


Faculty Member	
	<p>Name: Saurav Dasthakur</p> <p>Department: English</p> <p>Present Designation: Associate Professor</p> <p>Areas of Specialization/Interest: British Modernism; Postcolonial Studies; Children's Literature; Culture Studies</p> <p>Official Address: Department of English, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan, West Bengal 731235, India</p> <p>Address for Correspondence: Department of English, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan, West Bengal 731235, India</p> <p>Contact Number(s):</p> <p>Email ID(s): saurav.dasthakur@visva-bharati.ac.in</p>
A. Basic Information	
Date of Birth	05 November, 1978
Official Address	Department of English, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan, West Bengal 731235, India
Residential Address (optional)	
Date of joining at Visva-Bharati and post	30 December, 2002; Lecturer
Previous services before joining at Visva-Bharati	
Experience of College / University Teaching in Years	22+
Subject Studied in PG Level	English
Highest Academic Qualification	PhD
Title of the Doctoral / Post-Doctoral Thesis	Fictional experiments in the era of High-Modernism: The novels of L. G. Gibbon, Arthur Koestler and George Orwell in the 1930s
Additional Responsibilities at Visva-Bharati	Member, Green Initiative Committee
Membership in Reputed Institutions / Organizations	i.
Invited / Nominated Member in Academic / Cultural / Administrative / Industrial Bodies other than Visva-Bharati	i.
Award / Recognition / Distinction Received	i.
Research Project (with details)	(i) Completed:

	(ii) Ongoing:
Link of the Vidwan / Research Gate / Others	https://vidwan.inflibnet.ac.in/profile/151815
Number of Scholars Awarded Ph.D. under Supervision	5
Number of Scholars doing Ph.D. at present (August 2025)	5
Special Achievement (Professional / Academic / Cultural / Administrative / Industrial / Others)	
B. Publications	
1. Book(s)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Rabindranath Tagore and Music in the Age of Nationalism</i> (OUP, 2025 [forthcoming]); 978-01-989789-2-3; Criticism; Single Author. 2. <i>Rajmohaner Stree</i> [Rajmohan's Wife] (Kolkata: Ketab-e, 2025), 978-81-983781-2-5; Novel in translation; Single Editor. 3. <i>Khali Haat</i> [Naked Hand] (Bolpur: Birutjatio, 2019); 978-81-939429-5-6; Poetry in translation; Single Translator. 4. <i>Timeless Tales from Bengal: An Anthology of Children's and Young Adults' Stories</i> (New Delhi: Niyogi Books, 2018); 978-93-86906-23-6; Short stories in translation; Joint Editor. 5. <i>Minority Voices: An Anthology of Asian-American Poetry in Bengali Translation</i> (Kolkata: JUSAS, 2017); Poetry in translation; Joint Editor. 6. <i>Rabindranath's East-West Encounters: Performing and Visual Arts</i> (Special Issue of <i>Sangeet Natak</i> journal of <i>Sangeet Natak Akademi</i>, New Delhi, XLVI, 1-4, 2012); ISSN 0972-494X; Anthology of criticism; Joint Editor.
