

Dr. Maya John is an Assistant Professor in the Department of History. She has a doctoral degree in History from the University of Delhi. She has published on the evolution of labour law in colonial India, the relationship between caste and the labour market, the question of education in the colonial and post-colonial period, challenges faced by unorganized workers in contemporary times, and problems with the current labour law regime.

Her areas of interest include labour laws, social movements, caste and the history of reservation, dynamics of women's participation in the colonial and post-colonial labour market, trends in the women's movement, state formation in India, and modern European history.

She teaches modern European history, early colonial history of India, contemporary history of India, as well as history option papers under the B.El.Ed course.

Qualifications: Ph.D., Department of History, University of Delhi.

Administrative and Co-curricular assignments:

- Teacher representative (under 10 years of service), Governing Body, Jesus and Mary College, January 2020 to January 2021,
- Member, Committee of Courses, BA (H) History program, Department of History, University of Delhi, 2019 to 2021,
- Member, CBCS-LOCF Course Revision Core Committee, Department of History, University of Delhi, 2019,
- General Editor of *The JMC Review*, the research e-journal of the college (2020),
- Member, Editorial Board, *The JMC Review* (2016 onwards),
- Convener, Sub-Committee for Course Revision of B.El.Ed. History Liberal Option Papers, 2018 to 2019.
- Convener, Women's Studies Centre (2016 onwards),
- Co-Convener, History Association (July 2019 onwards),
- Member, Internal Complaints Committee (2017 onwards).

Research supervision:

- Currently supervising one PhD titled 'History of the Servants of India Society (1905-1950): Exploring the Relationship between Constitutionalism and the Labour Movement', Department of History, University of Delhi.
- Member, Doctoral Advisory Committee (DAC) for a PhD titled 'Production Organisations, Technological Changes and Women Artisans: A Case Study of Handblock Printing Industry of Rajasthan', Department of Women's and Gender Studies, Ambedkar University, Delhi.
- Currently supervising a research project by the college Women's Studies Centre (WSC), titled 'Tracing Distress and Enhanced Precarity: Gender Analysis of the Lockdown in India' (2020-2021).
- Currently supervising a research project by the college WSC, titled 'Cyber-bullying, Cyber-stalking and Sexism: A Case Study of DU Women Students' (2020-21).
- Oral history project on of the settlement of urban poor near Zakhira industrial area, Delhi (2018).

Academic bodies

- Member, Association of Indian Labour Historians (AILH)
- Member, Indian History Congress (IHC)
- Life Member, Indian Association of Women's Studies (IAWS)

Awards and recognition:

- University Teaching Assistant at the Department of History, University of Delhi, 2009-2012.
- Panelist on several televised debates and talk-shows on women's issues and state policies.

Published work:

