



Name: Dr. Rumela Banerjee

Qualification: MA (September 1982, Patna University).

Designation: Associate Professor

Dt. of Joining full-time Service (College) :
September 7, 1994.

Courses taught:

HONOURS COURSE : History of Bengali Literature – Old and Medieval Age, Novel , Poetry , Types of Literature (Essay) , Collection of essays of the Modern Period, Essay on Literary Topics, History of Theatre and History of English Literature.

GENERAL COURSE :

History of Bengali Literature (Modern Period – Poetry and Drama up to Pre - Tagore Era , Collection of Modern Poetry, Novel, International Phonetic Alphabet(IPA) , Essay on Literary Topics and Paragraph Writing.

Specialisation: History of Bengali Literature, International Phonetic Alphabet(IPA) ,Novel and a famous poetry of the Medieval Age called 'KabikankanChandi'.

Research:

PhD Title: 'A Critical Study Of The Contribution of Ramesh Chandra Dutt to Bengali Literature (July 1987, Patna University)
(Abstract below)

Research:

Publications:

‘ Chetanar SroteTitasEkti Nadir Naam’ jointly written by professor Dwipendu Bandyopadhyay and Dr. Rumela Bandyopadhyay, Joy Durga Publications, Kolkata, 2003.

Published a chapter named ‘ TitaserAnaamniAngana’ in a book called ‘ Titas Ekti Nadir Naam : Upanasero’ edited by Dr.Hiren Chattopadhyay , Bama Pustakalaya, Kolkata, 2000.

Penned an essay named ‘ GalpokarPremendra Mitra’ in the college magazine ‘Ramakrishna Sarada Mission Vivekananda VidyabhavanPatrika’ which was published on March 12, 2003.

Edited the college magazine ‘Ramakrishna Sarada Mission Vivekananda VidyabhavanPatrika’ which was published on April 2, 2009.

An essay named ' Tarashankar Bandyopadhyayer ChotoGolper DigantaRekha' in the college magazine ‘SubarnaJayantiSmaranika’ which was published on the occasion of Golden Jubilee Year of the college on March 9, 2011 .

Honorary posts held:

Departmental Head from the year 2004 to 2008 .

Worked in NAAC Committee in 2004 and 2015.

IQAC Committee Member in since 2014.

College Subcommittees:

Member of Magazine Committee in the year 2015 .

Member of Academic Remedial Committee in the year 2013-2014 .

Member of Academic Committee in the year 2010-11, 2011-2012 and 2012-13 .

Convener of Magazine Committee in the year 2011-12 and 2012-13 .

Honorary Posts:

Life Member of Bangiya Sahitya Parishad

Contact Details : 8902638252

PhD Abstract:

My PhD course framework is on 'A Critical Study Of The Contribution of Ramesh Chandra Dutt to Bengali Literature .' Ramesh Chandra Dutt ,a profound novelist as well as a keen essayist in Bengali literature is categorised as a literatiure of the Bankim Chandra Era or Renaissance Period of the Bengali writings. Born in the famousthe then Dutt family of 1848 Calcutta was a scholar in History, law and Sanskrit literature, a keen researcher of Indian culture and heritage, economist of his times also served as Indian Civil Service Commissioner under the British Government. At the same time he portrayed his innate patriotism through his works mainly on the glory of the country and enriched the Indian especially Bengali literature and acquired a formidable place among the novelists by writing historical novels like Rajput JibanSondhya(1879) and Maharashtra JibonPrabhat(1878) , critically

