

Curriculum Vitae

Dr. Shoma Choudhury Lahiri

Assistant Professor

Department of Sociology
St. Xavier's College, (Autonomous)
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Educational Qualification:

Ph. D, Department of Sociology, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi.

M.Phil, Department of Sociology, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi.

M.A (Sociology) Department of Sociology, Delhi School of Economics.

B.A (Sociology) Stella Maris College, University of Madras.

Awards and Fellowships:

Visiting Fellow, Department of Sociology, Delhi School of Economics, Delhi 2016.

Jawaharlal Nehru Fellowship, granted by the Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Fund, New Delhi. 1998-1999

University Grants Commission (UGC)-Junior Research Fellowship (JRF-NET) 1991.

National Scholarship under the Center for Advanced Studies Scheme (N.S.C.A.S) for MA at Department of Sociology, Delhi School of Economics. (1989-91).

P. Venkamma Silver Medal for securing the first position in Sociology (B.A.) at Stella Maris College, Madras (1989)

Work Experience:

August 2007 to present: Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, St. Xavier's College Kolkata.

January 2007- July 2007: Sr. Lecturer Department of Management Studies, Future Institute of Engineering and Management, (affiliated to the West Bengal University of Technology), Kolkata.

July to Dec 2007: Guest Lecturer, Department of Sociology, Jadavpur University.

Jan 2007-May 2007: Guest Lecturer, Department of History, Jadavpur University.

2004-2005 and 2005-2006: Visiting Faculty, Future Institute of Engineering and Management, Sonarpur, Kolkata.

December 2000 to Aug 2003: Lecturer, Department of Sociology, University of Pune, Maharashtra.

1997-1998: Worked on an International Project on Social Science and Immunization (Country Study: India) with Prof. Veena Das and Dr. R.K. Das at the Centre for Development Economics, Delhi School of Economics. The Project was carried out as a joint collaboration between Centre for International Rural and Environmental Health, University of IOWA, USA and Centre for Development Economics, Delhi School of Economics, Delhi, India.

October 1993 to April 1994: Lecturer, Sri Venkateshwara College, Delhi University.

March to May 1993: Research Assistant, Indian Social Institute, New Delhi, with Dr. Walter Fernandes on an international project funded by the ILO in 1993.

Papers Presented:

Presented a paper titled '**Democratising Science : The People's Science Movement and the Pandemic**' at the 49th All India Sociological Conference organised by Indian Sociological Society at BML Munjal University, Gurugram, 22nd-24th December, 2024.

Presented a paper (with Srijoni Sanyal) titled '**Negotiating Technology : A Sociological Study of Elderly Citizens in Kolkata**' at ICSSR sponsored One day National Seminar under Vision Visit Bharat @2047 (Theme : Enhancing Quality of Life and Addressing Vulnerability Issues among India's Elderly Population) on 14th December, 2024 at St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Kolkata.

Presented a paper titled "**Crafting Relatedness : Citizen Aid in Kolkata during the Covid 19 Pandemic**" at an International Conference on 'Reflections on the Impact of Pandemics on People, Places and Communities: A Social Science Interdisciplinary Conference' organised by Social Science Research Council USA and Department of Geography, Loreto College, Kolkata on 26th July, 2023

Presented a paper titled '**Performing Tradition, Constructing Heritage : Work, Life and Social Transformation among the Kumbhakars**' at Review Meeting on Kumartuli, University of Calcutta (A Collaboration between University of Calcutta and University of Glasgow) on 16.09.2019

Presented a paper (with Jhumpa Mukherjee) '**Environment 'in Politics : A Socio-Political Analysis of Political Manifestos and Media Representations**' at International Conference on Emerging Perspectives in Commerce, Economics, Environment and Management - Transformations in the Global Economy on 13th-14th September 2019 organised by Department of Commerce, St. Xavier's College, Bengal National Chamber of Commerce and Micro Small and Medium Enterprises and Textiles (MSME), Government of West Bengal.

Presented a paper titled '**Celebrating Science as Culture : The Science Fairs of Kolkata**' at the 43rd All India Sociological Conference held at the University of Lucknow, from 9th -12th November, 2017

Presented a paper at the South Asian Studies Department, National University of Singapore on 2nd Nov, 2016 titled '**Doing Ethnography : On Researching the People's Science Movement in Kerala.**'

Presented a joint paper (with Dr. Runa Das Chaudhuri) titled '**Dressing up 'patriarchies 'and 'modernities ': The predictable case of Humpty Sharma Ki Dulhania**' at the 40th All India Sociological Conference, held at Mahatma Gandhi Kashi Vidyapeeth, Varanasi, 29th -1st Dec 2014.

Participated in a Workshop on Science for Inclusive Growth on 21st Oct, 2014 organised by the Science Policy Unit at S.N Bose National Centre for Basic Sciences, Kolkata.

Presented a paper titled '**Studying Science as Culture in the City: Some Methodological Reflections**' at the 4th Anjan Ghosh Memorial Workshop 2014, organised by the Centre for the Studies in Social Sciences, Kolkata on 18th Oct, 2014.

Presented a paper titled "**Politicising Nature : Science Groups and Environmental Activism**" in Kolkata in a one day seminar on Social Movements in Contemporary India organised by Rajiv Gandhi Institute for Contemporary Studies (RGICS), New Delhi on 30th October, 2013.

Participated in a Round Table on Research Writing and Publication organised by UGC-TISS-EPW at Hyderabad Central University, Hyderabad, 25th to 27th November, 2011.

Presented a paper titled '**Environmental Studies in Schools : Issues in Pedagogy and Citizenship**' (in the Research Committee 11 on Environment and Society) at the 36th All India Sociological Conference, held at Ravenshaw University, Cuttack, 27th to 29th December, 2010.

Presented a paper titled '**Alternative Development or Developmentalism? : A Narrative of the Peoples' Science Movement in Kerala**' at a National Seminar on Discourses of Development organised by the Department of Sociology, University of Burdwan, 13th and 14th March, 2010.

Presented a Paper titled '**Environmental Interventions of a People's Movement**' at the Tata Energy Research Institute (TERI), New Delhi on Ecology and Development 23rd April, 2007

Presented a paper titled '**Creating a Public Understanding of Science: The case of the Kerala Sastra Sahitya Parishad**' at the Science, Technology and Society Studies Research Workshop, organised by the Centre for Studies in Science Policy, Jawaharlal Nehru University, in association with NISTADS, New Delhi and Society for the Promotion of Science and Technology Studies, at the School of Social Sciences, JNU, New Delhi, 25th to 27th March, 2004.

Presented a paper titled '**The making of a Scientific Ethics and Ethos: the Peoples 'Science Movement in Kerala**' at the 9th Cultural Studies Workshop organized by the Center for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta, (CSSSC), Roskilde University of Denmark, Centre for Basic Research, Kampala, Uganda and SEPHIS International Institute of Social History (IISH), the Netherlands, at NIAS Bangalore 2nd to 7th February, 2004.

Participated and presented a paper at the ISA International Laboratory for Ph D Students in Social Sciences held at Brisbane, Australia, 30th June to 6th July 2002. The paper was '**On Methodological Issues in Fieldwork.**'

Participated and presented a paper on '**The Peoples 'Science Movement in Kerala: A Social Movement?**' in a Young Scholars 'Workshop held at the Department of Sociology, University of Pune on 15th –17th of March, 2002.

Presented a paper in a workshop on Beyond Boundaries: Field, Self and Method, at the Department of Sociology, Delhi School of Economics, Delhi University in February 2000. The paper was titled, '**On studying a Social Movement: Field, Self and Method**'.

Presented a paper at an International Conference on Kerala's Development: National and Global Dimensions at IIC, New Delhi, 8-11 December 1996. The paper was titled '**Reading the Word and the World: The Case of Kerala Sastra Sahitya Parishad.**

Invited Lectures/Talks

Guest lecture (invited) on '**New Social Movements : A Sociological Overview**' delivered as part of the Department Special Lecture Series on 27th May, 2025 at the Department of Sociology, West Bengal State University, Barasat.

