



**Archives of
Contemporary India**
Supported by HDFC Ltd

Catalogue

of



The Papers of Prosenjit Dasgupta

**Archives of
Contemporary India**
Supported by HDFC Ltd



ASHOKA
UNIVERSITY

Plot # 2, Rajiv Gandhi Education City,
P.O. Rai, Sonapat – 131029, Haryana (India)



(Prosenjit Dasgupta)

Prosenjit Dasgupta (b. 1944) is an author, naturalist, researcher and scholar who has documented and written extensively over the years on a variety of subjects especially wildlife and the natural world, folk and tribal culture, architecture, economics and history of India.

Prosenjit Dasgupta studied at the St. Xavier's Collegiate School and thereafter at the Presidency College, Kolkata. While his graduation was in Economics and he worked for more than 42 years in the chambers of commerce and allied organisations, he became deeply interested in wildlife and (as a corollary) in tribal life in India. This prompted him to travel extensively since the 1970s and he began regularly writing articles on the aforementioned subjects in various newspapers and magazines.

His publications on conservation include, *A Primer on Conservation in India* (1994) and *Touching Trees: Field Guide to Indian Forest Trees* (1997), and *10 Walks in Calcutta* (2000, revised ed. 2006) which was translated into Bengali and published under the title *Paye Paye Kolkata* (2018).

Dasgupta's impressions and experiences from his travels across the length and breadth of India's forests of central and south eastern India culminated into a number of books, *Walks in the Wild* (2002 & revised ed. 2011), *Tracking Jim* (2005), *After Elwin: Encounters with Tribal life in Central India* (2007), later revised and brought out with the title *Chasing a Dream: Journeys into the heartland of Tribal India* (2014).

As a student of economics, politics and history, Dasgupta has written a number of books on these subjects as well, *Eco-Yatra* (2007), *Issues and Idioms* (2015), *A Conflict in Thin Air* (2016), *A Partition in the Mind* (2018), and *India - Searching for the Present in the Past* (2020).

Deeply interested in the cultural history of Bengal, Dasgupta researched and edited the INTACH publication, *The Built Heritage of Calcutta* (Second edition, 2016). He is now working on his forthcoming book 'Rambles in the Wild', an account of his experiences in Indian forests from 1972 till date.

Deeply involved in documenting folk culture of various parts of India from 1972 onwards, Dasgupta has made some rare audio and video documentations of tribal life and folk songs of the Muria in Bastar, the Saora in Ganjam and their *dhokra* handicraft. He has also closely documented the *Theyyam* folk ritual of Kerala, *Puram* festival in Kerala and the *Yakshagana* folk theatre in south Kannada. Dasgupta has also been passionately documenting cave art and explored many rock art caves in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Jharkhand while also exploring the Jurassic Age palaeolithic deposits in Rann of Kutch and in Jharkhand. He has published several articles in newspapers and journals on these subjects and promoted local artisan development. Dasgupta has also extensively photographed all his travels and visits throughout his 50 year exploration career which are an invaluable archive into the life and times of a changing India during this period.

CATALOGUE OF THE PAPERS OF PROSENJIT DASGUPTA

INDEX

<u>S. No.</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Period</u>	<u>Page No.</u>
I.	NOTEBOOKS OF PROSENJIT DASGUPTA	1957-2012	5-14
	a) Book Notes and Reference Notebooks	1957-2009	5-8
	b) Travelogue and Field Visits Notebooks	1973-2012	8-13
	c) Journals and News Notebooks	2004-2007	13-14
II.	CULTURAL HERITAGE OF INDIA	1961-2009	14-17
	a) Calcutta Heritage	1961-2008	14-15
	b) Built Heritage of Hooghly District	1963-2003	16
	c) Tea Heritage of Assam: A Project of INTACH	2007-2009	16-17
III.	WRITINGS/ARTICLES AND LITERARY ACTIVITIES OF PROSENJIT DASGUPTA	1968-2007	17-20
	a) Trip Notes	1968-1970	17-18
	b) Books	1986-1990	18-19
	c) Published/Unpublished Articles	1999-2004	19
	d) Literary Activities	2002-2007	20
IV.	MATERIAL ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	1977-2011	20-24
V.	PRESS CLIPPINGS	1985-2007	24-25
VI.	MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS	1940-2011	25-28

