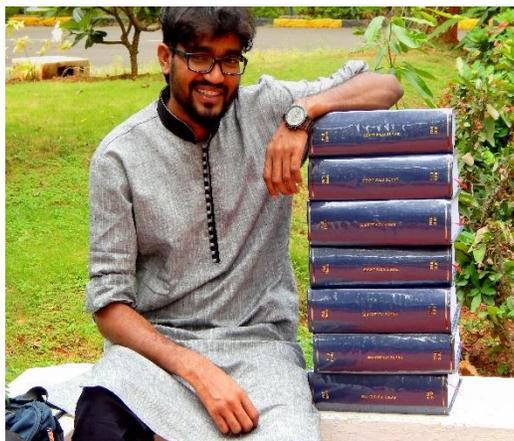


## DR. SHAKTIPADA KUMAR



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### *CURRICULUM VITAE*

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#### PRESENT AFFILIATION:

Assistant Professor of English at **Cooch Behar Panchanan Barma University**,  
Cooch Behar, West Bengal.

#### PREVIOUS EXPERIENCES:

- Research Assistant at **The Centre for Knowledge Ideas and Development Studies, Kolkata.**
- Guest Lecturer at **Sundarban Hazi Desarat College**, Sundarbans, West Bengal.

#### EDUCATION AND CREDENTIALS:

- **Ph.D.** in English Literature, 2019- **The English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad.**

Title of the Ph.D. Thesis: **Reconfiguring Performative Traditions: A Mnemocultural Inquiry into the Chhou Dance of Purulia.**

- **M.A. English, 2013- The English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad**

M.A. Dissertation Project **“A Study of the Folk Discourse of *Jangalmahal* with Specific Reference to *Kali Puja/Bandna Parab* and *Chhou Dance.*”**

- **B.A. English, 2011- The University of Burdwan, West Bengal.**
- Higher Secondary in Arts, 2008- West Bengal Council of Higher Secondary Education.
- Secondary in 2006- West Bengal Board of Secondary Education.

### **RESEARCH INTERESTS:**

- Oral traditions, Tribal studies, Indigenous performative traditions, Mnemocultures, Performance theory, Performing Arts, Visual Arts, Cultural Lexicon of Purulia and Jharkhand, etc.

### **PUBLICATIONS:**

1. Published a paper titled **The Chhou Dance Performance of Purulia Bengal: A Mnemocultural Amalgamation of Dance, Drama, and Music from International Dance Council CID-UNESCO, St. Petersburg, Russia, 2016.**
2. Published a paper on **Purulia Chhou Dance: A Mnemocultural Response to the Performing Traditions of India** in the official journal of the folklore foundation of Odisha named *Lokaratna*, Volume IX, 2016.

3. Published a paper on **Tusu Parab: Myth and Reality** in an international research referred journal, *Ebong Prantik* from Varanasi.
4. Published a paper titled **Glimpses of Cultural Traditions in Jangalmahal through Bandna Parab and Chhou Naach** in an International Research Referred Journal named *Ebong Prantik* from B.H.U, Varanasi in May 2014.
5. A paper titled **Tracing the Cultural Tradition of Jangalmahal through Bandna Parab and Jawa-Karam** has been accepted for publication in **Mahatma Gandhi Central University Journal of Social Sciences (MGCUJSS)**.

#### **PRESENTATIONS:**

1. Presented a paper titled **Revisiting the Cultural Tradition of Jangalmahal through Bandna Parab and Jawa-Karam Parab** in an International Conference on Performing and Visual Arts, **University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia**, in January 2018.
2. Presented a paper on **The Chhou Dance Performance of Purulia Bengal: A Mnemocultural Amalgamation of Dance, Drama and Music** in the **47<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Dance Research** at the Saint Petersburg Section of **CID, UNESCO, Russia**, in November 2016.
3. Dr. Kumar has delivered a special talk for the Master's Students on **The Preservation of Intangible Cultural Heritage: The Problem of Dance Notions** in the **47<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Dance Research** at the Saint Petersburg Section of **CID, UNESCO, Russia**, in November 2016.

4. The paper titled **The Chhou Dance Performance of Purulia Bengal: A Mnemocultural Amalgamation of Dance, Drama, and Music** was selected for an international conference at the **University of Exeter, UK** in August 2016.
5. A paper titled **Performing Traditions of India: A Mnemcultural Response to the Chhou Dance of Purulia, Bengal** had been selected for an International conference at **The University of Texas, Austin, USA**, in September 2015.
6. Presented a paper on **“Mnemocultural Practices through Song Cultures of Purulia”** at **Sidho Kanho Birsha University, Purulia**.
7. Presented a paper titled **Oral Narratives in *Bandna Parab*: Myth and Reality** at the **Central University of Jharkhand**.
8. Participated in a national seminar on **Translating Oral/ Folk Texts from Indian Languages into English** at **The English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad**.
9. Participated in the Workshop on **James Joyce and Literary Reasoning**, conducted by Dr. Jibu Mathew George at **The English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad**, in September 2013.
10. Delivered a special lecture at Ramananda Centenary College, Purulia on **“Chhou Beyond Mahisasur Bodh: Reclaiming the Cultural Heritage of Purulia.”**
11. Presented a paper titled **“The Chhou Dance of Purulia”** at the **45th International Council for Traditional Music (ICTM) World Conference, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand** in July 2019.

## **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION:**

**Member of the International Dance Council CID-UNESCO, Paris.**

**Member of the Indian Whistlers' Association**

**Jhumur Singer and director of a Chhou Troupe in Purulia.**

## **PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENT**

- Dr. Kumar has made a documentary film (about 54 minutes) on “the Chhou Dance of Purulia.”
- The Documentary film titled “**The Chhou Dance of Purulia**” has been screened at the **45th International Council for Traditional Music (ICTM) World Conference in July 2019 at Chulalongkorn University, Thailand.** (This documentary is part of his Ph.D. Thesis)

## **CREATIVE INTEREST:**

- Dr. Kumar has a Senior Diploma (Part I) in Classical Vocal from Nikhil Bharat Sangeet Samiti, Kolkata.
- He was selected to participate in the International Whistling Competition in Louisburg, America in 2011
- He has participated in the biggest reality show of India, i.e. India's Got Talent for his whistling and singing capability.
- He has developed a personal archive pertaining to the rich cultural heritage of the Purulia region.

He has a **YouTube** channel where he uploads videos pertaining to the cultural performative traditions of the Purulia region. Some of his own singing and whistling videos can be accessed from the following link

<https://www.youtube.com/user/kumarshakti23>

Dr. Kumar has so far done extensive field research in the area of cultures of memory. He has recorded more than hundred episodes known as Chhou Palas from the Ramayana, the Mahabharata, Puranas, and, Vedas. He is involved with various cultural activities apart from the academic happenings. He is a singer, composer, photographer, whistler, calligrapher, and documentary, film maker. He has received a number of prizes for his singing, whistling and photographic excellence. His Chhou dance troupe has performed throughout the nation.