

JUANITA KAKOTY

(Ph.D., Assistant Professor, South Asian University)

Currently I am an Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Social Sciences, South Asian University (SAU), where I teach undergraduate and post-graduate students. I have worked in the interstices of academia and industry for over 15 years, contributing to policy advocacy, teacher training manuals, research and documentation. My academic articles have been published in various books and journals. I have been the editor of a Sage Publishing peer-reviewed, academic journal. Moreover, I am an award-winning short story writer and I have written over 100 features stories which have appeared in Deccan Herald, Thomson Reuters News Foundation, The Assam Tribune, and others.

Educational Qualifications

- Ph.D. in Political Science from **Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI)**, New Delhi.
- M.Phil. & M.A. in Sociology from **Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU)**, New Delhi.
- B.A. in Sociology from **Hindu College**, University of Delhi.
- National Eligibility Test (NET) in Sociology.

Fellowships

- Junior Research Fellowship (JRF), University Grants Commission (UGC), Ministry of Education, Government of India. 2003-2005.
- Senior Research Fellowship (SRF), University Grants Commission (UGC), Ministry of Education, Government of India. 2005-2008.

Professional Achievements

- Invited as subject expert (Sociology) by **South Asian University (SAU)** for moderating entrance question papers on Sociology (M.A. & Ph.D.) and Communication for Sustainable Development (M.A.) in March 2026.
- Invited to deliver a lecture at the Seminar Series, organized by the Department of Sociology, **South Asian University (SAU)**, on 'Ontologizing Prostitution in India at the Intersection of Policy, Activism and Advocacy' on 29 April 2026.
- Nominated as Member, **Advisory Board, Department of Gender Studies**, National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), for the term January 2021 – January 2024.
- Invited to develop course curriculum for *Social Research and Methodology*, 7th Semester, under the 4 Year B.A. Liberal Arts Programme, **Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University (GGSIPU)** in 2025.
- Invited to develop course curriculum for *Sociology of Indian Diaspora*, 7th Semester, under the 4 Year B.A. Liberal Arts Programme, **Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University (GGSIPU)** in 2025.
- Invited by the **Federal Foreign Office, Federal Government of Germany** for the Information Programme in Berlin and Munich, Germany on 10-17 July 2016.
- Invited as subject expert (prevention of human trafficking) by the **German Foreign Office, Federal Government of Germany** to the conclave on Human Rights in South Asia organized in Colombo, Sri Lanka in May 2016.
- Invited as subject expert (prevention of human trafficking) by the **Australian High Commission in Delhi** on 10 March 2018, and the **World Bank in Delhi** in March 2017.
- Nominated as External Member of the Child Protection and Safeguarding Committee, **Tech Mahindra Foundation** for the term 2019 – 2022.
- Nominated as National Resource Group member on Gender Based Violence to Govt. of

India's **Ministry of Education** and **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare's** *Ayushman Bharat School Health and Wellness Programme* and *Rashtriya Kishore Swasthya Karyakram* for the period 2018-2021.

- Represented Arpan on Aam Admi Party's Manifesto Development discussion concerning education in 2020; advocated for integrating **Personal Safety Education curriculum** as part of the education curriculum.
- Invited as subject expert (prevention of CSA) to the Review-cum-Consultation of an educational kit on Child Sexual Abuse by the **Division of Child Psychology, National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR)** in New Delhi, on 21 May 2019.
- Invited as subject expert (prevention of human trafficking) to the state level workshop on 'Prevention and Response to Combat Child Trafficking in Assam' organized by **Assam SCPCR** and **UNICEF** in Guwahati on 21 Dec 2018.
- Invited as subject expert to consultations by **UNICEF** on child protection in Chennai, Lucknow and Guwahati in November and December 2018.
- Selected for the residential workshop on Women's Studies and Systems of Knowledge: Contexts and Problems organized by **School of Women's Studies, Jadavpur University, Kolkata** sponsored by Sir Ratan Tata Trust, Mumbai. 18-26 May 2010.

Previous Projects

- I played a key role in securing the collaborative project between the Institute of Development Studies (IDS) at the University of Sussex, United Kingdom, and the Centre for Science, Development and Media Studies (CSDMS) in India. It was primarily centered on knowledge-sharing networks and decentralized information services for international development, specifically Eldis. March 2011 – March 2012.
- I was part of Euro-India SPIRIT, a European Commission-funded project under the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7), which brought together a diverse consortium of European and Indian organizations to map ICT activities, run stakeholder surveys, and build long-term cooperative bridges. Dec 2009 – Dec 2011.
- I was part of the research team that conducted the study titled 'Assessing the Status of Lower-Income Group Working Women in NOIDA and Faridabad,' published in August 2007 by the International Center for Research on Women (ICRW), which evaluates how rapid urban industrialization affects vulnerable female laborers. The assessment focused heavily on women migrating into the National Capital Region (NCR) to work in the informal economy, particularly as domestic helpers, garment factory workers, and construction laborers.
- Process Audit of Pratham's Annual Status of Education Report (ASER), West Bengal, as part of Google Foundation's study. October 2007.

