

# Acknowledgements

The writing and re-writing of this book spanned several years. The research presented in it took many more. Though most of my material was gathered in the 2010s, the oldest fieldwork notes in fact date back to 2000 – Sri Lanka was a different place then, and I was less than half the age I am now. My own maturation as an academic has occurred alongside the gestation of this book, and therefore the list of people who have helped me in this process is long.

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crafting research that is driven by ideas and curiosity rather than academic scheming and an aesthetic of writing that contrasts with the awkward sequence I just squeezed into these parentheses).

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