

Dr. Asha Singh

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Positions

- Assistant Professor (Gender Studies), Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta, (CSSSC), an ICSSR Institute under MoE Gov. of India (Nov 2020 onwards)
- Faculty (Journalism), Adamas University, Kolkata (Aug 2020 – Oct 2020)
- Assistant Professor (Gender Studies), Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta, (CSSSC), an ICSSR Institute under MoE Gov. of India (April 2017–April 2020)
- Assistant Professor (Journalism), Amity School of Communication, Amity University, Noida (August 2016 to March 2017)
- Assistant Professor (Gender Studies), School of Human Studies, Ambedkar University Delhi (AUD), New Delhi (Jan 2016 to May 2016)
- Art and Culture Correspondent, Navdunia Newspaper, capital edition of NaiDunia Newspaper Group, Bhopal (April 2008–June 2011)
- Sub Editor and Reporter, Lokmat Newspaper in Aurangabad, Maharashtra, (April 2007–April 2008)

Education

- PhD (2016), Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai
Thesis Title: Women's Articulations of Men's Migration - A Sociological Analysis of Bhojpuri Folksongs.
Supervisor: Prof N. Jayaram, Professor in Sociology (Retired), Centre for Research Methodology, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai
Examiners: Prof. Tulsi Patel, Professor in Sociology, University of Delhi and Prof. Indira Munshi, Professor in Sociology, University of Mumbai.
- Master of Arts (2007), Mass Communication, Makhanlal Chaturvedi National University of Journalism and Communication, Bhopal.
- Bachelor of Science (2005), Patna Women's College, Patna University.

Professional Qualification

- Qualified UGC – National Eligibility Test (NET) in Women Studies, Roll No 07740001, held on 26 June 2011

Fellowships

- Visiting Fellow, Department of English, University of Delhi, UGC-SAP, Jan 2018.
- Junior and Senior Research Fellowship (Women Studies), University Grant Commission (UGC), 2011-2015.

Publications

Journals

- Singh, Asha (2021). 'Language as People's History'. Review of *Wanderers, Kings, Merchants: The Story of India through Its Languages* by Peggy Mohan, New Delhi: India Viking (2021) in the journal *Economic and Political Weekly* (Vol. 56, Issue No. 36), p. 24.
- Singh, Asha (2021). *Bhojpuri Mahilayen aur Bhashai A-Nagarikta* [Bhojpuri Women

and Linguistic 'Non-citizenship'], in Special Issue of Marathi Journal *Aamchi Shrivani*. Vol. 28 (1 & 2). ISSN: 0971-6955

- Singh, Asha (2020). 'Jaati Gender Sanrachana aur Bhashai Swayatata ke Sawaal: Sandarbha Bhojpuri Bhasha Aandolan [Gender, Caste and Linguistic Autonomy: Bhojpuri Language Movement]' in Jan Media, 9 (102): 4- 8. (Hindi Journal; ISSN: 2277 - 2847)
- Singh, Asha (2019). Folksongs as an Epistemic Resource: Understanding Bhojpuri Women's Articulations of Migration. *Journal of Migration Affairs* (A Bi-annual journal of TISS Patna), 1(2), 51-68.
- Singh, Asha (2019), Book Review of Maitrayee Chaudhuri (2017), *Refashioning India: Gender, Media, and a Transformed Public Discourse*. Orient BlackSwan in the journal *Society and Culture in South Asia* (Volume 5, issue 2), 372-375.
- Singh, Asha, & Donald, N. (2019). Asking questions to obc as a category. *Prabuddha: Journal of Social Equality*, 3(1), 32-49.
- Singh, Asha (2019). Public and Possible: Reflecting on Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's thoughts on Education. *Praxis International Journal of Social Science and Literature*. Vol 2, issue 4.
- Singh, Asha (2018). Conceptualizing Bhojpuri for a National Hindi Elite: A Critical Reading of Folklorist Krishna Deva Upadhyaya. *Prabuddha: Journal of Social Equality*, 1(1), 33-44.
- Singh, Asha (2015). Of Women, by Men: Understanding the 'First Person Feminine' in Bhojpuri Folksongs. *Sociological Bulletin (Journal of Indian Sociological Society)*, 64(2), 171-196.

Book Chapters

- Singh, Asha (2021). Making sense of migration: Reflections on the contexts and contents of Bhojpuri women's folksongs. In *Home, Belonging and Memory in Migration* (pp. 153-171). Routledge.
- Singh, Asha (2021). Sexuality and unlettered women: Images from Bhojpuri folksongs. In *Sexuality, Abjection and Queer Existence in Contemporary India* (pp. 41-59). Routledge.
- Singh, Asha (2021). Pedagogies, Social Transformations and New Oralities of Arjak Sangh in *Caste, Communication and Power*. 152. Sage..
- Singh, Asha (2017). Bhojpuri folk songs as scripts of conjugal performance. In *Culture and Politics in South Asia: Performative Communication* (pp. 205-221). Routledge.
- Singh, Asha (Forthcoming). Away from Hindi's Shadow: Bhojpuri and Census in Bihar in *Hetukar Jha Memorial Volume*. Routledge.

Monograph

- Singh, Asha (Forthcoming) In the absence of alphabets: Bhojpuri women and their folksongs on Migration.

Web based Articles (Hindi and English)

- Gail Omvedt, the truth seeking sociologist. *Hindustan Times*. 2021
- Conceiving a New Public: Ambedkar and Universities. *Roundtable India*. 2021.
- Singh, Asha (2020). 'Media Literacy: Expanding the Scope of Literacy' in IdeaPlus (published by Adamas University, Kolkata). \
- 'Differentiating the Hindi Subject: Bhojpuri Experience' published on 24th Sep 2017 available at <https://roundtableindia.co.in>
- 'Parched and Feminism: Are all Women's Stories Same' published on 1st Oct 2016 available at <https://roundtableindia.co.in>
- 'भोजपुरी भाषा समाज और महिलाएं: लोकगीतों के अजायबघर के बाहर' [Bhojpuri Bhasha Samaj aur Mahilayen: Lokgeeton ke Ajayabghar k Baahar] published on 18th Dec 2017 available at <http://hindi.roundtableindia.co.in>
- 'फिल्म पार्चर्ड और स्त्रीवाद: क्या सब औरतों की कहानी एक है' [Film Parched aur Streevad: Kya sab auraton ki kahani ek hai] published on 18th Oct 2016 available at <https://www.dalitweb.org/?p=3351>

Invited Lectures

- March 2022, 'Orality, Literacy and Marriage: Tracing Structural Features of Bhojpuri Women's Folksongs' organized by Grammars of Marriage and Desire Research Network supported by Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (CRASSH) at University of Cambridge
- March 2022, 'Against the Odds: Women and Independent India' Nabanna Earth Weekend, Shantiniketan.
- Feb 2022, 'Life of a Mother-Tongue: Counting Bhojpuri in Bihar' on the occasion of International Mother Tongue Day, CSSSC.
- Feb 2022, 'Rethinking Majority and Minority in India: The Question of Caste Census' at University of Oxford.
- Feb 2022, resource person in a three-day workshop for school teachers of Western Bihar and Eastern UP on Masculinity conducted in Bhojpuri language by *Gender Labs, New Delhi*.
- Jan 2022, an online conversation in Hindi on Women's Knowledge Production at Nirantar Trust, New Delhi.
- Dec 2021, 'Women Among OBCs or OBC Women', South Asian Political Thought Seminar at University of Oxford.
- Oct 2021, 'Oral History and Folksongs' in a conference titled 'Research Methods in Social Sciences: Sharing Experiences from the Fields' organized by Department of Political Science, Presidency University, Kolkata.
- April 2021, 'Gender, Patriarchy and Feminism' organised by Aimpower Foundation and Matru Seva Sangh Institute of Social Work, Nagpur. (resource person)
- April 2021, 'OBC as a category: Political or Governmental', organised by Equal

Opportunity Cell, Miranda House,

- Feb 2021. 'Gender and Culture' a lecture delivered in a special series titled 'Gender Discourse' organised by **Tarabai Shinde Women Studies Centre** of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad.
- Jan 2021. 'Researching Folklore and Women' a lecture delivered in a National level Women Studies Refresher Course organised by UGC-HRDC of **Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad.**
- Jan 2021. 'Bhojpuri Women as Linguistic Non-Citizens' in a National Conference titled 'Lingbhaan, Purush-satta aani Sanskrutik Badal' organised by **KS Wani Marathi Pragat Adhyayan Sanstha, Dhule, Maharashtra.**
- Dec 2020. 'Disciplining Bhojpuri and its Caste-Gender Relations: Critical Reflections on Folklore Anthologies' Talk delivered in a panel titled 'Art, Language and Culture: Contested Terrain' at Advanced Centre for Women's Studies, **Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai.**
- March 2020. 'Stree Vimarsh: Vividh Pariprekshya'. Talk delivered on the occasion of International Women's Day at Kolkata Centre of **Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya, Wardha.**
- Nov 2019, 'Conceptualising a Dialect in India: Methodological Notes on Politics and Pedagogy', lecture delivered as a resource person in a two day national seminar organised by Cooch Behar Panchanan Barma University and **Asiatic Society Kolkata.**
- April 2019, 'Dr Ambedkar on University Education: A Critical Reflection' a special lecture delivered on the occasion of birth anniversary of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar in Thomas Jones Synod College, Jowai affiliated to **North Eastern Hill University, Meghalaya.**
- Jan 2019, 'Asking Questions to OBC as a Category' talk delivered in a seminar on the occasion of the birth anniversary of Savitribai Phule at **CSSSC.**
- Jan 2019, 'OBC category and Women: Some Reflections' talk delivered on the birth anniversary of Savitribai Phule organised by Birsa Munda Birth Anniversary Celebration Committee at **Jadavpur University.**
- Jan 2018, 'Bhojpuri Folksongs and Women: Beyond the Museum of Folksongs' in **Delhi University, Department of English.**
- Jan 2018, 'Cow, Backwardness and Bahujan Women' organised by Women Development Cell, **Miranda House, Delhi University.**
- Dec 2017, भोजपुरी भाषा-समाज और महिलाएं: लोकगीतों के अजायबघर के बाहर in a workshop organised by **Centre for Women Development Studies (CWDS), New Delhi.**

- September 2017, 'Caste in Hindi Media: Questions of Representation and Knowledge Production' in Anjan Ghosh Memorial Conference held at **JBMRC, Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta.**
- May 2017, 'Constructing Bhojpuri Language and People: Methodological Reflections' in **Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay.**
- Feb 2017, 'Constructing Bhojpuri Language and People: Methodological Reflections' in Centre for Women's Studies, **Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.**
- October 2016 'Lokgeeton mein Pratirodh ke Swar', in Bhojpuri Sahitya Academy, Bhopal, **Department of Culture, Madhya Pradesh**
- September 2016 'Bhojpuri Folksongs as an Epistemic Source to Understand Migration' a public lecture delivered in Magadh Mahila College, Patna University in collaboration with **Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Patna.**
- August 2014 'Oral literature and Women's Folksongs' in Women's Writing Course for MA Students at the **Centre for Advanced Women's Studies, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai.**
- September 2013 '*Bhojpuri Sahitya ka Paridrishya Aur Vistar* [Bhojpuri Literature: Scenario and Expansion]' panel discussion in a literary meet, *Bhojpuri Sahitya Sangosthi* organized by **Bhojpuri Sahitya Academy, Bhopal.**

Seminars/Conferences

- 'New Oralities and Phule-Ambedkarism: Analysing the 'Nari-Geet' of Arjak Sangh' paper presented in at a two day national conference on caste and communication, Jamia Millia Islamia organised by Centre for Culture, Media and Governance in collaboration with All India Communication and Media Association (AICMA), supported by Dr. Ambedkar Foundation and UGC. 27-28 March 2019.
- 'Jaati-Gender Sanrachana aur Bhashai Swayatata ke Sawaal: Sandarbh Bhojpuri Bhasha Aandolan' paper presented in an international conference 'Bharat-Mauritius: Samajik-Sanskritik aur Sahityik Paridrishya' organised by Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya, 05-Feb-2019
- January 2015 'Bhojpuri Folksongs and Women: Performance of "Absent Conjuality"' in an international conference titled *Performative Communication: Culture and Politics in South Asia*, organized by Centre for Culture, Media and Governance, Jamia Millia Islamia in collaboration with South Asian University.
- October 2014 'What about the Bahujan Women: Images of Conjuality and Sexuality in Bhojpuri Folksongs' at Department of Sociology, University of Hyderabad in UGC-SAP National Seminar.
- February 2014 'Women's Voices in Male Genres: A Comparative Analysis of

Bhojpuri Folksongs’ at XIV National Conference on Women’s Studies, held in Gauhati University, organized by Indian Association for Women’s Studies.

