

## Curriculum Vitae

### **CHETAN CHOITHANI**

Assistant Professor  
Inequality and Human Development Programme  
School of Social Sciences  
National Institute of Advanced Studies  
Indian Institute of Science Campus  
Bengaluru 560012, India  
E [cchoithani@nias.res.in](mailto:cchoithani@nias.res.in)



---

### **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Migration and urbanization  
Livelihoods  
Food and nutrition  
Population and health  
Gender  
Social policy

### **EDUCATION**

- 2011-16                      PhD in Development Geography, University of Sydney, Australia.  
*Dissertation:* Livelihoods on the move: understanding the linkages between migration and household food security in India.
- 2009-10                      Master of Population Studies, International Institute for Population Sciences, India.  
*Dissertation:* Disability in India: a historical and contemporary demographic perspective.
- 2007-09                      Master of Arts in Globalisation and Labor, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, India.  
*Dissertation:* Impact of organised retail on the unorganised retailers: a case study of Mumbai.
- 2006-07                      Diploma in Population Studies, International Institute for Population Sciences, India.  
*Dissertation:* Macroeconomic implications of demographic transition in India.
- 2001-04                      Bachelors of Arts, University of Rajasthan, India, 2001-04  
*Major subjects:* Sociology, Public Administration and Political Science

### **ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

- Oct 2018-Continuing      Assistant Professor, Inequality and Human Development Programme, National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bengaluru, India.
- Apr 2018-Sep 2020        *Postdoctoral Research Associate*, Urban Studies Institute, Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, Georgia State University, Atlanta, USA.
- Mar 2016-Mar 2018        *Assistant Professor*, School of Development Studies, Institute for Health Management Research (IHMR), Jaipur, India.

## **AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

One of the twenty students from Asia to have been awarded Australian Government's highly competitive 'Prime Minister Australia Asia Postgraduate Award' for PhD research, 2011-15.

Qualified for the Junior Research Fellowship for PhD research, University Grants Commission, India, 2010.

Qualified the National Eligibility Test (NET) of University Grants Commission, India, 2010 for lectureship eligibility in India.

Government of India Fellowship to pursue Master of Population Studies at the International Institute for Population Sciences, India, 2009-10.

C. Chandrasekaran Gold Medal for first rank in Diploma in Population Studies, 2006-07 International Institute for Population Sciences, India, 2006-07.

J. R. Rele Award (Gold Medal) for best dissertation in Diploma in Population Studies, International Institute for Population Sciences, India, 2006-07.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### ***Books***

Pritchard, B., Rammohan, A., Sekher, M., Parasuraman, S., Choithani, C. (2014). *Feeding India: livelihoods, entitlements and capabilities*. Oxon: Earthscan (Routledge).

### ***Peer-reviewed journal articles***

Van Duijne, R. J., Choithani, C., and Pfeffer, K., (2020). New urban geographies of West Bengal, India. *Journal of Maps*, Vol 16(1), pp. 172-183.

Choithani, C. (2019). Gendered livelihoods: migrating men, left behind women and household food security in India. *Gender, Place and Culture*, DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/0966369X.2019.1681366>

Choithani, C. (2017). Understanding the linkages between migration and household food security in India. *Geographical Research*, Vol 55(2), pp. 192-205.

Pritchard, B., Dixon, J., Hull, E., Choithani, C. (2016). Stepping back and moving in': the role of the state in the contemporary food regime. *Journal of Peasant Studies*, Vol 43(3), pp. 693-710.

Choithani, C. and Pritchard, B. (2015). Assessing Bihar's coupons-based Public Distribution System: importance of local context. *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol 50(3), pp. 61-68.

### ***Reports, policy papers and book chapters***

Choithani, C. (2016). Food and nutrition security issues in Rajasthan. *Background paper for Rajasthan Human Development Report 2016*. Government of Rajasthan.

Choithani, C. (2009). *Entry of corporate retail and its impact on small shops and street hawkers: a case study from Mumbai*. New Delhi: Focus on the Global South.

Ladusingh, L. and Choithani, C. (2008). *Macroeconomic implications of demographic transition in India*. In Alok Ranjan (Ed.), *Population and Health in India 2008* (pp. 7-19). Bhopal: Shyam Institute.

### Columns/Op-eds

Choithani, C. and Roshania, R. (2020). '[Why do we treat internal migrants differently from international migrants?](#)', published in *The Wire* on May 28, 2020.

Choithani, C. (2020). '[What happens to the wives of male migrant workers, who run entire households in villages?](#)', published in *The Wire* on April 01, 2020.

Choithani, C. (2018). '[Why India needs to urgently worry about migration caused by climate change](#)', published in *Business Standard* on June 25, 2018.

Choithani, C. (2018). '[How will India respond to internal climate migration?](#)', published in *The Wire* on June 24, 2018.

Choithani, C. and Pritchard, B. (2015). '[The significance of local power structures in Bihar's coupon-based PDS](#)', published in *Ideas for India* on August 17, 2015.

Pritchard, B. and Choithani, C. (2014). '[PDS and political power in Bihar](#)', published in *Livemint* on August 17, 2015.

Pritchard, B. and Choithani, C. (2014). '[Hunger games: changing targets and politics of global nutrition](#)', published in *The Conversation* on September 26, 2014.

### RESEARCH PROJECTS/GRANTS

**India's Emergent Urban Formations** – This was a Dutch National Science Foundation (NWO) funded project, and I worked on it as part of my postdoctoral research with colleagues at the University of Amsterdam and Georgia State University. As a part of this research, my colleagues and I conducted extensive fieldwork, including 1000 surveys with households and firms in northeast India, and we are now working on several publications based on data gathered.

