


Curriculum Vitae

Title		First Name		Last Name	
Dr		Richa		Raj	
Designation	Associate Professor				
Department	History				
Institutional Email Address	richaraj@jmc .du.ac.in				
EDUCATION					
Degree	Institution	Year	Details		
PhD	Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University	2013	Title: 'Social and Political Impact of the Arya Samaj Movement in North India, 1890-1947'		
MPhil	Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University	2006	Title: 'Aspects of Communal Ideology in Colonial India: A Study of Proscribed Communal Literature'		
CAREER PROFILE					
Organisation / Institution	Designation	Duration	Role		
St Stephen's College, University of Delhi	Assistant Professor (Temporary)	04.09.2010 - 22.05.2013	Faculty (Deptt of History), Staff Advisor, Social Service League, Block Tutor		
Sri Venkateswara College, University of Delhi	Assistant Professor (Ad Hoc)	24.07.2013 - 06.01.2014	Faculty (Deptt of History)		
Lady Shri Ram College for Women, University of Delhi	Assistant Professor (Ad Hoc)	07.01.2014 - 06.05.2014	Faculty (Deptt of History)		
Jesus and Mary College, University of	Assistant Professor (Permanent)	04.08.2014 - 07.10.2014 (Ad Hoc); 09.10.2014	Faculty (Deptt of History), Formerly, Associate NCC Officer (National Cadet Corps)		

Delhi		onwards (Permanent)	
<p>AREAS OF INTEREST: Oral History, Socio-religious reform movements in colonial Punjab (especially the Arya Samaj), Education in Modern India.</p>			
<p>TEACHING EXPERIENCE (Subjects/Courses taught)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. History of Modern India, 1750s-1950s (BA Hons), II. History of India, 1750s-1970s (BA Prog), III. Rise of the Modern West, I and II (BA Hons), IV. Reading Gandhi (Interdisciplinary course), V. Issues in 20th century World History, VI. History of China and Japan (BA Hons), VII. Cultural Transformations in Early Modern Europe (c.1500-1800), VIII. Introduction to Indian Art, Delhi Through the Ages. <p>Total Teaching Experience in Undergraduate Prog (University of Delhi): 15+ years (as in May 2026)</p>			

PhD (Supervised): 'Women and Social Change: With Reference to Awadh, 1880s-1950s', Aman Jaiswal, Department of History, DU since May 2022 onwards. (Degree Awarded).

MPhil (Supervised): 'A Historical Study of Labour Migration and Labour Condition in Wazirpur Industrial Area (1970-2021)', Priyanka Kanojia, Department of History, DU from July 2022. (Degree Awarded).

HONORS & AWARDS

- I. Founder-member and President, Oral History Archive, Jesus and Mary College, University of Delhi.
- II. Felicitation by India City Walks, Delhi, for outstanding contribution to the field of History.
- III. Commendation Award at the First Annual Session of Delhi History Congress, 2024, for the paper, "Arya Samaj and Making of the Punjab National Bank: Understanding 'Swadeshi' in Colonial Punjab".
- IV. Awarded DG NCC trophy and Certificate of Merit for 'Best Associate NCC Officer on the Course', at the Pre-Commission Training (PRCN/SW/102) of National Cadet Corps at Officers Training Academy, Gwalior, from 20 August 2018 to 17 November 2018.
- V. Awarded Gold Medal and Certificate of Merit for 'Standing First in the Overall Order of Merit (SW)', during Course Serial Ref Army SW-64 & JW 66 (Refresher Course) at Officers Training Academy, Gwalior, from 04 September to 03 October 2023.