Lectures delivered under University Grants Commission (UGC) Programmes

- 'Gender Issues from the Lens of Marginality and Structural Violence,' at Refresher Course on Contemporary Knowledge & Issues in Social Sciences, organized by **UGC-Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Centre (Formerly known as UGC-HRDC), Gauhati University, Guwahati**. 28 January 2025 – 13 February 2025.
- 'Understanding Gender and Inclusion: From the lens of Social Justice,' at 5th Short Term Course in Gender Sensitization & Social Justice (ONLINE MODE), organized by **UGC Human Resource Development Centre, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi**. 8th November – 13th November 2021.

Previous Teaching, Research and Editorial Roles

- Assistant Professor & a Founding Faculty, Sociology, School of Liberal Arts, Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University (GGSIPU), New Delhi. Aug 2024 – Aug 2026.
- Associate Editor of the academic, peer-reviewed, and interdisciplinary journal 'ANTYAJAA: Indian Journal of Women and Social Change' (SAGE, ISSN: 24556327). 2015 – 2018.
- Research Associate, 'Decentralised delivery of the Eldis ICT Resource Guide by CSDMS, MK4D,' a collaborative project between the Institute of Development Studies (University of Sussex, UK) and Centre for Science, Development and Media Studies (CSDMS), India. 2010 – 2011.
- Lecturer & a Founding Faculty, Sociology, Gauhati University, Sep 2009 – Sep 2010.
- Lecturer, Sociology, Jamia Milia Islamia, New Delhi, Jan 2007 – April 2007.

Academic Publications in Journals

1. 'Ontologising Prostitution in India: At the Intersection of Policy, Activism and Advocacy' forthcoming in *Society and Culture in South Asia* (a Scopus-indexed, Q2 journal).
2. 'The Perna Women: Vulnerabilities, Opportunities and Work,' in peer-reviewed journal *ANTYAJAA: Indian Journal of Women and Social Change*, Volume 3, Issue 2, 163-180, SAGE: New Delhi, 2018. (indexed in Google Scholar)
3. 'Hina Jilani on her Satyagraha for Women's Rights in Pakistan,' in peer-reviewed journal *ANTYAJAA: Indian Journal of Women and Social Change*, 1(2), 246-253, SAGE: New Delhi, 2017. (indexed in Google Scholar)
4. 'Rachel Moran: Journey of a Prostitution Survivor to a Women's Liberation Leader,' in peer-reviewed journal *ANTYAJAA: Indian Journal of Women and Social Change*, Volume 1, Issue 1, 122-127, SAGE: New Delhi, 2016. (indexed in Google Scholar)
5. 'Stories of the Making of a Region: Assam from a Hoary Past to the Present,' review of Shehnab Sahin's *Colour My Grave Purple and Other Stories* in UGC-Care indexed *The Book Review*, Vol. 50, No. 4, May 2026.
6. 'Ontologizing Prostitution and its Multilayered Complexities,' review of Vibhuti Ramachandran's *Immoral Traffic: An Ethnography of Law, NGOs, and the Governance of Prostitution in India*, in UGC-Care indexed *The Book Review*, Feb 2026, Vol. 50, No. 2.
7. 'Myriad Ways of Seeing,' review of Dev Nath Pathak's *To Be Or Not To Be Sociological*, in UGC-Care indexed *The Book Review*, vol. 49, No. 5, May 2025.
8. 'Situating Women in the Debate of Tibetan Nation-Building and Nationalism in Exile,' review of Amrita Saikia's *Gender, Nation, And Nationalism: Perspectives Of Tibetan Women In Exile* in UGC-Care indexed *The Book Review*, vol. 49, No. 4, April 2025.
9. 'Contemporary Concerns: A Stocktaking,' in UGC-Care indexed *The Book Review*, volume 46, No. 9, September 2022.
10. 'Understanding Gender, Inclusion, Violence and Social Justice,' in UGC-Care indexed *The Book Review*, 2021.
11. 'A Clutch of Indian Masterpieces: Extraordinary Short Stories from the 19th Century to the Present,' in UGC-Care indexed *The Book Review*, Volume 39, No. 5, May 2015.
12. 'Arunachal: Peoples, Arts and Adornments in India's Eastern Himalayas by Peter van Ham,' in UGC-Care indexed *The Book Review*, Volume 38, Issue 6, June 2014.
13. 'Documenting An Art Form: Sattriya,' in UGC-Care indexed *The Book Review*, Volume 38, No. 4, April 2014.
14. 'Bhupenda: The Bard of Brahmaputra,' in UGC-Care indexed *The Book Review*, Volume XXXVII, No. 12, December 2013.

