

1. Name of the Faculty Member: Smita Chakraborty
2. Designation: Assistant Professor in Sociology (W.B.E.S)
3. Qualification: M.A. in Sociology-Jadavpur University (Gold Medalist)  
M.Phil in Sociology-Jadavpur University (First Class First)  
Ph.D in Sociology-Jadavpur University (Pursuing)  
UGC NET-JRF, 2015
4. Research Interest: Sociology of Religion, Medical Sociology
5. E-mail address: [smita.chakraborty44@gmail.com](mailto:smita.chakraborty44@gmail.com)
6. Date of Joining in W.B.E.S: 11.04.2019
7. Date of Joining in this College: 11.04.2019
8. Total Teaching Experience in College Level: 5+ years
9. Title of Ph.D Thesis: “Faith and Healing Practices among the Hindus: A Study in Paschim Medinipur” (pursuing since 2017)
10. List of Publications:

**A) Book Chapter:**

- “Conventional Versus Contemporary: A Look into Healthcare Practices among the Sabar Tribe in Jhargram” in Health Situation of India edited by Dr. M. Thamilarasan (2023), Serials Publication, New Delhi. **ISBN: 9789391844554.**

**B) Journal:**

- “An Inner Path: Contextualising Indian Religious Tourism” in *Inclusive*, a UGC-CARE Listed Open Access Peer Reviewed International Journal of Kolkata Centre for Studies, July 2023.

**C) Book of Abstract:**

- “Healing Landscapes: A Study on the Emerging Trend of Medical Tourism” in the Book of Abstracts by 43<sup>rd</sup> All India Sociological Conference (Lucknow) on Neo-

Liberalism, Consumption and Culture, Rawat Publications, **ISBN: 978-81-316-0937-8.**

- “Cyber-Hinduism and Covid Scare: An Avenue of Mental Health Development” in Unequal World Conference on Human Development in the Context of Current Global Challenges on September 28-29, 2020. **ISBN: 978-1-945298-29-5.**
- “Prayers, Paupers and the Pandemic: A Study Based on Temple Beggars and Alms System in Central Kolkata” in International Sociological Association RC 22 Mid-Term Conference on Religion, Politics and Uncertainties: Shifting Boundaries held in Vilnius, Lithuania from 11<sup>th</sup> Nov-13<sup>th</sup> Nov 2021, Published by Lithuanian Society for the Study of Religions and UAB Kalanis, **ISBN 978-609-96039-1-9.**
- “Pleasure of Piety: Post-Pandemic Spiritual Wellbeing among Santhal Youths in Jhargram” in XX ISA World Congress of Sociology on “Resurgent Authoritarianism: Sociology of New Entanglements of Religions., Politics and Economies” held in Melbourne, Australia. **ISSN: 2522-7025.**
- “Slums, Space, and Seat of Power: A Study of Slum Sustainability in Kolkata” in XX ISA World Congress of Sociology on “Resurgent Authoritarianism: Sociology of New Entanglements of Religions., Politics and Economies” held in Melbourne, Australia. **ISSN: 2522-7025.**

#### **D) Conference Proceedings**

- “Pandemic, Patriarchy, Pregnancy, etc.: Post-Marital Educational Challenges of Jhargram Women” in Dr. N.S.A.M First Grade College, Bangalore, in a three days virtual national conference on “Opportunities and Challenges in the Post Covid Era from Linguistic, Economic, Psychological and Sociological Perspectives,” 2022 pp. 128-138, published by Dr. N.S.A.M First Grade College. **ISBN: 978-93-5659-817-1**

#### **11. Paper Presentations in Seminars/Conferences:**

- “Impact of T.V Programmes on the Youth: A Sociological Study” in the **International Seminar** on “Meeting Youth Needs in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Canada and India: Youth Work, Young People and Youth Policy, 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> November 2011 at Department of Sociology, Calcutta University, Alipore, Kolkata.