PUBLICATION DETAILS

Book Chapters:

Published, 'Service to the Motherland: The Dayanand Anglo-Vedic College and Industrial and Technical Education in Colonial Punjab, 1890s-1920s,' in Rakesh Batabyal, Megha Yadav and Swapna Liddle (ed.), *History and Historiography in Contemporary India: Themes, Sources and Methods*, Primus Books, Delhi, 2026

'Recasting the Socio-cultural Milieu: The Arya Samaj and its Literary Tradition of 'Martyrdom' in Colonial Punjab,' in Rakesh Batabyal, Megha Yadav and Swapna Liddle (ed.), *The Historian's Craft: Tools and Interpretations*, Primus Books, Delhi, 2026 (Forthcoming)

Journal Articles:

Published article entitled, 'A Pamphlet and Its (Dis)contents: A Case Study of Rangila Rasul and the Controversy surrounding it in Colonial Punjab, 1923-29,' in *History and Sociology of South Asia*, vol. 9.2, 2015. ISSN: 2230-8075.

Published article (as co-author) in the e-journal of Delhi University entitled 'Buddhism in Sikkim: a Study in Cultural Syncretism', *Journal of Undergraduate Research and Innovation*, University of Delhi, volume 1, issue 2, pp. 291-302, 2015. ISSN: 2395-2334.

Published paper on 'Arya Samaj and the Question of 'Maternalist' Paradigm in Colonial Punjab, 1900-1930', *Journal of Centre for Professional Development in Higher Education*, University of Delhi, May 2016. ISBN: 978-93-85503-20-7.

Published 'Of Communal Rhetoric in South Asia: A Study of Proscribed Communal Literature in Colonial Punjab, 1900-1935', *South Asian History Conference Proceedings* (October 16-18, 2015), Publication Bureau, Punjabi University, Patiala, 978-81-302-0406-2, pp. 323-330.

Published 'Alternatives to Educating the Empire: A Study of the 'Nationalist' Response to Colonial Education in Punjab, 1890-1930', *South Asian History Conference Proceedings* (October 7-9, 2016), Publication Bureau, Punjabi University, Patiala.

Published Book Review of Vikas Pathak, *Contesting Nationalisms: Hinduism, Secularism, and Untouchability in Colonial Punjab, 1880-1930*, Primus Books, Delhi, 2018, in *Studies in People's History*, 5, 2 (2018): 245-248.

Published 'Of Swadeshi, Self-Reliance and Self-Help: A Study of the Arya Samaj in Colonial Punjab, 1890 - 1920s', *Moving the Social: Journal of Social History and the History of Social Movements*, 62 (2019), Institute for Social Movements, Ruhr-University Bochum, Germany.

Published, 'Language, Education, and Nationalism: The Arya Samaj's Role in Promoting Hindi as a Cultural and Linguistic Instrument for Social Reform,' *Tareek-e-Adab-e-Urdu*, Vol. 7, Issue 1, January-March 2025

Papers presented in Seminars/Conferences:

Presented paper on 'Retrieving the Classical Past: Explorations of the Role of the Arya Samaj in creating a Common Cultural Identity through Education, 1890-1940,' at the 75th session of the Indian History Congress held at Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi from 28 till 30 December 2014.

Presented paper on 'Of Communal Rhetoric and its Contestations: A Study of Proscribed Communal Literature in Colonial Punjab, 1900-1935' at the 3rd South Asian History International Conference at Punjabi University, Patiala, from 16-18 October 2015. Paper published in the Proceedings.

Presented paper on 'Art as Representation of Contestations within the Public Sphere: The Case of the Indian Statue of Mother Mary' at the International Conference on 'Cultural Practices in the South Asian Public Sphere' organised by South Asian Literary Association, Austin, Texas, USA, from 4-6 January 2016.

Seminar on 'The Creation of Communal Ethos in Colonial Punjab: A Study of Proscribed Communal Literature, 1920s and 1930s' at Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi on 10 February 2016.

Presented paper on 'Shattering the Myth of Women's Passivity in Politics: the Vision of Rajiv Gandhi regarding Women in Panchayati Raj Institutions' at a national conference, 'Journey of Modern India: Contributions of Rajiv Gandhi', organised by Rajiv Gandhi Study Circle on 19 May 2016.

