

CURRICULUM VITAE

1. NAME: DR. SURANJAN DAS.

2. DATE OF BIRTH: 24 June 1954

3. PRESENT POSITION:

Vice-Chancellor, University of Calcutta

&

**Honorary Director, Netaji Institute For Asian Studies,
Kolkata.**

4. PREVIOUS POSITIONS HELD:

- (i) **Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs, University of Calcutta**, from March 2002 to April 2008
- (ii) **Professor, Department of History, University of Calcutta** (currently on lien)
- (iii) **Reader, Department of History, University of Calcutta**
- (iv) **Lecturer, Department of History, University of Calcutta**
- (v) **Lecturer, Department of History, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan**
- (vi) **Lecturer, Department of History, Vidyasagar College, Kolkata**
- (vii) **UGC Junior Research Fellow, Department of History, University of Calcutta**

5. ACADEMIC RECORD:

- (i) **B.A. (History Hons.) Examination of the University of Calcutta, 1974 from Presidency College, Kolkata First Class First.**
- (ii) **MA (History) examination of the University of Calcutta, 1976 First Class First** (Examination held in 1977 and results published in February 1978)

- (iii) **D. Phil. from the University of Oxford in 1987** for the dissertation on 'Communal Riots in Bengal 1905-1947'.

6. PRIZES, SCHOLARSHIPS, FELLOWSHIPS/ HONOURS:

(A) *INTERNATIONAL*

- (i) **Herbert Memorial Prize, University of Oxford, 1986.**
- (ii) **Radhakrishnan Memorial Bequest, University of Oxford, 1987.**
- (iii) **Frere Exhibition for Indian Studies, University of Oxford, 1986-7.**
- (iv) **Overseas Research Scholarship, United Kingdom, 1985-1987.**
- (v) **Honorary Junior Research Fellow, St. Antony's College, University of Oxford 1988-1991**
- (vi) **International Visitor to the USA under the USIS International Visitorship Programme, 1988.**
- (vii) **Visiting Professor, Maison Des Sciences De L'Homme, Paris, May-June 1994, April-May 1995, May-June 1997, November 2004, September-October 2006.**
- (viii) **Visiting Scholar, Program of Arms Control, Disarmament and International Security, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA, March-June 1993; May-June 1996.**
- (ix) **Visiting Professor, Department of Political Science, University of New Mexico, USA, October-December 1997.**
- (x) **Visiting Professor, British Academy, United Kingdom, 2000.**
- (xi) **Visiting Scholar, The Mershon Centre, Ohio State University, USA, 2002.**

- (xii) **Travel Award by The Wellcome Trust, London, May-June 2004, to undertake a research trip to the UK in connection with research on History of Hospitals and Medical Institutions in colonial Bengal**
- (xiii) **Honorary Professor, University of Hull, United Kingdom**

(B) National:

- (i) **National Scholarship, University of Calcutta, 1974-1976.**
- (ii) **Kuruvilla Zachariah Prize, Presidency College, Kolkata, 1974.**
- (iii) **Jubilee Merit Prize, University of Calcutta, 1974.**
- (iv) **Gold Medal, University of Calcutta, 1976.**
- (v) **Chandra Narayan Silver Medal, Presidency College, Kolkata, 1976.**
- (vi) **National Scholarship For Study Abroad, Govt. of India, Jan 1984 - Jan 1988 to study at the University of Oxford.**
- (vii) **Visiting Fellow, under the UGC's Indo-French Cultural Exchange Programme at the Maison Des Sciences, Paris, March-April 1992.**
- (viii) **President, Modern India Section, of the Indian History Congress Session, 2003.**

7. MEMBERSHIP OF PROFESSIONAL BODIES:

- (i) **Member, Indian Council of Historical Research, Government of India**
- (ii) **Vice-Chairman, Board of Trustees, Indian Museum, Kolkata**
- (iii) **Member, Archival Advisory Board, National Archives, Ministry of Culture, Government of India**
- (iv) **Member, Indo-UK Leadership Programme developed by the Governments of UK and India**

