# Samata Biswas <u>bsamata@gmail.com</u>, <u>samata.scu@gmail.com</u>

### **Bio-note:**

Samata Biswas teaches English at the Sanskrit College and University, Kolkata. Before joining this position, she had taught English Literature at Haldia Government College and Bethune College, as part of the West Bengal Education Service.

Samata holds an M Phil in English Literature and a Ph D in Cultural Studies, both from the English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad. Her areas of research interest are Body Studies, Migration Studies, Dalit Studies, Gender and Popular Culture. At the Sanskrit College and University, she teaches courses and texts related to gender, caste, partition and colonialism.

Samata is the co-editor of the volume *Situating Social Media: Gender, Caste, Solidarity, Protest* (2020), and the special issue of the Anveshi Broadsheet on Contemporary Politics on Violence (2017), and three special issues of the journal Refuge Watch. She is the book review editor of Refugee Watch: A South Asian Journal on Forced Migration and the editorial board member of Refugee Watch Online, a blog on forced migration.

In January- February 2020 Samata was invited to be a part of the International Visitors Leadership Program funded by the Department of State, United States of America—on Refugee and Migrant issues in the Pacific, where she travelled across US with an international delegation, interacting with government officials, refugee rehabilitation agencies, security agencies, legal experts etc. to learn about refugee and migrant situations and policies in the US. In May 2023, Samata was selected as one of the international delegates attending the Kultur Symposium at Weimar, Germany. Between 2022 and 2023, Samata formed and coordinated the South Asia Network for Communication, Displacement and Migration–an interdisciplinary network of journalists, researchers and other stakeholders, interested in migration and refugee issues in South Asia. In May 2025, Samata was invited by the Federal Foreign Ministry of Germany to learn about the scopes for skilled immigrants in Germany.

On the occasion of the bicentenary of the Sanskrit College (and University), Samata is translating the two volume history of Sanskrit College into English, while also working on a collection of interesting anecdotes about the institution.

## **Research:**

# Ph D dissertation:

"Reading Fitness: Body Cultures of Contemporary India." Department of Cultural Studies, The English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad.

**M. Phil** Dissertation: "Family Limited: Working Women and the New Popular Culture" at the Department of English, Central Institute of English and Foreign Languages (now EFLU)

### **Funded Research Projects:**

**"Haldia: The Makings of a Logistical Space"**, as part of the "Logistical Worlds: Software, Infrastructure, Labour" project carried out jointly by Western Sydney University and Calcutta Research Group, 2015- 2016.

**UGC Minor Research Project** titled "Reading the Fit Body: An Enquiry into the Body Cultures of Contemporary India" 2012- 1013.

### **Employment Information**:

Assistant Professor of English: The Sanskrit College and University, Kolkata. January 2019 onwards.

Assistant Professor (English), Bethune College, Kolkata. March 2016- January 2019

Assistant Professor (English) Haldia Government College, August 2009- February 2016.

### **Other Educational Information:**

M. A. English from CIEFL (EFLU), April 2005, with A grade, (73.1%)

**B. A. English** (Honours) from Presidency College, Kolkata, (Calcutta University), July 2003 in the First Division, (60.5%). Secured First rank in Calcutta University.

### **Publications:**

### **Compilation:**

**Migrant Lexicon: A Living Compendium of Words from the Field,** an edited collection of words used by migrant and host communities to explain the experience and process of migration. This was edited by Samata Biswas and published by Mahanirban Calcutta Research Group. This is also the first iteration of a long South Asia -wide collection.

### **Edited Volumes:**

1. 2025. "Teaching Migration: Responding to a Mobile Time". Special Issue 64 & 65, *Refugee Watch: A South Asian Journal on Forced Migration*. Co-edited with Ananya Chattaerjee.

- 2. 2023. "Migrant Asia". Special issue 2023 of *Refugee Watch: A South Asian Journal on Forced Migration*, co-edited with Ishita Dey, Sanam Roohi, Sahana Bhasavapatna. Available at http://www.mcrg.ac.in/rw%20files/RW63/RW63.pdf
- 3. June & December 2023 "Politics, Space, Memory: Identity Making in the Wake of Partition", Issue 61
  & 62 of *Refugee Watch: A South Asian Journal on Forced Migration*. Available at:
- **4.** March 2020 (co-edited with Atig Ghosh) *Refugee Watch: A South Asian Journal of Forced Migration.* Published by Women Unlimited, New Delhi.
- **5.** February 2017. (co-edited with Sumanta Mukhopadhyay) *Mahasweta Nivedita: Shardho Shatabarshiki Smarok Grantha*. Kolkata: Bethune College.
- **6.** April 2017. (co-edited with Parthasarathi Muthukaruppan) broadsheet on *Violence: Event and Structure* (Anveshi Broadsheet on Contemporary Politics), ISSN 2278-3423

