



**UNIVERSITY OF CALCUTTA
FACULTY ACADEMIC PROFILE**



Full name of the faculty member: Dr. Piyasi Bharasa.

Designation: Assistant Professor, Department of Museology, University of Calcutta.

Specialization: Museum Education and Exhibition, Leadership and Museum Management, Museum, Heritage and Tourism, Strategy and Visitors Engagement, Zoology.

Contact information :

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Academic Qualifications:

College/ University from which the degree was obtained	Abbreviation of the degree
1. Presidency College, University of Calcutta	B.Sc. (Zoology Hons.)
2. Department of Museology, University of Calcutta	M.Sc. in Museology
3. University Grants Commission (UGC)	NET and JRF in Museology
4. Department of Museology, University of Calcutta	Ph.D. on "Museum, Heritage and Tourism in West Bengal: Interaction and Interdependence" in the Department of Museology, University of Calcutta.

Positions held/ holding:

- UGC – NET and JRF in Museology from **19 February, 2002 to 10 July 2003.**
- Education Officer (Gr.-A, Head, Education and Exhibition), Victoria Memorial Hall, Kolkata (An Autonomous Organization and Museum of National Importance under the Administrative Control of Ministry of Culture, Government of India) from **11 July, 2003- 31, October, 2013.**
- Assistant Professor, Department of Museology, University of Calcutta from **01 November, 2013 onwards.**

Guest Faculty:

Teaching as a Guest Faculty in the Department of Museology, Rabindra Bharati University, since the year 2015 onwards.

Research Interests:

- Museum Education, Museum Outreach Activities, Exhibition and Display
- Museum Management
- Tangible and Intangible Heritage
- Preservation and Conservation of Cultural Properties
- Museum, Heritage and Tourism
- Life Science and Environmental Studies
- Community Museums
- Company School of Paintings, Bengal School of Paintings, 19th - 20th Century Popular Art in India- Kalighat Paintings etc.

Research Guidance:

Supervising the number of researchers, pursuing for Ph.D. Degree - Three (03) in the Department of Museology, University of Calcutta.

Projects:**Completed projects:**

Contributed as Content Writer of the modules of MHRD-UGC-INFLIBNETsponsored e-PG Pathshala Project, for e-Content Development in Museology and Conservation, 2014-2016.

Current projects:

Currently working as Co-PI on the project of the Department of Museology, University of Calcutta, entitled “ Musealisation of the Great Indian Epics: Case Studies in South – East Asia of UGC-UPE –II (Universities with Potential for Excellence) Project under the focus area India looking East, since 2018.

Select list of publications:a) **Journals:**

- Bharasa, P. (2017). Lives and Stories – Museums Portraying the Nations’ Identity (S. Chanda, Ed.) *Journal of the Department of Museology*, Vol. 13, University of Calcutta. pp -109-119, ISSN 2278-9685.
- Bharasa, P. (2016). Revisiting the versatility of Asit Kumar Haldar- the Painter of Lyrics

in Lines (S. Chanda, Ed.) *Journal of the Department of Museology*, Vol. 11 & 12 University of Calcutta. pp-159-166, ISSN 2278-9685.

- Bharasa, P. (2014). Future Present: A Study Tour to the Museums in U.K, January, 23-February, 1, 2011 (M. Chakrabarti, Ed.) *Journal of the Department of Museology*, Vol.10: University of Calcutta. pp - 133-142. ISSN 2278-9685.
- Bharasa, P. (2010). Sensitizing the Children through Museum (S.N. Bhattacharya, Ed.) in the Golden Jubilee Special Issue of *Journal of the Department of Museology*, Vol. 6 to 9: University of Calcutta, pp – 112-116.
- Bharasa, P. (2005). Museum Education-the Recent Thoughts (C. Das, Ed.) *Journal of the Department of Museology*, Vol. -4, University of Calcutta, pp – 102-108.

b) **Books/ book chapters:**

- Bharasa, P (2011). Kalighat Paintings at Victoria Memorial Hall. Suhashini Sinha and Professor C. Panda (Eds). *Kalighat Paintings*. V&A Publishing, London in Association with Mapin Publishing, London and America.
- Bharasa, P. (2015). Leadership and Museum Movement in India. S. N. Bhattacharyya, R. Chattopadhyya and G. Sengupta(Eds). *Essence of Art and Archaeology Museums, Museology and Heritage Management* Vol. 2. Kaveri Books. ISBN: 978-81-7479-185-6.

