizer or Hopeless Submission? Colonialism, Indigeneity, and Environmental Thinking in India, 1857–1910.” *Asian Review of World Histories* (Brill, 2021), 9(2), pp. 189-224. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1163/22879811-12340093>
- Book chapter titled “The Baigas and the British: Resilience of Wilderness and the Critique of Colonialism” in Rahul Kumar Mohanta (ed.) *Exploring Multifaceted Aspects of History & Beyond* (New Delhi: Akshita Publishers), pp. 1-57.
- “British Huntswomen in Colonial India: Imperialism and Gender Hierarchies (1890–1921)”, *International Review of Environmental History*, Vol. 6, No. 1, 2020, pp. 71-99.
<https://doi.org/10.22459/IREH.06.01.2020.04>
- Colonialism and the Spatial Dimension of Play – Education and the Creation of Middle Class Space at Schools and Colleges in Modern India (1790-1910). *The Historian*, Vol. 80, Issue 1 (2018), pp.34-85. <https://doi.org/10.1111/hisn.12753>
- Go after a Man-Eater that has killed a hundred people? Not on your Life! *Global Environment*, Vol. 7, No. 2 (2014), pp. 572-609. <https://doi.org/10.3197/ge.2014.070212>
- Lost worlds: Natural World and Indigenous Hunting Cultures in Colonial India (circa 1770s-1860s). Published by Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, New Delhi, NMML Occasional Paper, No. 60 (2015), pp. 1-29. <http://125.22.40.134:8080/jspui/handle/123456789/3158>
- Tiger huntresses in the Company Raj: Environmentalism and Exotic Imaginings of Wildlife, 1830–45. *International Review of Environmental History*, Vol. 5 (2019), pp. 97-113.
<https://doi.org/10.22459/IREH.05.02.2019.04>
- The Raj and the Paradoxes of Wildlife Conservation: British Attitudes and Expediencies, *The Historical Journal*, Vol. 58 (2015), pp. 75-110. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0018246X14000259>
- The Making and Unmaking of the Gonds: History of Hunting Mores in Colonial India, *Global Environment*, Vol. 10, No. 2 (October 2017), pp. 421-481.
<https://doi.org/10.3197/ge.2017.100207>
- Wrote a short biography on Jim Corbett (1875–1955) for *Literary Encyclopaedia* (November 2016). <https://www.litencyc.com/php/speople.php?rec=true&UID=13863>

Book Reviews

Book Review: *The Emergence of Brand-Name Capitalism in Late Colonial India: Advertising and the Making of Modern Conjuality* by Douglas E. Haynes (Bloomsbury, 2023, 306 pages). Published in The Book Review Literary Trust, New Delhi, India, September 2024. https://www.thebookreviewindia.org/global-consumer-economy-in-inter-war-india/?ihc_success_login=true

Book review: *Of the Raj, Maharajas and Me* (2022 Reprint) by M.A. Sreenivasan (Speaking Tiger, 1991) published by The Book Review Literary Trust, New Delhi, India, August 2023. <https://www.thebookreviewindia.org/the-making-of-a-civil-servant-in-the-mysore-state-of-british-india/>

Book review: *Elementary Aspects of the Political: Histories from the Global South* (Hyderabad: Orient Blackswan, 2021) by Prathama Banerjee. Published in The Book Review Literary Trust (December 2022, volume 46, No. 12). <https://www.thebookreviewindia.org/histories-of-the-political/>

Book Review: *The Anglo-Indians in Hyderabad: Sociolinguistic, Historical, and Anthropological Perspectives* by Smita Joseph (New Delhi: Primus Books, 2020) in *The Book Review Literary Trust* (September 2022) vol. 46, No. 9 <https://www.thebookreviewindia.org/relationship-between-ethnicity-and-language/>

Book Review: *Environment Jurisprudence and the Supreme Court* by Geetanjoy Sahu (New Delhi: Orient Black Swan, 2014) in *Seminar* No. 669 (May 2015). https://www.india-seminar.com/2015/669/669_books.htm

Academic awards/fellowships

- Dorothy Hodgkin Award (ESRC-RCUK), The University of Manchester (2005) £86,600.
- Gates Cambridge Fellowship for a PhD in International Relations, University of Cambridge (unable to take up) in 2005. Membership of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge.
- Graduate Teaching Assistant Award, The University of Manchester (2006).
- Bridging Hardship Fund, The University of Manchester (2011) £2,375.
- Ashburne Hall, The University of Manchester, Ashburne Bursary (2009-11) £18,000.
- Junior Research Fellowship, Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, New Delhi (2014-2016).

National/International Invited lectures (maximum of 10)

- Chief Coordinator for the “*Institute of Eminence & School of Social Sciences Golden Jubilee Academic Writing Workshop*” for the PhDs in the History Cluster, University of Hyderabad, India, held on the 21st, 22nd, and 23rd of October 2024, in the Conference Hall of the School of Social Sciences at the University of Hyderabad.

- Presented a paper titled “Rethinking the Environmental History of Colonial India: Examining the Narratives of Indigeneity and Dispossession among Indian Groups and Adivasi Tribes (1857-1940)” from **27 February to 1 March 2025** at a three-day International Conference organised by the Department of History and Ancient Indian Culture, with support from the Department of Mahatma Phule-Dr. Ambedkar Thought and Research Centre, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Chh. Sambhajinagar-Maharashtra, Aurangabad-431004, India.
- Served as the Panel Chairperson/Resource Person for the international seminar on ‘Cultural Narratives: Environmental and Indigenous Narratives’ (Part 1), held on **27 February to 1 March 2025**, at Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Chh. Sambhajinagar, Maharashtra, Aurangabad-431004, India.
- Presented a paper at a one-day national workshop on “Transition in Tribal Societies: Evaluating Inclusive Policies and Outcomes” on **6 November 2024** (Wednesday) at the Centre for the Study of Social Inclusion, located at Maulana Azad National Urdu University (CSSI-MANUU), Hyderabad, Telangana.
- Delivered a public lecture on “The Freedom of Speech and Censorship in Tudor England and Bourbon France: 16th and 18th Centuries” as part of the “PROSCRIBED PRINT – IoE Lecture Series” organised by the Department of Hindi, University of Hyderabad and CSDS, New Delhi on 25 September 2021. https://youtu.be/DYKGZZ_ytc
- Delivered a seminar on “Colonialism, Education and the Spatial Dimension of Play in Modern India, 1790-1910” for UoH History Webinar Series, Talk No. 22 organised by the Department of History, University of Hyderabad on 08 April 2021. <https://youtu.be/NDjitlJ-pis>
- Presented book talk for ‘Listening Post’ held in the New Seminar Hall, School of Social Sciences, University of Hyderabad, India on 12 March 2019.
- ‘Contesting the coloniser or hopeless submission? Colonialism, indigeneity, and environmental thinking among the native groups in India: 1857-1947. Seminar presented at Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, New Delhi on 27 May 2016.
- ‘Lost Worlds: the natural world, hunting and conservation among the natives and Indigenous tribes in colonial India (circa 1800-the 1860s)’. Paper presented at the Ecology and Society Workshop held at NMML, New Delhi on 22 May 2015.
- ‘Jim Corbett: a hunter-turned-conservationist in colonial India’. Paper presented at the Exploring Interdisciplinarity Workshop, CIDRA Research in the Arts, The University of Manchester, England, on 11 November 2010.
- ‘Good, bad and ugly: British attitudes and expediences’, invited paper at Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) - Jodhpur, India on 05 November 2012.