
Dr SOHINI SAHA

Assistant Professor

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EXPERIENCE

St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Kolkata - Assistant Professor

AUGUST 2023 - PRESENT

Jogesh Chandra Chaudhuri College, Calcutta University, Kolkata -

State Aided College Teacher

JANUARY 2020 - AUGUST 2023

Jadavpur University, Kolkata - Visiting Faculty

August 2017 - PRESENT

Jogesh Chandra Chaudhuri College, Calcutta University, Kolkata -

Guest Faculty

AUGUST 2015 - DECEMBER 2019

Presidency University, Kolkata - Visiting Faculty

AUGUST 2016 - DECEMBER 2016

EDUCATION

Jadavpur University, Department of Sociology, Kolkata- PHD

DECEMBER 2022

UGC CBSE NET in Sociology

JUNE 2015

Presidency University, Department of Sociology, Kolkata - Masters

Degree of Arts

2012 - 2014

St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Department of Sociology, Kolkata

- Degree

2009 - 2012

**Hirendra Leela Patranavis School (Formerly Better High School),
Kolkata - ISC**

Year of Passing 2009

**Hirendra Leela Patranavis School (Formerly Better High School),
Kolkata - ISC**

Year of Passing 2007

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

PhD Thesis: My PhD Thesis titled “Bayam, Male Body and Masculinity: An Exploration of the Bayam Samitis and Akharas of Kolkata” is an ethnographic study in the bayam samitis and akharas of Kolkata to understand the male body in bayam (exercise). My thesis explores not only the political history of bayam samitis (traditional gymnasiums) of Kolkata, Bengal through historical ethnography but also studies the place and space of the samitis and akharas, the concept of health, brahmacharya and breathing in bayam, and the place of bodily pain in these embodied practices of body cultivation.

Research Assistant under Lauren Wilks, University of Edinburgh (1 year)

PhD Research Assistant in Sociology on Gender, Migration and Domestic Labour in West Bengal, India. August 2015 - May 2016

Masters Thesis on “Understanding Masculinity: A Sociological Study on Men and ‘their’ Masculinity” under the supervision of Dr. Nabamita Das at **Department of Sociology, Presidency University, Kolkata**

Under-Graduate Thesis “Musical Madness: A Sociological Analysis of Commercialization of Music” under the supervision of Humaira Chowdhury at **Department of Sociology, St Xavier’s College, Kolkata**

FIELDS OF INTERESTS

Gender Studies, Masculinities Studies, Sexuality Studies, Sociology and Anthropology of the body, Sociology and Anthropology of health, South Asian Studies, Poetry and Politics.

PUBLICATIONS

- **The Politics of Horror in a Totalitarian Regime** in Cafe Dissensus. Issue 65. December 30, 2022. ISSN: 2373-177X [<https://cafedissensus.com/2022/12/30/the-politics-of-horror-in-a-totalitarian-regime/>]
- **The Politics of Semen** in Cafe Dissensus. Issue 64. November 13, 2022. ISSN: 2373-177X [<https://cafedissensus.com/2022/11/13/the-politics-of-semen/>]
- **The Phallus in the Practice of Brahmachaya** in Journal of Bodies, Sexualities, and Masculinities, Berghahn Journals. (Peer-Reviewed). Vol. 3, No. 1 (March 2022): 38–56. ISSN: 2688-8149 (print) 2688-8157 (online). doi: 10.3167/jbsm.2022.030105
- **Virile Men, Healthy Bodies: Exploring Interiority and Masculinity in Bayam Culture** in ‘Reimagi(ni)ng Identities in the Global South: Challenges, Transgressions and Articulations’ in The IACLALS Journal. (Peer-Reviewed). Vol. 6, 2020: 191-200. ISSN: 2395-1206
- **The Little Protesters: Shaheen Bagh and its Children** in Cafe Dissensus. Issue 55. September 29, 2020. ISSN: 2373-177X. [<https://cafedissensus.com/2020/09/28/the-little-protesters-shaheen-bagh-and-its-children/>]
- **Bengal, Body and Bayam: Masculinising Colonial India** in Journal of Sociology Jadavpur University (Peer-Reviewed). Vol 11, No. 11. March 2020: 175-196. ISSN: 0976-5212

