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### ***Biographical Sketch***

Achyut Chetan earned his PhD for his research on the ‘The Missing Mothers of the Indian Constitution and the Gender Politics of its Framing’ from Visva-Bharati, the university established by Rabindranath Tagore at Santiniketan, India. He taught English literature at Visva-Bharati for a year before joining Sido Kanhu Murmu University, Dumka as an Assistant Professor of English in 2008. He taught there with a commitment to pedagogy as a means for social transformation in marginal areas, and with a special conviction in constitutional morality for more than a decade before joining St Xavier’s University, Kolkata. In the meantime, he had occasions to teach courses at places like the Department of History, Columbia University, New York; University of Texas at Austin; and Department of English at Cornell University, Ithaca. Experiences of teaching at both ends of the spectrum strengthens his conviction in dialogues between different academic spaces and academic disciplines as well as in the emancipatory value of higher education in democratic societies.

Chetan has been a recipient of Sir Ratan Tata Trust Fellowship at School of Women’s Studies, Jadavpur University, Kolkata, 2008-09; Charles Wallace Trust India Fellowship, 2018 for his research at the Women’s Library, London School of Economics; and a Fulbright Visiting Fellowship at the Department of History at Columbia University, New York, 2011-12. Recently he was the South Asian Studies Fellow at Cornell University, Ithaca, NY for the year 2019-20.

### ***Areas of Specialisation and Research***

Chetan’s research interests include the genealogies of constitutional and feminist thought in India on which he has spoken at numerous places including Columbia University, New York; Brooklyn College, New York; City University of New York; University of Texas at Austin; Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, Presidency University, Kolkata; and Cornell University, Ithaca, NY. He works on the interstices of literary and legal hermeneutics with a specific feminist interest in easing what is known as ‘white women’s burden’ and is interested in creating a better understanding of the politics of the construction of the modern, right-bearing subject in the twentieth century. Chetan’s interdisciplinary enquiries are rooted in literary theories of authorship, textuality and discourse analysis, and extend the boundaries of literary studies into diverse fields.

Currently, he is working on his research on ‘Situating Indian Feminism in an International Frame: 1930 to 1950’, a work that seeks to put our understanding of the relationship between liberalism, ant-colonialism, constitutionalism, and global feminism in a comparative perspective and hopes to re-conceptualize the relationship between Indian and western feminism. His work on the ‘Founding Mothers of the Indian Constitution’ is forthcoming from Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

### **Teaching Experience**

Assistant Professor of English, Santal Parganas College, SKM University, Dumka: February 2008 to January 2020. On a substantive post.

Co-taught a course on Indian Literatures, Department of English, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, Fall 2019.

Co-taught a course on Postcolonial Thought, Department of History, Columbia University, New York, Spring 2012.

Guest Lecturer, Department of English and Other Modern European Languages, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan, January 2007-February 2008.

### **Administrative Responsibility**

Spokesperson and Media Co-ordinator, Sido Kanhu Murmu University, Dumka, Jharkhand. 2015-2018.

### **Publications**

#### **Books**

Achyut Chetan, *Founding Mothers of the Indian Republic: Gender Politics of the Framing of the Constitution*. Cambridge, UK and New Delhi: Cambridge University Press, 2021. Online ISBN 9781108832564.

#### **EDITED BOOKS**

**Two books on the historical Santal Rebellion of 1855 comprising invited commissioned articles by eminent scholars and rare primary documents. Published as part of the flagship publication program of SKM University, Dumka.**

*Interrogating the Santal Hul: Texts, Contexts, Interpretations*. Published on behalf the Santhal Academy, Sido Kanhu Murmu University, Dumka. [ISBN: 978-81-8329-967-1]

*From Resistance to Revolution: Hul and its Legacy*. Published on behalf the Santhal Academy, Sido Kanhu Murmu University, Dumka. [ISBN: 978-81-8329-923-7]

## ARTICLES

‘Ambedkar and the Constitution: Authoring a Sacred book’ in *Phalanx: A Quarterly Journal of Review* [[http://www.phalanx.in/pages/article\\_i0010\\_the\\_Constitution.html](http://www.phalanx.in/pages/article_i0010_the_Constitution.html). ISSN 2320-7698]

‘The Radical Reading Strategies of B.R Ambedkar’ in *Apperception: Journal of the Department of English & Other Modern European Languages, Visva-Bharati*, Vol IX July-2016- June 2017, pp 30-40, ISSN 2321-1261.

“The ‘Founding Fathers’ and the Women Members of the Constitution: Correcting a historical fallacy” in *Visva-Bharati Quarterly*, Volume 24 Numbers 2 & 3, 2015. pp 91-101. [ISSN: 0972-043X] (Print)

‘The Afterlives of Renaissance Desires: Lennard Davis’ The Sonnets’ in *Apperception: Journal of the Department of English & Other Modern European Languages, Visva-Bharati*. Vol VII: August 2012, pp 78-89. [ISSN: 2321 – 1261]