# Academic Articles :

- 1. "Margins of an Epidemic: Migrants and Covid 19" in *Sophos*, Vol. 1, Issue 1, May 2024. https://sophosjournal.in/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/7.pdf
- Coauthored with Supratik Sinha "The Sporty Young Woman in Bengali Fiction: Moti Nandy's *Kalabati*" in Mathangi Krishnamurthy and Veena Mani edited *The Postcolonial Sporting Body*. Emerald Publishing. 2024. https://doi.org/10.1108/S1476-285420240000020003
- 3. "Coronavirus and Other Epidemics in Bengal: A Reckoning Through Literature" in Kaustubhmani Sengupta, Subhas Ranjan Chkrabarti and Paula Banerjee ed. *The Long 2020*, Springer, Singapore. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-99-4815-4\_11
- 4. "Stateless at Sea: Jahaji Relationships and Their Discontent" in Sabyasachi Basu Ray Chaudhury, Ayse Caglar and Ranabir Samaddar eds. *Sites of Statelessness: Laws, Cities, Seas*, SUNY Press.
- "Ravi Varma, Pushpamala, *There comes Papa* and *Rang Rasiya*: Citations and Afterlives" in Academia: Basanti Devi College Volume 4, Issue 4, December 2023. ISSN: 2581-8902
- 6. Entries on "Toba Tek Singh", "Girmitiya", "Abducted Person's (Recovery and Restoration) Act 1949" and "Komagata Maru" in Paula Banerjee, Nasreen Chowdhory and Priya Singh eds. *Postcolonial Compendium: Keywords in Forced Migration and Refugee Studies*. Frontpage 2023.
- "At the Margins and Marginalised Further: The Case of Covid 19 and Women Migrant Workers in India". In WISCOMP Peace Prints, Vol. 8, No. 1 Winter 2022. https://wiscomp.org/peaceprints/peaceprints.php?pid=12
- 8. "Fences, Goods and "Police": Figurations of the Border in Manjira Saha's *Chhotoder Border*: in *The Journal of Borderlands Studies*, 28.10.2022. https://doi.org/10.1080/08865655.2022.2129424
- 9. "Seemanto Bishoyok Upolobdhi: Bharat Bibhajon 2020" in Rajat Roy ed. *Mahamarir Nana Seemanay: Covid-19 ebang Porijayi Shromik*", Progressive Publishers, 2022.

- "Bringing the Border Home: Indian Partition 2020", in Ritajyoti Bandyopadhyay, Ranabir Samddar and Paula Banerjee eds. *India's Migrant Workers and the Pandemic*. London: Routledge 2021. https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003246121
- 11. Co-authored with Nirajana Chakraborty, "Latitudes of Longing: An Ecocritical Exploration of Our Geopolitics", in Animesh Roy ed. *Ecology, Literature and Culture: An Anthology of Recent Studies*. New Delhi: Atlantic.
- 12. "Calcutta: Migrant City" in *Refugee Watch: A South Asian Journal of Forced Migration*, Issue 55, June 2020.
- "Too Close for Comfort": Public Health, Private Zeal and the Corona Pandemic in India" published simultaneously in *medizinethnologie* and *boasblog*, March 2020. (https://www.medizinethnologie.net/too-close-for-comfort/)
- 14. Co authored with Nirajana Chakraborty, "Scripting the Feminine: Bethune College and Women's Education" in Shantanu Majee ed. *Women and Education in India: A Representative Study*. Kolkata: Jogamaya Devi College. 2020.
- 15. "John Steinbeck: The Grapes of Wrath" in *The American Novel from Hawthorne to Heller: Cultural Contexts and Critical Perspectives*, eds. Ashok K. Mohapatra, Pritha Chakraborty and Sharbani Banerjee Mukherjee. Chennai: Macmillan. 2020.
- 16. "Limited Incorporated: *Corporate* and Working Women as Desiring Subjects" in *Our Heritage: Journal* of the Sanskrit College and University, ISSN 04749030, Vol. 48, August 2019.
- 17. "The Looks and Figure That Matter': Body, Beauty and Anxieties of Weight Loss" in *Thinking Women: A Feminist Reader*, eds. Navaneetha Mokkil and Shefali Jha, Kolkata: Stree. 2019
- 18. "The Fat Subject and Desirability: Two Indian films and Politics of fat Acceptance" in *Jadavpur University Essays and Studies*, ISSN 09753478, 2019
- 19. "*Jo Biwi Se Kare Pyar*: Changing Figurations of the Housewife Mom in Indian Advertisements" in Heritage Vol. 5, 2018, ISSN 2349-9588
- 20. "Haldia: Logistics and its other(s)" in Brett Neilson, Ned Rossiter and Ranabir Samaddar (eds.) Logistical Asia: The Labour of Making a World Region. Singapore: Palgrave Macmillan. 2018 https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-10-8333-4\_5
- 21. "Each Age has its Own Dharma": Advices to the Ageing Body in Sananda" in Diotima's: A Journal of New Readings, Vol. 8, December 2017. ISSN 2319-4189.
- **22.** "Haldia: A Port City in *Logistical Worlds: Infrastructure, Software, LAbour No. 2, Kolkata*, Brett Neilson and Ned Rossiter, eds. London: Open Humantities Press. 2017. ISBN: 978-1-78542-051-1

