

CURRICULUM VITAE



Name: MOUBANI BAGCHI

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Current Position: PhD Student

Department of Humanities and Social Sciences
Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati

Summary

Moubani Bagchi is a PhD student, specializing in Archaeology, at the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati. Her work integrates interdisciplinary methods from domains of heritage conservation and cultural resource management for understanding the issues and challenges faced by the urban cultural heritage.

Experiences

Moubani Bagchi has done internship in Art Conservation at the Heritage Preservation Atelier Pvt. Ltd., New Chandigarh. She has experiences of fieldwork and ethnography: she has worked with the weavers of Panetar-Gharcholu – the bridal attire of Gujarati culture - from Khambat (Gulf of Cambay) in Gujarat; she has worked with Fakirani Jat community - a nomadic-pastoral group of people inhabiting Kutch in Gujarat- as part of her academic requirements for Bachelor's curriculum. She participated in a one-month excavation in Dhaneti (an Early Harappan burial site) in Kutch, conducted by Department of Archaeology and Ancient History, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda in 2017. She did her Master's dissertation on *Chatris* - the post-death monuments - of Bhuj with special reference to the Śatapata Brāhmana. As part of her training in Conservation, Preservation and Heritage Management, she prepared Survey and Condition Assessment Report of Beguniya Temple Complex - a protected monument under Archaeological Survey of India - in Barakar, West Bengal, which required extensive fieldwork. She did her Master's dissertation on paper manuscripts of Braj region dating to 19th century C.E., where she worked on the remedial and preventive conservation of the paper manuscripts.

Education

- **Doctor of Philosophy** (Pursuing: since July 2021 - present) in Archaeology from Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati, Guwahati.
- **Master of Arts** (2021) in Conservation, Preservation and Heritage Management from Delhi Institute of Heritage Research and Management, Delhi [Title of M.A. dissertation: Conservation and Preservation of Paper Manuscripts with special reference to Braj Region].
- **Master of Arts** (2018) in Archaeology and Ancient History from The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara [Title of M.A. dissertation: A Qualitative study on the *Chatris* of Bhuj with special reference to the Śatapata Brāhmana].
- **Bachelor of Arts (Hons.)** (2016) in Archaeology and Ancient History from The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara.
- **Indian School Certificate (I.S.C.) Examinations** March 2013 from The Assembly of God Church School, Sodepur, Asansol.
- **All India Secondary School Examination (CBSE)** 2009-2011 from D.A.V. Public School, Kanyapur, Asansol.

Research Interests

- Heritage Interpretation
- Temple Architecture
- Heritage Legislation

Responsibilities handled at IIT Guwahati

- As in-charge of Housing and Logistics within the Organizing Committee that administered the Graduate Research Meet (GRM), one of the largest multidisciplinary conferences in India and the largest student-run conference in North-East India during January 06-07, 2023, she had performed the following responsibilities:
 - a. Arranged accommodation for the plenary speakers and all the participants
 - b. Resolved issues related to logistics
 - c. Supervised the conference hall management
 - d. Ensured all the conference halls were in good condition, maintaining constant contact with the Establishment Section

Achievements

- Received **SBI Youth for India Fellowship** for October Cohort, 2021-2022 batch (could not avail due to SBI Exclusivity Policy).

Internships

- **April – June 2020** – Internship at the Heritage Preservation Atelier Pvt. Ltd., New Chandigarh.
- **December 2019** – Internship at the Heritage Preservation Atelier Pvt. Ltd., New Chandigarh.

Conference Presentations

- Presented paper titled “**Memory of a Monument: Understanding Begunia Temple Complex as a Cultural marker of Rarh Regional History**” at the 2nd International Society for Regional History Conference on ‘People, Places, Landscapes and Memory’ held at Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India from November 4-6, 2024.
- Presented paper titled “**The ‘North-East’ Label: Need for a Heritage Education Policy**” in the session Heritage Conservation of Assam, organized by Archaeological Sciences Laboratory, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati and Heritage Conservation Society of Assam (HeCSA), at the 8th National Young Historians’ Seminar, 2024 (2nd Chapter), from September 21-22, 2024.
- Presented paper titled “**Preserving the ‘organic’ link at Beguniya: Understanding the role of local population at a ‘Protected Monument’ in India**” at the 30th European Association of Archaeologists Annual Meeting held in a hybrid format at Sapienza University of Rome, Rome, Italy, from August 28-31, 2024.
- Presented paper titled “**The ‘North-East’ Label: Need for a Heritage Education Policy**” at North-East Research Conclave and Assam Biotech Conclave 2022 – *Towards Sustainable Science and Technology*, held at Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati, Guwahati, India from May 20-22, 2022.
- Presented paper titled “**Assessment of Kalinga Temple Architecture in Medieval Bengal: A Case Study on Beguniya**” at Historical Development of Indian Temple Architecture and Construction Styles held at Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, Bengaluru Campus, Bengaluru, India from April 8-10, 2022.
- Presented paper titled “**Integrating Heritage: Assessment of Beguniya Temple Complex at Barakar**” at Anthropology and Bio-Cultural Diversity in India: Retrospect and Prospect held at Department of Anthropology, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad, India (Online) from February 21-23, 2022.
- Presented paper titled ‘**Manasamangal Kavya: Contemporary Public Life and Urban Linkage**’ at Folk Literature in Indian Languages: Today and Tomorrow held at Regional Institute of Education, NCERT, Bhopal, India (Online) from January 27-29, 2022.

