

## **Curriculum Vitae**

*Dr Argha Kumar Banerjee, Associate Professor, Department of English, St. Xavier's College, (Autonomous) Kolkata, Calcutta University, West Bengal, India.*

*Email: [banerjeeargha@hotmail.com](mailto:banerjeeargha@hotmail.com)*

*Designation: Dean of Arts (2011- ) & Faculty English Department*  
*Qualifications: M.A. M.Phil. (JU). PhD (Sussex, UK).*

*Commonwealth Research Scholar (2004-07, Sussex University, U.K.) & Charles Wallace Fellow (2012, U.K.).*

**Education & Experience:** Dr Argha Kumar Banerjee completed his B.A. (Honours) and M.A. in English Literature from Jadavpur University (Kolkata, India). His M.Phil. research was on the poetry of John Keats, from Jadavpur University, Kolkata. Subsequently, he was a Commonwealth Research Scholar at the Department of English, University of Sussex, U.K. (2004-2007) where he wrote his PhD thesis on poetry of the First World War. He qualified for the SLET (Lectureship Eligibility Test) examination in 1997 and has been a permanent faculty member of the Department of English, St. Xavier's College, under Calcutta University, Kolkata since 1999. He has also been on the guest faculty at the postgraduate level at departments of English— Jadavpur University, Presidency University and Loreto College.

**Research Interests:** Romantic and Twentieth Century British Literature; War Literature; Indian Writing in English; Literature & Spirituality; Literature & Gender, Eco-criticism.

### **Refresher /Orientation Course:**

a) Successfully completed UGC Sponsored Short Term Course on 'Thinking through Gender' from 1<sup>st</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> February 2018 organised by the Human Resource Development Centre (HRDC) Jadavpur University, Kolkata.

b) Successfully completed Refresher Course in English from 20 January to 11 February 2014, organised by UGC Academic Staff College, Jadavpur University (Grade awarded: A).

b) Successfully completed 16th refresher course in English, from 2 January to 22 January 2010, organised by Academic Staff College, Calcutta University. (Grade awarded: A).

c) Successfully completed the 22<sup>nd</sup> orientation program of UGC Academic Staff College, Jadavpur University, from 17<sup>th</sup> Nov 2008 to 15 December 2008. (Grade awarded: A).

### **International Research Grants/Awards /Scholarships:**

- a) **Charles Wallace India Trust (U.K.) Scholarship/ Research Grant for post-doctoral research on war literature in the United Kingdom during May –June 2012.**

- b) **Commonwealth Scholarship Award by the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in the United Kingdom, following initial selection and nomination made by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, India. Tenure of the Award: 2004 to 2007 at the Department of English, University of Sussex, United Kingdom. Research successfully completed leading to D.Phil. degree being awarded by Sussex University.**
- c) **Full tuition fee Scholarship for postgraduate research study at Nottingham University U.K. (2003-04).**
- d) **Overseas Scholarship Award 2003-04 by University of Kent, Canterbury, U.K.**

### **UGC Grants (University Grants Commission, India)**

**Minor Research Project (2014) – Research Period: August 2014 to July 2016.**

## **Publications**

### **BOOKS/MONOGRAPHS:**

*Gaining Voice, Writing War: A Critical Study of Select Women Poets of the First World War (1914-18)* (Kolkata: Book Valley Publishers, 2019) (ISBN 978-93-83265-26-8).

*Women’s Poetry and the First World War* (New Delhi: Atlantic Publishers, 2014) (ISBN 978-81-269-1856-0).

*‘Poetry of the First World War: A Critical Evaluation’* (New Delhi: Atlantic Publishers, 2011) (ISBN 978-81-269-1554-5).

*Female Voices in Keats’s Poetry* (A psychoanalytic reading of female figures in Keats’s Poetry) published by Atlantic Publishers, New Delhi, 2002.(ISBN 81-269-0174-8).