2. Select Papers/ Articles	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. "Abol Tabol-er Ingreji anubad: Ekti sankshipta alochana," <i>Anyalekho</i> (No. 5, 2025), Reg. No. S0029731 of 2022-2023; Kolkata. 2. "On Music and Memory: Rabindranath Tagore's Songs on Nature in the Age of Nationalism." Mohammad A. Quayum (ed.), <i>Tagore, Nationalism and Cosmopolitanism: Perceptions, Contestations and Contemporary Relevance</i>. London & New York: Routledge, 2020. 3. "Working Class Condition and the Middle Class Intellectual: The Politics of 'Documentary' in George

	<p>Orwell's <i>The Road to Wigan Pier</i>." <i>Journal of the Department of English</i>, University of Calcutta, Vol. XXXX, 2018. ISSN 2249-4537.</p> <p>4. "Middle-class nostalgia and the Orwellian ambivalence: Notes on <i>Coming Up for Air</i>." <i>Apperception</i> (Journal of the Department of English, Visva-Bharati). Vol. IX (2016-17). ISSN 2321-1261.</p> <p>5. "The reluctant imperialist: Colonial discourse and ambivalence in George Orwell's <i>Burmese Days</i>." <i>English Forum</i> (journal of Department of English, Gauhati University). Vol. 5 (2016-17). ISSN 2279-0446.</p> <p>6. "The Great War and the Little Voices: Ethnic Self-Fashioning in L. G. Gibbon's <i>Sunset Song</i>." Fakrul Alam et al (eds.), <i>The Great War and Our Mindscapes: Centenary Essays</i>. Dhaka: writers.ink, 2017.</p> <p>7. "The Useless and the 'Wonderful': Work, Leisure and Being 'at home in Modernity' in the Music of Rabindranath Tagore." K. L. Tuteja & Kaustav Chakraborty (eds.), <i>Tagore and Nationalism</i>. New Delhi: Springer, 2017.</p> <p>8. "World-History," "Itihāsa," and Memory: Rabindranath Tagore's Musical Program in the Age of Nationalism.' <i>The Journal of Asian Studies</i>. Vol. 75, Issue 02 (2016).</p> <p>9. "Rabindrasangeet and Modern Bengali Subjectivity." Debashish Banerji (ed.) <i>Rabindranath Tagore in the 21st Century: Theoretical Renewals</i>. New Delhi & London: Springer, 2015.</p> <p>10. "On Food, Drinks and Violence: Two Short Stories by Saadat Hasan Manto" in GJV Prasad (ed.), <i>JSL</i> (journal of the School of Language, Literature and Culture Studies, JNU, New Delhi). Autumn 2012/13, New Series 18 (published 2014). ISSN 0972-9682.</p> <p>11. "Rabindrasangeet as 'Critique': the Politics and Poiesis of 'self-making'." <i>Apperception</i> (journal of DEOMEL, Visva-Bharati). Vol VII, 2014. ISSN 2321-1261.</p> <p>12. "Re-presenting the Margins: revisiting Scottish countryside in L.G. Gibbon's <i>Sunset Song</i>." <i>East West Journal of Humanities</i>. Vol. 4 (2013). ISSN 2074-6628.</p> <p>13. "Notes Towards a Political Approach to Rabindrasangeet: Tagore's Encounter with Colonial</p>
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	<p>Modernity in Music.” <i>Sangeet Natak</i>. Vol. XLVI, No 1-4 (2012/ 2013). ISSN 0972-494X.</p> <p>14. “ ‘Nonsense’ as sense: Comic vision in two plays of Sukumar Ray.” <i>Ravenshaw Journal of Literary and Cultural Studies</i> (journal of Department of English, Ravenshaw University). Vol. II, No 1 (2012). ISSN 2349-8064.</p> <p>15. “Narrative, Memory, History: ‘National Allegory’ in ‘Two Historical Novels.’” <i>journal of humanities and social sciences</i> (Scottish Church College, Kolkata). No. 9 (2012). ISSN 0973-8738.</p> <p>16. “Rabindrasangeet Today: A Sociological Approach.” <i>Rupkatha Journal on Interdisciplinary Studies in Humanities</i>. Vol. 2, No 4 (2010). ISSN 0975-2935.</p> <p>17. “Reading Working-Class Fiction: Notes towards an understanding of L. G. Gibbon’s <i>Sunset Song</i> and <i>Cloud Howe</i>.” <i>postScriptum: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Literary Studies</i> (journal of Department of English and Culture Studies, the University of Burdwan). Vol. XV. (2007). ISSN 2456-7507.