

Bisakha Goswami

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Research & Teaching Profile

Indian musicology, Ethnomusicological research on South Asia, Cultural Anthropology and Gender Studies, Music and dance genres created by Rabindranath Tagore.

Academic Qualifications

- 2016-18 Research Associate, SOAS South Asia Institute, University of London
'Kshemakarna's *Rāgamālā*: Social Practices as reflected in musicological texts of the 14th-17th century India.'
- 2015 PhD, Department of Vocal Music, Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata.
'Editing and Appreciating Musical Interpretations of Madanapala's
Ānandasañjīvana: An Unpublished Manuscript of Indian Musicology'
Critically examined the *Ānandasañjīvana*, a Sanskrit treatise on musicology of 15th century India.
- 2003 MA Musicology, Department of Musicology, Rabindra Bharati University.
Specializing in Ethnomusicology with Anthropological Research Methods and Textual Musicology
Dissertation: 'Changing Trends in the Traditional Music of Totos: An Ethnomusicological Thought.'
- 2001 MSc Anthropology, Department of Anthropology, Calcutta University.
Specializing in Social and Cultural Theory and Gender Studies.
Dissertation: 'Assessment of Social Status of the Women of Jagatballavpur: In the Perspectives of Cultural Professionalism.'
- 1999 BSc Anthropology, Department of Anthropology, Calcutta University.
Key Modules: Physical, Social and Paleo-Anthropology in South Asia, Indigenous Communities of India, History and Methodology of Anthropology

Dissertation: 'A Survey of the Social Life and Concept of Cultural Identity of the Santals in Dhatkidih.'

Publications

Authored Books

Aspects of Musicological Text and Pandit Vishnu Narayan Bhatkhande, Dipayan Publishers, Kolkata, ISBN-978-93-84674-15-1, 2019

Tālārṇava: A Musicological Text of Bengal (Edited and Translated into English), Dwipayan Publishers, ISBN: 978-93-84674-08-3, Kolkata, India, 2016.

Women in the Field of Music: A Study of Bengal, Dwipayan Publishers, ISBN: 978-93-84674-05-2, Kolkata, India, 2014.

Academic Journal Papers

Gāndharva Śāstra : The Foundation of Indian Musicology, Sanskrit-Vanmayi, Dept. of Sanskrit and Prakrit Language, Lucknow University, ISSN 2231-5799, January, 2021 pp. 108-115

'Glimpses of Early Literature and Musicology in India: A Cultural Fabric of Persia, Arabic and Greece,' *Rabindra Bharati Patrika*, New Series, vol. XVIII, Book Fair, 2016: 91-100

'*Rāgamālā: An Unpublished Source of Indian Music*', *Journal of the Department of Sanskrit*, Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata, vol.XX, 2015: 1-20

'Emergence of Ethnomusicology: As Traced in Indian Perspectives', *IJMAS*, ISSN No 2348-537X, vol. 1, no.6, Nov- Dec, 2014: 489-509. Online.

'Music and Religion: As reflected in the unpublished text *Ānandasāñjīvana*, *IJMAS*, ISSN No 2348- 537X, vol. 1, no.5, Sept- Oct, 2014: 422-433

'*Rāgā, Rasa* and Persian *Maqāma* in Sanskrit Texts: A Musicological Study', *Rabindra Bharati Patrika*, ISSN- 0975-0037, Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata: 156-184

'Madanapala : A Royal Patron of Indian Musicology', *Journal of The Asiatic Society*, Kolkata, ISSN 0368-3308, Vol. LXI, Oct-Dec, 2014.

'*Ānandasāñjīvana: A Treasure of Indian Musicology*', *Atodya, Journal of the Department of Instrumental Music*, Rabindra Bharati University, ISSN 2349-8196, vol. 1, no. 1, 2014.

'Prabandha: An ever-changing musical pattern of the past as reflected in *Ānandasāñjīvana*, *Proceedings of the International Seminar on 'Creating & Teaching Music Patterns*', *Department of Instrumental Music*, Rabindra Bharati University, ISBN-978-81-928763-0-6, December 2013. Online.

'Music in Tagore's Educational Philosophy: Fabricating the Holistic Approach', *Proceedings of the International Seminar entitled 'Discovering Tagore's Approach to Education through his Music, Art and Literature*, Kala Prakashan, ISBN- 978-93-81698-91-4, Varanasi, 2013.

