

Parasmoni Dutta

Ph. D. in Cultural Studies (2007)

Curriculum Vitae

Date of birth:

14 October 1974

Current Position:

Associate Professor

Department of Cultural Studies, Tezpur University
(Since 18 November 2019)

Previous Positions:

Assistant Curator

Department of Cultural Studies, Tezpur University
(From 15 September 1998 to 19 February 2009)

Assistant Professor

Department of Cultural Studies, Tezpur University
(From 19 February 2009 to 18 November 2019)

**Areas of Research Interest:**

Critical Heritage Studies, Folklore Studies, Popular Culture, Cultural Documentation

Research Projects:

2019 – 2024: PI, *Archiving, Modelling and Visualization of the Eco-Cultural Heritage of the Majuli River Island of Assam*, Department of Science and Technology, Rs. 47.17 lakh.

2018 – 2023: Deputy Coordinator, UGC SAP DRS-II on thrust area of *Sacred Spaces along the banks of the River Brahmaputra of Assam*, Rs. 76 lakh.

2016 – 2021: Deputy Coordinator, UGC Centre with Potential for Excellence in Particular Areas (CPEPA) on *Cultural Memory in North-East India: A Research and Documentation Programme on Textual and Visual Narratives*, Rs. 2.30 crore.

2016 – 2017: PI, *Using Folklore for Community Messaging: Adolescents as Agents for Social Change and Empowerment (Phase 2)*, UNICEF-India, Rs. 43.74 lakh.

2011 – 2014: Co-PI, *Philosophy in Performance: A Study of Bhakti Expressive Forms in Assam*, ICPR, New Delhi, Rs. 5 lakh.

Publications (Journal articles):

2024. "Folklore as Resistance: The Politics and Poetics of Folk Elements in Bhupen Hazarika's Songs." *Ānandam: Journal of Anundoram Borooah Institute of Language, Art and Culture, Assam* Vol. 13: 242 – 252. 2024. [Co-author: Baishali Baruah]

2024. "Family Crisis in Globalising India: Feminine Agency and Masculine Anxiety in the Web Series *Kohrra*." *Journal of Media and Communication* 2 (7): 80 – 93. December 2023. [Co-author: Priyanka Das]

2019. "Humanizing Alexa: Some Reflections on Recent TV Advertisements of Amazon Echo Smart Speakers." *The Journal of Acharya Narendra Dev Research Institute* 27: [Accepted]. [Co-author: Amiya Kumar Das]

2019. "Conflicts behind the Spectacle: The Turbulent History in making of the Karbi Youth Festival in Assam." *Maharshi Dayanand University Research Journal ARTS* 18: [Accepted]. [Co-author: Prafulla Kumar Nath & Amiya Kumar Das]
2019. "Violation and Vulnerability of Human Rights in the Context of Tea Garden Workers in Assam with Special Reference to Social Protection Schemes." *NIU International Journal of Human Rights* 6: [Accepted]. [Co-author: Amiya Kumar Das & Rabin Deka]
2012. "Ethnicity and Elite Politics: Some Reflections on Oral Narratives of Assam." *Janakristi: Annual Research Journal of Folklore Society of Assam* 2 (5 & 6): 125- 134. [Co-author: Prafulla Kumar Nath]
2011. "The Assamese Films of Bhabendra Nath Saikia Another Parallel Stream of Indian Cinema." *Journal of Creative Communications* (Sage) 6 (1 & 2): 215-224. [Co-author: Minakshi Dutta] <https://doi.org/10.1177/0973258613499104>.
2009. "Baresahariya Bhaona: Community Drama Festival of Assam: A Living Tradition." *Asian Theatre Journal* (University of Hawai'i Press) 26 (2): 303-319. [Co-author: Madan M. Sarma] <https://www.jstor.org/stable/20638825>.
2004. "The Folklorist in Museum: A Discussion on the Importance of Folkloristics in Museum Research " *Journal of Indian Museum* (Museums Association of India) 57: 45-49.
2000. "Management of Cultural Heritage: Some Problems in Assam with Special Reference to Majuli Riverine Island." *Studies in Museology* (M. S. University, Baroda) 35-40.

Publications (Books):

2019. Dutta, Parasmoni, ed. *A Catalogue of Traditional Craft Objects of North East India*. Tezpur: Tezpur University.
2016. Nath, Debarshi Prasad, and Parasmoni Dutta, eds. *Perspectives in Cultural Studies*. Guwahati and Tezpur: Purbanchal Prakash in association with the Department of Cultural Studies, Tezpur University.