- “Role of Religion in the Works of Swami Vivekananda” in the **International Conference** on “Religion and Globalization: A Changing Perspective” organized by the Centre for the Study of Religion and Society, Department of Sociology, Jadavpur University in collaboration with the Department of Literature, History of Ideas and Religion (LIR), University of Gothenburg, Sweden on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2012.
- “Caste System-An Inherent Nationalist Spirit in Dissolution” at an ICSSR-assisted 2-Day National Conference on “Sociology in India” by Directed Initiative and Department of Sociology, University of Mumbai, held on 20-21 April 2015 at the Birla Industrial and Technological Museum.
- “The Role of Counseling and Psychotherapy in Healthcare: An Insight into the Religious Values of the Society” at UGC Sponsored **National Level Seminar** on Values in Philosophy, Education and Sociology: Indian and Global Perspective organized by the Department of Philosophy, St. Paul’s Cathedral Mission College in collaboration with Environs Safe Organisation (ESO), Kolkata held on 9-10 January 2017.
- “Riding the Sun: Overcoming Disability as a Form of Social Marginalisation” in a 2-Days International Conference on “Social Marginality: Issues and Concerns” organized by the Department of Sociology, University of Gour Banga, Malda, held on 2-3 February 2017.
- “Healing Landscapes: A Study on the Emerging Trend of Medical Tourism” in the 43rd All India Sociological Conference by Indian Sociological Society on Neo-Liberalism, Consumption and Culture, the University of Lucknow, held from 9th-12th November 2017.
- “Personal Hygiene and Public Health: A Cross-Religious Patriarchal Analysis” in the International Conference on Indigenous People, Human Security and Sustainable Development: Emerging Challenges in the Present Global Context held on 19-21st

January 2018, organized by Commission on Human Rights, International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences and Department of Anthropology, West Bengal State University, Barasat in collaboration with Indian Council of Medical Research; Indian Council of Historical Research; Anthropological Survey of India.

- “The Devi and the Bhoomi: Religion, Health, and Environment” in an International Conference conducted by The School of Social Sciences, Adamas University Conference on “Harmony in Society and Environment” 2020.
- “Cyber-Hinduism and Covid Scare: An Avenue of Mental Health Development” in the International Unequal World Conference, September 2020.
- “Leisure and the Elderly: The Health Aspects of Religion and Spirituality” in the session “Religion in the Asia-Pacific” on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2020, chaired by Dr. Kim Lam of Deakin University in the 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Australian Association for the Study of Religion.
- “Spirit, Shamans and Santhals: A Discourse on the Traditional Healing Practices” in the online Conference for the International Association for the Psychology of Religion on 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2021.
- “Covid, Crisis, Complications: A Study of Jhargram Working Belt’s Socio-Economic and Medical Health” on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2021, organized by The Philippine Sociological Society, 2021 International Conference on ‘Sociology of Vulnerabilities and Resistance.’
- “Prayers, Paupers and the Pandemic: A Study Based on Temple Beggars and Alms System in Central Kolkata” on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2021 at the International Sociological Association RC-22, Mid Term Conference on “Religion, Politics and Uncertainty: Shifting Boundaries” co-organized by Vytautas Magnus University, Vilnius University, and Lithuanian Society for the Study of Religions.

- “Women in Myth: Myth or Real?” in The Australian Sociological Association Thematic Week Event on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2021.
- “Conventional Versus Contemporary: A Look into Healthcare Practices among the Sabar Tribe in Jhargram” in the 46<sup>th</sup> All India Sociological Conference during the Centenary Celebrations of the Department of Sociology, University of Mumbai from 8th-10th December 2021.
- “Women, Witchcraft and Witch Branding: A Critical Discourse Analysis of Female Stigmatization in Jhargram” in 2022 Conflict, Confinement and Immorality World Convention, held in National Pingtung University of Science and Technology from March 22 to March 25 in Pingtung, Taiwan.
- “Pandemic, Patriarchy, Pregnancy, etc.: Post-Marital Educational Challenges of Jhargram Women” in a National Conference on “Opportunities and Challenges in the Post-Covid era from Linguistic, Economic, Psychological and Sociological Perspectives” organized by Dr. N.S.A.M First Grade College, 2022.
- “Vaccine and the Feminine: A Study of Gender-Biased Covid-19 Vaccination in Jhargram” in the panel “Pandemic and Inequalities: Gender and Disability” in an International Conference on “Sociology of Pandemic: A Cross-Disciplinary Understanding” 2022 organized by the University of South Florida, USA and University of Marconi, Italy with the support of RC47 “Social Classes and Social Movements” of the International Sociological Association.
- “Healing in Hinduism: A Rationality of Faith-Based Healthcare Practices” at the 3<sup>rd</sup> WoCoLor 2022 on Logic and Religion organized by the Logic and Religion Association (LARA) jointly with the Indian Institute of Technology of the Banaras Hindu University and the DST-Centre for Interdisciplinary Mathematical Sciences, Institute of Science of the Banaras Hindu University from 4-8<sup>th</sup> November 2022.
- “Pleasure of Piety: Post-Pandemic Spiritual Wellbeing among Santhal Youths in Jhargram” in XX ISA World Congress of Sociology on “Resurgent Authoritarianism:

Sociology of New Entanglements of Religions., Politics and Economies” held in Melbourne, Australia, June 25-July 1, 2023 (Oral Presentation).

