

Bibliography of late Saubhagya Shah's Academic Writings

Compiled by Pratyoush Onta (with help from his Martin Chautari colleagues)

Saubhagya Shah, a sociologist/anthropologist trained at Tribhuvan University, Nepal (MA in Sociology, 1991) and Harvard University, US (PhD in Anthropology, 2004) died suddenly on 16 December 2009 from a suspected heart attack. At the time of his death, he was a Reader in Sociology at Tribhuvan University (TU) and the Program Coordinator of TU's Central Department of Conflict, Peace and Development Studies (CPDS). A moving tribute to Saubhagya has been penned by the writer Sushma Joshi (2017).

Accounts provided by his students and colleagues suggest that Saubhagya was a concerned and generous teacher. His published writings and seminar papers showed his competence and originality as an academic who was seriously trying to understand contemporary changes in Nepali society. Saubhagya was also a public intellectual and wrote prolifically for most of the influential media outlets in Nepal. Before he began his doctoral studies in Harvard in the mid-1990s, he also worked as a journalist for *The Rising Nepal* and wrote significant articles for the magazine *Himal*.

If my knowledge of the world of Nepali journalism and public life is any guide, it is highly unlikely that Saubhagya maintained comprehensive lists of writings he published in his role as a reporter/journalist for *The Rising Nepal* and as a public intellectual later in his career. If he maintained no such lists, coming up with them would entail a significant piece of research by itself. Here I have only listed four items he wrote in a non-academic format that might be of interest to academics.

With respect to his academic writings including his MA and PhD theses, the list provided here is fairly complete for the case of full-length articles. It is possible that I might have missed to list a published article or two. I also suspect that he published several more book reviews than is mentioned here. With respect to seminar papers, I am sure that he presented many more papers in Nepal and elsewhere than the few listed here. His 2004 PhD dissertation was recently published as a book by Himal Books with a shortened subtitle and a useful introduction by Dr Chaitanya Mishra (Shah 2018). It was launched in a special program organized by Social Science Baha in Patan on 15 December 2017. Photos from that occasion can be found at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/99580562@N07/sets/72157667574240319>

I have come up with this bibliography after looking for his writings (with help from several colleagues at Martin Chautari) in the major academic journals published from Nepal and after consulting with some of his students at TU. All items mentioned in section I are available in the library of Martin Chautari in Kathmandu.

I would like to receive information about missing items in this bibliography and suggestions regarding any necessary corrections in the items listed here. Such

information should be sent to me at my email address: sinhas@mos.com.np. This bibliography will be updated when new information needs to be added to version two given here.

References

Joshi, Sushma. 2017. Saubhagya Shah: A Tribute. *Setopati*, 5 May. Available at: <http://archive.setopati.net/blog/22684/>

I. In Academic Format

1991. Changes and Continuity in an Uprooted Community: A Study of the Rarals from Mugu District. MA Thesis, Tribhuvan University.
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2004. A Himalayan Red Herring? Maoist Revolution in the Shadow of the Legacy Raj. In *Himalayan 'People's War': Nepal's Maoist Rebellion*. Michael Hutt, ed., pp. 192–224. London: C. Hurst and Company.
2004. A Project of Memoreality: Transnational Development and Local Activism among Rural Women in Nepal. PhD diss., Department of Anthropology, Harvard University.
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2007. Special Session and After: Thinking Past the Nepali 'Post-Conflict'. *Shodhmala, Journal of Magar Studies Center* 3(1): 33–37.

2007. Rethinking Idea: Rationality, Action and the Ethnographic Challenge. *Journal of SASS* 2: 29–39 [This is a term paper he wrote for a class while a graduate student at Harvard in the late 1990s; The student editors of the *Journal of SASS* have published it as part of what they have called the ‘Harvard Dossier’ with the following note: “We have decided to publish them for the comparative perspective they provide on graduate training and exercises in different anthropology departments”].
2008. *Civil Society in Uncivil Places: Soft State and Regime Change in Nepal*. Washington D.C.: East-West Center. Also available at www.eastwestcenter.org/fileadmin/stored/pdfs/ps048.pdf
2008. Revolution and Reaction in the Himalayas: Cultural Resistance and the Maoist “new regime” in Western Nepal. *American Ethnologist* 35(3): 481–499.
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2009. Sovereign Deficit: Fragmented Polity, Defense Dilemma and the Battle for Civilian Supremacy in Nepal. *Contributions to Nepalese Studies* 36(2): 169–211.
2018. *A Project of Memoreality: Transnational Development and Local Activism*. Kathmandu: Himal Books for Social Science Baha. [This includes a useful introduction by Dr Chaitanya Mishra]

II. Non-Academic Format Writings

1993. Throes of a Fledging Nation. *Himal* (March-April): 7–10.
1993. The Gospel Comes to the Hindu Kingdom. *Himal* (Sept-Oct): 35–40.
- 2056 v.s. Karnaliko Kasta: Ek Baikalpik Bisleshan ra Sambhavana. *Karnali Darpan* 1(1): 24–29.
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III. Some Seminar Papers/Presentations

2003. Historical and Social Background to the Present Conflict in Nepal. A paper presented in a Workshop on “Strengthening Analytical Capacity at the UN,” the

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