

**DIPSIKHA ACHARYA**  
**Assistant Professor**  
**Department of History**  
**University of North Bengal**  
**India**



**Present Address:**

Department of History, North Bengal University  
Rajarammohanpur, District Darjeeling; Pin: 734013

**Permanent Address:**

33-H, Sarat Ghosh Garden Road, Kolkata 700031

**Phone:** (+91) 6289092115; (+91) 9903542359

**Email:** [a.dipsikha@gmail.com](mailto:a.dipsikha@gmail.com)

---

**Research Experience:**

- Post-Doctoral (General) Fellowship of the Indian Council of Historical Research for the year 2015-16. Research topic: *Archaeological Understanding of the Baitarani and the Lower Brahmani River Valleys (Odisha): A Reconstruction of the Early Medieval Paradigm.*
- Ph.D. in Archaeology. Research topic: *Iron in Eastern India: Studying Archaeological Assemblages and Contexts* from University of Calcutta in 2014.
- Ethnographic work on the iron smelting activities of the Asur-Birjhia Tribe, Jharkhand, India as a part of doctoral research.
- Participated in excavation as trench supervisor, collection of data, documentation, analysis and writing excavation reports.

**Teaching Experience:**

- Assistant Professor, Department of History, North Bengal University (various themes of ancient and medieval India)
- Invited as a Resource Person to deliver two lectures on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2019 in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Winter School on *Recent Themes in Women's Studies: Relevance of a Multidisciplinary Approach* organized by the Women's Studies Centre, Vidyasagar University from 6<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2019
- Writing SLM (Self Learning Materials) in History for the Directorate of Distance Education (DDE), Vidyasagar University
- Worked as Guest Lecturer, Department of Ancient Indian and World History, Sanskrit College and University (theme: Ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia, early medieval period of India)

- Worked as Guest Lecturer, Department of Archaeology, University of Calcutta (theme: Protohistory, Numismatics).
- Worked as Guest Lecturer, Department of History, Diamond Harbour Women's University, West Bengal (theme: compulsory paper- Ancient Indian History and Its Archaeological Foundations and elective paper- Methods, Thoughts and Practice of Archaeology).
- Guest Lecturer, Museum and Art Gallery Department, the Ramkrishna Mission Institute of Culture, Golpark, Kolkata. (several themes of Indian Art and Architecture) in the 'Appreciation of Indian Art' course.
- Invited Lecturer, Department of Sociology, Jadavpur University (theme: Religious Art).
- Content Writer and Developer of the Paper 11: Religion and Art under e-PG Pathshala (An MHRD Project under NME-ICT), a course under UGC Project entitled "Comparative Study of Religions", organized by the Department of Sociology, Jadavpur University.
- Supervised Post Graduate Degree and Diploma Dissertation of ten (10) students (before joining NBU).
- Supervising two (2) M.Phil and one (1) Ph.D. candidates.

### Major Publications:

- **Acharya, Dipsikha** 2016. A Study of the Ancient Iron Workings in the Eastern Fringes of the Chhotanagpur Plateau, West Bengal. *Man and Environment* XLI/1: 29-43.
- **Acharya Dipsikha**, 2012, Review of the Pre-Industrial Iron Smelting Activities of Eastern India with a Case Study on the Asur-Birjhia Tribes of Bishunpur, Ranchi. *History Today* 13: 86-91
- **Acharya Dipsikha**, 2014. Initial/Early Use of Iron in the District of Bankura, West Bengal. *Journal of the Asiatic Society* LV/ 3-4 (2013): 17-42.
- **Acharya, Dipsikha** 2016. Memorial Stones and Votive Temples from Jajpur, Odisha: Some Observations. *Puravritta: Journal of the Directorate of Archaeology & Museums* 1: 97-114.
- **Acharya, Dipsikha** 2017. An Inscribed Four-Armed Vajrasattva Image (Hitherto Unreported) from Bardhanpur, Odisha. *Journal of Bengal Art* 21: 37-54.
- **Acharya, Dipsikha** 2019. Exploring Jaina Sculptural Remains from the Districts of Balasore and Bhadrak, Odisha. *Puravritta: Journal of the Directorate of Archaeology & Museums* 2 (2017): 111-127.

