

## Profile

### Jenia Mukherjee, PhD

Assistant Professor  
(History of Environment and Ecology)  
Institute of Development Studies Kolkata  
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Date of Birth: 27.01.1985

### Areas of interest

Environmental history and (urban) political ecology

### Academic Record

Degree	Year	Board/Council/University	Percentage of Marks
PhD (Title of the Dissertation: <i>Development and Planning: A Social Biography of the Canals and Wetlands in Kolkata</i> )	2010	Jadavpur University (funded by: the Indian Council of Historical Research, New Delhi)	NA
M.A. (History)	2007	Jadavpur University	76.78
B.A. (History Hons)	2005	Jadavpur University	65.89
Higher Secondary	2002	West Bengal Council of Higher Secondary Education (WBCHSE)	75.5
Secondary	2000	West Bengal Board of Secondary Education (WBBSE)	81.13
<b>Qualified State Eligibility Test (SET) in the year 2008</b>			

### Awards

1. Australian Award Fellowship (2015), Monash University, Melbourne, Australia
2. World Social Science Fellowship (2013), International Social Science Council (ISSC), UNESCO, Paris
3. Australian Leadership Award Fellowship (2010), Monash University, Melbourne University, Australia
4. Junior Research Fellowship (2008-10), Indian Council of Historical Research, New Delhi, India
5. Single Girl Child Post-Graduate Scholarship (2005-2007), MHRD, New Delhi, India

## Employment Record

Institution	Position/Designation	Date of Joining	Date of Leaving
Institute of Development Studies Kolkata	Assistant Professor	22.03.2010	Continuing
Jadavpur University	Guest Lecturer	January 2012	December 2012
Deshbandhu College for Girls	Guest Lecturer	01.09.2009	31.12.2009
Jadavpur University	Junior Research Fellow	January 2009	December 2009
Centre for Studies in Social Sciences	Research Assistant	04.12.2008	31.03.2009
Cognizant Technology Solutions	Technical Writer	06.08.2007	28.11.2008

## Publications

### Books

1. *An Introduction to the History of America* (jointly with C. Palit) (New Delhi: Cambridge University Press, 2014).
2. *History and Beyond: Trends and Trajectories* (jointly edited with C. Palit) (New Delhi: Kunal Books, 2014).

### Book Chapters

1. Mega-urbanization in Eastern Kolkata: Vision and Reality in Sumita Chaudhuri, ed, *Facets of Urbanization: Views from Anthropology* (UK: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2015).
2. Sustainable Flows between Kolkata and its Peri-urban Interface in Mark Swilling, Adriana Allen and Andrea Lampis, eds, *Untamed Urbanisms* (UK: Routledge, 2015).
3. Historical Materialism as a Methodology: Relevance of the Hobsbawmian Paradigm in History in C. Palit and A. Dhar, eds, *Homage to Hobsbawm* (Kolkata: Corpus Research Institute, 2014).
4. Rammohan Ray in Western Thought: New Issues and Perspectives in Keka Datta Roy and Chitta Ranjan Misra, eds, *Reflections in History: Essays in Honour of Professor Amalendu De* (Kolkata: Raktakarabee, 2009-10).
5. Water Management in Medieval India: Towards Economic Dexterity and Ecological Sustainability in Mahua Sarkar, ed, *Environment and History: Recent Dialogues* (New Delhi: Kalpaz Publishers, 2008).

### Journal Articles

1. The Adi Ganga: A Forgotten River in Bengal, *Economic and Political Weekly* (February 20, 2016) vol. 51, no. 8.
2. Water Trajectories through Non-networked Infrastructures: Insights from Peri-urban Dar es Salaam, Cochabamba and Kolkata, *Urban Research and Practice* (forthcoming).
3. Beyond the Urban: Rethinking Urban Ecology using Kolkata as a Case Study, *International Journal of Urban Sustainable Development* (Feb. 2015), vol. 7, no. 2.
4. Women-led Water Governance for Sustainable Irrigation in West Bengal, India (jointly with S. Halder), *Indian Science Cruiser* (March 2013), vol. 27, no. 2.
5. Indigenous 'Adaptation' to Imperial Forestry: A Study of the Southern Awadh Province between Late 18<sup>th</sup> and Early 19<sup>th</sup> century (jointly with Owafi Biswas), *CLIO: An Annual Journal of History* (Jan-Dec 2012), vol. 12, no. 12.
6. A Bid-adieu to the Buddhist Philosophy, Praxis and Preaching: Experiences at Rumtek, *Society and Change* (Jan - March, 2011), vol. 5, no. 1.
7. The Victory of Site over Situation: Exploring Ecological Dynamics behind Calcutta's Selection as the Seat of Colonial Capital, *The Quarterly Review of Historical Studies* (Oct 2009 – March 2010), vol. XLIX, no. 3 & 4.