Invited Talk (Online) titled '**Democratising Science : The People's Science Movement and the Pandemic**' delivered at Equinox- 4th Annual International Conference (Theme : Systems of Knowledge in India : Moving towards self reliance) organised by Centre for Research, IQAC and Maitreyi College, New Delhi September 4 to 6, 2024.

Invited Lecture (Online) titled "**Gender and Intersectionality**" delivered at the Department of Bengali, Haldia Government College (in association with IQAC) on 11th August, 2024.

Invited Lecture (online) titled "**Women's Movement in India**" delivered at the Department of Bengali, Haldia Government College (in association with IQAC) on 23rd June, 2024

Invited as a Resource Person to give a lecture titled "**Understanding India : Exploring Institutions and Identities**" at the Department of Education, St. Xavier's College, Kolkata on 12th April, 2023 as part of Foundation Course.

Invited as a Resource Person to give a lecture titled "**Sticking with Ethnography through Thick and Thin : Reflections on the Ethnographic Practice in Sociology**" on 5th April, 2023 at Muralidhar Girl's College, Gariahat, Kolkata in a Certificate Course on "Quality Enhancement Workshop: Methodologies of Social Research " organised jointly by P.N. Das college, Palta; Bijoy Krishna Girls' College, Howrah; Muralidhar Girls' College, Gariahat and Indian Association for Asian and Pacific Studies from 29th March 2023 to 11th April 2023.

Invited Lecture titled "**Contemporary India : Modernity, Identity and Conflicts**" delivered at St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Kolkata on 9th December, 2022 to Exchange Students of Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia.

Invited Lecture titled "**Understanding Marginalization : An Intersectional Perspective**" delivered on the occasion of All India Catholic University Federation (AICUF) Day 26th November, 2022, St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Kolkata

Invited Lecture (Online) titled "**Gender, Citizenship and Activism**" organised by the Department of Sociology, University of Connecticut on 26th April, 2022

Invited Lecture (Online) titled "**A Socio-Political Study of Minority Women's Participation in Recent Social Movements**" in a Webinar organised by History Association, Rajdhani College, University of Delhi on 30th November, 2021.

Invited Lecture (Online) titled "**Evolving a New Language of Protest ? : Women in the Anti-CAA Movement.**" in an International Webinar organised by the IGNOU Kolkata Regional Centre on 18th July, 2021.

Invited Lecture (Online) titled '**Environmental Movements : Some Contemporary Trends**' organised by Department of Sociology, South Calcutta Girls College, Kolkata on 8th July, 2021.

Invited Lecture (Online) titled '**Coping with the Pandemic : The Migrant Workers in India**' organised by Department of Social and Behavioural Science (Sociology program), West Virginia State University, USA on 26th March, 2021.

Invited as a Resource Person to participate in a panel discussion on '**The Pandemic and Lockdown : A New Challenge for People with Disabilities**' organised by Spriha Society, Kolkata on 12th September, 2020.

Participated in a panel discussion on **Women's Empowerment : Myth or Reality** organised by Maheshtala College, Kolkata on 3rd March 2020.

Invited Lecture on Community Development at One Day Seminar organised by the Department of Adult and Continuing Education, Rabindra Bharati University on 2nd March, 2020.

Invited Extension Lecture titled "**Vernacular Publics and the Promise of Sociology**" at the Department of Sociology, Vidyasagar University, Medinipur on 28th March, 2019

Invited Lecture titled "**The Educational Imperatives of a Social Movement : Reflections from Kerala Sastra Sahitya Parishad**" delivered at the Department of Education, St. Xavier's College, Kolkata on 5th March 2019 as part of the Foundation Course, Department of Education.

Invited Lecture titled '**Contemporary Contributions of Feminism to Sociology : An Overview**' delivered at the Department of Women's Studies, Vidyasagar University, Medinipur 13th February, 2019 on the occasion of their 4th Winter School on Recent Themes in Women's Studies : Relevance of a Multidisciplinary Approach.

