

Dr. Nivedita Sen

Associate Professor

Department of English

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Career Profile

- Lecturer in Sri Venkateswara College, University of Delhi 1978-1980.
- Lecturer in Shyama Prasad Mukherjee for Women, University of Delhi for from 1980-1984.
- Lecturer, Assistant Professor and Associate Professor in Hansraj College, University of Delhi from 1984 to date.

Specialization

Literature for Children, Translation Studies, Popular Culture,, Post colonial writing, Indian Fiction in English

Subjects

Various papers of the English (Hons) annual and semester system, FYUP, CBCS and LOCF syllabus.

Administrative Experience

- Teacher in Charge, Department of English, 2001-2003.
- Admission Convenor, Arts and Commerce, 2001.
- Convenor of three-day national conferences organised by the Department of English, Hansraj College - *The Child in Literature* in December 1991
- Convenor of three-day National Seminar organised by the Department of English, Hansraj College, , Department of English, University of Delhi and Sahitya Akademi on *Constructions of Selfhood: Theories, Practices, Contexts* in February 2010.
- Also functioned in various capacities as member of governing body twice during my tenure in Hansraj College, convenor as well as member of committees and societies of the college like English Literary Society, Publications Committee, Editorial Board, Fine Arts Society, SPIC MACAY, Music Society, Debating Society, Annual Prize Distribution Committee, Finance Committee and Gardening Committee.

Thesis

'The Child Protagonist: Rebel and Conformist - Bengal's Response to the Child in Western Literature', Awarded in 2002.

Projects

Forthcoming Publications

- Translation from Bangla to English of *Mahanadi*, a novel by Anita Agnihotri. Niyogi Publishers, due date of publication June 2021.
- A translated short story 'Gambling' by Syed Mustafa Siraj in one of the upcoming issues of *Indian Literature*, the bi-monthly journal of Sahitya Akademi.
- A translated piece 'Uttam Kumar Saloon: Life Story of a Slum Barber', to be published in *Displaced: Lives on the Move* by Manas Ray, a forthcoming publication of Primus Books (Ratnasagar).

Work in progress

- Have submitted to Orient Blackswan publishers my full manuscript of *Bangla Shishusahitye Chhoto Meyera* by Sibaji Bandyopadhyay, on the absence of the girl child in Bangla children's literature.
- Am currently working on a book of essays on Indian writing in English for children since Independence for Primus Books (Ratnasagar).
- Have been requested to translate for a volume of selected plays written by Utpal Dutt.

Publications

Books

1. *Family, School and Nation: The Child and Literary Constructions in Twentieth Century Bengal*. London and New York: Routledge, 2015. ISBN: 978-1-138-19116-7
2. *Mahasweta Devi: An Anthology of Recent Criticism*. Edited with an introduction, in collaboration with Nikhil Yadav. Delhi: Pencraft International, 2008. ISBN: 81-85753-88-1
3. *The Gopal-Rakhal Dialectic: Colonialism and Children's Literature in Bengal*. Translated from *Gopal-Rakhal Dandasamas: Bangla Shishusahitya o Upanibeshbad* by Sibaji Bandyopadhyay, in collaboration with Rani Ray. New Delhi: Tulika, 2015. ISBN: 978-93-82381-55-6
4. *Die, Said the Tree and Other Stories*, a compilation of short stories by Syed Mustafa Siraj. Translated with an introduction. New Delhi: Katha, 2012. ISBN: 978-81-89934-98-9
5. *Tong Ling Express: A Selection of Bangla Children's Stories*. Compiled, edited and translated with an introduction. New Delhi: Sahitya Akademi, 2010. ISBN: 978-81-260-2848-1
6. *The Home and the World*. Translated with an introduction from Rabindranath Tagore's *Ghare Baire* (Calcutta: Viswabharati, 1945),. New Delhi: Srishti Publishers, 2004. ISBN: 81-88575-40-2
7. *The Colonel Investigates*. A selection of three detective stories for adolescents by Syed Mustafa Siraj, translated with an introduction. New Delhi: Srishti Publishers, 2004. ISBN: 81-88575-31-3

Articles

1. 'Love and Marriage in *Noukadoobi*' in Arunava Sinha, *The Boat Wreck*, a translation of Rabindranath Tagore, *Noukadoobi*. New Delhi: Harper Perennial (an imprint of Harper Collins), 2017.