- (v) Member, Governing Council, Indian Council of World Affairs, India
- (vi) Member, Executive Council, Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, Teen Murti House, New Delhi
- (vii) Member, Executive Council, Central University of Rajasthan, Rajasthan, India
- (viii) Member, Executive Council, Central University of Haryana, Haryana, India
- (ix) Member, Academic Council of Sikkim University, Gangtok
- (x) Member, **West Bengal State Council of Higher Education, Government of West Bengal.**
- (xi) Member, **Executive Committee Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies.**
- (xii) Member, **Advisory Committee, West Bengal State Archives.**
- (xiii) Member, **Editorial Board, Bengal Past and Present.**
- (xiv) Member, **Indian History Congress**
- (xv) Member, **Governing Body, Institute of Development Studies, Kolkata**
- (xvi) Member, **Executive Committee, Calcutta Historical Society.**
- (xvii) Former Member, **University Grants Commission, Government of India** (February 2005-February 2008).
- (xviii) Former Member, **Executive Committee, National Accreditation and Assessment Council, India** (February 2005-February 2008).
- (xix) Former Member of the Court, **Academic Council, Planning Board, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi.**
- (xx) Former Member of the Court, **Burdwan University, West Bengal.**

8. PUBLICATIONS:

(A) Books:

- (i) *Communal Riots in Bengal 1905-1947* (Oxford University Press: 1991 & 1993).
- (ii) *Caste and Communal Politics in South Asia* edited jointly with S. Bandopadhyay (Calcutta: 1993)
- (iii) *Fort William: A Historical Perspective*, jointly with B. Chakrabarti and B. Chattopadhyay (Calcutta: 1996).
- (iv) *The Goondas: Towards a reconstruction of the Calcutta Underworld-* jointly with J.K. Ray (Calcutta: 1996).
- (v) *Electoral Politics in South Asia* edited jointly with Subho Basu. (Calcutta: 2000)
- (vi) *Kashmir and Sindh: Ethnicity, Nation-Building and Regional Politics in South Asia* (Calcutta and London 2001)
- (vii) *Food Movement of 1959: Documenting a Turning Point in the History of West Bengal*, jointly with Premangsu Kumar Bandyopadhyay. (Calcutta: 2004)
- (viii) *India and China: The Next Decade* edited jointly with Prof. S. D. Muni of Observer Research Foundation (New Delhi: 2009)
- (ix) *Nation Building in Developing Societies: Vignettes From South and West Asia* jointly ed. with Dr. Shantanu Chakrabarti (Kolkata: 2009)
- (x) *The Food Movement of 1966: A Documentation* (jointly ed. with Premangshu Bandhopadhyay, forthcoming)
- (xi) **The West Bank of River Hugli**, (jointly with Basudeb Chattopadhyay, (forthcoming)

(B) Articles:

1. 'The Complexities of Communal Violence in Twentieth Century Bengal: The Mymensingh Experience', *The Calcutta Historical Journal* July-June 1988.
2. 'The Crowd in Calcutta Violence 1907-1926' in B. Chattopadhyay et.al. eds *Dissent and Consensus: Social Protest in Pre-Industrial Societies* (Calcutta:1989).
3. 'Communal Violence in Twentieth Century Bengal: An Analytical Framework' *Social Scientist* June-July 1990.
4. 'Calcutta in Agitational Politics, 1911-1947' in S. Chattopadhyay ed. *Calcutta: The Living City*, Vol. II (Oxford University Press, 1991).
5. 'Rural Crime in Police Perceptions: A Study of Village Crime Note Books', jointly with B. Chattopadhyay, *Economic and Political Weekly*, 19 January 1991.
6. 'Ethnic Revivalism: Problems in the Indian Union' (jointly with B. De) in K. S. Singh ed. *Ethnicity, Caste And People: India and the Soviet Union* (Delhi: 1992)
7. 'Propaganda and the Legitimisation of Communal Ideology' in S. Das and S. Bandopadhyay eds. *Caste and Communal Politics in India* (Calcutta: 1993)
8. 'Calcutta in Turmoil: April 1919', *Bengal Past and Present* Vol.112, Nos.214-215, Parts 1 & 2 1993).
9. 'The Communal Challenge in Bengal Politics 1940-1947', *The Calcutta Historical Journal*, Vol. XVI, No.1, Jan-June 1994.
10. 'The Goondas: Towards the Reconstruction of the Calcutta Underworld through Police Records', *Economic and Political Weekly*, 29 October 1994.
11. 'The Indian National Congress and the Dynamics of Nation-Building: Aspects of Continuity and Change' in T. V. Sathyamurthy ed. *State and Nation in the Context of Social Change* (Oxford University Press: 1994).