c) **Conference/ seminar volumes:**

- Bharasa, P. (2015). Museum for Society- from Repository to Inclusive, International Seminar on *Dynamics of Museum and Social Inclusion*, held on 26-27 February, 2015 by P.C. Mahalanobis Memorial Museum & Archives, Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata and held on 24-25 March, 2014 by the Dept. of Museology, University of Calcutta, P.C. Mahalanobis Museum, ISI, Kolkata and Indraprastha Museum of Art and Archaeology, N.Delhi . Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata, pp.65-74, ISBN: 978-93-80973-55-5.
- Bharasa, P. (2014). Learning in the Interactive Galleries in the Museums in U.K: Few Case Studies, in M. Chakrabarti (Ed.), *Museum in Motion: Ideas. Issues and Challenges*, two- day International Seminar held on 24-25 March, 2014 by the Dept. of Museology, University of Calcutta, P.C. Mahalanobis Museum, ISI, Kolkata and Indraprastha Museum of Art and Archaeology, pp. 147-154. Kolkata: Vivekananda Book Centre. ISBN 978-93- 80973-41-8.
- Bharasa, P. (2013). Kalighat Paintings-the 19th Century Popular Art of Bengal. *Heritage, Visuality and Museology*. In M. Chakrabarti (Ed.), *Museum in Motion: Ideas. Issues and Challenges*, the volume of the two-day International seminar held by the Dept. of Museology in collaboration with Indraprastha Museum of Art and Archaeology, N. Delhi during 4-5 December, 2013, pp. 9-16: University of Calcutta, Kolkata.
- Bharasa, P. (2013). Care and Conservation of Heritage through Mass Awareness, the 45th National Conservation Conference on *Preventive Conservation of Cultural Property*, held on 06 -08 February, 2013. pp. 58-60: Indian Association for the Study of Conservation of Cultural Property, New Delhi.

Paper Presented in National and International Seminar

1. “Strategy to Engage Visitors with Museum” in the National Seminar on *Recent Advances in Museum Management*, organized by Prashanta Chandra Mahalanobis

Museum and Archives, Library, Documentation and Information Sciences Division, Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata on 26 March, 2019.

2. **“Study and Documentation of the Visual Culture Portraying the Ramayana and the Mahabharata in South-East Asia”** in the two-day International Seminar on *Heritage of South and South East Asia: Issues on Musealisation* held during 15- 16 November, 2018, held by the Department of Museology, University of Calcutta, on the UGC-UPE II Project under Focus Area: India Looking East.
3. **“Preventive Conservation of the Textile Collection by the Museums in India: the Community Approach”** in the two-day National Seminar on *Conservation of Heritage: Heritage of Conservation* organized by the Department of Museology, University of Calcutta in collaboration with Indian Museum, Kolkata, West Bengal Heritage Commission and Bangla Natak dot Com, Kolkata, held during 23-24 March, 2018.
4. **“The Importance of the Archaeological Site Museums for the Development of Museum Studies in India”**, in the 6th International Congress of the Society of South Asian Archaeology organized by the Indian Museum, Kolkata, Ministry of Culture, Government of India in collaboration with Society of South Asian Archaeology (SOSAA), and All India Digambar Jain Heritage Preservation Organization, N. Delhi, during 16-18 March, 2018.
5. **“Developing a Community Museum for the Biodiversity Conservation in the World Heritage Site, Sundarban in India – an Entrepreneurial Endeavour”** in the 4-day International Conference on *Entrepreneurial Management*, held by ICOM-INTERCOM in association with Emami Art, Kolkata, International Institute for Inclusive Museum and Indian Museum, Kolkata, during 22-25 February, 2018.
6. **“Buddhist Monasteries in North Eastern States of India: the Potential Cultural Tourism Destinations in the Region – an Overview”** in the two-day International Conference on *The BCIM Initiative and India’s “ACT East” policy: A Reality Check* organized by Kolkata Society for Asian Studies, Kolkata, Institute of Foreign Policy Studies, University of Calcutta, and Indian Council of World Affairs, New Delhi, during 12 - 13 January, 2017.
7. **“The Media as an Instrument of Cultural Policy: Facilitating and Promoting the Cultural Heritage”** in the two-day National Seminar on Two-day National Seminar to commemorate 200 Years of Indian Vernacular Journalism and Mass Communication: *Bicentennial Celebration of ‘Bangal Gazetti’, the First Vernacular Newspaper in India* organized by Maulana Abul Kalam Aazad Institute of Asian Studies, Kolkata and Kolkata Society of Asian Studies, Kolkata during 27-28 October, 2017.
8. **“Expression of Identity in Creativity and Visual Representation: Sunayani Devi and Shakila Bibi – Two Case Studies”** in the three-day International Seminar on *Gender Mainstreaming & Cultural Rights* organized by Arts Acre Foundation, Kolkata in collaboration with the International Institute for the Inclusive Museum, during 19-21 December, 2016.
9. **“Expression of Identity in Creativity and Visual Representation: Sunayani Devi and Shakila Bibi – Two Case Studies”** in the three-day International Seminar on *Gender Mainstreaming & Cultural Rights* organized by Arts Acre Foundation, Kolkata in collaboration with the International Institute for the Inclusive Museum and Indian Museum, Kolkata, during 19-21 December, 2016.