- 23. "The Hungry Tide: Rethinking Refugees and Displacement" in The Companion, November 2017. ISSN 2456-0367
- 24. "New Sites, Older Forms: Indian Chick Lit and the Working Woman" in *Heritage* vol. 4, 2017. ISSN 2349-9588
- 25. "The End is Not Really the End: *Sesh Sanghat* and the Media Obsession with Armed Resistance" in Pradip Basu (ed.) *Red on Silver: Naxalites in Cinema*. Setu Prakashani. Kolkata: 2012.
- 26. "Women's Bodies in Grapes of Wrath: sexuality, normativity, docility and authority." *Appropriations* December 2012.
- 27. "Reading Mills and Boon in India: Genre and Readership", published in the Seminar volume of the UGC sponsored seminar entitled "Popular Fiction: Cultural Artifact or Commercial Production", 2011.
- 28. "Culture and Caste in CIEFL." insight magazine, Vol.1 No. 9-10, July/Aug 2005.

## **Book reviews:**

- 1. Review of *Cultures of Ageing and Ageism in South Asia* in South Asian History and Culture. https://doi.org/10.1080/19472498.2025.2457834
- 2. Review of Chhotoder Border in Prasongik Oprasongik,
- 3. Review of *Victory Colony 1950* in *Refugee Watch: A South Asian Journal on Forced Migration*, Issue No. 56, December 2020
- 4. Review of *Selfing the City* by Ipshita chanda in *Social Change* 48:3,
- 5. "Darjeeling: Smriti Sottar Japon-Kotha" in 4 Nombor Platform, July 1, 2018.
- 6. "Amra Ki Ki Bolte Pari: Ekti Boi o Koekti Kothopokothon" in 4 Nombor Platform, January 1, 2018.
- 7. Review of *The Adivasi Will Not Dance* in *Refugee Watch: A South Asian Journal on Forced Migration*, Issue No. 50, December 2017. ISSN 2347-405X.
- "Naxalbari Andolan: Upasthapona, Protichhobi o Protifolon" in *Anushtup*, Prak Sharodiyo 2017. ISSN 0974-2697
- 9. "Enquiring into Media Practice: *The Hoot Reader* and Our Times" in *Refugee Watch: A South Asian Journal on Forced Migration*. Issue No. 42, December 2013.
- 10. "Fragmentary and Fragmented: Representing Women and their (a)Political Lives" in *Sephis e Magazine*, Vol.2 No.3, May 2006.

