

Dr. Chitra Sinha

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Profile

Dr. Chitra Sinha has been in academia for over three decades in India, USA, Sweden, South Africa and Bahrain. She is presently associated with the Centre for Gender Research (Genusvetenskap), Uppsala University, Sweden and the University of Free State, Bloemfontein, South Africa. She has a Ph.D. from the University of Mumbai, India and has taught at the University of Mumbai; SNDT Women's University, India; Visva Bharati University, India; and Royal University for Women, Bahrain; covering subjects ranging from research methodology, gender studies, human rights, history, political science, sociology, culture studies to journalism and media studies. She has designed and conducted training programs for college and university faculty, University Teachers' Orientation Programmes and special training sessions for corporate executives. Dr. Sinha has extensive experience in Curriculum Development and Quality Assurance at University level.

Dr. Sinha has conducted research in the areas of history of women's education, family law reforms, communication and social consciousness, role of media in society, and broader issues of human rights. She has been the recipient of several prestigious fellowships including Fellowship of the Royal Asiatic Society, Mumbai; Pandit Setu Madhavrao Pagadi Fellowship, Government of Maharashtra, India; New India Foundation Book Writing Fellowship and the South Asia Regional Fellowship of Social Science Research Council, Ford Foundation, USA.

I. Professional Experience

Professional Experience

- Guest Researcher, Centre for Gender Research, Uppsala University, Sweden (2015-present)
- Research Fellow (Non-resident), Centre for Gender and African Studies, University of the Free State, Bloemfontein, South Africa, (2017- present).



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Major Contributions:

- Taught a course in the area of “Family and Kinship Studies”, Center for Gender Research, Uppsala University.
- Board Member, Forum for South Asia Studies, Uppsala University, Sweden since 2018, contribute to the growth of South Asia research at the Uppsala University.
- Member, Family/kinship research group, Gendered Histories and Heritage research group, Centre for Gender Research, Uppsala University, Sweden.
- Invited honorary adviser to Equal Opportunities Forum, University of Bahrain, advise on a variety women’s studies projects, planning conferences, building proposals and courses.
- Member, Committee on Asia Pacific Rim Studies, University of the Free State since 2017, guide research projects, evaluate research proposals etc.

Publications and Presented Papers:(2015- present)

- Book: Discourse and Identity Formation: Parliamentary Debates in Bahrain, (co-authored with Lamya Al Kooheji), Benjamin Publishing House, The Netherlands and USA (December, 2017).
- Book chapter “Rhetoric, Reason and Representation: Four Narratives of the Hindu Code Bill” in Ruby Maloni (ed.) Historian’s Craft, Manohar Publishers, 2018.
- Speaker at a Symposium on Second Wave of International Suffrage- Japan, India, Latin America, Stockholm University, Sweden, April, 2019.
- Presented Paper “Intersectionality, Identity Politics and Question of Choice in Marriage :Love Jihad in India”, at the Conference on Close Relations, Uppsala University, Sweden, October 2018.
- Presented paper “Women in the Bahrain Financial Sector: Opportunities, Challenges and Strategic choices”, International Conference on Changing Contour of Women’s Paid and Unpaid Work, Centre for Labour Studies, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Deonar, Mumbai, July,2018.
- Presented paper “Women’s Empowerment in India: From Hindu Code Bill to Uniform Civil Code”, National Seminar, A K Dasgupta Centre for Planning and Development, Visva Bharati University, India, January,2018.
- Keynote Address in the Conference “Women in STEM: Empowerment, Opportunities and Challenges”, University of Bahrain and Supreme Council for Women, Bahrain, May, 2017.
- Presented Paper “Global Peace and Social justice: Shared Vision of Alva Myrdal and Jawaharlal Nehru” presented at the International Conference on “Gender, Activism and Politics in India and Sweden”, organized by Banaras Hindu University, India and Karlstad University, Sweden, Banaras, India, April, 2017.



