

## DR. SOUMEN BISWAS ACADEMIC PROFILE



### DR. SOUMEN BISWAS

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Dr. Soumen Biswas is an Assistant Professor of History at Kabi Joydeb Mahavidyalaya, Illambazar, Birbhum, and West Bengal. He is recognized for his scholarly work in Dalit history, particularly focusing on the marginalized Pod (Poundra) community in Bengal. Also, this very personality belongs to the Scheduled caste (Namasudra). Dr. Biswas explores the socio-political dynamics of the Pod community during the colonial period. His monograph is based on textual studies and unravels the history of the 'Paundra' who possibly were significant competitors to Namasudra and Rajbansis in Bengal depressed caste politics. Additionally, Dr. Biswas has contributed to academic discussion on Dalit education. He examines the educational advancements made by the Pods in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. Dr. Biswas's work provides valuable insights into the history and struggles of Dalit communities in Bengal, highlighting their efforts towards social mobility and education during the colonial era.

- **Languages Known:** Bengali, English and Hindi.
- **Institutional Affiliation:** Assistant Professor, Department of History, Kabi Joydeb Mahavidyalaya under the University of Burdwan.
- **Educational Qualifications:** M.A. and Ph.D. from the Rabindra Bharati University.
- **Teaching Experience:** More than 8 Years of Teaching experience at the Graduate and Post Graduate level.

### ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Head, Department of History, Kabi Joydeb Mahavidyalaya (2021-2023).
- Member, BOS, Sidhu Kanu Birsha University, Purulia (2021-2022)
- Observer, 23<sup>rd</sup> SET, West Bengal College Service Commission (2022)
- Bursar, Kabi Joydeb Mahavidyalaya (2023-2025).
- Head Examiner, UG, (Hons), University of Burdwan, (2024).

- Member, Governing Body Kabi Joydeb Mahavidyalaya (2024-2027).
- Examiner, UG, (Hons / Gen), University of Burdwan, (2021-2025).

### **SPECIAL HONOUR**

- Was elected Sectional President the 19<sup>th</sup> International Conference of History & Heritage 2024 organized by the Itihas Academy, Dhaka held on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at the Asiatic Society of Bangladesh, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

### **EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS**

- Passed B.A. (Hons.) in History, Rabindra Bharati University, (2000).
- Passed M.A. (History), Rabindra Bharati University, (2002)
- Awarded Ph.D. from the Rabindra Bharati University in December 2017. The title of the thesis was “**Aspects of Socio-Political History of a Scheduled Caste of Bengal: A Case Study of the Pods (1872-1947)**”. The thesis was supervised by **Professor Hitendra Kumar Patel**, Department of History, Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata.

### **ACADEMIC POSITIONS HELD TILL DATE:**

- Served as a Guest Lecturer in History, Rabindra Bharati University, and 30<sup>th</sup> August 2018 to 29<sup>th</sup> December 2020.
- Appointed as Assistant Professor, Department of History, Kabi Joydeb Mahavidyalaya, 30<sup>th</sup> December 2020 to till date.

### **MEMBERSHIP OF ACADEMIC BODIES:**

- Life Member of the Indian History Congress, Delhi, LM-01880
- Life Member of the Institute of Historical Studies, Calcutta, LM-514
- Life Member of the Paschim Banga Itihas Samsad, Kolkata, LM-745
- Life Member of the Bangiya Sahitya Porishad, Kolkata, LM-1073 (Probably)
- Life Member of the Itihas Academy Dhaka, Bangladesh, LM- 1107-(B-345)

### **Presentation National and Inter National Seminar.**

1. Banglar Rajnaitik Itihas Adharshagata Poribortan (1930-1940): Jogendranath Mondal O Taposhili Itihaser Bhomukhi Akhan, in the Modern India Section of the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference (International) of Paschim Banga Itihas Samsad held at P.D. Women's College, Jalpaiguri, and 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> January 2025.
2. Aspects of the Social Mobility of the 'Pods' in Bengal, International Seminar on 'History of West Bengal; A Multidimensional Approach 1947-2011' Organized by Department of History, Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata on 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> January, 2025.
3. Towards an Understanding of the Political 'Shifts' of Jogendranath Mondal (1930s-1940s), attended the 83<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Indian History Congress at Punjabi University, Patiala, 28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> December 2024, in Section-II: Modern India.