2. 'Alice in Blunderland: (Un)systems of Life and Language beyond the Looking Glass' in *Libri et Liberi: Journal of Research on Children's Literature and Culture*. Volume 4, Number 2, 2015. ISSN: 1848-3488.
3. Three different pieces in each volume (an essay on the Bangla translations of Alice in Wonderland, a Bibliography of Bangla translations of Alice and two back translations into English from Bangla in a three volume encyclopaedic work *Alice in a World of Wonderlands*. Ed. Jon Lindseth and Alan Tannenbaum. New Castle: Oak Knoll Press, 2015. ISBN: 978-1-58456-331-0
4. 'Children's Books in English in India: Where Do we Stand?' in *The Book Review*, Volume XXXV Number 11, November 2011. ISSN: 0970-4175
5. IGNOU Block Notes for the unit Umrapasad Mukhopadhyay, *Manimahesh*., a travel narrative, tr. Sanjukta Das Gupta. IGNOU, 2008.
6. 'Going Away and Coming Home : The Shadow Lines and the Travel Motif in Children's Fiction' in Arvind Chowdhary ed. Amitav Ghosh's *The Shadow Lines: Critical Essays*. New Delhi: Atlantic Publishers, 2002. ISBN: 81-269-0195-0
7. 'A Release from the Workaday World: The Case of the Bengali Child Detective' in *The Book Review*, Volume XIX Number 11 November 1995. ISSN: 0970-4175
8. 'An Introduction to Lermontov's *A Hero of Our Time*' in *Studies in Russian Literature*. Hyderabad: CIEFL, 1984.

Shorter translations

1. 'The In-between Woman', a translation of 'Madhyabartini', a short story by Rabindranath Tagore, in *The Essential Tagore*. Ed. Fakrul Alam and Radha Chakravarty. Cambridge, Massachusetts and London, England: The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2011. ISBN: 978-0-674-05790-6, published simultaneously by Viswabharati, 2011. ISBN: 978-81-7522-461-2
2. 'Atheist', a translation of 'Nastik', a short story by Bibhutibhushan Bandyopadhyay in *Indian Literature: Sahitya Akademi Bi-monthly Journal*. No. 256. Vol LIV. No. 2. New Delhi: Sahitya Akademi, 2010. ISSN: 0019-5804
3. 'Back to the Land of the Past', a translation of 'Elem Atit Deshe' by Sumanta Banerjee, in *Studies in Humanities and Social Sciences: Journal of the Inter-University Centre for Humanities and Social Sciences*. VOL. XVI, NUMBER 1 & 2, 2009. ISSN: 0972-1401
4. 'Identity', a translation of 'Barna Parichay', a short story by Syed Mustafa Siraj in *Indian Literature: Sahitya Akademi Bi-monthly Journal*. No. 248. Vol. LII. No. 6. New Delhi: Sahitya Akademi, November-December 2008. ISSN: 0019-5804
5. 'On the Trail of the Adventure Tale: The White Man's Burden and the Black Man's Duty', an excerpt (translated in collaboration with Rimli Bhattacharya) from Sibaji Bandyopadhyay, *Rakhal- Gopal Dandasamas: Bangla Shishusahitya o Upanibeshbad*. Calcutta: Papyrus, 1992, in *Yearly Review*, Department of English, University of Delhi, Number 12, July 2004.

Book Reviews

- <https://borderlessjournal.com/2020/10/14/how-non-nonsensical-is-sukumar-rays-nonsense-verse/> A review of *Habber-Jabber Law*. Author: Sukumar Ray. Translated from Bengali to English by Arunava Sinha.
- <http://borderlessjournal.com/2021/02/16/rays-goopy-bagha-revisited/> A review of *The Adventures of Goopy the Singer and Bagha the Drummer*. Author: Upendrakishore Ray Chowdhury. Translated from Bengali to English by Tilottama Shome.
- A review of *Ranjan's Tale* by Nabaneeta Dev Sen. Translated from Bangla by Deepankar Biswas in *The Book Review*. Volume XIV. Number 11, November 2020.

