

# BITOPI DUTTA

**Date of Birth:** 22/12/1989

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## Educational Qualifications.

- Doctor of Philosophy on “Gender Restructuring in Displaced Indigenous Communities of North East India” from Dublin City University, Ireland 2020 with first class honours. (Thesis defended on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019, and PhD degree awarded in 2020)  
  
Completed modules as a requirement of the Structured PhD - Research Design with a high grade of 72%, Qualitative Methods with a high grade of 75% and Quantitative Methods with a high grade of 76%.
- Masters of Arts in Social Work, Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai (June 2010 to Apr 2012). Grade point: Higher first class with 70% which is a grade point of 5.04 in a 7point UGC India grade scale.
- Bachelor of Honours in Sociology from Lady Shri Ram College (LSR), University of Delhi. (June 2007 to June 2010) Grade point: Higher second class with 59.2%
- Completed AISSCE from the Faculty Higher Secondary School, Guwahati with 90% - top scorer from the school.
- HSLC (SEBA ) from Dhakuakhana Central School with 75% ( star mark)—top scorer from school.

## Work Experience

- Assistant Professor, School of Liberal Studies, UPES, Dehradun, July 2021 to Present
- Assistant Professor at the School of Social Work, TISS Guwahati, Oct 2020 to July 2021
- Research Consultant, Oxfam India, April 2020 to Nov 2021
- Assistant Professor (Guest) Delhi School of Social Work, Sept- Oct 2020.
- Assistant Professor in Sociology (part time) in Cotton University, India Feb–May2019.
- Research Associate at North Eastern Social Research Centre (NESRC), Guwahati , July 2012 to August 2015.
- Founding Member of the Irish Association of South Asian Studies (IASAS).
- Member of the Editorial team for Irish Journal of South Asian Studies
- Co-Founder of Xukia, the first Queer youth collective in Assam, North East India.
- Peer educator from June 2008 to December 2009, under the Levi's Naz Foundation Peer Education Awareness Program on HIV/AIDs.

## Teaching, Administrative and Supervision Experience:

- Supervising two PhD candidates at the School of Liberal Studies at UPES at the present. Supervised 2 masters thesis and 2 undergraduate students at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences between 2021-22. Also supervised 7 fieldwork students undertaking a blended model of online and offline fieldwork at the Delhi School of Social Work, University of Delhi during 2020.
- Programme Lead, Sociology at the School of Liberal Studies, UPES since July 2022 till present. Designed the entire BSc Honours in Sociology Programme.
- Teaching courses like Gender and Society, Social Change in Contemporary Society, Environmental Sociology, Gender and Labour etc. at the School of Liberal Studies at UPES, along with life skills courses like Critical Thinking and Writing and Living Conversations.
- Taught two courses called “Approaches to Peace” and “Internal Displacement and Forced Migration” at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, October 2020 - 21.
- Taught the module “Information Communication and Technology for Social Work Practice at the Delhi School of Social Work, University of Delhi for Sept-Oct, 2020.
- Tutored one module called “Core Skills and Methods for International Relations” at Dublin City University,

2015-16.

- Taught the module called “Sociology of North East India” for the Masters students of Sociology at the Cotton University, Guwahati, India for Feb–May 2019.
- Delivered invited guest lectures on “Gender and Security”, for the module Key Issues in International Relations at the, April 2018 and for “Doing Critical Research” in Nov 2017, at the Dublin City University, Ireland.
- Organising member of the yearly Post Graduate Conference in South Asian Studies organised by the Ireland India Institute of Dublin City University since 2017, which normally attracts more than 300-500 paper presentations from graduate students and early career researchers and practitioners across South Asia.
- As a research associate and co-ordinator in North Eastern Social Research Centre Guwahati, apart from conducting research and writing research reports, I had also extensively coordinated fieldwork trips, facilitated stakeholder engagements, organised seminars and workshops, trained research assistants, and managed research budgeting.

## **Scholarships/ Awards/Recognitions.**

- Irish Research Council Government of Ireland Postgraduate Scholarship 2017-2019.
- Full PhD Scholarship awarded from the Institute for International Conflict Resolution and Reconstruction, Dublin City University 2015-2019
- Recipient of the free Accommodation Scholarship awarded by DCU every three years for the bloc of 2015-2018.
- Awarded and recognised by the Director of TISS, Mumbai for excellence in academia, fieldwork and extracurricular activities, 2012.
- Full Scholarship for the 11<sup>th</sup> European PhD Workshop in South Asian Studies, Procida, Sept 2017.
- Rainbow leaders scholarship for the 4<sup>th</sup> Rainbow leaders program by RFSL, The Swedish Federation for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Rights, 2015
- Cleared the National Eligibility Test (NET) on Dec. 2013.

## **Trainings/Achievements:**

- Training course on oral history, University of London, Jan-March 2017.
- Visiting Research Scholar at the Australia India Institute, University of Melbourne, June 2018
- Summer School on Gender and Migration, University of Goethe, Germany, June 2017.

## **Publications:**

### **Books:**

- Bitopi Dutta. (2022) . Mining, Displacement and Matriliney in Meghalaya: Gendered Transitions. Mining Displacement and changing Gender-relations in Meghalaya. Routledge, United Kingdom.
- Melvil Pereira, Bitopi Dutta and Binita Kakati.(ed). (2017). Conflict Resolution systems in Tribal Societies: Legal Pluralism and Indian Democracy. Routledge, United Kingdom.
- Walter Fernandes, Bitopi Dutta, Dusu Sambyo, Marge Nyori, Upasana Goswami. (2023). In the Name of Lighting My House: Displaced for Development, Arunachal Pradesh 1947-2015. North Eastern Social Research Centre, Guwahati
- Walter Fernandes, George Thadathil and Bitopi Dutta.(2016). The Teesta on the Run: Development induced Displacement in Sikkim 1975-2010. North Eastern Social Research Centre, Guwahati and Salesian College, Siliguri.
- Walter Fernandes, Veronica Pala, Gita Bharali and Bitopi Dutta. (2017). The Development Dilemma: Displacement in Meghalaya 1947-2010. North Eastern Social research Centre, Guwahati. (Read the book review by - Atul Sharma on March 21, 2019 on Social Change, Vol 49 (1).pp 169-71. Available on <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/0049085718821529>)
- Walter Fernandes and Bitopi Dutta. Development Induced Displacement in Manipur. North Eastern Social Research Centre, Guwahati (forthcoming).

