



Name: Dr. Soma Marik

Designation: Associate Professor

Date of joining service: 16.03.1987

Date of joining this college: 24.04.1997

Qualification: MA in History, Jadavpur University, 1985

Ph D, Jadavpur University, 1996

(Title: The Theory of Workers' Democracy and the Bolshevik Practice: 1847-1921)

Areas of Specialization:

- Socialist Democracy and the Bolshevik Practice: 1847 – 1921.
- The relationship between Class and Gender in Marxist theory and communist practice, with special reference to the German, Russian and Indian Experiences.
- Communist Women of India in their own voices: 1940-1977. An Oral History Project
- Communist Women and Literature with special reference to India
- Communalism, Secularism and the Rights of Women

Teaching

Courses/Areas covered in UG teaching schedule

HONOURS

SEMESTER I

Core Course II – Social Formations and the Cultural Patterns of the Ancient World – III—Bronze Age Civilisations with special reference to Mesopotamia (up to Akkadian Empire)

SEMESTER II

Core Course IV – Social Formations and Cultural Patterns of the Medieval World –I –Roman Republic, Principate and empire and Slave society in ancient Rome: Agrarian economy, urbanization, trade; III – Crises of the Roman empire

SEMESTER III

Core Course VI – Rise of the Modern West-1: V—Economic Developments of the 16th Century

Core Course VII – History of India-IV (1206 CE – 1526 CE), II—Sultanate Political Structures, VI – Religion and Culture

Part III

Paper 6 – History of Modern Europe – 1789-1919

French Revolution (1789-1799), Napoleon Bonaparte, Modern Russian History, Industrialization, Romanticism, Paris Commune, Rise of Socialism, First World War.

Research

Research Projects:

1. University Grants Commission Minor Research Project on: *Women in the Indian Communist Movement: West Bengal 1947-1977: Towards an Oral History*, 17.9.2009 to 17.3.2011.
2. Sir Ratan Tata Trust – School of Women’s Studies, Jadavpur University Fieldwork Fellowship 2008, on *Rewriting History: Capturing the Voices of Communist Women of Bengal 1940-2000 (A few Case studies)*, 1.09.2008 to 30.11.2008.
3. University Grants Commission Minor Research Project on: *Women and the Communist Party of India: Bengal 1930-1950, Communist Politics, Class and Gender in Women's Own Perception*, 6.10.1999 to 5.10.2001.

Seminars/Conferences/Workshops

- A. **International Level Seminars/conferences:** Resource Person in 21, attended as participant—12. Major papers/ talks since 2010 listed below.
1. Paschim Banga Itihas Samsad, 34th Annual Conference, Jadavpur University, মনিকুন্তলা সেন ও নিবেদিতা নাগঃ কমিউনিস্ট আন্দোলনের গোড়ার যুগ, ও “ব্যক্তিগত জীবন” , 24-26 January 2018.
 2. One day International Seminar on, The Russian Revolution: Historical Reflections, organized by Ramakrishna Mission Vidyamandir, 15 February, 2017. Paper presented on “Women and the Russian Revolution”

3. International Comparative Literature Association 21st World Congress, University of Vienna, 26 July 2016. Paper on 'Critiques of Gender and Nation in South Asia: Akhtaruzzaman Ilyas' *Khwabnama* and Savitri Roy's *Trisrota* and *Swaralipi*', in Group Section, South Asian Pathways: Languages, Gender and Politics.
4. International Comparative Literature Association 21st World Congress, University of Vienna, 23 July 2016. Paper on 'Mapping the Politics of Gender in Two Communist Women of Bengal', in Group Section, The Many Languages of Communist Cultural Resistance in India.
5. International Comparative Literature Association –XXth Congress- Paris 19-24 July 2013 – Paper entitled 'Gender and Genre: Communist Women's Memoirs with Special Reference to Manikuntala Sen', 23 July, 2013
6. New Cultures of the Left, *Historical Materialism* Journal, International Conference, New Delhi, 3-5 April, 2013. Session: Bolshevik Models – The Party and the International. Paper entitled -- 'Rosa Luxemburg and the party: past debates & present-day lessons'-on 4 April, 2013
7. International Conference on Bengal Studies, 2nd conference, Dhaka, 17-20 December 2011, Muktir Nana Path: Manikuntala Sen O Nibedita Nag ebong Bangla'r Communist Nari Andolan [Different Roads to Freedom: Manikuntala Sen and Nibedita Nag and the Communist Women's Movement of Bengal]
8. Historical Materialism, Eighth Annual Conference, London, 10-13 November 2011. Paper on 'The Bhadramahila as Communist: Bengal c. 1940-1977.'

