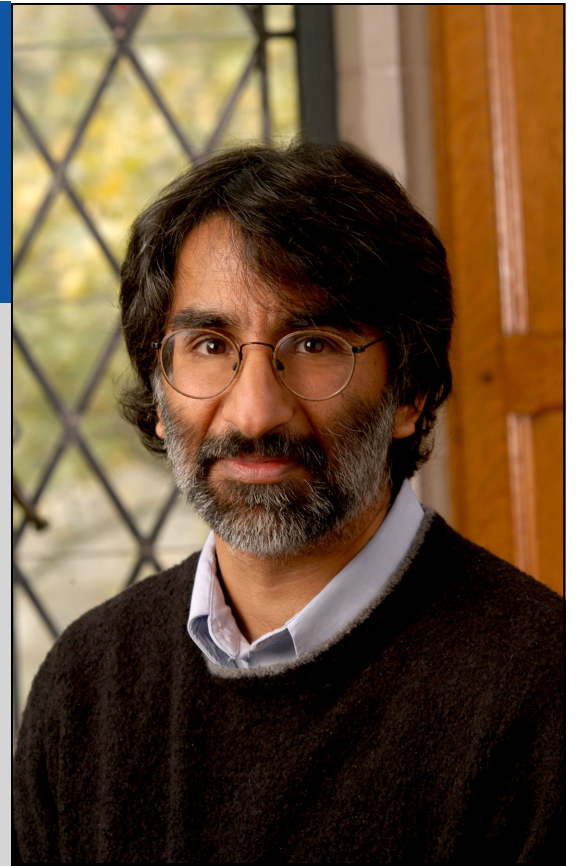


# SYMPOSIUM ON AMERICA'S CONSTITUTION: A BIOGRAPHY

## Akhil Reed Amar Yale Law School



**Friday, March 28, 2008**

**4:30 - 6:45 pm**

**Maxwell Auditorium**

**Introduction:** William

**M. Wiecek:** Chester Adgate Congdon Professor of Public Law and Legislation, College of Law, Syracuse University and Professor of History, Maxwell School, Syracuse University.

**Panel:**

**Ralph Ketcham:** Emeritus Professor of History, Maxwell School, Syracuse University.

**Paul Finkelman:** President William McKinley Distinguished Professor of Law and Public Policy, Albany Law School.

**Thomas M. Keck:** Assistant Professor of Political Science, Maxwell School, Syracuse University.

**Andrew W. Cohen:** Associate Professor of History, Maxwell School, Syracuse University.

Sponsored by College of Law, Syracuse University; History Department, Syracuse University; Maxwell School Dean's Office; Syracuse University Graduate Student Organization; Edward A. O'Hara III, Attorney & Counselor at Law; The Institute for the Study of the Judiciary Politics and the Media at Syracuse University.

**Akhil Reed Amar** is the Southmayd Professor of Law and Political Science at Yale, where he teaches constitutional law in both Yale College and Yale Law School. After graduating in 1980 from Yale College and in 1984 from Yale Law School (where he served as an editor of the Yale Law Journal), he clerked on the First Circuit for Judge Stephen Breyer in 1984-85 and then joined the Yale faculty in 1985. In 1994 he received the Paul Bator award from the Federalist Society; in 1998 his work on the Bill of Rights earned the ABA Certificate of Merit and the Yale University Press Governor's Award; and his most recent book

earned the ABA Silver Gavel Award of 2006. He has delivered endowed lectures at some three dozen colleges and universities, and has written widely on constitutional issues in both law journals and general-interest publications. Professor Amar is the co-editor of a leading constitutional law casebook, *Processes of Constitutional Decisionmaking*. He is also the author of several books, including *The Constitution and Criminal Procedure: First Principles* (Yale Univ. Press, 1997), *The Bill of Rights: Creation and Reconstruction* (Yale Univ. Press, 1998), and most recently, *America's Constitution: A Biography* (Random House, 2005).

"In America's Constitution, one of this era's most accomplished constitutional law scholars, Akhil Reed Amar, gives the first comprehensive account of one of the world's great political texts. Incisive, entertaining, and occasionally controversial, this "biography" of America's framing document explains not only what the Constitution says but also why the Constitution says it. We all know this much: the Constitution is neither immutable nor perfect. Amar shows us how the story of this one relatively compact document reflects the story of America more generally. Ambitious, even-handed, eminently accessible, and often surprising, America's Constitution is an indispensable work, bound to become a standard reference for any student of history and all citizens of the United States." (From Random House, Inc.)