

## **Curriculum Vitae**

Suranjan Weeraratne  
Department of Political Science  
McGill University  
855 Sherbrooke Street West  
Montreal, Quebec, H3A2T7, Canada  
Tel: 514-659-7161  
Email: [suranjan.weeraratne@mcgill.ca](mailto:suranjan.weeraratne@mcgill.ca)

### **Education**

#### ***McGill University, Montreal, QC***

PhD in Political Science (expected graduation - May 2009)

Dissertation topic: Degrees of 'Scapegoatability': Assessing spatial variations in anti-Chinese rioting in Indonesia

Dissertation Committee: Steve Saideman (Chair), Hudson Meadwell, Erik Kuhonta

#### ***Claremont Graduate University, Claremont, CA - Aug 2000 to May 2002***

Master of Arts in International Studies

Thesis topic: "Ethnic Conflict in Sri Lanka: forecasting the outcome of a protracted conflict using Expected Utility Model"

Dissertation Committee: Jacek Kugler, Dean McHenry

#### ***University of New Delhi, Delhi, India - May 1996 to May 1999***

Bachelor of Commerce

Awarded merit certificate for securing first place in a class of 200

### **Publications**

*State Policy and International Ethnic Migrants: Indian and Chinese experiences in Asia*, with Arun Agrawal in *Globalization and Social Stress*; edited by Grzegorz W. Kolodko, Nova Publishers, 2005

*Devolution of Resource Rights, Poverty and Natural Resource Management*, with Priya Shyamsundar, Paper No. 104, Environmental Economics Series, World Bank, Washington DC, May 2005.

### **Work in Progress**

"This neighborhood good, that neighborhood bad: assessing spatial variations in Anti-Chinese violence in Jakarta", Under Review

"Entrepreneurial ethnic minorities and collective violence", to be submitted in February 2008

“When do Religious provocateurs succeed in inciting violence? Assessing puzzling trajectories of violence within Gujarat in India and the Maluku Islands in Indonesia”

“Patterns of anti-Semitic aggression in the Russian Federation in the late 1990s”

“Electoral Engineering in Ethnically Divided Societies: The Qualified Success of Proportional Representation in Sri Lanka”

### **Conference Presentations**

“Ethnic Entrepreneurs and Collective Violence”, UNU-WIDER Research Workshop on Entrepreneurship and Conflict, University of Ulster, Londonderry, Northern Ireland, 20–21 March 2009

“Degrees of ‘Scapegoatability’: Unraveling neighborhood level variations in violence during the Jakarta Riots of May 1998”, invited presentation to the Montreal Research Group on Ethnic Conflict, November 5, 2008. Also presented at the Annual Meeting of the International Studies Association, New York, February 15-18, 2009

“Hit and miss: a theoretical framework for understanding when elite entrepreneurs succeed in inciting violence at the local level”, Association for the Study of Nationalities (ASN) Annual Convention, Columbia University, New York, April 2008

“Geospatial modeling of variations in ethnic riots”, Annual Meeting of the International Studies Association, San Francisco, March 26-29, 2008

“Borders and Political Violence in South and Southeast Asia” International Peace Academy (IPA)-United Nations University (UNU) sponsored workshop on ‘Political violence in South and Southeast Asia’, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, July 2007

“Elite scapegoating and anti-Chinese violence: assessing patterns in rural districts in Indonesia”, working paper prepared for Center for Research on Inequality, Human Security and Ethnicity (CRISE), Oxford University, June 2007

“Assessing spatial variations in anti-Chinese violence in Indonesian cities”, Canadian Political Science Association (CPSA) Annual Meeting, Saskatchewan, May 2007 and at the Association for the Study of Nationalities (ASN) Annual Convention, Columbia University, New York, April 2007

“Indonesia’s ethnic Chinese: caught between hope and betrayal”, presented at Inter-disciplinary Islamic Studies Program, State Islamic University, Jakarta, May 2006.

“Electoral Engineering in Divided Societies: the case of Sri Lanka” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Washington DC, 2005

“Tales from a distant home: Chinese ethnic migrant experiences from Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand”, Midwest Political Science association, Chicago, 2005.

“Unpacking Institutions and Ethnic Conflict: Analyzing Democracy’s Influence on Forms of Communal Dissent” co-written with Steve Saideman, David Lanoue and Amy Cox, Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Chicago, 2005.

