

Dr Chakad Ojani

Postdoctoral Researcher
Institute of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology
Jagiellonian University
ul. Golebia 9, 31-007 Krakow, Poland
chakad.ojani@gmail.com
chakadojani.com

Current position

2021-. Postdoctoral Researcher, Jagiellonian University.

Education

2017-21. PhD (no corrections), Social Anthropology, University of Manchester.

Thesis title: *Ecology of capture: Conservation, infrastructure, and fog in coastal Peru*.

Supervisors: Prof. Penny Harvey (1st) and Dr. Chika Watanabe (2nd).

2014-16. MSc, Social Anthropology, Stockholm University.

2011-14. BSc, Social Anthropology, Stockholm University.

Publications

Peer-reviewed journal articles

(under review) ‘The “small” in small-device heuristics: Scaling fog catchers down and up in Lima, Peru’. *Social Anthropology*.

(revise and resubmit) ‘Water in atmospheric suspension: Contact zones between ethnography and speculative realism’. *Social Analysis*.

(revise and resubmit) ‘Experimenting with fog: Environmental infrastructures, infrastructuring environments, and the infrastructure of infrastructure’. *Environment and Planning E: Nature and Space*.

(accepted/in press) ‘Speculative relations in Lima: Encounters with the limits of fog capture and ethnography’. *HAU: Journal of Ethnographic Theory*.

(accepted/in press) ‘Displacing (in)formality: Endangered species, endangered city, and unstable grounds of comparison’. *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute* 28 (2).

2021. ‘Ecology of capture: Creating land titles out of thin air in coastal Peru’. *Ethnos: Journal of Anthropology* (ahead of print). DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/00141844.2021.1965643>

2021. 'The (ontological) politics of fog capture in Lima, Peru'. *Anthropology Today* 37 (1): 13-16. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1111/1467-8322.12629>.

Chapters in edited volumes

(revise and resubmit) 'Urban fog oasis conservation: Endangerment, *invasiones* and informal urbanization in Lima'. In *Urban Natures: Making Visible, (Re)Connecting and (Re)Politicising*, edited by Ferne Edwards, Ida Nilstad Pettersen, and Lucia Alex Popartan. New York: Berghahn.

2021. 'Anthropology of infrastructures'. In *The International Encyclopedia of Anthropology*, edited by Hilary Callan, 1-8. John Wiley & Sons, Ltd. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1002/9781118924396.wbiea2398>.

Online writing

(forthcoming) 'Speculations on Islamic sonic-aeolian cosmotechnics', co-authored with Samuel Tettner. *Fragmentary Institute of Comparative Timelines*.

2021. 'Infrastructuralizing outer space, un-earthing anthropology'. *Antroperspektiv*. URL: <https://antroperspektiv.org/2021/02/18/infrastructuralizing-outer-space-un-earthing-anthropology/>.

2020. 'Atmospheric failure'. *Allegra Lab*. URL: <https://allegralaboratory.net/atmospheric-failure>.

2020. 'When things don't hold: Failure, breakdown, and dysfunction', co-authored with Rozafa Berisha and Laura Mafizzoli. *Allegra Lab*. URL: <https://allegralaboratory.net/failures-when-things-dont-hold-anthropologies-of-failure-breakdown-and-dysfunction/>.

2020. 'Attunements to fog: Capture as an idiom for more-than-human entanglements'. *NatureCulture*. URL: <https://www.natcult.net/attunements-to-fog/>.

Reviews

2021. 'Living Water, living with lively waters'. *Allegra Lab*. URL: <https://allegralaboratory.net/living-water-living-with-lively-waters-part-2/>.

2021. 'Fallout, security, and alternative planetary futures'. *Anthropology Book Forum* 7 (1). URL: <https://anthrobookforum.americananthro.org/?book-review=fallout-security-and-alternative-planetary-futures>.

2021. 'Hannah Knox, Thinking Like a Climate: Governing a City in Times of Environmental Change. Durham, NC: Duke University Press, pp. 328, 2020'. *The Cambridge Journal of Anthropology* 39 (1): 152-153 . DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3167/cja.2021.390111>.

