

With a disciplinary anchoring in History (Modern India), my research interests are in two broad areas of history (India, colonial period) and contemporary urban society. In these broad research areas, I focus on complexities of the visual in Indian society by harping upon the interplay between the pictorial, the written and the oral in interdisciplinary manners. My publications include *Reverence, Resistance and the Politics of Seeing the Indian National Flag* (Cambridge University Press, 2016), *Neighbourhoods in Urban India: In Between Home and the City* (edited along with Dev Nath Pathak and Amiya Kumar Das, Bloomsbury, 2021), *Leaving and Living: Home, Belonging and Memory in Migration* (edited along with Pushpendra, Routledge, 2021); and a number of academic as well as non-academic articles in *Indian Economic and Social History Review*, *History and Sociology of South Asia* (Sage), *Indian Express*, *Manushi*, *The Conversation* and *Huffingtonpost*.

### Professional Status

**Associate Professor, Centre for the Social Studies, Surat.** The Centre is a multi-disciplinary social science research institute affiliated to Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR, Government of India) and Government of Gujarat. Associate Professor since 2013.

### Education

**Ph.D.** (Department of History, University of Delhi) on "Visualizing the Nation: Gender and the Symbolic Constitution of the Nationhood in late Nineteenth and Twentieth Century North India", 2010.

### Research Interests:

History, society- literature interface, nation and nationalism, Partition Violence, regional dimensions of the rural, Social Life of Colours, Contemporary Surat

### Work Experience

- **Associate Professor** in Centre for Social Studies, Surat (since March 2013)
- **Assistant Professor** in Centre for Social Studies, Surat (since September 2007)
- Worked in **Sarai-CSDS** as a **Project Associate** from April 2002 to August 2007. The work responsibilities included coordinating Student Stipend Programme and archive building.
- Worked as a **Research Fellow** on a project, *Reconstructing Lives* under Prof. Ashis Nandy at the **Centre for the Study of Developing Societies**, Delhi. August 2001-April 2002.
- "Shaher ke Nishan: Politics of the Visual Symbolic Spaces of the City: A Case Study of Delhi" under the **Independent Research Fellowship scheme of Sarai** in **2002**. The project was re-awarded with the fellowship second time in **2003**.
- Worked as a Research Scholar in **Chintan Environmental Research and Action Group**, Delhi.

### Publications (A Select List)

#### Books

- *Social City: Urban Experience and the Question of Belonging* by Sadan Jha. Routledge. December 2022. <https://www.routledge.com/Social-City-Urban-Experience-and-Belonging-in-Surat/Jha/p/book/9781032158310>
- *The Social Life of Streets in India: Histories, Contestations, subjectivities*, edited by Sadan Jha and Gauri Bharat. Bloomsbury. October 2022. <https://www.bloomsbury.com/in/social-life-of-streets-in-india-9789354353895/>
- *Reverence, Resistance and Politics of Seeing the Indian National Flag*, Cambridge University Press, 2016. <https://www.cambridge.org/core/books/reverence-resistance-and-politics-of-seeing-the-indian-national-flag/B4D196543276736E630BED445124EE2F>
- *Neighbourhood and Neighbourliness in Urban South Asia: Subjectivities and Spatiality* (editing along with Dev Pathak), Routledge. April 2022. <https://www.routledge.com/Neighbourhoods-and-Neighbourliness-in-Urban-South-Asia-Subjectivities-and/Jha-Pathak/p/book/9781032233109>
- *Home, Belonging and Memory in Migration: Leaving and Living* (Edited along with Pushpendra), Routledge, September 2021. <https://www.routledge.com/Home-Belonging-and-Memory-in-Migration-Leaving-and-Living/Jha-Singh/p/book/9781032047362>
- *Neighbourhoods in Urban India: In Between Home and the City*, (Edited along with Dev Nath Pathak and Amiya Kumar Das), Bloomsbury, 2021. <https://www.bloomsbury.com/uk/neighbourhoods-in-urban-india-9789390252633/>
- *Devanagari Jagat ki Drishya Sanskriti*, Rajkamal Prakashan and Raza Foundation, Delhi, 2018. <https://rajkamalprakashan.com/devnagari-jagat-ki-drishya-sanskriti.html>
- *Half Set Chay aur Kuchh Youn Hi* (creative writing; a collection of short stories, ramblings and travelogue in Hindi), Vani Prakashan and Raza Foundation, Delhi, 2018. <https://www.amazon.in/Half-Set-Chay-Kuchh-Youn/dp/9388434137>
- (Edited with an Introduction) *The Political and Cultural Heritage of Mithila by Radhakrishna Choudhary Kameshwar Singh Bihar Heritage Series 22*, Maharajadhiraja Kameshwar Singh Kalyani Foundation, Darbhanga, Bihar, 2019. <https://kalyanifoundation.org/books/political-cultural-heritage-mithila/>