**Institutions for Food Security: Global Insights from Rural India** – This was a research project funded by Australian Research Council. I worked on it along with colleagues from Australia and India. One of the major outcomes of this project was the book *Feeding India: Livelihoods, Entitlements and Capabilities*, and I was one of the authors on it.

### COURSES TAUGHT

In my role of Postdoctoral Researcher at Georgia State University and Assistant Professor at the Institute of Health Management Research, I instructed/co-instructed following courses for postgraduate management students and doctoral scholars:

- i) Urban Economic Resilience (PhD level course at Georgia State University, co-instructed with Prof. Jan Nijman)
- ii) Livelihood systems (Master-level course at IIMR-U, sole instructor)
- iii) Health and Development (Master-level course at IIMR-U, sole instructor)

### INVITED TALKS/LECTURES

*Migration narrative in India* (with Reshma Roshania), talk delivered in undergraduate seminar course on 'Narrating Migration' of Department of Media, Culture and Communication, New York University – Steinhardt School (November 4, 2020).

*Exploring India's emergent urban formations: case studies of West Bengal and Bihar* (with Jan Nijman and Robbin Jan van Duijne), talks at Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta (September 03, 2019), and Indian Institute of Technology, Patna (September 04, 2019).

*Migration, food security and development*, talk delivered as part of Urban Studies Institute Speaker Series, Georgia State University (September 06, 2018).

*Food and nutrition security: a global perspective*, lecture delivered for the students of Master in International Public Health, University of Sydney, Australia, 2014.

*Right to food: an unfinished agenda*, lecture delivered for the students of Master in International Human Rights, University of Sydney, Australia, 2013.

## **MAJOR ACADEMIC CONFERENCES**

*India's hidden urbanization: an alternative look at the rural-urban transition in Bihar and West Bengal* (with Jan Nijman and Robbin Jan van Duijne), paper presented at the International Sociological Association's RC21 2019 conference titled 'In and Beyond the City: Emerging Ontologies, Persistent Challenges and Hopeful Futures', held at India Habitat Center in Delhi, India during September 18-21, 2019.

*Migration and changing agrarian relations: insights from India*, paper presented at the XXV Agri-Food conference titled 'Celebrating 25 years of the Australasian Agri-food Research Network – Exploring past, present and future contributions to agri-food studies', held at the University of Queensland in Brisbane, Australia during Dec 02-05, 2018.

*Migration, food security and sustainable development agenda*, paper presented at 'Fifth Annual Monash Business School's Conference on Sustainable Development', held in Prato, Italy during June 26-27, 2017.

*Integrating migration in food policy research and practice*, paper presented at the VII annual international conference of Asian Dynamics Initiative of Copenhagen University titled 'Food, Feeding and Eating in and out of Asia', held during 24-26 June, 2015 in Copenhagen.

*Rural land, urban remittances: circular migration, rural-urban linkages and household food security in India*, paper presented at the XXI Agri-Food Conference (Food, Planet, People), held in Sydney, Australia during November 24-26, 2014.

*Livelihoods on the move: understanding the linkages between migration and household food security in rural India*, paper presented at the XVIII International Sociological Association's World Congress of Sociology, held in Yokohama, Japan during 13-19 July, 2014.

## **PEER REVIEWER FOR ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS**

Annals of Association of American Geographers; Gender, Place and Culture; Food Security (Springer); Journal of Population and Social Studies; Economic and Political Weekly; National University of Singapore's Asia Research Institute Working Paper Series

## **PROFESSIONAL/RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

May-December 2011                      University of Sydney, Australia  
Designation: Research Assistant  
Project: Institutions for food security: global insights from rural India  
Funding body: Australian Research Council

September-December 2010 International Institute for Population Sciences, India; Harvard School of Public Health and Rand Corporation, United States  
Designation: Research Officer  
Project: Longitudinal ageing study in India  
Funding body: National Institute of Health, United States

June-December 2008 Focus on the Global South, India  
Designation: Research Intern  
Project: Independent research project on the food retail industry in Mumbai

## ACADEMIC SERVICES

Member of the organising committee for the *XXI Agri-Food Conference (Food, Planet, People)*, held in Sydney, Australia during November 24-26, 2014.

Postgraduate convener for the Human Geography's weekly seminar series, *Thinking Space*, University of Sydney, Australia, August-December 2012.

Member of core organising team for the International Social Network Analysis Conference, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, India, December 26-27, 2008.

## PERSONAL INFORMATION

Date of birth : April 2, 1984  
Sex : Male  
Nationality : India  
Languages : English, Hindi, Sindhi

## REFEREES

### Dr. Bill Pritchard

Professor and Head of School of Geosciences  
Faculty of Science  
Rm 450, Madsen Building F09  
The University of Sydney  
NSW 2006 Australia  
T +61 2 9351 3309  
E [bill.pritchard@sydney.edu.au](mailto:bill.pritchard@sydney.edu.au)

### Dr. Jan Nijman

Director and Professor, Urban Studies Institute  
Andrew Young School of Policy Studies  
Rm 808, 55 Park Place  
Georgia State University  
Atlanta 30303 Georgia, United States  
T +1 404 413 0034  
E [jniyman@gsu.edu](mailto:jnijman@gsu.edu)

### Dr. T V Sekher

Professor  
Department of Population Policies and Programmes  
International Institute for Population Sciences  
Deonar, Mumbai 400088  
Maharashtra, India  
T+91 22 42372407  
E [sekher@iips.net](mailto:sekher@iips.net)

Date: November 19, 2020