



Name: Dr Sunetra Mitra

Qualification: MA(CU, 1997); MPHIL(JU,2002) PHD(2008, MSU, Baroda)

Designation: Assistant Professor, Stage 3

Date of joining: January 18, 2001

Courses Taught: UG

Honours

- Aspects of Ancient Indian History
- Mughal India
- Modern India

General

- Some Aspects of Ancient and Medieval India
- Modern Europe
- Modern India and World

Research/Specialization:

- a. PhD/MRP topics with abstracts (300 words)

PHD title: The Winds Of Change: The Process Of Professionalisation Of Bengali And Gujarati Theatre (1850-1940): A Comparative Study:

Abstract of PHD/ MRP 2004

The thesis studied the history of professionalisation of Bengali and Gujarati proscenium theatre from the second half of the nineteenth century from a comparative angle. It studied the way proscenium theatre was adopted as a medium of entertainment and how in the process leisure and entertainment became very important vocations in Bengal and Gujarat, from the second half of the nineteenth century.

Minor Research Project 2008 -10

- i. **Project title: Grandeur And Valour: Aspects Of Nationalism And Culture In Popular Bollywood Films From The 1950s To The Present.**

Keeping the relevance of media in today's world, the project studied the portrayal of the Indian army as reflected in popular Bollywood movies. The rather fictitious yet real presence of the army has time and again been captured in many Bollywood movies. Films like *Vijayeta*, *Prahar*, *Roja*, *Border*, *Lakshya*, *Main Hoon Na*, *Refugee* to name just a few extolled in various ways not just the greatness and sacrifices associated with the army but also captures popular sentiment surrounding the same. The present project wants to foray into this uncharted zone, that presents a real dichotomy so far the actual perception of the Indian Army is concerned and its valorised depiction in the celluloid.

ii. Minor Research Project 2015:

Project title: Discovering India: The Travels Of Swami Vivekananda And Rabindranath Tagore In Historical Perspective:

Abstract: The project will shed light on the works of these two contemporary individuals and show how their concerns reveal their anxieties about a subject people gripped by the horrors of colonialism. To think of something as original and innovative as the Ramakrishna Mission or Sriniketan, the ideas for both arising out of extensive travels within the mainland of India through individual effort without depending on any government agency speaks about the determination to fight colonialism is an idea of passive resistance which later on became more visible in the activities of Mahatma Gandhi.

iii. Current Research:

Social and cultural history of history with emphasis on nation building and tourism

Papers presented:

- 2013, October, Creativity and Compulsion: Entrepreneurs of Colonial Bengali Public Theatre, in 44th Annual Conference on South Asia, Centre for South Asia, University of Wisconsin-Madison

- 2010, August, Understanding The 'Fear Factor': Choice of Acting as Profession in Colonial Bengali Public Stage, in the conference Fables of Fear organized by CPRAC SIS, Thrissur, Kerala
- 2006, October, The Beginnings of Professionalization Of Gujarati Proscenium Theatre in the Second Half of the Nineteenth Century, 35th Annual Conference on South Asia, Centre for South Asia, University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- 2006, January, On Some Aspects of the Audience in Bengali Theatre in Late Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Century Kolkata, Indian History Congress, Viswabhariti, Shantiniketan
- 2004, February, Compulsion Vs Creativity: Commercialisation Of Entertainment in Colonial Calcutta, 9th Cultural Studies Workshop, Bangalore, organized by SEPHIS and Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Kolkata
- 2003, December, The Tales of Woes: "Prostitute Entertainers" in Bengali Theatre- the Agonies of Living with a Past, Indian History Congress, Mysore
- 2002, December, Their World Turned Upside Down: The Human Factor Reconsidered: Impact of Commercialization In Bengali Theatre In the Second Half of the Nineteenth Century, Indian History Congress, Amritsar

iv. Publications

- ✓ 2015, August The Dawn of New Entertainment Genre: History of Professionalization of Bengali and Gujarati Public Theatre 1870-1940, ICHR and Towards Freedom, vide Reference Number F.No.1-99/2012(Aca-VII)
- ✓ 2014, September, Of Grandeur and Valour: Bollywood and India's Fighting Personnel 1960-2005, Studies in Humanities and Social Sciences,(SHSS), IAS, Shimla.

- ✓ 2014, July-December, The Spectre of Theatre in Colonial Kolkata: Performances, Spectators and the State in *Exploring History, A Journal of Indian and Asian History*, Vol. 6, No.2, Published from Post Graduate Department of History, Malda College, Malda, ISSN-2230-8490
- ✓ 2011, (Book chapter) *Compulsion and Creativity: Actresses as Working Women in Bengali Public Stage During Colonial Times*, *They Dared: Essays in Honour of Pritilata Waddekar*, Gangchil
- ✓ 2010, *Nationalism and Entertainment: A Study of Colonial Bengali and Gujarati Theatres*, *Asia Annual 2008: Understanding Popular Culture*, ISBN 978-81-7304-844-9, Manohar
- ✓ 2008, *Denied Childhood: 'Child' Artists in Colonial Bengali and Gujarati Public Theatre*, UGC sponsored State Level Seminar, *History, Historiography and Society*, Department of History, Chandernagore College
- ✓ 2007, *The Beginnings Of Commercialisation In Bengali Theatre In Late Nineteenth Century Calcutta*, *The Indian Film Industry: An Overview*, ICFAI University Press, ISBN 81-314-0641-5

Any other:

a. PG Teaching: NA

b. Prestigious awards/Grants:

- Won the P. C. Jha Memorial prize for best paper on the section on India and countries other than India, Indian History Congress, 64th session, Mysore, 2004
- Won the P.S. Gupta Memorial prize for best paper on the section on India and countries other than India, Indian History Congress, 63rd session, Mysore, 2003
- Teachers' Fellowship for pursuing doctoral research under UGC's Faculty Improvement Programme (2005-7).
- PTAC for attending Indian History Congress Sessions: 2003(Bareilly), 2006 (Viswa Bharati, Shantiniketan); CPRACISIS conference at Trissur Kerala, 2010
- UGC Travel Grant, 2013, for participation in 42nd Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, University of Wisconsin, USA

- IUC- IAS(Shimla) Associateship 2010, for three years

c. Honorary Posts held

College administrative posts held:

HoD since 2014

Nodal Officer, AISHE: 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015

TCS: 2013-14

Academic Sub-committee: Convenor since 2010

Sports Sub-committee: Member since 2011

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