# **Popular Articles:**

1. "This Pride month, let all colours of the rainbow shine equally bright". The Indian Express, June 4, 2025.

https://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/columns/this-pride-month-let-all-colours-of-the-rainbow-shine -equally-bright-10048123/

- 2. "Bangladesh women rise up against increasing increasing incidents of rape", 360 ino, April 1, 2025. https://360info.org/bangladesh-women-rise-up-against-increasing-incidents-of-rape/
- 3. "Songsar ki Sotyi-i Sukher Hoy Sudhu Romonir Gune?" Anandabazar.com, March 18, 2025. https://www.anandabazar.comlifestyle/womens-day-2025-feminism-is-perceived-as-a-laughing-matter-o r-joke-by-patriarchal-society-dgtl/cid/1586771
- 4. "Deporting Irregular Immigrants from the US will have Blowbacks" in *The Times of India*, February 10, 2025 DOI: 10.54377/57e3-f7bc
- 5. "Women Film Workers in India Fight Back Against Sexual Harassment" in Setopati, September 4, 2024 https://en.setopati.com/International/163622
- 6. "History's Key Role in Bangladesh Students' Deadly Protests". The India Forum. July 30, 2024. https://www.theindiaforum.in/history/historys-key-role-bangladesh-students-deadly-protests
- 7. "Migrant Labour Marches into the Line of Fire" in 360 Info, April 29, 2024. 10.54377/636a-811e
- 8. "The Rohingya Return to the Sea" in 360 Info, March 27, 2024. 10.54377/a989-b758
- "Hooghly: A river, a book, an exhibition and a sonic experiment" in Refugee Watch Online, December 29, 2021. https://refugeewatchonline.wordpress.com/2021/12/29/hooghly-a-river-a-book-an-exhibition-and-a-soni c-experiment/
- 10. "Jonopriyo Cinema o Dalit Rajneeti: Ekti Alochona", Protidrodher Cinema, Year VI, Volume I, 2019.
- **11.** "For the Asurs of Bengal, Durga Puja is the Time to Celebrate the 'Demon God' Durga Slayed". *ScoopWhoop.* 7<sup>th</sup> October, 2016.
- 12. "Migrations and Identities: A Study of Sea of Poppies". Refugee Watch Online. July 22, 2016.
- 13. "Asur Utsav, not Durga Puja". Round Table India. October 29, 2013.

### Reports:

- "Security at Crossroads 3: Biopolitics, Medicalisation and Epidemiology Today: A report", in Refugee Watch Online, January 23, 2025
- 2. "Security at Crossroads 2: Boundaries and Life- A Report", in Refugee Watch Online, January 1, 2025

- 3. "A Panel Discussion on Itinerant Situations in Art and Literature: A Report" in Refugee Watch 57.
- "The Kolkata workshop: Methodological Considerations from India", in *Balibar/Wallerstein's Race, Nation, Class: Rereading a Dialogue for Our Times*, eds. Manuela Bojadžijev and Katrin Klingan. Hamburg: Argument Verlag. 2018.
- **5.** Published "Report on the conference on Democracy and Caste in CIEFL" in *Sephis e Magazine*, Vol.3 No. 1, September 2006.

## **Invited Lectures:**

- 1. Delivered an invited lecture titled "City Fictions, Cities in Fiction", as part of "Making and Unmaking of Cities: An Online Course on the City of Our Time", organised by Calcutta Research Group, in collaboration with CIFAR, on 29.03.2025.
- 2. Delivered an invited presentation titled "Documenta: *Eksangey* and Mrinal Sen's *Chorus*" at the two day national conference titled "New Cinemas: Then and Now" organmised by The English Group, Azim premji University, Bangalore, on 26-27 February, 2025.
- 3. Delivered an invited lecture on "Immigrants and Health" at the lecture series Health, Gender and Justice:Critical Conversations, organised by Spriha Society on 11 January, 2025.
- 4. Delivered an invited presentation titled "Women and Cyber Security" at the one day seminar on "Inspire Inclusion", organised by Acharya Girish Chandra Bose College, Kolkata on March 13, 2024.
- Delivered an invited presentation titled "Teaching "Women's Writing" Today: From the Margins to the Periphery" at the two-day national conference "Women Writing in India: Looking Back, Looking Forward", organized by Anveshi Research Centre for Women's Studies, Hyderabad, 14-15 December, 2023.
- 6. Delivered an invited presentation titled "Performing the Public: Popular Protests and the City in Mrinal Sen's *Chorus*" in *Mrinal Sen and the Vicissitudes of Political Cinema*, organized by Department of Film Studies, Jadavpur University, Kolkata, 7-8 November, 2023.
- 7. Delivered an invited lecture on "Migrants and the Epidemic: Gender, Race, and Other Vulnerabilities" at the 2023 Association for Cultural Studies (ACS) Institute "De-colonization in the 21st Century," organised by International Centre for Cultural Studies at 10-15 August, 2023, at Hsinchu, Taiwan
- Delivered an invited lecture "Rereading R. K. Narayan: Problems and Possibilities of the IKS Framework" in the two days seminar on "Indian Knowledge Systems", organized by New Alipore College, Kolkata on March 23, 2023.
- 9. Delivered an invited online lecture titled "Women and Urban Spaces in India: Some Considerations", as part of a curriculum enrichment initiative organized by the IQAC and the Anti-Sexual Harassment Cell, Prafulla Chandra College, May 18, 2023.

