

Veda Vaidyanathan, PhD
Research Associate
Institute of Chinese Studies (ICS)

8/17, Sri Ram Road
Delhi, INDIA
Tel: +91-11-2393 8202, Fax: +91-11-2383 0728
Mob: +91-8848647303
E-mail: vedavaidyanathan@outlook.com

AREAS OF INTEREST

Sino-Indian relations with countries in Africa, Emerging powers and their interactions with Africa, Sino-Indian Resource Diplomacy Strategies in Africa

CURRENT RESEARCH PROJECTS

Chinese Infrastructure Projects in Africa: An Examination of Tanzania, Ethiopia and Kenya (Proposed)

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in African Studies, Centre for African Studies, University of Mumbai, India (2018).
Thesis: *Resource Diplomacy of India and China in Africa: Investigating Energy and Food Security*

CURRENT & PAST POSITIONS

Research Associate (since April 2018), Institute of Chinese Studies, Delhi.

Doctoral Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies - Harvard Yenching Institute (ICS-HYI) 2014 – 2017

Visiting Fellow, Harvard - Yenching Institute, Harvard University, 2016- 2017

Senior Visiting Scholar, School of International Studies, Peking University, 2015- 2016

Doctoral Fellow, Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), 2013 – 2014

Research Investigator, Centre for African Studies (CAS), University of Mumbai, 2012 – 2013

PUBLICATIONS

Print

Exploring Trade and Investment Patterns of ASEAN in Africa: Are they limited by the bigger Asian Powers? *Institute of Chinese Studies Occasional paper*, N. 13 (November 2016)

Redefining Agricultural Cooperation, *The Diplomatist* (2014): 100-102.

Regionalism in the Indian Ocean, *The Diplomatist* (2013): 8-13. Print.

India in the ‘Heart of Africa’: Growing India-Burundi Relations, *The Diplomatist* (2012): 16-17. Print.

Review: Carmody Pdraig, ‘The New Scramble for Africa’, (Polity: Cambridge, 2011), Insight on Africa (2012) (Sage Publications), 4.2: 170-174.

Online

The Changing Landscape of India-Africa Relations, *India in Transition (IiT)*, 26 February 2018. Available at: <https://casi.sas.upenn.edu/iit/vedavaidyanathan>

Review: Li Anshan, ‘International Political Discourse of Chinese Immigrants in Africa’ (国际政治话语中的中国移民: 以非洲为例), *New Frontiers in Asian Scholarship*, Harvard-Yenching Institute. Available at: <https://www.harvard-yenching.org/features/international-political-discourse-chinese-immigrants-africa>

Review: Li Zhibiao (李智彪), ‘A Re-evaluation of the upsurge in China-Africa Energy Cooperation’ (中非能源合作热的冷思考), *New Frontiers in Asian Scholarship* (2017), Harvard-Yenching Institute. Available at: <https://harvard-yenching.org/features/re-evaluation-upsurge-china-africa-energy-cooperation>

AWARDS/HONOURS

Awarded the **Institute of Chinese Studies – Harvard Yenching Institute (ICS-HYI) Doctoral Fellowship** from March 2014 to February 2018.

Awarded the **Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) Doctoral Fellowship**, New Delhi from September 2013 to February 2014.

Paper on **‘Indian Agricultural Investments in Africa’** presented at the Annual International Studies Convention (AISC) on 10-12 December 2013 at JNU, New Delhi won special mention.

Awarded **Outreach Fellowship from the Centre for Air Power Studies (CAPS)**, New Delhi to conduct research on a national security issue from August 2011 to August 2012.

Qualified the **University Grants Commission – National Eligibility Test (UGC-NET)** in December 2011

SELECT PRESENTATIONS

Presented a paper titled **‘DYNAMICS BETWEEN THE INDIAN STATE AND BUSINESS IN AFRICA’** at Harvard University Asia Centre And Centre For African Studies Conference | Shanghai, November 2017

Presented a paper on **‘Decoding Energy Diplomacy: Strategies of Indian and Chinese Energy Corporation in Africa’**, at the Harvard-Yenching Institute, February 2017

Presented a paper titled **‘Demystifying Indian and Chinese Resource Diplomacy Strategies in Africa’** at New England Regional Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference on ‘Asia: Past, Present, Future’ held at Boston College, January 2017

Presented a paper on the topic **‘Exploring Trade and Investment patterns of ASEAN in Africa: Are they limited by the bigger Asian powers?’** at an International seminar on ‘India, China and ASEAN’ hosted by the Hainan Institute of World Watch, China, April 2016

Presented a paper titled **‘Is China accelerating Africa’s growth story with summit diplomacy? An Indian perspective’** at an academic countable at Zhejiang Normal University, China, December 2015

Presented a paper **‘India and Africa: Opportunities for a multidimensional engagement’** at the International Seminar on “India and Africa in 21st Century: Experiences and Issues of Governance, Development and Foreign Policies”, Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia hosted by OSSREA and PRIASA, December 11th 2014.

Presented a paper titled **‘India and Africa: The Need for Building a Sustainable Energy Partnership’** at the International Seminar on “India and Africa: Developmental Experiences and Bilateral Cooperation”, Wolkite University, Ethiopia, December 8-9 2014.

Presented a paper on **‘Indian Agricultural Investments in Ethiopia’** at the Annual International Studies Convention on 10-12 December, 2013 at JNU, New Delhi.

TEACHING

PHD REVIEW COMMITTEES

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Academic Advisor, Sino Africa Centre of Excellence, September – December 2017

- Created a topic, framework and methodology of conducting a comparative study
- Identified research questions and stakeholders to interview
- Created questionnaires and set up interviews
- Led a team of transnational researchers for a two-week fieldwork in Addis Ababa
- Interviewed various stakeholders across the value chain
- Conducted workshops for other research fellows on methodology and mentored them through the process
- Organized data collected, transcribed interviews and cleaned data
- Principle Author and Editor of final publication

Research Investigator, Centre for African Studies (CAS), University of Mumbai, 2012-13

- Worked extensively on ‘*Indian Private Agro- Investments in Zambia*’, a project by Oxfam. Completed and Published in 2014;
- Assisted in writing grant proposal for ‘*India’s Shared Vision*’, a book project by African Developmental Bank (AFDB), which was accepted in 2014;
- Edited, approached publishers, helped transform manuscript to book: Biswas, Aparajita. *India-Africa Enduring Partnership*. New Delhi: Gyan Pub. House, 2013. Print. (Foreword by Dr. Shashi Tharoor);
- Liaised with resource personnel, assisted with organizing a workshop and designed communication material as part of the first International Trade Course (Focus Africa) provided by CAS;
- Designed, created content, formatted and edited CAS, University of Mumbai Handbook;
- Part of the organization team and presented the Rapporteur’s Report in an International Conference themed “Emerging Asian Powers in Africa”, organized by CAS, University of Mumbai and PRIASA, held on 14-15 February 2013.

Editorial Associate, Africa Review Journal, Routledge, Taylor & Francis, 2013

- Supported editorial staff in all activities leading to publication, including soliciting articles from experts, providing editorial direction and contacting reviewers to review the articles.

FIELDWORK

United States of America: 2016-17

China: 2015-16

Ethiopia: September 2017 & December 2014

Kenya: September 2017

Mumbai: 2014

London: June 2013

SELECT MEDIA APPEARANCES

LANGUAGES SPOKEN

English, Hindi, Malayalam, Chinese (Intermediate)