- The Persistent Precarity of Domestic Workers in South Asia: Moving beyond Convention 189 and Towards Municipalization, in Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung (ed.) *Dossier on Convention 189 Ten Years On*, June 2021. Also available in e-version at <https://www.rosalux.de/en/news/id/44474/the-persistent-precarity-of-domestic-workers-in-south-asia?cHash=9491788f2be4d36e0ef7982e08f58f2c>.
- Disease Surveillance: How the Poor Die, *Frontline*. Vol. 27 (17), 42-47, 15-28 August 2020, ISSN 0970-1710.
- Domesticity and Its Substitute: Lockdown and Beyond, *Economic and Political Weekly*. Vol. 55 (26-27), 44-49, 27 June 2020, ISSN 0012-9976.
- Fit and frictions of the American dream: black liberation beyond ‘Black Lives Matter’, *Frontier*, 16 June 2020. ISSN 0016-2094.
- Identity of a Disease: Social Epistemology and Epidemiology in Light of COVID-19, *Economic and Political Weekly*. Vol. 55 (19), 13-18, 9 May 2020, ISSN 0012-9976.
- Remembering Marx under the condition of lockdown: Going beyond the “Corona” Paradigm, *Mainstream Weekly*, Vol. 58 (21), 9 May 2020. ISSN 0542-1462.
- Class Politics in the Time of “Corona”: Indian Left as the Mirror Image of Right-wing Politics, *Frontier*, 7 May 2020. ISSN 0016-2094.
- The World of Domestic Workers, *Economic and Political Weekly*. Vol. 54 (38), 26-31, 21 Sep 2019. ISSN 0012-9976.
- Heterogeneous Labour, Labour Theory of Value and Identities: Towards a Theory of Segmentation and Revolutionary Subjectivity. *Social Scientist*. Vol. 46 (9-10), September-October 2018. ISSN 0970-0293.
- The ‘Half-timer’: Colonial Indian Regulation of Child Labourers. In Siân Beynon-Jones and Emily Grabham (Eds.), *Law and Time* (pp. 162–78). London: Routledge Social Justice Book Series, 2018. ISBN 9780415792219.
- Death Penalty is not the Answer, Opinion Editorial, *The Hindu*, 23 April 2018.
- कठोरतम कानून न्याय का पर्याय नहीं, Opinion Editorial, *जनसत्ता*, 30 April 2018.
- Passing the Post in Postcoloniality: Precedents and Prospects of Labour Laws in India. *The JMC Review*. Vol 1, 2017. Retrieved from <http://www.jmc.ac.in/the-jmc-review/content/>
- Quasi-Magisterial Power of ‘Madams’: An Insight into the Noida Case. *Economic and Political Weekly*. Vol. 52 (30), 15-17, 29 July 2017. ISSN 0012-9976.
- (De)skilling Caste: Exploring the Relationship between Caste, State Regulations and the Labour Market in Late Colonial India. In Sabyasachi Bhattacharya and Rana P. Behal (Eds.), *The Vernacularization of Labour Politics* (pp. 267-293). New Delhi: Tulika Books, 2016. ISBN 978-93-82381-82-2.
- Fears and Furies of Sexual Harassment. *Economic and Political Weekly*. Vol 49 (15), 29-32, 12 April 2014. ISSN 0012-9976.
- Remembering Eric Hobsbawm and His Age. In *From the Pages of Social Scientist: Tributes, 1983-2013* (pp. 260-272). New Delhi: Tulika Books, 2013. ISBN NO.: 978-93-82381-17-4.
- Critiquing Reforms in Higher Education. *Social Scientist*. Vol. 41 (7–8), 49-67, July–August 2013. ISSN 0970-0293.
- Workers' Discontent and Form of Trade Union Politics. *Economic and Political Weekly*. Vol. 47 (1), 7 January 2012. ISSN 0012-9976.
- Development of Labour Law & Its Repercussions on the Trade Union Movement (1926-1948): A Special Reference to Bombay. *Labour and Development*. Vol 18 (2), 16-26, December 2011. ISBN 0973-0419.

News editorials

- Enslavement by Law, Opinion Editorial, *Indian Express*, 15 October 2020.
- Privatisation via Graded Autonomy, Opinion Editorial, *The Hindu*, 20 August 2020.
- Virtual Exclusion, Opinion Editorial, *The Telegraph*, 29 May 2020.

- Why an Absolute Reliance on Online Examinations may not be the Answer, Opinion Editorial, *Hindustan Times*, 25 May 2020.
- ऑनलाइन शिक्षा और चुनौतियां, Opinion Editorial, *जनसत्ता*, 21 May 2020.
- उदारीकरण का नतीजा है श्रम कानूनों में बदलाव, Opinion Editorial, *अमर उजाला*, 17 May 2020.
- गांव जाने से ज्यादा खतरनाक है काम पर जाना, Opinion Editorial, *नवभारत टाइम्स*, 12 May 2020.
- India's Disease Surveillance Needs a Reboot. Lead Editorial, *The Hindu*, 4 May 2020.
- Bearing the Brunt of Slack Laws. Opinion Editorial, *The Hindu*, 18 December 2019.
- Private Power, Public Apathy: Labour Laws for Domestic Workers. *The Hindu*, p.8, 7 August 2017.
- घरेलू कामगार क्यों हैं लाचार, *जनसत्ता*, p.6, 7 August 2017.
- A Salary Plan that Changes Nothing. *The Hindu*, Lead Editorial, 1 October 2012.

