



Name: Dr. Saheli Roychowdhury

Qualification: MA in Political Science (University of Calcutta, 2001); PhD in Political Science (University of Calcutta, 2009).

Designation: Assistant Professor in Political Science

Date of joining this college: 15.12.2006

Courses Taught:

Undergraduate Honours: Political Theory, Comparative Politics, Public Administration.

Undergraduate General: Political Theory, Comparative Politics, Contemporary Political and Administrative Issues in India.

Specialization: Political Sociology – Movement Studies; Cultural Studies.

Research:

PhD title: State Government Employees' Response to Globalization: A case study of the State Coordination Committee of West Bengal State Government Employees' Associations. (Obtained PhD degree in Political Science from the University of Calcutta in January 2009) (Abstract below)

Current Research: Linguistic Politics.

Papers presented:

1. Presented a paper titled 'Changing Languages of Everyday Politics in West Bengal and India' at The Sixth Asian Conference on Cultural Studies, Kobe, Japan, June 2-5, 2016.
2. Presented a paper 'Slogans as Discourse in the Miniature', at the International Conference titled Elections and Political Parties in South Asia: A 21st Century Perspective in University of Kalyani, 7-9 December 2015.
3. Presented a paper 'Coming Together and Staying Close: Alliance Formation in Times of the Decline of the Welfare State' at the 56th Annual Conference of Indian Political Science Association in Benaras Hindu University, 25-27 October, 2015.
4. Presented a paper 'Cultural Response to Globalization – a case study of West Bengal State Government Employees' Associations', March 29-30, 2014 at the Annual Conference of the West Bengal Political Science Association in Lady Brabourne College.
5. Delivered three seminars at the Institute Of Development Studies Kolkata:
 - a. Middle class response to globalization, 2004.
 - b. Locating an anti-globalization discourse: An instance of 'globalization from below', 2005.
 - c. Anti-globalization protests: Incidence, Issues, Networks, 2006.

Publications:

1. Published a paper titled 'Narrative Representations of Protests: Bengali Middle Class Response to Globalization' in Social Science Spectrum, Vol 1, No. 4, December 2015, pp. 306-315. ISSN 2454-2806.
2. Published a paper titled 'Forging Networks in Contentious Politics: Coping with the Neo-Liberal Challenge' in the Indian Journal of Political Science, Vol. LXXVI, No. 3, July - September, 2015, pp. 300-304. ISSN No.0019-5510.
3. A paper titled 'Interlocking Homophiles and Circles of Networks' accepted for presentation and publication at the 4th Interdisciplinary Social Sciences Conference in Vancouver, 14-16 June, 2014. (<http://thesocialsciences.com/publications>)
4. Published a paper 'Local Metaphors, Global Reasons' in The West Bengal Political Science Review, Vol. IX, No. – I & II, January- December 2006.
5. Published a paper 'In Search of a Middle Class' in The West Bengal Political Science Review, Vol. VII, No. I & II, June-December 2004.
6. Invited to contribute an article 'Music in Kolkata' to a joint research-cum-publication project of the Department of South Asian Studies, Humboldt University, Berlin and Department of History, Jadavpur University, Kolkata. It will be a volume on Kolkata with the working title 'Kolkata in space, time and imagination: Rethinking of heritage'.

Other engagements:

Visiting Faculty, Department of Business Management, University of Calcutta since July 2010.

Resource Person in Political Science for MHRD Project called National Mission for Education through ICT (NME-ICT) since February 2016.

In college:

- Departmental Head – March 2011- March 2013.

Sub-committee Members:

2015-2016

Convener, Infrastructure Subcommittee

Convener, Prize Subcommittee

- 2014-15

Member, NAAC Steering Committee

Convener, Infrastructure Subcommittee

Convener, Prize Subcommittee
Member, Library Subcommittee

- 2013-14
Convener, Library Subcommittee
Member, Cultural Subcommittee
Member, Magazine Subcommittee
Member, Committee for UGC (for 5 years)

Awards and Fellowships:

- Gold Medalist, 2001 for securing a First in First Class in M.A. in Political Science, University of Calcutta.
- Doctoral Research Fellow from September 2003 to December 2006 at Institute of Development Studies Kolkata.

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PhD Abstract: The doctoral research is an examination of middle class response to globalization. Specifically, it analyses discursive activities by unionised service sector middle class state government employees against neo-liberal policy shifts initiated by the Indian state. It profiles a series of discourse-driven protests between 1991 and 2004 mainly in West Bengal in which below officer-level employees engaged the Indian state. Their democratic collective action framed by left radical discourse was networked with anti-globalization interventions by similar employees' and working class formations and left parties in India, and with comparable movements by global organisations thus signifying globalization from below. The research brings out how homophily led to accumulation of political capital. Textual analysis of the documents, like mouthpiece journals of the frontal organisations leading the employees in their struggles is used to locate the critical discourse contained in essays, narratives of past struggles, and visuals. The analysis draws on conceptual vocabulary of critical theories of collective action.