SPEAKER: Professor Jasodhara Bagchi

THEME OF THE PROPOSED TALK

Education for Women and Women for Education: The Case of Bengal

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Jasodhara Bagchi is a leading Indian feminist critic and activist.

Biography

She was born in 1937 and educated at Presidency College, Kolkata, Somerville College, Oxford, and New Hall, Cambridge. The larger part of her working life was spent at Jadavpur University, where she was Professor of English. She is married to the economist, Amiya Kumar Bagchi.

In 1988 she became the Founder-Director of the School of Women's Studies at Jadavpur University, in which capacity she led the activities of the centre until her retirement in 1997. She is also one of the founder members of the feminist organisation Sachetana in Kolkata.

Her focus areas of research include women's studies, women's writings, 19th century English and Bengali literature, the reception of Positivism in Bengal, motherhood and the Partition of India.

She initiated and spearheaded the pioneering Bengali Women Writers Reprint Series edited by the School of Women's Studies, Jadavpur University, which continues to bring out new editions of writers such as Jyotirmoyee Devi. She is currently Chairperson of the West Bengal Commission for Women.

Books (authored, edited, and co-edited)

• Thinking Social Science in India: Essays in Honour of Alice Thorner (co-edited with Krishna Raj and Sujata Patel) (2002)
• The Trauma and the Triumph: Gender and Partition in Eastern India (co-edited with Subhoranjan Dasgupta) (2003)

External links

• Freedom in an Idiom of Loss
• "Partition Through A Woman's Eye", article about Bagchi's academic work on gender and partition in eastern India. [1]
• "The Woman Shaped by Mother", Article on Bagchi's co-edited volume on Indian women's personal narratives[3]
• "The Devi Cult and the Girl Child". Article on the girl child drawing on Bagchi's co-edited volume on the girl child in Bengal [4]

VENUE , TIME DATE

20th March 2009
Time 11.00am
Presidency College
Kolkatta