10. **“Lives and Stories : Museums Portraying the Nation’s Identity”** in the two-day International Seminar on *Museums: an Expression of National Identity with Special focus on Biographical Museum*, organized by P.C. Mahalanobis Memorial Museum & Archive, Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata during 28-29 March, 2016.
11. **“Community Participation in Museum: When History becomes Spontaneity** in the International Seminar on *Community Participation in Museological Practices*, organized by the Department of Museology, University of Calcutta on 2 December, 2015.
12. **“Museum for Society : from Repository to Inclusive”** in the two-day International Seminar on *Dynamics of Museum and Social Inclusion*, organized by P.C. Mahalanobis Memorial Museum & Archive, Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata, during 26-27 February, 2015.
13. **“Some Aspects of Heritage and Culture of the Monpas of Tawang in Arunachal Pradesh – A Case Study”** in the two-day National Seminar on *Aspects of Community Development in the North –Eastern States*, organized by Kolkata Society of Asian Studies, Kolkata, in collaboration with Anthropological Survey of India, Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India, Centre for Studies in International Relations and Development and Gurusaday Museum, Kolkata, during 10-11 December, 2014.
14. **“Museum to tell the tale of Devadasis, Jenana in Harem and She Today: the Gandhian Thoughts”** in the day-long Seminar on ‘*Atrocities against Women, Gandhian Thoughts and Role of Museums*’ to be organized by the Gandhi Smarak Sangrahalaya, Barrackpore, in collaboration with the Department of Museology, University of Calcutta, on 13 September, 2014.
15. **“Learning in the Interactive Galleries in the Museums in U.K: Few Case Studies”** in the two-day International Seminar on *Museum in Motion: Ideas. Issues and Challenges*, organized by the by the Dept. of Museology, University of Calcutta, P.C. Mahalanobis Museum, ISI, Kolkata and Indraprastha Museum of Art and Archaeology, N. Delhi during 24-25 March, 2014.
16. **“Kalighat Paintings-the 19th Century Popular Art of Bengal”** in the two-day International Seminar on Heritage, Visuality and Museology, in the two-day International Seminar organized by the Dept. of Museology, University of Calcutta, P.C. Mahalanobis Museum, ISI, Kolkata and Indraprastha Museum of Art and Archaeology, N. Delhi, during 4-5 December, 2013.
17. **“Victoria Memorial Hall, Kolkata in Disseminating Value Education to the Visitors: A Case Study”** in a day-long Seminar on *Role of Museum in Value Education*, organized by the Department of Museology, University of Calcutta, in collaboration with Gandhian Studies Centre, University of Calcutta and Gandhi Memorial Museum, Barrackpore on 31 March, 2013.

Workshop Conducted

- Conducted Workshop on *Anthropology and Museums* as a Resource Person For the participants from North – East States, organized by Indian Museum, Kolkata in collaboration with Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya, Bhopal and Anthropological Survey of India, during 15 -16 March, 2018.
- Conducted and presented papers in the two-day Workshop –cum-Seminar on *The Archives and Museums in India*, for the students of the department of History of several Colleges under Burdwan University, organized by Sri Ramakrishna Sarada Vidya Mahapitha, Kamarpukur, Hooghly, during 3-4 December, 2018.