### **Essay/ Chapter Contribution in Book/Conference Proceedings: (From 2016-2020)**

The chapter “Of ‘Trust’ and ‘Mistrust’: Reading the Mind of a Predator in ‘The Little Governess’ in *Katherine Mansfield and Bliss and Other Stories* published by **Edinburgh University Press Ltd, Edinburgh, U.K. ISBN: 978-1-4744-7731-4, pp. 105-119. 2020.**

The chapter “‘Strange Hells’: Shell Shock, Trauma and Transatlantic Poetry of the First World War’ in *Transatlantic Shell Shock: British and American Literatures of World War I Trauma* published by **University of North Georgia Press, Georgia, U.S. ISBN: 978-1-940771-65-6. pp. 38-73. 2019**

The chapter “‘Imaginary Homelands’: Fighting Terror, Writing in Exile’ in the book *Terrorism in Literature: Examining a Global Phenomenon*, published by **Cambridge Scholars Publishing, Newcastle upon Tyne. ISBN (10): 1-5275-3760-9; ISBN (13): 978-1-5275-3760-6. pp. 233-251. 2019.**

The chapter “‘Gross Indecency’: Depicting Oscar Wilde on the Stage’ in the book *Queering Visual Cultures: Re-presenting Sexual Politics on Stage and Screen*, published by **Universitas Press, Montreal. ISBN 978-0-9950291-3-2 63800.pp 57-74. August 2018.**

The chapter “‘The poetry of the earth is never dead’: The Garden and British Romantic Poetry’ in the book entitled *Enchanted, Stereotyped, Civilized: Garden Narratives in Literature, Art and Film* published by **Konigshausen & Neumann, Germany, 2018 (ISBN 978-3-8260-6444-9).**

The chapter “Women’s Poetry, First World War and Working Class Experience in British Munition Factories, in the book entitled *New Women’s Writing: Contextualising Fiction, Poetry and Philosophy* published by **Cambridge Scholars Publishing, Newcastle upon Tyne, U.K, 2018 (ISBN 10: 1-5275-0814-5; ISBN 13: 978-1-5275-0814-9).**

The essay “‘Refugee in my own country’: Trauma and Memory in Writings of Kashmiri Pandits in Exile’, in the book entitled *On Trauma and Traumatic Memory* published by **Cambridge Scholars Publishing, Newcastle upon Tyne, U.K., 2017 (ISBN 10:1-4438-9509-1; ISBN 13: 978-1-4438-9509-5).**

The essay “‘Why Can’t I Have the Vote?’: Women’s Poetry, Politics, and the First World War’, in the book entitled *Ideological Messaging and the Role of Political Literature* published by **IGI Global, USA, 2017 (ISBN: 978-1-5225-2391-8, eISBN: 978-1-5225-2392-5).**

The essay ‘*Memory and Remembrance: Women’s Elegies of the First World War (1914-18)*, in the book entitled *The Arts of Memory and the Poetics of Remembering* published by **Cambridge Scholars Publishing, Newcastle upon Tyne, U.K., 2016 (ISBN (10): 1-4438-9723-X; ISBN (13): 978-1-4438-9723-5).**

The essay ‘*Suicide in the Trenches: British Poetry, Modernism and the First World War (1914-18)*’ in the compilation *1914 and Beyond: Reflections of War (Conference proceedings of UGC sponsored National Seminar)* published by **Excel India Publishers, New Delhi, 2016. (ISBN: 978-93-86256-16-4).**

### **National /International Journals (Some Select Publications):**

‘*Ghare Baire: An Eco-critical Perspective*’ in the journal *South Asian Review* (Routledge, published online **13 August 2020**).

“Swami and Friends’: Exploring Fear and Childhood in R.K.Narayan’s Fiction” published in *International Journal of English, Language, Literature*, (UGC Approved, Peer Reviewed), vol. 7, Issue 4, April **2019**, pp. 250-265. ISSN-2321-7065.

‘The War Poetry of Margaret Postgate Cole’ published in *Aviskaar: A Xaverian Journal of Research*, vol. 10. Jan **2019**, (ISSN (Print): 2277-8411, ISSN (Online): 2278-1048).

‘Negotiating Shell-Shock, Writing War: Trauma and Transatlantic Poetry of the First World War’ published in *Aviskaar: A Xaverian Journal of Research*, vol. 10. Jan **2018**, pp 39-55. (ISSN (Print): 2277-8411, ISSN (Online): 2278-1048).