12. 'Kashmir Revisited: Ethnicity, Nation-Building and Regional Security in South Asia', *Ethnic Studies Report* (Colombo) Vol. XII, No.1, January 1994.
13. 'Nationalism and Popular Consciousness: Bengal 1942', *Social Scientist* (April-June 1995).
14. 'The Great Calcutta Killing: August 1946' in J. Racine ed. *Calcutta 1905-1971: Au coeur des creations et des revoltes du siecle* (Paris: 1997).
15. 'Movements of People, Ideas, Trade and Technology: Towards a Peaceful Coexistence of India and Pakistan', jointly with Samina Ahmed (**Occasional Paper, Cooperative Monitoring Centre, Albuquerque, USA: 1998**)
16. 'The 1992 Calcutta riot in Historical Continuum: A Relapse into Communal Fury?', *Modern Asian Studies*, Vol. 34, Part.2, May 2000.
17. 'Regional Security through Constructive Bilateralism: Prospects for South Asian Stability', **Economic and Political Weekly** Vol. XXXV, No.49, 2-8 December 2000.
18. 'West Bengal: New Left Has to Please All', *Economic and Political Weekly* Vol. XXXVI, No.24, 16-22 June 2001.
19. 'Ethnicity And Nation-Building In India: The Naga Experience', **Presidential Address to the Modern Indian History Section of Indian History Congress, December 2003.**
20. 'Knowledge For Politics: Partisan Histories and Communal Mobilisation in India and Pakistan', jointly with Subho Basu in Max Paul Friedman and Padraic Kenney (eds.) *Partisan Histories: The Past in Contemporary Global Politics* (NY: 2005)
21. 'Entangled Isolation: Construction and Articulation of Naga Ethnicity in Indian Polity' in Phillippe Gervais-Lambony, Frederic Landy and Sophie Oldfield (eds.) *Reconfiguring Identities and Building Territories in India and Africa* (New Delhi: 2005)

22. Review articles in *Bengal Past and Present, Economic and Political Weekly, Visva- Bharati Quarterly*.
23. Contributor to the *New Dictionary of National Biography* (Oxford University Press).
24. 'India and Bhutan: The Case of a Symbiotic Relationship', jointly with Shantanu Chakrabarti in *Indian Foreign Affairs Journal*, Vol. 2, No. 3, July-September 2007.
25. 'The Higher Education in India and the Challenge of Globalisation' in *Social Scientist* Vol. No. 35, No. 3-4 (Mar-April, 2007)
26. 'Behind the Blackened Faces: The 19th Century Bengali Dacoits' in *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. XLII No. 35, September 1-7, 2007
27. 'India-Iran Relations: Problems and Prospects for Developing a Strategic Partnership' jointly with Shantanu Chakrabarti in Suranjan Das and Shantanu Chakrabarti eds. *Nation Building in Developing Societies: Vignettes From West and South Asia* (Kolkata: 2009)

9. SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES:

(A) *International*

Attended international seminars /workshops /conferences in the UK, Germany, France, Italy, The Netherlands, Sweden, the USA, Vietnam, China, Uzbekistan, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, and Sri Lanka.

Among the institutes where I have presented papers are: **the University of Oxford (UK); University of Edinburgh (UK); Centre For South Asian Studies of the University of Cambridge (UK); Centre For South Asian**

Studies of the University of Edinburgh (UK); University of Paris X (France); New York University (USA) Maison Des Sciences De L'Homme (Paris); Institute of South Asian Studies, National University, Singapore; Remarque Institute, New York (USA); China Center For Contemporary Studies, Beijing (China); University La Sapienza, Rome (Italy); Tashkent State Institute For Oriental Studies, Tashkent (Uzbekistan), Institute of Oriental Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow, Russia, Regional Centre For Strategic Studies, Sri Lanka, UNIVERSIDADE FEDERAL DO RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil.

I have also participated in the **Wilton Park Conferences, Sussex, UK**, sponsored by the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office, in 2001 and 2004.

(B) National

Participated in national seminars and workshops organised by **North-East Hill University, Jamia Millia Islamia and University of Hyderabad, Nehru Memorial Library and Museum, Chandigarh University, Kurukshetra University, Calcutta University, Jadavpur University, Burdwan University, North Bengal University, Rabindra Bharati University and University of Kalyani**, in History, Politics and International Relations.

(c) Recent important national/international seminars attended:

- i) Presented a paper in the international seminar on 'Partisan Histories', **Remarque Institute, New York**, October 2003.
- ii) Presented a paper in **Maison Des Sciences De L'Homme, Paris**, on 'The Use and Misuse of Past in Modern South Asian Politics', November 2004.
- iii) Presented a paper on 'Ethnicity in Pakistan: The Case of Sindh' at an international seminar on Pakistan in the 21st century, **Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi**, February 2004.
- iv) Participated in an interactive session at the **Institute of South Asian Studies, National University of Singapore**, 2005.
- v) Delivered Dr. S. P. Sen Memorial Lecture at the **Institute of Historical Studies, Kolkata**, June 2005.
- vi) Delivered Sanat Lahiri Memorial Lecture on 'Globalisation and Challenges in Higher Education in India', at **Public Relations Society of India, Kolkata Chapter**, in April 2006.

