

A brief Bio-data

Name: Dr Swati Biswas

Office: Department of Islamic History and Culture, University of Calcutta, Kolkata, India

Date of Birth: 9th July. 1971

Nationality: Indian

Mailing address: 'Anamika', 27, U, J.K Mitra Road P.O –Belgachia, West Bengal .Kolkata-7000 37.
India

Email id: bswati71@gmail.com

Educational Qualification: M.A, Ph. D

Present designation: Assistant Professor

Education: I did my schooling from Loreto Convent. I completed my graduation from Bethune Government College in History Honours. I post graduated from the Department of Islamic History and Culture, University of Calcutta and stood first. I completed my **Ph.D** from the **Department of Art History, Kala Bhavan, VisvaBharati, Santiniketan, India in 2014**. The area of my research is Early Mughal Painting (**Topic-From Ferghana to FatehpurSikri-the making of early Mughal Painting till 1584**)

Past and present Experience: I started my career in gender studies in the project Status of Muslim Women in West Bengal as the principle investigator at Women Studies Research Centre,University of Calcutta, Kolkata, India. Later I joined another project on Compilation of Annotated Bibliography of Raja Ram Mohan Roy at the social science wing of Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata, India

I started teaching in the undergraduate course in the department of IslamicHistory and Culture at Maulana Azad Government College from 2000. I joined the Department of Islamic History and Culture, University of Calcutta, Kolkata, India in 2003 in the post graduate course.

I shifted to art history in 2006 and completed two major training in Art Appreciation course at Birla Academy, Kolkata in 2006 and History of Architecture from Centre for Archaeological Studies and Training, West Bengal. I started my Ph. D in 2008 at the **Department of Art History, Kala Bhavan, VisvaBharati, Santiniketan, India in 2014**. The area of my research was Early Mughal Painting (**Topic-From Ferghana to FatehpurSikri-the making of early Mughal Painting till 1584**) under the guidance of Prof Asok K Das and Prof JanakJhankarateNarzary.

Language known: English, Hindi, Urdu, Bengali and Spanish.

Course taught:

- a. Socio-Cultural history of Sultanate India (compulsory paper) in the post graduate course in the Islamic History and Culture Department, University of Calcutta, Kolkata, India (2003-till date)
- b. Social history of pre-Mughal medieval Bengal (compulsory paper) in the post graduate course in the Islamic History and Culture Department, University of Calcutta, Kolkata, India (2003-till date)
- c. History of medieval painting in India (special paper) in the post graduate course in the Islamic History and Culture Department, University of Calcutta, Kolkata, India (2003-till date)
- d. Medieval gender theory and medieval art and gender in the MPhil course at Women Studies Research Centre, University of Calcutta, Kolkata, India (2003-till date)

Awards Won:

- a. President's award for excellence in post-graduation in 1996.
- b. Gold medal from University of Calcutta for Post-Graduation result (stood first).
- c. Nehru Trust Fellowship in 2016
- d. Charles Wallace Fellowship in 2016

Other area of interest:

- a. I do contribute socio political essays and excerpts in various online magazines and other printed journals and newspapers.
- b. I also do story and script writing for Bengali Films.

EPG Pathshala Module: 2017-18

1. 15 Modules in Medieval Indian History and
2. 7 Modules in Medieval Art and Architecture

Project:

Principle Investigator for UGC-UPE Phase II :

Title of Project: Movement of motifs in chinese trade ceramics, illustrated books and paintings through medieval trade routes of asia (13th -17th century): an intercultural dialogue

Publication:

1. The Western Painting School in the 15th century, *The Quarterly Review of Historical Studies* 2013, ISSN-0033-5800
2. An Illustrated Laura Chanda and Glimpse of Pre-Mughal India, *Journal of Bengal Art*, Vol. 19, Dhaka 2014, ISSN: 1607-1344

3. Women in Medieval Bengal: Survey of Few Contemporary Bangla Literary Texts, *The Dialectic of Perception-The Relation of History and Literature* edited by Dilip Coomer Ghosh and Ranjit Sen. Publisher Institute of Historical Studies, ISBN-978-81-92811-0-0
4. The pre- Mughal illustrated Shahnama of India, Religion and Culture in India Across the Ages- Historical Reflections , Department of History-Ramakrishna Mission Vidyamandir, Belur Math, April, 2013, ISBN-978-81-92811-0-0
5. Jain Manuscripts-14th to 17th the century, Manuscripts of India, Edited by Projit Palit, , 2018 ISBN-778-81-62851-0-0

(works in press not mentioned)

Papers presented:

1. Illustrated 16th century pre-Mughal style Sufi Premakhyan of Mrigavat: Canvas of Society and Gender Relations, International Seminar at Jadavpur University in collaboration with Anneliese Maier Research Award of Humboldt Foundation , Bonn and Ludwig Maximilian University , Munich on Environment ,Religion & Culture: Research Methods and Perspectives on Pre Colonial South Asia, 2019
2. Upomahadeshe Samajik Itihash er Dhara: KM Ashraf theke Abdul Karim at the international Seminar on Professor Abdul Karim: Jibon o Karma, July 2018
3. Images of Rama: the changing trends in Art, National seminar on Bio-Cultural Heritage of Eastern India: Theoria, Praxis and Poiesis, Department of Anthropology, Univeristy of Calcutta, March 2018
4. Changes in the images of Rama: Case study of zila Samastipur and Darbhanga in the seminar 13th -19th century Historiography :Recent esearches, 13th -19th century, 2018
5. Revisiting the world of Shaikh Qutban's Mrigavat, ICSBA, Dhaka, Bangladesh, February, 2017
6. Medieval North Indian Text of illustrated Mrigavat and LaurachandaL Unique literary exchange, Department of English Language and Literature, Mesmac International Conference, MES Mampad College, Mallapuram , Kerala, February, 2017
7. Key Note Address on Trends on Indian Social Sciences, Department of History, Mesmac International Conference, MES Mampad College, Mallapuram , Kerala, February, 2017
8. Mughal Architectural Aesthetics, Art Appreciation Course, Allahabad Museum, June 2017
9. Understanding the idioms of Mughal Paintings ,Art Appreciation Course, Allahabad Museum, June 2017
10. Medieval History of Painting: the canvas of cultural past of India , National seminar on Passages through Collective Consciousness: Homage to Emile Durkheim", organized by the Eastern Regional Centre of the Anthropological Survey of India ,19th November, 2017
11. Sufism in Mughal Court: A Journey through Mughal Illustrations, International Conference on Understanding Sufism: Reflections from Manuscripts and Popular Culture, Department of History , Calcutta Girls College in collaboration with National Mission for Manuscript , IGNC, Ministry of Culture, Govt of India, New Delhi and West Bengal Urdu Academy , November 2017
12. Pre Mughal Sufi Premakhyan :Gender Relations and Dialogues, National seminar on , Discourses on Diversity, Identity and Integrity: Multi-disciplinary Approaches towards Indian Society" December, 2017 Anthropological Survey of India

13. Introduction to Medieval Surface Archaeology for Reconstructing Medieval History, International Workshop on Medieval Surface Archaeology- its uses as source material for reconstructing medieval history, February, 2016, Dept of IHC. CU
14. Curious Illustration of Rampur Jami ut Tawarikh, International Seminar on History of Central Asia and Asia and India: Cultural Traits ,February, 2016, Dept of IHC. CU
15. Making of the Mughal Empire through Early Mughal Paintings in the workshop titled Sources and Expressions of Culture: Early Medieval and Medieval Indian Context organized by the Department of History , Serampore College, March 2016
16. The unresolved questions of Timurnama- the first Mughal Historical Project, 23rd International Conference of the European Association for South Asian Archaeology and Art, Cardiff University, Wales, UK, July 2016
17. Early Mughal Intervention in unfinished Manuscripts, National Seminar on Painting Traditions in Pre-Modern India organized by Directorate of Archaeology and Museums, Government of West Bengal and West Bengal Heritage Commission, September, 2016
18. From Ferghana to Fatehpur Sikri: A school in the making, National Seminar on Mughal Miniature at Allahabad Museum, November 2016
19. The Enthralling Early 16th century Jainesque Shahnamah and the Pre- Mughal Context of the Manuscript, National Conference on Buddhist and Jaina Art: LandmarksPhilosophical Background and Social Contributions, 25th Indian Art History Congress, 2016
20. Activities in the Mughal atelier and Mughal Painting during early years' Workshop on Mughal atelier and Mughal Painting during early years Derozio Memorial College, 8th December, 2015
21. Revisiting the World of poet Qutban11th International Conference on Bengal Art, ICSBA, Dhaka, February, 2015
22. MadhyakalinChitritPuthi: Itihaskikuchalagsisoch (in Hindi) Conference on 'RashtriyaSangoshti-BharatiyaChitrakala' Indian Museum, 5th September, 2014
23. Culture through ages-Patuas of Bengal Building Bridges: Folk and Literate Culture Punarnaba Kolkata: A Social Organization in collaboration with Eastern Zonal Cultural Centre and Department of Economics and Politics, VisvaBharati University, 6th-9th March 2014
24. The pre- Mughal illustrated Shahnama of India Religion and Culture in India Across the Ages- Historical Reflections , Department of History-Ramakrishna Mission Vidyamandir, Belur Math in collaboration with the Department of History, Serampur College 24-25thFebruary, 2012

Lecture Course

1. **Pre-Mughal India Painting' 16th November 2015**, Nine Month Appreciation of Indian Art The Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture from 2010 till date
2. **Mughal Architecture'-31st July 2015** Six Month Art Appreciation Course RajyaCharukalaParshad from 2012 till date