

Uponita Mukherjee

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2023. **Assistant Professor**, Fordham University, New York City, USA.
2022. **Visiting Scholar**, Max Planck Institute of Legal History and Legal Theory, Frankfurt, Germany.

EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

Columbia University, New York City, NY

2022. PhD. Middle Eastern, South Asian and African Studies
Dissertation Title: ‘Colonial Detection: Crime, Evidence, and Inquiry in British India, 1790-1910.’
Committee: Prof. Partha Chatterjee (Supervisor), Deborah Coen, Brinkley Messick, Kavita Sivaramakrishnan, Mitra Sharafi.

2016. M.A. Middle Eastern South Asian and African Studies

Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, Delhi

2014. M. Phil, Centre for Historical Studies
Dissertation Title: ‘Murky Murders and Tantalizing Tales: Detection and Story-telling in Colonial Bengal’
Supervisor: Prof. Tanika Sarkar

2011. M.A., Modern Indian History, Centre for Historical Studies.

Presidency College, Kolkata, West Bengal
B.A. Department of History, 2009.

ACADEMIC AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2020-2021. Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Columbia University
2020. Dean’s Fellowship, Columbia University

2019. Junior Research Fellowship, American Institute of Indian Studies
2018-2019. International Dissertation Research Fellowship, Social Science Research Council
2018-2019. Mellon Humanities International Travel Fellowship, Columbia University. *Received and declined*
2015-2017. Summer Research Fellowship, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Columbia University.
2014-2018. Deans Fellowship, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. Columbia University
2009. Kuruvilla Zacharia Memorial Prize for highest marks in history in B. A. examinations, Calcutta University
2009. Himani Devi Memorial Prize for highest marks in history in B. A. examinations, Calcutta University
2009. Ajoy Banerjee Memorial Prize for highest marks in history in B. A. examinations, Calcutta University
2009. Punyalekha Banerjee Memorial Prize for highest marks in history in B. A. examinations

PUBLICATIONS

2022. Book Review of *Police Matters: The Everyday State and Caste Politics in South Asia, 1900-1975* by Radha Kumar. *Pacific Affairs*. Vol. 95:4.
2021. 'Rethinking Detection in Bengal: Police Work in the City and in the districts and in the city in 19th and early 20th century Bengal' in Kaustubh Mani Sengupta and Tista Das (eds.) *Rethinking the Local in Indian History: Perspectives from Southern Bengal*. Routledge.

Online Publications

2020. August. 'Writing History from the Courtrooms: In Conversation with Mitra Sharafi,' *Borderlines*. <https://www.borderlines-cssaame.org/posts/2020/12/10/legalhistoryfromthecourtrooms>

SUMMER SCHOOLS

2021. STS Summer School @ Harvard, 'Expertise Trust and Democracy'. Harvard University, (Selected as a Certificate Program Student).
2019. Ischia Summer School on the History of the Life Sciences, Ischia, Italy.

SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS/INVITED TALKS

2023. Invited talk at Seminar Series, Institute of Development Studies, Kolkata.
2022. Common Law Seminar, Max Planck Institute of Legal History and Legal Theory, Frankfurt, Germany. Paper Titled: *Policing Beyond Surveillance: Crime, Prosecution and Detection in a Common Law Jurisdiction (British India, 1868-1920)*
2022. Invited talk at Seminar Series, Center for Studies in Social Sciences, Kolkata. Paper Titled: *Priyanath's Darogar Daptar: Criminal Detection from the Bureau to Bengali Readers*

2021. 49th Annual Conference on South Asia. University of Wisconsin-Madison, Paper Titled: *'Policing Beyond Surveillance: Crime and Detection in British India, 1868-1920.*
2021. Asian Legal History Conference. Paper Titled: *'Recording Evidence: Police 'Case Diaries' and Legal Inquiry in Nineteenth Century British India.*
2021. May. American Society for the History of Medicine, Philadelphia, Paper Titled: *'Medico-Legal' Work: Science, Law, and Criminal Detection in British India.*
2021. May. Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, Chicago. Paper Titled: *Putting Together 'Medico' and 'Legal': The Material and Social World of Criminal Detection in Nineteenth Century British India.*
2020. February. Practicing Evidence – Evidencing Practice, Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft Research Group International Conference, Technical University of Munich. Paper titled: *Of Bodies, Bottles, Boxes and Spirits: Policemen, Doctors, and 'Admissible' Legal Evidence in British India, 1870-1900.*
2019. April. British Society for the History of Science Postgraduate Conference, University of Cambridge. Paper titled: *Lessons in a 'New' Science: Criminal Detection and Police Training in British Bengal*
2019. April. Matters of State: Bureaucracy, Procedure and Power in South Asia 2019 (Princeton University). Paper titled: *The Writer-Detectives: Policing, Paper-work and Popular Fiction in British Bengal*
2018. January. Policing in South Asia: Dilemmas of Governance and the Making of Participatory Communities. Jawaharlal Nehru University. Invited Presenter. Paper titled: *Detecting Crime in the Colony: Policing at the limits of the Surveillance in British Bengal.*
2018. Invited Presenter at Panel Discussion on Brinkley Messick's *Shari'a Scripts: A Historical Anthropology*, MESAAS Graduate Conference Roundtable, Columbia University.
2016. March. Yale Modern South Asia Workshop (Yale University: March 2016). Presenter. Paper titled: *The Science of Criminal Detection and the Crime Scene: Reading Hans Gross in Colonial Bengal.*
2016. March. South Asia Graduate Student Conference XIII, University of Chicago, Presenter. Paper titled: *Policing and Murder in Colonial Bengal.*

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

Fluent in Bengali, English, and Hindi. Intermediate Sanskrit.