- A Review of *Domoruchorit: Stunning Tales From Bengali Adda* by Troilokyanath Mukhopadhyay. Translated by Arnab Bhattacharya. *The Book Review*. Volume XLIII, Number 3, March 2019.
- A review of *Picnic at Palashpur, Palashpur Mein Picnic*, both by Nabaneeta Dev Sen, translated in English by Dipankar Biswas. Translated in Hindi by Sushil Joshi in *The Book Review*. Volume XLIII. Number 11, November 2019.
- A review of *Interrogating my Chandal Life: An Autobiography of a Dalit* by Manoranjan Byapari in *The Book Review*. Volume XLII. Number 8, August 2018.
- 'The Love-Hate of Solitude', a Review of *Rungli Rungliot* [Thus far and No Further] by Rumer Godden, in *The Book Review*. Volume XL. Number 5. May 2016. ISSN: 0970-4175A Review of *A History of India for Children* by Subhadra Sengupta, in *The Book Review*. Volume XXXIX. Number 11. November 2015. ISSN: 0970-4175
- 'Forests for Humans and Beasts: Othering, Mothering and Smothering.' A Review of *Junglezen Sheru* by Samarpan and *The Seagull and the Urn* by Shome Dasgupta, in *The Book Review*. Volume XXXVIII. Number 11, November 2014. ISSN: 0970-4175
- 'Genius and Psychoanalysis.' A Review of Sudhir Kakar's *Young Tagore: The Makings of a Genius in Delhi University Journal of the Humanities and Social Sciences* 2013. ISSN: 2348-4357. Reprinted as 'A Poet's Evolution' in *Hindol*. Year 6, No.1, April 2014. ISSN: 0976-0989
- A Review of *101 Indian Children's Books We Love*. Ed. Anita Roy and Samina Mishra, in *The Book Review*. Volume XXXVI. Number 11, November 2013. ISSN: 0970-4175
- 'Questioning Goddesses.' A Review of *The Song Seekers* by Saswati Sengupta in *The Book Review*. Volume XXXVII. Number 1, January 2013. ISSN: 0970-4175
- 'The Logic, Logistics and Ideology of Crime.' A Review of *The All Bengali Crime Detectives* by Suparna Chatterjee and *The Shadow Men* by Bijoy Sawian, in *The Book Review*. Volume XXXVI. Number 12, 2012. ISSN: 0970-4175
- A Review of Dibyendu Palit's *Illicit* and Banaphool's *What Really Happened in Indian Literature*. No. 262. Vol. LV. No. 2, March-April 2011. ISSN: 0019-5804
- 'Beyond Wedded Bliss.' A Review of Sukhendru Ray trans. *Three Novellas: Nashtaneer, Dui Bon and Malancha* by Rabindranath Tagore in *The Book Review*. Volume XXXIV. Number 10, October 2010. ISSN: 0970-4175
- 'Of Separations, Squalor and Self-expression.' A Review of Ahmede Hussain ed. *The New Anthem: The Subcontinent in its Own Words*, in *The Book Review*. Volume XXXIV. Number 2. February 2010. ISSN: 0970-4175
- 'Tagore Text in Twenty-first Century Translation', a Review of Radha Chakravarty trans. *Gora* by Rabindranath Tagore, in *The Book Review*. Volume XXXIV. Number 1, January 2010. ISSN: 0970-4175
- 'Embedded Markers in an Evolving Market.' A Review of Nandini Chandra, *The Classic Popular. Amar Chitra Katha*. 1967-2007, in *The Book Review*. Volume XXXIII. Number 11, November 2009. ISSN: 0970-4175
- 'A Complex, Textured Narrative.' A Review of Tarun Tejpal, *The Story of My Assassins*. Harper Collins, 2009 in *The Book Review*. Volume XIII. Number 8-9, August- September 2009. ISSN: 0970-4175
- 'Worldly Calculations and Extraordinary Visions.' A Review of Anuradha Roy, *An Atlas of Impossible Longings*. Picador, 2008 in *The Book Review*. Volume XXXIII. Number 6, June 2009. ISSN: 0970-4175
- 'Lives in Translation.' A Review of Uma Chakravarty ed. *Five Novellas by Women Writers*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2008, in *The Book Review*. Volume XXXIII. Number 5, May 2009. ISSN: 0970-4175
- 'What Little Girls Are Made Of.' A Review of Sibaji Bandyopadhyay, *Bangla Shishusahityer Chhoto Meyera*. Kolkata: Gangchil, 2007 in *The Book Review*. Volume XXXII. Number 11, November 2008. ISSN: 0970-4175
- 'Tagore: The Public figure and the Private Person.' A Review of Uma Das Gupta, *My Life in My Words: Rabindranath Tagore*. Penguin, 2006, and Rustom Bharucha, *Another Asia: Rabindranath Tagore and Okakura Tenshin*. New Delhi: OUP, 2006, in *The Book Review*. Volume XXXII Number 3, March 2008. ISSN: 0970-4175

