



UNIVERSITY OF CALCUTTA

FACULTY ACADEMIC PROFILE/ CV

Full name of the faculty member: NILANJANA DAS

Designation: ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

Specializations:

- Population and Settlement Geography
- Social and Cultural Geography
- Economic Geography
- Historical Geography

Contact information: D32 NEW GARIA COOP PO PANCHASHYAR PURBA JADAVPUR

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Academic qualifications:

College/ university from which the degree was obtained	Abbreviation of the degree
University of Calcutta	B.Sc.
JNU, NEW DELHI	M.A.
JNU, NEW DELHI	M. Phil.
JNU, NEW DELHI	PhD

Positions held/ holding:

- **Associate Professor**, Department of Geography, University of Calcutta, Kolkata (since 2011)
- **Reader**, Department of Geography, University of Calcutta, Kolkata (2009 – 2011)
- **Senior Lecturer**, Department of Geography, University of Calcutta, Kolkata
- **Lecturer**, Department of Geography, Rammohan College (affiliated with University of Calcutta) Kolkata, April 1999 – January 2000
- **Assistant Teacher**, Deshapriya Vidyaniketan, 1994

Research interests:

- Population and Settlement Geography
- Social and Cultural Geography

- Economic Geography
- Historical Geography

Research guidance:

Number of researchers awarded Ph.D degrees: 2

Number of researchers pursuing Ph.D : 8

Select list of publications:

2014

- *At The Frontier's of Geography* (ed.) Nilanjana Das, SAMPARK, Kolkata, ISBN 978-81-7768-109-3
- *In Search of Lost Space* (ed.) Nilanjana Das, SAMPARK, Kolkata, ISBN 978-81-7768-109-6
- "Classical music and survival: A case study of Bishnupur Gharana" in *At The Frontier's of Geography* (ed.) Nilanjana Das, SAMPARK, Kolkata, ISBN 978-81-7768-109-3
- "The queen and the coolies: A case study of Shimla" in *At The Frontier's of Geography* (ed.) Nilanjana Das, SAMPARK, Kolkata, ISBN 978-81-7768-109-3
- "Secularisation of a religious festival: A case study of Basanta Utsav, Shantiniketan, West Bengal" in *In Search of Lost Space* (ed.) Nilanjana Das, SAMPARK, Kolkata, ISBN 978-81-7768-109-6

2011

- "The river that is not", Monograph III, DRS – SAP, Phase I, University of Calcutta.

2010

- "The grey areas of the economics of religion: The Radheshyamias of Nabadwip" in *Teaching and Research Methodology in Geography*, Proceedings of the ninth refresher course in Geography, University of Calcutta, pp. 324 – 333
- "Natural disaster and management of resource loss: A case study of Bengal Delta" Monograph II, DRS – SAP, Phase I, University of Calcutta.

2009

- "The river refugees: A case study of displaced people due to fluvial activities in Deltaic West Bengal", Monograph I, DRS – SAP, Phase I, University of Calcutta.

2008

- "The beauty industry: A new angle of exploitation" in *Contemporary Social Problems in India (Vol I)*, (ed.) Ruby Sain, Reader's Service, ISBN 81-87891-82-3

2005

- *Economics of Religion*, Vista International Publishing House, Delhi, ISBN 81-89526-36-7

2004

- *How Green is my Village*, India Publishers Distributors, Delhi, ISBN 81-7341-352-5
- *Of Dust and Distress*, India Publishers Distributors, Delhi, ISBN 81-7341-352-8

2003

- *The Environment and Socio – Economic Conditions of the Working Class*, Construction Worker's Federation of India, Kolkata

1999

- *Bhugol I*, (co – authored with S. Saha), Rabindra Mukta Vidyalaya, Government of West Bengal [Geography Text Book for Open Schooling Method in Bengal]
- *Bhugol II* (co – authored with S. Saha), Rabindra Mukta Vidyalaya, Government of West Bengal [Geography Text Book for Open Schooling Method in Bengal]

1998

- *Jangaler Galpo (Forest Tales)*, (translated from Hindi *Jangal Ki Kahaniya* by Munshi Premchand), Cambridge Publishing House

Papers presented

2014

- “Devotional Folk Music and Social Inclusion: A Case Study of Christian Kirtan Singers of West Bengal”, in National Seminar on Development and Environmental Transformation, University of Calcutta.