- Delivered an invited online lecture titled ""Why should we observe Dalit History Month: Some Considerations" organized by SC St Cell and IQAC, Gour Mohan Sachin Mandal Mahavidyalaya, April 27, 2023.
- 11. Delivered a plenary lecture on "Two Autobiographies: Women and Bengal" at a one day seminar organized by the Department of English, Shantipur College, on "Women's Writing: Representation and Resistance", December 9, 2022.
- 12. Delivered a lecture as a resource person on Methods in Forced Migration research, for the "Seminar cum workshop on the College Funded Project on Migration", at Sivanath Sastri College, Kolkata, November 11, 2022.
- 13. Made an invited presentation "Between (Refugee) Protection and Solution: A Case Study from Bangladesh and India" at "Searching for Solutions:Lessons and Warnings from Refugee Situations" at Kate Hamburger College/ Centre for Global Cooperation Research, University of Duisburg-Essen, Duisburg, Germany, 15- 16 August, 2022.
- 14. Delivered a plenary lecture on "Women, Migration, Empowerment" in the One Day State Level Seminar on "Women Leadership and Global Politics", organized by the Women's Cell and IQAC, Jangipur College, at Jangipur College, Murshidabad, on March 8, 2022.
- 15. Delivered an invited online lecture to the Ph D students at St. Xavier's University, Kolkata on 04.02.2022, in the area *Border Studies*.
- 16. Delivered an invited lecture on Subaltern Studies to the Ph D students at Swami Vivekananda University, 18.12.2021
- 17. Delivered the keynote address at the State level Webinar on "Are We Free? Exploitation of Women and Children for Centuries", organized by Jangipur College, Jangipur, West Bengal on 27.09.2021
- 18. Delivered an invited lecture at the two-day National Webinar on "Education and its Challenges and Impact during the Covid 19 Pandemic", organized by Department of Education, in collaboration with IQAC, Haldia Government College, Haldia on 27<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> July, 2021.
- 19. Delivered an invited lecture titled "What was it all for then?": A Close reading of Amitav Ghosh's *Shadow Lines* at the webinar *Living the Partition: Re-reading the History and the Trauma*, organized by Calcutta Girls College, 14.07.2021.
- 20. Delivered an invited lecture titled "All return in the palms of memory": Partition Texts and Contexts in the Indian Subcontinent", at the Department of English, Basanti Devi College, Kolkata on 08.07.2021.
- 21. Delivered an invited lecture titled "Partition of India: Reflection in Literature" at a One Day State Level Webinar organized by Chittaranjan College, Kolkata, 21.10.2020.
- 22. Delivered a special lecture titled "Patriarchy, Gender and Subordination" at Department of Sociology, Haldia Government College, Haldia, 07.10.2020.
- 23. Delivered a lecture titled "Epidemics and Gendered Vulnerabilities in the Indian Subcontinent: Some Concerns for Our Time" at the Two day State Level Webinar on *Marginalities and the Indian Subcontinent: Historical Perspectives*, organized by Raja Birendra Chandra College, 27.09.2020
- 24. Delivered a lecture on gender and Coronavirus crisis in India, at the National Webinar on *Migration and the Pandemic Problematique*, organized by Deshbandhu College, New Delhi, 16.09.2020.

