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1. Research Interests

My area of research lies in understanding the diversity within Muslim communities in South Asia by contextualizing their lives and communities in the multiple terrains of everyday life. Keeping the post-colonial South Asian context in the background, I am interested in exploring the interface between the construction of piety, religious reformation, social and sectarian divisions and the socio-political forces at play that constantly reshapes the idea of being a 'Muslim'. I seek to comprehend how Muslim subjectivities are shaped by intersecting multiple identities like of regional, religious, sectarian and national frames, and how this diverse idea of being a Muslim interacts with the global reformist currents towards a quest for global 'Islamic' community. Towards this end I seek to supplement ethnography with social biographies, personal historical accounts, archival materials, official history and creative use of literature and artistic expressions to understand the complexities to being a 'Muslim'.

Apart from this, I am also interested in understanding the diverse trajectories of social theories and methodologies in varied contexts of geographies, domains of power, ideologies, and intersectionalities of everyday life. My interest in this area goes along with the recent trends in doing sociology that problematises the given and taken for granted concepts, theories, perspectives and ways of practicing social sciences by contextualizing and historicizing them in social and intellectual traditions.

Some of the courses offered by me at Central University of Punjab are: Sociology of Religion, Sociology of Muslim Communities, Research Methodology, Research Methods and Rural & Agrarian Society.

2. Paper Presentation in Seminars/ Conferences

a) Invited Papers:

- Paper presented on invitation at International Conference on Practices and Performance of Sufi Shrines, organized by American Institute of Indian Studies (Council for American Overseas Research Centres), August 1st-4th, 2014.

Title: *Beyond discourses and identities: Ambivalence, Contestation and Accommodation in a Sufi shrine.*

- Paper presented on invitation at national seminar on the theme of Multiple Secularities at IIT, Kanpur, October 14th-15th, 2014.

Title: *Being Muslim, Being Secular: Everyday encounters and construction of identities*

- Paper presented on invitation as UGC resource person at UGC sponsored national seminar on 'The Paradigm of Inequality in India', at Bebe Nanaki Guru Nanak Dev University College, Kapurthala, Punjab, January 15th-16th, 2016.

b) Conference Papers:

- Presented a paper titled, '*The Contestation Within: Reflections on Dalit-Muslim political alliance*' at national conference on Dr. B. R. Ambedkar's perspective on State, Society and Education: Revisiting his Vision and Mission' held at University of Hyderabad, 22nd-23rd February 2017.

- Presented a paper titled '*Reframing the 'religious': Methodological and Conceptual Challenges*' at 42nd All India Sociological Conference organized by the Department of Sociology, Tezpur Central University, Tezpur, 27-30, December 2016.

- Presented a paper titled '*Post-Islamism and the politics of everyday*' at XXXIX All India Sociological Conference at Karnataka State Open University, Mukthagangothri, Mysore, 27th-29th December 2013.
- Presented a paper titled '*Control and Belonging: Life of a Sufi Shrine in Bengal*' at XXXVIII All India Sociological Conference organized by the Department of Sociology, Mohanlal Sukhadia University, Udaipur on 27th-29th, December 2012.

3. Publications

a) Invited Papers (International Pub.)

- "Reforming the 'Muslims': Piety, State and Islamic Reform Movement in Bengal", in Society and Culture in South Asia. Sage Pub. First Published: online edition - June 6th 2017; print edition: Society and Culture in South Asia, vol. 3, 2: pp. 157-174, 2017.

b) Forthcoming Papers (National):

- "Educating lay Muslims: The *jalsa* in Bengal", in Religion and Education in India. Edited by: Arshad Alam. Orient Blackswan.
- "Being Muslim, Being Secular: Everyday encounters and construction of identities" in Religion and Secularities: Reconfiguration of Islam in contemporary India. Edited by: Anindita Chakrabarti and Sudha Sitharaman. Orient Blackswan.

4. Awards/Professional association

- Gold Medal In M.A. Sociology
- UGC-JRF award for Ph.D.
- Life Member, Indian Sociological Society

5. Social Documentaries produced/associated with

- Associated with a social documentary – *'Jamuna....still flows by'* as Executive Producer.

(The documentary presents the living conditions and everyday struggle of old aged prostitutes in one of the oldest red light area of Kolkata).

- Associated with a documentary film – *'Mrinal Sen – an era in cinema'* as additional camera man. Produced by: Public Service Broadcasting Trust, Government of India and Public Diplomacy Division, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India.

(This documentary is a biopic of famous Indian director/producer, Mrinal Sen through his films.)