

Suchandra Ghosh, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor in Sociology
West Bengal Education Service
Rani Indira Debi Government Girls' College
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Jhargram, West Bengal (India)
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Education:

● **PhD, Sociology of Law, Religion and Gender**

Dissertation Title: *A Sociological Study of Adjudication at Darul-Qaza: Personal Law, Personal Disputes and the Question of Legal Pluralism*

Dissertation Supervisor: Dr. Anindita Chakrabarti
Department of Humanities and Social Sciences,
Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, November 2019
Uttar Pradesh

Secured **10 CPI** on a ten-point scale in PhD-Coursework.

● **MPhil, Sociology of Education**

Dissertation Title: *Sociocultural and Linguistic factors affecting the Progress of Tribal Children in Elementary Education: A Study in Three villages of Purulia district, West Bengal*

Dissertation Supervisor: Dr. Sreekanth Yagnamurthy
National University of Educational Planning and Administration (NUEPA), New Delhi,
June 2013

Secured 7.25 CPI on a ten-point scale.

● **MA, Sociology**

University of Hyderabad, June 2010
Secured 8.38 CPI on a ten-point scale

● **BA (Honours), Sociology**

Lady Brabourne College, Kolkata, July 2008
Secured 60.88 % at Calcutta University

● **Awards and Distinctions:**

- Junior Fellowship during May-June 2019 to work in the project on Multiple Secularities at **Leipzig University, Germany**.
 - Selected to present the paper, “Adjudication of ‘Personal’ Law: An Ethnography of Judicial Reasoning in Sharia and Civil Courts of Kanpur (India)” and awarded a **Travel Grant** for the conference, Secularities-Patterns of Distinction, Paths of Differentiation held on 4-6 October 2018 at **Leipzig University, Germany**.
 - **Travel grant** by the Indian Council for Social Science Research to present at the *3rd ISA Forum of Sociology at Vienna, Austria* held in July 2016
 - Institute Senior Research Fellowship (**IIT Kanpur**) from **July 2015 to June 2018**
 - Institute Junior Research Fellowship (**IIT Kanpur**) from **July 2013 to July 2015**
 - Ministry of Human Resource and Development Fellowship from July 2011 to May 2013.
 - Secured First position in MPhil.
 - Awarded First Class with Distinction in Masters
 - Awarded First Class in B.A (Honours) in Sociology
 - Awarded General Proficiency Prize for ICSE result
 - Qualified UGC-NET for eligibility for lectureship in Sociology (2012)
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● **Publications:**

Research Papers:

- 1) **Anindita Chakrabarti, Mujeebu Rahman and Suchandra Ghosh (2022):** Of Marriage, Divorce and Criminalization: Reflections on the Triple Talaq Judgment in India in the **Journal of Legal Anthropology**, Vol. 6(1), pp. 24-48.
- 2) **Suchandra Ghosh and Anindita Chakrabarti (2021):** “Religion-based ‘Personal’ Law, Legal Pluralism and Secularity: A Field View of Adjudication of Muslim Personal Law in India” Published in the **Oxford Journal of Law and Religion**, Vol. 10(2), pp. 254-274.
- 3) **Suchandra Ghosh and Anindita Chakrabarti (2020):** ‘Adjudication of Personal Law and the Question of Secularity: An Analysis of Judicial Practice in Sharia Courts of Uttar Pradesh,’ *In Religion and Secularities: Reconfigurations of Islam in Contemporary India* edited by Anindita Chakrabarti and Sudha Sitharaman, 161-190, Orient Blackswan, New Delhi.
- 4) **Suchandra Ghosh and Anindita Chakrabarti.** “Religion-based ‘Personal’ Law, Legal Pluralism and Secularity: A Field View of Adjudication of Muslim Personal Law in India” Working Paper Series of the HCAS “**Multiple Secularities – Beyond the West, Beyond Modernities**” 16. Leipzig University, 2019.
- 5) **Anindita Chakrabarti and Suchandra Ghosh (2017):** ‘View from a Muslim Ghetto in Kanpur: Judicial Reform vs Adjudication of Personal Law,’ *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol 52 (49), 12-14, 9 December.
- 6) **Suchandra Ghosh and Anindita Chakrabarti (2015):** ‘Kaumi Ek Jayate: A Call for Interfaith Unity,’ *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol-L No.26&27, 25-27, 27 June.