</p> <p>18. “Nationalisms Contested: The Poetics of Space in Selected Short-Stories of Sa’adat Hasan Manto.” Somdatta Mandal (ed.), <i>The Indian ImagiNation: Colonial and Postcolonial Literature and Culture</i>. New Delhi: Creative Books, 2007.</p> <p>19. “Ngugi’s plays as Working-Class Literature: The Case of <i>The Black Hermit</i>, <i>The Trial of Dedan Kimathi</i> and <i>I Will Marry When I Want</i>.” Ipshita Chanda (ed.), <i>Palaver: Proceedings of the Forum for Scholars of African Studies</i>. Vol. II. Kolkata: JU, 2007.</p> <p>20. “Reconciling Nationalism and Marxism: Three Plays of Ngugi wa Thiong’O.” Mala Pandurang (ed.), <i>Ngugi wa Thiong’O: An Anthology of Recent Criticism</i>. New Delhi: Pencraft International, 2007.</p> <p>21. “Translating Nonsense: The Poetry of Sukumar Ray.” <i>The Visva-Bharati Quarterly</i>. Vol. 13, No 1 & 2 (2005). ISSN 0042-7195.</p> <p>22. “Nonsense and the Nation: The Gendered World of Sukumar Ray’s <i>Abol Tabol</i>.” <i>Essays and Studies</i> (journal of Department of English, Jadavpur University). XVIII (2004).</p>
3. Select Works of Translation	<p>1. “The King of the Djinns,” translation of Kazi Nazrul Islam’s “Djinner Badsha” in Syed Manzoorul</p>

	<p>Islam and Kaustav Chakraborty (eds.), <i>The Collected Short Stories of Kazi Nazrul Islam</i> (Hyderabad: Orient BlackSwan, 2024).</p> <p>2. “Refugee, Not Being One,” translation of Nityapriya Ghosh’s “Udbastu, Udbastu Na Hoyeo” in Angshuman Kar (ed), <i>Divided: Partition Memoirs from Two Bengals</i> (Kolkata: Gangchil, 2022).</p> <p>3. “What is a Nation” and “Address to the Students,” translations of Rabindranath Tagore’s “Nation Ki” and “Chhatrader proti Sambhashan” respectively, in Debarati Bandyopadhyay (ed), <i>Rabindranath Tagore: Select Writings on Cosmopolitanism</i> (Bolpur: Birutjatio Sahitya Sammiloni, 2019).</p> <p>4. “The Non-Cooperative,” translation of Manik Bandyopadhyay’s “Asahajogi” in Dipankar Roy & Saurav Dasthakur (eds.), <i>Timeless Tales of Bengal: An Anthology of Children’s and Young Adults’ Stories</i> (New Delhi: Niyogi Books, 2018).</p> <p>5. “Hanta,” Bangla translation of Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni’s “The Walk” in Saurav Dasthakur, Snigdha Sen & Sukla Basu (Sen) (eds.), <i>Minority Voices: An Anthology of Asian-American Poetry in Bengali Translation</i> (Kolkata: JUSAS, 2017).</p> <p>6. “London,” “Ekti Mrityushojyar Pashe,” “Droshta” and “Sindbad,” Bangla translations of English poems by Manmohan Ghosh, Harindranath Chattopadhyay and Dom Moraes respectively, in Somdatta Mandal & Soma Mukhopadhyay (eds.), <i>Bhratiya Engreji Kobita</i> (Kolkata: Abhijan Publishers, 2013).</p> <p>7. “Myther gathonbadi path,” Bangla translation of Claude Levi-Strauss’s “The Structural Study of Myth” in <i>Lokashruti</i> (journal of the Folk and Tribal Cultural Centre, Govt of West Bengal, 2010)</p> <p>8. “Lokakathar Tattva o Itihas,” Bangla translation of selected portion from Vladimir Propp, <i>Theory and History of the Folktale</i> in <i>Lokashruti</i> (Journal of the Folk and Tribal Cultural Centre, Govt. of West Bengal, 2009).</p> <p>9. “Lokahasyo o Lokasamskriti,” Bangla translation of selected portion from Mikhail Bakhtin, <i>Rabelais and His World</i> in <i>Lokashruti</i> (Journal of the Folk and Tribal Cultural Centre, Govt. of West Bengal, 2005).</p>
4. Select Book Reviews	1. Review of Somdatta Mandal (trans. & ed.), <i>‘Kobi’ &</i>