- **Acharya, Dipsikha** and Bidhan Halder 2017. Archaeological Reinvestigation at the Site of Abhana, District Balasore, Odisha. *Puratattva* 47: 213-6.
- **Acharya, Dipsikha** and Bidhan Halder 2020. A Note on a Hitherto Unpublished Votive Tablet from Abhana/ Avana in the District of Balasore, Odisha. *Journal of Bengal Art* 25: 809-818.
- **Acharya, Dipsikha** and Bidhan Halder 2017. Recent Discovery of Black-and-Red Ware at Gandibedh in the District of Balasore, Odisha. *Monthly Bulletin, the Asiatic Society* XLVI/6: 13-5.
- **Acharya, Dipsikha** 2016. In Search of *Vyala* Representations in the Sculptural Art of West Bengal. In, Bhattacharya, S.N., R.K. Chattopadhyay and G. Bhattacharya eds. *Sanskriti Vichitra: Essence of Art and Archaeology, Museums, Museology and Heritage Management (In Honour of Dr. S. S. Biswas)*, Volume 1, pp. 99-109.
- Chattopadhyay Rupendra Kumar and **Dipsikha Acharya** with revisions and additions by Gerd J.R. Mevissen, 2017. Interpreting the 'Viṣṇu Lokeśvara' - Viṣṇu Identity: A Study of 'His Iconic Forms' from Eastern India and Bangladesh. *Berliner Indologische Studien* 23: 157-210.
- Chattopadhyay Rupendra Kumar and **Dipsikha Acharya**, 2019. A Reconstruction of the Megalithic Tamil Nadu: An Archaeological Study of the Use of Iron. *Streaming the Past: Peninsular Indian History: Essays in Honour of T.K. Venkatasubramanian* (Eds. Nilanjan Sarkar and Vikas K. Verma). Delhi: Primus Books. Pp. 31-91.
- Chattopadhyay Rupendra Kumar, **Dipsikha Acharya**, Kumkum Bandyopadhyay, 2010, Dihar Excavation 2008-09: An Interim Report. *Pratnasamiksha* New Series 1: 9-33.
- Chattopadhyay Rupendra Kumar and **Dipsikha Acharya**, Shubha Majumder, Malay Kumar Sain, Pampa Biswas and Bijan Mondal, 2015. Excavation at Dihar 2012-2013: An Interim Report. *Pragdhara* 23: 95-139.
- Chattopadhyay Rupendra Kumar, **Dipsikha Acharya**, Shubha Majumdar, 2010, Archaeological Sequence of the Kumari-Kansavati Valley, District of Bankura, West Bengal: An Appraisal. *Puratattva* 40: 71-93
- Chattopadhyay Rupendra Kumar, **Dipsikha Acharya**, 2010, Contexts of Early Mediaeval Remains of Purulia: Researching Ideologies. *Pratnatattva* 16: 9-31.
- Chattopadhyay Rupendra Kumar, **Dipsikha Acharya**, Shubha Majumdar, 2010, Some Thought on the Jaina Heritage of the Fringe Areas of the Chhotanagpur Plateau: A Case Study *Kosala* 3, pp. 85-101.

- **Acharya, Dipsikha** Exploring Jaina Sculptural Remains from the Districts of Balasore and Bhadrak, Odisha. *Puravritta: Journal of the Directorate of Archaeology & Museums* 2 (forthcoming).
- **Acharya, Dipsikha** The Major Schools of Post-Gupta Developments in Southern India ----The Pallava, Chola and Hoysala Styles. Chapter VIII on Art and Architecture, *History of Ancient India* (Ed. Dilip K. Chakrabarti). New Delhi. (accepted) (forthcoming).
- **Acharya, Dipsikha** Forms of the Stupas. Chapter VIII on Art and Architecture, *History of Ancient India* (Ed. Dilip K. Chakrabarti). New Delhi. (accepted) (forthcoming).