Invited Lectures Delivered:

1. Delivered a special solo lecture entitled **“How History is preserved in Museum”** organized by Jogesh Chandra Chaudhury College, Kolkata on 29 January, 2016.
2. Delivered lecture entitled, **“Museum Collection Telling the Stories of the World”** organized by the Burdwan Science Centre, Burdwan, West Bengal on 19 May, .2014 on the occasion of International Museum Day.
3. Delivered lecture entitled, **“Colonial Architecture in India”** on 05 July, 2013 in the Art Appreciation Course, organized by Indian Museum, Kolkata.
4. Delivered lecture entitled **“Victoria Memorial in disseminating Education among the Visitors”** in a day-long State Level seminar on *“Role of Museum in Value Education”* held on 31 March, 2013 by the Department of Museology, C.U., Gandhian Studies Centre, C.U. and Gandhi Memorial Museum, Barrakpore.
5. Delivered lecture entitled, **“ Making a Small Change in Visitor Experiences in Victoria Memorial Hall, Kolkata”** during the Leadership Training Programme, in the British Museum, London

Awards:

Awarded Junior Research Fellowship (JRF) by University Grants Commission in July, 2000 in Museology.

Other notable activities:

Some of the Exhibitions Organized during the working period in Victoria Memorial Hall (VMH), Kolkata

- Exhibition entitled, *Passage to India: Now and Then* from among the Daniells' paintings and A. Martinelli's photographs from the collection of Victoria Memorial Hall, Kolkata was held at Rome during July to October, 2005.
- A Travelling Exhibition on *Contemporary Oil Paintings from China* was organized at VMH.
- An exhibition entitled *Majestic Calcutta: 1940 -1971* from the photographs by Shri Jayant Patel was organized in 2006 in VMH.
- An exhibition of photographs from China on *Beijing Olympics: 2008* was organized in 2007.
- Exhibition entitled *Social and Cultural Heritage of the Hill People* was organized at Darjeeling in 2008.
- An exhibition entitled *Culture and Heritage of Darjeeling* was organized in collaboration with the Dept. of Information and Cultural Affairs, Govt. of West Bengal at Darjeeling Jimkhana Club, in 2009.
- An international exhibition entitled *Indian Life and Landscape by the Western Artists* (paintings and drawings from the V&A, London, 1790 -1927), was organized in collaboration with the Victoria & Albert Museum, London and British Council, Kolkata in 2009.
- An exhibition of photographs on “ Heritage Houses on Chitpur Road Neighbourhood” in collaboration with Goethe Institute, Max Mueller- Bhavan, Kolkata during 19,November – 12 December, 2010.
- An exhibition on *Kalighat* Paintings from the Collection of V&A, London and VMH, Kolkata in collaboration with Victoria Albert Museum, London which later on travelled to Salarjung Museum, Hyderabad, CSMVS, Mumbai, NGMA, N. Delhi during November, 2011 to March, 2012.

- An exhibition entitled “Art Across Asia: Renewed Encounters” featuring contemporary artworks from five Asian Countries – India, Japan, China, Korea and Thailand, at VMH in August, 2012.

Public Display and Curation

Designed and curated the public display of “**Queen’s Piano**” from the collection Victoria Memorial Hall (VMH), Kolkata, inaugurated on 21 June, 2012, the occasion of World Music Day, in the Central Hall of VMH.

Training

a) International Training

1. Participated in the **Study Visit to the Leading Museums in U.K.** (London, Ireland and Scotland) during 23 January to 1 February, 2011 organized by the Ministry of Culture, Government of India in collaboration with British Council, Kolkata and London to learn latest techniques of documentation, visual store, exhibition, conservation and education in museums.
2. Participated in the **Five Months long Leadership Training Programme (LTP)**, based on all aspects of museum operation, conducted by the British Museum, London at National Gallery of Modern Art, N. Delhi, the British Museum, London and the CSMVS, Mumbai, organized by the Ministry of Culture, Government of India in collaboration with National Culture Fund, New Delhi, during the first Module of the Leadership Training Programme at Delhi between **January 2012 to May 2012**.

b) Training on *Rajbhasa* (Hindi)

Completed 01 year long Language Course on ***Rajbhasa*** and passed “**Praveen**” and “**Pragya**” with distinction, conducted by the Department of *Rajbhasa*, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India, during 2005-2006.

c) Training by the Dept. of Personnel and Training, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India

Participated in the Two-weeks training programme on “**Managerial Skill for Scientific and Technical Officers**” conducted by the Institute of Secretariat Training and Management, Dept. of Personnel and Training, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India, at JNU, N. Delhi campus during 16 to 27 July, 2007.

Professional Experience (Few Important Assignments at VMH)

(Worked in VMH, Kolkata in the Post of Education Officer (Group-A) for 10 years during July, 2003 – October, 2013).

