

**Dr. Saroj Kumar Mahananda**

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Languages Known: English, Odia, Hindi, Sanskrit

**Academic Record:**

1. B. A.(English) from Utkal University, 1996
2. M.A.(English) from University of Hyderabad, 1998
3. M.Phil (English) from University of Hyderabad, 2000
4. LL.B from University of Delhi, 2011
5. Ph.D (English) from Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, 2016

**Professional Experience:**

1. 2001-2006: Lecturer(English) at SLBSRS Vidyapeeth (Deemed University), New Delhi-110064
2. 2006 -2014: Assistant Professor(English) at Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi-110025
3. 2014 onwards: Associate Professor (English) at Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi-110025
4. 2017 onwards: Professor (English) at Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi-110025
5. Teaching at the Undergraduate and Graduate levels
6. Supervising M.Phil and PhD research in the university
7. Translating the Short Stories and Non-fiction Prose of Premchand from Hindi to English under the aegis of UGC SAP DRS Program in the Department of English, Jamia Millia Islamia.

**Areas of Interest/Specialization:**

1. Dalit Literature and Historiography
2. Patrick White's Fiction
3. 19<sup>th</sup> Century English Literature
4. Indian Writing in English
5. Aesthetics and Translation
6. Odia Dalit Literature
7. Folk Literature and Folk Studies

**Publications:**

1. *Life in the Fringes; Aborigines in Patrick White's Voss, Riders in the Chariot & Fringe of Leaves.*(2004) Rajat Publication, New Delhi-110002, ISBN:81-7880-146-9
2. "Prism or Orison: Language in Patrick White's Voss." *Sangharsh/Struggle: e-journal of Dalit Literary Studies*. Vol.02, IssueNo.02, Jan-March 2011, pp.6-12. ISSN: 2278-3059

3. "Towards an Understanding of 'Identity' in Literature". *Preeminence: An Interdisciplinary Research Journal*. Vol. 1. No.1, January -June 2011, ISSN No: 2249-7927
4. "Basudev Sunani's Poetry: Site for Dalit History". *Sangharsh/Struggle: e-journal of Dalit Literary Studies*. Vol.02, IssueNo.04, October-December 2013, pp.25-33. ISSN: 2278-3067
5. *Dalit Literature: Reading Resistance*. Ed. (2013) Sangharsh Publication, New Delhi-110075. ISBN: 978-93-82928-97-3
6. "Towards Odia Dalit Historiography: Poetry of Basudev Sunani". *Interdisciplinary Journal Of Literature and Language*. Vol.1, No.2, January-June 2014. New Delhi: Author Press. ISSN:2278-9170
7. *Dalit Literature and Historiography*. Ed. (2014) Pragati Publications, New Delhi-110002. ISBN:978-81-7307-149-2
8. "Dalit Historiography: Reading Surpanakha's Ugliness". *Dalit Literature and Historiography*. Ed. (2014) Pragati Publications, New Delhi-110002. ISBN:978-81-7307-149-2
9. "Casting/De-casting Identity; the Gandas of Western Odisha". *Sangharsh/Struggle: e-journal of Dalit Literary Studies*. Vol.03, IssueNo.02& 03, April-Sept, 2014, pp.07-12. ISSN: 2278-3067
10. *Caste, Reality and Mediation*. (2017) Supriya Books, New Delhi. ISBN 978-93-84471-35-4
11. *Towards Dalit Historiography: Imaging the Gandas through various Narratives*. (2017) Archive Press, New Delhi. ISBN 978-81-922223-5-6
12. Contributor/translator in *Premchand: the Complete Short Stories*. Ed. M Asaduddin. New Delhi: Penguin, 2018. Vol. I-IV
13. *Premchand on National Language: Rashtrabhasha*. Editors Anuradha Ghosh, Saroj Kumar Mahananda and Trisha Lalchandani. (2019). Aakar Books, New Delhi. ISBN 978-93-5002-606