### **Publication Projects at Different Stages**

- *Hindi Patti ki Samajikta: Itihaas me Dainik Anubhav*, editing a volume.

### **Papers in Refereed Journals**

- “Floating Words and the aesthetics of the visual vernacular: Political culture in contemporary India”, *Journal of Human Values*, Vol.28 (2) March 2022, pp: 1-18.

- “From Rangdari Tax to Rangrezi: Chromatic Landscape of the Post-colonial”, *Journal of Human Values*, Vol.25, no.3, September 2019, pp:150-165.
- “Dalit Desires and the City of Surat”, *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. LIV, no. 24, 15 June, 2019, pp:42-49 (Special article).
- “Watching the Trauma, Witnessing the Partition”, *Journal of History and Sociology of South Asia*, Sage, Vol. 12, No.2, 2018, pp. 160-177.
- (along with NishprihaThakur), “Ethnography of Trust and History as Circulating Commodities in Chauta Bazaar, Surat”, *Journal of History and Sociology of South Asia*, Sage, Vol.10, No.2, pp.138-161, July 2016.
- “From Sacred to Commodity and Beyond: History of Colours in India”, *Journal of Human Values*, IIMC-Kolkata and Sage, 22(1):1-13, 2016.
- ‘Challenges in the History of Colours: A Case of Saffron’, *Indian Economic and Social History Review*, Sage, 51, 2 (June 2014): 199–229
- ‘Dak Vachan: Proverbial wisdom from Mithila, Bihar’, *Journal of History and Sociology of South Asia*, Sage, January 2014.
- "Dekhane Ki Rajniti: Bharat ka Jhanda aur Ashtha ki Nazar"(The Politics of Seeing: Indian national Flag and the Believing Eye), *Pratiman* (Inaugural Issue; vol. I, no.1), CSDS, Delhi, Jan.—June 2013:234-53.
- “Visualising a Region: Phaniswarnath Renu and the archive of Regional Rural in the 1950s”, *Indian Economic and Social History Review*, vol. 49, no.1, January-March 2012, pp:1-35.
- “Indian National Flag as A Site of Daily Plebiscite”, *Economic and Political Weekly*, vol. XLIII, no.43, October25, 2008, pp: 102-111.
- “Charkha, ‘Dear Forgotten Friend’ of Widows: Reading the Erasures of a Symbol”, *Economic and Political Weekly*, vol. XXXIX, No.28, July 10, 2004, pp: 3113-3120.

#### **Book Chapters / Occasional Papers/ Encyclopedia Entries (Refereed)**

- “In the Neighbourhood of Memory: Sensuous Space of Banglagarh, Darbhanga”, in sadan Jha and Dev Nath Pathak edited, *Neighbourhoods and neighbourliness in Urban South Asia*, Routledge, 2022. ISBN 9781032233109.
- “Dalit desires, middle-classness, and the city of Surat”, in Manish K Jha and Pushpendra edited, *Beyond Consumption: India’s New Middle Class in the Neo-Liberal Times*, London and New York, 2021, pp:58-72. ISBN 9780367565718.
- “The figure of the migrant as other: Experiences, memory, and the politics of belonging”, in Sadan and Pushpendra edited *Home, Belonging, and Memory in Migration: Leaving and Living*, London and Delhi: Routledge, 2021, pp: 268-289. ISBN 9781032234168
- “Paros and Parosan: Spatial Affectivity and Gendered Neighbourhood in South Asia”, in Sadan Jha, Dev Nath Pathak and Amiya Kumar Das edited *Neighbourhoods in Urban India: between*

*Home and the City*, Delhi: Bloomsbury, 2021.