Publication

- Bagchi, M. & Sharma, S. (2024). The 'North-East' Label: Need for a Heritage Education Policy. In S. Sharma, R. Uppaluri, V. Dutta, & A. Kashyap (Eds.), *Policies for Research and Innovation: Proceedings of NERC 2022* (pp. 17-31). Springer.
- Bagchi, M. & Sharma, S. (under contract). *Manasamangal Kavya: Contemporary Public Life and Urban Linkage*. In *Folk Literature in Indian Languages: Today and Tomorrow*. NCERT.

Participation in Training Programs

- Participated in an online Certificate Training on "Basics of Geospatial Tools for Interdisciplinary Research in Natural Resource Management" from June 20-26, 2023, jointly organized by South Asia Consortium for Interdisciplinary Water Resources Studies (Saci WATERS) and Lab for Spatial Informatics, the International Institute of Information Technology Hyderabad (IIITH)
- Participated in Practical Training Program on "Conservation of Wall Painting" from February 20, 2023, to March 06, 2023, organized by National Research Laboratory for Conservation of Cultural Property (NRLC) Lucknow, Ministry of Culture, Government of India
- Participated in Practical Training Program on "Conservation of Oil Painting" from January 23, 2023, to February 17, 2023, organized by National Research Laboratory for Conservation of Cultural Property (NRLC) Lucknow, Ministry of Culture, Government of India
- Participated in online short-term course on "Archaeometallurgy and Scientific Analysis of Ancient Metal Objects" from August 9-13, 2021, organized by the National Research Laboratory for Conservation of Cultural Property (NRLC) Lucknow, Ministry of Culture, Government of India
- Participated in 2021 Virtual Workshop on Conservation Science, Training, and Research (CoSTAR). An initiative of the Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute of Harvard University and the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya (CSMVS Museum, Mumbai).

Participation in Excavations and Workshops

- **2021:** Participated in National Workshop on Conservation and Preservation of Heritage: Tools and Techniques (Under RUSA MHRD Project 2.0) from February 18-23, 2021, organized by Mohanlal Sukhadia University, Udaipur.
- **2017:** Participated in a one-month excavation in Dhaneti (an Early Harappan burial site) in Kutch, conducted by Department of Archaeology and Ancient History, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda.

- **2017:** Participated in study tours to Dholavira (Harappan city), Shikarpur (Mature Harappan site), and Navinal (Mature Harappan site) conducted by Department of Archaeology and Ancient History, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda.
- **2017:** Participated in the Prehistoric Exploration in Orsang and Sukhi River Valleys (Palaeolithic sites), in the month of August, conducted by Department of Archaeology and Ancient History, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda.
- **2016:** Participated in a two-day national workshop (October 3-4) titled *Stone Knapping and Bead Making*, held at Department of Archaeology and Ancient History, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, under the aegis of UGC SAP-DRS-III.
- **2016:** Participated in the three-day international conference titled *22nd Himalayan Languages Symposium* (June 8-10), organized by Department of Humanities and Social Sciences & Centre for Linguistic Science and Technology, Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati.
- **2016:** Participated in the three-day international conference titled *12th International Conference on South Asian Languages and Literature (ICOSAL-12)* (January 7-9) held at the Centre for Endangered Languages and Mother Tongue Studies, School of Humanities, University of Hyderabad.
- **2016 & 2015:** Participated in the excavation of rural Mature Harappan site of Vejalka (Dist. Botad) in Saurashtra, Gujarat for 10 days, conducted by Department of Archaeology and Ancient History, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda.
- **2015:** Participated in a one-day (September 30) workshop titled *International Workshop on Commodity, Resource or Heirloom? Investigating the Social, Economic and Ethical Values of Cultural Heritage*, organised by Department of Archaeology and Ancient History, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, British Council, UNESCO, and Durham University, United Kingdom.
- **2015:** Participated in a three-week workshop on Experimental Archaeology, conducted by Department of Archaeology and Ancient History, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda.