

Upasna Chettri

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Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati, North Guwahati- 781039, Assam, India

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Academic Qualifications

2019- Present Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

Thesis Title: Oral traditions of the Lepchas– An archaeological enquiry in Sikkim

Department of Humanities and Social Sciences

Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati

2018 Master of Philosophy

Dissertation Title: A study of the themes in Buddhist paintings in the monasteries of Darjeeling.

Ancient Indian History Culture and Archaeology

Visva – Bharati University, Santiniketan

2016 Master of Arts

Department of Ancient Indian History Culture and Archaeology

Visva Bharati University, Santiniketan

2014 Bachelor of Arts

Department of Ancient Indian History Culture and Archaeology

Visva Bharati University, Santiniketan

Conferences and Seminars

- Upasna Chettri and Sukanya Sharma, “**Tales Toponymy and Terrains: Exploring the geography of Sikkim in Lepcha Folklore**” at the Ninth Annual Conference of the Oral History Association of India themed *Mountain History: At the Intersection of Memory, Politics and Identity* held at North Eastern Hill University, Shillong on 13th-15th March, 2024

- Upasna Chettri and Sukanya Sharma, “**Co-operation and conflict in Lepcha Legends: The story of Longchoks**” in the two days National Seminar on *Decadal Celebration of Anthropology in Sikkim University: Challenges and Way Forward* organized by Department of Anthropology, Sikkim University, Gangtok held on 7th-8th March, 2024
- Upasna Chettri, “**Scientific Techniques for analyzing Ceramic and Soil samples from Daramdin, Sikkim**” in Graduate Research Meet themed “*Humanities and Social Sciences in Transition: Perspectives, Exchanges, and Translations*” organized by Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati held on 6th-7th January, 2023
- Upasna Chettri, “**Between Oral Traditions and Archaeology: A tale of the Stairway to Heaven**” in an International Seminar on “*Cultural Heritage of Eastern Himalayas and Northeast India*” organized by Southfield College, Darjeeling held on 25th-27th May, 2022
- Upasna Chettri, “**The Longchoks of Sikkim and North Bengal: The need for heritage preservation and awareness**” in North East Research Conclave, Assam Biotech Conclave, 2022 organized by Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati held on 20th – 22nd May, 2022.
- Upasna Chettri, “**Diffusion of Cultures in the Darjeeling Hills-Interplay of the Lepchas, Bhutias and the Nepalese**” in an International Seminar on “*Assimilative nature of Indian Culture and its Continuity*” organized by Benaras Hindu University (BHU), Benaras held on 13th – 15th December, 2019.
- Upasna Chettri, “**A Lhadipa’s Art: Thangka Paintings in Darjeeling**” at Graduate Research Meet themed “*Contemporary Trends in Humanities and Social Sciences*” organized by the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Guwahati, Guwahati from 1st – 2nd November, 2019.

Invited Lectures

- Upasna Chettri, “**Of Canvas and Colours: A Case Study of Thangka Painting in Darjeeling**” in Virasat Talk – 163 and National Webinar organized by Buddhist Heritage Research Institute in collaboration with Heritage Society – Kashmir Circle on 26th May, 2021
- Upasna Chettri, “**(Hi)stories of Places in Lepcha Tradition**” in Weekend Lecture Series organized by Department of Geography, Malda College, Malda held from 18th July – 22nd August, 2021

Workshops

- “**Rewriting World Archaeology – South Asia Workshop**” organized by Durham University, United Kingdom (Ongoing).
- “**National Workshop on Geochronology**” organized by Inter University Accelerator Centre, New Delhi on 3rd - 4th October, 2023.
- “**Manne, Pottery Workshop (Handmade and Wheel-made pottery workshop)**” organized by Heritage Science and Society Programme, School of Humanities, National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bengaluru on 24th -25th August, 2023.
- “**Young Researchers’ Workshop on Use and Relevance of Mixed Methods in Sociological Research**” organized by Indian Sociological Society and Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati on 18th-19th December 2022.
- “**GIS applications in Social Sciences**” organized by the Discipline of Humanities and Social Sciences Centre of Indian Institute of Technology Gandhinagar on 13th – 14th May, 2022

- “**Starting your Oral History Project**” organized by Oral History Association of India (OHAI) held on 17th-18th October, 2020.

Awards

- Awarded **Springer Best Paper at North East Research Conclave (NERC), 2022** for the paper “*The Longchoks of Sikkim and North Bengal: The need for Heritage Preservation and Awareness*”. 20th-22nd May, 2022
- Awarded **National Eligibility Test for Assistant Professor** in Archaeology on 31.07.2017 by University Grants Commission (UGC). UGC Ref. No.: 18929/(NET-JAN 2017)

Experience

- **Teaching Assistant (TA)**. January 2023-May 2023. Course: *HS 134- Introduction to Archaeology* (B.Tech Semester IV)
- **Organiser**. Graduate Research Meet 2021 (Virtual) themed *Humanities and Social Sciences in an age of Crisis*. 11th-12th November 2021
- **Teaching Assistant (TA)**. January 2020-May 2020. Course: *HS 134- Introduction to Archaeology* (B.Tech Semester IV).
- **Site Supervisor** in the Archaeological Excavation at Lal Pahari, Lakhisarai, Bihar from 25th November 2017-20th July 2018 (1st Session) carried out in collaboration with *Bihar Heritage Development Society, Patna and Department of Ancient Indian History Culture and Archaeology, Visva Bharati University Santiniketan*.

Memberships

- Student Membership for **Association for Nepal and Himalayan Studies (ANHS)**. Membership ID No: 70505869.
- Student Membership for **Oral History Association of India (OHAI)**.
- Life Membership for **Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH)**

Miscellaneous

- Completed a certificate course (6 months) in **Information Technology Application** from *Youth Computer Training Centre*. April-September, 2017