- 25. Delivered a lecture titled "feminisms" as a resource person at a Five Day Online Faculty Development Programme, "Rethinking Critical Theory and Praxis in the Humanities and Social Sciences", organized by Tetso College, Dimapur, 13.07.2020.
- 26. Delivered a lecture titled "Migrations, epidemics, Vulnerabilities" as a resource person at the One Day International Workshop on "Forced Migration: Humanity at the CrossRoads", organized by Sivanath Sastri College, 09.07.2020.
- 27. Delivered a lecture titled "Pandemic and Migration" at the webinar "Migration: Dimensions and Perspectives" organized by Netaji Satabarshiki Mahavidyalaya, 15.06.2020.
- **28**.Delivered a lecture titled "Calcutta: A Migrant City—Some Concerns About Our Contemporary Moment", dottalks@tetsocollege, organized by Tetso College, Dimapur, 29.04.2020.
- 29. Delivered an invited lecture titled "Ek Ladki ko Dekha Toh Aisa Laga: Queer Cinema and the Popular" at the national seminar titled "Gender and Identity: An Interdisciplinary Perspective and its Repercussion in the Education Industry", organized by Loreto College, Kolkata, 15-16 February, 2019.
- 30. Delivered an invited lecture titled "Yes I am a Wild Beast": Fanny Price, the Ascetic Body and Adaptations" at the one day State Level seminar titled "From Great Traditions to Spin Offs: Re-reading Jane Austen", organized by Department of English, Jadavpur University, Kolkata on 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2019.
- 31. 'Dalit Camera: Through Untouchable Eyes'. Delivered lecture on social media and protests as resource person at UGC sponsored National Seminar on "Media, Politics and Economics in Post-Globalization India", at Gurudas College, Kolkata, on 22nd September, 2016.
- 32. Delivered an invited lecture titled "Reading the Body Beautiful in Contemporary Popular Culture" at the Department of English, Shivanath Shastri College on 16<sup>th</sup> October, 2015.

## **Conference Presentations:**

- Presented a paper titled "What Does the Border Mean for Children? Narratives from the Indo-Bangladesh Borderlands" at *Migrant Asias: Refugees, Statelessness and Migrant Labour Regimes*, Seventh Critical Studies Conference organized by Calcutta research Group, Kolkata, November 17- 19, 2022.
- 2. Presented a paper titled "Re-membering Migration(s): The Culture and Politics of Memoirs and Archives" at the international conference on "Global Protection of Migrants and Refugees", organized by Calcutta Research Group, Kolkata, 29.11.2019.
- Presented a paper titled "English Medium: The Politics of Language in Contemporary India and the Role of Representation" at the Centenary Commemoration Seminar organized by the Department of Comparative Indian Language and Literature, University of Calcutta, 6<sup>th</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2019

- "Women, Beauty and the Public Sphere: A Case for Absences in Nineteenth Century Bengal" at the International Conference on "Nineteenth Century Synergies: Ventures Home and (Ad)ventures Abroad", organized by Department of English, Presidency University, Kolkata, on 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2018.
- "Plan Your Diet': Sananda and the New Femininity in Contemporary India" at the UGC-SAP organized National Seminar on "Popular Culture: Twentieth Century in India", at Department of History, Visvabharati University, Santiniketan, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2018.
- "Migrating to Labour, the Labour of Migration: Some Methodological Observations", as a resource person at Feminist Methodology Workshop, organized by Department of Political Science, Delhi University, at Delhi, 18<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 2017.
- "Look younger, feel better": Youthfulness and the Contemporary Politics of the Body", at the National Conference on "Ageing, Ageism, Cultures", organized by Jadavpur University, Kolkata, on 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 2017,
- 'The (un)sanitary City: Infrastructure and the Body in Kolkata" at the international conference, Critical Studies VI, 23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> August, 2017, organized by Mahanirban Calcutta Research Group, at Swabhumi, Kolkata.
- 9. Delivered two (02) special lectures on William Golding's *Lord of the Flies*, to PG Sem II students at Department of English, Maulana Azad College, April 2017.
- 10. 'The 'Other' Logistics': Women and Work in Haldia' at the XV National Conference on Women's Studies, 22<sup>nd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> January, 2017, organised by Indian Association of Women's Studies, at University of Madras, Chennai.
- 11. 'Fat is just not sexy': Public Health, Fat and Desires in Post-Liberalisation Indian Films" at the International Symposium on "Sexuality, Health and Cultural Narratives" at the Department of English, Jadavpur University. 24<sup>Th</sup> August, 2016.
- 12. Delivered one (01) extension lecture "William Blake: The Pre-Romantic Mystic", at Department of English, Hiralal Majumdar Memorial College, 19<sup>th</sup> August, 2016.
- "Migrations and Displacements in Haldia" at the International seminar on "Migrations and Citizenships", at IIAS Shimla, 30<sup>th</sup> May- 1<sup>st</sup> June, 2016.
- 14. Delivered six (06) extensions lectures on "Literature into Films", at the Department of English, Jadavpur University, March 2016.