‘Poetry, Spirituality and Patriotism’ published in *Aviskaar: A Xaverian Journal of Research*, vol. 9. Jan **2017**, pp. 58-68. (ISSN (Print): 2277-8411, ISSN (Online): 2278-1048).

‘Tracking Tigers, Writing Wildlife’, published in *Aviskaar: A Xaverian Journal of Research*, ‘vol.8, Jan **2016**, pp.57- 60. (ISSN: 2277-8411).

‘Simple Rhymes for Stirring Times’: Women’s Poetry, Politics and the First World War (1914-1918) published in *Efflorescence*, peer reviewed journal of the Department of English, Naba Ballygunge Mahavidyalaya. Issue 5, **2015** (ISSN 22783873), pp.9-25.

‘Memory and Remembrance: Women’s Elegies of the First World War (1914-18)’ published in *The Lincoln Humanities Journal*, Fall **2015**, Volume 3, pp.13- 25. (Published by the Lincoln University, U.S.).

‘Poetics of Resistance: HD’s *Sea Garden*’, published in the international journal *The War Poetry Review: The Journal of the War Poets Association* **2014-2015** (ISSN 1753-9463), pp.52-58.

‘Went to war with Rupert Brooke, Came Home with Siegfried Sassoon’: The Poetic Fad of the First World War.’ Published in the international journal (peer reviewed) ‘Working with English’, Summer **2006**, (ISSN 1740-8547) the journal of the Department of English, Nottingham University, U.K.

‘Femininity in Endymion’ published in the International journal ‘Keats and Shelley Review’ (annual journal of Keats and Shelley Association, UK), vol. 16, **2002**. (ISSN 0952-4142).

### **Book Reviews:**

*Have reviewed books for the literary pages of various dailies and journals including The Telegraph, The Hindu, Biblio: A Review of Books, Textual Practice.*

## **Paper presentations in various seminars / conferences (From 2014 –2020)**

Presented a paper entitled ‘ “ At Home and in the World”: Bengal and the Great War (1914-18)’, at a two day International conference on ‘The First World War and Bengali Life’, organised by the Department of English, Jadavpur University, under RUSA 2c on **15<sup>th</sup> January 2020**.

Presented a paper titled ‘ “ Beauty that must Die”: Time, Death and Mutability in Keats’s Great Odes’ at a State Level Seminar organised by the Department of English, Jadavpur University under CAS (Phase 3) on **13<sup>th</sup> September 2019**.

Presented a paper titled ‘I taste a liquor never brewed’: Quest for Identity in Emily Dickinson’s Poetry in a seminar on ‘The Second Sex? The Woman as Writer and Artist in America, organised by the Jadavpur University Society of American Studies, on **30 November 2018**.

**Resource Person** at the annual departmental seminar organised by the Department of English, Basanti Devi College, Kolkata, on **28<sup>th</sup> November 2018**, commemorating the centennial remembrance of the First World War. Topic: ‘Et in Arcadia ego: Exploring the Pastoral in British Poetry and Painting of the First World War.’

**Gave a lecture titled ‘Intimate Encounters: Indian Soldiers at the Front’ at the International Conference organised by University of Antwerp, Belgium, on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2018 at the Brussels Royal Library.**

Presented an illustrated research paper entitled ‘The Starry Night: Reading Poetry through Painting’ at a Seminar cum Workshop on ‘Teaching Literature with the Audio-visual aid of the Other Arts, organised by the Jadavpur University Society for American Studies (JUSAS) on **8<sup>th</sup> November 2017**.

**Delivered PhD course work lectures on ‘Romanticism’ and ‘Modernism’** at the Department of English, Kazi Nazrul University, Asansol, West Bengal in **July, September 2017 respectively**.

Participated as a panellist in a panel discussion on the contemporary issues in Indian democracy entitled Visions 2017, organised by the BA.General department of St Xavier’s College, Kolkata on **18<sup>th</sup> February 2017** and also moderated a panel discussion organised in **February 2017**, by the Department of Political Science, on ‘From Local Cultures to a Global Culture’ under *Suffragium 2017*.

Presented a paper ‘When you see millions of mouthless dead: Scottish Poetry of the Great War’ at an international seminar organised by Department of English, Kazi Nazrul University, Asansol on ‘Negotiating Scottish Studies: History, Culture and Identity’ on **8<sup>th</sup> January 2016**.

