

Prof. Indrani Das

Professor of Italian

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Teaching experience: 30 years

1996 – Ongoing: Professor of Italian in Visva Bharati University (Joined as a Lecturer in 1996)

2017-2019: Director, Indira Gandhi Centre, and Foreign Students' Advisor, VB

2012-2014: Vice-Principal, Bhasha Bhavana, Visva -Bharati

1994-1996 Taught Italian Language at the University of Calcutta

Areas of interest: Translation Studies, Medieval and Renaissance History, Culture, Art and Literature of Italy, Italian Travel writings on India, Tagore and Italy, and 19th century Italian Literature.

Positions held:

Chairperson of Krishnanagar Siksha Prasara Samity, Langdiha, M.P. a registered society which has been working to promote quality education specially for girls, running a CBSE affiliated co-educational English medium Higher Secondary residential school for the last 30 years in the remote area of Chambal valley in the Morena District of M.P.

A founder-member of Vedanta Educational Society, a registered society which runs a college for women in Kolkata, affiliated to the University of Kolkata.

External examiner of several M.Phil. dissertations of Delhi University and Jamia Millia Islamia University.

Subject expert of selection committees of Delhi University and Italian Institute of Culture, Embassy of Italy, New Delhi.

Ex-member of Academic Committee of the Centre for European Studies, Jadavpur University, Kolkata and School of Languages, Jadavpur University, Kolkata.

Ex-GB member of SWORD, an NGO founded by Late Asit Kumar Bhattacharyya, Professor of Visva- Bharati, subsequently run by Smt. Santa Bhattacharyya, retd. Professor of English, Visva- Bharati, Santiniketan which worked for last 30 years to eradicate Leprosy & T.B. in this region.

Books:

Educational Qualifications:

Laurea, University of Bologna, Italy, with Italian Govt. scholarship, 1989.

M.A., University of Jadavpur, Kolkata, 1984.

Attended 3 Italian Teachers' Refresher Courses in Italy, 2 with Italian Govt Scholarship at the University of Siena, Italy and several short refresher courses for Teachers of Italian in India organised by the Italian Institute of Culture, Embassy of Italy, New Delhi.

Research Projects:

Translated *Prison Notebooks*, number 25, of Antonio Gramsci, dedicated to Subaltern Studies, in collaboration with University L'Orientale of Naples, Italy and Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata, from Italian to Bengali.

Translated into English a two-hundred years old memoir written in Italian of a Greek Traveller to India for the project "Three Early Greek Travellers to India," with Militiades Spyrou, University of Athens, Greece.

Research Supervision:

Supervisor of 1 Ph.D. scholar of Visva- Bharati, Santiniketan.

Co-supervisor of 1 Ph. D scholar of Delhi University.

Achievements:

Awarded Knighthood of the Order of Star of Italian Solidarity by the President of Italy, 2006.

Italian Govt. Scholarship through MHRD, Govt. of India for Laurea.

Italian Govt. Scholarship for 2 Refresher Courses in Siena, Italy.

Publications:

Books

Introduzione al nostro Universo, a translation of Rabindranath Tagore's *Visva Parichoy* from Bengali into Italian jointly done with Eva Michiara. Published by Khama Publishers, New Delhi, 2025. ISBN: 9788197747816. (Currently in the press).

A concise trilingual dictionary: Bengali- Italian- English, compiled jointly with Amrita Chaudhuri & Jayasri Chaudhuri. Published by Best Books, Kolkata, 2017. ISBN: 978-817926-197-2.

Antonio Gramsci Note Book 25: Itihasar Pranta Simae, translated with Jayasri Chaudhuri, and published by Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata, & Universita' Studi Orientali di Napoli, March 2016.

Giovanni Vergar Golpo, translated from Italian to Bengali, and published by the Centre for Italian Studies, Kolkata, 2004.

Book chapters

"The Mosaics of the Roman Empire," in *Xunali Sharai: The Souvenir Golden Jubilee Celebration 2023*, edited by S.N. Nath, and published by Tinsukia Commerce College, pp. 84-86. ISBN: 978-81-19322-11-4.