B. National/State Level Seminars/conferences: Resource person in 49, attended as participant—over 60. Major papers/talks since 2010 listed below

1. Rabindra Bharati University Department of Sociology, One Day Seminar on Beyond Gender: Issues and Challenges – Keynote Speech, 12 February, 2019
2. Paschim Banga Itihas Samsad, 35th Annual Conference, Panchanan Barma University, Cooch Behar, 24-26 January 2019. Paper on Vimla Dang: Smriticharon O Uponyaser beshe Atmajibonee, 25 January, 2019
3. Lady Brabourne College, One Day Seminar on 'Crime and Violence against Women', by Women's Studies Centre, Lady Brabourne College, Department of Sociology, Rabindra Bharati University and Department of

- History, Diamond Harbour Women's University, 27th November, 2018.
—paper on 'Sexual Violence on Sexual Minorities'
4. Calcutta Girls' College, Department of history and the Internal Quality Assurance Cell of Calcutta Girls' College, Seminar: 'Myth Vs Reality: Women's Struggle Towards Equality', 5th of April, 2018 – paper on “International Women's Day: Gift, Celebration, 'Uncelebration', or Proletarian Feminist Struggles?”
 5. Seminar organised by Paschim Banga Itihas Samsad and Council for Political Studies, 11 November 2017, Indumati Sabhagriha, Jadavpur. – Paper on রুশ বিপ্লব: রাজনৈতিক সংস্কৃতি ও লিঙ্গসাম্য
 6. ICC, Jadavpur University, One Day Gender Sensitization and Advocacy Workshop on Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal of Sexual Harassment of Women Employees and Students in Higher Educational Institutions, Keynote Address, 29 March, 2017
 7. South Asian University, Delhi, Weekend seminars/classes on Marxism – Invited Lecture on Marxism and the Gender Question and its Relevance for India, 25 September, 2016
 8. *Naari o Banglar Itihas: Somoy Somaj o Songskriti*, organised by Society for Understanding Culture and History in India (SUCHI) and Department of History, Vidyasagar College, 21-22 March, 2015. Invited paper on: “Communist Nari Andolaner Gorar Yug: Communist Nari Oitihaskder Upasthapana”
 9. Workshop on “Understanding South Asia 2014, Gender and Migration: Women as invisible Majority and Agents” organised by Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung and School of Women's Studies, Jadavpur University, 17-18 June 2014 -----“Contemporary Relevance of Rosa Luxemburg in South Asia with Special Reference to India”. Talk delivered jointly with Professor Kunal Chattopadhyay on 17 June 2014
 10. 4th Sulekha Dasgupta Memorial Lecture, School of Women's Studies, Jadavpur University, 24 March, 2014 -- Rewriting the History of the CPI through the Gender Lens: A Case Study of Bengal
 11. 13th Annual Shaheed Pritilata Waddedar Memorial Lecture, organised by the School of Women's Studies, Jadavpur University and Biplabtirtha Chattagram Smriti Sanstha, 29 April, 2011 -- Women's Equality in the Communist Movement in Bengal and Manikuntala Sen

Publications:

Books/Monographs/Edited Books – total 10

1. *Revolutionary Democracy: Emancipation in Classical Marxism*, Haymarket Books, Chicago, 2018
2. Introduction to *Parijayi Nari* – by Prof. Jasodhara Bagchi – the First Maitreyee Chattopadhyay Memorial Lecture, Kolkata, Setu, 2014
3. ‘Introduction’ to the first Indian edition of Leon Trotsky, *The History of the Russian Revolution*, New Delhi, Aakar Books, 2014 (jointly with Kunal Chattopadhyay)
4. *Lives in Struggle: Communist Women of Bengal 1951-1977*, SWS-SRTT Monograph, Calcutta: 2010

Papers in Journals/articles in edited volumes etc: total –60.

Major papers since 2010 listed below

1. ‘Women’s Oppression and Liberation’, *Against the Current*, 199, March-April 2019. ISSN: 0739-4853
2. ‘Women and the Russian Revolution: An Exploration in Bolshevik Theory and Practice’, – in Prithwiraj Biswas Ed: *The Russian Revolution: Historical Reflections*, Department of History, Ramakrishna Mission Vidyamandira, Belur Math, Howrah, 2017
3. ‘Gender and genre: communist women’s memoirs with special reference to Manikuntala Sen’ – in Anne Tomische (Editor), *Le Comparatisme comme approche critique Comparative Literature as a Critical Approach*. Tome 3. [Objets, méthodes et pratiques comparatistes / Objects, Methods, Practices](#), Classiques Garnier, Paris 2017. ISBN : 978-2-406-06530-2
4. ‘Bolsheviks and Feminists—in Cooperation and Conflict’, *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. 52, Issue No. 44, 04 Nov., 2017. ISSN (Print) - 0012-9976 | ISSN (Online) - 2349-8846
5. ‘The Thucydides of the Russian Revolution: Leon Trotsky’s History in Retrospect’, *Economic and Political Weekly*, [Vol. 52, Issue No. 10, 11 Mar, 2017](#) (jointly with Kunal Chattopadhyay). ISSN (Print) - 0012-9976 | ISSN (Online) - 2349-8846
6. ‘Scrap Article 377, Defend LGBT/Queer Rights Through Mass Movements’, *International Viewpoint* online journal, December 2013, <http://www.internationalviewpoint.org/spip.php?article3210>
7. ‘The Struggle Against Rape and Sexual Assault’, *Against the Current* 163: 18-21

