

ABDUL MATIN

Assistant Professor
Department of Political Science
Cooch Behar Panchanan Barma University, West Bengal
&
Doctoral Fellow
Center for Political Studies
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Area of Interest: Democracy and Inequality in India, South Asian Islam with special reference to Bengal, Political and Religious Mobilizations of Muslims in West Bengal, and Dalit Politics in India.

Academic Qualifications

Former DAAD Visiting doctoral fellow at the Center for Modern Indian Studies (CeMIS) University of Goettingen, Germany (1st April to 31st July 2017)

Pursing PhD, 3rd Year, Center for Political Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
Topic: *Community, Mobilization and Development: The Making of a New Muslim Identity in Contemporary West Bengal (2006-2016)*, Supervisor: Professor Dwaipayan Bhattacharyya

2014 M.Phil , Center for Political Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
Topic: *Assertion and Mobilization: The Role of 'Jamiaet-e-Ulema-e-Hind' and 'Furfura Sharif' in the Contemporary Politics of West Bengal (2006-2011)*. Supervisor: Professor Sudha Pai

2012 Masters of Arts in Political Science from University of Hyderabad, (First Class with Distinction)

2010 Bachelors of Arts (honors) in Political Science from Jadavpur University, Kolkata

, Awards and Grants

- 2017 DAAD Visiting Doctoral Fellowship at CeMIS, University of Goettengen, Germany
- 2017 Received travel grant of 700 Euros from Prof Srirupa Roy, CeMIS, UoG, Germany
- 2016 Received (ICSSR) international travel grant for conference at Halle, Germany
- 2014 Received Travel Grant of USD 1200 from University of Copenhagen for 6th ADI Con
- 2012 Maulana Azad National Fellowship for MPhil and PhD, Government of India
- 2011 Received Book grant from the University of Hyderabad
- 2009 Sabita Bhattacharya Memorial Book Prize by Jadavpur University.
- 2009 Uttam Kr. Kundu Memo Book Prize by Jadavpur University
- 2008 Dr. Asim Kumar Basu Scholarship by Jadavpur University
- 2008 Nityabrata Paul Memo Book Prize by Jadavpur University

Selected Publications

Book chapters

Matin, Abdul (2016) 'In Search of Inclusion: The Role of Muslims in West Bengal's Electoral Politics', in *Society and Development: Regional Perspectives*, edited by Surjit Singh and Dhruv Raina, Rawat Publications, Jaipur, pp.23-37.

Matin, Abdul (2016) 'Democratic Decentralization and Religious Minorities: A Case study of West Bengal', in *Local Governance in India: Experiences after the Constitutional Amendments* edited by E. Venkateshu, ISBN 9789351282020, Kalpaz Publications, New Delhi, pp.127-140.

Matin, Abdul (2015) 'Reformation and Vernacularization of Sufism in Bengal: Understanding the Formation of Silsila-e-Furfura Sharif in West Bengal', in *Regional Sufi Centers in India: Significance and Contribution*, Delhi, Manakin Press, pp.67-78.

Article in referred and peer reviewed journal

Matin, Abdul 'Socio-Religious Reform and Sufism in 20th Century Bengal: A Study of Pir Abu Bakr of Furfura Sharif', *South Asian Cultural Studies*, United Kingdom, (forthcoming)

Book Review in peer reviewed journal

Poetics of Village Politics: *The Making of West Bengal's Rural Communism* by Arild Engelsen Ruud ; Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 2003; pp .226, Hardcover, Price Rs 550 . Kalyani University Journal of Political Studies, vol: 1, Issue I

Entries in Encyclopedia

Maulana Abdul Hamid Khan Bhasani and Pir Abu Bakr Siddiqui under the project *Modern South Asian Thinkers*, joint collaboration with South Asian University and University of Delhi (ongoing)

Paper presented in International Conference, Seminar and Workshop

2017 Participated in the Summer School on “*Politics, Development and Social Change in Contemporary India*”, organized by Dept. of Culture, Politics and Society, **University of Turino**, Italy from 3rd July to 7th July 2017

2017 “In Search of Social Justice: Locating ‘Muslim minority’ in contemporary West Bengal”, paper presented at the 23rd Humboldt India Project (HIP) workshop, organized by the Department of South Asian Studies, Institute of Asian and African Studies, **Humboldt University zu Berlin**, Germany on 23rd June 2017.