### Proceedings

1. The Farakka Barrage: A Review from the Indo-Bangladesh Perspectives after 36 years, *Proceedings of the Indian History Congress, 72<sup>nd</sup> session* (Patiala: Indian History Congress, 2011-12).
2. Slums vs. Squatters: Issues of Development, Displacement and Resistance in the Eastern Canals of Calcutta, *Proceedings of the National Seminar on Community, Institutions and Participation in Natural Resource Governance* (Hyderabad: Hyderabad Central University, 2011).
3. Carrying the Legacy of Sun Yat Sen: Soong Qingling and China in the Red Years, *Proceedings of the Indian History Congress, 71<sup>st</sup> session* (Malda: Indian History Congress, 2010-11).

### Reports and Reviews

1. *Environmental Security in the Ganges 'chars', West Bengal* (IUCN, forthcoming).
2. *Translocal Learning for Water Justice: Peri-Urban Pathways in India, Tanzania and Bolivia (Water Justice City Profile: Kolkata, India)* (UK: The Bartlett Development Planning Unit, University College London, April 2015).
3. Dhirendranath Nath Baskey, 'Biallsher August Andolone Saontal Janagosthi', *Manwa Katha: Journal of Ashin Dasgupta Institute of Tribal History* (April 2008), vol. II, no. 1.

### Other Publications

1. Bengali translation of Irfan Habib, *Man and Environment: The Ecological History of India* (Kolkata: Progressive Publishers, 2015).
2. Shrinking Cities and the Indian Paradox, *Business Economics*, July 16-31, 2015.
3. Introduction and compilation of *Four Essays on Economic History* (with J. Acharya and S. Ghosh) (Kolkata: IDSK in association with Progressive Publishers, 2011).
4. Compilation of *Media, Markets and Democracy* (with S. Ghosh) (Kolkata: IDSK in association with Progressive Publishers, 2011).

5. *No voice, No Choice: Riverine Changes and Human Vulnerability in the 'chars' of Malda and Murshidabad*, Occasional Paper 28 (Kolkata: IDSK, July 2011), available at: <http://www.idsk.edu.in/common/file/OP-28.pdf>
6. Eric Hobsbawmer Itihashcharcha O Oitihashik Bastubad (in Bengali), *Paschim Banga Itihash Sansad (Smaranika)*, January 2013.

### Research Projects

1. Co-investigator in **ODF Project**  
Funding Agency: Panchayat and Rural Development, Government of West Bengal  
Duration: started in January 2016
2. Principal Network Partner in **Translocal learning for water justice: Peri-urban pathways in India, Tanzania and Bolivia' (WatJust)**  
Funding Agency: International Social Science Council (ISSC)  
Duration: September 2014 – March 2015
3. Project Advisor & Technical Editor in **Studies on link between material existence and religio-cultural practices of the marginalised people living in the coastal areas of Bay of Bengal**  
Funding Agency: Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR)  
Duration: January 2014 – April 2015
4. Principal Investigator in **Ecosystems for Life: A Bangladesh-India Initiative**  
Funding Agency: International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)  
Duration: July 2011 – December 2014
5. Research Fellow in **Participatory Irrigation Management Project (PIMP), Puruliya (West Bengal, India) and Gender Hygiene Programme (GHP)** with Dr. Dhruvajyoti Ghosh as the PI at the Centre for Studies in Social Sciences between 2008 and 2009.

### Teaching

#### MPhil in Development Studies at IDSK

- Archival Research Methodology; Field Survey Techniques  
(Paper II A: Methodological Approaches in Development Research, MPhil Programme in Development Studies).
- History  
(Special Paper IV A: Global History in the Twentieth Century; IV B: Environment and Development in Contemporary India)

#### MPhil Supervision

1. Shreyashi Bhattacharya (2015-17), *City and Nature: Understanding Urban Metabolism through Historical Transformations in East Kolkata Wetlands* (ongoing).
2. Archita Chatterjee (2015-17), *Revolutionary Terrorism or Revolutionary Nationalism? Unveiling the Unsung Saga of the Chittagong Uprising* (ongoing).
3. Abhijit Sasmal (2013-15), *The Kangsabati Reservoir Project: Origins, Implementation and Impact* (awarded).