#### **Ongoing Projects:**

1. Documentation of Oral narratives of Western Odisha
2. Translation of Premchand's miscellaneous writings

#### **Seminars & Conferences Organized/Attended:**

- Chaired an academic session titled "Caste, Class and Gender based Marginality" on the National Conference on "Resistance and Revolutions: The Politics of Marginality" organised by Department of English, Dayal Singh Evening College, University of Delhi, on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021.
- Chaired a business session on "Tribal Performing Arts: Perspective & Possibilities" (जनजातीय मंच कलाएँ: परिदृश्य और संभावनाएँ) on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2020, at the *Aadi Natya Samagama* (Exhibition, Seminar and performances of Tribal Music, Dance and Drama), (15<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> January 2020) organised jointly by Sangeet Natak Akademi, New Delhi, Jawaharlal Nehru

Manipur Dance Academy and Natural & Cultural Heritage Conservation Initiative (NCHCI), Ukhrul, Manipur at Ukhrul, Manipur.

- Chaired a business session on 31st March 2019 at the *National Seminar on Diversities of Social Exclusion in India: Past and Present* organised by the Centre for the Study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy, Utkal University, Bhubaneswar, Odisha.
- Jointly coordinated with Dr Nadim Ahmad, the 3<sup>rd</sup> 3-week Refresher Course in Languages (Hindi, Urdu, English) on “Contemporary Literature”, 19<sup>th</sup> July – 8<sup>th</sup> August 2018, organised by the HRDC, JMI.
- Chaired a business session on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at the *National Conference on Margin and the Visions of Social Change* organised by the Department of History, Indira Gandhi University, Rewari, Haryana.
- Presented a self-composed Odia Poem and addressed the audience at the Bahubhashi KavyaGosthi and Kahani Path (Multi-lingual Workshop on Poetry and Story-telling) under the aegis of Matrubhasha Divas (Mother-Tongue Day) celebrated on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2018 in Jamia Millia Islamia.
- Attended the National Seminar-cum-Workshop on Translating Premchand-III (9-10<sup>th</sup> March, 2017) organized by Department of English, Jamia Millia Islamia, NewDelhi-110025 and Translated Premchand’s Non-Fiction Prose “Hindu Viswavidyalaya Mein Hindi Vaad-Vivaad” (Hindi Debate in Hindu University) from Hindi to English in the same workshop.
- Chaired a business session on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2017 at the *International Seminar on Literature, Culture and History: Reading the Margin* organised by SSN College (DU) in collaboration with Department of English, university of Delhi (24-25, February 2017).
- Organised the **International Conference on Dalit Literature and Historiography: Resistance and Reconstruction** in Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi on 19-21, December 2013. Chaired a Seminar presentation session on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2013 at Academic Staff College, JMI
- Attended the International Seminar on Australian Studies: Indian Perspective (28-29th of October 2010) organized by the Centre for English studies, SLLCS, JNU, New Delhi.
- Attended the National Seminar-cum-Workshop on Translating Premchand-III (19-20th of February, 2011) organized by Department of English, Jamia Millia Islamia, NewDelhi-110025 and Translated Premchand’s Story “Dhokha” (Deception) from Hindi to English in the same workshop.

**Lectures and Talks delivered/Paper Presented:**

- Delivered two lectures on “Emergence of Margin Studies in India - 1 & 2” on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2021 at the Refresher Course in English on “Post 1950s Literature in English” (6<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup>

December 2021) organised by the UGC-HRDC, Guru Ghasidas Viswavidyalaya, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh.