2017 “Land, livelihood and social justice: Experiences from the marginalized communities in West Bengal”, paper presented at the Int. student Conference on *Culture and Environment in Asia and Africa* organized by Asia Africa Institute, **University of Hamburg**, Germany on 24th June 2017.

2017 “Quest for Social Justice: The Sachar committee report and the ‘Muslim questions’ in contemporary West Bengal”, paper presented at the CeMIS panel discussion on Interrogating the ‘Muslim Question’ in India, organized by the Center for Modern Indian Studies (CeMIS) University of Goettingen, Germany on 30th May 2017.

2016 “Sachar Committee Report and the Changing Nature of Political Mobilizations of Muslims in Contemporary West Bengal”, paper presented at the Forth Bengal Studies Conference at **Martin Luther University**, Halle, Germany, 28th to 30th October 2016.

2016 “In Search of Identity: The Making of ‘Bengali Muslim Community’ in Colonial Bengal”, paper presented at the International conference on *Sociology of Religion in a Pluralistic Society* jointly organized by the Center for the Study of Religion and Society, **Jadavpur University** and Dept. of Politics, Philosophy and Religion, **Lancaster University**, United Kingdom,(7th to 9th April)

2016 “In Search of Equity and Social Justice: Locating ‘Muslim minority’ in the universities of West Bengal”, Project E-QUAL Third International student conference on *The Future University: Access, Quality, Relevance*, organized by **Jadavpur University Kolkata**, sponsored by **European Commission** in collaboration with British Council of India, Kings College London, University of Bologna Italy, AUD, UoH, SNU, (14th and 15th July).

2015 “Reformation and Vernacularization of Sufism in Bengal: Understanding the Formation of ‘Silsilah-e-Furfura Sharif’ in West Bengal”, paper presented at the *International Conference on Sufism in India and Central Asia*, MMAJ Academy of International Studies, **Jamia Millia Islamia**, New Delhi (11th and 12th February).

2014 “Religion, language and Culture: Understanding the Identity of ‘Bengali Muslim’ in contemporary West Bengal”, paper presented at the *International Interdisciplinary Conference on Language, Culture and Values: East and the West*, School of Language, Literature and Culture Studies, **Jawaharlal Nehru University**, New Delhi (16th to 18th December).

2014 “Mobilization for *Sonkhaloghu Unnayon* (Minority Development): The Role of Furfura Sharif in the Contemporary Politics of West Bengal”, paper presented at the *6th Annual International Conference on Intra-Asian Connections: Interactions, flows, landscapes* Asian Dynamics Initiative, **University of Copenhagen**, Denmark (22nd to 24th October).

2014 “Socio-religious Reform and Sufism in 20th Century Bengal: A Study of the role of Pir Abu Bakr of Furfura Sharif”, paper presented at the International workshop on *Imagining South Asian Cultures in Non-English: Re-Constructing Popular Textual and Visual Representations*organised by **South Asian Cultural Studies**, U.K in collaboration with **Jamia Millia Islamia** in New Delhi, (9th and 10th January).

2013 “Muslims at the Margins: Understanding Development in the Post-Sachar Scenario”, paper presented at the International Seminar on Public Policies and Empowerment of

Marginalized Section of the Society, Centre for Distance Education, **Aligarh Muslim University**, Uttar Pradesh (4th to 5th December).

National Conference, Seminar and Workshop:

2015 “Connecting ‘*Deen*’ with ‘*Duniya*’: Exploring Public Madrasah education in Contemporary West Bengal”, paper presented at the Graduate Seminar on ‘*Knowledge, Education and Society: Interdisciplinary Perspectives*’, Center for Zakir Hussain Educational Studies, SSS, **Jawaharlal Nehru University**, New Delhi (15th to 16th September)

2015 “*Caste, Inequality and Underdevelopment: The Status of Dalits in Contemporary West Bengal*”, paper presented at the Young Scholars Conference on ‘Discrimination and Exclusion’ Centre for Study of Discrimination and Exclusion, **Jawaharlal Nehru University**, New Delhi (22-23 April)

2015 “*Sachar Committee Report and the Changing Discourse of ‘Minority Development’ in Contemporary West Bengal*”, paper presented at the 3rd CPS Young Scholars Conference on ‘Politics, Policy and Development’ Center for Political Studies, **Jawaharlal Nehru University**, New Delhi (16-17 February).