Publications (Select book-chapters):

2023. "Glimpses of the dance world of North-east India". In *Reflections of Dance along the Brahmaputra: Celebrating Dance in North East India*, edited by Debarshi Prasad Nath, Ralph Buck, and Barbara Snook. London and New York: Routledge. 8 – 21.
2021. "Questions around Ram Vijay: Sattriya in a Monastic Tradition". In *Performing the Ramayana Tradition: Enactments, Interpretations, and Arguments*, edited by Paula Richman and Rustom Bharucha. New York: Oxford University Press. [Co-authors: Narayan Chandra Goswami, Paula Richman, and Rustom Bharucha]
2016. "Intangible Cultural Heritage in India: Reflections on Selected Forms of Dance." In *The Routledge Companion to Intangible Cultural Heritage*, edited by Michelle L Stefano and Peter Davis, 230 - 239. London & New York: Routledge.
2016. "Sattriya under the Classical Gaze." In *Vaisnavite Music of Assam: Its Institutionalization and Performative Context*, edited by Pradip Jyoti Mahanta, 169 - 174. Guwahati: Purbanchal Prakash.
2014. "Bezbaroa as Folklorist." In *Lakshminath Bezbaroa – The Architect of Modern Assamese Literature: Issues of Nationalism and Beyond*, edited by Madan M. Sarma and Debarshi Prasad Nath, 235 - 241. Tezpur: Centre for Assamese Studies, Tezpur University.

2013. "Heritage Studies." In *Cultural Studies: Perspectives from North-East India*, edited by Pradip Jyoti Mahanta and Debarshi Prasad Nath, 77 - 84. Guwahati & Tezpur: Purvanchal Prakash & Tezpur University.
2009. "Brief History of Folklore Studies with Special Reference to India." In *Folklore and Culture: Conceptual Perspectives*, edited by Nandini Sahu, 20 - 32. New Delhi: Indira Gandhi National Open University.
2009. "Meanings and Significance of Heritage and Culture." In *Folklore and Culture: Conceptual Perspectives*, edited by Nandini Sahu, 185 - 193. New Delhi: Indira Gandhi National Open University.
2009. "Oral-Written Continuum." In *Cultural and Societal Transformation*, edited by Nandini Sahu, 22 - 29. New Delhi: Indira Gandhi National Open University.

Publications (Conference Proceedings, International):

- 2005: "Ecomuseology in India: An Appraisal with Special Reference to the Sattras Institutions of Assam". In Donghai, Su (Ed.) *Communication and Exploration: Papers of International Ecomuseum Forum*, pp: 217 – 222. Guizhou, China. ISBN: 7-80047-674-0/K-277
- 2012: "The Other Ecologies: Why there is no Ecomuseum in India". In Lira, Sérgio et al (Eds.) *ECOMUSEUMS 2012: 1st International Conference on Ecomuseums, Community Museums and Living Communities*. Seixal, Portugal. ISBN: 978-989-98013-0-1

Publications (E-content):

- 2016: Module: "Folk Culture", for the Course *Comparative Literature and Culture*, under the e-PG Pathshala Programme, UGC & MHRD, New Delhi.

Papers in Seminars and Conferences:

- 2024: "Narrativizing the 1990s: Some reflections on the '#90s Kids' memes on Indian Social Media" in the 19th ISFNR Congress on *Folk Narratives in the Changing World*, June 17 – 21, 2024 in Riga, Latvia.
- 2019: "The Mythical Past in Present Times: Emergent Narratives and Practices of Myths in the North-East India" in Sahitya Akademi seminar on Creation Myths in Tribal Literatures of Eastern Regional Languages, Koraput, Orissa, 9 – 10 March.
- 2019: 'Dynamics of Space and Time in Ankiya Bhaona' in 11th Ankiya Bhaona Samaroh, Satriya Kendra, Sangeet Natak Akademi, Guwahati, 11 February.
- 2019: "The Other Functions of Books: Lived Experiences and Literary Experiences of Books as Material Objects" in National Seminar on Book History in North-East India, organized by the CPEPA, Tezpur University, 11 – 12 February.
- 2018: "From Tradition to Market, Hands to Machines and Women to Men: Changing Course of the Clay Craft of Salmora, Majuli" in Comité International d'Histoire de l'Art India International Colloquium 2018 on Art, Design and Society, organized by National Museum Institute of History of Art, Conservation and Museology, New Delhi, 28 – 30 November.
- 2017: "Sense of Time and Value System in Folk Literature: Selected Aspects with special reference to Assamese Folk Literature" in Sahitya Akademi Seminar on Folk Literatures in West and North-East Indian Languages, Goa, 14 – 15 July.