- Delivered a lecture on “Shifting Terrains of the ‘popular’ in Indian Culture: Dynamics of Faith and Festivities in India” on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at the online *Faculty Development Program* (27<sup>nd</sup> September – 8<sup>th</sup> October 2021) organised by the Department of English, PGDAV (M) College, University of Delhi.
- Delivered a lecture on “Dalit Literature Going Global” on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at the 16<sup>th</sup> Online 2-Week Refresher Course in English Literature and Language (2<sup>nd</sup> September – 15<sup>th</sup> September 2021) organised by the UGC-HRDC, JMI.
- Spoke as a panellist in an online *Panel Discussion* on “Literature and Publishing: 21<sup>st</sup> Century Perspectives” on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2021 organised by the Delhi Book Fair (3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> September 2021).
- Delivered a lecture on “Introduction to Modern Poetry” on 26<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at the 3-Day online English Lecture Series on *Dimensions of Modern poetry, Drama and Fiction*, organised by the Department of English, Vasant College for Women, Rajghat, Varanasi, UP.
- Delivered a lecture on “Bertolt Brecht’s *Mother Courage and Her Children*” on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at the online English Lecture Series, 2<sup>nd</sup> Phase, organised by the Department of English, Kashipur Michael Madhusudan Mahavidyalaya, SKBU, West Bengal.
- Delivered a lecture on “Origin, Growth and Development of Modern European Drama” on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at the online English Lecture Series, 2<sup>nd</sup> Phase, organised by the Department of English, Kashipur Michael Madhusudan Mahavidyalaya, SKBU, West Bengal.
- Delivered a lecture on “Notes towards Dalit Historiography” on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021 at the *Induction Program* organised by the Centre for the Study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy, Utkal University, Bhubaneswar, Odisha.
- Delivered a lecture on “Conceptualizing Social Exclusion and Margin studies” on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2021 at the *Induction Program* organised by the Centre for the Study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy, Utkal University, Bhubaneswar, Odisha.
- Delivered a lecture on “Swami Vivekananda: Message for Humanity” in a webinar on “Swami Vivekananda ji ka Manavta Ka Sandesh” on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2021 organised by the Delhi Public Library.
- Delivered a lecture on “Shifting Terrains of the Margin Studies in India” on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2020 at the 15<sup>th</sup> Online 2-Week Refresher Course in English Literature and Language (26<sup>th</sup> November – 10<sup>th</sup> December 2020) organised by the UGC-HRDC, JMI.

- Delivered a lecture on “Conceptualizing the Margin” on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2020 at the 15<sup>th</sup> Online 2-Week Refresher Course in English Literature and Language (26<sup>th</sup> November – 10<sup>th</sup> December 2020) organised by the UGC-HRDC, JMI.
- Spoke as a panellist in an online *Panel Discussion* on “Dynamics of Literature and Publishing in Early 21<sup>st</sup> Century” on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2020 organised by the Delhi Book Fair (30<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020).
- Delivered a lecture on “Academic Integrity in Higher Education” on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2020 at the online Faculty Induction Program (5<sup>th</sup> October – 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2020) organised by the UGC-HRDC, JMI
- Delivered a lecture on “The Modern Trishankus: The Untold Tale of the Migrant Labourers in India: ” on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2020 at the 2-Day National Webinar on *Indian Scenario and Covid-19: The Marginalised and The Question of Survival* (26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>June 2020) organised by Department of English, Arya Mahila PG College, Benares Hindu University, Varanasi, UP.
- Presented a research paper on “Tribal Performing Arts of Western Odisha” on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2020, at the *Aadi Natya Samagama* (Exhibition, Seminar and performances of Tribal Music, Dance and Drama), (15 to 19 January 2020) organised jointly by Sangeet Natak Akademi, New Delhi, Jawaharlal Nehru Manipur Dance Academy and Natural & Cultural Heritage Conservation Initiative (NCHCI), Ukhrul, Manipur at Ukhrul, Manipur.
- Delivered a lecture on “Literary Pedagogy and Dalit literature” on 24<sup>th</sup> December 2019 at the Refresher Course in English on “Theory and Texts in English in 21<sup>st</sup> Century” (16<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> December 2019) organised by the UGC-HRDC, Guru Ghasidas Viswavidyalaya, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh.
- Delivered a lecture on “Crisis in Humanities: Indian Scenario” on 24<sup>th</sup> December 2019 at the Refresher Course in English on “Theory and Texts in English in 21<sup>st</sup> Century” (16<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> December 2019) organised by the UGC-HRDC, Guru Ghasidas Viswavidyalaya, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh.
- Delivered a lecture on “Literary Theory and Criticism: A Chronological Perspective -2” on 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2019 at the Refresher Course in English on “Theory and Texts in English in 21<sup>st</sup> Century” (16<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> December 2019) organised by the UGC-HRDC, Guru Ghasidas Viswavidyalaya, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh.
- Delivered a lecture on “Literary Theory and Criticism: A Chronological Perspective-1” on 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2019 at the Refresher Course in English on “Theory and Texts in English in 21<sup>st</sup> Century” (16<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> December 2019) organised by the UGC-HRDC, Guru Ghasidas Viswavidyalaya, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh.

