

# Siraj Ahmed Sindhu

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## EDUCATION

Brown University, Ph.D. in Political Science, 2025 (expected), M.A. (2020)

-Dissertation: *Progress and Its Discontents: Freedom and Time in Modern Political Thought*.

Engaging prominent figures across the “long nineteenth century” in anticolonial, Black, feminist, and socialist political thought, I identify a common concern with the way power conditions both ordinary experiences of lived time and structuring narratives for making sense of historical time. I develop a theory of democratic virtue to elaborate how these thinkers—including James Baldwin, Muhammad Iqbal, Silvia Federici, Karl Marx, and others—critiqued discourses of progress that enlisted subaltern subjects in their own domination, and sought instead to cultivate genuine democratic habits. Developing new orientations toward time and toward one another were key ways in which these thinkers sought to enact more genuinely democratic political projects in the wake of racial empire.

Committee: Sharon Krause (Chair), Alexander Gourevitch, Bonnie Honig.

Amherst College, B.A. in English and Law, Jurisprudence and Social Thought, 2017

-*Magna cum laude* with Distinction.

## AWARDS

-Fellow at the Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity in America, 2023-2024

-Scholarship recipient to attend School of Criticism and Theory at Cornell University, 2022

-Distinction in Political Theory Comprehensive Exam, 2020

-Recipient of Presidential Fellowship, 2018

-Fellow of the Amherst Program in Critical Theory, 2015-2017

-Winner of the Samuel Bowles Prize for Journalism, 2017

-Andrew Mellon Research Fellow, Gregory Call Research Fellow, & Civic Engagement Scholar

## ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

“The Cliché of Civilizations: On Caricature and Typicality in Western Muslim Representation,” *Post45* (forthcoming).

Sindhu, S. (2022). Book Review: Critique on the Couch: Why Critical Theory Needs Psychoanalysis, by Amy Allen. *Political Theory*, 50(4), 656–661.

## WORKING PAPERS

James Baldwin and the Civic Virtues of Multiracial Democratic Reconstruction

To ‘Cure the Ills of a Despairing Humanity’: Muhammad Iqbal’s Anticolonial Politics of Dignity

‘A New Universe of Life’: Contributive Justice and the Postwork Political Imaginary

## **TEACHING**

-*Introduction to International Relations*, Fall 2024

-*Politics and the Self*, Sole Instructor, Summer 2023, Summer 2024

-*This is What Democracy Looks Like!*, Sole Instructor, Summer 2022

-*Introduction to Political Thought*, Teaching Assistant, Spring 2021

-*Gender, Slavery, and Freedom*, Teaching Assistant, Fall 2020

## **INVITED PRESENTATION**

“A New Universe of Life: Postwork Socialism as Spiritual Democracy.” University of Connecticut Political Theory Workshop. October 2, 2023.

## **CONFERENCE AND OTHER ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS**

“The Cliché of Civilizations: On Caricature and Typicality in Western Muslim Representation.” Presentation at Association for the Study of the Arts of the Present (ASAP), October 19, 2024.

“Baldwin’s Aesthetics: On Experience and Race-Consciousness,” Presentation at Western Political Science Association (WPSA), March 18, 2024.

Discussant for Mie Inouye, “In Our Thousands, In Our Millions, We Are All Palestinians: Particularity and Universalism in the Movement for a Free Palestine.” Political Theory Colloquium at Brown University, February 8, 2024.

“To ‘Cure the Ills of a Despairing Humanity’: Revising and Pluralizing the Islamic Tradition with Iqbal’s *Reconstruction*.” Presentation at Midwestern Political Science Association (MPSA), April 15, 2023.

“Owning Your Life: On Socialist Spirituality, Time Consciousness, and Work.” Presentation at American Political Science Association (APSA), Sept 16, 2022.

“Time, Presence, Freedom: Postwork Politics in the Attention Economy.” Presentation at New England Political Science Association (NEPSA), April 29, 2022.

“Time After (This) Time: Contesting Visions of Free Time in the Postwork Imaginary.” Presentation at Political Theory Graduate Symposium at Brown University, December 9, 2021.

“Progress.” Presentation at *Political Concepts Conference: Graduate Student Edition*, Brown University, May 21, 2021.

Discussant for Jairus Grove, "From Geopolitics to Geotechnics: Global Futures in the Shadow of Automation, Cunning Machines, and Human Speciation." Political Theory Colloquium at Brown University, April 1, 2021.

Discussant for Aaron Stern, "The Likeness of Virtue and Vice: Toward a Machiavellian Concept of the Political." Political Theory Graduate Symposium at Brown University, December 9, 2019.

"Thinking Revolution': Muslim Immigration and Politics." Conference Presentation at "Minorities and Minority Discourses in Germany Since 1990" at Amherst College, March 4, 2017.

## **OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

### Coeditor (with Harriet Smith Hughes)

-Special Issue of *Post45* on "Cliché" (forthcoming).

### Research Assistant to Professor Juliet Hooker, Brown University

-Assisted in preparing book manuscript for publication: *Black Grief/White Grievance: The Politics of Loss*, Princeton University Press, 2023.

### Research Assistant to Professor Melvin Rogers, Brown University

-Assisted in preparing book manuscript for publication: *The Darkened Light of Faith: Race, Democracy, and Freedom in African American Political Thought*, Princeton University Press, 2023.

### Research Assistant to Professor Adam Sitze, Amherst College

-Edited and prepared for publication the manuscript of Adriana Cavarero and Angelo Scola, *Thou Shalt Not Kill*, trans. Margaret Adams Groesbeck and Adam Sitze. Fordham University Press, 2015

## **LEADERSHIP & SERVICE**

-Co-convenor of the Political Theory Colloquium, Brown University Department of Political Science (2023-2024)

## **LANGUAGES**

-Conversational in Urdu/Hindi, elementary to moderate proficiency in German and Arabic.