

CURRICULUM VITAE

Soumen Mukherjee, Dr. phil., FRAS

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PRESENT EMPLOYMENT

September 2026- Present. Professor of History, Presidency University, Kolkata.

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

October 2013- September 2026. Assistant Professor of History, Presidency University, Kolkata.

2011-2013. Research Fellow (*wissenschaftlicher Mitarbeiter*), Centre for Modern Oriental Studies, Berlin (Zentrum Moderner Orient; ZMO) for the period March 2011- September 2013. [October 2012- September 2013: On teaching secondment at the Freie Universität, Berlin].

QUALIFICATIONS/ UNIVERSITY EDUCATION

2010. Dr. phil. History of South Asia (*Geschichte Südasiens*), Heidelberg University. Grade: *Magna cum Laude*.

2004. M.A. (History), University of Calcutta (Third in the First Class in the Order of Merit).

2002. B.A. (History Honours) from Presidency College, University of Calcutta (Joint Third in the First Class in the Order of Merit). Elective General Subjects: Economics and Political Science.

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS/ EXPERTISE

Intellectual history; History of religions; Modern South Asia; Global religious, spiritual and intellectual networks; Indian Ocean worlds; Trans-Himalayan religious networks

PUBLICATIONS

Works in progress/ under review and publications in popular media not mentioned.

Books/ Monographs (Peer-reviewed):

2024. *Religion, Mysticism, and Transcultural Entanglements in Modern South Asia: Towards a Global Religious History*. Palgrave Macmillan. ISBN: 978-3-031-49636-3 (Hardcover); 978-3-031-49637-0 (E-Book); <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-49637-0>.

2017. *Ismailism and Islam in Modern South Asia: Community and Identity in the Age of Religious Internationals*. Cambridge University Press. ISBN: 9781107154087; <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781316650479>.*

* Winner of the 2021 Karim and Rosemin Karim Prize.

Edited Books (Peer-reviewed)/ Special Issue of Peer-Reviewed Journal:

2026. (With Nirmalya Guha) *Handbook of Indic Philosophy and Religion: Classical Past and Modern Histories*. Bloomsbury Publishing. ISBN: 9789361313318.
2025. (With Toshio Akai) *Esotericism, Mysticism, and the Politics of Transcendence in Modern Asia*. Anthem Press. ISBN: 9781839990434.
2024. *Empire, Religion, and Identity: Modern South Asia and the Global Circulation of Ideas*. Brill. ISBN: 978-90-04-68515-4 (Hardback); 978-90-04-69433-0 (E-Book).
2018. Guest edited (with Christopher Harding and with a Foreword by J.N. Mohanty), Special Issue: 'Mind, Soul and Consciousness: Religion, Science and Psy-Disciplines in Modern South Asia', *South Asian History and Culture*, 9, 3 (2018). ISSN: 1947-2498.
- [Reprinted as edited collection: 2019. London & New York: Routledge; ISBN 9780367218485].

Articles in Peer-reviewed Journals/ Peer-reviewed Research Papers:

2021. 'The idea of Viśva Bhāratī: cosmopolitanism, transculturality and education in early twentieth century South Asia', *South Asian History and Culture*, 12, 4: 436-444; <https://doi.org/10.1080/19472498.2021.1981673> . ISSN: 1947-2498.
2020. 'Sufis, Yogīs, and genealogies of "Islamic yoga": Broaching religio-cultural encounters in premodern eastern India', *Religion Compass* 14, 8; <https://doi.org/10.1111/rec3.12368> . Online ISSN: 1749-8171.
2018. 'Recovering wisdom of the "ancient rishis": Girindrasekhar Bose, Indra Sen, and the psy-disciplines in modern India', *South Asian History and Culture*, 9, 3: 296-322; <https://doi.org/10.1080/19472498.2018.1488369> . ISSN: 1947-2498.
2018. 'Epilogue', *South Asian History and Culture*, 9, 3: 364-371; <https://doi.org/10.1080/19472498.2018.1488367> . ISSN: 1947-2498.
2014. 'Universalising Aspirations: Community and Social Service in the Isma'ili Imagination in Twentieth-Century South Asia and East Africa', *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*, Series 3, 24, 3: 435-453; <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1356186314000315> . ISSN: 1356-1863.
- [Reprinted in: 2015. Justin Jones and Ali Usman Qasmi (eds), *The Shi'a in Modern South Asia: Religion, History and Politics*. New Delhi: Cambridge University Press, pp. 105-130].
2011. 'Being "Ismaili" and "Muslim": Some Observations on the Politico-Religious Career of Aga Khan III', *South Asia: Journal of South Asian Studies*, 34, 2: 188-207; <https://doi.org/10.1080/00856401.2011.587507> . ISSN: 0085-6401 print; 1479-0270 online.
2010. 'Two Accounts of the Colonised "Other" in South Asia: Re-exploring Alterity', *South Asia Research*, 30, 2: 165-184; <https://doi.org/10.1177/026272801003000204> . ISSN: 0262-7280.
2009. 'Conceptualizing Reform and Building Consensus: Islam in South Asia, and some Aspects of Leadership Patterns and Political Consciousness', *Heidelberg Papers in South Asian and Comparative Politics* (HPSACP); <https://doi.org/10.11588/heidok.00009376> ; eISSN 1617-5069; see <https://hasp.ub.uni-heidelberg.de/journals/hdpapers/issue/view/331> & <https://archiv.ub.uni-heidelberg.de/portale/hdpaper/>

Chapters in Edited Books (Including Peer-reviewed Book Chapters & Essay in Compendium):

- Forthcoming. 'Modern Yogis and the Human Condition: Gopinath Kaviraj and the Project of *Akhaṇḍamahāyoga*' in Knut A. Jacobsen (ed.), *Yoga and Bengal: Origins and Developments of Modern Yoga Traditions*. Routledge. [peer-reviewed]
2026. (Co-authored with Nirmalya Guha) 'Key Ideas and Concepts in Indic Religion and Philosophy: Some Prefatory Comments on (Re)Tracing Lives and Afterlives' in Nirmalya Guha and Soumen Mukherjee (eds), *Handbook of Indic Philosophy and Religion: Classical Past and Modern Histories*. Bloomsbury Publishing. ISBN: 9789361313318. [peer-reviewed]
2025. 'Sultan Muhammad Shah Aga Khan III'. In *Oxford Bibliographies Online in Islamic Studies*, Ed. Natana DeLong-Bas (New York: Oxford University Press, 2025); <https://www.oxfordbibliographies.com/view/document/obo-9780195390155/obo-9780195390155-0314.xml> [Chapter in peer-reviewed compendium/ research database]
2025. (Co-authored with Toshio Akai): 'Esotericism, Mysticism, and Spiritual Imaginaries in Modern Asia: An Introduction' in Soumen Mukherjee and Toshio Akai (eds), *Esotericism, Mysticism, and the Politics of Transcendence in Modern Asia* (London & New York: Anthem Press), pp. 1-30. ISBN: 9781839990434. [peer-reviewed]
2025. 'Mystics, Theosophists, and *Vijñāna* as *Scientia Sacra*: Gopinath Kaviraj, His Yogis, and their Indo-Tibetan Peregrinations' in Soumen Mukherjee and Toshio Akai (eds), *Esotericism, Mysticism, and the Politics of Transcendence in Modern Asia* (London & New York: Anthem Press), pp. 141-170. ISBN: 9781839990434. [peer-reviewed]
2024. 'Religion, identity, and South Asia's global entanglements since the *fin de siècle*: An introduction' in Soumen Mukherjee (ed.), *Empire, Religion, and Identity: Modern South Asia and the Global Circulation of Ideas* (Leiden & Boston: Brill), pp. 1-38. ISBN: 978-90-04-68515-4 (Hardback); 978-90-04-69433-0 (E-Book). [peer-reviewed]
2023. 'Towards the Genealogy of an Indic *Sittlichkeit*: Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan on Dharma and the Idea of Civil Religion' in Kingshuk Chatterjee (ed.), *Eurasia, India and the Spaces in Between: Essays in Memory of Hari Shankar Vasudevan* (Delhi: Primus Books), pp. 243-281; ISBN 978-93-5687-868-6 (Hardback).
2020. "'Renaissance Man"-er sandhāne: Īśvarcandra Vidyāsāgar-Rāmjay Tarkabhuṣaṇ Samvād' in Krishna Ray and Sumanta Mukhopadhyay (eds), *Īśvar Pārābāre*. Kolkata: Bethune College/ Sopān, pp. 28-32 [in Bengali]; ISBN: 978-81-948279-1-7.
2017. 'Mirza Ghulam Ahmad's Jesus and the Rediscovery of "Lost Tribes": Towards a Manifesto for Connected and Fantastic Histories' in Kingshuk Chatterjee (ed.), *Contours of Relationship: India and the Middle East*. New Delhi, KW Publishers Pvt. Ltd./ University of Calcutta CPWAS/ IFPS, pp. 13-44. ISBN-13: 978-9386288615. [Reprint edition: 2019. London & New York: Routledge; ISBN 9780367344078].
2017. 'Die internationalen Netzwerke des Aga Khan Development Network: Möglichkeiten und Grenzen eines muslimischen Kosmopolitismus' in Bernhard Gißibl & Isabella Löhr (Hg./ eds), *Bessere Welten: Kosmopolitismus in den Geschichtswissenschaften*. Frankfurt/ M & New York: Campus Verlag, pp. 343-372. [Trans. into German by Felix Kurz & Bernhard Gißibl]. ISBN 9783593506135. [peer-reviewed]

Encyclopaedia/ Lexicon Entries/ Essay:

2018. Thematic essay: 'Hindu sacred sites and pilgrimage in the Himalayas' in Andrew Hund and James A. Wren, (eds), *The Himalayas: An Encyclopedia of Geography, History, and Culture*. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, pp. 15-19. ISBN hardcover: 978-1-4408-3938-2; ISBN e-book: 978-1-4408-3939-9.
2018. Entry on 'Diwali' in Andrew Hund and James A. Wren, (eds), *The Himalayas: An Encyclopedia of Geography, History, and Culture*. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, pp. 108-110. ISBN hardcover: 978-1-4408-3938-2; ISBN e-book: 978-1-4408-3939-9.
2015. Articles on: i) 'Bahmani Sultanate' (Bahmani Sultanat); ii) 'Bihar & Orissa'; iii) 'Bijapur Sultanate' (Bijapur Sultanat); iv) 'Bombay'; v) 'Gujarat'; vi) 'Ismaili'; vii) 'Kashmir' (Kaschmir); viii) 'Parsi' (Parsen) in Hermann Hiery (Hg./ ed.), *Lexikon zur Überseegeschichte*, Stuttgart: Franz Steiner Verlag. ISBN 978-3-515-10000-7 (Print) & ISBN 978-3-515-10875-1 (eBook) [Translated into German].

SELECT AWARDS, DISTINCTIONS AND FELLOWSHIPS (LAST 10 YEARS)

2025. Smuts Visiting Research Fellowship in Commonwealth Studies, Centre of South Asian Studies, University of Cambridge (Lent & Easter Terms).
2025. Visiting Fellow, Clare Hall, University of Cambridge, coterminous with Smuts VRF (subsequently elected to Life Membership in 2025).
2024. Charles Wallace India Trust Visiting Fellowship, the Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (CRASSH), University of Cambridge (Michaelmas Term).
2023. Annemarie Schimmel Fellowship, Institute of Ismaili Studies, London.
2021. Karim and Rosemin Karim Prize.
2017. Academic visitor, Dialogue Institute, Temple University, Philadelphia (Exchange programme on the Study of the U.S. Institute for Scholars on Religious Pluralism, under the auspices of the Bureau of Educational & Cultural Affairs, United States Department of State).

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE, SELECT PROFESSIONAL SERVICE/ SERVICE TO THE FIELD AND ACADEMIC OUTREACH (2013-)

Book Series Editorship:

- 2025-. Series Editor (with Ankur Barua): book series titled 'Studies in Religion and Society in South Asia', Primus Books

Editorial Position:

- 2022-. Member, International Editorial Advisory Board, *South Asian History and Culture* (February 2022- Present; Publisher: Taylor & Francis).

Reviewer of Articles for Refereed Journals:

Journal of Hindu Studies (Oxford University Press)

South Asian History and Culture (Taylor & Francis)

ARGUMENT: Biannual Philosophical Journal (Publisher: Department of Philosophy and Sociology, Pedagogical University of Cracow, Poland)

Makerere Institute of Social Research (MISR) Review (Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda)

Reviewer of Book Proposals and/ or Book Manuscripts for Publishers:

Routledge; Sage; Cambridge University Press; Oxford University Press

Administrative Experience & Other Academic Service (Select):

Member, Committee for Interdisciplinary Internship Courses in the Humanities, Presidency University

Member, Foreign Students Admission Committee, Presidency University

Member, Dr Syama Prasad Mookerjee Fortnight Committee, Presidency University

Member, Foundation Day Lecture Organizing Committee, Presidency University

Member, Cell for Academic Collaboration (National & International), Presidency University

Nodal Person/ Coordinator at Presidency University for the Exchange Programme with Sapienza University of Rome

Member, Digital Library Advisory Committee (Humanities & Social Sciences), Presidency University

Head of the Department of History, Presidency University (22.12.2016 – 31.03.2019), and ex officio member of different academic/ administrative committees

Member of different committees and sub-committees at the department of History (e.g. PhD committee; syllabus revision committee; mentors for different batches of students etc.)

Member, Winter School Organising Committee, Presidency University (2016)

External thesis examiner in different HEIs

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