

Prof. Rila Mukherjee, Ph.D (Ecole des Hautes
Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris)

Office Room. 307

Social Science Building

Email:rila.mukherjee@gmail.com

Rila Mukherjee specialised in eighteenth-century
Indian history. Her research interests are Indian
Ocean studies and global/world history. Before
joining the University of Hyderabad in 2007, she
taught History at Jadavpur University, Kolkata
(1992-2007). Prior to that she was Fellow at Centre
for Studies in Social Science, Kolkata. She is the
Chief Editor of the Brill journal *Asian Review of World Histories* and is on the editorial boards
of *Mayurqa* and *Rethinking History*.



Publications:

1. Books and monographs:

2013: *The Northern Bay of Bengal, 800-1500 CE: A History Apart?* New Delhi: Nehru Memorial Museum & Library.

2006 *Merchants and Companies in Bengal: Kasimbazar and Jugdia in the Eighteenth Century*, Delhi: Pragati Publications.

2006 *Strange Riches: Bengal in the Mercantile Map of South Asia*, Delhi: Foundation Books.

2. Edited books:

2020 Co-edited: *Indian Ocean Histories: The Many Worlds of Michael Naylor Pearson*, London & NY: Routledge.

2019 Co-edited: *From Mountain Fastness to Coastal Kingdoms: Hard Money and 'Cashless' Economies in the Medieval Bay of Bengal World*, London, New York and Delhi: Routledge & Manohar.

2019 Jt. edited: *Cross-Cultural Networking In The Eastern Indian Ocean Realm C.100-1800*, Delhi: Primus Books.

2017 Jt. edited: *Subversive Sovereigns Across the Seas: Indian Ocean Port-Cities from Early Historic Times to late Colonialism*, Kolkata: The Asiatic Society.

2017 Single ed. *Living with Water Peoples, Lives, and Livelihoods in Asia and Beyond*, Delhi: Primus Books.

2016 Co-edited, *Rethinking Connectivity: Region Place and Space in Asia*, Delhi: Primus Books.

2015 Single ed. *Beyond National Frames: South Asian Pasts and the World*, Delhi: Primus Books.

2014 Single ed. *Vanguards of Globalization: Port-Cities from the Classical to the Modern*, Delhi: Primus Books.

2013 Single ed. *Oceans Connect: Reflections on Waterworlds Across Time and Space*, Delhi: Primus Books.

2011 Single ed. *Pelagic Passageways: The Northern Bay of Bengal Before Colonialism*, Delhi: Primus Books.

2011 Single ed. *Networks in the First Global Age 1400-1800*, Delhi: Primus Books.

2009 Co-edited: *Locality History Memory: The Making of the Citizen in Southasia*, Newcastle, UK: CSP.

3. Chapters in edited books:

2020 'The Making of a Maritime Economy in Bengal, 1600-1800', Sabyasachi Bhattacharya ed. *A Comprehensive History of Modern Bengal: 1700-1950*, Vol. I, Delhi: Primus Books: 164-211.

2020 'The VOC in Bengal in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries', Sabyasachi Bhattacharya ed. *A Comprehensive History of Modern Bengal: 1700-1950*, Vol. I, Delhi: Primus Books: 240-85.

2020 'Global Networks in Maritime Worlds 1400-1800', Claire Jowitt, Craig Lambert and Steve Mentz eds. *The Routledge Companion to Marine and Maritime Worlds, 1400-1800*, London & New York: Routledge: 125-49.

2020 'Introduction: Indian Ocean Histories', Rila Mukherjee & Radhika Seshan eds. *Indian Ocean Histories: The Many Worlds of Michael Naylor Pearson*, London & NY: Routledge: 1-16.

2020 'Michael Naylor Pearson: The discipline of history, the sea and the man' in above: 249-63.

2019 'Introduction' (with John Deyell), John Deyell & Rila Mukherjee eds. *From Mountain Fastness to Coastal Kingdoms: Hard Money and 'Cashless' Economies in the Medieval Bay of Bengal World*, London, New York and Delhi: Routledge and Manohar: 9-17.