	<p><i>'Rani': Memoirs and Correspondences of Nirmalkumari Mahalanobis and Rabindranath Tagore. Asiatic: IIUM Journal of English Language and Literature. Vol. 15, No 1, 2021.</i></p> <p>2. Review of Sravani Biswas, R. K. Narayan's <i>Malgudi Milieu: A Sensitive World of Grotesque Realism. Asiatic: IIUM Journal of English Language and Literature. Vol. 12, No 2, 2018.</i></p> <p>3. Review of Charmaine Leung, <i>17A Keong Saik Road: A Personal Story. Asiatic: IIUM Journal of English Language and Literature. Vol. 11, No. 2, 2017.</i></p> <p>4. Review of Md. A. Quayum & Md. Mahmudul Hasan (eds.), <i>A Feminist Foremother: Critical Essays on Rokeya Sakhawat Hossain. Asiatic: IIUM Journal of English Language and Literature. Vol. 11, No 1, 2017.</i></p> <p>5. Review of Ruth Vanita (ed.), <i>India and the World: Postcolonialism, Translation and Indian Literature</i> (Essays in Honour of Prof. Harish Trivedi). <i>Asiatic: IIUM Journal of English Language and Literature. Vol. 10, No 1, 2016.</i></p> <p>6. "The Small Voices of History and the Middle Class Academia: Notes Towards Promises and Pitfalls." Review article on Prem Kumari Srivastava and Gitanjali Chawla (eds.), <i>Cultures of the Indigenous: India and Beyond</i>, Vols. I & II. <i>Asiatic: IIUM Journal of English Language and Literature. Vol. 9, No 1, 2015.</i></p> <p>7. Review of Fakrul Alam, <i>Rabindranath Tagore and National Identity Formation in Bangladesh: Essays and Reviews. Apperception</i> (journal of DEOMEL, Visva-Bharati). Vol. VII, 2014</p>
<p>C. Select Seminars/ Conferences/ Workshops/ Symposium/ Refresher Courses and Orientation Programs</p>	<p>1. Invited Lecture on "Rabindranath Tagore and <i>Nationalism</i>: Text and Context" as part of the Online Special Lecture Series Programme organised by Department of English, Cooch Behar Panchanan Barma University on 24 May, 2025.</p> <p>2. Invited Lecture on "Introduction to Literary Studies: Literature, Theory and Criticism" at Department of English, Durgapur Women's College, Durgapur, on 18 January, 2023.</p> <p>3. Invited Lecture on "He do the Police in Different Voices": Modernism, the Problem of Identity and <i>The Waste Land</i>" at the Centre for Distant and Online Education, Department of English, Rabindra Bharati</p>

	<p>University, Kolkata, on 17 December, 2022.</p> <p>4. Invited Lecture on “What is a Poet?: <i>The Waste Land</i> and a Twentieth Century Discourse of Authorship” at Department of English, Basanti Devi College, Kolkata, on 08 December, 2022.</p> <p>5. Lecture on “English education, the language question and the emergent <i>Bhadralok</i> identity: the mid-19th century native English periodicals in Bengal” as part of Refresher Course on “Learning Outcomes and Competence in English Language and Literature: Postcolonial Perspectives” organised by HRDC, University of Calcutta in collaboration with the Department of English on 8 March, 2022.</p> <p>6. Invited Lecture on “‘All That is Solid Melts Into Air’: Reading Modernism in T S Eliot’s Poetry” as part of a special web-lecture series at Department of English, Chakdaha College, Nadia, on 18 September, 2020.</p> <p>7. Invited Lecture on “The Problem of Gender in Chinua Achebe’s Fiction: The Case of <i>Things Fall Apart</i>” as part of a special web-lecture series at Department of English, Turku Hansda LH Mahavidyalay, Birbhum, on 16 September, 2020.</p> <p>8. Invited Lecture on “Notes towards Reading <i>Orientalism</i>” as part of a special web-lecture series at Department of English, Rampurhat College, Birbhum, on 2 September, 2020.</p> <p>9. Lecture on “Nonsense, Nationhood and Bengali Modernity: Notes towards Reading <i>Abol Tabol</i>” in National Webinar on “Sukumar Ray: The Oeuvre and the Translations” organised by Department of English, Haldia Government College, Haldia, on 2 August, 2020.</p> <p>10. Invited Lecture on “<i>Biographia Literaria</i> as a Romantic manifesto” as part of a special web-lecture series at Department of English, Cooch Behar Panchanan Barma University, Cooch Behar, on 17 June, 2020.</p> <p>11. Invited Lecture on “A Passage to India and Mrs. Dalloway: Revisiting Modernism” in National Seminar on “Literary Texts: Re-reading Issues and Exploring Interpretations” at Department of English, Sukanta Mahavidyalaya, Dhupguri, on 17</p>