### Oral Presentations:

- **Acharya, Dipsikha** December 2010. Use of Iron in the Mauryan Period: An Archaeological Perspective. **Annual conference** jointly organized by the **Indian Archaeological Society, New Delhi** and the **Indian Society for Prehistoric and Quaternary Studies** at Lucknow.
- **Acharya, Dipsikha** September 2012. Review of the Pre-Industrial Iron Smelting Activities of Eastern India. The regional workshop on ‘Archaeology of Eastern India’ organized by the **Regional Directorate, Eastern Region** and **Kolkata Circle** of the **Archaeological Survey of India** at Kolkata.
- **Acharya, Dipsikha** October 2013. Lokesvara Visnu: The Representation of His Iconic Form in the Texts and the Sculptural Art of Bengal. Annual conference of the **Indian Art History Congress** at Mumbai.
- **Acharya, Dipsikha December 2013.** Ancient Iron Working in the Western South-Western Parts of West Bengal: A Study of the Archaeological and Ethnographic Data. Annual conference jointly organized by the **Indian Archaeological Society, New Delhi** and the **Indian Society for Prehistoric and Quaternary Studies** at Varanasi.
- **Acharya, Dipsikha March 2014.** Use of Iron during the Early Historic Period: An Archaeological Appraisal. National Seminar on ‘Technological Basis of Cultures of Vindhya-Ganga Region’ organized under UPE Thrust Area III: Indian Culture and Heritage Studies by **the Centre of Advanced Study, Department of AIHC & Archaeology, Banaras Hindu University at Varanasi.**
- **Acharya, Dipsikha** October 2016. A Study of Jaina Sculptural Remains from the Districts of Balasore and Bhadrak, Odisha. National seminar on ‘Archaeology, History and Folk Culture’ organized by the Tarapada Santra Memorial Trust and CASTEI at Durgapur.
- **Acharya, Dipsikha** February 2017. Religious Patronage and Production of Sculptures in Northeastern Odisha: A Study of Epigraphic and Archaeological Sources. **12<sup>th</sup> International**

Congress on Bengal Art jointly organized by **The International Centre for Study of Bengal Art and University of Calcutta, the Asiatic Society** and India tourism at Kolkata.

- **Acharya, Dipsikha** and Bidhan Halder December 2017. Early Medieval Settlement Dynamics of the Soro-Avana-Gandibedh Region, Odisha: A Study of Archaeological Data and Epigraphic Sources. Annual Conference of the **Indian History Congress** organized by the Jadavpur University at Kolkata.
- **Acharya, Dipsikha** March 2019. Indigenous Iron Smelters of Eastern India and Their Role in the Society: A Forgotten Chapter. **International Seminar on *Language, Culture, and Society: Local and Global Perspective*** organized by the Centre for Studies in Local Languages and Cultures, University of North Bengal.
- **Acharya, Dipsikha** May 2019. Exploring Indian Ocean Linkages from North-Eastern Odisha: Study of Votive Tablets and a Vajrasattva Image. **International Seminar on *Understanding South Asia and South East Asia*** organized by the Department of History, University of North Bengal.
- **Acharya, Dipsikha** (as Resource Speaker) August 2019. **ICHR** sponsored **National Seminar on *Archaeological Heritage of Bengal and the History in Making*** organized by the Department of History, Kurseong College, Kurseong.

#### Workshops participated:

- The workshop on ‘Recent Archaeological Activities in Eastern India’ organized by the Department of Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology, Visva Bharati in August 2010.
- The one-week workshop on *Early Indian Epigraphy* organized by the Asiatic Society in collaboration with the Department of Ancient Indian History & Culture, University of Calcutta held during 27<sup>th</sup> October -4<sup>th</sup> October 2016 at the Asiatic Society, Kolkata.

#### Educational Qualification:

Post Doctoral Fellowship	Indian Council of Historical Research, New Delhi	2015-2017
Ph.D. in Archaeology	University of Calcutta, Kolkata	2014
Master of Science (M.Sc.) in Archaeology	University of Calcutta, Kolkata	2006 (Rank 2 <sup>nd</sup> )
Qualified UGC-NET	United Grants Commission	2007
Registered Course on Applied GIS & Remote Sensing	Jadavpur University, Kolkata	2005 (Rank 1 <sup>st</sup> )