Book Reviews:

- **Suchandra Ghosh**, (2020): Book review of *Divorcing Traditions: Islamic Marriage Law and the Making of Indian Secularism*. Cornell UP (2019) with the *Political and Legal Anthropology Review (PoLAR)*.
- **Suchandra Ghosh** (2019): Book review of *Pentecostalism and Politics of Conversion in India*, Cambridge University Press with the *Asian Journal of Social Science* (Brill, National University of Singapore), Vol. 47 (4& 5): 648-650.

Syllabus and Curriculum Development

- Self-learning Postgraduate study material in Sociology Module IV: Addressing Gendered Violence: Politics and Public Policy prepared for **Netaji Subhas Open University, Kolkata**.

● Conference and Workshop Presentations:

- Presented a paper titled “The Predicaments of Ritual matters and Social Justice: the case of Santal and Munda tribes of Midnapur in West Bengal” at the **ICSSR –sponsored international seminar titled “Envisioning Janjatiya Gaurav: The Legacy of Birsa Munda and the Decolonisation of ‘Global’ Indigenous Studies**, “organised by Durgapur Women’s College, Durgapur, West Bengal, India, from 26th to 28th March 2025.
- Presented a paper on “**Religion, Gender, and Law in a secular democracy: A Sociological Exploration of Civil Marriage Law in India**” at the **Indian Anthropology Congress, 2025 held from 21st to 23rd February, 2025 at Kolkata**.
- Presented a paper on “**Of Marriage, Divorce and Criminalization: Folk Tales and Narratives on Muslim Personal Law Reform in India**” at the Five day Workshop on “**World of Folk Narratives: Universality, Varieties and Methodology**” held from 23rd to 28th January, 2025 at the Asiatic Society, Kolkata.
- Served as Resource Person in the One-Day Workshop on ‘**Framing of UG Syllabus of Sociology in view of CCFUP (NEP, 2020)** organized jointly by Dept. of Sociology & Office of the UG Secretary, held on September’ 23, 2024 at Vidyasagar University.
- Presented **Marriage, Plurality and Secularism: Sociological Exploration of Civil Marriage Law in India** in the **The Asian Conference on Arts & Humanities (ACAH2024)** held on May 23-27 in Tokyo, Japan.
- Presented **Religion, Family, and Gender in a Secular Democracy: A Sociological Exploration of the Civil Marriage Law in Kolkata** in the Two-day International Conference on Gender Studies held on 27-28 September 2023 at NIT Surathkal.
- Presented **Personal Law, Legal Pluralism and Secularity: Ethnography of Adjudication in India** in the Grameen Lecture Series under Rural Development and Governance Program, School of Livelihoods and Development, TISS Hyderabad (Off-Campus) on October 28, 2021.
- Conducted a **Workshop** on Qualitative Research Methods at the Department of Psychology, **Vishwakarma University, Pune** on Sept 24, 2021.