Invited Lecture '**The Spectre of Corruption : A Citizen's Role**' delivered at Ishapore Rifle Factory on 3rd November, 2018 on the occasion of Central Vigilance Week 29th October - 3rd November, 2018

Invited Lecture delivered at St. Xavier's College Kolkata on 21st September, 2017 for students of Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia titled '**Indian Society : Continuities and Changes**'.

Invited Lecture delivered at the Department of Sociology, Sri Venkateshwara College, New Delhi titled "**Middle Class Anxieties : Sociological Explorations**" on 29th January, 2016

Membership in Professional Societies:

Indian Sociological Society
Sociological Association of West Bengal

Courses Taught:**Full Time Position:**

a) Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, St. Xavier's College, Kolkata 2007 to the present (undergraduate)

Post graduate level :

Contemporary India (shared)
Science, Technology and Society (Full)
Urban Sociology (shared)

Undergraduate Level :

Social Stratification and Social Mobility (sole instructor since 2007, shared since 2017)
Introducing India- I
Social Challenges and Movements
Introducing India – II
Social Theory-II (shared)
Social Institutions -III (shared)
Environmental Sociology (shared)

b) Senior Lecturer, Future Institute of Engineering and Management, West Bengal University of Technology, 2007 (Level : Undergraduate and Post graduate)

Indian Social Structure : (Two semesters)
Industrial Management : (One semester)
Business Communication : (One semester)

c) Lecturer, University of Pune 2000-2003 (Level : Post graduate)

Indian Society: Structure and Change
Ecology, Environment and Society
Sociology of Social Movements
Sociology of Science
Contemporary Trends in Indian Society

d) Lecturer, Sri Venkateshwara College, University of Delhi 1993-94 (Level : Undergraduate)

Social Stratification,
Sociology of Kinship

e) Part Time/Visiting Position :

Jadavpur University, Kolkata, 2007 (Level : Undergraduate and Post graduate)
Tribes in India, B.A (Hons), History- One Semester
Sociology of Environment, M.A – One Semester

Future Institute of Engineering and Management, Sonarpur 2004-2006 (Under WBUT) (Level : Undergraduate and Post graduate)

Indian Social Structure: (Two semesters), BBA and MBA
Entrepreneurship Development: (One semester), MBA

IIM, Kolkata 2012 (Level : Post graduate)
Indian Social Structure (One trimester), MBA students Jan-March 2012

d) Department of Social Work, St. Xavier's University, Rajarhat, Kolkata

Grants Received

Intra-Mural Grant 2023 No. IMSXC2022-23/003, a sum of 1,60,000 given as a One Time Grant. The project is on **‘Science City and Science Fairs in Kolkata : A sociological study of Science Popularisation in the Kolkata City’** (Status : Ongoing)

Editorial Experience:

Member, Editorial Board. Sikh Research Journal (an international, open access, peer-reviewed online journal) for the Special Issue on Farmer's Movements. 2021-2022. (Volume 6, No 1, 2 & 3)

Publications

Book:

2020. Doing Social Research: Qualitative Methods of Research in Sociology. Orient Blackswan. New Delhi. ISBN 978-93-5287-920-5

Publication in Journals

2025. Democratising Science ? : The People's Science Movement and the Pandemic *Vantage : Journal of Thematic Analysis* 6 (1), 24-28. [https ://doi.org/10.52253/vjta.2025.v06i01.2](https://doi.org/10.52253/vjta.2025.v06i01.2) ISSN (E) : 2582-7391

2025. (with Rianka Roy, Bandana Purkayastha, Dinesh Rajak, Deepa Ebenezer) Relational Counter-publics: Media Discourses on the COVID Delta Variant Surge in India. *Current Sociology* (1-20). SAGE. <https://doi.org/10.1177/00113921251337088>.

