

## Srijan Sandip Mandal

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### CURRENT POSITION AND EXPERIENCE

- 2022- Present    Assistant Professor of History, NALSAR University of Law  
Faculty Advisor, Literary and Quizzing Committee, NALSAR Public Policy Group,  
and Social Media Cell  
Member, Internal Committee, IT and Website Committee, Mess Monitoring  
Committee, Research Incentive Committee, and Wardens Committee
- 2016-2022    Faculty, Center for Public History, Srishti Manipal Institute of Art, Design and  
Technology, Bengaluru
- 2018-2019    Assistant Professor, Department of Liberal Studies, Jain (Deemed-to-be University),  
Bengaluru

### COURSES TAUGHT

- History II: Legal History of Modern India
- The Roads Not Taken: Alternative Imaginaries of Constitution-Making
- The End of Empire: Decolonisation in British India, 1942-47
- Censorship in Context
- History on Trial

### EDUCATION

- 2011-2016    Ph.D. in History, University of Hyderabad
- 2009-2011    M.Phil. in History, University of Hyderabad
- 2007-2009    M.A. in History, University of Hyderabad
- 2003-2006    B.Sc. in Hospitality and Hotel Administration, Institute of Hotel Management,  
Catering Technology, and Applied Nutrition, Kolkata

### AREAS OF RESEARCH INTEREST

Legal history and public history

## AWARDS/FELLOWSHIPS

- 2022-2025 Secretary of the International Federation for Public History  
2017 Dr. (Mrs.) Sheela Raj Memorial Medal for the “best Ph.D. thesis” in History  
2013-2016 Junior Research Fellowship from the Indian Council of Historical Research, New Delhi  
2012-2013 Fellowship from the Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, New Delhi  
2010 Andhra Bank Medal for “having secured the first rank in the M.A. History examination”

## PUBLICATIONS

### Highlights

- 2025 “The Promise and Perils of Bot-Based Public History.” In *Practices of Digital Humanities in India: Learning by Doing*, edited by Maya Dodd and Nirmala Menon, 164-73. Abingdon: Routledge.  
2017 co-authored with Indira Chowdhury. “East of the West: Repossessing the Past in India.” *Public History Review* 24: 22-37. <https://doi.org/10.5130/phrj.v24i0.5763>.  
2011 “A ‘World System’ Stretched? The Case of the ‘Eurasian and African World Systems’.” In *Networks in the First Global Age, 1400-1800*, edited by Rila Mukherjee, Indian Council of Historical Research Monograph Series 11, 377-86. New Delhi: ICHR/Primus Books.

### Book Chapters

- 2025 “The Promise and Perils of Bot-Based Public History.” In *Practices of Digital Humanities in India: Learning by Doing*, edited by Maya Dodd and Nirmala Menon, 164-73. Abingdon: Routledge.  
2019 co-authored with Indira Chowdhury. “Public History in India: Towards a People’s Past.” In *What is Public History Globally? Using the Past in the Present*, edited by Paul Ashton and Alex Trapeznik, 79-92. London: Bloomsbury Academic.  
2011 “A ‘World System’ Stretched? The Case of the ‘Eurasian and African World Systems’.” In *Networks in the First Global Age, 1400-1800*, edited by Rila Mukherjee, Indian Council of Historical Research Monograph Series 11, 377-86. New Delhi: ICHR/Primus Books.

### Journal Articles

- 2017 co-authored with Indira Chowdhury. “East of the West: Repossessing the Past in India.” *Public History Review* 24: 22-37. <https://doi.org/10.5130/phrj.v24i0.5763>.

### Others (Book Review/Blog/Op-ed)

- 2022 “The Right That Almost Was.” *Seminar* 750: 20-24. <https://www.india-seminar.com/>.  
2020 “Public History: Towards A Credible Engagement With the Past.” *Inter-Actions* 3, no. 2. <https://lilainteractions.in/the-marketplace-of-the-past/>.  
2017 “Oath to uphold the sovereignty and integrity of India was invented because of DMK in 1963.” *ThePrint*. <https://theprint.in/2017/12/29/oath-uphold-sovereignty-integrity-india-invented-1963/>.  
“This MP warned the Constitution didn’t give Indians freedom of speech. He’s been proven right.” *ThePrint*. <https://theprint.in/2017/11/26/constitution-right-to-free-speech/>

“Talk Point: Is political polarisation leading to demonising India’s Muslim rulers?”  
*ThePrint*. <https://theprint.in/2017/10/27/taj-mahal-khilji-tipu-political-polarisation-leading-demonising-indias-muslim-rulers-alien/>.

## Research Projects

2021 Developed a conversational video bot named “Hukam Singh” – which is an interpretation of Hukam Singh, member of the Constituent Assembly and Parliament as well as the third Speaker of the Lok Sabha – as a fellow of the Dara.network’s *RadBots* project, which is supported by British Council and Goethe Institut, Mumbai.  
<https://dara.network/hukam.singh>.