## **Book Chapters:**

- Bitopi Dutta. (2017). Customary Rights in Post-colonial States: The politics of Peace and Conflict Resolution. In Melvil Pereira, Bitopi Dutta and Binita Kakati (ed). Conflict Resolution systems in Tribal Societies: Legal Pluralism and Indian Democracy. Routledge, United Kingdom.
- Bitopi Dutta. (2013). Women's Right to Equality. In Walter Fernandes (ed). Human rights Manual for school children (Class VIII). Pp. 14-18. North Eastern Diocesan Social Service Society, Guwahati.

## **Journal Articles:**

- Bitopi Dutta. (2020). The Anti Dam Movement in Arunachal Pradesh: Seminar, special edition on Peacemaking in Northeast India, 732, 45-48. Available at [https://www.india-seminar.com/2020/732/732\\_bitopi\\_dutta.htm](https://www.india-seminar.com/2020/732/732_bitopi_dutta.htm)
- Bitopi Dutta. A feminist analysis of Development Induced Displacement, for a special issue on Land Administration under the Erasmus funded project "Power and Politics in Land Administration Reform (<https://www.ppla.eu>) (forthcoming)

## **Blog post**

- Bitopi Dutta. (2017). Are modern Development Projects a good input to traditional conflict resolution system of indigenous people?. Blog Post on the Institute for International Conflict Resolution and Reconstruction. DCU, Ireland. Available at <http://iicrr.ie/modern-development-projects-good-input-traditional-conflict-resolution-system-indigenous-people/>

## **Research projects Undertaken.**

- Development Induced Displacement in Uttarakhand (December 2022 to present)
- Development Induced Displacement studies in the North East, funded by Misereor, Germany (August 2012 to September 2015)
- Exploring the Transformative Power of Feminist Research to address knowledge gaps in Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights and Gender Based Violence, funded by International Development Research Centre for Oxfam Canada (April 2020–Nov 2021)
- Traditional Methods of Conflict Resolution in the tribal societies North East India, funded by Cordaid and Misereor through NED Social Forum (April 2013 to June 2014)
- Human Rights Violations of women in Assam, funded by Women in Governance, Assam (June 2013 to June 2014)
- Land eviction studies in Assam, funded by Action Aid, India (August 2012 to June 2015)

## **Conference contributions/invited Seminars:**

- Invited as a speaker to the London Mining network Book Discussion platform for September 2024.
- Invited as a chair to the Fifth Annual Ireland India Institute South Asia Conference, Dublin City University, 2022.
- Invited as a contributor to the research cluster on Land Governance and Administration, a Erasmus funded project called "Power and Politics in Land Administration Reform (<https://www.ppla.eu>)
- Invited as a speaker to the fifth and sixth India Land and Development Conference, 2021 and 2022 respectively.
- Invited as a speaker to Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.
- Invited as a speaker to Doing Sociology (an online academic platform for Sociological Discussion), 2022.
- Invited as a speaker to two National Seminar on 'Ecological Futures: Communities, Conflicts, and Contestations, 2023 and 'Conflicts and Coping Mechanisms in Northeast India', 2022 organised by the North Eastern Social Research Centre, Guwahati.
- Invited speaker for a webinar on "Queer Rights in the Northeast" for the If we donot rise Campaign-North east Chapter, Sept 2020
- Invited Speaker for a session on " Women's lives in a Post Covid World", organized by Krishnakanta Handique OpenUniversity, Guwahati, June 2020.
- Invited speaker for a session on 'Gender and LGBTQIA sensitisation among Youths" at 'Kavyavarsha:The Global Community for revolutionary Youth Writers founded by National Youth Parliament Festival', organised by Ministry

of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India, April 2020.

- Resource person for a session on 'Career Counselling in Social Sciences' for High School and Higher Secondary teachers organized by the Education Department, Government of Assam, India, April 2020.
- Resource person for 'Gender and Sexuality workshop' at The Ant", Assam, March 2019
- "A framework for the gender analysis of Development Induced Displacement: The case of Tribal Societies in North East India", a paper presented in the European Conference on Politics and Gender, University of Laussane, Switzerland, June 2017
- "Trapped in Hegemonic Binaries: Performing the Body", a paper presented in the European Conference on Politics and Gender, University of Laussane, Switzerland, June 2017
- "Displacement in North East India", a paper presented in the Gender Research Workshop, Ulster University, Belfast, Feb 2017.
- "Rethinking Methodology: The case of Gender and Displacement in North East India", a paper presented in the summer school on Gender and Migration, University of Goethe, Germany, June 2017.
- "Impact of Development Induced Displacement on Tribal Women in India", a paper presented in the Annual Conference of British Association for South Asian Studies, University of Nottingham, UK, April 2017.
- "Gendering development Induced Displacement in the North East, a paper presented in the national conference of Indian Association for Women's Studies (IAWS), February 2014
- "Development Induced Displacement in the North East India", a paper presented in a consultation for developing the Tribal Development Report organized by United Nations Development Programme, Planning Commission of India and Ministry of Tribal Affairs, November 2014.