2021. Mending the Social ? : Reflections on Farmer's Agitations in Contemporary India *Sikh Research Journal* Vol 6. No 2. 21-32

2021. Women's struggles over religion and citizenship in contemporary India *Contemporary South Asia* Special Section: Lived Religions of South Asian Hindu and Muslim Woman. Vol 29 : 2, 281-287

2020. The role of religion in building terrains of peace (with Miho Iwata and Bandana Purakayastha) *Journal of Transdisciplinary Peace Praxis* Vol 2. No 2 : 119-142. ISSN 2631-746x (Print) and 2631-7478 (online)

2012. Dressing the Feminine Body (with Sarbani Bandyopadhyay) in *Economic and Political Weekly* Vol XLVII No. 46, November 17, pp 20-24. ISSN (Print) - 0012-9976

2010. Revisiting the National Youth Policy (with Jhumpa Mukherjee) in *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol 45, No. 26 and 27, June 26-July 9, pp 32- 34. ISSN (Print) - 0012-9976

Book Chapters:

2024. Intractable Conflicts : Environmental Struggles in Neoliberal India in Biswajit Ghosh (ed) *Exploring Social Movements : Theories, Experiences and Trends*. New Delhi : Routledge 285-303 ISBN 978-1-0326-6645-7 <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003481744-15>

2024. Citizens 'Groups and grassroots humanitarianism in Silke Roth, Bandana Purkayastha and Tobias Denskus (ed) *Handbook of Humanitarianism and Inequality* Edward Elgar Publishing. UK. 178-191. ISBN : 978- 1- 80220- 654- 8 <https://doi.org/10.4337/9781802206555.0021>

2023. Addressing Precarity? : Social Movements, Public Policy and Social Transformation in Dominic Savio, Samrat Roy, Saswati Chaudhuri (ed) *Transforming Our World Together : Towards Sustainable Development*. Cambridge Scholars Publishing. Newcastle. 295-ISBN 978-1-5275-8995-7

2021. Performing Tradition, Constituting Heritage : Work, Life and Social Transformation among the Kumbhakars in Kumartuli in Samir Kumar Das and Bishnupriya Basak (ed) *The Making of the Goddess Durga in Bengal : Art, Heritage and the Public*. Springer Nature, Singapore. 113-128. ISBN 978-981-16-0262-7 https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-16-0263-4_5

2020. Doing Ethnography: On Researching the People's Science Movement in Kerala in Shoma Choudhury Lahiri (ed) *Doing Social Research: Qualitative Methods of Research in Sociology*. Orient Blackswan : New Delhi. 228-251. ISBN 978-93-5287-920-5

2020. Environmental Movements in Biswajit Ghosh (ed) *Social Movements: Concepts, Experiences and Concerns* SAGE Texts. New Delhi. 248- 263. ISBN 978-93-532-8739-9

2018. Negotiating Marginality : Women activists in the People's Science Movement, Kerala in Asmita Bhattacharya and Sudeep Basu (ed) *Marginalities in India : Themes and Perspectives* Springer Nature, Singapore. 193-204. ISBN 978-981-10-5214-9 https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-10-5215-6_14

2012. From Alternative Development to Developmentalism? : A Narrative of a People's Science Movement in Biswajit Ghosh (ed) *Interrogating Development: Discourses on Development in India*, Rawat. Jaipur. pp 263-281. ISBN : 978-81-316-0476-2.

Reports, Reviews

2025. Bhargava Rashi and Richa Chillana (ed) Punching Up in Stand- Up Comedy : Speaking Truth to Power. Oxon and New York : Routledge. 2023. in *Vantage : A Journal of Thematic Analysis*. Vol 6 (1) : 42-43 ISSN (E) : 2582-7391

2022. Chancel Lucas. Unsustainable Inequalities : Social Justice and the Environment. The Bellknap Press of the Harvard University Press. 2020 in *Contributions to Indian Sociology* 56 : 22, 234-236

2017. Savyasaachi and Ravi Kumar (ed) Social Movements: Transformative Shifts and Turning Points. New Delhi. Routledge 2014 in *Contributions to Indian Sociology* Vol 51, No 1 : 132-134

2008. Commuting Women Domestic Workers in Kolkata: A Study (Report Commissioned by Parichiti, India and Chapel Neer, Japan)