8. 'Breaking Through a Double Invisibility: The Communist Women of Bengal, 1939-1948', *Critical Asian Studies*, vol. 45, No 1, March 2013: 79-118 ISSN [1467-2715](https://doi.org/10.1080/14672715)

Fellowships/Grants/Honours/Awards:

UGC Minor Research Project Grants: 1999-2001; 2009-2011

Sir Ratan Tata Trust- School of Women's Studies JU Grant – 2008

UGC Travel Grant and Oral History Association of America– Oral History Association of America Conference 2005

UGC Travel Grant -- 'Labouring Feminism and Feminist Working-Class History in Europe and Beyond', Labour Movement Archives and Library, Stockholm 2008

UGC Travel Grant – Historical Materialism Conference, London 2011

ICHR Travel Grant – International Comparative Literature Association Congress, Paris 2013

Visiting Professor, School of Women's Studies, Jadavpur University, 2013-14

Research Supervision: 4 M. Phil dissertations from the School of Women's Studies, Jadavpur University

Post graduate Teaching and related:

P.G. History (Evening Course), Jadavpur University – Guest faculty 1991-2004

M. Phil Course, Jadavpur University, School of Women's Studies – as Guest Faculty – 2000-2013, as Visiting Professor – 2013-2014.

P.G. Women's Studies, Diamond Harbour Women's University – Guest Faculty 2014-15

Special classes, P.G. Philosophy, RKSM Vivekananda Vidyabhavan since 2017

Resource Person in Refresher Courses in Calcutta University, Jadavpur University (Departments of History, Comparaqtive Literature, Women's Studies) --10

Administrative Experience:

2018 on—IQAC Coordinator, RKSM Vivekananda Vidyabhavan

2017-2018 – IQAC Member

2016-2018 – ICC Coordinator

2016-18 – Joint Convenor, Academic Sub-Committee

Any Other:

1. Coordinator (jointly with Dr. Sutapa Chatterjee Sarkar, Chairperson , UG Board of Studies, West Bengal State University), for One Day state level workshop on *Aspects of Teaching Early History: From Pre-History to the Decline of Rome*, on 10th August 2018, organised by Department of History, West Bengal State University, and Department of History, RKSM Vivekananda Vidyabhavan
2. Associated with the work of Transgender organisations and NGOs since 2016, including Association for Transgenders and Hijras of Bengal, and Samobhabona.
3. Coordinator of Seminar, *The Diverse Impact of Islam on Literature and Culture: India and Central Asia*.3.9.2014
4. Member of Syllabus Committee for M.A. in Women's Studies, Diamond Harbour Women's University (2014)
5. Member of Syllabus Committee for M Phil syllabus revision in Women's Studies, School of Women's Studies, Jadavpur University (2013-15).
6. Co-ordinator from Ramakrishna Sarada Mission Vivekananda Vidyabhavan for collaborative workshop on revised syllabus, Calcutta University, History Honours Paper III, organised by Departments of History, BKC College, Bidhannagar Government College and RKSM Vivekananda Vidyabhavan, 20.11.2004
7. Human Rights Law Network and Women Against Sexual Harassment—Gender Sensitization Programme Against Sexual Harassment, Jadavpur University, 27 August, 2017 –Resource Person

8. Invited Lecture at Swayam (Women's Rights NGO), on the subject The International Women's Day: Origins, History, Trends of Movements in India—Contemporary Relevance, 8 May, 2016
9. Public lectures on Historical and Theoretical Experiences of Classical Marxism and Women's Liberation, 3 and 9 October, 2013, Sao Paulo
The First International Socialist Congress of *Women in Struggle*, Minas Gerais, Brazil, 4-6 October 2013. Resource person on the Table for International Perspectives on Women's Struggle—5 October 2013. Presented a paper entitled, 'The Anti-Rape Movements in India from a Left Perspective' in the Plenary of the Congress 6 October, 2013
10. 7th National Conference of Autonomous Women's Movements in India, Salt Lake Stadium, 11.9.2006. Member of Organising Committee. Plenary Speech on 'Women under
11. Associated with Action Aid India Project: Campaign on Violence against Women and Girls, 2006 – 2009
12. Trustee of Sanhita, a Gender Resource Centre, 1999 – 2005
13. Participant in the Workshop on *Rape Law Changes* organized by the West Bengal State Commission for Women in April 1999; member of a Committee set up by the West Bengal State Commission for Women.