- “Multi-verse of Gandhi's Charkha: Spinning Experiences and the Question of Information”, in Biswajit Das ed., *Gandhian Thought and Communication, Rethinking the Mahatma in the Media Age*, Sage, 2020.
- “From Calcutta comes my husband, from Darbhanga he comes.... Some Reflections on Culture, Memory and Migration”, *Public Argument 11*, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Patna Centre, September, 2018.
- “Ek Nayi Bhasha ka Uday: Devnagari Jagat me Dekhna aur Dikhana”(Emergence of a New language: Seeing and Showing in the World of Devnagari), *Samaj aur Itihaas*, Occasional Papers, NMML, Delhi, 2014.
- “Purnea: Landscape of Cul de Sac”, in Pushpendra Kumar Singh and Manish Kumar Jha eds., *Traversing Bihar: The Politics of Social Justice and Development*, Orient Blackswan (2014).
- “The Mythic (Non)Presence of the Other in the Text of Indian Nation-ness”, in Anna Branach-Kallas and Katarzyna Wieckowska (eds.), *The Nation of the Other : Construction of Nation in Contemporary Cultural and Literary Discourses*, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Mikołaja Kopernika, Torun (Poland), 2004.
- “Surat”, “Gujarat”, “Patna”, “Bihar”, in Arnold P. Kaminsky and Roger D. Langeds., *India Today: An Encyclopedia of Life in the Republic* Vol. II, California: ABC-CLIO, 2011, pp:669-676; pp:290-293; pp:547-548; pp: 93-97.
- “Mahatma Gandhi’s Speech to the All India Congress Committee” (in 1942) in *Milestone Documents in World History* (4vols.) edited by Brian Bonhomme, Texas: Schlager, 2010: 1406-1423.
- “Lahore Resolution” of 1940, *Milestone Documents in World History* (4vols.) edited by Brian Bonhomme, Texas: Schlager, 2010:1380-1389.
- “The Constitution of India” in *Milestone Documents in World History* (4vols.) edited by Brian Bonhomme, Texas: Schlager, 2010:1545-1560.

#### **Non Refereed Articles/ Chapters**

- (along with Satyakam Joshi), "Research Institutes in Social Science Research", in *Social Science Research in India: Status, Issues and Policies*, edited by Sukhadeo Thorat and Samar Verma, Oxford University Press, 2017.
- “Gosaun and Gosaunik Ghar”. In Ganganath Jha et al edited *The Headmaster: Ambikanath Mishra Birth Centenary Memorial Volume*. Patna: E-Samaad. 2022, pp: 389-396. ISBN: 9788194984580.
- "Life and Times of Bharat Mata", *Manusi*, no.124, August 2004, pp:34-38.
- “Minority histories of the Indian National Flag”, *The Conversation* (theconversation.com), 17 August 2017/ *Business Standard* (18 August 2017).
- “How much love do migrant workers have for their original homes”, 4 June 2020, *raiot.in*.
- "On Listening to Violence: Reflections of a Researcher of The Partition of India", *Sarai Reader 06: Turbulence*, Sarai, CSDS, Delhi, 2006.

