

Sarbani Bandyopadhyay



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Research Interest

Caste, Middle Class in Bengal, Internal and External Cross Migration, Partition, Refugees, Afterlife of Partition.

Present Research

Independent research on broadly internal and external cross migration that resulted from the influx of refugees from East Pakistan/Bangladesh and the building of refugee colonies in West Bengal.

Education

Degree	College / University / Institute	Specialization	Year of Joining	Year of Leaving
PhD	Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay	Sociology	2011	2017
M.Phil.	Delhi University	Sociology	1998	2000
M.A.	Delhi University	Sociology	1996	1998
B.A.	Calcutta University	Sociology (Hons)	1993	1996

Thesis/Dissertation

PhD Thesis: “*The Lives of Caste among the Bengali Middle Class: A Study of the Contemporary*” submitted in Dec 2016 and defended in Sep 2017.

MPhil Dissertation: “*Agrarian Conflict: Patterns of class conflict in rural Bihar 1930-1990*” submitted in 2000.

Experience

Institute	Position held	Date of Joining	Date of Leaving
St. Xavier's College (Kolkata)	Assistant Professor	1st Jan 2006	Continuing
St. Xavier's College (Kolkata)	Lecturer	7th Nov 2005	31st Dec 2005
St. Xavier's College (Kolkata)	Part-time Lecturer	13th Nov 2003	1st Oct 2005
Centre for Studies in Social Sciences (Kolkata)	Programme Assistant	2nd May 2002	31st Oct 2005
Centre for Studies in Social Sciences (Kolkata)	Research Assistant	01st Aug.2001 16th Sep 2001	15th Sep 2001 31st Oct 2001

Publications

1. In press: Bandyopadhyay, Sarbani. “Jaya and Her Worlds of Work” in Shoma Choudhury Lahiri edited *Doing Social Research: Qualitative Methods in Social Research* to be published by Orient Blackswan in January 2018.

2. Bandyopadhyay, Sarbani. "Another History: Bhadrakol Responses to dalit Political Assertion in Colonial" Bengal in Chandra, Heierstad and Nielsen edited *The Politics of Caste in West Bengal*, Routledge, London & New Delhi
3. Bandyopadhyay, Sarbani. Does the Caste System Really Not Exist in Bengal? www.opendemocracy.org 21. April, 2016.
4. Bandyopadhyay, Sarbani. "Caste and Politics in Bengal." *Economic and Political Weekly* (2012): 71-73.
5. Lahiri, Shoma Choudhury, and Sarbani Bandyopadhyay. "Dressing the feminine body." *Economic and Political Weekly* (2012): 20-24.
6. Bandyopadhyay, Sarbani. Linga janito samasya o Naxal rajniti (In Bengali). In *Tepantor*, January 2009. Published by *Sanhati*, Kolkata.
7. Bandyopadhyay, Sarbani. "The revolutionary patriarchs." *Himal South Asian*, September (2008).
8. Bandyopadhyay, Sarbani. "Caste and Bengali Middle Class Self", *West Bengal Sociological Review*, Nov. 2008. Vol. 1, No. 1. Pp.53 to 67.

Papers Presented at International Conferences/Seminars:

9. 2017: British Association of South Asian Studies Conference, Nottingham 19-21 April. Presented paper titled: *The Different Lives of Caste: Bengali Dalit Narratives on the Past and the Present*.
10. 2016: European Conference on South Asian Studies, Warsaw, 27-30 July. Presented and co-convened Panel 16 titled: Persistent Hierarchies? Caste Today. Paper titled: *Casteing Bengali middle class: contemporary narratives*.
11. 2015: Association of Social Anthropologists of UK and the Commonwealth, presented paper in Panel 19: Off-shoots of Research. Paper titled: *Moulded by the Field: Studying the Castedness of Contemporary Bengali Middle Class*.
12. 2013: Presented paper at International Seminar on Caste Today, University of Oslo, September Paper Titled: *Another History: Bhadrakol Responses to dalit Political Assertion in Colonial Bengal*

Papers Presented at National Conferences/Seminars/Workshops:

13. 2014: Presented paper titled: *Tales of Caste: Growing Up Middle Class in Bengal* at National Seminar on "Understanding and Resisting Caste" held in Mumbai University, 13 - 14 February.
14. 2014: Presented paper titled: *Experiencing Caste in the Field: Studying Bengali Middle Class Lives* at ICPR-TISS National Conference on Caste in India: Presence and Erasure held at Centre for Social Theory School of Development Studies Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, 20-21 January.
15. 2013: Presented paper titled: *Tales of Familiarity, Tales of Unfamiliarity: Caste and Middle Class in West Bengal* at *Orientation Programme on SC and other Marginalized Groups* held at Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta (CSSSC) 18 - 22 November.
16. 2013: Presented paper titled: *Caste and the Hindu Bhadrakol in Colonial Bengal* at National Seminar on "Understanding and Resisting Caste" held at Dr. Ambedkar Centre for Social Justice, University of Mumbai, 11 - 12 March.
17. 2011: Presented a paper *Doing Sociology in an Autonomous Institution - The Case of St. Xavier's College, Kolkata* at the National Seminar on "Sociology in the 21st Century India: Constraints and Possibilities" organised by the Centre for the Study of Social Systems, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, 4 - 5 February.
18. 2010: Presented a paper *Caste in Private, Denial in Public* at the CSSSC-NRTT Annual Workshop for Beginning Doctoral, Doctoral and Postdoctoral Scholars on "The Public and the Private - Lives, Institutions and Practices", 28 October - 3 November.
19. 2008: Presented a paper titled *Sociology and Gender: Looking at Calcutta University Undergraduate Syllabus* at a residential Workshop on "Themes and Issues in Women's Studies" organised by School of Women's Studies, Jadavpur University at Howrah, 20 - 29 May .
20. 2007: Presented a paper titled: *Caste and Bengali Middle Class Self* at Annual Conference of Sociological Association of West Bengal (SAWB) on Social Change in Contemporary West Bengal held at Calcutta University, September 22.

Research Recognised

Bandyopadhyay, Sarbani. "Caste and Politics in Bengal." *Economic and Political Weekly* (2012): 71-73 and Bandyopadhyay, Sarbani. "Another History: Bhadrakol Responses to dalit Political Assertion in Colonial" Bengal in Chandra, Heierstad and Nielsen edited *The Politics of Caste in West Bengal*, Routledge, London & New Delhi have been recommended as references for the MA Political Science course (2016-2018) in the Diamond Harbour Women's University, West Bengal.

Workshop Convened

2015: National Workshop-cum-Orientation Programme for Members of Scheduled Caste/Schedule Tribe and other Marginalized Groups, titled **Identities, Mobility and Well-Being** held at St. Xavier's College, Kolkata Convened and presented Introductory Lecture to the Workshop. Co-convenor Dr. Shoma Choudhury Lahiri. 26 -27 September.

Conference Organization

Member of the Organizing Committee and Editor of the Conference Souvenir for the 3rd Annual Conference of Sociological Association of West Bengal (SAWB) in St. Xavier's College, Kolkata on Dec. 12, 2009, jointly organised by Sociology Department (St Xavier's College) with SAWB .

Seminar Organization

Was member of the organizing team for a one day seminar on "Calcutta" in 2012 in St. Xavier's College, Kolkata organised by Sociology Department as part of its 10 years celebration.

Contribution to Course Development

1. Framed the Discipline Specific Elective course on Sociology of the Everyday, and revised/redrafted along with a colleague the Core courses on Economic Sociology, Research Methods II and Sociology of Religion with reference to the new UGC curriculum of Choice-based Credit System in 2017. Drafted a skill-based course on Developing Sociological Sensibilities and the Generic Elective Papers.
2. Developed course on Sociology of Everyday Life in 2016.
3. Instrumental in drafting the papers on Introducing Sociology, Classical Sociological Thinkers I & II and Social Stratification and Mobility in 2006.
4. Suggested (Argued) for the inclusion of Dalit Feminism in the section on Women's Movements and Feminism in the course Introductory Sociology in the workshop of The New Undergraduate Syllabus held at Presidency College in 2004 and drafted the model questions for Introductory Sociology.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Serial No	Title of course taught	Postgraduate or Undergraduate	Sole instructor or with others	Year
Under Calcutta University following the Annual system				
1.	Social Anthropology	Undergraduate	Sole Instructor	Nov 2003 - Feb 2004
2.	Introductory Sociology	Undergraduate	Sole Instructor	Jan 2004 - Dec 2005

3.	Indian Social Structure and Processes	Undergraduate	Shared	Aug 2005 - Feb 2006
4.	Western Sociological Thought	Undergraduate	Shared	Aug 2005 - Feb 2006; Aug 2006 - Feb 2007; Aug 2007 - Feb 2008
5.	Sociological Theory	Undergraduate	Shared	Jan 2004- Dec 2005
Since July 2006 with Autonomy and introduction of the Semester system				
6.	Classical Sociological Thinkers I	Undergraduate	Sole Instructor	Jan - Jun of 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2012, 2013
7.	Classical Sociological Thinkers II	Undergraduate	Sole Instructor	Jul-Dec of 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2012, 2016
8.	Social Stratification and Mobility	Undergraduate	Sole Instructor	Jul-Dec of 2008
9.	Change, Development, Globalisation	Undergraduate	Sole Instructor	Jan-Jun of 2012, 2013
10.	Introducing Sociology	Undergraduate	Sole Instructor	Jul-Dec of 2013
11.	Research Methods II (Qualitative)	Undergraduate	Sole Instructor	Jan-Jun of 2017
12.	Sociology of Everyday Life	Undergraduate	Sole Instructor	Jul-Dec of 2016
13.	Sociology of Development and Globalisation	Undergraduate	Sole Instructor	Jan-Jun of 2017

Since July 2017				
14.	Introducing Sociology	Undergraduate	Shared: Two Instructors	Jul-Dec of 2017
15.	Social Institutions II	Undergraduate	Shared: Two Instructors	Jul-Dec of 2017
16.	Sociology of Everyday Life	Undergraduate	Shared: Two Instructors	Jul-Dec of 2017
17.	Research Methods II	Undergraduate	Shared: Two Instructors	Jan-Jun of 2018
18.	Nature, Body, Culture and Society	Undergraduate	Shared: Two Instructors	Jan-Jun of 2018
19.	Sociology of Development and Globalisation	Undergraduate	Shared: Two Instructors	Jan-Jun of 2018

*** With the standardisation of curriculum and of the teaching-learning process we were instructed since July 2017 to have at least two instructors for each course.

Co-Curricular Activities (Selected Few)

1. Along with other colleagues in Sociology Department have conducted the Annual Field Exposure Programme for the Honours students of the department involving 2 nights and 3 days stay in the selected locality since 2004 (except for the period of FDP Leave). Till 2012 the programme concentrated on villages in West Bengal as the sites of study. In 2013, 2014, and 2017 we chose different sites: the tea gardens in North Bengal and Mayapur (a religious town) in south Bengal. Students are imparted some basic skills in fieldwork and report writing through these programmes.
2. Was a paper-setter and an examiner from 2008 to 2012 for the BA (Honours) examinations conducted by the University of Calcutta.
3. Was selected by the Public Service Commission, West Bengal as an Expert for restructuring/revising the syllabus for Sociology as an optional subject of the West Bengal Civil Service (Executive) and other examinations conducted by the Public Service Commission in 2012.
4. Was a paper-setter and examiner for Industrial Sociology for the Associate Membership Examination of December 2006 of The Indian Institute of Welding, Kolkata.
5. Participated in a Workshop on 'The New Undergraduate Syllabus in Sociology' organised by the Department of Sociology, Presidency College, Kolkata, 29th April 2004.
6. Participated in the seminar "Practicing Sociology" jointly organised by the Department of Sociology, Maulana Azad College, Kolkata and The Sociological Association of West Bengal, 9th March, 2007.
7. Participated as a Teacher Delegate in a two-day National seminar cum Workshop on "Evaluation System at Undergraduate Level" organised by St. Xavier's College, Kolkata in collaboration with the West Bengal College and University Teachers' Association, 1st and 2nd April 2007.

Mentoring/Supervision

Since 2004 University of Calcutta, to which our college was then affiliated, introduced a 20 mark field-based dissertation in the Undergraduate Research Methods paper for the BA Honours degree in Sociology. Depending on the number of students enrolled for each batch each faculty member was assigned around 10-15 students for the dissertation. Since July 2006 when the College became autonomous the department allotted 50 marks to the dissertation module. With curriculum restructuring in 2013 the dissertation module was turned into a 100 mark paper. Both the changes were approved by our Board of Studies. From 2011 we have been publishing the summary versions of the best dissertations in our annual departmental journal "Young Sociologist". Quite a few of the dissertations which I supervised have been published in the journal.

Awards and Recognition

1. Awarded the UGC's Teacher Fellowship Award from 6th January 2014 to 5th July 2016
2. Honoured in the Eleventh Convocation and Valedictory January, 2018 by St. Xavier's College (Kolkata) in recognition of being awarded a PhD.

Membership/Fellowship of learned accredited bodies

- Member (2017-Present), British Association for South Asian Studies
- Member (2014-2016), European Association for South Asian Studies