2019 'From Mountain Fastness to Coastal Kingdoms: The Contours of the Medieval Bay of Bengal World' in above: 19-52.

2019 'The Indian Ocean World of Srivijaya', Kenneth R. Hall, Suchandra Ghosh, Kaushik Gangopadhyay & Rila Mukherjee eds. *Cross-Cultural Networking In The Eastern Indian Ocean Realm C.100-1800*, Delhi: Primus Books: 170-97.

2019 'Afterword: Maritime Linkages of a Borderless Eastern Indian Ocean World, c.100-1800 ce' in above: 329-54.

2019 'Image of China, Conceptualisation of China's history, and Topics and Themes on China in India's history teaching from School through University Levels', Yang Biao ed. *Images of China in Foreign History Textbooks*, ECNU, Shanghai.

2018 'Mountains of the Moon, Lakes in the Sun and Sinus Gangeticus', Patrick Manning & Abigail Owen eds. *Knowledge in Translation: Global Patterns of Scientific Exchange, 1000-1800 CE*, U of Pittsburgh Press: 58-74.

2018 'Maritime Orders and the eighteenth-century Indian Ocean', Radhika Seshan & Shraddha Kumbhojkar eds. *Re-Searching Transitions in Indian History*, Routledge South Asia: 103-118.

2018 'Civilizational Linkages in the Bay of Bengal Region until 1800', Prabir De ed. *Twenty Years of BIMSTEC: Promoting Regional Cooperation and Integration in the Bay of Bengal Region*, Delhi: KW Publishers: 43-54.

2018 'Silver-Links! Bagan-Bengal and Shadowy Metal Corridors: 9th to 13th Centuries', Goh Geok Yian, John N. Miksic & Michael Aung-Thwin eds. *Bagan and the World: Early Myanmar and its Global Connections*, Singapore: ISEAS/Yusof Ishak Institute: 153-78.

2017 'Indian Ocean And The Mediterranean: One World, Two Seas, Multiple Routes ?' Didier Marcotte ed. *Méditerranée Et Océan Indien: Deux mondes en miroir*, Lyon: Topoi, Suppl. 15: 335-87.

2017 'Introduction: Subversive Sovereigns Across the Seas: The Indian Ocean Port-City Experience', Kenneth R. Hall, Rila Mukherjee & Suchandra Ghosh eds., *Subversive Sovereigns Across the Seas: Indian Ocean Port-Cities from Early Historic Times to late Colonialism*, Kolkata: The Asiatic Society: 1-36.

2017 'Accidental Ports: The Bengal Delta in the Sixteenth-Seventeenth Centuries' in above: 146-75.

2017 'India's North-east: An Enigmatic Absence in History and Cartography', Sajal Nag ed. *Playing with Nature: History and Politics of Environment in North-East India*, Delhi: Manohar: 33-47.

2017 'Port Cities and the Historian', Salma Farooqui ed. *Regions Histories Nodes: Essays for Rattan Lal Hangloo*, Delhi: Primus Books: 67-81.

2017 'Revisiting Multiple Renaissances in Fragile Europa', Anuradha Chatterji, Suparna Ghosh, Srijita Chakravarty eds. *Rethinking the Renaissance*, Kolkata: Loreto College: 197-220.

2017 'Routes into the Present', Radhika Seshan ed. *Narratives, Routes and Intersections in Pre-Modern Asia*, Routledge South Asia: 36-63.

2017 'Introduction: Writing a Water History', Rila Mukherjee ed. *Living with Water Peoples, Lives, and Livelihoods in Asia and Beyond*, Delhi: Primus Books: 1-13.

2017 'Ptolemaic Perspectives: Rivers, Lakes and Seas in Asia' in above: 169-190.