- Presented a paper titled "Beef is the Secret of Our Energy: Food Cultures, Marginalisation and being Dalit" at the Young Researchers' Conference, Department of English, Presidency University, Kolkata on 8-9 March, 2016.
- 16. Presented a paper titled "Gender, Housework and Advertisements" in a one day seminar titled "Gender, Representation, Culture", organised by Women's Cell and Equal Opportunities Cell, Haldia Government College, Haldia on 19<sup>th</sup> February, 2016.
- 17. Delivered two (02) extension lectures at the PG Department of English, Maulana Azad College, Kolkata on Aphra Behn's *Oroonoko* and Aristotle's *Poetics* to PG Semester 1 and Semester 3 students, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> January, 2016.
- "Social Media, Rape and Protests: An Enquiry into Contemporary Politics" at 'Building Bridges: Contemporary Research on Gender Studies' held on 24-25 March 2014 at the Department of Women's Studies, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad.
- 19. "The Body Politic of Malgudi: The Nation Form and the Subaltern Body" at the UGC Sponsored National Seminar on 'Writings from the Margin: Subaltern Literary Formations and the Politics of Canon Making' held on 4-5 March 2014 at the Department of English, Vidyasagar University, Midnapore.
- 20. "Reading the Fit Body: Body Work and Identity Formation in Contemporary Bengal" at the Indian Association of Women's Studies Conference XIV. February 3-6, 2014, Guwahati.
- Delivered an invited lecture titled "Representation of Sexual Violence in India Cinema" at the Department of Cultural Studies, English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad, October 9, 2012.
- 22. Delivered an invited lecture titled "Figurations of Masculinities" at the Department of South and Southeast Asian Studies, University of Calcutta. September 27, 2012.
- "Reading Mills and Boon in India: Genre and Readership" at the UGC Sponsored State Level Seminar on 'Popular Fiction: Cultural Artefact or Commercial Product', The American Library, Kolkata. March 25, 2010.
- Delivered an invited lecture titled "Disembodying the Self: Notes on Sexual Violence", at the Department of Cultural Studies, English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad, September 29, 2009.

- 25. "Becoming the Nation: Regional Identity, Cultural Formations and Campus Bongs." at the UGC National Seminar on 'Region, Literature, Culture: Issues and Stakes,' held on 18-19 March 2008 at the Department of English, MS University, Baroda.
- 26. "Women Characters in Masculine Spaces: *Fanaa, Corporate* and *Dhoom2*", in 'Exploring Masculinities: A South Asian Seminar' at CIEFL, Hyderabad, March 2007.
- 27. "Everyday Caste" in 'Caste and Democracy: A National Seminar' at CIEFL, Hyderabad, August 2006.

## **Public Lectures:**

- 1. Delivered a lecture titled "City as Cinema: The Choric in Mrinal Sen" as part of the City Lights lecture series, organised by Goethe Institut Max Mueller Bhavan, Kolkata and Calcutta Research Group, on 08.01.2025, at Max Mueller Bhavan, Kolkata.
- 2. Delivered a talk on Indian migrant workers in Israel as part of a public meeting on India Israel G2G agreement, organised by Association for Protection of Democratic Rights, College Street Chapter, Kolkata on 24.05.2024
- **3.** Delivered a talk on Mrinal Sen's Calcutta films at the bookfair organised by Ujaan Sahitya Patrika on 25 December, 2023, New Barrackpore.
- **4.** Delivered a talk titled "Migrant, City: Calcutta in Memories and Movements" to the Kochi Collective, March 12, 2022.
- **5.** Delivered a lecture at Bethune College, Kolkata on the occasion of International Human Rights Day, on the topic "Dalit Rights are Human Rights". 14.12.2021.
- **6.** Part of a panel on "Causes and Fall outs of Migration", as part of "Migration, Integration, Identity: The Story of a City", a webinar designed for students by Bichitra Pathshala, September 17,18,19, 2021.
- 7. Part of a panel on "Epar bangla, Opar Bangla, Modhye KNatatar", organised online by Kali Kolom O Easel, 16.08.2020.
- **8.** "Gonoandolone meyera" at the Women's Day gathering organized by APDR, Tripura Hitasadhini Sabha, April 12, 2019, Kolkata.
- **9.** "Lingo, borno, jati", at the Women's Day gathering hosted by *Dosh Theke Dosh Hajar*, Ramamohan Library Hall, 8<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

10. 'Dalit Camera: Through Untouchable Eyes—Three Stories of our Times: Justice for Rohith Vemula, Una, Malkangiri'. At the Fourth Kolkata People's Film Festival, 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2017, Jogesh Mime Academy.

