

## **CURRICULUM VITAE**

Upal Chakrabarti

**Date of Birth** 02.06.1983

### **Contact Information**

Email: [upalchakrabarti@gmail.com](mailto:upalchakrabarti@gmail.com), upal.soc@presiuniv.ac.in

Address: CJ 323 Sector II, Salt Lake, Kolkata-700091, West Bengal, India

Phone: 9748160236, 23370326

Affiliation: Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Presidency University,  
Kolkata

Disciplines: History and Sociology

### **Educational Qualification**

2000 Secondary Examination (West Bengal Board of Secondary Education) Score:  
88.3%

2002 Higher Secondary Examination (West Bengal Council of Higher Secondary  
Education) Score: 73%

2005 B.A (Honors), Sociology, Presidency College, University of Calcutta (C.U)  
Score: 65.68% (First Class)  
Rank: Second in Sociology in Calcutta University

2007 M.A., Sociology, Jawaharlal Nehru University  
Score: C.G.P.A of 7.93 (on a scale of 9), Rank: Second

2010 Passed the National Eligibility Test (NET) for lectureship in India.

2013 Ph.D., History, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London

### **Employment**

2012-present: Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Presidency University,  
Kolkata

## Research Interests

- Agrarian histories of South Asia
- History of political economy
- Histories of Empire
- Sociology of power
- Sociology of law
- Rural Sociology
- Sociology of social stratification
- Sociology of quotidian state-craft and sociology of development in contemporary South Asia
- Economic Anthropology
- History of ideas
- Postcolonial Theory

## Publications

### Articles

- ‘A Sociology of Loneliness? Ginzburg, Menocchio and ‘popular culture’ in early-modern Europe’ *Jadavpur University Journal of Sociology*, Vol. 5, February 2012
- ‘Desh-Bidesher Bhulbhulaiya: Pramatha Chaudhuri-r Ryot-er Katha’, *Ekusher Carya*, Vol. 2, No. 2, 2013, ISSN 2319-4871
- ‘Agrarian Localities: Political economy as local power in early-nineteenth century British India, *Modern Asian Studies*, 50: 3, 2016, 898-933
- ‘Introduction’ in Ezra Rashkow, Sanjukta Ghosh and Upal Chakrabarti (eds.) *Memory, Identity and the Colonial Encounter in India: Essays in Honor of Peter Robb*, (Routledge: London) (in print).

## Book Reviews

- Arupjoti Saikia, *A Century of Protests: Peasant Politics in Assam since 1900*, (New Delhi: Routledge, 2014)', *Indian Economic and Social History Review*, 52, 1, Jan-March, 2015, 11-14.

## Work in progress

- 'The work of the local' in Maitrayee Chaudhuri and Manish Thakur (ed.) *Theorising the Social: Locations and Hierarchies*, Orient Blackswan, under review

## Presentations

- "Company administration and 'Improvement': Issues around land in early-nineteenth century Orissa", *South Asian History Seminar Series, SOAS*, April, 2009
- "From Cuttack to London: Locating the Local", at a conference on "Exploring the Margins", organized by the History Association, *Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University*, August 2009.
- "The 'political-economic' and the 'political': Theorizing 'rent' in early-nineteenth century British India", *Centre of South Asian Studies, Cambridge*, April, 2011
- "Relations of Power, Geographies of Property: Land-administration, Political-economy, 'Cuttack' and 'India' in Early-nineteenth Century", *South Asian History Seminar Series, SOAS*, May, 2011
- Discussant, National Multidisciplinary Conference on 'Insecurities', *Department of Sociology, Jadavpur University*, March 4, 2013
- "The 'political' in political economy: British India, rent, and the agrarian in the early nineteenth century, *Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Kolkata*, April 9, 2013

- ‘A genealogy of the local: Methodology in political economy in early nineteenth century Britain’, *Ideologies and Institutions: A conference to celebrate the career and works of Professor Peter Robb, SOAS, London, September 19-20, 2013.*
- ‘The work of the “local”’: A critique of the geographical analytic in the social sciences’, *Theorizing the Social: Locations and Hierarchies, Centre for Studies in Social Systems, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, January 22-23, 2014*
- ‘Landed Property in early nineteenth century British India’, *Anjan Ghosh Memorial Workshop, Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Kolkata, October 18, 2014*
- ‘Remaking the nature-culture relationship: science, agriculture, and ‘improvement’ in colonial India (1880s to 1920s), 24<sup>th</sup> European Conference on South Asian Studies, July 27-30, 2016.