4. The Resurgence of the Poundra Community: Advancement in Social Acknowledgement, and Association, attended the 83rd Session of the Indian History Congress at Punjabi University, Patiala, 28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> December 2024, in Subaltern Caste Associations: Nineteenth and Twentieth Century's, Special Panel on Dalit History and Politics.
5. Understanding Dalit Literature through the Writings of the Poundra Kahatriyas of Colonial Bengal, 2<sup>4th</sup> February, 2024, Itihas Academy, Dhaka, and Bangladesh.
6. Reflection on the Political 'Shifts' of Jogendranath Mondal (1943-1949), Rabindra Bharati University, Department of History, 30-31<sup>st</sup> January, 2024, Kolkata. International Seminar on 'New Paradigm of Social and Cultural History, Colonial and Post Colonial India'.
7. Caste, Colonial Modernity, Representation and the Mobilization of Dalit During the National Movement: The Pods of Bengal, attended the 82<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Indian History Congress at Kakatiya University, Warangal, Telengana, 28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> December 2023, in Section-II: Modern India.
8. The Construction of Self-Identity of a Dalit Caste: The Poundras of Bengal in Early Twentieth Century, has attended the 81<sup>st</sup> Session of the Indian History Congress at Madras Christian College, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, 28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> December 2022, in Section-II: Modern India.

## MONOGRAPH

1. Rethinking *the History of a Scheduled Caste: The Pods of Bengal (1872-1947)*, Anamika Publishers & Distributors (P) Ltd. New Delhi, 2019.

## OTHERS ACADEMIC PUBLICATION

### (a). Articles published in national and international journals.

1. Banglar Ni-Sabdha Dalit Jagaren Andlone Ak Onnanyo Pathadrasta Jogendranath Mondal 91904-1968): Akti Mullayan, *Ithish Anusandhan* 38, Paschim Banga Ithish Samsad, January, 2025, Kolkata.
2. The Enigma of Arrival: The Formal Education of Poundras in Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century. *Bihar Itihas Paraishad*, February 2024, Patna, Bihar.
3. Bingsha Shataker Prathamardhe Banglar Poundra Jatir Atma Parichay Nirman, *Ithish Anusandhan* 37, Paschim Banga Ithish Samsad, January, 2024, Kolkata.
4. Jaati, Sahitya O Pratirodh: Oupanibeshik Banglar Poundra Jaatir Atma Parichayer Sandhan, *Ebong Mohua*, 23th Year, 143 (A) Spl. Volumes December, 2021, Mednipur.
5. Dalit Jatir Samajik Croma-Bibortoner Koy Akti Dik: Banglar Poundra Jati, *Ithish Anusandhan* 34, Paschim Banga Ithish Samsad, January, 2020, Kolkata.
6. Caste, Education and Development of Poundras (Pod) in Colonial Bengal, The Registrar, Netaji Subhas Open University, April, 2020, Kolkata.
7. Origin and Identity Formation of Lower caste in Bengal: A Case Study of Poundra Kshatriya, Proceedings, Indian History Congress, 79<sup>th</sup> Session, Barkatullah University, December, 2019, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.

8. Aspects of the History of the Struggle for Modern Education in Colonial Bengal: A Case Study of a Dalit-Poundras (Pods), Multi-disciplinary International Journal Remarking An Analisation, Social Research Foundation, Vol. I, Issue, 10. January, 2017 Kanpur, U.P.
9. Aspects of Social Mobility of a Dalit Caste: The Poundras of Bengal in the Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century, Nakshatra, Nakshatra Prakashan, Vol. IV, June, 2017, Kolkata.
10. Social Mobility of a Dalit Caste in East India : The Poundras of Bengal in the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century, South Indian Journal of Social Sciences, A.P. Academy of Social Science, December, 2016, New Delhi.
11. Advancement of the Lower Castes Through Education in the Colonial Periphery in the Late Nineteenth and Early twentieth Century's, Modern Historical Studies , Vol. 10, A Refereed Journal of the Department of History, The Registrar, Rabindra Bharati University, March, 2015, Kolkata.

**(b). Articles published in edited books published by leading national and international publishers.**

1. Reflection on Social Mobility of a Dalit Caste: The Poundras of Bengal in the Early Twentieth Century. February, 2023, Avijit Publication, New Delhi.
2. Origin and Identity Formation of Lower Caste in Bengal: A Case Study of Poundra Kshatriyas of Bengal, The Registrar, Netaji Subhas Open University, 2020, Kolkata.
3. Aspects of the Socio-Cultural and Political Mobilization of the Poundras, a Dalit Caste of Bengal in 1930s, Lucky Publishers 50, Sitaram Ghosh Street, 2018, Kolkata.
4. Aspects of the History of Education, Christian Missionaries and the Lower Castes of Bengal: 1860s to 1880s, Ayushman Publication House, 2015 New Delhi.

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**Date: 24.07.2025**