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Publications and Presented Papers:(2015- present)

- Lecture "Women, Law and Leadership: A framework for Sustainable Progress" at the University of Bahrain, December 2016.
- Lecture "Gender Studies as a Cultural Movement and Academic Discipline ", SAMA, Bahrain, October,2016.
- Presented paper "Demystifying the Second Manu" as part of Indo- Swedish collaborative research group conference on "Gender, Activism and Politics in India and Sweden", Karlstad University, Karlstad, Sweden, June 2016.
- Presented Paper "Feminist Consciousness in India' in a conference on "Women and Society", Royal University for Women, Bahrain, April 2016.
- Chaired a session on "Women, Violence and Activism" at the Conference on "Women and Society", Royal University for Women, April, 2016.
- Public Lecture, "Family Law and Gender Rights in India" Centre for Gender Research, Uppsala University, Sweden, November,2016.

2014-2015

Associate Professor, Centre for General Studies, Royal University for Women, Bahrain.

Major Contributions:

- Subjects taught: Philosophy, Sociology, Women's Studies, literature.
- Pioneered strategy for the Women's Studies Research Unit.
- Editor, University monthly newsletter.
- Organized Academic Debates.
- Member, Research Committee.



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Publications and Presented Papers:

- Presented paper “At the Intersection of Religious Wisdom and Social Affairs: The Journey from Karve matric to S.N.D.T Women’s University (1916-1949) ”was presented (E-presentation) at the Macrotheme Conference “Business and Social Science Research Conference” Paris, France, December 2014.
- “Social Construction of the Feminine in Independent India; A Historical perspective” was accepted for presentation at the Humanities, Literature, Culture and Art 2014 Global Conference, Washington D.C., USA, December 2014.
- Lecture” Motherhood and Formation of Family Laws” at Research Forum, Royal University for Women, Bahrain, December 2014.

2013-2014

Visiting Fellow, School of Women’s Studies, Jadavpur University, Kolkata, India.

Major Contributions:

- Carried out research work on Indian legal history.
- Oral History Association, USA (Member)
- Indian History Congress (Member)
- Member, Migrant Worker’s Protection Society, Bahrain.

Publications and Presented Papers:

- Presented paper “Arab Spring and Gender Empowerment”, Indian History Congress, Bhubaneshwar, Odisha, India, December, 2013.
- Presented paper “Sanskrita Stree Parashakti”, National Seminar on “The Legacy of Radhakrishnan: Representing India in a New Global Order”, Vinaya Bhavana, Visva Bharati University, Santiniketan, September, 2013.
- Invited Lecture “Hindu Code Bill”, Department of History, Visva Bharati University, India, September, 2013.
- Invited Lecture “Debating Patriarchy”, at the Women’s Studies Centre, Visva Bharati University, India, September, 2013.



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Publications and Presented Papers:

- Presented paper "Identity, Sexuality and Voice: Gender Discourse in Ancient India", at International Women's Day Seminar on "Role of Women in Ancient Texts", Women's Studies Centre, Visva Bharati University, Santiniketan, India, March, 2013.
- Invited Lecture "Law and Gender Consciousness in India", at Women's Studies Centre, Visva Bharati University, January, 2013.
- Lecture on "Communicative Processes and Gender Empowerment", as resource person at University Teachers Refreshers Course organized by Burdwan University, India, January, 2013.
- Guest Lecture "Women and Media", at the Royal University for Women, Bahrain, 2013.

2009-2012

Research Fellow, New India Foundation

Publications and Presented Papers:

Published a book on **Debating Patriarchy: The Hindu Code Bill Controversy in India (1941-1956)**, Oxford University Press, India and USA, 2012.

The Book formed the basis for an Indian documentary Television Series "Pradhanmantri" directed by renowned filmmaker Sekhar Kapoor, ABP News (Hindi) and in the TV Serial, "Simhasana" ABP News (Marathi).

Major citations of the book include:

- Indian Law Commission, Report on Family Law, 2018
- Amartya Sen and Jean Dreze : An Uncertain Glory: India and its Contradictions, Princeton University Press, 2013.
- Sharmila Rege , Against the Madness of Manu: B.R Ambedkar's Writings on Brahmanical Patriarchy, Navayana Publications, 2013.
- The Book has been reviewed by Maithreyi Krishnaraj for Social Change, a Sage Publications Journal , December 2013.
- The Book is currently included in Syllabus of several Universities including McGill University, Benaras Hindu University, University of Calcutta.