- December 2013 ‘Understanding the Pain of the Left-Behind Women: A Reading of Bhojpuri Folksongs’ at 39th All India Sociological Conference at Karnataka State Open University Mukthagangothri, Mysore, organized by Indian Sociological Society.
- July 2013 ‘Understanding the Pain of Separation: Analysis of *Bidesia* Songs’ at National University of Singapore, Kent Ridge Campus organized by Inter-Asia Cultural Studies Society, Asia Research Institute, & Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, National University of Singapore.

Research Supervision

- Supervising PhD scholar Sangam Ghatani’s research titled *Gorkha Dalits: Mapping a New Social Movement* at Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta (CSSSC, ongoing)
- Supervising PhD scholar Srijita Naskar’s research titled *Feminism, Ecology and Caste: A Study of Bengali Dalit Women’s Literature* at Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta (CSSSC, ongoing) Research Advisory Committee Member for PhD scholar Mrinalini Subba, *Navigating Statelessness: A Study of Bangladeshi Women in Kolkata*. (CSSSC, ongoing)
- Research Advisory Committee Member for PhD scholar Sunanda Roy., *Rape: Rethinking Desire and Violence* (CSSSC, ongoing)
- Research Advisory Committee Member for PhD scholar Mahima Yadav, *The Language of Researchers: Tracing the doctoral journey of Hindi-medium Researchers* (Delhi University, ongoing)
- Supervising MPhil scholar Sambit Sardar, title yet to be finalized (CSSSC, ongoing)
- Supervised MPhil scholar Anamika Das, *Sexual Misconduct at Work Place: A Critical Reading of Legal Codes and Framework* (CSSSC, successfully completed in Dec 2021)
- Supervised MPhil scholar Sangam Ghatani’s research titled *Rethinking the Indian Gorkha: A Study of Gorkha Dalit in Darjeeling Region*. (CSSSC, Completed in Dec 2020)
- Research Advisory Committee Member for MPhil student Bijay Barman, titled: *Educational Progress of the Rajbangshi Community in Kochbihar: A Historical Review* (CSSSC, completed in Dec 2020).
- Supervised MPhil student Bhaswati Roy’s Research *Language Politics and Public Sphere in North Bengal: A Study of Rajbangshi/Kamtapuri*. (CSSSC, 2019)
- Research Advisory Committee Member for MPhil Student Sneha Mangar’s research titled *On being ‘Casted and Categorised: A Study of Nepali Communities in India*. (CSSSC, 2019).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supervised MA student Anukriti Gupta's research titled <i>Several Scripts, Several Scribes: The (Un) Making of Taslima Nasrin</i> at Ambedkar University Delhi. (AUD, 2016) Supervised MA student Rubina Akhtar's Research <i>Islamic Televangelism and Muslim Women's Question: A Case Study of Dr. Zakir Naik</i>. (AUD, 2016) Supervised MA student Jenny Narzary's research <i>Unpacking the Imagined Community: A Study of Advertisements</i>. (AUD, 2016) Supervised MA student Monika Singh's research <i>Interrogating Gendered Violence in Sex Trade</i>. (AUD, 2016)
Courses Taught	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research Methods Social Sciences-Caste ((MPhil-PhD Coursework, CSSSC) Feminism and Social Sciences (MPhil-PhD Coursework, CSSSC) Institutions and Identities in Contemporary India (MPhil-PhD Coursework, CSSSC) Introduction to Development Communication (Amity School of Communication, Amity University) Understanding Mass Communication (Amity School of Communication, Amity University) Introduction to Radio Journalism (Amity School of Communication, Amity University) Media, Culture and Society (Amity School of Communication, Amity University) Introduction to Print Media (Amity School of Communication, Amity University) Specialised Reporting (Amity School of Communication, Amity University) Writing for Print (Amity School of Communication, Amity University) State and Politics (Amity School of Communication, Amity University) State, Nation, Citizenship and Law (MA Coursework, AUD) Intercultural Communication (MA Mass Communication, Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya) Media Literacy (UG and PG, Adamas University Kolkata) Print Media Journalism (UG, Adamas University Kolkata) Contemporary Media Issues (UG, Adamas University, Kolkata) Specialized Reporting (PG, Adamas University, Kolkata)
Other Academic Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinated a Media Literacy Course (12 Sessions, 18 hours) for High School Students organised by Adamas University, Kolkata and Delhi Metropolitan Education (under Indraprastha University), Oct 2020. Completed a Train-the-Trainer course on News and Information Literacy Programme in India organised by Factshala India Media Literacy Network, a collaborative effort of Internews, DataLeads with support of Google.org and Google News Initiative, Sep 2020