- “*Shahar ki Deh par Aksharaaghat*”, in Piyush Daiya ed., *Kala Bharati 2*, Delhi: Lalit Kala Akademy, 2010: 319-326.
- “*Sadak Ki Ankhen, shahar ki Kahani*”, *Deewan -i- Sarai02: Shaharnama*, Sarai, CSDS and Vaani Prakashan, Delhi, 2004.
- “*Santosh Radio ne Gadhe Insaani Rishte*”, *Media Nagar 02*, Sarai, CSDS and Vaani Prakashan, Delhi, 2004.
- “*Bheed*”, Girish Mishra ed., *Deep Bhav* (Special Annual Number), *Lokmat Samachar*, 2011:227-231.
- A long Interview with Prof. Ashis Nandy, a renowned political scientist in *Bahuvachan*(VII), a journal of Mahatma Gandhi International Hindi University, 2002.
- A long Interview with Prof. Sumit Sarkar, an eminent historian, published in *Deshkal*.
- Mahatma and the Spinning Wheel, National Herald, 06 October 2019.
- Bharti yarangyacha Upekshit Chahtaa, Diwali Ank, 19 November 2019, aisiakshare.com ( in Marathi)
- Articles and book reviews in various Hindi magazines and journals.

#### **Book Reviews (English only)**

- Anjali Gera Roy, *Memories and Post Memories of the partition of India*, London: Routledge, 2020, reviewed in *ASIATIC: An International Journal of Asian Literatures, Cultures and Englishes* (ISSN 1985-3106), 14(1), June 2020:312-316.
- Tabassum Ruhi Khan, *Beyond Hybridity and Fundamentalism: Emerging Muslim Identity in Globalized India*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2015, reviewed in *Journal of History and Sociology of South Asia*, 10(2), July 2016:227-231.
- *Famines, Philanthropy and Colonial state: North India in the early Nineteenth Century* by Sanjay Sharma, Delhi: Oxford University Press, Published in *Social Scientist*, vol.38, nos. 5-6, May-June 2010, pp: 83-88.
- *The Insurrection of Little selves: The Crisis of Secular-Nationalism in India* by Aditya Nigam. Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 2006, *Seminar*, 561, 2006.
- *Colonial India and the Making of Empire Cinema: Image, Ideology and Identity* by Prem Chowdhry. Vistaar Publications, New Delhi, 2000, *Seminar*, 525, 2003.

#### **Research Projects**

- *Regional Literature and Historical Consciousness: The World of Phaniswarnath Renu*, Ongoing. ICSSR. 22 March 2022. Rs.350000.
- *Perceptions of Education among Tribes of South Gujarat: A Study of Chaudhari, Dhodia, Gamit, Vasava and Halpati/Dubla Communities* (with Dinesh Chaudhari). Sponsor: ICSSR. 29 April 2016. Report Submitted:2018.
- *Capital, Labour and the City: Unorganised Sector and the Social Fabric of Surat* (along with Kiran Desai, Biswaroop Das, Akash Acharya and Vimal Trivedi). Sponsor: ICSSR. 18 October 2013. Report submitted : 31 December 2018. Rs.30,00,000/-

- *Social Science Research Infrastructure in Research Institutions of India*. Sponsor: ICSSR.2016.
- *Experiences of City Life: Contemporary Surat and the Question of Belongingness*. Sponsor: ICSSR. 14 January 2010. Report Submitted: 2013.Rs. 2,04,000/-
- *Contested Symbols: Genealogy of Indian National Flag and Spinning Wheel*. Sponsor: ICHR. 2011.

### **Panel Organised / Chaired in Conference**

- Convened and chaired a Panel, “Practices of Governance in South Asia” in *Future of South Asia*, Annual Conference of British Association for South Asian Studies (BASAS), SOAS, London, 12 April 2012.