2012

- “Space and Culture in Graphic Narratives: A Case Study of Himalayas in Tintin Comics”, in National Seminar on Himalaya: Environment and Development, Himalaya Samiksha Parishad, Kolkata.
- “The Dynamics of Marriage and Society: A Case Study of Matrimonial Advertisements in Kolkata Newspapers”, in International Conference on Dimensions of Development and Resource Conservation, University of Calcutta.
- “Reinventing Himalayas: A Study of Space and Culture in the Travelogues by Rabindranath Tagore”, in the International Conference on Universalistic Humanism and Multicultural Society: Tagore’s Contribution, International Society for Studies in Society and Religion (IFSSR), Kolkata.

2011

- “Distribution of Vaishnava Shrines in West Bengal: An Exploration in Culture Geography” in National Seminar on Applied Geography: Issues and Techniques, University of Calcutta
- “Literary Heritage and Vaishnava Culture in Bengal: An Exploration in Cultural Geography”, in 33rd Indian Geography Congress, University of Burdwan, West Bengal.
- “An Appraisal of Vaishnava Realities in Modern Bengal: A Study in Cultural Geography”, Department of Geography, University of Calcutta, Kolkata

2010

- “Secularisation of a Religious Festival: A Case Study of Basanta Utsav, Shantiniketan, West Bengal”, in 32nd Indian Geography Congress, Punjab University, Chandigarh.
- “Reinventing Himalaya: A Study in Gender Geography”, in Refresher Course, University of Calcutta.

2009

- “Music and Survival: A Case Study of Bishnupur Gharana, West Bengal”, in the 31st Indian Geography Congress, Rani Durgawati University, Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh.
- “Natural Disaster and Management of Resource Loss: A Case Study of Bengal Delta”, in National Seminar on Ganga Delta: Development Perspectives, UGC DRS, University of Calcutta.

2007

- “The Condition of the Subalterns of Kolkata: A Case Study of Shoe – shine and Repairing Workers” in International Seminar on Poverty and Development in South Asia, University of Calcutta.
- “Himalayer...Khetra Samiksha” (in Bengali) in 14th West Bengal Science and Technology Congress, West Bengal.

2004

- “Environment and Society in a Himalayan Village: A Case Study of Himachal Pradesh” in 91st Session of Indian Science Congress Association, Punjab University, Chandigarh.

2001

- “Environment and Society of and Indian Village: An Exploration”, in International Seminar on Changing Environmental Scenario of India and Adjacent Countries since Independence and 12th Annual Conference of Indian Institute of Geomorphologists, University of Calcutta, Kolkata.

To be published

Books awaiting publication

- The Floodfighters:
This book is about the socio – economic conditions and spatial distribution of bank – erosion and flood victims in West Bengal. It documents their struggle for reorganising their lives.
- Pre – proletariats of Kolkata: Volumes I and II
This book is about the informal sector workers of Kolkata, those who are the poorest, and provide various services to the city. The hawkers, shoe – shine boys, beauty parlour workers, head loaders, goldsmiths, rickshaw pullers, potters, ironsmiths, paramedical caregivers, ceremonial musical bands, carpenters, etc were studied. The socio – economic, political and cultural conditions of these groups are mainly discussed in these volumes.
- The Maidservants of Kolkata
- This book is based on an extensive survey in various Kolkata neighbourhoods on the demographic characteristics, home and work environment, and various other behavioural characteristics of maid servants in Kolkata.

Membership of Learned Societies:

- National Association of Geographers, India (NAGI)
- Geographical Society of India
- Himalaya Samiksha Parishad
- Centre of Studies in Spatial Realities and Cultural Discourses (CSSRCD)

Invited lectures delivered:

- **2015:** “The Sacred Geography of India: An Exploration”, Refresher Course, University of Calcutta.
- **2014:** “Sacred Geography of India: An Imagined Landscape”, Refresher Course, Burdwan University.
- **2006:** “The river of angst”, Department of Sociology, Delhi School of Economics, Delhi University.

Awards:

- **Post – Doctoral Scholarship** – Centre for Urban Economic Studies, University of Calcutta, 1998 – 1999
- **Junior Research Fellowship** – University Grants Commission, Government of India, 1987 – 1992
- **Merit – cum – Means Scholarship** – Jawaharlal Nehru University, 1985 – 1987
- **National Scholarship**, 1984, 1979