- Paper titled “Religion-based ‘Personal’ Law, Legal Pluralism and Secularity: A Field View of Adjudication under Muslim Personal Law in India” presented at the *Workshop on Plural Ideas of Justice Stories, Narratives and Experiences from India* held at the **Indian Institute of Technology Bombay on April 23-24, 2021.**
- Paper titled “Religion-Based ‘Personal’ Law, Legal Pluralism: A Field-view of Adjudication of Muslim Personal Law in India,” presented at the **IV ISA Forum of Sociology (Feb 20-23, 2021) held in Port Alegre, Brazil.**
- Invited to present the paper, “Religion-based ‘Personal’ Law, Legal Pluralism and Secularity: A Field-view of Adjudication under Muslim Personal Law in India” at the **Uppsala Religion and Society Research Centre (CRS), Uppsala University on 9 October 2019.**
- Invited to present the paper, ‘Personal Law, Plurality and the Question of the Secular: An Ethnography of Adjudication from Kanpur’ at the Workshop, **Religion, Civil Society, and Personal (Family) Law Reform in Post-Colonial Nation-States: Interrogating Secularity in India and Beyond** at **Leipzig University on 25 June 2019.**
- Selected to present the paper, ‘Adjudication of ‘Personal’ Law: An Ethnography of Judicial Reasoning in Sharia and Civil Courts of Kanpur (India)’ at the conference, **Secularities-Patterns of Distinction, Paths of Differentiation** held in **October 2018 at the Leipzig University.**
- ‘Adjudication of Personal Law and the Question of Secularity: An Analysis of Judicial Practice in Sharia Courts of Uttar Pradesh’ at the **43rd All India Sociological Conference at Lucknow organised by the University of Lucknow, November 2017.**
- ‘Legal Pluralism, Documents and Evidence: Exploring Judicial Reasoning in the Religious and Civil Courts of Kanpur’ at the LASSNet Conference organized by the **Center for Study of Law and Governance, Jawaharlal Nehru University in collaboration with the National Law University of Delhi, O.P. Jindal Global University and the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, December 2016.**
- ‘Courts, Law and Judges: An Ethnography of Judicial Reasoning in Sharia and Civil Courts’ at the **Third ISA Forum of Sociology at Vienna, organised by the University of Vienna, July 2016.**

- ‘Gendered Experience in Marriage, Divorce and Property: An Ethnography of Judicial Reasoning in Sharia Court’ **at the International Conference on Sociology of Religion in A Pluralistic Society, organised by The Centre for the Study of Religion and Society, Jadavpur University, 7-9 April 2016.**
- ‘An Ethnography of Judicial Reasoning: Exploring the Personal, Legal and Political in Sharia Courts of Uttar Pradesh’ **at the International Workshop on Religion and Law: Colonial and Post-Colonial Encounters, organised by the Centre for the Study of Comparative Religions and Civilizations, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, March 2016.**
- ‘Imam, Qazi and the Judge: Sociology of Legal Forum Shopping in Kanpur city’ **at the National Seminar on Religion, Law, and Secularity, held on October 16-18, 2014, at the Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur.**
- ‘Cultural Reproduction and Resistance: A Study of Tribal Educational Progress in Karamara Primary School of Puruliya district, West Bengal’ **at the Comparative Education Society of India Annual International Conference, held on December 28-30, 2013, at the Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata.**
- ‘Tribal Language and School Education’ **at the National Seminar organized by the National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT), held on 10-11 March 2011 at the Burdwan University, West Bengal.**
- ‘Universal Elementary Education vis-à-vis Bilingual Education’ **at the South Asian Language Analysis Roundtable 29, held on 6-8 January 2011 at the Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore.**

Teaching Experience:

- Served as a Syllabus Committee Member to prepare the four-year Undergraduate syllabus under NEP for Vidyasagar University.
- Taught as a Guest faculty for M.A. Sociology, at the Vidyasagar University session 2022-2023 & 2023-24, First Semester and Third Semester.
- Teach Undergraduate Courses at Jhargram Raj College (Girls’ Wing), West Bengal.

Administrative Responsibilities:

- Vidyasagar University UG Paper-setter
- Vidyasagar University Postgraduate Examination Co-convenor (2019-2020 & 2022-2024).

- Vidyasagar University Postgraduate Examination Convener (2024 till present)
- College Admission Committee Co-convener (2020-2021 & 2021-2022).
- Part of an Outreach program initiated and conducted by the Jhargram Raj College (Girls' Wing) to educate the poor tribal students of a Sabar village nearby.

Career Development:

- Participated in the Faculty Induction Programme from 08 February 2022 to 12 March 2022 organized by UGC Human Resource Development Centre, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh.
- Participated in the Refresher Course from 20 July 2022 to 02 August 2022 organized by UGC Human Resource Development Centre, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh.

Undergraduate Teaching at Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur:

- Student Tutor for the course Introduction to Sociology, IIT Kanpur, Monsoon 2014.
- Student Tutor for the course Indian Society and Culture, IIT Kanpur, Summer 2015

Membership in Learned Societies:

- **Indian Sociological Society (ISS)**
- **International Sociological Association (ISA)**
- **Asiatic Society, Kolkata**