

# Aashish Gupta

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Social Science Division  
NYU Abu Dhabi  
Saadiyat Island, Abu Dhabi  
United Arab Emirates

FORMAL EDUCATION   **PhD in Demography and Sociology, 2021**  
University of Pennsylvania  
Dissertation: [Health, environment, and inequality in India](#)  
Comprehensive exams: Demography, Environment (passed with distinction)

**M.A. (5-year integrated programme) in Development Studies, 2011**  
Indian Institute of Technology Madras  
Exchange Semester: Hochschule Bremen, Germany, 2009

EMPLOYMENT   **Current and affiliations**

Post-doctoral Associate, Social Science Division, NYU Abu Dhabi  
2025 –

Research Affiliate, Population Studies Center, University of Pennsylvania  
2022 –

Visiting Research Fellow, research institute for compassionate economics  
2015 –

### Previous

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellow, Department of Sociology, Leverhulme Center for Demographic Science, and Nuffield College, University of Oxford  
2023 – 2024

David E. Bell Postdoctoral Fellow, Harvard Center for Population and Development Studies, Harvard University  
2021 – 2022

Research Fellow, research institute for compassionate economics  
2013 – 2015

Research Assistant, Planning and Development Unit, Department of Economics, University of Allahabad  
2011 – 2013

INTERESTS   Development, Demography, Environment, Health, Inequality

AWARDS & GRANTS   CSR Grant, “Large-scale phone survey to measure excess mortality in Bihar”, 2021.  
University of Pennsylvania Institute for the Advanced Study of India.

*Dorothy S. Thomas Award for best graduate student paper, 2021.* Population Association of America

*Marie Skodowska-Curie Individual Fellowship.* European Commission: Horizon 2020 and Oxford University.

COVID-19 emergency graduate funding extension, 2020-2021. University of Pennsylvania.

Gertrude and Otto Pollak Summer Research Fellowship, 2020. Department of Sociology, University of Pennsylvania.

Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Fellowship, 2019-21. International Union for the Scientific Study of Population.

Summer Travel Funds for Research, 2019. Center for the Advanced Study of India, University of Pennsylvania.

Travel award and scholarship, Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research, for IDEM 182 Life Table and Decomposition Analysis for Population Health Research (using R). 2018.

Grant for student-run conference, "Health & Society in South Asia," 2017. Lauder Institute, University of Pennsylvania.

Benjamin Franklin Fellowship, 2015-2019. University of Pennsylvania.

Exchange program, Hochschule Bremen, 2009. Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst (DAAD).

## RESEARCH

★ denotes equal contributions.

† denotes authors listed in alphabetical order.

‡ denotes graduate student or trainee co-author at the time of research.

### Pending requests to revise & resubmit

2. Nathan Franz‡, **Aashish Gupta**, Dean Spears, and Diane Coffey. [Uncertainty about maternal mortality in India: New, higher estimates from the National Family Health Survey](#). *Revisions requested by Population Studies*.
1. Sneha Mani★, **Aashish Gupta**★, and Irma Elo. Polluting cooking fuel use and adult cognitive health: Externalities and gender disparities in LMICs. *Revisions requested by American Journal of Epidemiology*.

### Peer-reviewed journal articles

23. Megan N. Reed★, Babul Hossain‡, Srinivas Goli, KS James, and **Aashish Gupta**★. Forthcoming. [Widow and widower mortality in India](#). *Demography*.
22. Diane Coffey, Yiwen Wang, and **Aashish Gupta**. Forthcoming. A gender gap in happiness: Documenting a puzzle from Indian survey data. *Asian Population Studies*.

