

CURRICULUM VITAE

Name: Dr. Gargi Gangopadhyay

Qualification: MA (University of Calcutta, 1997); M. Phil (University of Calcutta, 2000); PhD (Jadavpur University, 2013)

Designation: Assistant Professor, English.

Date of joining: 06.11.2000

Courses taught:

Honours:

History of Fiction, Thomas Hardy (text), Literary Terms (fiction)
History of Romantic Poetry, Keats & Coleridge (text), James Joyce (text), Literary Theories, Literary Essay.

Core Courses (for Semester I of the CBCS system)

History and background of Ancient Indian Literature.
Selected excerpts from *Shakuntala* and *Mahabharata*.

General:

Romantic poetry, Victorian fiction, Short stories (Indian writing in English)

Areas of Specialization:

Victorian studies
Children's literature and history of childhood
Studies in history of travel and travel writing

Past Research:

PhD: 'Reading Leisure: A Print Culture for Children in Colonial Bengal', Jadavpur University, 2013.

Arts Research and Documentation on 'Children's Books from Bengal', under a IFA grant. 2009-2011.

UGC Minor Research Project: “East of the Sun and West of the Moon: A Cross Cultural Study of Traditional Nursery Rhymes”, 2005-7.

M.Phil: The Game of the Impossible: Nonsense as the Continual Play of Unresolved Contraries. University of Calcutta, 2000.

Current/Recent Research:

The Politics of Pictures: Reviewing the Colonial Representations of Colonial Darjeeling. UGC funded Minor Research Project.

Papers presented

- i) “We laugh because we want to laugh and that’s the reason why’: A Child’s Delight in Nursery Rhymes and Nonsense”, Reading Children, International Conference on Children’s Literature, Jadavpur University, 2003.
- ii) “Make-belief and Dis-belief: Operations of Fantasy in Fairy Tale and Nonsense”, Dream, Imagination and Reality organized by the University of South Bohemia, Ceske Budejovice, Czech Republic, 30th June to 2nd July, 2006.
- iii) “For Master Tommy and Miss Polly’: Education, Entertainment and a Market for Children’s Books”, Reading AdVentures: Perspectives on Reading and Culture of the Book, Jerusalem, Israel, 19th –21st February 2007.
- iv) “Finding Wonderlands: Defining Fantasy for Children”, 1st International Conference of The Children’s Literature Association of India, Thrissur, Kerala, March 2007.
- v) “Useful Instructions and Harmless Amusements’: Ideas of Censorship in Children’s Literature during the Romantic Period”, Annual Conference of Centre for Studies in Romantic Literature, Jadavpur University, 7th & 8th February, 2008.
- vi) “An Entirely New Turn to the Native Mind’: A Reading of Children’s Books in 19th C Bengal”, Evidence of Reading, Reading the Evidence conference, organized by Reading Experience Database, at the Institute of English Studies, University of London, 21st to 23rd July 2008. (Paper read out by a member of the organizing committee)
- vii) “19th C Primers for Children: A Post Colonial Critique”, the Fourth Biennial International Conference of Indian Association for Asian & Pacific Studies, Viswabharati University, Santiniketan, 22nd-24th August, 2008.
- viii) “Enemies and Usurpers’ as ‘Friends and Patrons’: Children’s Print Culture in 19thC Bengal”, International Symposium on Global Perspectives in Multicultural

Children's Literature, at Sister Nirmala College for Women, Coimbatore, 8th -10th September, 2008.

ix) "Nils' Flight across Cultures: A Bengali Adaptation of Selma Lagerlof's Text", 19th Biennial Conference of the International Research Society of Children's Literature at J. W. University, Frankfurt, 8th -12th August 2009.

x) "A Battleground of Cultures: Children's Periodicals in Nineteenth Century Bengal", The Material Culture of Periodicals, 42nd Annual Conference of the Research Society for Victorian Periodicals held at Yale University, Connecticut, New Haven, 10 & 11th September 2010.

xi) "Rule Britannia'?: Reading War and Childhood in a Colonial Climate", Leverhulme International Network Project Conference, Approaching War: Europe, Newcastle University, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, UK, 16th-17th March, 2013.

xii) "A Museum in the Himalayan Foothills: Early Representations of Darjeeling in 19th C Scholarly Writings", Learned Societies and Academies: Travel and Travellers, Exploration and Explorers, 1600-1900, Clermont-Ferrand, France, 15th-17th November, 2013.

xiii) "From the Dandy to the Darjeeling Himalayan Railways: Engineering a Hill Station in Colonial India", Victorian Transport, organized by the Australasian Victorian Studies Association at the University of Hong Kong, 10th-12th July, 2014.

xiv) "School Texts and Homely Tales: Imperialism and Nationhood in Colonial Bengal", Die Welt der Kinder, Institut für Sozialanthropologie und Empirische Kulturwissenschaft (ISEK), Universität Zürich, 4th -6th February, 2016.

xv) 'Once Upon a Time: A Brief Introduction to Fairy Tales', Finding Neverland: A Tête-à-tête on Fairy Tales, Mrinalini Dutta Mahavidyapith, 17th March 2016.