Presented a paper on 'Alternatives to Educating the Empire: A Study of the 'Nationalist' Response to Colonial Education in Punjab, 1890-1930' at the 4th South Asian History International Conference at Punjabi University, Patiala, from 7-9 October 2016.

Presented paper on 'The Star and the Lion: Contextualising Sir Syed Ahmad Khan and Lala Lajpat Rai in Late-19th century India' at International Seminar on Commemorating Sir Syed Ahmad Khan: A Historian, Intellectual and Man of Reason' held on 29-31 January 2018 at Aligarh Muslim University.

Presented paper on 'The Arya Samaj and Education: Shaping of Public Identities in Colonial Punjab, 1890-1930' at a Workshop on History of Education in Colonial & Post-colonial India', organised by Educational Records Research Unit, CHS/JNU, on 22 February 2018.

Presented paper on 'The Arya Samaj and Female Education in Colonial Punjab, 1900-1930', in a National Seminar on 'Caste and Gender, Past and Present: Literary Perspectives', organised by Atma Ram Sanatan Dharma College, New Delhi on 23 March 2018.

Presented paper as panelist at the 79th Session of the Indian History Congress, Bhopal, 26-28 February 2019, on 'Mahatma Gandhi and the Making of the Indian Nation'. The title of the paper was 'Does Economic Progress clash with Real/Moral Progress? A Critical Response by Gandhi'.

Presented paper on 'Famine and Philanthropy in Late Nineteenth-century: Indigenous Forms of Social Service in Colonial North India', (on 11th July 2020), in a National Webinar on 'Lessons from the Past: Studying Trends and Responses to Epidemics', organized by Department of History, Sophia Girls' College, Ajmer, 10th-11th July 2020.

Presented paper at the International Conference on 'Memory in Transition: Intersections, Contestations, Futures' organized by the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Bhopal, entitled 'Rescuing Kumari Lajjawati from the Archive: The Turn to Memory in History-writing', 3-5 March 2022.

Presented a paper at the Ninth Annual Conference of the Oral History Association of India, 2024, on "Bol, Pahadi, Halla Bol: The Quest of a Hill State for Autonomy from the 'Plains'", North Eastern Hill University (NEHU), Shillong, on 14th March 2024.

Presented a paper at the Second Session of Delhi History Congress, on 11th-13th February 2025 on 'Recasting the Socio-cultural Milieu in Northern India: The Arya Samaj and the Hindi Public Sphere, 1890-1940s.'

Presented a paper at the Third Session of Delhi History Congress, on 2nd-4th February 2026, on 'Creating an Oral History Archive: Challenges and Scope.'

Talks/Lectures:

1. UGC-Consortium for Educational Communication Lecture Series on 'Religion, Society and Culture in Indian History' at CEC-EDUSAT, Consortium for Educational Communication, IUAC Campus, Aruna Asaf Ali Marg, New Delhi telecasted on 'Vyas', satellite channel dedicated to higher education:
 - 'Colonial Education in India: Ideological Contexts' and 'The Nationalist Response: A Case Study of the Arya Samaj in Colonial Punjab' telecasted on 'Vyas' satellite channel on 6.3.2017
 - 'Women and Social Reforms in India, Nineteenth Century: Ambiguities or Assertions' and 'Caste and Census: A Study of the Emergence of Caste Associations in Colonial India' on 27.3.2017
 - 'Understanding Theories of Western Imperialism' and 'Colonialism and Nationalism: The Indian Context' on 26.04.2017
 - 'The Midwife of Intellectual Change: Print Culture and its Implications in Colonial India, late-19th century' and 'Imagining the Nation: Popular Visual Culture and the Early Nationalist Phase, 1890-1910' on 26.5.2017
2. Delivered a lecture as part of the 'Lund Lectures on Indian Religions' – a digital lecture series organized by the Centre for Theology and Religious Studies (CTR) and the Swedish South Asian Studies Network (SASNET) at Lund University, Sweden, in cooperation with the university consortium, the Nordic Centre in India (NCI). The title of the lecture delivered on 08.08.2022 was: 'The Arya Samaj in Colonial North India'.
3. Delivered a Lecture on 'Memory and Meaning-making in History: The Many Lives in Oral History', organized by the Department of History, Sri Aurobindo College (Evening), on 06 November 2023.