- A Review of Radha Chakravarty, *Farewell Song*, a translation of *Shesher Kabita* by Rabindranath Tagore, (Srishti, 2005), in *Indian Literature*. No. 230, Nov- Dec 2005. ISSN: 0019-58104
- 'The Empire Travels Back.' A Review of Simonti Sen's *Travels to Europe: The Self and Other in Bengali Travel Narratives 1870-1910*. New Delhi: Orient Longman, 2005. *The Book Review*. Volume XXIX. Number 9, September 2005. ISSN: 0970-4175
- 'Indian Sites, Indifferent Insights', a Review of Patricia Scot Bernard's *With the Kama Sutra Under My Arm: An Indian Journey*. New Delhi: Bluejay Books, 2004, and Kunal Sinha's *A Banarasi on Varanasi*. New Delhi: Bluejay Books, 2004, in *The Book Review* Volume XXIX Number 7, July 2005. ISSN: 0970-4175
- 'From Afghanistan to Tibet via India'- A Review of Five Travel Books in *The Book Review*. Volume XXIX Number 3, March 2005. ISSN: 0970-4175
- A Review of Anjum Katyal trans. Mahasweta Devi, *After Kurukshetra*. Calcutta: Seagull, Publishers, 2005, in *Book Line*. Volume XXII Number 5, 2007. Kolkata Book Fair 07 Special Issue.
- 'A Window to a Widow's World'- A Review of Swarnakumari Debi, *The Uprooted Vine*. New Delhi: OUP, 2004. tr. Rajul Sogani and Indira Gupta, in *The Book Review*. Volume XXVIII Number 2, February 2004. ISSN: 0970-4175
- 'Recuperating Binodini': A Review of Rabindranath Tagore's *Chokher Bali* and three translated versions of it in *The Book Review*. Volume XXVII Number 1, January 2004. ISSN: 0970-4175
- A Review of Gopa Majumdar trans. Satyajit Ray, *The Adventures of Feluda* in *The Book Review*. Volume XXVII Number 11, November 2003. ISSN: 0970-4175
- 'Enchanting Adventures', a Review of Sanjib Chattopadhyay, *Mama Omnibus*. Sahityan Publishers, 1990, in *The Book Review*. Volume XVIII Number 12, December 1994. ISSN: 0970-4175

International Conferences attended

- Presented a paper called 'Fictional Child-brides: The Circumventing and Silencing of Girlhood in Bangla Children's Fiction' at an international conference *Silence and Silencing in Children's Literature*, the 24th Biennial Congress of the International Research Society for Children's Literature in Stockholm, Sweden, from 14-18 August 2019.
- Presented a paper called 'Parent-surrogate or Enabling Agent: Alternative Portrayals of the Canonical Uncle in Bangla Children's Fiction' in an international conference *Beyond the Canon of Children's Literature*, held in Zadar, Croatia, 8-11 May, 2019.
- Presented a paper 'Reshaping Alice for a Bilingual Reader' for an international conference, *Alice Through the Ages* at Homerton College, Cambridge, U.K., 15-17 September, 2015.
- Presented a paper 'Between Then and Now: Retranslations of Tagore's Fiction' in an international conference *Tagore: The Global Impact of a Writer in the Community* at Edinburgh Napier University, Edinburgh, U.K. , 4-6 May 2012.