Online publications

- Knowability and Unknowability of Covid-19: Is there "Class" in the Coronavirus Panic, *Kafila*, 5 April 2020, <https://kafila.online/2020/04/05/knowability-and-unknowability-of-covid-19-is-there-class-in-the-coronavirus-panic-maya-john/#more-40188>
- Agony of Covid-19 and the Lockdown: Who is Afraid of Class, *Kafila*, 19 April 2020, <https://kafila.online/2020/04/19/agony-of-covid-19-and-the-lock-down-who-is-afraid-of-class-maya-john/>
- Worker's Self-Activity in the Time of Lockdown: The Victory of their Right to Return Home, *Countercurrents*, 2 May 2020, <https://countercurrents.org/2020/05/workers-self-activity-in-the-time-of-lockdown-the-victory-of-their-right-to-return-home>
- Lockdown and its Discontent: Mass Quarantine and Beyond, *Countercurrents*, 6 May 2020, <https://countercurrents.org/2020/05/lockdown-and-its-discontent-mass-quarantine-and-beyond>
- From Spanish Flu to Covid-19: A Repeat of Folly? *Countercurrents*, 19 May 2020, <https://countercurrents.org/2020/05/from-spanish-flu-to-covid-19-a-repeat-of-folly/>
- Fears and Furies of Online (Mis)education: Lockdown and Beyond, *Kafila*, 22 May 2020, <https://kafila.online/2020/05/22/fears-and-furies-of-online-miseducation-lockdown-and-beyond-maya-john/>
- Online examinations: towards educational genocide of students of School of Open Learning, *Countercurrents*, 24 May 2020, <https://countercurrents.org/2020/05/online-examinations-towards-educational-genocide-of-students-of-school-of-open-learning/>
- Nurses in India: Migration, Precarious Employment Conditions and Resistance. Working Paper No.10. Action Research on Women's Labour Migration in India. ILO's Work in Freedom Project RAS 13/55/UKM in collaboration with Centre for Women's Development Studies, New Delhi, 2019, <https://www.cwds.ac.in/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Working-Paper-10.pdf>.
- Noida's Domestic Workers' Take on the 'Madams' – A Report from Ground Zero. *Kafila*, 2 August 2017. Retrieved from <https://kafila.online/2017/08/02/noidas-domestic-workers-take-on-the-madams-a-report-from-ground-zero-maya-john-sunita-toppo-and-manju-mochhary/>
- Infantile 'Radicalism', Domestic Labour Debate & Anti-Rape Movement. *Sanhati*, 1 October 2013. Retrieved from <http://sanhati.com/excerpted/8190/>
- Critiquing Intersectionality, Populism and Gender Disembodied of Class. *Sanhati*, 10 June 2013. Retrieved from <http://sanhati.com/excerpted/7237/>
- Class Societies and Sexual Violence: Understanding Rape in Contemporary Times, *Radical Notes*, 8 May 2013. Retrieved from <https://radicalnotes.com/2013/05/08/class-societies-and-sexual-violence/>
- Will the Real Mr. Jaitirth Rao Please Stand Up! *Sanhati*, 28 October 2012. Retrieved from <http://sanhati.com/excerpted/5738/>

- Corruption and Class Discontent: The Contours of Bourgeois Political Forms and State-Formation, *Radical Notes*, 28 October 2011. Retrieved from <https://radicalnotes.com/2011/10/28/corruption-and-class-discontent-the-contours-of-bourgeois-political-forms-and-state-formation/>

Forthcoming publications

- Class Societies and the Urban Rape Phenomenon: Understanding Vulnerability, Culpability and Complicity in Contemporary Times, chapter in *Gender Inclusion in India: Challenges and Strategies*. (Editors: Sabiha Hussain and Suraiya Tabassum). ISBN 978-93-5002-711-0.
- Co-edited volume titled *Who Cares? Health Workers, Care Extraction and Struggles over Care Work in India*. (Editors: Christa Wichterich and Maya John)
- Four Units of Self Learning Material for a new Masters Programme in Labour and Development (ODL Mode) launched by Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU).