CONFERENCE/SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

- **‘Shaheen Bagh and the Politics of Precarity’** accepted at IAWS National conference 2023 under the sub-theme “Contemporary Women's Movements: Grassroots, New Forms, Strategies, and Challenges” to be held between 7-10th September 2023 at Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.
- **‘The Bio-Moral Politics of Semen’** Presented at the National Conference on ‘Health, Science and Society’ at Manipal Centre for Humanities, Manipal, on 10th February 2023 at Manipal, Karnataka, India.
- **“The ‘Poetics and Politics’ of Love and Resistance in Faiz Ahmad Faiz’s Poetry”** presented at the International Seminar on ‘Angarey and The Progressive Writers’ Movement’, organized by Department of English, Avadh Girls’ Degree College and Indian Association for

Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies, held on 16th and 17th of December 2022 at Lucknow.

- **'Embodied Interdependence: Covid 19 and the Shared World'** for the seminar on Negotiating the Pandemic: Voices of the Youth organized by Indian Sociological Society RC 24 and Sister Nivedita University, Department of Sociology on 12th September 2022. Kolkata, India.
- **'Rethinking Pain and Body in the Context of Everyday'** presented at the Two-Day offline Seminar on Exploring Aspects of Everyday Life Organized by the RC 28 of the Indian Sociological Society and Institute of Development Studies, Kolkata, India on 27th and 28th June, 2022.
- **'Gendered Encounter: Colonialism, Effeminacy and the Rise of Bayam Samities in Bengal, India'** presented at international conference at Dalhousie University, Nova Scotia, Canada, Graduate History Conference, "Encountering Colonialism: Land, Lives, and Legacies," on 19th March 2022.
- **'Virile Men, Healthy Bodies: Identities in Transition from 'Health' to 'Fitness' in Bayam Culture'** Presented at International Conference on "Re-imagi(n)g Identities: Challenges, Transgressions and Articulation" organized by Indian Association for Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies (IACLALS) in association with Department of English, Jadavpur University from February 5-7, 2020.
- **"Gandhian Ethics and the Politics of Precarity"** presented at the National Seminar on "Revisiting Gandhi at 150", in the Department of Political Science, Presidency University and Council for Political Studies on 28th January, 2020. Kolkata, India.
- **Building Bodies, Masculinizing Spaces: Akhara as an Everyday Culture'** presented at the National Seminar in "Sociology and the Everyday: Possibilities and Perspectives", Department of Sociology, Jadavpur University on 19-20th September, 2019. Kolkata, India.
- **'Body, Bayam and Bengal: Understanding Masculinity in Colonial Bengal'** presented at the Annual Research Scholars Conference, Department of History, University of Delhi in March 2019. Delhi, India.
- **'Male Body and Pain: The Absent- Presence of Masculinity'** accepted at the 26th Annual Conference of American Men's Studies Association on "Bodies, Sexualities, Masculinities", at Minneapolis, March 2018. USA.
- **'ReThinking Rape'**, in 'Gender and Society', Students' Seminar on Gender Awareness week organized by Presidency University Students' Union Council at Presidency University, Kolkata, India on 26th March 2015.

INVITED TALKS/LECTURES

Delivered a Talk on PORICHOY- A Webinar on "what is gender" as a Guest Speaker **organized by Rotaract Club of Calcutta West Ridge and Rotaract Club of Calcutta North East** on 29th October, 2022.Kolkata, India.

Judged an academic paper presentation session at Jadavpur University Women's Conclave (JUWC) - (A New Wave of Feminism: Deconstructing the Future) on 13th March 2022 at Jadavpur University.

Delivered a lecture on "Ethnography" in PG Diploma Course in Society, Religion and Social Work on 01.09.2021 at **The Center for the Study of Religion and Society, Jadavpur University.**

Delivered a lecture on "Religion and Nationalism" in PG Diploma Course in Society, Religion and Social Work on 18.08.2021 at **The Center for the Study of Religion and Society, Jadavpur University.**

Editorial Assistance for the Jadavpur University, Journal of Sociology, 2020-21.

Judged an academic paper presentation at Indian Sociological Society RC 24, Department of Sociology, Jadavpur University and Teach for India: session on Child Rights and Sustainable Development Goals in the Youth Convention on the Rights of the Child held on 25th September 2019 at Jadavpur University.