## **Professional Enhancement Courses**

- 1. Completed the Short Term Programme on Cultural Studies, organised by UGC MMMTC, Kannur University, 18.07.2024- 24.07.2024.
- 2. Completed the Short Term Programme on SDGs, Precarity and Literary Studies, organised by UGC MMMTC, University of Hyderabad, 1- 6 July, 2024.
- 3. Completed UGC Refresher Course in English organized by UGC HRDC, Aligarh Muslim University on the topic "World Literatures", 23.09.2021- 08.10.2021
- 4. Completed the MiReKoc International Summer School on "Research Methods and Ethics in Migration Studies", organized by KoC University, Istanbul, in collaboration with IMISCOE, 11-22 October, 2021.
- 5. Completed the 12 hour online course "The Digital Everyday" organized by National Institute of Technology, Silchar, in collaboration with Goldsmiths University of London.
- 6. Completed a 64 hour OPEN Online Teacher Training course on "Content Based Instruction" funded by US Govt. April 13- June 8, 2021.
- 7. Completed a 10 hour online course "Epidemics in Indian History", organized by Meghnad Desai Academy of Economics, 2020.
- 8. Completed the "Teaching Academic Writing Skills" course organized by the RELO, Embassy of the United States in India July- August 2020.
- 9. Completed the "Teaching Academic Reading Skills" course organized by the RELO, Embassy of the United States in India July- August 2020.
- 10. Completed 111th UGC Orientation programme organized by UGC HRDC, CU, 2015.
- 11. Completed UGC Refresher Course on "Texts and Their Afterlives", organized by UGC- HRDC JU, 2010.

## **Roundtables/ Discussions**

1. Moderated the final lecture of the series "City Lights" by Kaustubh Mani Sengupta, titled "One Great Graveyard of Memories: Forging the City in Twentieth Century Kolkata", organised by Calcutta Research Group and Canadian Institute for Advanced Research, on 31.05.2025, at Bangla Akademi, Kolkata.

- 2. Moderated the youth-led discussion titled "Rivers, hazards, urban Ecology and Activism", organised by Calcutta Research Group and Rotary Club, Darjeeling, in association with IWM-Vienna and CIFAR, on 27.03.2025, at Gymkhana Club, Darjeeling.
- 3. Discussed Soumyajit Acharya and Trishna Basak edited *hashtag Kalpabigyaner Kabita* at the book discussion organised by Shabda Kolkata Publishing House, 24.04.2025, at Pratikshna Boi Cha Ghar, Kolkata.
- 4. Discussed Sarmistha Dutta Gupta's *The Jallianwala Bagh Journals*, at the book discussion organised by Departments of Ancient Indian and World History and English, The Sanskrit College and University, on 24.04.2025, at SCU, Kolkata.
- 5. Discussed Simantini Mukhopadhyay's *Amar Hashi Pachhe Na*, published by Hatekhori, at the book discussion organised by the Department of English, The Sanskrit College and University, on 22.04.2025, at SCU, Kolkata.
- 6. Presented on "Fences, Goods and Police: Figurations of the Border in Manjira Saha's *Chhotoder Border*" in the Academic Lecture Series "Dispossession, Border and Exception in South Asia" organized by Speaking from the Margin on 17.12.2023
- 7. Moderated the public discussion "Digital Dilemmas: Democracy and Public Discourse Online", organized by Goethe Institut/ Max Mueller Bhavan, Kolkata on 30.11.2023

## Filmography

- 1. Co-producer, "Jilipibalar Bondhura/ Friends of Jilipibala", Directed by Debalina, Produced by Debalina-Samata, Kolkata 2025. Trailer link: https://youtu.be/xfeJgiiCc3A?feature=shared
- 2. Concept, script, research and voice over in "City of Transit", Directed by Debalina, Produced by Calcutta Research Group and IWM, Vienna, 2022. https://youtu.be/7ok5H-f7cz4
- 3. Concept, research and subtitle in "Tale of a Migrant City", Directed by Debalina, Produced by Calcutta Research Group and IWM, Vienna, 2020. <u>https://youtu.be/w5CnRwKd3p8</u>
- 4. Concept and research for "Calcutta a Migrant City", Directed by Saibal Mitra, produced by Calcutta Research Group. https://youtu.be/fpREEq7Ar-Y

Samata Biswas	2025