2016 'Portuguese Slave Ports in Bengal 1500-1700', Amelia Polonia, Catia Antunes eds. *Seaports in the First Global Age: Portuguese Agents, Networks and Interactions (1500-1800)*, Portugal, University of Porto Press: 221-42.

2016 with Lipi Ghosh 'Introduction: Connectivity Versus Connection in Space and Time', Lipi Ghosh & Rila Mukherjee eds. *Rethinking Connectivity: Region Place and Space in Asia*, Delhi, Primus Books: 1-12.

2016 'Maps, Concealed Geographies and Ambiguous Connectivities' in above : 136-69.

2016 'Routes, Ports and Networks in Bengal: China Connection', Marie-Francoise Boussac, Jean-Francois Salles & Jean-Baptiste Yon eds. *Ports of the Ancient Indian Ocean*, Delhi, Primus Books: 323-50.

2015 'Competing Spatial Networks: Kasimbazar and Chandernagore in Overland and Indian Ocean Worlds', M.N. Pearson ed. *Trade, Circulation, and Flow in the Indian Ocean World*, New York: Palgrave Macmillan: 129-51.

2015 'Introduction: Histories beyond National Frames', in Rila Mukherjee ed. *Beyond National Frames: South Asian Pasts and the World*, Delhi: Primus Books: 1-8.

2015 'The Eighteenth Century South Asian Economy: Another Look at English, French and Belgian Records' in above: 214-49.

2014 'The Ottomans and the Sixteenth Century Bay of Bengal', Dejanirah Couto, Feza GunerGun & Maria Pia Pedani eds. *Seapower, Technology and Trade: Studies in Turkish Maritime History*, Istanbul: Piri Reis University Publications: 115-129.

2014 'From Region to Locale and From Space to Place: Locating Srihatta/Sylhet in the Medieval Bay of Bengal World', Ana Crespo Solana ed. *Spatio-Temporal Narratives: Historical GIS and the Study of Global Trading Networks*, Newcastle: Cambridge Scholars Publishing: 213-27.

2014 'In Search of White Gold: Chandernagore in the Records of the Compagnie des Indes Orientales and the Compagnie des Indes, 1701-49', Radhika Seshan ed. *Convergence: Rethinking India's Past*, Delhi: Primus Books: 77-108.

2014 'Maps on India and the Indian Ocean as Source Material for Historical Research' in above: 7-22.

2014 'Ports as Hub, Bridgehead, Emporia, or Gateway', Rila Mukherjee ed. *Vanguards of Globalization: Port-Cities from the Classical to the Modern*, Delhi: Primus Books: 1-22.

2014 'Thinking About Ports' in above: 25-61.

2014 'Delta Ports in the First Global Age: Bengal's Port-based Kingdom of Chandecan' in above: 97-109.

2014 'Conclusion: Ports Revisited' in above: 379-405.

2014 'Select Additional Readings' in above: 407-11.

2013 'Srihatta as Space, Sylhet as Place', Anuradha Chanda ed. *Script Identity Region: A Study in Sylhet Nagri*, Kolkata: Dey's Publishing/MAKAIAS: 29-46.

2013 'An Early Medieval Metal Corridor, Silver, Bengal, Bagan and Yunnan: 7th to the 13th Centuries', George Depeyrot, C. Bregianni & M. Kovalchuk eds. *Three Conferences on International Monetary History*, Wetteren: Moneta: 431-41.

2013 'Introduction: Marine, Maritime and Visionary Worlds', Rila Mukherjee ed. *Oceans Connect: Reflections on Waterworlds Across Time and Space*, Delhi: Primus Books: 1-20.

2013 'Chasing the Many Faces of a Marine Goddess across the Eastern Indian Ocean' in above: 39-52.

2013 'Oceans Connect/Fragment: a Global View of the Eastern Ocean' in above: 215-38.

2012 'Research Method in the Social Sciences: How to Conduct a Review of Literature in Social Science', Chapter 2, Arabinda Samanta and Lakshmi Sivaramakrishnan eds. *Research Methodology in Social Sciences: Emerging Trends*, Academic Staff College, The University of Burdwan, Burdwan.