21. Antonino Polizzi†, Luyin Zhang†, Sergey Timonin, **Aashish Gupta**, Jennifer Dowd, David A Leon, and José Manuel Aburto. 2024. [Indirect Effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Cause-of-Death Analysis of Life-Expectancy Changes in Ten High-Income Countries, 2015-2021](#). *PNAS Nexus*.
20. Kanika Sharma† and **Aashish Gupta**. 2024. [Violence against Women in India: Levels and Trends of Incidence and Reporting](#). *Economic and Political Weekly*.
19. **Aashish Gupta**, Payal Hathi†, Murad Banaji, Prankur Gupta†, Ridhi Kashyap, Vipul Paikra†, Kanika Sharma†, Anmol Sonmanchi†, Nikkil Sudharsanan, and Sangita Vyas. [Large and unequal life expectancy declines associated with the COVID-19 pandemic in India in 2020](#). *Science Advances*.
18. Sarah Wetzel†, Pascal Geldsetzer, Sneha Sarah Mani†, **Aashish Gupta**, Kavita Singh, Mohammed K. Ali, Dorairaj Prabhakaran, Nikhil Tandon, and Nikkil Sudharsanan. 2023. [Changing socioeconomic and geographic gradients in cardiovascular disease risk factors in India Evidence from nationally representative household surveys](#). *Lancet Regional Health – South East Asia*.
17. **Aashish Gupta**\* and Nikkil Sudharsanan†\*. 2022. [“Large and persistent life expectancy disparities among Indias social groups”](#). *Population and Development Review*. [Code]
16. Sangita Vyas†\*, Payal Hathi†\*, **Aashish Gupta**\*. 2022. [Social disadvantage, economic inequality, and life expectancy in nine Indian states](#). *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. [Data] [Code].
15. **Aashish Gupta**. 2022. [“Seasonal variation in infant mortality in India”](#). *Population Studies*.
14. Murad Banaji\* and **Aashish Gupta**\*. 2022. [Estimates of pandemic excess mortality in India based on civil registration data](#). *PLOS-Global Public Health*. [Code]
13. Pritha Chatterjee\*, **Aashish Gupta**\*, and SV Subramanian. 2022. [Can administrative health data be used to estimate population level birth and child mortality estimates? A comparison of India’s Health Information Management System data with nationally representative survey data](#). *SSM-Population Health*.
12. **Aashish Gupta**\* and Sneha Sarah Mani†\* [Assessing mortality registration in Kerala: The MARANAM Study](#), 2022, with Sneha Mani, *Genus: A journal of population studies*. [Code]
11. Sangita Vyas†, **Aashish Gupta**, and Nazar Khalid†. 2021. [Gender, government intervention, and slow LPG adoption in rural north India](#) *World Development*.
10. Chalapati Rao, **Aashish Gupta**, Mamta Gupta†, and Ajit Kumar Yadav†. 2021. [Premature adult mortality in India: What is the size of the matter?](#). *BMJ Global Health*.
9. **Aashish Gupta** and Diane Coffey. 2020. [Caste, religion, and mental health in India](#). *Population Research & Policy Review*.

8. **Aashish Gupta**, Nazar Khalid‡, Devashish Deshpande, Payal Hathi‡, Avani Kapur, Nikhil Srivastav‡, Sangita Vyas‡, Dean Spears, and Diane Coffey. 2020. [Revisiting Open Defecation: Evidence from a Panel Survey in Rural North India, 2014–18](#). *Economic & Political Weekly*.
7. **Aashish Gupta**, Sangita Vyas‡, Payal Hathi‡, Nazar Khalid‡, Nikhil Srivastav‡, Dean Spears, and Diane Coffey. 2020. [Persistence of solid fuel use despite increases in LPG ownership: New survey evidence from rural north India](#). *Economic & Political Weekly*.
6. **Aashish Gupta**. 2019. [Where there is smoke: Solid fuel externalities, gender, and adult respiratory health in India](#). *Population & Environment*.
5. **Aashish Gupta** and Dean Spears. 2017. [Health externalities of India’s expansion of coal plants: Evidence from a national panel of 40,000 households](#). *Journal of Environmental Economics & Management*.
4. † Diane Coffey‡, **Aashish Gupta**, Payal Hathi‡, Dean Spears, Nikhil Srivastav‡, and Sangita Vyas‡. 2017. [Understanding open defecation in rural India: Untouchability, pollution, & latrine pits](#). *Economic & Political Weekly*.
3. † Ankita Aggarwal‡, Jean Drèze, and **Aashish Gupta**. 2015. [Caste and the Power Elite in Allahabad](#). *Economic & Political Weekly*.
2. † Diane Coffey‡, **Aashish Gupta**, Payal Hathi‡, Nidhi Khurana‡, Dean Spears, Nikhil Srivastav‡, and Sangita Vyas‡. 2014. [Revealed preference for open defecation: Evidence from a new survey in rural North India](#). *Economic & Political Weekly*.
1. **Aashish Gupta**. 2013. [Old Age Pension Scheme in Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh](#). *Economic & Political Weekly*.

ACADEMIC  
PRESENTATIONS

(including scheduled)

- 2025:** Annual meeting of the Population Association of America, Washington DC  
Department of Sociology & St John’s College, University of Oxford  
Health and Demography Cluster, Social Science Division, NYU Abu Dhabi
- 2024:** UCL Global Business School for Health, London  
European Population Conference 2024, Edinburgh  
Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America 2024, Columbus
- 2023:** Population Health Research Group, University of St. Andrews  
Quetelet Seminar, Center for Demographic Research, UCLouvain  
Conference on ‘Cultural Contexts of Health: Organising the Emerging Field’, Nuffield College, University of Oxford  
Annual meeting of the Population Association of America, New Orleans