Key Chapters/Essays in Books

1. 'Linking Child Marriage and Prostitution: The Last Girl' in Samita Sen and Anindita Ghosh (ed.), *Love, Labour and Law: Early and Child Marriage in India*. ISBN 978-93-81345-62-

7. New Delhi: SAGE, 2021. (indexed in Google Scholar)
2. 'Participation In and Access to The Public "Sacred" Space: Sisterhood and the Naamghar in Assam,' in Nandana Dutta (ed.), *Communities of Women in Assam: Being, Doing and Thinking Together*. ISBN 9780815396093. New York: Routledge, 2016. (indexed in Google Scholar)
3. 'Prostitution as Slavery: Intersectionalities of Caste, Class, Age, and Gender' in Debajit Goswami and Manoj Kumar Halder (ed.), *Caste, Social Formation and Political Mobilization*. ISBN 78-93-82112-82-2. Kolkata: Netaji Subhas Open University, June 2022.
4. 'Ethnic identity and nationalism with special reference to Assam.' In Dilip Gogoi (ed.), *Contemporary concerns, essays by young minds: Cotton Conclave*. ISBN 81-89003-26-7. Anwesha, 2008.

Advocacy Report/Action-Research Study

- Apne Aap Women Worldwide & Housing and Land Rights Network. (2015). *From deprivation to destitution: The impact of forced eviction in Topsia*. Housing and Land Rights Network. hlrn.org.in

Subject Matter: Documents the socioeconomic and material impacts of a specific forced eviction in Topsia, Kolkata.

Purpose: To demand state compensation and highlight human rights violations resulting from state-induced displacement.

Content created for National/State Educational Curriculum

- 'Social Stratification,' *Fundamentals of Sociology, Grade XI*, Bharatiya Shiksha Board, 2026.
- 'Module 10: Safety from Violence and Injuries,' in *Training and Resource Material: Health and Wellness of School-going Children*, under the *School Health Programme of Ayushman Bharat*, an initiative of the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India, launched by NCERT in Feb 2020.
- Created two learning units for the M.A. Sociology *UGC e-Pathshala program* in 2014.
- Created three learning units for the BA Sociology program, *KK Handique Open State University*, Assam in 2009-2010.

Papers presented in National and International Seminars/Conferences

1. 'Inter-Generational Prostitution in India: Through the Lens of Caste and Lived Experiences,' presented at the *International Conference on Art, Culture and Values in India and Europe: Exchanges, Influences and Evolving Dynamic* organized by Jean Monnet Project ACE (2020-2023), JNU and University School of Liberal Arts, GGSIPU; funded by the European Union. 1-2 May 2025.
2. 'The Sex Trafficking of Women and Vulnerable Children: Critical Look at Scandinavian Abolitionist Discourses on Prostitution,' presented at the *National Conference on India and the World: Challenges and Opportunities* organized by Department of Political Science, Aligarh Muslim University. 27-28 February 2023.
3. 'Prostitution as Slavery: Intersectionalities of Caste, Class, Age, and Gender' presented at the *International Webinar on Caste, Social Formation and Political Mobilization* organized by the School of Social Sciences, Netaji Subhas Open University in collaboration with the NSOU Centre for Social Studies. 14 March 2022.
4. 'Prostitution and the Financial Contribution of Perna Women: Locating this in the Context of Patriarchy' presented at the *International Conference on Moving Beyond the Margin: The Politics of Exclusion and Assimilation* organized by Department of English and

School of Humanities & Languages, Central University of Rajasthan. 15-16 November 2018.

5. 'Dastaangoi: Text and Performance' presented at the *International Seminar on Performative Communication, Culture and Politics in South Asia* organized by the Department of Sociology, SAU and Center for Culture Media & Governance, JMI in association with Indian Council of Social Science Research. 20-21 January 2015.
6. 'Singular vs. Composite Identity: A Case of Bodo within Greater Assamese Identity,' presented at the *National Young Scholars' Meet* organized by Cotton College, Assam. 20-21 February 2008.
7. 'The Role Played by Xatras in the Construction of Assamese Identity,' presented at the *XXXII All India Sociological Conference* organized by the Departments of Sociology, University of Madras and Loyola College. 27-29 December 2006.
8. 'The Bodo Experience in Assam: Addressing Social Construction of Identity,' presented at the *PhD Students' Seminar* organized by the Centre for the Study of Social Systems, JNU. 23-24 March 2006.

Non-Academic Publications

- 'Fusion of Horizons' was the 3rd winner of The Book Review Literary Trust Short Story Competition 2025.
- 'Beating Loneliness' appeared in the anthology *The Thief's Funeral* published by Aleph Book Company in 2024.
- 'How Achchan Miyan Lost His Mind' was longlisted for the DNA-Out of Print Short Story Contest 2017, which later appeared as Himel Southasian's first podcast as 'Where is Arsalan Miyan.'
- I have more than 100 published feature stories, which have appeared in the *Deccan Herald*, *Assam Tribune*, *Thomson Reuters News Foundation* and other sites.