Conferences and workshops attended

- Invited as a Panelist at the National Webinar on ‘Domestic Workers in India—Commemorating International Domestic Workers Day’. **Organized by:** ActionAid India. **Date:** 18 June 2021. [Webinar]
- Invited as a Panelist at the International Webinar on ‘Shaking the Foundations of the Global Economy’. **Organized by:** Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung (RLS) (Berlin, Germany). **Date:** 14 June 2021. [Webinar]
- Keynote Speaker at the interactive webinar on ‘India’s Health System and Ongoing Health Crisis.’ **Organized by:** Campaign for People’s Health Rights. **Date:** 27 May 2021. [Webinar]
- Special Invitee/Panelist at the National Conference on ‘Vulnerability, Legal Protection and Human Rights of Domestic Workers’. **Organized by:** National Human Rights Commission, India. **Date:** 16 April 2021. [Webinar]
- Panelist at interactive webinar on ‘Engaging with SDGs: SDG 2 – Zero Hunger’. **Organized by:** UN75 Uttar Pradesh State Team and Confederation of Young Leaders. **Date:** 2 November 2020. [Webinar]
- Panelist at interactive lecture series on ‘Rethinking Gendered Realities in Multiple Contexts: New Education Policy 2020 and Gender Concerns’. **Organized by:** Sarojini Naidu Centre for Women’s Studies, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi. **Date:** 22 October 2020. [Webinar]
- Panelist at transnational dialogues on ‘Revaluing Care in the times of Covid-19: Covid-19 and Gender Violence’. **Organized by:** Gender, Sexuality and Feminist Studies, Duke University. **Date:** 19 September 2020. [Webinar]
- Panelist at two-day National Webinar on ‘Migration and the Pandemic Problematique’. **Organized by:** IQAC, Deshbandhu College (DU), Department of Political Science (DU) and Mahanirban Calcutta Research Group (Kolkata). **Date:** 15-16 September 2020. [Webinar]
- Panelist at interactive webinar on ‘Critical Analysis on New National Education Policy 2020’. **Organized by:** Christian Institute for the Study of Religion and Society (CISRS), Bangalore. **Date:** 3 September 2020. [Webinar]
- Invited as Expert Panelist on ‘Strategies for Mobilization & Collectivization Amongst Domestic Workers in India: Session 4 at the Virtual Workshop on Paid Domestic Work as “Decent Work”: Global Aspirations and Indian Realities’. **Organized by:** Dickson Poon School of Law, King’s College London. **Date:** 18-20 August 2020. [Webinar]
- Invited as a Panelist on ‘Corona Crisis: Voices from the Ground – Experiences of Domestic Workers’, webinar on chapter four of *Conversations of Gurugram: Towards a Social Welfare Architecture of Gurugram*. **Organized by:** Management Development Institute (MDI), Gurugram. **Date:** 10 July 2020. [Webinar]
- Read a paper titled ‘One Day in the Life of Johra Bibi: Exploring Migration, Precarity and Resistance by Women Domestic Workers’, at the National Conference on Women in a Changing World, Chennai. **Organized by:** Indian Association of Women’s Studies (IAWS). **Date:** 28-30 January 2020.
- Invited as an Expert Panelist for pre-conference panel on ‘Labour Codes and Women Workers’ at the 61st Annual Conference of the Indian Society of Labour Economics, Patiala, Punjab. **Organized by:** Indian Society of Labour Economics. **Date:** 7-9 December 2019.

- Invited as an Expert Panelist on 'In/Visible Global Care – Global Care Chains and the Struggles for a Good Life for All' at the Feminist Futures Festival, Zeche Zollverein, Essen (Germany). **Organized by:** Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung, Care Revolution Netzwerk and Komzeptwerk. **Date:** 12-15 September 2019.
- Read a paper titled 'Nurses in India: Migration, Precarious Employment Conditions and Resistance' at the workshop on Action Research on Women's Labour Migration in India. **Organized by:** International Labour Organization (ILO) and Centre for Women's Developmental Studies (CWDS), New Delhi. **Date:** 1-2 July 2019.
- Invited as a Panelist to speak on 'Writing History of Women and Work: Exploring the Category of Gender' at the workshop on Gender and History. **Organized by:** Department of History, Hansraj College (DU) and IQAC, Hansraj College (DU), New Delhi. **Date:** 26 March 2019.
- Read a paper titled 'One Day in the Life of Johra Bibi: A History of Migration, Precarity and Resistance by Women Domestic Workers' at the International Conference on New Perspectives on Feminist Labour History: Work and Activism. **Organized by:** Department of History and Cultures, University of Bologna. **Date:** 17-18 January 2019.
- Invited to deliver a special lecture on 'Law's Labour Lost: A Long History of Indian Labour Law'. Organized by: Centre for the Study of Law and Governance, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. **Date:** 4 October 2018.
- Read a paper titled 'One Day in the Life of Johra Bibi: Unveiling the New Technologies of Employer's Power in the Delhi-NCR Domestic Services Industry' at the XIIth International Conference on Labour History: The Future of Work in the Mirror of the Past. **Organized by:** V.V. Giri National Labour Institute (Noida) & Association of Indian Labour Historians (AILH). **Date:** 26-28 March 2018.
- Read a paper titled 'Heterogeneous labour, labour theory of value and identities: towards a theory of segmentation and revolutionary subjectivity' at the International Conference on 150 years of Capital and 100 years of the October Revolution, New Delhi. **Organized by:** Department of Sociology, South Asian University, in collaboration with Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung, Berlin. **Date:** 3-4 November 2017.
- Invited as resource person for the session 'Labour Question in Social Movements' at the Marxist Summer School. **Organized by:** Department of Sociology, South Asian University, New Delhi. **Date:** 11 June 2017.
- Invited to deliver a special lecture on 'Organization Questions and Trade Union Movement in India' for the Training Programme on Strengthening Awareness on Labour Issues for North-Eastern States. **Organized by:** V.V. Giri National Labour Institute, Noida. **Date:** 2 May 2017.
- Invited to deliver a special lecture on 'History of Trade Unions in India' for the Induction Training Programme for the Central Labour Service Officers. **Organized by:** V.V. Giri National Labour Institute, Noida. **Date:** 20 April 2017.
- Read a paper titled 'Class societies and the urban rape phenomenon: understanding vulnerability, culpability and complicity in contemporary times' at the National Conference on Women in a Changing World, Chennai. **Organized by:** Indian Association of Women's Studies (IAWS). **Date:** 23 January 2017.
- Chair and Discussant for the session on 'Gender, Sexuality and Marxism' at the International Conference on Marxism and South Asia: Issues and Relevance. **Organized by:** Department of Sociology, South Asian University, New Delhi. **Date:** 11-12 November 2016.
- Invited to deliver a special lecture on 'Women Workers and the Politics of the Left' at the 10-days summer school on Marxism. **Organized by:** Department of Sociology, South Asian University, New Delhi. **Date:** 24 September 2016.
- Invited as resource person to speak on 'Labour movement and labour administration in the context of globalization' at the Training Program on Globalization, Changing Employment Relations and Labour Administration. **Organized by:** V.V. Giri National Labour Institute (Noida). **Date:** 30 August 2016.
- Invited as resource person to speak on the 'Evolution of the Trade Union Movement in Indian Tea Plantations' at the National Leadership Skill Workshop for Plantation Workers. **Organized by:** V.V. Giri National Labour Institute (Noida). **Date:** 13 July 2016.
- Invited as resource person to speak on the 'Changing World of Work and Responses from the Trade Union Movement' at the National Research Methodology Workshop on Methods and Approaches to Labour Research. **Organized by:** V.V. Giri National Labour Institute (Noida) & Association of Indian Labour Historians (AILH). **Date:** 20 June 2016.

