

Stotra Chakrabarti:

## **Land, Lions & Livestock: Behavior and Conservation of the Last Lions of Asia**

Lions are iconic top predators, and have attracted research and conservation projects across decades. However, such research has typically been directed to the charismatic African lions. A relic population of lions still exists outside of Africa, and these special lions live as a single population in North Western India. Asian lions portray a conservation fairytale – steadily growing in numbers and range since the past 50 years. They not only have rebounded within parks and sanctuaries, but thrive in human neighborhoods. Please join me as I *walk* you through our long-term research on these unique lions that intersect 3 tiers of animal ecology: i) numbers, life-history and distribution, ii) resource use, and iii) behavior, and how those tiers connect to human well-being. I will end with my personal learnings, and how this fascinating system has helped me grow as a researcher, and promote inclusive and diverse research.