

Curriculum Vitae

Name- Dr Shaona Barik

Date of Birth-20.08.1986

E-mail- shaona8676@yahoo.com

Contact No.- 918902048434

Date of Joining Visva Bharati- 13.05.2013

Educational Qualifications

Completed PhD from Jadavpur University in 2019

MA in English from Jadavpur University in 2010

BA in English from Jadavpur University in 2008

Title and synopsis of PhD thesis

Title- Haunted by the Empire: Representations of the Occult and the Uncanny in Colonial Fictions about India, 1870-1940.

Synopsis: In the dissertation I have looked at the diverse ways in which women and men serving the Empire in direct or indirect ways engaged with the uncanny, the paranormal and the occult they imagined or encountered in the Indian subcontinent in their writing. In order to elaborate on this theme, I have looked at certain examples, such as uncanny objects, the so-called "devilry" and arcane practices of the "natives" including the strange actions of the fakirs and other practitioners of the occult, and so on. I have looked both at popular (and populist) representations of the occult in India and more scholarly, empathetic or syncretic approaches. A section in one of the chapters is on the uncanny tales about Indian domestic servants written by the British in India during the colonial period.

Professional Experience in Teaching- 10years

Assistant Professor of English, Visva Bharati, Santiniketan, India from 2013- till present

Assistant Professor of English, JD Birla College, Kolkata, India from 2011-2013

Assistant Teacher of English ST. Xavier's School, Kolkata, India from 2010-2011

List of Publications in Journals

Shaona Barik, "'Sympathetic' Appropriations of Kali and the tantras: Reflections on Religious and Cultural Negotiations During the Colonial Era," *Jadavpur University Essays and Studies*, vol. 32 (2018): 172-186, accessed February 21, 2021, <https://juenglishorg.files.wordpress.com/2020/10/juesvol.-32-2018.pdf#page=172>.

----- "Reclaiming Agency and Exploring Freedom through Participation in Seances: A Study of the Victorian Women's Interest in Spiritualism," *The Confidential Clerk*, Journal of the Centre for Victorian Studies, Jadavpur University, vol. 5 (2019): 86-98, accessed February 21, 2021, <https://theconfidentialclerk.com/the-confidential-clerk-volume-5/>

-----“A Study of the Victorian Women’s Interest in Spiritualism.” *Osmania Journal of English Studies*, Department of English, Osmania University, Hyderabad (2019): pp. 25-37. ISSN: 0474- 8107.

-----“Colonial Masculinity Its Depiction, in Late Nineteenth Century and Early Twentieth Century British Fiction Based in India.” *The Visva-Bharati Quarterly*, vol.23 and 24, no.1 and 2 (January-June, 2015): 75-82.

-----"The Ambivalent Perception of Kali by the British in Colonial India," *The Visva-Bharati Quarterly*, vol. 25, no.1 (April- June, 2016): 77-88.

----- “The Indian Ascetics in the British Imagination during Colonial Rule,” *Appropriations*, Journal of the Department of English, Bankura Christian College, vol. X (2014-15): 173-185.

----- “Mental Illness of the British Sahibs in Late Nineteenth, Early Twentieth Century Colonial India,” *Lapis Lazuli*, vol.17, no. 2 (Autumn, 2017):11-22, accessed February 21, 2021, <http://pintersociety.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/2-Barik-Shaona.pdf>.

----- “Journey of the European Occultists to India in Search of Esoteric Knowledge in Late Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Century,” *Gnosis*, vol. 14, no. 1 (October, 2017):111-121, accessed February 21, 2021, http://thegnosisjournal.com/online/book/issue_1_45c48cce2e2d7fbdea1afc51c7c6ad26_9.pdf.

----- “Margaret Noble or Sister Nibedita’s attempt to explain the goddess ‘kali’ to the British Children in her Seminal Work Kali the Mother,” *Heteroglossia*, Journal of the Department of English, Purulia, vol. VIII (2018): 63-71.

Papers presented in Seminars and Conferences

28.6.2020. Paper title, ‘Haunted by the Empire: The British Man’s tryst with Epidemics in India during the Nineteenth Century’ in a webinar on ‘Literature and the Pandemic’ organised by the Department of English Visva Bharati, Santiniketan.

7.10.2020. Paper title, ‘Uncanny Indian Rivers in British Mindset in Colonial India’ in a three- day webinar on ‘Conference on Indian Rivers’ organised by the Indian Institute of Advanced Studies, Shimla.

23.3.18. Paper title, ‘Reclaiming Agency and Exploring Freedom through Participation in Seances: A Study of the Victorian Women’s Interest in Spiritualism’ in a one- day symposium on ‘Female Suffrage and the Woman Question in Nineteenth Century Britain’ organized by the Centre of Advanced Study, Department of English and the Centre for Victorian Studies, Jadavpur University.

7.6.2018. Paper title, ‘Depiction of the Ghosts of Native Servants in Bodies of Works Produced by the British in India during the Late Nineteenth Century’ in two days national symposium on ‘Victorian Indian Identities’ organized by the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Madras.

22.11.2018- 24.11.2018. Paper title, ‘British Fantasy about Constructing Clockwork Coolie in Colonial India’ in an International Conference on ‘Workshops of Horrible Creation: 200 Years of Imagined Humans’ organized by the Department of English Jadavpur University and Kalpabiswa Webzine.

28.1.2016-29.1.2016. Paper title, 'Uncanny Tales reflecting the Memsahibs' Traumatic Experiences in India,' at a two-day international seminar on 'Exploring Trauma Inter-Disciplinary Perspectives' held at Gour Banga University, Malda in collaboration with British Council.

10.9.2014-12.9.2014. Paper title, 'Knowledge Production about the Indian Ascetics by the British in the Turn of the Century' at 'National Students' Conference on Literary and Cultural Studies' held at Centre for Comparative Literature, University of Hyderabad.

12.9.2014-13.9.2014. Paper title, 'Non-Normative Sexuality in the Gotipua Dance Form' at 'International Conference on Fourth World Literature and Culture' held at Higher Education and Research Society, Pune.

19.9.2014-20.9.2014. Paper title, 'Uncanny Tales Published by British Memsahibs in the Turn of the Century on India' at UGC sponsored International Seminar on 'Gender Issues: Transcending Boundaries of Culture' held at Andhra University, Vishakhapatnam.

Seminars Organised

25 March 2019. One day seminar on *Laughter in Literature and Culture* in the Department of English Visva Bharati. Coordinators: Shaona Barik and Stuti Mamen.

Upcoming Projects

Publication in edited Book

A chapter entitled, "Haunted by the Empire: Memsahibs Writing the Ghosts of "Hindoostan" post the mutiny of 1857," in an edited volume titled, *Vision, Contestation and Deception: Interrogating Gender and the Supernatural in the Victorian Shorter Fiction*.

A chapter titled, "Uncanny Rivers in the British Mindset in Colonial India," in a book project to be published from Indian Institute of Advanced Studies, Shimla.

Awards/ Fellowship received

Associateship of the UGC Inter-University Centre for Humanities and Social Sciences at the Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Shimla, for three consecutive periods of one month each from 2017-2020.