‘Music Education in Universities: Tagore’s View’, *Focus: Journal of the Mahishadal Girls’ College*, West Bengal, Vol. III, 2011: 55-59

‘Textual Tradition of Indian Music and *Sangītaśiromani*’, *Focus: Journal of the Mahishadal Girls’ College*, West Bengal, Vol. III, 2010: 22-27.

‘Musicological Study in Medieval Bengal: A Brief Survey’, *Bhairavi, Journal of the Department of Music and Dramaturgy*, ISSN 0975-5217, Vol. I, 2009: 274-280.

‘King Madanapala’s Contribution to The Musical Tradition of Gouda-Vanga’, *Rabindra Bharati Patrika*, ISSN 0975-0037, Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata, Vol. X, 2007, P: 346-353.

‘*Ānandasāñjīvana*: An Unpublished Musical Text of Bengal’, *Proceedings of the Indian History Congress*, 67th Session, Calicut 2006-07, Indian History Congress, Delhi, 2007: 183-188.

‘Dhrupadi Sanskrita Sahitye Sangiter Upadan: Sanskhipta Paryalochana’, *Proceedings of the annual conference of Itihas Anusandhan – 21*, Paschimvanga Itihas Samsad, Kolkata, 2007: 169-175.

‘Musical Instruments of Ancient India: Few Distinguished Facts’, *Journal of the Bharati Kala Kendra*, New Delhi, 2006: 33-37.

‘A Decaying Trend in the Musical Tradition of Bagdis’, *Bish Shatak*, United Printers, Kolkata, Vol. 140, 2006: 12-19.

‘Glimpses of Primitive Components in Vedic Music’, *Rabindra Bharati Patrika*, Rabindra Bharati University, ISSN 0975-0037, Vol. IX, 2006: 339-345.

Conference/ Seminar Papers

Significance of World Music Day, JIS University, Kolkata, on 5th June 202.

‘Indian Knowledge System and *Sangitashastra* : Tradition and Value’, International conference on Utility of Studying Musicological Texts in India, organized by the Department of Musicology, Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata, during 30-31st March, 2021,

[Musicology Webinar_RBU 2021 Day 1 - YouTube](#)

[Musicology Webinar_RBU 2021 Day 2 - YouTube](#)

Bharatiya Sangitsastra men Sampradaya : Ek Sanshipta Anusandhan (भारतीय संगीतशास्त्र में संप्रदाय : एक संक्षिप्त अनुशंधान), Department of Musicology, Faculty of Performing Arts, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, 29th June 2020.

Sangitshastra aur uske ke Vikash (Origin and Development of Musicology in India), MOOCS on Indian Vocal Music, Dr. Hari Singh Gour University, EMRC, Sagar, 10-13th April, 2020.

‘Tracing the Early Concept of Indian Musicology : *Gāndharva Śāstra*’, All India Oriental Conference, Kavikulaguru Kalidas Sanskrit University, Nagpur, 10-12 January 2020

The Gandharvas : Celestial being and the Origin of Indian Musicology, organised by the South Asia Institute, SOAS, University of London on 5th June 2019.

Release your Fetters with a Song: Tagore's Contribution to Musicology in Indian University Education, organised by the South Asia Institute, SOAS, University of London on 12th December

2018.

Neither a Mother nor a Daughter: The *Devadasis* and the Performing Arts of Bengal, organized by the South Asia Institute, SOAS, University of London on 15th November 2017.

Music Archiving in Colonial India: Global Perspectives on the Conceptualization of Intangible Cultural Heritage, International Conference on 'The Past Before Us: Heritage and History in South Asia,' organized by the South Asia Institute, SOAS, University of London during 5-6th September, 2016.

'Importance of Sanskrit in Musicological Studies in India: An Overview', International Seminar on 'Sanskrit Literature and Fine Arts', organized by the Department of Sanskrit, Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata on 4th December, 2015.

'Teaching of Musicology in South Asia: A Recent Survey', International Conference on 'Music and Musicology in South Asia: Recent Trends', organized by the Department of Musicology, Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata on 4th December, 2015.

'*Rāgamālā*: An Unpublished Source of Indian Music' in a Poster Presentation Format, Annual seminar of the Indian Musicological Society, 2014.