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2006-2008

Reader (Associate Professor) in Women's Studies, Research Centre for Women's Studies, SNTD Women's University, Mumbai. India.

Major Contributions:

- Worked as Associate Professor in India's premier centre for women's studies.
- Member, Asiatic Society of Bombay.
- Conducted a number of academic workshops on Gender and Human Rights.
- Organised conferences, seminars at local, national and international levels.
- Visiting Faculty, Diploma Course in Human Rights, Department of Politics, and University of Mumbai, 2006- 07.

Publications and Presented Papers:

- Book chapter in Maithreyi Krishnaraj (ed.), Motherhood in India: Glorification without Empowerment, Routledge, 2009.
- Article "Images of Motherhood: The Hindu Code Bill Discourse in India" Economic and Political Weekly, November, 2007.
- Article "Role of Women in the UN", published in Economic and Political Weekly, Vol. 41, No. 37, September 16-22, 2006.
- Paper presented at the National Conference on Gender, Visva Bharati University, India, December, 2008.
- Presented paper "Women's Rights as Human Rights", Research Centre for Women's Studies, S.N.D.T. Women's University, Mumbai, 2007.
- Presented paper, "Legal reform and Empowerment of Women in India", University of Mumbai, 2007.
- Presented paper, "Theoretical Underpinnings of Women's Movements in India", Research Centre for Women's Studies, S.N.D.T. Women's University, Mumbai, India, 2007.
- Presented paper' "Women Saints of India", St. Xavier's College, University of Mumbai, 2007.
- Presented paper, "Communal Harmony through Curricular Activities", Sophia Centre for Women's Studies and Development, Mumbai, India, July, 2007.
- Presented paper, "Teaching and Research in History", Conference Organized by the Bombay History Teacher's Academy, Mumbai, India, June 2006.



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Publications and Presented Papers:

- Lecture, "Anatomy of a Debate: The Hindu Code Bill Controversy in the 1940s and 1950s", Department of History, SNDT Women's University, Mumbai, India, 2006
- Presented paper, "Beyond Domesticity: Akbar's Harem and national Alliances" National workshop on "Reason and Religion in Akbar's India", University of Mumbai and Indian Council for Historical Research in Mumbai, India, September, 2006.
- Presented paper, "Gender and Land Rights in India: Looking Back to Think Ahead", National Seminar on "Women and Land Rights in India", Centre for Women's Studies, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh and National Commission on Women, Aligarh, India, August, 2006.

2002-2006

Lecturer (Assistant Professor) in History, R.J. College, University of Mumbai

Major Contributions:

- Faculty, Social Sciences
- Faculty-in-Charge, Diploma Course in Travel and Tourism Management,
- Post-Doctoral Fellow, Centre for Studies on Women, University of California Los Angeles (UCLA), USA. Area of Research: Family Law Reforms in India and Gender Rights
- Board Member, Bombay History Teachers' Academy.
- Syllabus Committee, M.A., M. Phil and B.A courses in History, University of Mumbai.
- Resource Person for College and University Teacher's Orientation Programme 2005- 2008.

Publications and Presented Papers:

- Book chapter, "American Women's Movement and Legal Rights: A Historical Look" in Sanjay Lodha, Arun Chaturvedi and Gursharan Kaur (eds.), Indo – US Relations and Critical Socio-Political Issues, Mangal Deep Publications, 2006, ISBN 81-7594-1944.
- Book Chapter, 'Gender and Poverty in India: Need for Employment Oriented Education Strategy', in A. Mathur and P.S. Raikhy (eds), Economic Liberalisation and its Implications for Employment, Deep and Deep Publishers, New Delhi, 2003.