2021. 'Aeolian politics and the duograph'. *Anthropology Book Forum* 7 (1). URL: <https://anthrobookforum.americananthro.org/?book-review=aeolian-politics-and-the-duograph>.

2021. 'Multiple nature-cultures, diverse anthropologies'. *Ethnos: Journal of Anthropology* 86 (1): 193-195. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/00141844.2020.1796738>.

2020. 'Were, Graeme. 2019. How materials matter: design, innovation and materiality in the Pacific. New York: Berghahn Books. 212 pp. Hb.: US\$120.00. ISBN: 9781789202014'. *Social Anthropology* 28 (1): 207-208. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1111/1469-8676.12746>.

Editorial work

2020. 'When things don't hold: Anthropologies of failure, breakdown, and dysfunction', co-edited with Rozafa Berisha and Laura Mafizzoli. *Allegra Lab*. URL: <https://allegralaboratory.net/failures-when-things-dont-hold-anthropologies-of-failure-breakdown-and-dysfunction>.

Manuscripts in preparation

'Oceans in the sky: Conservation, infrastructure, and ecologies of fog capture in coastal Peru' (book MS).

'The promise of fog capture: Ground-touching clouds as a material (im)possibility in Peru'.

'One more ethnographic lesson from (involuntary) experimental film making: Censorship and figure-ground reversals in contemporary Iranian cinema'.

'Disconnection, compromise, and multispecies miscommunication in Sue Burke's *Semiosis* and Adrian Tchaikovsky's *Children of Time*'.

'The heterotopias of Simon Stålenhag's science fictional landscapes: Kaleidoscopic openings'.

Presentations

Conference presentations

(accepted) 'Un-earthing the Swedish North: Reindeer, rockets, and the making of on/off Earth environments'. AAG: Climate Justice, New York.

2021. 'Fog oasis conservation, (in)formality, and the politics of housing in Lima, Peru'. RAI: Anthropology and Conservation.

2021. 'Attuning to fog: Capture as an idiom for more-than-human entanglements'. STREAMS: Transformative Environmental Humanities, KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm.

2021. 'Speculative relations in Lima: Encounters with the limits of fog capture and ethnography'. SIEF: Breaking the Rules? Power, Participation, Transgression, University of Helsinki.

2021. 'Water in atmospheric suspension: Coastal fogs as catchable material possibility in Peru'. Waterworlding: Reflecting on Multiple Waters, Philipps-University of Marburg.

2021. 'Endangered species, endangered city: Fog oasis conservation in Lima, Peru'. SANT: Danger, Lund University.

2021. 'The location of failure: On fog capture and materiality in Lima, Peru'. ASA: Responsibility, University of St Andrews.

2020. 'Conjuring water out of thin air: The atmospheres of fog capture and social theory'. Vienna Anthropology Days, University of Vienna.

2020. 'The shapes of fog: Transforming atmospheric phenomena into water and theory machines'. EASST/4S: Locating and Timing Matters: Significance and Agency of STS in Emerging Worlds, Czech Academy of Sciences.

2020. 'Enacting the city, with fog: Speculative relations and fog capture in Lima'. EASA: New anthropological horizons in and beyond Europe, ISCTE-University Institute of Lisbon and ICS-Institute of Social Sciences, University of Lisbon.

2020. 'The reach to/of fog as conceptual and empirical problems'. PGR Conference: Roots and Reach, Manchester Metropolitan University.

2020. 'When relations of capture fail to hold'. PhD/early-career symposium: When Things don't Hold: Anthropologies of Failure, Breakdown, and Dysfunction, University of Manchester.

2018. 'Fog harvesting as trapping: The art and infrastructure of fog capture in Peru'. RAI: Art, Materiality and Representation, British Museum/SOAS.

2018. 'Fog harvesting in Peru: Infrastructural responses to vulnerability, vulnerability as infrastructural event'. SANT/FAS: Vulnerabilities, Uppsala University.

2016. '3D printed immaterialities: Humaning as a more-than-human endeavour'. SANT: Inside and Outside Anthropology, University of Gothenburg.