Participation as Resource Person:

Lecture on 'Birth of a Nation: Contesting Colonialism, Emerging Nationalism in India' on 18.07.2017, International Summer School, organised by Centre for Escalation of Peace, New Delhi.

Resource Person for an Online Event, Commemorating the Mahatma on his 150th Birth Anniversary. Presented a lecture on 'Gandhi's Ramrajya: Reflections on the Social and Political Philosophy of the Mahatma', School of EEECS, Queen's University Belfast, UK, 28 August 2020.

Chaired a session on 'Studying Environment: Challenges and Trends' at the UGC National Seminar held by Department of Sociology, Jesus and Mary College, University of Delhi on 7-8 April 2016.

Chaired a Master Class on 'Outcomes and Effects of Social Activism: Whose voices are heard & How?' as part of the International Conference on Social Media Marketing: Opportunities & Challenges, held at Jesus and Mary College, University of Delhi on 28-29 March 2019.

Moderated a Webinar on 'Colonialism and History of Epidemics: Lessons from the Past' by Dr Saurav Kumar Rai, NMML, New Delhi, conducted by Deptt of History, Jesus and Mary College, University of Delhi on 08.06.2020.

Discussant for the Impact and Policy Research Institute (IMPRI), New Delhi, Distinguished Lecture on 'Revisiting the Vision of the Indian Nation In the Era of the COVID-19 Pandemic', by Prof. Mridula Mukherjee, Professor (Retd), Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, on 15.08.2020.

Chaired a panel at the First Session of the Delhi History Congress, New Delhi, 04-06 February 2024. The focus of the conference were themes of Gender and Sexuality, History of Architecture, Business History, and History of Science and Technology.

Chaired a panel on the theme, 'Crime and Punishment' at the Second Session of Delhi History Congress, on 11th-13th February 2025.

Member, Advisory Board, for the two day National Seminar *Janjatiya Gaurav* (Tribal Pride) on "Decolonizing Tribal Studies: Life, Legacy and Heritage of Birsa Munda" 1875-1900, convened by Dr Bipasha Rosy Lakra and Dr Juhi Rose Vandana Minz, at Jesus and Mary College, University of Delhi, on 29th & 30th July 2025.

Chaired a panel on the theme, 'Entangled Histories: Human, Non-Human and Post-Human,' at the Third Session of Delhi History Congress, from 2nd-4th February 2026.

OTHER DETAILS

Preparation of Teaching Material:

Published e-lesson entitled, 'The Origins of the Renaissance: A Study of its Emergence in Italy' for the Virtual Learning Environment Programme of Institute of Lifelong Learning, University of Delhi (NME-ICT in History under the MHRD project), 2015. ISSN: 2349-154X.

Published e-lesson entitled, 'The Italian Renaissance: A Study of Visual Culture in Early Modern Era,' for the Virtual Learning Environment Programme of Institute of Lifelong Learning, University of Delhi (NME-ICT in History under the MHRD project), 2015. ISSN: 2349-154X.

Published e-lesson entitled, 'Renaissance Humanism: An Introduction,' for the Virtual Learning Environment Programme of Institute of Lifelong Learning, University of Delhi (NME-ICT in History under the MHRD project), 2015. ISSN: 2349-154X.

Research Projects:

Founding Member and President, Oral History Archives, Department of History, Jesus and Mary College, University of Delhi

Membership in Professional Bodies:

*Oral History Association of India (OHAI): Annual member 2021-22, 2023-24; Life-member since February 2026

*Oral History Association (OHA): 2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22, 2026-27

*Indian History Congress (IHC)

Elected Member, Executive Committee, Oral History Archive of India (OHAI), from April 2026 onwards.