## Conferences/Seminars/Invited Lectures

- 2025 “Delegitimising the Historian? The Ascendance of the Juridical Interpretation of the Past.” Presentation made at the seminar on *New Researches in History: Way Forward*, University of Hyderabad.  
“Teaching Legal History in a Changing World.” Presentation made at the international workshop on *Contours of Legal History in India*, National Law School of India University, Bengaluru.  
“Codifying the ‘Nation’: The Sixteenth Amendment and the Imagination of India.” Paper presented at the national conference on *Legal Professionals in the Indian Freedom Struggle*, Tamil Nadu National Law University, Tiruchirappalli.
- 2024 “The Republic v. the Union of India: Secessionist Speech and the Sixteenth Amendment to the Constitution of India.” Paper presented at the international conference on *Rules, Laws, Conventions: The Momentous and the Everyday*, University of Hyderabad.
- 2022 “Curating a Contemporary Archive: The Construction of the Published Record on Constitution- Making in India.” Paper presented at the international conference on *Archiving the Contemporary: Memory, Technology and People*, Indian Institute of Technology Madras.
- 2021 “Unfree in the Ivory Tower: Academic Freedom in the Republic of India.” Paper presented in the workshop on *Shrinking Spaces: Limitations to Academic Freedom of Speech in a Transnational Perspective* at the ECPR (European Consortium of Political Research) Joint Sessions of Workshops 2021.
- 2019 “Criminalising Hate Speech or Chilling Free Speech? A Critique of the Proposed Law ‘Prohibiting Incitement to Hatred’ in the Republic of India.” Paper presented at the *2nd International Workshop on Hate Speech in Asia and Europe: A Comparative Approach*, Université Paris Diderot, France.
- 2018 co-authored with Sreeparna Chattopadhyay. “Digital Misogyny as Hate Speech: Exploring Legal Implications.” Paper presented at the *National Dialogue on Gender-Based Cyber Violence*, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai

- 2016 “The Spectre of Secession: Decolonization and the Sixteenth Amendment to the Constitution of India.” Paper presented at the *Decolonization Capstone Conference*, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.  
 “Criminalising Secessionist Speech: The Radicalisation of Non-Violent Protest in the Republic of India.” Paper presented at the *Workshop cum Ph.D. Summer School on Radical Protest in Constitutional Democracy*. University of Aberdeen, Scotland.
- 2015 “Choosing Continuity over Change: The Making of the Restrictions on the Freedom of Speech in the Constitution of India.” Paper presented at the *Tenth International Seminar on Decolonization*, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
- 2013 “Protecting Religion, Restricting Speech: The Case of India’s Blasphemy Law.” Paper presented at the *National Seminar on Thinking through Religion and Religious Institutions*, University of Hyderabad, Telangana.
- 2012 “Assembling Article 32? Towards an Interpretation of the Right to Constitutional Remedies.” Paper presented at the *Course on Rethinking the Contemporary*, Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, New Delhi.

## TALKS

- 2025 “Judicialising the Past: The Rise of Juridical History in India.” Lecture delivered online as part of the Khidki Collective’s online talk series, *Past Matters: A Public History Series*.  
 “On Public History.” Lecture delivered at the Government Women’s College, Jeypore, Odisha  
 “India, a Social Democracy.” Lecture delivered at the Mallya Aditi International School, Bengaluru.
- 2024 “A Bibliography for South Asian Public History.” Lecture delivered online as part of the International Federation for Public History’s *Explorers* online talk series.  
 “Contextualising the Constitution.” Lecture delivered online at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Tuljapur, to first-year students of their B.A. Social Sciences and B.A. Social Work programmes.
- 2023 “A Right That Could Have Been.” Lecture delivered online at the Mount Carmel College, Bengaluru.
- 2022-2023 “Freedom of Speech and Expression in the Constituent Assembly Debates (CAD)” and “Reasonable Restrictions on the Freedom of Speech and Expression”. Lectures delivered online at the NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad, for the students of its Advanced Diploma in Media Laws.
- 2021 “The Naxalite at Home: Notes on a Family History of Revolutionary Communism in West Bengal.” Public talk delivered online at the *Spring School in Family History*, Center for Public History, Srishti Manipal Institute of Art, Design and Technology, Bengaluru.
- 2020 A Right That Wasn’t? The Freedom of Speech and Expression in the Republic of India.” Webinar at the Symbiosis Law School, Nagpur, for its students and faculty.  
 Delivered remarks, as an invited speaker, in the workshop *Academic Freedom in the Age of Neoliberal Authoritarianism* at the Digital Politicogenetmaal 2020 (Annual Political Science Workshops of the Low Countries).

“Integrating the Historian’s Craft.” Inaugural Talk of Riad Foundation’s Talk Series on *Art in Education: Understanding the Relevance of Art in Elementary School Disciplines*, Lahe Lahe, Bengaluru.

2017 “Do We Have a Right to Freedom of Speech and Expression?” Lecture at the Indian Academy Degree College (Autonomous), Bengaluru for its Bachelor of Arts in Journalism cohort.

“A Right That Never Was: The Freedom of Speech and Expression in the Republic of India.” Talk at the *Srishti Colloquium*, Srishti Institute of Art, Design and Technology, Bengaluru

“When Speech was Silver...” Talk at *The Games of Emergency*, an event organised by the Center for Public History and the Abu Abraham Archive to mark the fortieth anniversary of the end of the Emergency on March 21, 1977.

## WALKS

2020 “A Trail through Tipu Sultan’s Palace and Bangalore Fort.” Led heritage walk organised by Sahapedia in partnership with the Center for Public History for the *India Heritage Walk Festival*

2019 “Tipu Sultan and the British Conquest of Bangalore.” Led heritage walk organised by Sahapedia in partnership with the Center for Public History under its programme, *India Heritage Walks*.

“In Tipu’s Shadow: A Walk through Srirangapatna Fort.” Led heritage walk organised by Sahapedia under its programme, *India Heritage Walks*.

“Bygone Basavanagudi.” Led heritage walk organised by Sahapedia for BMS College of Architecture, Bengaluru’s two-day seminar on *Responsive Heritage Interactions*.

## WORKSHOPS

2020 “Nature and Constituents of History.” Facilitated online workshop organised by the Riad Foundation for history educators and history enthusiasts on the concept of historical thinking

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