Sessions Chaired:

Chaired the session titled "Mobilizing Change and Changing Mobilities: The Indian Empire", Victorian Transport, conference organized by the Australasian Victorian Studies Association at the University of Hong Kong, 10th-12th July, 2014.

Publications:

i) "Children, Nursery Rhymes and Nonsense", The Journal of Children's Literature Studies. Volume 1, issue 3, November 2004. ISSN 1743-0526.

ii) “Make-belief and Dis-belief: Operations of Fantasy in Fairy Tale and Nonsense”, Dream, Imagination and Reality in Literature, South Bohemian Anglo-American Studies No.1, 2007. ISBN 978-80-7394-006-5.

iii) “Moral versus Magic: The Great Debate in Children’s Literature”, Reading Children: Proceedings of International Conference on Children’s Literature, Jadavpur University, Orient Longman, 2009. ISBN: 978 81 250 3700 2.

iv) “A Strange Cross-cultural Infancy: Children’s Books in 19th C Bengal”, Art Connect, 2009. ISSN 0975 – 5810.

v) “Children’s Books from Bengal: A Documentation”, an online illustrated catalogue of early Bengali Children’s books.
<http://www.bengalichildrensbooks.in/> (2011).

vi) “Our Motherland: Mapping an Identity in Bengali Children’s Literature”, book chapter in *The Nation in Children’s Literature: Nations of Childhood*, ed. Christopher (Kit) Kelen and Bojrn Sundmark (Routledge, 2013). ISBN 13: 978 -0-415-62479-4 (hbk), ISBN13: 978-0-203-10427-9 (ebk).

vii) “*Folk-Tales of Hindustan: The Text and its Times*”, in *Folk-Tales of Hindustan* by [Shaikh Chilli], ed. by Gargi Gangopadhyay and Deeptanil Ray (Kolkata: Charchapada, 2014). ISBN 978-93-80489-35-3.

viii) “Contested Spaces: A Trans-disciplinary Approach to the Critical Interface between Humans and Environment” Conference Proceedings from the UGC sponsored State Level Conference, edited by Dr. Gargi Gangopadhyay and Dr. Bidisha Chatterjee. (Kolkata: Pelican Press, 2016).

ix) “Imperialism and Nationhood in Children’s books in Colonial Bengal”, in *Journal of Educational Media, Memory and Society*, Volume 10, issue 1, Spring 2018. ISSN: 2041-6938.

College posts currently held:

Joint Convener, Research Cell
Member, UGC Committee
Member, Prize Sub-committee

Teaching experiences in other Institutions:

Guest Lecturer, for optional paper on Children’s Literature, PG II, Dept. of English, Presidency College (2009-12).

Guest Lecturer, for paper on Victorian Thought, PG I, English, Lady Brabourne College (2013-18).

Guest Lecturer, Translation Studies Course, run by the School of Language Studies, Rabindra Bharati University (2015).

Guest Lecturer, PG II, Department of English, West Bengal State University, (2017).

Conference coordinator

Joint coordinator for “Contested Spaces: A Trans-disciplinary Approach to the Critical Interface between Humans and Environment”, a UGC sponsored State level Seminar, organized and hosted by Ramakrishna Sarada Mission Vivekananda Vidyabhavan, 14th March 2015.

University Assignments:

Examination and evaluation related assignments (2011-till date)

Awards/Fellowships/Grants:

Minor Research Project from U.G.C for researching on the social history of nursery rhymes (2005).

Research Fellowship for two months awarded by the Internationale Jugendbibliothek, Munich, to study at the library as a research scholar in the field of children’s literature (June- August, 2006). Received a Cultural Exchange travel grant from UGC for the same (2006).

Partially funded research grant from the Charles Wallace India Trust for accessing archival materials for doctoral research at the British Library, U.K (2006).

Teachers’ Fellowship for pursuing doctoral research under UGC’s Faculty Improvement Programme (2008-2011).

An Arts Research and Documentation grant by the India Foundation for the Arts, for compiling a public domain encyclopedic web archive of Bengali children’s books from its incunabulum to the early decades of the 20th century (2008).

Minor research grant from the Bibliographical Society of London (2009).

Short-term fellowship at Internationale Jugendbibliothek, Munich, to review and assess the Indian Language books in the historical Geneva Collection compiled by the Bureau of Education under the League of Nations (October 2016).

Minor Research Project from U.G.C on visual representations of colonial Darjeeling (in progress).

Honorary Posts held

Guest reviewer for *Bookbird: A Journal of International Children's Literature* (ISSN 0006 7377).

Guest reviewer for *Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences* (ISSN 0973-8737).

Contact:

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