- Delivered a lecture on “Writings from the Margin” on 2nd November 2019 at the 4th 2-Week Refresher Course in “Comparative Studies” (31st October – 11<sup>th</sup> November 2019) organised by the UGC-HRDC, JMI.
- Presented a research paper “Caste, Exclusion and Dalit Historiography” on 30th March 2019 at the *National Seminar on Diversities of Social Exclusion in India: Past and Present* organised by the Centre for the Study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy, Utkal University, Bhubaneswar, Odisha.
- Presented a research paper on “Dalit Literature in English” on 3-4 February 2019 at the 1<sup>st</sup> *Dalit literature Festival* organised at KiroriMal College, University of Delhi.
- Presented a research paper on “Ambedkar and his Emancipatory Vision of Education ” on 5<sup>th</sup> April 2018 at the *National Seminar on Contribution of Babasaheb Ambedkar in Education* organised by the Progressive Study Circle, Ramanujan College, University of Delhi.
- Presented a research paper on “Aesthetics in *Akkarmashi*: Narrating a Fractured Identity” on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2018 at the *National Conferenc on Limbale’s The Outcaste and Dalit Resistance* organised by the Department of English, Dayal Singh (Evening) College, University of Delhi.
- Presented a research paper on “Conceptualizing the Margin in relation to the Writings from the North-East of India” on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at the *National Conference on Margin and the Visions of Social Change* organised by the Department of History, Indira Gandhi University, Rewari, Haryana.
- Spoke as Resource Person “Understanding Poetry” through a live-phone-in programme on GyanVaani on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2017
- Presented a research paper on “The Curious Context of Karama in Western Odisha ” on 24-25 August 2017 at the *National Seminar on Tribal folk Dances of India* organised by the MotiLal Nehru College(E), University of Delhi.
- Presented a research paper on “Ambedkar, Modernity and Dalit Literature” on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at the *National Seminar on Ambedkar, Modernity and the Nation* organised by the Ambedkar Chair, CSSS /SSS-II, JNU(29-30, March 2017).
- Presented a research paper on “Familiar Case of the Nishad in the *Mahabharata*: Possibility of an alternate Reading” on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2017 at the *National Seminar on Tribes in Transition-II*, organised by the Department of English and Outreach Programme, JMI(27-28, February 2017).
- Presented a research paper on “Localization/Folkalization of the *Ramayana*: The Familiar Case of the Odia Folk Poet Haladhar Nag” on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2017 at the *International Seminar*

*on Literature, Culture and History: Reading the Margin* organised by SSN College (DU) in collaboration with Department of English, university of Delhi(24-25, February 2017).