2014 “Sufism and the formation of Bengali-Muslim identity: A study of Pir Abu Bakr of Furfura Sharif, West Bengal” paper presented at the Young Scholars Conference on *Debating Identity: Dialogues across boundaries*, **South Asian University**, New Delhi (16th to 17th October).

2014 “Language, Identity and Political Mobilizations: The Role of ‘Urdu’ in contemporary Politics of Kolkata” paper presented at the *International Symposium on International Mother Language Day* Centre for Linguistics, **Jawaharlal Nehru University**, New Delhi (21st February).

2014 “In Search of Inclusion: The Role of Muslims in the contemporary politics of West Bengal” paper presented at the *Second Regional Social Science Congress*, organised by ICSSR, and **Giri Institute of Development Studies**, Lucknow, UP, (27th February to 1st March).

2014 Participated in the *Research Writing Workshop* at the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, **I.I.T, Delhi**(28th 29th March).

2013 “Changing Concepts of Human Rights in Contemporary India: A Case Study of Muslim minority in West Bengal” paper presented at the *ICSSR sponsored National Conference on*

Human Rights in India: Dalits, Tribals and Minorities organised by School of Social Sciences, **Central University of Gujarat** (21st to 22nd November).

2013 “Democratic Decentralization and Representation of Minorities: A Case Study of West Bengal” paper presented at the *National Seminar on Democratic Decentralization in India- Two Decades of Constitutional Amendments: Issues and Challenges*, Dept. of Political Science, **University of Hyderabad** (25th to 26th April).

2013 “Migration and Social Exclusion: A Study of Bengali Muslim migrant workers in major metro cities in India” paper presented at the National conference on *Youth Migration and Development* organized by **Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development** (RGNIYD) in collaboration with UNESCO, New Delhi at Sriperumbudur , Tamil Nadu, (8th to 9th February).

2012 “Quest for Justice: The Anti-Left Muslim Uprising in West Bengal” paper presented at the UGC Sponsored National Seminar on *Social Movements in India: Issues and Challenges*, Dept. of Political Science, **Kakatiya University**, Warangal, Telangana, (2nd and 3rd March).

2012 Participated and presented a paper at the Workshop on “*State and State of Minorities*” on 5th March 2012 held by the Dept. of Political Science, **Osmania University**, Hyderabad.

Invited talk and lecture

2017 “The (In) Visible Mobilization: Sufi Shrine, *Waz-Mahfils* and the making of a marginalized Bengali Muslim Identity in contemporary West Bengal”, organized by Professor Dr. Torsten Tschacher, at Institute for Islamic Studies, **Freie University, Berlin**, Germany on 11th July 2017.

Beyond Academics:

Participated in the **World Conference on Youth 2014** in Colombo in Sri Lanka on *Mainstreaming Youth in the Post 2015 Development Agenda* organised by United Nations and Government of Sri Lanka from 5th to 10th May 2014. See www.wcy2014.com

Represented India in the **2nd SAARC Youth Camp 2008** organized by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India and Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD) at Chennai from 12th Jan to 16th Jan 2008.

Represented West Bengal and Jadavpur University in the **14th National Youth Festival** organized by National Service Scheme, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Govt. of India and held at Amritsar, Punjab from 12th Jan to 16th Jan 2009.

Participated in the **All India Gandhi Vichar Camp** from 23rd December to 30th December 2009, organized by Institute of Gandhian Studies at Wardha, Maharashtra

Completed Senior **First Aid Course** from St John Ambulance Association, Kolkata in 2007

Participated in the **Pre-Republic Day Camp** held at Haringhata College from October 27th to November 5, 2007, organized by N.S.S Regional Centre, Kolkata and Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Govt. of India.

Participated in **Inter-University Group Level Youth Parliament Competition** held on 30th January 2008 under the auspices of Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, Government of India, organized by Jadavpur University.

Felicitated by the State Liaison Cell (N.S.S), **Government of West Bengal** and University of Calcutta on 1st December 2009 at Centenary Hall, Calcutta University for participation in the National Level Programme.

Was an active **National Service Scheme (NSS)** volunteer at Jadavpur University from 2007-2010.

Worked as Young Reporter with **NIE, Times of India**, Kolkata at Peter's Day School in 2004-05

Academic References:

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Professor Sudha Pai

Former Rector and Professor
Center for Political Studies
Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
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Professor Dr. Srirupa Roy

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Center for Modern Indian Studies, University of Goettingen, Germany
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Professor Rajen Harshe

Former Vice-Chancellor, University of Allahabad
Presently Visiting Professor
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