

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Uttam Krishan Tambar was born on November 22, 1978 in Barnsley, a small town in Yorkshire, England. He was the second son of Balvir K. Tambar and Neelam Tambar. From day one, Uttam was fortunate to have the guidance of his older brother, Udai K. Tambar.

At the tender age of six months, Uttam moved with his family to Delhi, India, where they would spend almost three years. In December 1982, the family arrived in Queens, NY, which would become their new home. As a young immigrant in the bustling Big Apple, Uttam fell in love with the New York Mets, the World Series champions of 1986. Although his parents did not understand their son's passion for the sport of baseball, they supported him in his little league career.

Uttam had the pleasure of attending the United Nations International School from kindergarten to the twelfth grade. In addition to being introduced to chemistry, he developed many amazing friendships with people from every corner of the world.

In 1996, Uttam moved to Cambridge, MA to attend Harvard University. While pursuing a major in chemistry and physics, he was exposed to the joys of chemical research. Under the guidance of Stuart Schreiber and Cynthia Friend, he began to appreciate molecular beauty at a new level. He soon decided to pursue a career in organic chemistry.

In 2000, Uttam moved to the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena, CA to join the laboratory of Brian M. Stoltz. By December 2005, twenty-three years after he first came to the USA, he earned his Ph.D. for the development of convergent methods to synthesize rings in the context of natural product synthesis. Uttam will join the laboratory of James L. Leighton at Columbia University in early 2006 for his postdoctoral studies.