



Name: Dr. Prayag Ray

Designation: Assistant Professor

Qualifications: MA, MPhil, PhD

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Biographical Sketch

Education:

- PhD (2018) – School of English, Queen’s University, Belfast, UK
 - Thesis: *Negotiating Hinduism: Indian Religion in English-language Texts, 1705-1830*
 - Supervised by Dr. Daniel S. Roberts and Dr. Ashok Malhotra
- MPhil (2013) – Centre for English Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
- MA (2011) – Department of English, Jadavpur University, Kolkata
- BA (2009) – Department of English, Jadavpur University, Kolkata

Grants, Awards, and Distinctions:

- Queen’s University Studentship (scholarship) 2014, funding PhD study at Queen’s University Belfast
- Bankim Niranjana Memorial Prize 2012, Jadavpur University, Kolkata
- Indu Bhusan Putatunda and Shanti Sudha Putatunda Memorial Award 2008, Jadavpur University

Areas of Specialisation and Research

- Literature of the long eighteenth century
- Postcolonial literature
- Fantasy fiction and science fiction
- Popular culture

Teaching Experience

- Assistant Professor at St. Xavier’s University, Kolkata, 2019 – present
- University Tutor at Queen’s University, Belfast, 2015-18
- Guest lecturer at Jawaharlal Nehru University, August-November 2011 - B.A. Tool Course ES248E (Reading Strategies for Specialized Texts) at the Centre for English Studies

Administrative Responsibility

- Head of the Department (2020-2023)
- Chairperson, Board of Studies (2020-2023)
- Convenor, Departmental Research Committee (2020-2023)
- Member, Research Advisory Council (RAC) and Research & Development (R&D) Cell
- Editor, University Journal
- Member-Secretary, Publication Board

Publications

Chapter/Article Published in Books

- (2025) “‘Doomsday Epic’? P. Lal’s *The Mahabharata of Vyasa* and the Influence of European Modernism” in *Contemporaneity of the Mahabharata Narrative: Epic of the Moment*, eds. Anirban Bhattacharjee and Dhruvajyoti Sarkar. London: Routledge. Pp. 114-125. ISBN: 9781003516408. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003516408>
- (2021) “Exile and Epistemic Violence in Alexander Dow’s Account of Hinduism.” In *Strangers and Pilgrims: Spatial Metamorphoses of Religion in the English-speaking Worlds (17th-21st Centuries)* [French title: *Etrangers et voyageurs: Métamorphoses spatiales du religieux dans les mondes anglophones (XVIIe-XXIe siècle)*]. Eds. Rémy Bethmont, Yannick Deschamps and Cyril Selzner. Paris: Atlande. ISBN: 9782350307206.
- (2021) “Virtual Slaves, Real Profits: Commodity Fetishism and the Massively Multiplayer Online Roleplaying Game.” In *Inhabiting Cyberspace in India: Theory, Perspectives, and Challenges*. Eds. Simi Malhotra, Kanika Sharma, and Sakshi Dogra. New Delhi: Springer Nature. Print ISBN: 978-981-15-9933-0. Online ISBN: 978-981-159934-7. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-15-9934-7_11
- (2016) “‘Synthetic Love Lasts Forever’: Sex Dolls and the (Post?)human Condition.” In *Critical Posthumanism and Planetary Futures*. Eds. Makarand R. Paranjape and Debashish Banerji. Springer, New Delhi. Pp 91-112, ISBN: 978-81-322-3635-1

Article Published in Peer-reviewed Journals

- (2025) “Of Silences and Snow: Forgetting and Remembering the Troubles in New Poetry from Northern Ireland” in *Creativitas: Critical Explorations in Literary Studies* 2.1. 2025. E-ISSN: 3048-8575. Pgs. 38-64. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.15823583>.
- (2024) Prayag Ray and Debasmita Das. “The Figure of the Other in Retellings of Indian Folk Tales: Children’s Book Trust in the Early 2000s” in *dialog* 44 (Autumn) 2024. ISSN: 0975-4881. Pgs. 44-63. URL: <https://dialog.puchd.ac.in/wp->

content/uploads/2025/06/4_The-figure-of-the-other_Prayag-Ray.pdf. DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.15817569

- (2023) [Review] "Oriental Wells: The Early Romantic Poets and Their Eastern Muse. By Md. Monirul Islam. New Delhi: Bloomsbury. 2021. 277 p. £76.50 (hb). ISBN: 9789389165203.", *Journal for Eighteenth-Century Studies* 46(4). Pgs. 523-524. December 2023. ISSN [online] 1754-0208: doi: <https://doi.org/10.1111/1754-0208.12907>
- (2021) "'To Unawaken'd Earth': Paul Carter's Archipelagic Poetics of Decolonisation" in *Postcolonial Studies* 24.4 [Taylor & Francis]. 2021. ISSN: 1368-8790 (Print), 1466-1888 (Online). DOI: 10.1080/13688790.2021.1986951.
- (2019) [Review] "The Other Orientalists." Review of *Unfabling the East*, by Jürgen Osterhammel, Trans. Robert Savage. In *Postcolonial Studies* 21. 2019. ISSN: 1368-8790 (Print) 14661888 (Online). DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/13688790.2019.1649806>

Non-Fiction and Creative Writing

- "Unsent Notes to Friends in Northern Ireland" and "Bus Home, Kolkata 2018" in *The Apiary* 7 (2024), published by Queen's Writers' Society, Queen's University, Belfast. 8; 69. Print.
- "Prince and Princess of Wales in India" in *Poetry Ireland Review* 122 (2017). 104. Print. ISSN 978-1-902121-65-9
- "Being Colour: Reflections on Being Indian in Belfast." *The Tangerine* 1. Dec. 2016: 46-50. Print. ISSN: 2399-7788
- *Poems by Prayag Ray*. Pamphlet. The Lifeboat 27 (2017). Print.
- "Pather Panchali (Song of the Road)" in *Happy Browsing: An Anthology in Praise of Bookfinders*, published by The Lifeboat and The Tangerine, Belfast, 2018. ISBN: 978-0993594176.