"From Dante to Tagore" in *Worldwide Kisses/Note agli Interventi*, edited by Ferruccio Farina, and published by Vallecchi. Firenze, 2023, pp. 215-216. ISBN: 978-88-8252-196-7.

"Buddhism & Buddhist Scholarship in Italy" in *Buddhist Studies: A Perspective Dimension*, edited by Sanjib Kr. Das, and published by Buddhist World Press, Delhi, 2016, pp. 54-58. ISBN: 978-9380852546.

"Tagore's Gitanjali: The Italian Scenario" in *Enquiries in Literature & Translation*, vol. I, edited by Sushant K. Mishra & Avadhesh K. Mishra, and published by Lakshi Publishers & Distributers, New Delhi, 2015, pp. 88-100. ISBN: 978-93-8212071-1.

Translated two English poems of Niranjan Mohanty to Bengali for *Bharatiya Engreji Kobita*, edited by Somdatta Mandal & Soma Mukhopadhyay, and published by Abhijan Publishers, Kolkata, 2013, pp. 117-118. ISBN: 978-93-80197-07-4.

"Rabindranath e la sua Santiniketan," in *Omaggio a Tagore: Un Genio dai mille volti*, edited by Marilia Albanese & Laura Santoro Ragaini, and published by CCIA, Is.I.A.O. Sezione Lombarda, Redazione Quaderni Asiatici, Milano, 2011, pp. 131-140. ISSN: 2038-9795.

"Hindi Bhavana" in the Volume *Rabindranather Santiniketan o Sriniketan*, edited by Tapan Som, and published by Dip Prakashan, Kolkata, 2010, pp. 293-299.

"Professor Tucci & His School of Italian Sanskritists," published in *Perspective of Buddhist Studies* as part of the Indo-Tibetan Studies Series II (Giuseppe Tucci Birth Centenary Volume), edited by Prof. Pranabanand Jash, and published by Kaveri Books, New Delhi, 2002, pp. 81-85. ISBN: 817479-046-2.

Select Articles

"Revisiting the Greco- Roman myth of Venus in the paintings of Botticelli (1445-1510)," *Journal of Rajasthan Association for Studies in English*, vol. 21, 2025, pp. 57-63.

"Mahadevi Verma: Jibon o Sahitya," *Shristir Ekush Shatak*, edited by A. Kundu, Kolkata, September 2023, pp. 27-30.

"Rabindranather Italy Bhraman" in *Korak Sahitya Patrika Sharadiya 2022: Bhraman o Bhramansahitya*, edited by Tapas Bhowmick, Kolkata, Sept.- Dec. 2022, pp. 223- 234.

Translated "**Lectio Magistralis**" by Anna Nadotti from Italian into Bengali, and published in *The Babel Review of Translation*, 11 August 2021. <https://www.specimen.press/articles/lectio-magistralis-in-occasione-della-consegna-del-premio-pavese-2020/?language=Bengali>

"**Italiyader Bangla Charcha**" in *Korak Sahitya Patrika*, a Bengali Literary Journal, edited by Tapas Bhounik, and published by Korak Sahitya Patrika, Kolkata, Feb. 2016 (Boimela Sankhya), pp. 310-312.

"**Buddhism and the Buddhist Scholarship in Italy**" in *Nalanda* (Buddhism and Indian Cultural Journal) edited by Bhikkhu Sumanpal, vol. 48 & 49, 2013-14, pp. 270-273. ISSN: 23207264.

"**Italite Mahabharat Charcha**", in the special issue on Mahabharat-Charcha of *Korak Sahitya Patrika*, a Bengali Literary Journal, Saradiya 2014, edited by Tapas Bhounik, and published by Korak Sahitya Patrika, Kolkata, 2010, pp. 376-378.

"**Translation of Tagore's Works into Italian**" in *Apperception*, vol. VII, Santiniketan: DEOMEL, VB, July 2014. ISSN 2321-1261.

"**The motif of Time in Shakespeare's sonnets**" in *Yearly Shakespeare: 2012*, vol. X, edited by Goutam Ghoshal, Santiniketan: Sri Aurobindo Study Centre, 2012.

