

## Rajat Datta

Professor and Chairperson

### Office:

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### Education:

PhD, Kings College, University of London, 1990

MPhil, Jawaharlal Nehru University, 1981

MA, Jawaharlal Nehru University, 1977

BA, St. Stephens College, University of Delhi, 1975



### Research Interests:

Economic history of India with special reference to the 18<sup>th</sup> century; problems of the transition to the early-colonial in India; the British Empire in India, ca.1750 to 1830; ecology, subsistence, and crises in early modern India; comparative trajectories of early modern economic development in an Asian perspective; nature of globalization in the early modern world with special reference to India in the world economy

### Profile:

#### Employment

Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, Professor, 1999-

Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, Associate Professor, 1992-1999

University of Burdwan, West Bengal, Reader, 1990-1992

University of Burdwan, West Bengal, Lecturer, 1981-1989

Jawaharlal Nehru University, Assistant Professor, 1977-1979

#### Fellowships, Grants, and Honours

Smuts Visiting Fellow, University of Cambridge, 2001

Visiting Scholar, Maison des Sciences de l'Homme, Paris, August 1990

Commonwealth Scholar to the United Kingdom, 1987-1990

#### Other professional achievements

Sectional President, Medieval Indian History, Punjab History Conference, Patiala University, 15-17 March 2013

Chairperson, Anti-ragging committee, Jawaharlal Nehru University, 2012-

Chairperson, Security Advisory Committee, Jawaharlal Nehru University, 2017-2012

Secretary, Medieval History Society, New Delhi, India, an organization of professional historians of the medieval period, 1998-

Editor, *The Medieval History Journal* an international journal devoted exclusively to specialized interests in medieval history, published bi-annually by Sage Publications, New Delhi, London and California

General-Secretary, Jawaharlal Nehru University Teachers Association (JNUTA), 1998-99

## Publications

### Books

*Market, Subsistence and Transition in Early Modern India: Perspectives from Eighteenth Century Bengal*, New Delhi, Primus, 2013 (forthcoming)

*Rethinking a Millennium: Perspectives on Indian History from the Eighth to the Eighteenth Century*, New Delhi, Aakar Publications, 2008 (edited)

*Society, Economy and the Market: Commercialization in Rural Bengal, c. 1760-1800*, New Delhi, Manohar Publications, 2000

### Important Articles

'Governing Agrarian Diversities: The State and the Making of an Early Modern Economy in Sixteenth Century Northern India', *The Medieval History Journal* (special issue on 'Handling Diversity: Comparative Perspectives on Medieval and Early Modern India and Europe', (ed.) Thomas Ertl), volume 16, no. 1, October 2013, pp.473-99.

'Looking for an early modern in India's "medieval" economy', Presidential Address, Medieval History Section, *Punjab History Conference*, 45th Session, Punjabi University, Patiala, 15-17 March 2013, Publication Bureau, Punjabi University, Patiala, 2013, pp. 78-97.

The Commercial Economy of Eastern India under Early-British Rule: The First Fifty Years, in H.V. Bowen, Elizabeth Mancke and John J. Reid (ed.), *Britain's Oceanic Empire: Atlantic and Indian Ocean Worlds, c.1550-1850*, Cambridge University Press, 2012

Indian History from Eighth to Eighteenth Centuries: Problems, Perspectives, and Possibilities, in Rajat Datta (ed.), *Rethinking a Millennium: Perspectives on Indian History from the Eighth to the Eighteenth Century*, New Delhi, Aakar Publications, 2008

Commercialization, Tribute and the Transition from Late Mughal to Early Colonial in India, in *The Medieval History Journal*, vol.6 no. 2, July-December 2003, a special issue on *Tributary Empires in History: From Antiquity to the Late Medieval* (ed.) C.A. Bayly and Peter Bang

Markets, Bullion and Bengal's Commercial Economy: An Eighteenth Century Perspective, in Om Prakash and Denys Lombard (ed.), *Commerce and Culture in the Bay of Bengal, 1500-1800*, Delhi, Manohar Publications, 1999

From Medieval to Colonial: Markets, Territoriality and the Transition in Eighteenth Century Bengal, *Medieval History Journal*, vol.2, no.1, 1999 (translated into French as 'Territorialité, marchés et transition dans l'Inde du XVIII<sup>e</sup> siècle: Le cas du Bengale' in *Geographie et cultures*, n° 35, automne 2000)

Peasant Production and Agrarian Commercialism in a Rice-Growing Economy: Some Notes on a Comparative Perspective and the Case of Bengal in the Eighteenth Century, in Peter Robb (ed.), *Meanings of Agriculture: Essays in South Asian History and Economics*, Delhi, Oxford University

Press, 1996

### Lecture Courses

Number	Title	Outline and Readings
P11202	The Medieval World	PDF
M31401	Rural Society in Medieval India	PDF
M31415	Rural Society & Economy: 18 <sup>th</sup> Century India	PDF
M31419	State, Society and Economy: 18 <sup>th</sup> Century India	PDF

### Seminar Courses

Number	Title
M32407	Intensive Study of a Region
M32405	Aspects of Social History of Medieval India
P32409	Social Structure of a Region
P32410	Economic History of a Region