the two best pieces of his works reflecting on the history, economy, territorial struggle of the Maratha and Rajput monarchs against the Mughal rulers and thereby surfacing many hidden facts important for historical accounts of the medieval India. The literature mainly focused on the history and societal as well as economic condition of the hundred years Mughal reign in India. Other novels of importance are *Banga Bijeta* (1874) which encompasses the societal and cultural condition of the Bengalees under the Mughal reign. On the other hand *Madhabi Kankan* (1877) concentrates on the romantic distresses of his home land on the pretext of the historical back ground (during the reign of Shah Jahan). Now the focal point of my course work is to analyse the works of this novelist whose writings are influenced by Grant Duff, James Tod , Charles Stewart, Jadunath Sarkar and many other sources and bring fourth the comparison between the historical authenticity (similarities and differences) of the facts accounted in his novels with the actual historical accounts of the mentioned periods (mainly Mughal era in India) because of the revolving controversies of the discovery of the accounted facts by many other scholars post his works which mostly proved to be void. Apart from being an innate patriot which we can witness in his writings, another side of his mind was a sensitive social thinker and progressive propagator influenced by Western Philosophy. So this bent of mind of his and his responsibility towards the society was reflected through his novels *Sansar* and *Samaj* and with them he tried to broaden the horizon of the thought process prevailing in the then society. In his novel *Sansar* (1886) he had empathised with the pathos of a widow in his contemporary society and also propagated the idea of the widow remarriage which was considered a sin back then and removed the taboo of the inauspiciousness that surrounds the widowhood of the women in the society he lived in and also pointed out a fact which is another blemish called Child Marriage and tried to kindle a sense of compassion

in the minds of his readers. Another remarkable work of his in the genre of social novels is Samaj(1894) reflects on the inter hierarchical marriage among the hindus through which he tried to remove the societal bottle necks and discrimination arising out of privilege seeking attitude of the so called upper caste which is the radical factor that hinders the growth and unity of the society which is a necessity for the progressive momentum of any civilisation. Here this deserves a special mention that although being a novelist of the Bankim Chandra era his writings was amply successful in establishing the liberal thinking way better than the conservatarian thought of Bankim.

Besides his contribution towards novels, he is also an acclaimed essayist. His essays can be divided into five different categories – Memoirs of the great Indian Personalities, History and Archaeology, Literary Topics, Society and Economy and Religious Literature. Many of his essays have been published in renowned journals and magazines like Nabya Bharat, NabaJiban ,Bharati, Sadhana, Mukul, SahityaParishadPatrika of his time. Among his memoirs Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay and Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar deserves importance. In his socio-economic essays he can see him as a prolific social thinker and economist. To name a few in this genre are BharaterArthanaitikShamoshya in which he accounts different flawed economic policies of the British administration in India and the drainage of wealth by the foreign sovereigns and so on. Another noteworthy essay of his is Bharat BasidigerDaridrata o DurbrikhherKaron published in PravatPatrika in which he writes about the major dependence on agriculture as the mainstay of the Indian populace and the huge burden of taxes on the same during the British period . Also the downfall of cottage industry ,silk weavers , lac artists and so on and how this has been affected by the British Policies and gave rise to the natural and economic disasters. In his essay in British

ShasoneBharatiyaShilperObonoti he accounted the downfall of the Indian enterprising like cottage and small scale industries in order to develop the British way of industrialization. Also in his essays likeBharatiyaDurbrikkha and BhumikarAndolonerPhalaphal he had enumerated the effects of land taxation policies and famine in details. His essay BhumikarAnadolonerPhalaphal is divided into three parts where he had analysed the causes and suggested possible solutions to remedy them.

Ramesh Chandra Dutt also had a special inclination towards ancient Indian culture because he was not a blind follower of the ideals propagated by his predecessors and hence relied upon an acceptance-rejection theory in his writings and thus devoted himself to the translation of Rig Veda and tried to establish the Hindu principles in order to shape up the nationalistic thought in the society . Also another reason that pushed him to do the same was his strong belief that facts and analysis of the past can help the growth of the present and foundation of the future. In this context two essays namely Rig Veder Deb gan (a creative writing) and a translated version of Rig Veda Samhita in Bengali needs to be mentioned. Therefore this social reformer of 19th century Bengali literature enriched our culture through the factual, analytical and socially reformative contents in his writings. Also his avid knowledge and deep understanding on a variety of burning social issues that was rising its head slowly in the Bengali society like separatist attitude and self centred approach towards life and how this can be cured by cultivating basic and integral humanitarian qualities like unity, compassion, sense of brotherhood and liberal thinking.