2012 'From Small World to Large Universe: Kasimbazar in Eighteenth Century Bengal', Ana Crespo Solana & David Alonso García eds. *Self-Organizing Networks and GIS Tools Cases of Use for the Study of Trading Cooperation (1400-1800)*, *Journal of Knowledge Management, Economic and Information Technology*, Special Issue, June: 275-311.

2011 'The City in History', P.P. Mishra ed. *Urbanization: Problems and Challenges*, Delhi: Shivalik Prakashan: 28- 39.

2011 Introduction: 'Bengal and the Northern Bay of Bengal', Rila Mukherjee ed. *Pelagic Passageways: The Northern Bay of Bengal Before Colonialism*, Delhi: Primus Books: 1-260.

2011 Conclusion: 'Time, Space and Region in the Northern Bay of Bengal' in above: 443-86.

2011 'Mastery for the Bay: Varying Strategies for Trade and Conquest in the Northern Bay of Bengal', Lipi Ghosh ed. *Eastern Indian Ocean, Historical Links to Contemporary Convergence*, Newcastle: Cambridge Scholars Publishing: 41-61.

2011 'Introduction: The Many Faces of the First Global Age, 1400-1800', Rila Mukherjee ed. *Networks in the First Global Age, 1400-1800*, Delhi: Primus Books: xv-xxx.

2011 The 'Small World' of the Silk Merchant at Kasimbazar, India' in above: 205-261.

2009 Introduction 'Locality History Memory', Rila Mukherjee & M. N. Rajesh eds. *Locality History Memory: The Making of the Citizen in Southasia*, Newcastle: Cambridge Scholars Publishing: 1-10.

2008 'State and Polity in Medieval India', Chittabrata Palit ed. *Indian Historiography*, I, Kolkata: Readers Service.

2008 'Creating a New Century? Truth, Liberty, Nightmare and Corrective Discipline in the Bernstein Collection', *The Michel Bernstein Collection and Studies on the French Revolution*, Tokyo: Center For Historical Studies, Institute for Development of Social Intelligence, Senshu University.

2008 'An Elusive Port in Early Medieval Bengal: The Mystery of Samandar', S. Jeyaseela Stephen ed. *The Indian Trade at the Asian Frontier*, Delhi: Gyan Books: 51- 68.

2007 'Faith and Empire: Vailankanni in Portuguese Asia', *Metahistory: History Questioning History, Festschrift in Honour of Teotonio R. de Souza*, C.J.Borges & M. N. Pearson eds. Lisbon: Nova Vega.

4. Journal articles:

2019 'Is the Northeast Marginocentric', *Journal of History and Culture*, V, Gauhati University: 44-55.

2019 'Q&A with Patrick Manning', *Asian Review of World Histories*, 7.1 and 2: 4-11.

2018 'People, Places, and Mobility: The Strange History of Prester John across the Indian Ocean', *Asian Review of World Histories*, 6.2: 258–276.

2018 'Maritime—Aquatic; Territorial—Territoriality: Tracing Michael N. Pearson's Work on the Sea', *Journal of Indian Ocean World Studies* 2, no 1: 57-72.

2017 'Ambivalent Engagements: The Bay of Bengal in the Indian Ocean World', Amelia Polonia ed. special issue, *International Journal of Maritime History*, Vol. 29 (1): 96–110.

2017 'Revisiting Michael Pearson's Indian Ocean Littoral', Special Issue: Tribute to Michael Naylor Pearson, *Asian Review of World Histories* 5:1 (January): 9-30.

2016 'Ottoman Turkish Maritime History: The Case for Bengal', *Journal of Islamic History, and Culture of India*, vol. II, 2013, Calcutta University: 28-39.

2015 with Radhika Seshan, 'Introduction: Approaches to a Water History', *Water History Journal*, 7.2, June, Delft: 147-149.