- vii) Presented a paper in a conference on ‘Rising to the Challenge of Globalisation: Experience in China and India’ organized by the **China Center For Contemporary Studies, Beijing**, 28-29 August 2006.
- viii) Presented a paper on ‘The Higher Education and the Challenge of Globalisation in the Context of the Indian Reforms’, **Maison Des Sciences De L’Homme, Paris**, 4 October, 2006.
- ix) Participated in an interactive session on ‘Higher Education in India’ at **University La Sapienza, Rome**, October 2007.
- x) Participated in a seminar on ‘Central Asia-India Dialogue: Building a Partnership on the Foundation of Rich Cultural Historical Heritage’ at Tashkent under the auspices of the **Tashkent State Institute For Oriental Studies and the ICCR** from 13 to 15 March 2008.
- xi) Participated in an academic delegation of Vice-Chancellors to Israel from 6 July to 12 July 2008.
- xii) Participated in an interactive session at the Institute of Oriental Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow, Russia, on 13th September 2008.
- xiii) Participated in the 58th Pugwash Conference on ‘Science and World Affairs: *Justice, Peace and Nuclear Disarmament*,’ held in the Hague, The Netherlands, from 17th April to 20th April 2009.
- xiv) Participated in conference on ‘India in Focus’ held at UNIVERSIDADE FEDERAL DO RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil, from 10th August to 12th August 2009.
- xv) Presented a paper on ‘India At Crossroads: Historical Perspectives’ at the Conference on 60 Years Of Indian Independence: Promoting Regional and Human Security’, Kyoto University, on 3rd and 4th February 2010.
- xvi) Presented a paper on ‘The Cultural Unity of India: A Plea for Re-emphasis’ in the Fiji National University, Fiji, on 29th April 2010.
- xvii) Visited the University of Hull, UK, in May 2010 and delivered a lecture on ‘The Indian Republic Historical Perspectives’.

- xviii)** Presented a paper on ‘Indo-Uzbek Relations – Past, Present and Future’ on 27th July 2010, at the Al-Beruni Institute of Oriental Studies, Tashkent.

10. COURSES TAUGHT AT MA & M. PHIL. LEVELS:

- (i) Nationalist politics in India, 1921-1947.
- (ii) International Relations since 1945 with special reference to India in contemporary world politics.
- (iii) Communal and Ethnic politics in contemporary South Asia.

11. RESEARCH PROJECTS IN PROGRESS

- (i) ‘Ethnic Identities and Regional History: Trends in post-colonial South Asian Politics’
- (ii) ‘Regional and Sub-regional Cooperation in South Asia’
- (iii) ‘India’s Look East Policy & Implications for West Bengal’

12. PH. D. RESEARCH GUIDANCE

Till date **FOUR** scholars who have worked with me have received Ph. D. degrees of Calcutta University, **TWO** scholars are currently completing their Ph. D. dissertations under my supervision.

13. ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE:

- (i) **Vice-Chancellor, University of Calcutta**, since May 2008
- (ii) **Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs, University of Calcutta**, from March 2002 to April 2008
- (iii) **Honorary Director, Netaji Institute For Asian Studies, Kolkata**, a social science research institute sponsored by the Government of West Bengal.
- (iv) Coordinator, UGC's CAS Programme in History, University of Calcutta
- (v) Joint Director, **Nehru Studies Centre**, Department of History, University of Calcutta
- (vi) Joint Director, **Pakistan and West Asian Studies Centre**, Department of History, University of Calcutta
- (vii) Joint Director, **Centre for Study of China and Her Neighbourhood**, University of Calcutta
- (viii) **Coordinator of Peace Studies Group, Department of History, University of Calcutta**, which is funded by the Ford Foundation
- (iv) Worked as a member of an Indo-French collaborative research project on **'Spaces, territories and identities in South Africa and India: A comparison'** (Sponsored on the French side by Departement de Geographie, Laboratoire Geotropiques, University of Paris X-Nanterre, Maison Des Sciences de l'Homme, Paris and French Institute of South Africa, Johannesburg)
- (v) **Head of the Department of History, University of Calcutta** 1995-1997.
- (vi) **Chairman, Undergraduate Board of Studies in History, University of Calcutta**, 1995-1999.
- (vii) **Treasurer, St. Antony's College, Junior Common Room, University of Oxford, UK**, 1985.

- (iv) **President, St. Antony's College, Junior Common Room, University of Oxford, UK, 1986.**
- (v) **Served as Chairman, Overseas Students' Committee, Oxford University Students' Committee, UK.**