- 2016: 'Jilapeer paak: Food in Saurabh Kumar Chaliha's Writings' in National Seminar on Food Cultures of India, organized by Tezpur University and Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya, Bhopal, 1 – 2 December.
- 2015: 'Indian Museums after New Museology' in All India Museums Annual Conference on the theme Regional Museums and their Contribution to Indian Museum Movement, organized at Guwahati by the Museums Association of India, New Delhi, 20 – 31 January.
- 2014: 'Spectacularization of Culture: Some Observations on the Recent Trends in Traditional Art Forms of Assam' in National Seminar on People's Art of North-East India: History, Identity and Emerging Realities, organized by Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya (IGRMS), Bhopal and Department of Anthropology, Rajiv Gandhi University, Itanagar, at Itanagar, 5 – 7 March.
- 2013: 'Documenting Oral Histories of the North-East India: A Preliminary Note' in National Seminar on Recovering the Oral Histories of Northeast India, held at Dimapur, Nagaland, organized jointly by Indian Institute of Advanced Studies, Shimla and Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (Nagaland Chapter), 31 October – 1 November.
- 2013: 'The Classical Gaze: Some Reflections on the Politics of Aesthetics in Sattriya Dance' in National Seminar on The Vaisnavite Music of Assam: It's Institutionalization and Performative Context, organized by Department of Cultural Studies under UGC's SAP-DRS (I), 20 – 21 March.
- 2010: 'The uses of performance space for the aesthetic representation of Ankiya Bhaona' in Ankiya Bhaona Samaroh, organized by Sattriya Kendra, Sangeet Natak Akademi, Guwahati, 29 March.
- 2005: 'Archiving Folklore Digitally' in 27th Session of the Indian Folk-lore Congress, organized by Department of Folklore Research, Gauhati University, in collaboration with CIIL, Mysore; ICHR, Delhi; Shrimanta Sankardev Kalakshetra, Guwahati and MAKAIAS, Kolkata, 31 January – 2 February.
- 2003: "Ecotourism and Indigenous Culture: A Discussion with Reference to North-East India" in National Seminar on Sustainable Growth of Eco-Tourism in North- East India, Department of Business Administration, Tezpur University, 26 – 27 September.

Ph. D. Supervision:

- 2015: Jayanta Vishnu Das: *Local Press in the Making: A Study on the Emergent Media of Assam* [Degree awarded]
- 2015: Prafulla Kumar Nath: *Socio-Historical Study of Ethnic Nationalism in Assam with Special Reference to the Karbi Ethno-Cultural Expressions*. [Degree awarded]
- 2016: Minakshi Dutta: *Thematic and Stylistic Elements of the Assamese Films of Bhabendra Nath Saikia* [Degree awarded]
- 2016: Reetamoni Das: *The Search for an Alternative Language of Cinema: Subversive Strategies in Contemporary Women Film Makers (A Study with Reference to Select Films of Aparna Sen, Kalpana Lajmi and Manju Borah)*. [Degree awarded]
- 2021: Tatongkala: *The Hornbill Festival in Context: A Study on the Cultural Politics of Naga Identity*. [Degree awarded]

Consultancy:

- 2009: Acted as academic consultant to the *Arna-Jharna: The Desert Museum of Rajasthan*, Paota, Jodhpur, Rajasthan

Multimedia Production:

2016: Production of an audio CD titled *Folk Music for Social and Behaviour Change* from the Department of Cultural Studies, Tezpur University with financial support from the UNICEF Office for Assam, India.

Programmes of teaching:

- M. A. in Cultural Studies
- Ph. D. in Cultural Studies (Course-works and Thesis supervision)

Courses designed and taught:

MA Courses: : Cultural Theory: Key Concepts
: Digital Culture
: Culture and Heritage
: Cultural Documentation
: Culture and Science: Select Readings
: Performance and Culture
: Cultural Tourism
: Introduction to Cultural Studies
: Folklore and Culture I
: Dissertation / Documentation

PhD Courses: : Heritage Studies
: Culture and Communication
: North-East Studies
: Performance Studies
: Research and Publication Ethics

Duration of Teaching Experience:

Since the date of my joining as Assistant Professor (Cultural Studies) on 19 February 2009, I have been involved in the teaching of above-mentioned courses. However, though it is not counted as bona-fide teaching experience, I had been teaching, along with supervision of MA dissertations and designing of curricula, in my capacity as Assistant Curator (Cultural Studies) since 15 September 1998.

Laboratory Experience / Experience of Cultural Documentation:

Since my joining as Assistant Curator in Tezpur University in 1998, I have actively been involved, along with occasional training, in the process of multimedia content creation under different projects of cultural documentation. I have accumulated the following categorical experiences:

- Establishment of cultural multimedia lab, planning of cultural archive and database
- Handling of recording devices like digital camcorders, still camera, digital audio recorders and flatbed and transparent scanners
- Digital content creation through non-linear editing of audio-visual materials and image-editing in professional workstations on platforms of Windows, Mac-OS or Linux.
- Collection, classification, display and cataloguing of material artifacts.

(Parasmoni Dutta)

Tezpur: 20 August 2024