### **Papers Presented (Selected)**

- “Vernacular Visual: Seeing in South Asia”, in *Visual South Asia: Anthropological Explorations in Media and Culture*, organized by South Asia University and University of Dhaka at Dhaka, 10-11 May 2017.
- “From Calcutta comes my Husband, from Darbhanga he comes... Some reflections on the migration, memory and experience”, Special Lecture at the Orientation programme on Migration, Centre of Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Patna, 18 february, 2018.
- “Witness, Memory and the Archive: On Sharing the Experiences of Partition”, *India@70: Memories and Histories*, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Kharagpur, 4 January 2018.
- 'The Flag as a Post-Colonial Symbol', Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, 9 September 2016.
- ‘*Bhartiya Itihas me Rang*’ (Colours in Indian History), *Bhartiya Bhasha Karyakram*, CSDS, Delhi, 16 August 2016.
- ‘Believing Eye and the Politics of Seeing the National Flag’, Centre for Media Studies, JNU, Delhi, 8 august 2016.
- “From Sacred to Commodity and Beyond: History of Colours in India”, Seminar on *Exploring Values: Interdisciplinary Perspectives*, 13 March 2015, MCHV: IIMC-Kolkata.
- (along with Nishpriha Thakur) “*Ethnography of Trust and History as Circulating Commodities in Chauta Bazar, Surat* (Surat)” presented in a conference *Informal and Everyday Markets—Histories of Business and entrepreneurship in India since the 19<sup>th</sup> Century*, Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, 17 May 2014.
- “Ek nayi Bhasha ka Uday: Devnagri Jagat me Dekhna aur Dikhana (1850 to 1920)” ( emergence of a New language: seeing and Showing in the world of Devnagari(1850 to 1920), Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, Teen Murti, Delhi, 7 April, 2014.
- “Saffron: Towards a History of Colours”, Paper presented in School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, 18 April 2012.

- “Dissecting the Crowd: Historicizing the Future of Dissent in India”, Annual Conference of British Association for South Asian Studies (BASAS), SOAS, London, 13-04-2012.
- “Splitting the Archive: Caricature, Cartoons and the ‘Believing Eye’ in Colonial and the Contemporary India”, in *Power of the Image—Caricatures as Transcultural Media of Political and Social Propaganda in the Era of Imperialism and Colonialism*, A two days workshop organized by University of Heidelberg, Germany at Fayoum, Egypt, March 24-26, 2011.
- “*Samay ke Badle Jagah, rashtra ke Badle Prant*”, Indian Institute of Advanced Studies, Shimla, 27 September 2009.
- “*Visualizing the Nation: Gender and the Symbolic Construction of Nationhood in colonial and post-colonial north India*” Presented in an international workshop on “*Gender and Visuality*” organised by University of Western Cape, Cape Town, South Africa, SEPHIS, University of Michigan, National Research Foundation and the Journal ‘Gender and History’. The workshop was held in Cape Town, South Africa, 26-29 August 2004.
- “The Indian National Flag as a Site of Daily Plebiscite” presented in *Seventh Subaltern Studies Conference*, Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, Delhi 6-10 January 2004.

### **Fellowship/ Awards**

- **Charles Wallace India Trust Fellow** for three months at Centre for South Asian Studies, **School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, London** to carry out a research on “Emergence of a New language: Seeing and Showing in Late Nineteenth Century North India”(February-May 2012).
- Best Student Award 1994-95, History Department, Hansraj College, Delhi University.
- Certificate of Merit for securing first position in the college and third position in Delhi University in B.A.(Hons) History. 1995
- All India Post Graduate Scholarship for the year 1995-96, University of Delhi.
- Special Prize in the All India Essay Competition on "One Billion Indians: The Road Ahead Challenges and Opportunities", conducted by United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and Unnati Features. 2000.
- Various prizes at school and college levels.

### **Freelance Assistance**

Assisted noted historian Linda Colley, Shelby M. C. Davis 1958 Professor of History, Princeton University for her book project *The Ordeal of Elizabeth Marsh: A Woman in World History* (2007).

### **Lectures in Courses/Training Programmes (selected few)**

- Two lectures on Visual Culture (“A General background on Understanding Comics” and “Caricaturing the Political: The Cartoon in Pre-Independence Tamil Journalism”), Centre for Studies and Research in English, Central University, Gandhinagar, 23 April 2016.
- Lectures in different ICSSR training, research methodology and capacity building courses for

research scholars and college teachers (since 2007). Themes of these lectures include “Internet as a Resource Tool: Problems and Perspectives”, “Social Science Research in the Age of Internet”, “Samaj Vigyan me Itihaas”, “Qualitative Research Method: Ethnography”, “Ethics and Politics of Research”.

**Personal Detail**

**Father's Name:** Late Dr. Ushakar Jha

**Date of Birth:** 14-04-1975.

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