- Presented a research paper on “English in Everyday Communication: Convenience and Crisis” on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2016 at PDM University, Haryana.
- Presented a research paper on “Shifting Boundary of Dalit Literature in Ajay Navaria’s *Unclaimed Terrain*” on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2016 at the *National Seminar on Contemporary Fiction* organised by the Department of English, Maharaja Agrasen College, Jagadhri, Haryana(19-20, February 2016).
- Presented a research paper on “Resistance in Bengali Dalit Autobiography” on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2015 at the *National Symposium on Dalit Literature* organised by the Ambedkar Chair, CSSS /SSS-II, JNU(30, October 2017).
- Presented a research paper on “Proletarian Consciousness in Oriya Literature” on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2015 at the *National Seminar on Literary History of South Asia* organised by the Department of History and Culture, Jamia Millia Islamia (11-12, March 2015).
- Presented a research paper on “Forms and Traditions of Resistance in Oriya Literature” on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2015 at the *National Seminar on Post-colonial Literature* organised by the Department of English, Chaudhury Devilal University, Sirsa, Haryana(11-12, March 2015).
- Presented a research paper on “Social Concerns in Odia Dalit Literature” on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2015 at the *National Seminar on Social Change* organised by the Ambedkar Chair, CSSS /SSS-II, JNU (12-13, February 2015).
- Presented a research paper on “Towards a Cultural History of the Dalits in Western Odisha” on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2014 at the *National Seminar on Dalit Studies; Continuities and Changes* organised by the Ambedkar Chair, CSSS /SSS-II, JNU(20-21, March 2014).
- Presented a research paper on “The Epic and History; How Ugly was Surpanakha” on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2014 at the UGC sponsored *National Seminar on Intersections; Literature and History* organised by the Department of English, Delhi College of Arts and Commerce in collaboration with Dept of English, University of Delhi(11-12, March 2014).
- Spoke on “Dalit Autobiography: A Conceptual Framework” at the Live Phone in Program organized by the School of Humanities, IGNOU as part of MEG regular Lecture Series and to be aired through GyanDarshan channel on 14th August 2013.
- Presented a research paper titled “Poetry of Basudev Sunani: Odia Dalit Historiography” at the International Conference on Literature and Marginality: Comparative Perspectives in African, American, Australian and Indian Dalit Literature organized by School of Humanities, IGNOU, New Delhi on 20-22 February, 2013.

- Presented a research paper on “Bharatiya Sanskruti (Indian Culture)” on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2013 at the *National Seminar on Media Dharm* organised by the Jagadguru Ramanandacharya Rajasthan Samskrit University, Jaipur, Rajasthan, on 22, March 2013.
- Presented a research paper on “Prism or Prison: Language in Patrick White’s *Voss*”, on 28th October, 2010 at Center for English Studies, SLLCS, JNU

**Consultancy Provided:**

- Helped the underprivileged and poor students of JMI to improve in their studies.
- Helped the students of JMI to improve their Spoken English.
- Counselling the students of JMI in Career Planning.
- Academic Counsellor for MA (English) program of IGNOU.
- Academic Counsellor for MA (English) program of ASCDOL, JMI.
- Instructor at the Communicative English Program, Department of English, JMI.