2015 'Northeast India Between Land and Sea', *Journal of History and Culture*, II, Gauhati University: 1-19.

2015 'Approaching a History of Water', *Water History Journal*, 7.2, June, Delft: 159-177.

2015 'Life and Trade in the Indian Ocean World from Eighteenth Century Chandernagore', *Senshu University Institute of Humanities Monthly Bulletin*, 276, May: 1-9.

2015 'Introduction: Ways of Seeing, Strategies of Writing', *Asian Review of World Histories*, 3.1, January: 1-9.

2014 'Escape from Terracentrism: Writing a Water History', *Indian Historical Review* 41. 1: 87–101.

2010 'Partition(s) and Bengal', *IUP Journal of History and Culture*, IV, 3, July: 17-30.

2009 'Mobility in the Bay of Bengal World: Medieval Raiders, Traders, States and Slaves', *Indian Historical Review*, 36.1: 109-29.

2008 'The struggle for the Bay. The life and times of Sandwip, an almost unknown Portuguese port in the Bay of Bengal in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries' *Revista da Faculdade de Letras-História*, Porto, 3a série, 9: 67- 88 (ISSN: 0871-164X).

2008 'Putting The Rafts Out To Sea: Talking of "Bera Bhashan" in Bengal', *Transforming Cultures eJournal*, 3, 2, Sydney, <http://epress.lib.uts.edu.au/journals/TfC>, special issue Devleena Ghosh & Lola Sharon Davidson eds. Cultural Currents of the Indian Ocean.

2007 'The Neglected Sea-The Eastern Indian Ocean in History', *Journal of the Asiatic Society*, XLIX, 3: 1-48 and XLIX, 4: 18-49.

2007 'The Last Commercial Frontier: French and English Presence in South Eastern Bengal and Beyond in the Second Half of the Eighteenth Century', *Indian Historical Review*, 34. 1: 167-86.

5. Journal special issues edited:

2015 With Radhika Seshan: 'Approaching a History of Water: Tools and the Historian', *Water History Journal*, 7.2.

2015 Single ed. 'Problematising World History', *Asian Review of World Histories*, 3.1.

Academic awards/fellowships:

She has held Visiting Professorships at University Aix-Marseille, France (2019), University of Macau (2018), Uppsala University (2013), University of Kolkata (2010), and Maison des Sciences de l'Homme, Paris (2007, 2010). She was Visiting Research Scholar at the Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation, Berlin (2010) and Maison des Sciences de l'Homme, Paris (2008). National/International Invited lectures (maximum of 10)

1) June 2019 Chair Eduardo Lourenco Lecture: 'Portuguese, Dutch and French Presence in Bengal with Special Reference to Heritage and Conservation initiatives at the French Settlement of Chandernagore', University Aix-Marseille, France.

2) November 2018 'South Asian Perceptions of the Sea', Invited Lecture, Ecole Francaise d'Extreme Orient, Paris.

3) July 2018: 'Maritime History as Challenge', University of Macau.

4) June 2018: 'Indian Ocean historiography', Beijing Capital Normal University.

5) October 2016: 'South Asia in World History', Fall Opening Lecture, World History Center, University of Pittsburgh.

6) June 2016: 'From Maritime Histories to Water Histories: Changes in the way Historians Look at Waterscapes', Senshu University, Tokyo.

7) June 2016: Simian Lecture: 'History Education and Teaching in India: 18th to 21st centuries', East China Normal University, Shanghai.

8) May 2016: 'Cyclones Trade and Society in the Bay of Bengal', Earth Observatory, Singapore.

9) March 2015: Opening Roundtable: 'Conceptualizing Cosmopolitanism in the Indian Ocean World', *Cosmopolitan Currents in the Indian Ocean: New Conceptual Models for Studying Cultural Integration and Change*, New York University, Abu Dhabi.

10) August 2014: 'Between Land and Sea: The Bay of Bengal and Sriwijaya, 8th-11th centuries', Jambi, Indonesia.