"**Mere Pitu**" (Reminiscence of my father), *Visva Bharati Patrika* (Hindi), edited by Rameshwar Mishra, Santiniketan: Hindi Bhavan, VB, 2011, pp. 7-9.

"**Shakespeare's Portia and Tagore's Chitrangada**," in *Yearly Shakespeare: 2011*, vol. IX, edited by Goutam Ghosal, Santiniketan: Sri Aurobindo Study Centre, 2011.

"**Italite Rabindranath o Rabindra Charcha**," for the Sharadiya Sankhya, 1417 of *Korak Sahitya Patrika*, a Bengali Literary Journal, edited by Tapas Bhounik, and published by Korak Sahitya Patrika, Kolkata, 2010, pp 185-198.

"**Shakespeare's Richard II and Premchand's Shataranj ke Khiladi**," *Yearly Shakespeare: 2010*, vol. VIII, edited by Goutam Ghosal, Santiniketan: Sri Aurobindo Study Centre, 2010.

"**Ajadi**," a short story by Giovanni Verga, translated from Italian to Hindi for *Disha Bodh*, vol. IV, Research Journal of the Dept. of Hindi, Presidency University, edited by Tanuja Majumdar, Kolkata, 2010-2011, pp. 119-128.

"**Hazari Prasad Dwivedi aur Santiniketan**" in *Disha Bodh*, vol. V, Research Journal of the Dept. of Hindi, Presidency University, edited by Tanuja Majumdar, Kolkata, 2009-2010, pp. 56-63.

“Venice and Shakespeare,” *Yearly Shakespeare: 2008*, vol.VI, edited by Goutam Ghosal, Santiniketan: Sri Aurobindo Study Centre, 2008, pp. 25-29.

“Rabindranather Palli- Unnayan Bhavana” in a special issue of *Sristi*, journal of Palli Samprasaran Kendra, Visva Bharati, Aug, 2007.

“King Lear as a Renaissance Tragedy”, in *Yearly Shakespeare: 2006*, vol. IV, special issue on *King Lear*, edited by Goutam Ghosal, Santiniketan: Sri Aurobindo Study Centre, 2006.

“Petrarch: The Master Craftsman of Il Canzoniere” in *The Visva Bharati Quarterly*, edited by Goutam Ghosal, Santiniketan, vol. 12, nos. 3 & 4, and vol. 13 nos. 1 & 2 Oct. 2003-Sept. 2004 (published in 2005), pp. 23-26. ISSN0972-043X.

“The Short Stories of Giovanni Verga: A Critical Reading” in *The Visva Bharati Quarterly*, edited by Goutam Ghosal, Santiniketan. vol. 12, nos. 1 & 2, April 2003-Sept. 2003 (published in 2005), pp. 91-94. ISSN 0972-043X.

“Italian Translations of Tagore’s Works- An Overview,” in *The Visva Bharati Quarterly*, edited by Goutam Ghosal, Santiniketan, New Series, vol. 11, nos. 3 & 4. Oct. 2002-March 2003 (published in 2005). ISSN 0972-043X.

“Madhyayugin Yorop ka ek Visvavidyalaya: Bologna” in *Visva Bharati Patrika* (Hindi), edited by Rambahal Tiwari, Santiniketan. vol 39 nos. 3 & 4, Oct 1998 - March 1999, pp. 137-147.

Translated many short stories from Hindi into Bengali and from Italian into Bengali and Hindi, which were published in various literary journals.

Edited

Co-edited *Ritmi italiani* vols. 1-4, Kolkata: Centro studi italiani, 2004, 2005, 2006 & 2012.

Co-edited *Apperception*, vol. V, the departmental journal of DEOMEL, Visva-Bharati, 2010 (Published in March 2011). ISBN: 978-81-7522-491-9.

Media Appearances:

Planned and participated in a cultural event commemorating the 700th death centenary of Dante, organised by Centro Internazionali Di Studi Francesca Da Rimini and guided by Ferruccio Farina, 8th March 2021. <https://youtu.be/XgJZMmMO1Is>

Appeared for an interview in “Guftaagoo” program for Rajya-Sabha TV for an episode on “Education in Santiniketan”, 16th March 2019. <https://youtu.be/JRYKkxjn58>

Indrani Das
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