- “Slums, Space, and Seat of Power: A Study of Slum Sustainability in Kolkata” in XX ISA World Congress of Sociology on “Resurgent Authoritarianism: Sociology of New Entanglements of Religions., Politics and Economies” held in Melbourne, Australia, June 25-July 1, 2023 (Oral Presentation).
- “Tradition, Techniques and Treatment: A Study in Jhargram on the Usage of Family Healing Practices” in the National Seminar on “Religion and Society in India: Contemporary Multi-Disciplinary Explorations” held at the National Biblical Catechetical and Liturgical Centre, Bengaluru on 7th and 8th August 2023.
- “Care, Cure and Coping: Understanding the Impact of Faith Healing Practices on the Santhals amidst Modern Medicine” at The Australian Sociological Association 2023 on 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2023.
- “Wellbeing through Faith Healing: A Case Study on the Lodha-Sabar Tribal Community of Jhargram” at the International Conference on Navigating Inequality Development and Sustainability in the Global South (ICNIDS 2024) organized by VISH, VIT-AP University on 13th and 14th September 2024.
- “Frail and Frailty: The Intersection of Religion, Health, and Elder Abuse in Paschim Medinipur, India” at the International Webinar on Elder Abuse: A Public Health and Wellbeing Challenge, organized by RC-12 Sociology of Health, Ageing and Well-being of the Indian Sociological Society on 18th September 2024.

#### 12. Invited Lectures:

- Special Lecture Series on “Ethics and Morality” organized by the Department of Sociology on 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 13th November 2021 in Kanyashree College, West Bengal, India.
- “Religion and Everyday Life” organized by the Department of Sociology, Jogamaya Devi College, Kolkata, on 28th January 2022.

- Delivered a one-day lecture on “Religion and Healing” in the PG Diploma Course in Society, Religion and Social Work organized by the Centre for the Study of Religion and Society, Department of Sociology, Jadavpur University, on 6th August 2021.
- Delivered a one-day lecture on “Dissertation Rules” in the PG Diploma Course in Society, Religion and Social Work organized by the Centre for the Study of Religion and Society, Department of Sociology, Jadavpur University, on 6th August 2021.
- Delivered a one-day special lecture on “Conceptualising Religion and Spirituality: A Sociological Perspective” at Government General Degree College, Lalgah, on 2nd December 2021.
- Delivered a one-day special lecture on “Understanding Discourse Analysis: An Insight into Qualitative Research Techniques” at Government General Degree College, Gopiballavpur II, on 9th February 2022.
- Delivered a series of lectures on “Ethics and Profession” in the Special Lecture Series organized by Kanyashree College from 15th-18th November and 21st November 2022.

### 13. Session Chair:

- Chaired a session titled “Impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic on Leisure: Adaptation of New Lifestyle during Lockdown” at the XX ISA World Congress of Sociology on “Resurgent Authoritarianism: Sociology of New Entanglements of Religions., Politics and Economies” held in Melbourne, Australia, June 25-July 1, 2023.

### 14. Participated in OP/RC:

- Participated in UGC-sponsored Faculty Induction Program organised by HRDC University of Hyderabad, 2021.
- Participated in the Faculty Development Program titled “Developing Academic Leaders for Future: The Way Forward” from 15<sup>th</sup> April 2021 to 27<sup>th</sup> April 2021, organized by the University School of Mass Communication, IQAC-NAAC in Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University, New Delhi, in collaboration with

Indian Council of Social Science Research, Ministry of Education, Govt. of India.

- Participated in Refresher Course in Social Science organized by the University of Hyderabad, 2022.
- Completed the 30 hours Value Added Certificate Course titled “Personality Development and Emotion Management (PDEM)” from 19<sup>th</sup> August to 19<sup>th</sup> October 2023 by the Department of Sociology, Presidency University, Kolkata.

15. Membership of Learned Societies:

- Life Member of the Indian Sociological Society (ISS); Membership No: **LMI-4228**
- Regular Member of the International Sociological Association. Ref no: **31644**
- Life Member of Kerala Sociological Society