4. Manomita Maji (2013-15), *Urbanisation and Water Bodies: A Study of the Nature and Causes of Degradation of Water Bodies in Selected Areas of Kolkata* (awarded).
5. Satabdi Datta (2010-12), *Exploring the Dynamics in Community-based Water Resource Management: A Study of Mathurapur I & II Blocks of West Bengal* (jointly with Uttam Bhattacharya; awarded).
6. Joy Karmakar (2011-13), *Exploring Rapid Urbanizing Trends in Kolkata: A Case-study of Rajarhat* (awarded).

#### Other Universities/Colleges

1. Environmental History, PG II, Dept. of History, Diamond Harbour Women's University (August 2015-continuing)
2. Global History, PG II, Dept. of History, West Bengal State University (2014).
3. Post-colonial Planning and Development, PG I, Dept. of History, Vidyasagar University (November 2012).
4. Environmental History of South Asia, PG II, Dept. of History, Jadavpur University (July 2012 – Dec. 2012).
5. The Twentieth Century World, PG I, Dept. of History, Jadavpur University (Jan 2012 - June 2012)
6. History of Civilizations (Ancient Rome), UG III, Dept. of History, Jadavpur University (January 2009 - June 2009).
7. International Relations, 1919-1945, UG III, Dept. of History, Jadavpur University (July 2009 - Dec. 2009).
8. B.A. (Hons), Deshbandhu College for Girls (September 2009 - February 2010).

#### Workshops, Conferences and Seminars Organized

1. Coordinator of the conference on ***Perceiving and Pursuing Environmental History in India: Recent Trends and Trajectories***; to be organized by the Institute of Development Studies Kolkata (June 5, 2015; forthcoming).
2. Coordinator of the conference on ***Sustainable Urbanization in India: Challenges and Opportunities***; organized by the Institute of Development Studies Kolkata in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay and funded by the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) on Jan. 15 and 16, 2015.
3. Coordinator of the Junior Research Seminar on ***History of Waters in India***; organized by the Corpus Research Institute at Kalyani University, West Bengal on June 27 and 28, 2014.
4. Coordinator of the workshop on ***A Tribute to Eric Hobsbawm***; organized by the Institute of Development Studies Kolkata on December 15, 2012.
5. Coordinator of the workshop on ***People or Profit? The 'Perilous Passage' and the Capitalist Transformation of the Natural World***; organized by the Institute of Development Studies Kolkata and funded by the Indian Council of Historical Research between September 10 and 14, 2012.
6. Joint Coordinator of the Junior Research Seminar organized by the Corpus Research Institute, Kolkata between July 13 and 14, 2012.
7. Coordinator of the students' seminar on ***The Use of Archive***; organized by the Institute of Development Studies Kolkata in March 2011.

#### National/International Talks and Presentations

1. **Commons vs. commodity: Urban environmentalisms and the transforming tale of the East Kolkata Wetlands** at the national conference on Urbanization and Environment; organized by INSEE between Jan. 4 and 6, 2016 in Bangalore.
2. **Can 'coproduction' address governance gaps? Recognizing unrecognized practices in accessing WATSAN services in peri-urban Kolkata** at the international conference on Governance in Transition; organized by the Center for Administrative Research and Innovation(CARI), University of Dhaka, Network for Integrative Research (netinsearch), Governance and Administration Innovation Network (GAIN) & International and Stamford University Bangladesh at Comilla, Bangladesh between December 18 and 19, 2015 (forthcoming).
3. Invited lecture on **Towards an Indian Urban Environmental History: Historiography, Relevance, Approaches & Agenda** at the Indian Institute of Human Settlements (IIHS), Bangalore in August 2015.
4. **Interpolating the 'Urban' in Indian Environmental History: Past Imaginations of the Present?** at the conference on *Perceiving and Pursuing Environmental History in India: Recent Trends and Trajectories* organized by the Institute of Development Studies Kolkata (June 5, 2015).
5. Participated as delegate in **IPCC AR5 Dissemination Workshop**, organized by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and Climate Development Knowledge Network (CDKN) on March 9, 2015 at The Hotel Oberois Grand, Kolkata.
6. **At Risk: Understanding Kolkata's Vulnerability through Dichotomies in Urban Planning** at the conference on *Sustainable Urbanization in India: Challenges and Opportunities*; organized by the Institute of Development Studies Kolkata in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay and funded by the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) at IDSK, January 2015.
7. **Adi Ganga: The Forgotten Saga** at the youth seminar on *Sustainable Solutions for Access to Safe Water: Promoting Innovation and Collaboration*; organized by The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), New Delhi at the Indian Institute of Social Welfare and Business Management (IISWBM), (December 2014).
8. **Use of Archive** at the week-long workshop on *Qualitative Research Methods in Social Sciences*; organized by the Institute of Development Studies Kolkata between November 17 and 21, 2014.
9. **All about water: Building up from research experiences** at the two day seminar on *History of Waters*; organized by the Corpus Research Institute and hosted by the department of history, Kalyani University between June 27 and 28, 2014.
10. Participated in an interactive workshop on **Accounting for Ecosystem Services: Theories and Practices**; organized by the Centre for Advanced Studies, Dept. of Economics in collaboration with Global Change Programme, Jadavpur university (March 2014).
11. **Beyond the 'Urban' : A Sustainable Definition of Urban Ecology using the Case Study of Kolkata** at the international conference on *Environment, Technology and Sustainable Development*; organized by IITM, Gwalior, ISEC, Bangalore and University of San Francisco, USA at Gwalior (March 2014).
12. **Ecosystems for Life: Identifying the role of ESS in community adaptation and sustenance in the 'chars' of the Ganges, West Bengal** at the *Multi-stakeholders Discussion: Focusing on Lives and*