Gave a keynote address on 'Suicide in the Trenches: British Poetry, Modernism and the First World War (1914-18)' at an UGC sponsored national seminar organised by Department of English, Ashannagar Madanmohan Tarkalankar College on **27<sup>th</sup> November 2015**.

Presented a paper 'I have rendezvous with death': American Poetry and the Great War at the annual conference of JUSAS on 'War and Creativity: World War I and American Literature, Art and Culture' on **9 March 2015 at Jadavpur University**.

Presented a paper 'Romantic Margins: Revisiting the Oeuvre of Mary Lamb' at the International conference organised by the Centre for Studies in Romantic Literature on **6<sup>th</sup> February 2015 at Presidency University**.

Gave the inaugural lecture of the Centennial Lecture series on 'Modern British Poetry' on Thursday **10 September 2015 at Ashutosh College, Kolkata**.

Presented a paper entitled 'Do Plants Think?': War Poetry and Pastoral at an international seminar organised jointly by the Departments of English, The Bhawanipur Education Society College and Calcutta University, held on **16<sup>th</sup> December 2014** at The Bhawanipur Education Society College, Kolkata.

Presented paper at the 'British Poetry of the First World War Conference' on **7<sup>th</sup> September 2014 at Wadham College, Oxford University, U.K.**

Presented paper at 'Objections to War' conference at the **University of Hull, U.K. on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2014**.

### **Guest Faculty/ Teaching Assignments/ Responsibilities:**

UGC extension lectures delivered on English Romantic Poetry at Ramakrishna Mission Vidyamandira (An Autonomous Residential College under University of Calcutta) Belur Math, Howrah-711202 on **17<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2011** on William Wordsworth and John Keats respectively.

Guest faculty at the Postgraduate level, Department of English, Presidency College, Kolkata from 2007 to 2008. Module taught: War Literature.

External guest lecturer at the Department of English, PG Evening Courses, Jadavpur University from 2001 to 2003. Taught Modules: Romantic Literature and War Literature.

Calcutta University B.A. English Honours examiner from 1999 to 2009.

### **Miscellaneous Publications**

*Contributed stories and features to various English dailies.*

*Few sample publications mentioned below*

Short Story 'Murder Most Foul' in *The Sunday Statesman*, **25<sup>th</sup> November 2018**.

Short Story 'The Revelation' in *The Sunday Statesman*, **3<sup>rd</sup> June 2018**.

Short Story ‘The Election Campaign’ in *The Sunday Statesman*, **22 January 2017.**

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*Features—*

‘The Interpreter of Loneliness’, in *The Hindu* ‘Literary Review’, **20<sup>th</sup> September 2020.**

‘The Living Dead’ in *The Telegraph*, **24<sup>th</sup> April 2020.**

‘High Priest of Nature—II’ in *The Statesman*, **20<sup>th</sup> April 2020.**

‘High Priest of Nature—I’ in *The Statesman*, **19<sup>th</sup> April 2020.**

‘The passion of David’ in *The Hindu* ‘Literary Review’, **17<sup>th</sup> May 2020.**

‘Who’s afraid of a virus wolf?’ in *The Hindu* ‘Literary Review’, **29<sup>th</sup> March 2020.**

‘Where the mind is with fear’ in *The Telegraph*, **29<sup>th</sup> November 2019.**

‘Writing in Exile’ in *The Statesman*, **12<sup>th</sup> December 2019.**

‘A Tribute to John Keats’ in *The Statesman*, **10<sup>th</sup> November 2019.**

‘Tagore and Caste’ in *The Statesman*, **24<sup>th</sup> October 2019.**

‘Seeking India’s Spiritual Destiny’ in *The Statesman*, **24<sup>th</sup> January 2019.**

‘Tagore, Netaji and Spirituality’ in *The Statesman*, **23<sup>rd</sup> January 2019.**

General series editor for **Macmillan Publishers India** for their compilation of compositions at the Secondary and High Secondary levels: **Essays and Letters for Winners: Ideas for Creative Writing (2 vols)** (**Macmillan Publishers, India, 2012**).

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