Talks

As a resource person

I have been resource persons at two refresher courses for teachers organized by the Department of English on 'Indian Literature: Texts, Traditions, Translations' at CPDHE, Delhi University in December 2004 and on 'Writing the Revolution' the South Campus, Delhi University, in February 2006, one refresher course on translation at the Bhagat Phool Singh Women's University, Gohana, Haryana (2009) and one in The Emerging Significance of Childhood in Western Thought, Panjab University, Chandigarh (2010). Delivered talks at a workshop on the Cultural Diversity course at CPDHE, Delhi University, a seminar on Literary Reviews and Market Trends, organized by the Ferguson Centre, at Jamia Milia Islamia, a televised talk on Mahasweta Devi for Gyan Darshan at IGNOU, as the keynote speaker at a seminar on children's literature in Lady Shri Ram College in 2018, the keynote speaker at a conference on children's literature at Daulat Ram College

As an invited speaker

At a seminar on Amitav Ghosh in St. Stephen's College, , a seminar on Bangla childrens literature in St. Stephen's College, a seminar on 'Memory, Violence and Trauma in Childhood' in Aryabhatta College, a seminar on Mahasweta Devi at ARSD College, a workshop on translation studies at Kalindi College, a seminar on Classical literature at Zakir Hussain College, , a discussant in a seminar on Children's Literature at Lady Shri Ram College in 2012, a seminar on Children's Literature at Janaki Devi Mahavidyalaya, a seminar on Children's Literature at Indraprastha College, a seminar on Translation studies at Lakshmi Bai College, , a discussant on a seminar on Travel Literature in Daulat Ram College, a workshop on translation by Fergusson College at JNU, a seminar on translation theory and practice at Rajdhani College, talks at Hindu College, Ramjas College, Hindu College, Jesus and Mary College, Ram Lal Anand College and Mata Sundari College.

Workshop, Conference, Symposiums

1. Participated in a panel discussion on Books for Young Adults at a workshop in Sahitya Akademi, March 14, 2015.
2. Was a panelist at a discussion on Sujit Mukherjee's book *Translation as Recovery*, organized by The Book Review and Pencraft International, at the India International Centre, New Delhi, in March 2003.
3. Was a panelist at a conference on Travel Writing by the Department of Modern European Languages at the India International Centre, New Delhi, in March 2010.
4. Presented a paper at a conference on Children's Literature: Politics and Polemics, at Mangalore in January, 2008.
5. Presented a paper at an international conference on Bengali Literature at the Department of Modern Indian Literature at the Arts Faculty, Delhi University in 2005.
6. Presented a paper at a National Conference on Women's Empowerment at DAV College, Batala, Panjab University in August, 2004.

Others

Teaching outside college, Examinership and Expert in Selection Committees

- I have taught post-graduate courses in English at Delhi University, North as well as South Campus.
- I have been Head Examiner and paper setter for courses in the B.A. (Hons) English papers for 15 years.
- I have been Examiner for M.Phil theses at Jamia Milia Islamia and JNU.
- I have been appointed as expert in selection committees for appointing lectures in English at various DAV colleges in North India on several occasions
- I have been an expert at selection committees for Fulbright teaching fellowships in translation into English from the Indian vernaculars at United States Educational Foundation in India, New Delhi.
- I have been expert at Selection committee for NCERT for recruiting +2 level teachers at a national level at NCERT.
- I have been part of a group who framed the criteria for selection of prize-winning children's stories at Bal Bhavan.

Grants for participation in conferences

1. Delhi University travel grant for participation in conference in Edinburgh, 2012.
2. UGC travel grant for participation in conference in Cambridge, 2015.
3. UGC travel grant for participation in conference in Zadar, 2019.
4. ICSSR travel grant for participation in conference in Stockholm, 2019.

Interviews

I have been interviewed by Doordarshan TV and *The Hindu* for my translation of the work of Syed Mustafa Siraj.

Peer reviews

I have peer reviewed full length publications for Routledge, Orient Blackswan, Primus Books, Srishti and Manohar Publications.