*Livelihoods in Chars*; organized by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) in Bangkok (December, 2013).

13. **Sustained or Sustainable Urbanization? A Critical Exploration of the Spatial Expansion of Kolkata (India) since the post-colonial era** at the international conference of World Social Science Fellows on *Sustainable Urbanization: Innovative approaches to understanding urbanization in the 21st century*; organized by the International Social Science Council (ISSC) and sponsored by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) at the Universidad Andina Simon Bolivar, Ecuador (Quito) (March 2013).
14. **Historical Materialism as a Methodology: Relevance of the Hobsbawmian Paradigm in History** at the one-day seminar on *Tribute to Hobsbawm*; organized by the Institute of Development Studies Kolkata (December 2012).
15. **Women-led Water Governance for Sustainable Irrigation in West Bengal (with S. Halder)** at the national conference on *Women-led Water Management*; organized by IRRAD and UNICEF in Gurgaon, Haryana (November 2012).
16. **Why Marx? The Significance of the Hobsbawmian Paradigm in History** at the one-day seminar on *Homage to Hobsbawm*; organized by the Corpus Research Institute, Kolkata (October 2012).
17. **History of Waters in Colonial India** at the week-long national workshop on *Planet, People or Profit? The 'Perilous Passage' and the Capitalist Transformation of the Natural World*; organized by the Institute of Development Studies Kolkata at IDSK and funded by the Indian Council of Historical Research (September 2012).
18. **Calcutta's Eastern Canal System: Exploring the political economy of colonial hydraulic management** at the Institute of Development Studies Kolkata (June 2012).
19. **Ecosystems for Life: Studying the role of ecosystem services in community adaptation in the Ganges 'chars'** at the international workshop on *Managing Community Impacts of Climate Change*; organized by Monash Sustainability Institute, Monash University, Australia and the Institute of Development Studies Kolkata in Kolkata (March 2012).
20. **Indigenous 'adaptation' to imperial forestry: A study in the southern Awadh Province between late eighteenth and early nineteenth century** at the ICHR sponsored national seminar on *Making of a Region: Purvanchal*; organized by D.D.U Gorakhpur University in Gorakhpur (February 2012).
21. **The Farakka Barrage: A Review from the Indo-Bangladesh Perspectives after 36 years** at the 72<sup>nd</sup> session of the Indian History Congress, Punjabi University in Patiala (December 2011).
22. Dissemination report on the Ganges 'chars' of West Bengal at the Joint Research Team meeting of the IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) on **Ecosystem for Life: Bangladesh-India Initiative** in Dhaka, Bangladesh (November 2011).
23. **From 'Sikasti' to 'Payasti': People's struggle in the Hamidpur 'char' (Malda) in the post-Farakka years** at the national seminar on *The Quest for Identity in India through the Ages*; organized by the Corpus Research Institute in Shantiniketan (October 2011).
24. Participated at the IUCN programme on **Trans-boundary Water Management** and interacted and exchanged views with the Nile Basin Initiative (NBI) secretariat in Uganda and WWF on Mara Basin conservation and management incorporating community participation in Kenya (September 2011).
25. Participated at the IUCN **Eflows (Environmental Flows) training and workshop for South Asian countries** in Kathmandu, Nepal (August 2011).

