



UNIVERSITY OF CALCUTTA
FACULTY ACADEMIC PROFILE/ CV

Full name of the faculty member: RAJAT SANYAL

Designation: Assistant Professor (Stage II)

Specialisation: Historical Archeology, North Indian Epigraphy, History of Science, Archaeological Field Methods, Archaeological Geography



Contact information :

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Academic qualifications:

College/ university from which the degree was obtained	Abbreviation of the degree
University of Calcutta	B.Sc. (Anthropology)
University of Calcutta	M.Sc. (Archaeology)
University of Calcutta	Ph.D. (Archaeology)

Positions held/ holding:

Assistant Professor (Stage II)

Research interests:

Please cite briefly the areas of research interests

- Historical archaeology of eastern India with emphasis on early medieval archaeology
- Sanskrit epigraphy with emphasis on inscriptions of the Pala period.
- History of science in eastern India emphasizing environmental and ecological history.

Research guidance:

Number of researchers awarded M.Phil/ Ph.D degrees: N.A.

Number of researchers pursuing M.Phil/ Ph.D: 7

Projects:

Current projects:

- 2014-17. *Environmental and Ecological Change as Inferred from the Copperplate Inscriptions of Early Bengal* (Principal Investigator), under the Indian National Science Academy (category of History of Science).
- *An Annotated Geographical Glossary of Inscriptions from Eastern India* (Joint Investigator) under UGC CAS (Phase II) of the Department of Sanskrit, Jadavpur University.

Select list of publications:

a) Journals:

- **2010** Two Inscribed Images of Early Mediaeval Eastern India. *Journal of the Asiatic Society* 52/1: 69-84.
- **2011** Another Inscribed Image of the Reign of Rāmapāla from South Bihar. *Pratna Samiksha (A Journal of Archaeology)*, New Series 2: 139-44.
- **2013** Beyond Explorations: A Case Study on Early Medieval Archaeology from Epigraphic Perspective. *Pratna Samiksha (A Journal of Archaeology)*, New Series 4: 33-51.
- **2013** (with Arlo Griffiths and Nicolas Revire) An Inscribed Bronze Sculpture of a Buddha in *bhadrāsana* at Museum Rangawarsita in Semarang (Central Java, Indonesia). *Arts Asiatiques* 68: 3-26.
- **2014** (with B. Basak, S. Chatterjee, K. Gangopadhyay, S. Ghosh) Recent Discovery of Black and Red Ware Sites in Purba Medinipur, West Bengal. *Pratna Samiksha (A Journal of Archaeology)*, New Series 5: 1-6.

b) Books/ book chapters :

- 2013 (with Asok Datta). Neolithic-Chalcolithic Problems in Eastern India. *Neolithic-Chalcolithic Cultures of Eastern India* (ed. K.N. dikshit), pp.1-16. New Delhi: Indian Archaeological Society.
- 2013 Between Text and Context: Village Budhavaḍā of Rajibpur Inscriptions Vis-à-vis Early Medieval Settlements in Northern Bengal. *Re-visiting Early India: Essays in Honour of D.C. Sircar* (eds. Suchandra Ghosh et al.) pp. 149-78. Kolkata: R. N. Bhattacharya.
- 2014 The Pala-Sena and Others. *History of Ancient India [Volume 5]: Political History and Administration (c AD. 750-1300)* (eds. Dilip K. Chakrabarti and Makkhan Lal), pp. 165-213. New Delhi: Aryan Books International and Vivekananda International Foundation.
- 2014 (with Sharmila Saha). Templescape and Political Culture under the Mallas of Medieval Bengal: A Case Study. *Urbanity and Economy: The Pre-Modern Dynamics in Eastern India* (eds. Ratnabali Chatterjee), pp. 168-79. Kolkata: SUCHI.

c) Conference/ seminar volumes:

- 2008. (with R.K. Chattopadhyay) Contexts and Contents of Early Historic Sites in the South Bihar Plains: An Archaeological Perspective. *Archaeology of Early Historic South Asia* (Eds. Gautam Sengupta and Sharmi Chakraborty), pp. 247-80. New Delhi: Pragati Publications.

