

## THE GLOBAL INDIA AWARDS

The Global India Awards (GIA) were created by the India Council in collaboration with the Asian Studies Center at Michigan State University in 2023 to recognize individuals or groups who have made significant contributions to cross-cultural understanding, global education, and the well-being of Indian people around the world. The selection criteria for the award include:

- Demonstrated commitment and unselfish devotion to the well-being of the people of India and globally.
- Exceptional devotion to quality education for younger generations in India and the world.
- Outstanding achievement in scholarly and creative work that advances global understanding of India.

## 2024 GLOBAL INDIA AWARDS SELECTION COMMITTEE

Ranjani Ananthakrishnan, Ernest W. and Robert W. Schaberg Endowed Chair in Accounting, Broad College of Business, MSU  
Swarnavel Eswaran Pillai, Associate Professor, Film and Media Studies; Film and Media Production; Creative Writing; Race and Ethnic Studies; Global and Diasporic Studies, MSU  
Satish Udpa, Emeritus Executive Vice President and University Distinguished Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, MSU, and 2023 Global India Awardee

## MSU INDIA COUNCIL

### MISSION AND PURPOSE

The mission of the council is to promote educational and cultural activities related to India. The MSU India Council was established on August 7, 1989 as an endowment at the University. Its objective is to work with the Asian Studies Center within the International Studies Program at Michigan State University, as well as independently to:

- Stimulate interest in India and matters related to India among the people in Michigan;
- Promote educational and cultural activities related to India;
- Assist organizations at Michigan State University and elsewhere in promoting activities that are aligned with the mission of the India Council;
- Promote outreach and exchange programs with organizations interested in socio-economic, educational, cultural and artistic aspects of Indian culture;
- Undertake activities to increase the India Council Endowment Fund and establish such other funds as may be deemed necessary to promote the mission of the India Council.

### MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to individuals with an interest in India in furthering the mission and purpose of the India Council subject to approval by the Steering Committee.

### STEERING COMMITTEE

The India Council is administered as an MSU-related council through the University's Asian Studies Center. It is led by a Steering Committee, which serves in an advisory capacity to the Director of the Asian Studies Center. The presidents of two Indian student organizations at MSU are ex-officio members of the Steering Committee.

### CHAIR

Satish Joshi

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Ved Gossain  
Sanjay Gupta  
Nidhi Sarda  
Dhiraj Shah  
Sitara Thobani



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### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Co-organized by the **MSU Asian Studies Center**, **CIUS**, **ISO**, **UIISA**, and sponsored by the **MSU India Council**



# The Global India Awards 2024



April 13, 2024

10:00 AM–1:30 PM

MSU International Center  
Room 115

MICHIGAN STATE  
UNIVERSITY

Asian Studies Center  
International Studies & Programs

Sponsored by the MSU India Council

## AGENDA

10:00 AM - 10:20 AM

10:20 AM - 12:00 PM

12:00 AM - 01:30 PM

Registration

Award Ceremony & Special Presentation

Complimentary Indian Buffet Luncheon

## OPENING REMARKS

**Dr. Satish Joshi**

Chair, Steering Committee, India Council; Professor, Agricultural Food and Resource Economics

## WELCOMING REMARKS

**Dr. Steven Hanson**

Vice Provost and Dean for International Studies and Programs

## CONGRATULATORY REMARKS

**Dr. Sean Pue**

Professor and Program Director, Indian and South Asian Studies, Department of Linguistics, Languages and Cultures

## INDIA @ MSU FEATURE VIDEOS

### Education Abroad Programs

**Dr. Eddie Boucher**, Associate Director, Center for Integrative Studies in Social Science

**Dr. Sejuti Das Gupta**, Assistant Professor, and **Dr. Linda Racioppi**, Associate Dean and Professor, James Madison College

### India Initiatives in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

**Dr. Karim Maredia**, Assistant Dean and Director of International Programs, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

## DEDHIA FAMILY ENDOWMENT FOR ENGAGEMENT IN INDIA

**Jazmine Noles**, Medical Student, College of Osteopathic Medicine

## INDIAN AND SOUTH ASIAN LANGUAGE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

**Presented by: Dr. Rajiv Ranjan**

Assistant Professor, Indian and South Asian Studies

**Hindi: Ridhika Patel**

Chemical Engineering

**Jack Bajcz**

Mechanical Engineering

**Tamil: Zachary Sebree**

French and Global History

**Urdu: Aliza Hashmi**

Political Science

## GLOBAL INDIA AWARDS

**Professor Mohammed Ayooob**

University Distinguished Professor Emeritus, James Madison College, MSU  
Award accepted by **Dr. Mohammad Khalil**, Professor of Religious Studies and Director, Muslim Studies Program, MSU

**Professor Rajmohan Gandhi**

Historian, biographer, former faculty member, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and former Member of Parliament, India

Introduction by **Dr. Satish Udpa**, Emeritus Executive Vice President and University Distinguished Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, and 2023 Global India Awardee

## CLOSING REMARKS

Undergraduate International Indian Student Association (UIISA), Indian Students Organization (ISO), and Coalition of Indian Undergraduate Students (CIUS)

## Profiles of Awardees



### PROFESSOR RAJMOHAN GANDHI

Rajmohan Gandhi is a historian and biographer involved in efforts for trust-building and reconciliation. Professor Gandhi taught history and politics at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign between 1997 to 2022. He has also taught at IIT-Bombay, IIT-Gandhinagar, and Michigan State University. From 1990 to 1992, Professor Gandhi was a member of the Rajya Sabha, the upper house of the Indian Parliament. Earlier in 1990, he led the Indian delegation to the UN Human Rights Commission in Geneva. Associated from 1956 with Initiatives of Change (formerly known as Moral Re-Armament), Professor Gandhi served as president of Initiatives of

Change International in 2009 and 2010. Through writing, speaking, public interventions, and dialogues, he has been engaged for sixty years in efforts for reconciliation and democratic rights. Professor Gandhi has authored more than fifteen books including his latest book, published in 2024 by Speaking Tiger, titled "Fraternity: Constitutional Norm and Human Need."



### PROFESSOR MOHAMMED AYOOB

Mohammed Ayooob (Ph.D., Political Science, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa), is a distinguished professor emeritus at Michigan State University (MSU). A scholar of international relations he held appointments in James Madison College and the Political Science Department, and was the founding coordinator of the Muslim Studies Program at MSU. Professor Ayooob is recognized for his research on conflict and security in the Global South, covering South Asia, the Middle East, and Southeast Asia, and he has delved into the dynamics between religion and politics in the Muslim world. His academic contributions have been supported by fellowships and grants from prestigious

foundations and institutions. Prior to coming to MSU, Professor Ayooob held faculty positions at Jawaharlal Nehru University and the Australian National University, along with visiting appointments at several highly regarded universities worldwide. Professor Ayooob's scholarly output includes over 100 research papers and 16 books, touching on critical issues such as political Islam, regional conflict, and international relations, with publications in top journals and as chapters in edited volumes. His influential works include "The Third World Security Predicament" and "The Many Faces of Political Islam." Notably, his article "India Matters," published on the eve of President Clinton's visit to India, showcased his insight into India-US relations. He also contributes to major newspapers and online platforms, bringing his expert analysis to a wider audience. His upcoming book, "From Regional Security to Global IR: An Intellectual Journey," supported in part by funding from the Delia S. Koo endowment for faculty in the Asian Studies Center at MSU, is anticipated in August 2024, and promises to offer insights into his extensive career in international relations.