

Curriculum Vitae

Dr. Shaktipada Kumar

Assistant Professor

Department of English

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You can find the cultural activities of this teacher in the following channel

You Tube Channel
<https://www.youtube.com/c/ShaktipadaKumar>

PRESENT AFFILIATION:

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

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCES:

- Research Assistant at **The Centre for Knowledge Ideas and Development Studies, Kolkata, India.**

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

- **04 Years and 07 Months**

EDUCATION AND CREDENTIALS:

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

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, India.**

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

- **B.A. English**, 2011- **The University of Burdwan, West Bengal, India.**
- 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, Digital Humanities, Performance Studies, Visual Arts, Cultural Lexicon of Purulia and Jharkhand, etc.

PUBLICATIONS:

1. Co-authored a paper titled **The Myth of Harishchandra and Chhou Performance: Interplaying of Memory, Mask and Music** in a UGC Care listed Journal- *Hakara* 2023.
2. Published a paper in Bengali titled “*Puruliyar Nachni: Bratya Jiboner Oprapto Kichhu Kotha*” (পুরুলিয়ার নাচনীঃ ব্রাত্য জীবনের অপ্ৰাপ্ত কিছু কথা) from Gangchil, Kolkata, March 2022.

3. Published a paper titled **Tracing the Cultural Tradition of Jangalmahal through Bandna Parab and Jawa-Karam in Mahatma Gandhi Central University Journal of Social Sciences (MGCUISS), April-September 2019.**
4. 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.**
5. 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.
6. Published a paper on **Tusu Parab: Myth and Reality** in an international research referred journal, *Ebong Prantik* from Varanasi, January 2015.
7. 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.

PRESENTATIONS:

1. Presented a Paper titled- **“Everyday Communication in the Age of Digital Revolution: An Inquiry into the Orality and Indigeneity of the Purulia Region”** organised by Centre for South Asian Studies, **University of Toronto**, April 22, 2022.
2. Presented a paper collaboratively with Surama Bera, Department of Communicative English, Asutosh College on **“Rethinking and Reviewing Subaltern Voices Betwixt and Beyond Jhumur Song Lyrics: Sites of Dissidence and Resistance”** organised by **King’s College London**, 23rd June 2022.
3. 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.

4. 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.
5. Presented a paper on **The Chhou Dance Performance of Purulia Bengal: A Mnemocultural Amalgamation of Dance, Drama and Music** in the **47th World Congress on Dance Research** at the **Saint Petersburg Section of CID, UNESCO, Russia**, in November 2016.
6. Mr. 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 **47th World Congress on Dance Research** at the **Saint Petersburg Section of CID, UNESCO, Russia**, in November 2016.
7. Presented a paper on **“Mnemocultural Practices through Song Cultures of Purulia”** at **Sidho Kanho Birsha University, Purulia, India**.
8. Presented a paper titled **Oral Narratives in *Bandna Parab*: Myth and Reality** at the **Central University of Jharkhand, India**.
9. Participated in a national seminar on **Translating Oral/ Folk Texts from Indian Languages into English** at **The English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad, India**.
10. 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.
11. Chaired a session in the **2nd International E-Conference on Contemporary Trends and Development in Cultural Studies and Humanities** organised by **New Literaria** in

Collaboration with the University of Rome, Italy and Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya, India, 22nd -24th October 2021.

INVITED LECTURES:

1. Delivered an Invited lecture on **The Journey of Human Communication from Oral to Digital: Reinquiring Oral Traditions** organised by Rabindrik Psychotherapy Research Institute Trust, 7th August 2022.
2. Delivered an Invited lecture on **The Role of Chhou and Jhumoir in Disseminating Education and Knowledge of Cultural Heritage** organised by Department of Education, Sitaram Mahato Memorial College, Purulia, 24th July 2022.
3. Delivered an Invited lecture on **“Reality and Representation of Purulia Chhou Dance: Understanding the Text and Context”** organized by Jointly Organised by Meghdumbor Patrika, Consortium Journal, IBRFCE & Department of English, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar College, 28th September 2022
4. Delivered an Invited lecture on **“Rarh Civilization: An Inquiry into the Evolution of Cultivation and Culture”** organised by Renaissance Universal, Kolkata, 4th December 2021.
5. Delivered an Invited public lecture on **Chhou Beyond Mahisasur Bodh: Reclaiming the Cultural Heritage of Purulia** at Ramananda Centenary College, Purulia, 12th April 2019.

CONDUCTED SEMINAR/ WEBINAR/ LECTURES

1. Convened a National Webinar on **“New Humanities”: Interplaying Across Disciplines, 5th June 2021.**
2. Conducted a special lecture on **Bangla Dalit Literature (Undecidable Spaces: Rethinking Caste and the Technologies of Abandonment.)** by Dr. Samrat Sengupta,

Assistant Professor and Head, Department of English, Sammilani Mahavidyalaya, Kolkata,
24th September 2019.

3. Conducted a special lecture on **Foreign Language Learning: Aspects and Prospects** by Dr. Sajal Dey, Assistant Professor, Department of Russian Studies, The English and Foreign Languages University, Shillong, 12th March 2020.

PH.D. SUPERVISION

Awarded:

1. Ms. Sukanya Kar

Registration No: CBPBU/103/Ph.D/009

The title of the Ph.D Thesis:

Reinterpreting the Intangible Cultural Heritages: An Inquiry into the Mnemonic Cultures of the Rajbanshis of North Bengal.

Ongoing Ph.D.

1. Mr. Meeraz Hoque

Registration No: CBPBU/103/Ph.D/019

The title of the Ph.D Thesis:

Revisiting Mnemonic Liminality and Cultural Assimilation: A Study of Orality, Indigeneity and Cultural Syncretism in the Border Region of Cooch Behar.

2. Mr. Pawan Toppo

Registration No.: CBPBU/103/Ph.D/020

Title of the Ph.D. Thesis: **Re-Envisioning Adivasi Identity: A Mnemocultural Exploration of the Oraon/Kurukh Festivals of Dooars Region.**

3. Mr. Sanjoy Sarkar

Registration No. CBPBU/103/Ph.D/027

Title of the Ph.D. Thesis: **Exploring the Enduring Continuity of Performative Traditions: An Enquiry into The Oral Narratives of Ramayana Of West Bengal.**

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION:

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

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, contemporary issues. 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 across the nation.