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Publications and Presented Papers:

- Article 'Feminist Consciousness in India: A Conceptual Analysis', Conference Volume, Seminar on Research Methodology, LJNI College, University of Mumbai, March 2003.
- Article 'Emergence of Feminist Consciousness in India and the United States: A Comparative Perspective', Conference Volume, XXXV Indian Association for American Studies, January, 2003.
- Presented paper, "Law and the Public Gaze", SSRC Fellows' Workshop on "The Long 1950s", Social Science Research Council (USA), Negombo, Sri Lanka, 2005.
- Invited Lecture "Some Methodological Aspects of Women's Studies in India", Department of History, University of Mumbai, March, 2005.
- Presented paper, "Recent research Trends in the History of Ancient India", State level Conference of Akhil Maharashtra Itihas Parishad, KarKhanis Arts and Commerce College, University of Mumbai, January, 2005.
- Public Lecture, "Family Law Reform in India and institution of Gender Rights", UCLA Centre for the Study of Women, USA, <http://www.international.ucla.edu/buddhist/events/printevent.asp?eventid=2173>, 2004.
- Presented paper," The Quest for Dual Liberation: Feminism and Nationalism in India: 1927-1947", Workshop on "Women during Freedom Struggle", Maniben Nanavati Women's College, Mumbai, 17th July, 2004.
- Presented paper, 'A Society in Exile: Memsahibs in India', UGC Seminar on Migration, University of Mumbai, December, 2003.
- Presented paper, 'Art and Architecture', at the Department of history, LJNI College, University of Mumbai, October 2003.

2000-2002

Director, Center for Mass Media Studies, S.I.E.S College, University of Mumbai, India.

Major Contributions:

- Taught Courses for the Bachelor of Media Studies of University of Mumbai
- Member and coordinator of Syllabus Committee of the Mass Media Programme, University of Mumbai, India.
- In charge of academics and administration of the Centre.
- Resource Person for Postgraduate Courses, Centre for Distance Education, S.N.D.T. University, Mumbai.



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Publications and Presented Papers:

- Presented paper," Dominant and Suppressed Perception of Gender identities in Nineteenth Century Maharashtra: Reflections from Tarabai Shinde's "Stri Purush Tulana", UGC sponsored State Level Seminar, SNTD Women's University, Mumbai, February, 2001.
- Presented paper, "From Karve Matric to SNTD Women's University: Reform and Resistance in Women's Education in India", National Seminar, Indian History Association, October, 2000.

1994 -99

Lecturer (Assistant Professor) in History and Foundation Course, Jai Hind College, University of Mumbai.

Major Contributions:

- Taught several social science subjects as part of the Foundation Course at Undergraduate Level
- Taught History at Undergraduate Level
- Adjunct Faculty, Government of India sponsored Coaching Centre for Civil Services Examination, University of Mumbai, 1997-2000.
- Resource person, Training Programme for Swiss Air, conducted by the University of Mumbai, 1997 & 1998.

Publications and Presented Papers:

- Presented paper, "Social Construction of the Feminine in Independent India", National Conference on " Contemporary India: Dynamics of Change ", Department of History, University of Mumbai, October, 1998.
- Invited lecture, "Historical Influences on Indian Culture", at Department of Geography, University of Mumbai, 1998.
- Lecture, "Women, Law and Society: Twentieth Century India", Department of History, University of Mumbai, Lecture Series on " Fifty Years of Indian Independence: History with a Future, August , 1997.
- Presented paper, "Struggle for Justice and Equality: The New Woman of the 1940s and 1990s", Seminar on " Youth and Fight for Justice: Then and Now ", Asiatic Society of Bombay, January, 1997.
- Public lecture, "Women and Patriarchy: Reflections in the Bombay Press: 1941-1945", Pandit Setu Madhava Rao Pagadi Memorial Lecture, University of Mumbai, October, 1996.



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1988-94

Assistant Lecturer, Visva Bharati University, Shantiniketan, India.

II. Educational Qualifications

- 2015** Advanced Certificate in Strategic HR Management, Cornell University, USA.
- 2004** Post-Doctoral Fellow, Centre for Studies on Women, University of California Los Angeles (UCLA), USA.
- 2004** Ph.D. In History, University of Mumbai, India.
- 2001** Post Graduate Certificate Course in Women's Studies, Research Centre for Women's Studies, SNDT Women's University, Mumbai, India.
- 1996** M.Phil. In History, University of Mumbai, Mumbai, India.

M.A and B.A and school education from Visva Bharati University, Santiniketan, India. Visva Bharati University is an institute of national importance in India, founded by the first non-European Nobel Laureate Rabin-dranath Tagore. It is one of India's most renowned places of higher learning.



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