‘Influence of Urdu Ghazal on Bengali Songs’, International seminar on ‘Modern Urdu Ghazal’, Department of Urdu, Bhairav Ganguli College, West Bengal State University, 2.4.2014

‘Indian Rāgā Music in Western Frame: A Global Fabric’, International seminar on ‘Globalization and Indian Music’, Department of Instrumental Music, Rabindra Bharati University, 25-26.3.2014

‘*Prabandha*: An Ever-Changing Musical pattern of the Past as Reflected in *Ānandasāñjīvana*, International seminar on ‘Music Patterns’, Department of Instrumental Music, Rabindra Bharati University, December 2013

‘*Ānandasāñjīvana* and Indian Musicology’, Annual Seminar of the Indian Musicological Society, 2013

‘*Sangītaśiromani*’: An Unheeded Text of Indian Musicology’, 70th session of the Indian History Congress, Delhi University, 15-17.5.2010

‘Contribution of the Women of Tagore’s Family to the Musical Field of Bengal’, 68th session of the Indian History Congress, Delhi University, 28-30.12.2007

‘*Anandasanjivana*: An Unpublished Musical Text of Bengal’, 67th session of the Indian History Congress, Farook College, Calicut University, 10-12.3.2007.

Academic Teaching

04/2012 - Present Assistant Professor, Department of Musicology,
Rabindra Bharati University.

- Supervising PhD students
- Teaching musicology and ethnomusicology theory and practice in South Asia in regular MA and MPhil Courses. o Organizing seminar contents.
- Giving practical demonstrations of various South Asian music and dance forms in MA performance classes.
- Using audiovisual material to support the study of performance practice and musicological literature.
- Offering individual and group feedback in written and verbal forms.
- Setting and assessing exam papers.
- Lecturing the texts and tradition of Indian Musicology following the ideas of Sharangadeva, Ahobal, K.C.D. Brihaspati, Friedrich Chrysander, Rabindranath Tagore, V.N. Bhatkhande, Denis Stevens, Bruno Nettl.

07/2007 - 04/2012 Assistant Professor, Department of Music,

Mahishadal Girls' College, Vidyasagar University.

- Taught Indian music and social anthropology in BA courses. Lectured in weekly undergraduate seminars.
- Lectured on the Bengal Renaissance and other cultural movements of 19th century India.
- Initiated verbal and written student feedback beyond departmental requirements.
- Guided students on strategic approaches to exam preparation and execution.
- Collaborated in the setting of assessed essay titles and exam questions.

- Lectured about Sharangadev, Ahobal, Rabindranath Tagore, V.N. Bhatkhande, K.C.D. Brihaspati, Bronislaw Malinowski, Claude Levi- Strauss, Alfred Radcliffe-Brown, E. B. Tylor.

Visiting Fellow/Research Associate

School of Oriental and African Studies, SAI, University of London, during June 2016-June 2019.

Additional Academic Experience

2015 **Organized International Conference on -**

'Music and Musicology in South Asia: Recent Trends', during 5-6th November, 2015, Rabindra Bharati University, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies & Muktabodha, Centre for Indological Studies and Research.

- Wrote Call for paper, selected abstracts, arranged panels and conference logistics.
- Secured funding, external journal sponsorship and managed budget.
- Chaired panel entitled 'Musicology and Ethnomusicology in India: Recent Approach'.

2009-Present : **General Secretary, Muktabodha, Centre for Indological Studies and Research, Howrah.**

- Assisted in the editing of Muktabodha journal.
- Organised one-day seminar in 2012.

02/2011 **Convener of the Workshop - 'Dhrupad Music and Rabindranath Tagore', Mahishadal Girls College & Bengal Music College, Kolkata.**

- Prepared concept and organized workshop.

Additional Work Responsibilities & Skills

2015-Present **Working with Doordarshan Kolkata**, National TV Channel

- Presenting news in Bengali language.

01/2010-04/2012 **Officer, National Cadet Corps**, Mahishadal Girls' College

- Organized annual blood donation camp.

10/2007 – 01/2011 **Program Officer, National Service Scheme**, Mahishadal Girls' College

- Organized national mountaineering training camp in Kashmir.

IT Skills: Microsoft Office (Word, PowerPoint, Excel)

Academic Awards & Funding

2020 Jagatguru Sankaracharya Award - in recognition of the patronage for research and Development in Oriental Learning.

2004 - 2007 Haraprasad Shastri Research Fellowship, The Asiatic Society, Kolkata.

Academic Memberships

10/2013-Present - Muktabodha, Centre for Indological Studies and Research, Howrah.

01/2007-Present Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute 06/2006-Present Indian Musicological Society Mumbai 01/2005-Present Indian History Congress

09/2003-Present The Asiatic Society Kolkata

01/2002-Present Editorial Board of the State Music Academy West Bengal.

Language Skills

Bengali (Native Speaker), Hindi (Fluent), English (Proficient), Sanskrit (Basic Knowledge), German (Basic Knowledge).