**Research (MPhil/PhD) Guidance:**

- Supervised the M.Phil Dissertation “Reading Gender and Christianity in The Book Of City of Ladies” by Mr Yaseer Amar Naqvi, Department of English, JMI.
- Supervised the M.Phil Dissertation “Individual Pursuit vs. Societal Expectation; Study of Select Bollywood Movies” by Ruchita Singh, Department of English, JMI.
- Supervised the M.Phil Dissertation “Hegemony and Intoxication: Gin Craze and Opium Trade as reflected in the Writings of Henry Fielding, Joseph Addison, Tobias Smollet and De Quency” by Tapti Roy, Department of English, JMI.
- Supervised the M.Phil Dissertation “Myths, Deifications and Cultural assertions: A Study of Cho Dharman’s *Koogai: The Owl* and Imayam’s “The Binding Vow”” by Fatima Tasneem, Department of English, JMI.
- Supervised the M.Phil Dissertation “Reflections of Dalit Life in Select Bhojpuri Poetry” by Maryam Afzal, Department of English, JMI.
- Supervised the M.Phil Dissertation “Negotiating Patriarchies: A Study of Buchi Emcheta’s *The Joy of Motherhood* and Bama’s *Sangati*” by Suraiya Shahin, Department of English, JMI.
- Supervised the M.Phil Dissertation “Issue of Dalit Identity in Ajay Navaria’s *Unclaimed Terrain*” by Aas Mohammad, Department of English, JMI.
- Supervised the M.Phil Dissertation “Tracing Ambedkarite thoughts in Contemporary Dalit Literature” by Ankita Srivastava, Department of English, JMI.
- Supervising the PhD thesis “Identity and Desire in Mohan Rakesh’s *Plays*” by Ishita Singh, Department of English, JMI.
- Supervising the PhD thesis “Re-visiting Cultural Consciousness through Koshali Folklores: A Study of Select Works of Haldhar Nag” by Balaram Panda, Department of English, JMI.



- Supervising the PhD thesis “Re-visiting Dalit-hood in the Works of Mina Kandasamy and Sujatha Gidla” by Shreya Singh, Department of English, JMI.
- Supervising the PhD thesis “Depiction of Dalits in Contemporary Hindi Cinema” by Inderpreet Kaur, Department of English, JMI.
- Supervising the PhD thesis “Reconstructing Native Womanhood through Confession in the Poetry of Kamala Das and Joy Harjo” by Rania Saber Ahmed Abdelrahim, Department of English, JMI.
- Supervising the PhD thesis “Hindi Print Media: A Study of Caste Specific Journals, 1880-1920” by Meenakshi Yadav, Department of English, JMI.
- Supervising the PhD thesis “Memory, Body Politics and Identity: A Study of Select Dalit Women’s Life-writings” by Sabreena Mehraj, Department of English, JMI.

#### **Contribution to the corporate life of the University:**

- Nodal Officer, IQAC (For 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle of Assessment 2014-19 and onwards) Department of English, JMI.
- Co-ordinator, 3rd 3-Day Refresher Course on Languages (English, Hindi and Urdu) on “Contemporary Literature” (19th July-8th August, 2018), UGC-Human Resource Development Centre, JMI.
- Research Advisor, Department of English, Jamia Millia Islamia, 2018-2021.
- In-Charge, Course Allocation & Time-Table, Department of English, JMI, 2017-2021.
- Assistant Superintendent of Examinations (2nd-30th May 2017), Faculty of Humanities and Languages, JMI
- Co-ordinator of the M.Phil Programme, Department of English, Jamia Millia Islamia 2016-2018.
- Honorary Co-ordinator, Outreach Programme, Jamia Millia Islamia, 2016 onwards.
- Coordinating Member of Departmental NAAC preparatory Committee, 2014.
- As Advisor to the English Literary Association (2011-12), Department of English, JMI, I organized various co curricular activities like Short Story Writing Competition, Poetry Translation Competition and Movie Review Competitions to celebrate the Birth Centenary of Urdu Poet Faiz Ahmad Faiz.
- As Advisor to the English Literary Association (2012-13), Department of English, JMI, I organized The Pickwick Fest, 2012 to celebrate the Bi Centenary of Charles Dickens and Centenary of Urdu Writer Sa’adat Hasan Manto.

#### **Membership of Professional Bodies**

- Life Member of Indian Association of Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies (IACLALS).
- Academic Member of the Book Advisory Committee, Delhi Public Library, Delhi.
- Member, Board of Studies, Department of English, Sahitya Sanskriti Sankaya, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri National Sanskrit University, New Delhi.
- Member, Editorial Board, *Purbaranga*, a Tri-Annual Peer reviewed journal on Drama, Raurkela, Odisha.
- Subject Expert in various Study Material Preparation panels of IGNOU, New Delhi.