2007. Ramgopal Agarwala, Nagesh Kumar and Michelle Riboud (eds), Reforms, Labour Markets and Social Security in India New Delhi Oxford University Press 2004 in *International Review of Books*, 22 (5)

2006. Violence against Girls in School Education: An Exploratory Study, 2006. (Report Commissioned by Action Aid- India)

2006. Radhika Chopra and Patricia Jeffrey (eds.) Educational Regimes in Contemporary India New Delhi. Sage Publications. 2005 in *Sociological Bulletin*, 55 (3), pp. 492-494. (Book Review)

2004. K. C. Zachariah, K.P. Kannan and S. Irudaya Rajan eds., Kerala's Gulf Connection: CDS Studies in International Labour Migration from Kerala State in India. Thiruvananthapuram: Center for Development Studies, 2002 in *Contributions to Indian Sociology* (n.s) 38, 3. (Book Notice)

2004. Adrian Franklin, Nature and Social Theory. London. Sage Publications, 2002 in *Contributions to Indian Sociology* (n.s.) 38, 3 (Book Notice)

2001. Sociology Curriculum: Old Problems, New Approaches in *Economic and Political Weekly*, April 28-May 4, 2001. (Report)

2000. The Multiverse of Democracy by Ashis Nandy and D.L. Sheth (eds). in *Contributions to Indian Sociology*, May 2000. (Book Review)

1993. Fernandes Walter, Shoma Chaudhary, Manisha Rao, Nita Mishra. 1993. Deforestation, Displacement and Impoverishment of Tribals: Are Tribal Sub-Plans the Solution? Indian Social Institute. New Delhi. (Report of a study sponsored by ILO)

Other Publications:

2024. Grey Manifestos (with Jhumpa Mukherjee). The Telegraph. 5.03.2024

2019. For a Cleaner, Greener Kolkata : An Interview with Subhash Dutta in The Xaverian, St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Kolkata

Conferences/Workshops Organised :

1. Co-Convenor, National Conference on **Women's Issues and Everyday Life : Power, Resistance and Representation**, St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Kolkata 10th-11th January 2020

2. Local Organising Committee, International Conference on **Contemporary Caste, Gender and Minority Questions in West Bengal and Bangladesh : Some Explorations** at St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Kolkata with Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, Ambedkar University, Delhi and Nagorik Udyog, Dhaka and Observer Research Foundation, Kolkata 31st Oct -2nd Nov, 2019

3. Organiser, Monthly Research Colloquium, Department of Sociology, St. Xavier's College, Kolkata (2014-2018, 2020-)

4. Organiser and Co-Convenor, ICSSR-ERC funded National Workshop cum Orientation Program of SC/STs and Other Marginalised Communities titled **Identities, Mobility and Wellbeing** on 26th-27th September 2015, St. Xavier's College, Kolkata.

5. Organising Committee, Annual Conference, Sociological Association of West Bengal (SAWB) at St. Xavier's College, Kolkata, 12th December 2009

MOOC Courses :

1. Resource Person for 13 modules of MOOC Courses on Introduction to Sociology -I
2. Resource Person for 8 modules of E-pg Pathshala titled 'Agrarian Relations and Social Structure in India'.
3. Resource Person for 3 modules of E-pg Pathshala titled 'Social Movements' and 'Methods of Sociological Research'.

Faculty Development Courses :

1. Refresher Course organised by Academic Staff College, Jadavpur University (2009)
2. Orientation Course organised by Jadavpur University HRDC (2018)
3. Refresher Course organised by the HRDC University of Hyderabad (2020)
4. Refresher Course organised by HRDC Gujarat University (2022)

Administrative Experience:

1. Officer-in-Charge of Examinations, Arts and Science Departments (2015-16), St. Xavier's College, Kolkata
2. Head, Department of Sociology, St. Xavier's College, Kolkata (2014-2018)

Personal Details :

Sex Female

Nationality	Indian
Knowledge of Languages:	English, Hindi, Bengali.
Residential Address	Flat No 3 A, Block 2 'Silver Square' 91, Brij East, PATULI Kolkata 700 084