- Participated in ‘Research Training Course: Concepts and Debates’ at and organized by Centre for Women’s Development Studies, New Delhi supported by Indian Council for Social Science Research, November-December 2010.
- Participated in ‘Feminist Terminology Workshop: Critical Vocabulary for Indian Languages’ at Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, organized by Centre for Indian Languages in Higher Education and Advanced Centre for Women’s Studies, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, August 2014.
- Participated in ‘Sociologists and Sociology: Autobiographies and Biographies’ at and organized by Centre for Advanced Studies, Department of Sociology, Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune, September 2014
- Conducted sessions on Research Methods at Mahatma Gandhi International Hindi University, Wardha, Kolkata Centre, 2018-2019.
- Conducted sessions on Intercultural communication at Mahatma Gandhi International Hindi University, Wardha, Kolkata Centre, Jan 2020.
- Consultation on addressing the Gender Gap in the Indian Language Wikipedias at The Centre for Internet and Society, Bangalore, July 2017

Other Work Experience

- Feature Writer for ‘Madhya Pradesh Sandesh’, a Madhya Pradesh government magazine, on assignment basis, 2008-2011.
- Feature Writer for other Madhya Pradesh based art and culture magazines ‘Sanskriti Samwad’ and ‘Kala Samay’
- Script Writer and Anchor in Doordarshan Bhopal, on assignment basis, 2005–2007
- Artist in Radio Dramas, All India Radio Bhopal, on assignment basis, 2005–2007.
- Anchor in ETV Madhya Pradesh, on assignment basis.
- Voice-over artist in documentaries for various NGOs in Madhya Pradesh

Performances

- Acted in a play ‘*Ai Ladki*’ based on Krishna Sobti’ work, directed by Alok Chatterjee, a National School of Drama Alumnus, at Bali Prekshagrah, Lucknow, 2006.
- ‘*Krishna-Arjun Yuddh*’ written by Makhanlal Chaturvedi, Kalidas Academy Ujjain, 2007.
- ‘*Janmejay ka Nag-yagya*’ written by Jayashankar Prasad, at Ustad Allaiddin Khan Sangeet-Kala Academy, Bhopal.
- Performance based on poetry of Somdutt, a noted poet of Madhya Pradesh (*Somdutt ki kavitaon ka manchan*), at Ustad Allaiddin Khan Sangeet-Kala Academy, Bhopal.
- Mono-act performance of a poetry of noted Hindi, Maithili, Bhojpuri poet Nagarjun at Makhanlal Chaturvedi National University of Journalism and Communication, Bhopal.
- Poetry Performance at Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, in ‘Period’, a

feminist collective of students of women's studies.

- 'Theatre Appreciation Workshop' at Swaraj Bhawan Bhopal during Bharat Rang Mahotsav's, an annual festival of National School of Drama, January 2010

**Administrative
Responsibilities**

- Chairperson, Committee on Gender Sensitization against Sexual Harrasment, CSSSC
- Course coordinator of *Research Methods in Social Sciences*, CSSSC.
- MPhil committee member, CSSSC.
- Library committee member, CSSSC.
- Anti Ragging committee member, CSSSC.
- Internship and Dissertation Coordinator at M.A. Gender Studies Programme, Ambedkar University Delhi. Jan to May 2016
- Pull-out in-charge which included planning the content of daily four pages pull-out of the newspaper and assigning work to reporters, reading, editing and finalizing reports/features for publication at Naidunia. 2008-2011.
- Joint General Secretary, Elected Student Body at Patna Women's College, Patna University, 2004—2005.

**Language
Proficiency**

- Hindi: proficient in reading, writing and comprehension.
- English: proficient in reading, writing and comprehension.
- Bengali: can follow and speak.
- Bhojpuri: parent tongue

Memberships

- Life Member, Indian Association for Women's Studies.
- Life Member, Indian Sociological Society LMI 3608.