### **Teaching Experience**

- **January 2012:** Invited by Dr. Richard Bell, Assistant Professor, History, University of Maryland to teach undergraduate students of the University of Maryland, ‘The British in India: Nineteenth Century’ as part of his course, ‘London and the British Empire’
- **October 2012-present:** Presidency University
- **January-March 2014:** Invited to teach two modules on ‘Value’ and ‘Subject’ as part of the course ‘Contemporary Sociological Theory’ offered at the M. Phil program of the Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Kolkata

### **Courses taught**

#### **Undergraduate**

1. The Frankfurt School of Marxism
2. Political-economy of India post 1947
3. Genealogies of the Social: Histories of Sociology

#### 4. Society in India: The Long Nineteenth Century

### **Postgraduate**

1. Introduction to Social Anthropology
2. Methodology of the Social Sciences: Structuralism-poststructuralism
3. Anthropology of economy
4. Philosophy of the Social Sciences: The 'subject-object' relationship in selected works of David Hume, Immanuel Kant, G.W.F. Hegel

### **Supervisions and Examinations**

- Supervised several undergraduate and postgraduate dissertations at Presidency University
- Examined the M.Phil thesis of Sujeet George, *Colonial State and Administration in Western India, 1820s to 1880s*, submitted to the Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Kolkata, in 2013

### **Awards, Scholarships and Grants**

- 2004 Received Scindia Gold Medal and Gwalior Book Prize for coming first in Sociology (B.A. Honours, Part-I), and securing highest marks in Humanities, Part-I.
- 2008-11 Received the Felix Scholarship, to cover full costs of research at SOAS, University of London.
- 2013 Received Rs. 100,000 from the West Bengal State Council of Science and Technology, to organize National Science Day on July 26, 2013.  
(Speakers: Dr. Vandana Shiva and Professor P.Sainath, Theme: Food Security and Genetically Modified Crops)
- 2014 Received Rs. 500,000 (Rs. 300,000 from Indian Council of Social Science Research, and Rs. 200,000 from the Department of Higher Education, Government of West Bengal), as Convener of the International Conference, 'Sociological Perspectives: Old and New', held on December 22 & 23, 2014 at Presidency University.

2016 Fellow, Institute of Critical Social Inquiry, New School of Social Research, New York, June 12-18, 2016. Selected for the Master class, 'Why Study Marx' by Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak

### **Administrative experience**

- Member, Seminar committee, Department of Sociology, Presidency University
- Member, Library committee, Department of Sociology, Presidency University
- Member, Admissions Committee, Presidency University
- Member, Convocations Committee, Presidency University
- Departmental Co-Ordinator for NAAC

### **Academic Organization**

- Organized 'National Science Day' (Speakers: Vandana Shiva, and P.Sainath) in September, 2013, at Presidency University
- Organized Lecture Series by Prof. Sibaji Bandopadhyay (CSSS, Kolkata) entitled 'Sigmund Freud: A Climate of Opinion' in December 2013 at Presidency University
- Organized Lecture Series by Dr. Bodhisattva Kar (University of Capetown), entitled, 'What the Foucault' in January 2014
- Organized the 2<sup>nd</sup> SAGE-CRG lecture by Dr. Itty Abraham (National University of Singapore), entitled, 'Technology, Body and Law: The Antinomies of Rights and Governmentality', April 2014 at Presidency University
- Organized a talk by Prof. Simon Schaffer (University of Cambridge), on 'Approaches to the Study of Sciences' Past', December 2014, at Presidency University
- Convenor of the International Conference, 'Sociological Perspectives: Old and New', held on December 22 & 23, 2014 at Presidency University.

- Co-Organizer of the International Conference, ‘The Past Before Us: Heritage and History in South Asia’, held at SOAS, University of London, 5-6 September, 2016.

### **Collaborations**

- Took the leading role in forming a MOU between SOAS, London and Presidency University, involving student exchange, and a centenary-bicentenary joint conference (to be held in 2016 and 2017)
  - Took the leading role in forming a MOU between the Centre for South Asian Studies, Cambridge, and Presidency University, to facilitate exchange of Faculty members between the two institutions.
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