26. Participated at the consultation methodology meeting of IUCN's project on **Ecosystem for Life: Bangladesh-India Initiative** in Kathmandu, Nepal (August, 2011).
27. **'Big' conservationist approach vs. popular science: Exploring the dynamics of wetland eco-system in the peri-urban interface of Calcutta** at the two-day workshop on *Managing Community Development in the Ganga Basin in response to Climate Change*; supported by Australian government (AusAID), in Dhaka (April 2011).
28. **Exploring the various facets of 'urban environmentalism': The politics of pollution, petition and protection in the canals and wetland of Calcutta** at the one-day workshop on *Environmental Pollution, Protest and Protection in Historical Perspective*; organized by Department of History, Jadavpur University under the UGC sponsored Special Assistance Programme in Kolkata (March 2011).
29. **Slums vs. squatters: Issues of development, displacement and resistance in the eastern canals of Calcutta** at the national seminar on *Community, Institutions and Participation in Natural Resource Governance*; organized by the Department of Sociology, University of Hyderabad in Hyderabad (March 2011).
30. **Mega-urbanization in Eastern Kolkata: Vision and Reality** at the international conference on *Mega-Urbanization and Human Rights: Emerging Challenges and Opportunities*; organized by Department of Anthropology, West Bengal State University in collaboration with Indian Museum, Anthropological Survey of India, Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya, and Centre for Alternative Research in Development in Kolkata (February 2011).
31. **Carrying the legacy of Sun-Yat-Sen and much more: Soong Qingling and China in the Red Years** at the 71<sup>st</sup> session of the Indian History Congress, Gaur Banga University in Malda (February 2011).
32. **Climate change and the intensification of vulnerabilities in the 'chars' of West Bengal** at the international conference on *Community development in the Ganga Basin in response to climate change*; organized by Monash Sustainability Institute, Australia and the Institute of Development Studies Kolkata in Kolkata (September 2010).
33. Invited lecture on **Vulnerability and Crisis in the 'chars' of West Bengal: Community Adaptation or Adjustment?** at the department of International Crisis Management, Monash Asia Institute in Melbourne, Australia (July 2010).
34. **Community development in the Lower Gangetic Basin: A study of 'chars' (bars) in West Bengal** at the international conference on *Developing pro-active policy and practice for land and water management responsive to climate change*; organized by Monash University in Melbourne, Australia and funded by the Australian Government (AUSAID) (July 2010).
35. **Kankyoshi: Internal conservatism and external nihilism in entrepreneurial Japan, 1945-1995** at the 70th session of the Indian History Congress, Delhi University in Delhi (May 2010).
36. **Colonialism or Modernity: Assessing the Impact of Scientific Techniques in the Evolution and Maintenance of Calcutta's Eastern Canal System** at the national seminar on *Science, Technology and Society: A Historical Perspective*; organized by Jadavpur University under UGC-SAP in Kolkata (March 2010).
37. **How a Canal Changed a City and How a City Changed a Canal: Erie Canal and Tolly's Nullah in Comparative Light** at the national seminar on *American Environmentalism and South Asia: Comparative Perspectives*; organized by the department of History, Jadavpur University in collaboration with United States-India Educational Foundation and Fulbright Alumni Association in Kolkata (September 2008).



38. **Paschatyo Chintajagat Rammohan Ray: Naba Utsa O Pariprekshit** (Rammohan Ray in Western Thought: New Issues and Perspectives) at Paschim Banga Itihas Samsad in Kolkata (January 2007).
39. **Water Management in Medieval India: towards an Economic Dexterity and Ecological Sustainability** (certified by Richard Grove) at the international seminar on *History of Waters in South Asia*; organized by the department of History, Jadavpur University (UGC-DRS Programme) in collaboration with MAKAIAS, in Kolkata (March 2006).
40. **Unish-bish Sataker Bratyo Sanskriti: Astitva Sankat banam Astitva Raksha** (The Question of Identity of Sub-altern Culture in the Nineteenth and Twentieth century Bengal) at Paschim Banga Itihas Samsad in Kolkata (January 2006).
41. **Polluting the Ganges and its Canals in Kolkata: A Deep Questioning** at the national seminar on *Rivers and Society: Historical Perspectives*; organized by the department of History, Jadavpur University and the Netaji Institute for Asian Studies in Kolkata (March 2004).
42. **Jal, Nadi O Sabhyatar Bikash: Prasanga Bharatbarsha** (Water, River and the History of Civilization: the Indian Context) at Paschim Banga Itihas Samsad in Kolkata (January 2004).