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	<p>January, 2020.</p> <p>12. Invited Lecture on “Nonsense and the Nation: Notes Towards <i>Abol Tabol</i>” as part of <i>A Series of Lectures on Popular Literature</i> organised by Department of English, K. K. Das College, Garia, Kolkata, in collaboration with New Alipore College on 29 August, 2019.</p> <p>13. Resource Person in two-day National level Translation Workshop on “Revisiting Nineteenth Century Bengal through the Primary Texts”, organised by Department of English, Domkal Girls’ College, Domkal, Murshidabad in collaboration with the Centre for Comparative Literature, Visva-Bharati during 7-8th March, 2019.</p> <p>14. Invited Lecture on “Modernity, Modernism and Postmodernism” at Department of English, Kazi Nazrul Islam University on 2 January, 2019.</p> <p>15. Resource Person in National level Translation Workshop organised as part of the UGC SAP DRS II programme by Department of English and Culture Studies, University of Burdwan, during 4-6th December, 2018.</p> <p>16. Panelist in Panel Discussion on “Theorising Marginality” in National Seminar on “Politics of Difference and (Re)locating Marginality: Reflections in Indian Literature” organized jointly by Bhasha Bhavana, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan, ICSSR, New Delhi and CIIL, Mysore during 9-11 November, 2017.</p> <p>17. Invited Lecture on “Sahityatattva” (Literary Theory) at Department of Bangla, Kazi Nazrul University, Asansol, on 22 September, 2017.</p> <p>18. Invited Lecture titled “Hegel’s ‘History,’ Victoriana and the Tagorean Response” in International Conference on “Victoriana” organised by Department of English, University of Burdwan, during 14-15 September, 2017.</p> <p>19. Resource Person in Regional level Translation Workshop, organised by JUSAS, Department of English, Jadavpur University, Kolkata on 6th June, 2017.</p> <p>20. Paper titled “The Aesthetics of Surplus: Rabindranath Tagore’s notion of an alternative</p>
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	<p>modernity in the age of Nationalism” in International Conference on “Nation and Beyond: Interdisciplinary Perspectives” organised by Department of English, University of Gour Banga during 14-15 April, 2017.</p> <p>21. Paper titled “Where the World makes its Nest”: Rabindranath Tagore and Internationalism in “Nationalism in Japan” in National Conference on “Vasudhaiva Kutumbakum: Reconceptualising Interconnections and Innovations” jointly organised by St. Xavier’s College and St. Xavier’s College of Management and Technology, Patna, during 02-03 April, 2016.</p> <p>22. Invited lecture on “Poststructuralism: Theory and Practice” at Department of English, Rabindra Bharati University on 16 March, 2016.</p> <p>23. Paper titled “On ‘transcending’ the border: Three pieces by Saadat Hasan Manto” in International Conference on “Border, Literature and Identity” organised by Department of English & OMEL, Visva-Bharati, during 29 February-01 March, 2016.</p> <p>24. Paper titled “The Useless and the ‘Wonderful’: Work, Leisure and Being ‘at Home in Modernity’” in International Conference on “Tagore and Nationalism” organized by the IIAS, Shimla during 05-07 November, 2015.</p> <p>25. Invited Lecture on “<i>Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland</i>, Imperialism and the Gendered Politics of Reception” at Department of English, Rabindra Bharati University on 24 March, 2015.