d) Other publications :

- 2008. Decorative and Non-Decorative Bricks [Chapter V]. [Contribution in] Asok Datta. *Excavations at Moghalmari: First Interim Report 2003-04 to 2007-08*, pp.31-62. Kolkata: The Asiatic Society.
- 2014 Inscribed Sculptures [Appendix I]. [Contribution in] Gautam Sengupta and Sharmila Saha. *Vibrant Rock: A Catalogue of Stone Sculptures in the State Archaeological Museum, West Bengal* pp. 253-76. Kolkata: Directorate of Archaeology and Museums, Government of West Bengal.

Membership of Learned Societies:

- Life Member, The Asiatic Society, Kolkata.
- Member, Editorial Board, *Puravritta: Journal of the Directorate of Archaeology and Museums, Government of West Bengal*.

Invited lectures delivered:

- Delivered two lectures on “Siddhamatrka and Gaudi: Writing Styles in Early Mediaeval Eastern India” in an International Workshop on *Manuscriptology and Sanskrit Text Editing* held by the Department of Philosophy, Jadavpur University in collaboration with the Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies, Oxford University at the Jadavpur University in August, 2009.
- Delivered a lecture on “Art, Artefact, Technology: Archaeological Perspectives” in a Refresher Course on *Sociology as an Art Form* organized by the Department of Sociology, Jadavpur University in March 2012.
- Delivered a lecture on “Decipherment of Scripts” in a training course on *Heritage and Museum Studies* organized by the Indian Museum, Kolkata in September 2012.
- Delivered two lectures on “Learning basic Brahmi” and “Deciphering Brahmi on Early Indian Coins” in a training course on *Ancient Indian Numismatics* organized by the Centre for Archaeological Studies and Training, Eastern India, Kolkata, in September 2012.
- Delivered a series of eight lectures on different aspects of *Indian Epigraphy and Palaeography* in a training course on *Indian Epigraphy and Palaeography* in the Indian Museum, Kolkata between November 2012 and January 2013.
- Delivered two lectures on “Learning Gupta Brāhmī and its Derivatives” and “Reading some Excerpts from Inscriptions in Gupta and Post-Gupta Brāhmī” in a Training Course on *Early Indian Epigraphy and Palaeography* at the Bihar Heritage Development Society, Patna, in March 2013.
- Delivered lecture titled “From Epigraphic Text to Archaeological Context: Perspectives in Early Medieval Archaeology of Bengal” in the *Monthly Lecture Programme* of the Department of Ancient Indian History and Culture, University of Calcutta in December 2013.
- Delivered lecture titled “Text and Archaeology: The Interplay of Contexts” in the *Departmental Seminar* on organized by the Department of Sanskrit, Vivekananda Mahavidyalay (Haripal, Hooghly) in January 2014.
- Delivered lecture titled ‘New Evidence of Monastic Buddhism in Western Bengal: Excavations at Moghalmari’ at the School of Historical Studies, Nalanda University, in September 2015.

Awards:

- Awarded Post-Doctoral Associateship by the Centre for Archaeological Studies and Training, Eastern India on the proposal titled *Archaeology of Early Mediaeval Rural Settlements in West Bengal: A Study in Epigraphic Sources*, in July 2009.

Other notable activities:

- Worked as Member of the *Physical Verification Committee* of the Indian Museum, Kolkata between Dec 2011 and May 2014, as Expert in verifying artefacts in the Museum.
- Chaired an open session in a symposium on *Archaeology of Eastern India* organized by the Archaeological Survey of India in Kolkata on the occasion of its Sesquicentennial Celebration in 2011.
- Refereed research articles for the *Journal of the Asiatic Society*.
- Working as Guest Faculty in the PG Evening Studies in Sanskrit (Epigraphy and Historical Geography) in the Department of Sanskrit, Jadavpur University.