"Democracy, Duration, and Dissent: Institutions and Ethnic Conflict Through Two Decades" co-written with Steve Saideman, David Lanoue and Amy Cox, Annual meeting of the International Studies Association, Hilton Hawaiian Village, Honolulu, Hawaii, March 2005

Fixed and Endogenous Elections and Ethnic Conflict: Similar or Different Causal Relationships?” co-written with Steve Saideman, David Lanoue and Amy Cox, Annual Meeting of the International Studies Association, Montreal, QC, February 17-20, 2004.

### **Awards, Honors and Fellowships**

IAIN Indonesia Social Equity Project, McGill University, awarded visiting fellowship at the State Islamic University, Jakarta, Indonesia - Aug 2007

Center for Developing Area Studies, McGill University, Graduate Student Fellowship, October 2006 to October 2007

Alma-Mater Travel Grant, McGill University - September 2007; February, 2005  
Department of Political Science, McGill University, Travel Grant - April 2005, September 2006, April 2008

Center for Research on Inequality, Human Security and Ethnicity (CRISE), Oxford University, Research Grant on project titled “Explaining variations in collective violence against the ethnic-Chinese community in Indonesia” - 2006 to 2007

IAIN Indonesia Social Equity Project, McGill University, awarded visiting fellowship at the State Islamic University, Jakarta, Indonesia - March-July 2006

Department of Political Science, McGill University, recruitment fellowship - September 2002 to August 2003

School of Politics and Economics, Claremont Graduate University, Graduate Fellowship – August 2000 to May 2002

### **Teaching**

Course Lecturer, Department of Political Science, McGill University

- Course Lecturer POLI 340 - Developing Areas/Middle East - Fall 2008
- Course Lecturer POLI 369 - Politics of Southeast Asia - Winter 2009

Teaching Assistant, Department of Political Science, McGill University

- TA for POLI 211 - Comparative Politics and Government, POLI 244- State Behaviour, POLI 243 - International Politics of Economic Relations, POLI 212 - Comparative Politics- Developed nations, POLI 227 - Developing Areas-Introduction
- Appointed senior head teaching assistant for POLI 244 (Fall 2005 and Fall 2007) and POLI 211- Fall 2006)
- Tutor/Consultant, Islamic Inter-Disciplinary Program, State Islamic University, Jakarta, Indonesia -March 2006 to July 2006 and August 2007  
Offered thesis consultation and support to graduate students in the program

### **Research Experience**

Research Assistant, Department of Political Science, McGill University

- Professor Steve Saideman - May 2003 to May 2007  
Involved in a variety of projects on inter-group conflict, minority competition and electoral institutions
- Professor Erik Kuhonta - October 2006 to June 2007 and Summer 2008  
Conducted research on the social, political and economic implications of large scale dams/development projects and on affirmative action policies for ethnic groups.
- Professor Arun Agrawal - January 2003 to October 2003  
Conducted research on inter-state migration and ethnic conflict in Asia
- Professor Hudson Meadwell - September 2002 - June 2003  
Compiled data on secessionist movements in Asian countries

Consultant - Department of Environment, World Bank, Washington DC -July 2003 to September 2003

- Contributed a chapter to a world bank publication on “Decentralization of Natural Resources”

Coder - Minorities at Risk Project, University of Maryland - October 2003 to July 2004

- Coded variables in Phase IV of the MAR project

Research Assistant, School of Politics and Economics, Claremont Graduate University

- Professor Gary Segura - August 2000 to June 2001  
Compiled data on state elections in California
- Professor Dean McHenry - August 2001 to January 2002  
Collected data on Lok Sabha elections in several states in India and conducted research on separatist movements in the Northeastern parts of India.

### **Other Work Experience**

Associate Creative Director, A&D Advertising, Colombo, Sri Lanka, May 1999 to August 2000

## **Skills**

Statistical packages and programs: STATA, SPSS, Clarify  
Other applications: GIS

## **Languages**

Sinhalese (native); Bahasa Indonesia (intermediate)

## **References**

1) Steve Saideman  
Associate Professor  
Department of Political Science  
McGill University

Email: [steve.saideman@mcgill.ca](mailto:steve.saideman@mcgill.ca)

2) Hudson Meadwell  
Associate Professor  
Department of Political Science  
McGill University

Email: [hudson.meadwell@mcgill.ca](mailto:hudson.meadwell@mcgill.ca)

3) Erik Kuhonta  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Political Science  
McGill University

Email: [erik.kuhonta@mcgill.ca](mailto:erik.kuhonta@mcgill.ca)