</p> <p>26. Paper titled “Memory and Historiography: Rabindranath Tagore on Music” in National Seminar on “English non-fictional prose writings of Rabindranath Tagore and his contemporaries” organized by Department of English, Visva-Bharati during 12-13 March, 2015.</p> <p>27. Paper titled “War and Ethnic Self-fashioning: Two Scottish Novels” in International Conference on “The Great War and English Studies” organized by Department of English, University of Dhaka during 18-19 December, 2014.</p> <p>28. Invited Lecture on “Rabindranath, Modern Bengali Subjectivity, and Our Context Today” at Cooch Behar Panchanan Barma University on 12</p>
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	<p>December, 2014.</p> <p>29. Paper titled “On memory, storytelling and ‘historytelling’: Notes on Raja Rao’s <i>Kanthapura</i>” in International Seminar on “Cultures of Memory: Mnemocultural Praxis in South, Southeast and other Asian Countries” jointly organized by EFLU, Shillong, CIIL Mysore, ICSSR Delhi and Moulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies, Kolkata during 07-09 November, 2013.</p> <p>30. Paper titled “Two Alice Novels and Imperialism” in National Seminar on “Revisiting the Late 19th Century in English Literature” jointly organised by Department of English, Hiralal Bhakat College and Centre for Victorian Studies, Jadavpur University during 12-13 September, 2013.</p> <p>31. Paper titled “On storytelling, ‘historytelling’ and the ‘epic’ form: Notes on Identity in the Postcolonial Context” in International conference on “Unveiling a Secret Agreement: Revisiting the Contours of English Studies” organised by Department of English Literature, The English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad, during 19-21th November, 2012.</p> <p>32. Paper titled “The epic and the novel: Two Indian novels in English” in National Seminar on “Indian Writings in English: A Journey from the Colonial to the Post-Colonial” organised by Department of English, Hiralal Bhakat College, Nalhati, Birbhum on 31st August, 2012.</p> <p>33. Paper titled “ ‘Nonsense’ as sense: Comic vision in select plays of Sukumar Ray” in International Conference titled “The Politics of Children’s Literature” organised by Department of English, Ravenshaw University, Cuttack, during 9-10 January, 2012.</p> <p>34. Paper titled “Re-presenting the margins: revisiting Scottish countryside in L. G. Gibbon’s <i>Sunset Song</i>” in International Conference titled “Narrativizing the margins: Northeast India and beyond” organised by Department of English, Assam University, Diphu Campus, during 4-6 January, 2012.</p> <p>35. Paper titled “Carnavalesque as protest: Ngugi wa Thiong’o and Utpal Dutta in theory and practice of ‘popular theatre’” in International Conference on</p>
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	<p>“Decolonising the Stage: Paradigm, Practice and Politics” organised by Department of English, Banaras Hindu University, Banaras, during 15-17 November, 2011.</p> <p>36. Paper titled “Idea of nation in two historical novels of Sharadindu Bandyopadhyay” in National Seminar on “The Polyphonic Voice of Resistance and Looking Beyond: Commonwealth Literature” organised by Department of English, Malda College, Malda, during 19-20 September, 2011.</p> <p>37. Paper titled “Ideology of Rabindrasangeet: Tagore’s encounter with colonial modernity in music” in National Seminar on “Tagore’s East-West Encounter: Performing and Visual Arts” organised by DEOMEL, Visva-Bharati during 25-27 February, 2011.</p>
D. Additional Information	<p>Visiting Professor at Department of English, Cooch Behar Panchanan Barma University during 8-12 December, 2014.</p>