Workshop presentations and invited talks

(forthcoming) 'Experimenting with ground-touching clouds: The infrastructural as comparative effect'. Invited talk at the Stanford STS Graduate Workshop, Stanford University.

2021. 'Space technologies, resources and "multi-planetary" communities'. Invited co-presenter at the Institute of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology, Jagiellonian University.

2021. 'Ecology of capture'. Invited talk for master's students in Environmental Anthropology, Stockholm University.

2020. 'Making catchable fog in coastal Peru'. Festival of Ethnography, University of Liverpool.

2019. 'What can fog do? Attunements to fog along the South American Pacific coast'. International Graduate Seminar and Workshop: Landscapes of Cohabitation: Diversity and Divergence in More-than-Human Entanglements in the Anthropocene, Osaka University.

Panels and events organized

(accepted) 'Un-earthing the environmental humanities'. Panel at AAG: Climate Justice, New York. Co-organized with Dr. Tamara Alvarez, Dr. Eleanor S. Armstrong, and Dr. A. R. E. Taylor.

2021. '(In)formalising environmental compliance and conservation'. Panel at RAI: Anthropology and Conservation. Co-organized with Julia Perczel. Invited panel discussant: Prof. Knut G. Nustad.

2021. 'Ethnographic approaches to endangerment'. Panel at SANT: Danger, Lund University. Invited panel discussant: Prof. Bengt G. Karlsson.

2020. 'When things don't hold: Anthropologies of failure, breakdown, and dysfunction'. Two-day PhD/early-career symposium, University of Manchester. Co-organized with Rozafa Berisha and Laura Mafizzoli. Invited keynote speakers: Dr. Hannah Knox and Dr. Madeleine Reeves. Invited panel discussants: Prof. Jeanette Edwards, Dr. Michelle Obeid, Dr. Başak Saraç-Lesavre and Dr. William Wheeler.

2018. 'Vulnerable infrastructures, infrastructural vulnerabilities'. Panel at SANT/FAS: Vulnerabilities, Uppsala University. Co-organized with Prof. Susann Baez Ullberg. Invited panel discussants: Dr. Gabriella Körling and Prof. Johan Lindquist.

Fellowships, awards, and grants

2022. Nominated for the University of Manchester Distinguished Achievement Award (outcome TBA in April 2022).

2021. The Sutasoma Award for Research of Outstanding Merit, The Royal Anthropological Institute (£500).

2021. Social Anthropology PGR Student Experience and Recruitment Budget, University of Manchester (£138).

2020. Associate Fellow, Leadership in Education Awards Programme, Advance HE, UK.

2020. Social Anthropology PGR Student Experience and Recruitment Budget, University of Manchester (£437).

2019. Osaka RESPECT Fellowship for International Graduate Seminar and Workshop, Osaka University (travel and accommodation).

2018-19. Fieldwork grant, University of Manchester (£3,000).

2017-20. Faculty of Humanities Research Impact Scholarship, University of Manchester (£19,000/year fees and maintenance, £2,000/year conference attendance and institutional visits).

2016. Conference grant, Swedish Society for Anthropology and Geography (SEK1,200).

2012-13. Erasmus grant, Complutense University of Madrid (€300/month).

Teaching

2021-22. Course co-convener, Social Studies of Outer Space, Jagiellonian University.

2021. Writing supervisor, Writing Clinic, University of Manchester.

2019. Teaching assistant, Key Ideas in Social Anthropology, University of Manchester.

Institutional visits and affiliations

2022-. Affiliated Researcher, Department of Social Anthropology, Stockholm University.

2020. Visiting PhD Student, Department of Anthropology, University of California, Davis.

2018. Affiliated Researcher, Department of Social Sciences, Pontifical Catholic University of Peru.

Languages

Danish (Minimum working proficiency)

Dari (Professional working proficiency)

English (Full professional proficiency)

Farsi (Native or bilingual proficiency)

Norwegian (Professional working proficiency)

Spanish (Full professional proficiency)

Swedish (Native or bilingual proficiency)

CV last updated: January 2022