- Done research on VMH collection- displayed/ kept in the galleries, study collection/ archives and garden.
- Managed Research activities and publications under Tagore National Fellowship and other scholars at VMH.
- Coordinated the research activities – for research students and academicians (Ministry’s Tagore Research fellowship project, the work relating to the publication proposals of VMH under the supervision of Academic sub- committee)
- Organized exhibitions from the collection of VMH and receiving the exhibitions from other institution both from India and abroad.

- Conceptualized and organized outreach activities in collaboration with reputed NGOs and Cultural/educational institutions in the city of Kolkata and in the district towns of Bengal.
- Delivered lectures on the collection of the memorial to the school, college, University students as well as the visiting VIPs and foreign delegation during their visit to the Memorial.
- Managed the book collection and supervised the activities of VMH Library.
- Coordinated the research facilities through the reference library.
- Managed the Son-et-Lumiere (Sound and Light – English and Bengali) public shows.
- Shared expertise and coordinated research, modernization and organizing educational and outreach activities of the museums in the North Eastern States.
- Compiled and edited Annual Reports of the Memorial
- Compiled and edited Materials for inclusion in the Ministry's Annual Report on VMH during 2003 to 2013.
- Compiled and edited of Materials for inclusion in the Annual Report of Archaeological Survey of India during 2003- 2013.
- Prepared Monthly Report on the events and activities organized by VMH for sending to the Ministry.
- Prepared and brought out the Quarterly Newsletter of the Memorial.
- Prepared the quarterly and annual Calendar of Events of the Memorial
- Managed the publications of VMH.
- Provided support to educational institutions, students, teachers, for formal projects, researches, etc.

Participation in Seminar, Conference, Workshop, Training etc.

- Participated two weeks “Practical Training in Museum Method” organized by Indian Museum, Kolkata.
- Participated in the workshop on “Conservation of Documentary Heritage ” conducted by the National Archives of India, N. Delhi in collaboration with Indian Museum, Kolkata.
- Attended the National Seminar on “ Professor D.P. Ghosh and his contribution to the Studies of Museum and Museology in India” organized by the Dept. of Museology, Kolkata and State Archaeological Museum, Kolkata held on 22 and 23 May, 2002.
- Participated in the day-long video aided workshop on ”Presentation Skills” organized by OMNI Consultancy services on 06 May, 2005 sponsored by Victoria Memorial Hall, Kolkata.
- Participated in a souvenir design workshop “Return Gifts: Souvenirs of the 21st Century” conducted by Mr. Andre Klauser and Mr. Ed Carpenter, Consultants from U.K. organized by British Council, Kolkata from 15 to 17 December, 2006.

- Attended a course on “Mind Mapping for Business” conducted by Ms. Rosie Crab, Asst. Director, Professional Development Centre, British Council, Singapore, organized by British Council, Kolkata.
- Attended Asian Regional Cooperation Conference on “Heritage Management, Art Conservation, Education & Tourism” from 2nd - 4th December, 2008 conducted by INTACH, held at India International Centre, 40, Lodhi Road, Delhi and India Islamic Cultural Centre, 87-88 Lodhi Estate, Delhi.
- Participated in the three-day National Workshop on “Strategies to Engage Museum Visitors” organized by National Council of Science Museums (Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India) during 1st -3rd February, 2010 at Nehru Science Centre, Mumbai.
- Participated in the five day International CAM Conference in “Community engagement by the Museums” organized by the Commonwealth Association of Museums during 01-05 June 2010.
- Participated in a training programme on “Modern Display Technique” held at Central Research and Training Laboratory NCSM) in Kolkata conducted by NCSM, MoC, GOI from 15-20 November, 2010.
- The Cabinet Secretariat, Performance Management Division awarded for attending with distinction, workshop on “Results Framework Document (RFD), Held at Vigyan Bhawan, N. Delhi on 22 February, 2011.
- Attended an workshop on “Communication and Interpretation in Museums” held at National Museum Institute, New Delhi conducted by the National Museum Institute and the British Council from 8-9 September, 2011. The workshop was conducted by Dr. Martin Bellamy of Glasgow Museums Resource Centre.

Membership of Learned Societies:

- Member of International Council of Museums (ICOM), Paris.
- Life Member of the Asiatic Society, Kolkata.
- Life Member of the Museum Association of India, N. Delhi.
- Life Member of the Indian Association for the Study of Conservation of Cultural Property, New Delhi.
- Life Member of Kolkata Society of Asian Studies, Kolkata.
- Chairperson of the Visakha Committee, Victoria Memorial Hall, Kolkata (till 2013).