- Read a paper titled ‘A short history of Indian labour law: its precedents and prospects’ at the National Seminar on Labour Laws Reforms and Implementation of Unorganised Workers Social Security Act – 2008. **Organized by:** The Mahatma Gandhi Labour Institute (Ahmedabad), 31 March 2016.
- Discussant for two papers presented at the XIth International Conference on Labour History: Workers, Labour and Mediation. **Organized by:** V.V. Giri National Labour Institute (Noida) & Association of Indian Labour Historians (AILH). **Date:** 21-23 March 2016.
- Read a paper titled ‘Exploring the break with nineteenth century regulation of labour relations, the emergence of new contractualism and the institutionalization of tripartism’ at the XIth International Conference on Labour History: Workers, Labour and Mediation. **Organized by:** V.V. Giri National Labour Institute (Noida) & Association of Indian Labour Historians (AILH). **Date:** 21-23 March 2016.
- Read a paper titled ‘Law’s Labour Lost: A Long History of India Labour Law’ at the International Workshop on “Chronologies of ‘Labour’: a Global Perspective”. **Organized by:** The Association of Indian Labour Historians (AILH), the V.V. Giri National Labour Institute (Noida) and the International Centre for Advanced Studies (ICAS:MP, Germany). **Date:** 22-23 January 2016.
- Read a paper titled ‘(De)skilling Caste: Exploring the Relationship between Caste, State Regulations and Labour Market in Late Colonial India’ at the Xth International Labour History Conference. **Organized by:** Association of Indian Labour Historians (AILH) and V.V. Giri Labour Institute, Noida. **Date:** March 2014.
- Read a paper titled ‘Labour Law and the Construction of ‘Legitimate’ Trade Unions in Colonial Bombay (1926-1946), at the 71st Indian History Congress. **Organized by:** Indian History Congress, Malda. **Date:** 2011.
- Read a paper titled ‘Constitution of a Legal Space of Resistance, at the VIIIth International Labour History Conference. **Organized by:** Association of Indian Labour Historians (AILH) and V.V. Giri Labour Institute, Noida. **Date:** March 2010.

Other Academic Achievements

- As Editor, organized the release of Volume Four (2020) of *The JMC Review* cum Webinar, titled ‘Debating Education: Issues and Concerns’. **Date:** 27 November 2020.
- Designed a new CBCS-LOCF Skill Enhancement Course: Historian’s Craft for the Department of History, University of Delhi (introduced in the 2020-21 session).