- Nuffield College Sociology Seminar, University of Oxford
- Comparative workshop on adult mortality determinants, USC/UCLA Center for Biodemography and Population Health and UC-Berkeley Center on the Economics and Demography of Aging
- Donald J. Bogue Demography Seminar, University of Chicago
- Conference on Population Dynamics in India, NYU Abu Dhabi
- [Summer Data Seminar Series, Center for Advanced Study of India, University of Pennsylvania](#)
- 2022:** Spring 2022 Maryland Population Research Center Seminar Series
- Fair February: Data Science for Social Good, Brown University
- [Comparative workshop on adult mortality determinants, USC/UCLA Center for Biodemography and Population Health and UC-Berkeley Center on the Economics and Demography of Aging](#)
- Harvard Center for Population and Development Studies Friday Luncheon Series
- Annual meeting of the Population association of America, Atlanta
- Annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Los Angeles
- [UNDESA-WHO Technical Advisory Group on COVID-19 Mortality Assessment - Working Group 2](#)
- [Bahujan Economics discussion series on health and healthcare in India](#)
- United Nations Expert Group Meeting on Innovative methods to measure the impact of COVID-19 on mortality through surveys and censuses, Abu Dhabi
- Southern Economic Association 92nd Annual Meeting, Fort Lauderdale, FL (presentation and discussion)
- Population Research Exchange, Harvard Center for Population and Development Studies, Harvard University
- 2021:** Right to food campaign webinar series on Pandemic and the Welfare State, session on Health for All
- King's India Institute Graduate Conference
- National Alliance for Peoples Movements, Grounded Voices Seminar Series
- Annual meeting of the British Society of Population Studies
- IUSSP International Population Conference
- 2020:** Emory Global Diabetes Research Center, Emory University
- [Population Studies Center Colloquium, University of Pennsylvania](#)
- IUSSP CRVS Fellows Online Meeting II
- Annual meeting of the British Society for Population Studies

Workshop on Gender and mental health in Bihar and India, organized by IGC India and rice

IUSSP CRVS Fellows Online Meeting I

**2019:** Population Data for the 21st century: Advances in data collection methodologies, IUSSP & UNFPA, NEW York

Annual ASA Sociology of Development Conference, Notre Dame

Annual meeting of the Population Association of America, 2019, Austin (discussion and presentation)

Economics Seminar Series, Azim Premji University, Bangalore

**2018:** Centre for Global Health Research, University of Toronto and St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto (long presentation)

Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Denver (discussion and presentation)

**2017:** Health and Society in South Asia Conference, University of Pennsylvania

Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Chicago

**2016:** SEARCH Gadchiroli, Maharashtra

Ambedkar Jayanti Seminar, University of Pennsylvania

**2014:** Ambedkar University Delhi

South Asia Conference on Policies and Practices to Improve Nutrition Security, Delhi

#### TEACHING & SERVICE

**Co-Convenor, Demographic Analysis**, (M.Phil. program), Michaelmas Term 2023 & 2024, University of Oxford.

Teaching assistant, SOCI / HSOC 111 Health of Populations (Prof. Irma Elo), University of Pennsylvania. 2018.

Guest lectures in courses at Allahabad University, City University of New York, Emory University, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, Jawaharlal Nehru University, University of Oxford, University of Pennsylvania, Yale University.

**Journal refereeing (selected):** American Journal of Public Health; Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences; Demographic Research; Demography; Economic and Political Weekly; Energy Research and Social Science; Journal of Development Economics; Journal of Development Studies; Journal of Health and Social Behavior; Nature Human Behaviour; Nature Medicine; PLOS Global Public Health; Population and Environment; Population Health Metrics; Population Studies; Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences; Social and Cultural Geography; Review of Economics and Statistics; Social Science and Medicine; World Development.

#### **Conference organization**

Health & Society in South Asia, University of Pennsylvania, April 2017

Open defecation in rural north India, India Habitat Center, Delhi, January 2019

### **Session organization**

Environmental Influences on Mortality and Morbidity in Low- and Middle-Income Countries, Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Columbus, Ohio, April 2024

Environment and health in a global perspective, British Society for Population Studies, 2023

Round-tables, Development Sociology section of the American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, 2021

Health Disparities in a Global Context, Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, St. Louis, Missouri, May 2021

Health & Disease in the Developing World, Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Washington DC, April 2020

### **University Service**

Department of Sociology Academic Representative to Bodleian Social Science Library Committee on Library Provision and Strategy, University of Oxford 2023 -

### **FIELD AND SURVEY EXPERIENCE**

*Bihar Mortality Assessment Phone Survey (B-MAPS), 2022, with Apurva Bamezai, Vipul Paikra, MR Sharan, Chanchal Kumar Singh, and Harsha Thirumurthy.*

*Mortality And Death Registration Assessment Survey (MADRAS 2019), with Neeraj Kumar Singh and Kanika Sharma; Madhya Pradesh.*

*Solid fuel use and sanitation in rural north India, with r.i.c.e, data and documentation available for download at [riceinstitute.org/data](http://riceinstitute.org/data)*

*Research for Action - Surveys on social security programs. Summer 2009, Summer 2010, Spring 2011, Summer 2011, Spring 2012, Summer 2013, Winter 2014, & Summer 2016.*

*Sanitation Quality, Use, Access and Trends (SQUAT) Survey; Bihar, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan & Uttar Pradesh, 2013-14.*

*Volunteer, 2013, Aman Biradiri - Relief and Reconciliation in Assam; Lower Assam.*