Co-Coordinator, UGC-funded Coaching Classes for Entry into Services SC, ST, OBC, Minorities, at Jesus and Mary College, 2015-16.

Coordinator, UGC-funded Coaching Classes for Entry into Services SC, ST, OBC, Minorities, at Jesus and Mary College, 2016-17.

Elected Member, Academic Council, University of Delhi: Feb 2017 - Feb 2021.

Member, Departmental Research Committee, History Department, University of Delhi: 2021-2023.

Head, Academic Committee, International Conference on 'Social Determinants of Health Inequality and Health Inequity: Impact of COVID-19; Strategies for the Future', 23-24th February 2023, organized by Jesus and Mary College, DU.

Editor-in-chief, *Maazinama*, the annual academic journal of the Department of History, Jesus and Mary College, University of Delhi, 2023, 2024.

Member of **Departmental Research Committee**, Department of History, DU. Was part of the interview panel to interview candidates for the PhD program of the History department from 2nd-5th January 2023.

Member, **Screening Committee** for the permanent post of Assistant Professor, History, Ramanujan College, DU, November 2022.

Member, **Screening Committee** for the permanent post of Assistant Professor, History, Jesus and Mary College, DU, April-May 2023.

Member, **Screening-cum-Evaluation Committee** for promotion of 02 Assistant Professors from Academic Level 11 to Academic Level 12, November 2022.

Member, **Admissions Committee**, JMC, July-September 2022 and July-August 2023.

Design and Development of Curriculum, B.A. History (Hons) and B.A. Multidisciplinary (UGCF-NEP), Department of History, University of Delhi, as **Convenor and Member** for various Board of Papers and Course Development, 2022-2024.

Member, Editorial Board, *Veritas: A Multidisciplinary Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities*, 2025 onwards.

Orientation/ Refresher/ Other Courses:

Attended Summer Institute 2019 at Columbia Centre for Oral History Research, Columbia University, New York, from June 17th till June 29th, 2019. The theme of the Institute was 'Oral History from the Margins to the Centre: Narrating the Politics of Our Time'.

Have participated as a teacher representative from Lady Shri Ram College in the Heritage Forum at INTACH as part of INTACH's Heritage Education Programme on 25 March 2014.

Have participated in the organization of the academic and cultural programme as part of the UKIERI-Study India Programme 2013 at Sri Venkateswara College from September 4-6, 2013.

Have participated in the Special Orientation Programme for the Foundation Course in Indian History and Culture of the Four Year Undergraduate Programme, held on 19 August 2013 at the University of Delhi, South Campus.

Attended two-day Workshop on 'Starting your Oral History Project', conducted by the Oral History Association of India (OHAI) on 17th and 18th October 2020.

Attended seven-day International Workshop conducted by Department of History, Sree Shankaracharya University of Sanskrit, Kalady, and supported by Kerala Council for Historical Research, on 'Sensing the Past: Thematic Departures and 'Archival' Searches', from 30th September 2020 to 30th October 2020.

Attended a two-day workshop, 'Getting Started with Oral History', organised by the Baylor University Institute for Oral History, Texas, on 4th and 11th August 2021.

Attended a two-week Winter School in Public History, 'Memory and Materiality', organised by the Centre for Public History, Srishti Manipal Institute of Art, Design and Technology, Bangalore, from February 7 to 19, 2022.

Field Work:

Have mentored a group of 10 students of Jesus and Mary College on a research project entitled 'Amalgamation: A Study of Buddhist Monastic Orders and their Belief Systems in Sikkim' under the auspices of the Gyanodaya project of the University of Delhi, 18 December-29 December 2014. The objective was to create an oral history of Buddhism and its belief systems as it exists in a small Himalayan state of Sikkim through interviews of monks, believers, tourists and the various communities living there.

As President of the Oral History Archive, JMC, have overseen the oral history interviews conducted by colleagues and students. Also, have worked as a mentor for the oral history interviews conducted under the themes of 'History of Sexualities' and 'Life-stories of Public Intellectuals in India'.