CATALOGUE OF THE PAPERS OF PROSENJIT DASGUPTA

<u>S. No.</u>	<u>Years/ Details</u>	<u>Comments</u>
I	NOTEBOOKS OF PROSENJIT DASGUPTA, 1957-2012	
a)	Book Notes and Reference Notebooks, 1957- 2009	
1.	<u>1957-1960</u>	
	<p>This File contains two notebooks featuring some essays, and short stories written by Prosenjit Dasgupta. The first notebook contains essays and short stories including 'Ramna and the Revolution', 'The Snake-Charmer', 'She', 'North Bank', 'What a Fal' written between 1957 and 1960. The second notebook contains essays and short stories entitled 'The Third Period', 'Glories and Grime', 'Of Mind and Men', 'The Seed Dormant', 'The Slip', 'Better Late', 'A Book Reread', 'The Parting', 'To Life, With Love and Squalidity', 'An Incidence'. There are also two loose pages containing an untitled essay written in both English and Bengali.</p>	Handwritten/ English
2	<u>1965- 1966</u>	
	<p>Contains handwritten notes for studying economics</p>	Handwritten/ English
3.	<u>1965-1971</u>	
	<p>Contains several untitled paragraphs, and observational sketches. There is one paragraph that describes the lives of Adivasi communities in Bastar.</p>	Handwritten/ English
4.	<u>2008-2009</u>	
	<p>Contains handwritten notes, study-materials, hand-outs, notes on books related to the Indology course offered by Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture (Gol Park, Kolkata).</p>	Handwritten/ English

5. Undated
- Contains notes on the books by C. Dasgupta, M.K Gandhi, V.S. Agarwala, and on books on various themes related to Indian diplomatic history, political and economic history, forests, wildlife, conservation, ecology, Adivasi communities of India and other themes. In the last few pages of the notebooks there are press clippings collected from unspecified Bengali newspapers, and English newspapers such as from *Telegraph*, and *Times of India* attached and glued.
- Handwritten/ English
6. Undated
- Contains notes on the books by D.N. Ganguli, R.S. Sharma, Vivekanand Jha, D.D. Kosambi, Rajendra Chandra Hazra, Christophe Jaffrelot, Gyanendra Pandey. Shail Mayaram, D.N. Mishra, Shahid Amin, Paula Richman, R.N.P. Singh, Medha Malik Kudaisya, Sukumari Bhattacharya, S. Radhakrishnan, Suniti Kumar Chatterji, M.K. Gandhi, M.G. Mathews and others. The topics that are covered in this notebook are ancient Indian history, myths, Hindutva, communal politics, religious identities in India, Indian philosophy, and others.
- Handwritten/ English
7. Undated
- Contains notes on the books by Khalid B. Sayeed, Sudipta Kaviraj, Romila Thapar, R. Champakalakshmi, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, and others.
- Handwritten/ English
8. Undated
- Contains notes on the books by M.K. Gandhi, D.C. Sircar, M.M. Deshpande, B.B. Lal, Romila Thapar, R.N. Dandekar, Koenraad Elst, Thomas Walter, Dr. Sampurnanand, Ashoke Ghosh, S.K. Chatterjee, L.P. Sen, D.P. Agrawal, and others.
- Handwritten/ English

9. Undated
Contains notes on books by Milton Singer, Ashoka Mehta, D.H. Gordon, Rakhal Das Banerjee, Benoy Sarkar, D.P. Agrawal, V. Jayaswal, Monier Monier-Williams, Gaurinath Shastri, V.S. Ghate, N.N. Bhattacharya, A.D. Pusalkar, and others. Handwritten/ English
10. Undated
Contains notes on books by Rajat Kanta Ray, W.C. Smith, John Rowland, Barbara Metcalf, Mohammad Mujeeb, John Zavos, David Page, N.G. Barrier, Peter Gottschalk, Paul Brass, Stanley Wolpert, Rafiq Zakaria, R.J. Moore, and others. Handwritten/ English
11. Undated
Contains notes on books by C.A. Bayly, Bipan Chandra, D.D. Kosambi, Romila Thapar, Benedict Anderson, Ayesha Jalal, B.R. Nanda, K.K. Aziz, Abdul Lateef, Bimal Prasad, Beni Prasad, S.R. Mehrotra, Romila Thapar, Asghar Ali, Humayun Kabir, and others. Handwritten/ English
12. Undated
Notes on books related to China, Chinese history, borderland issues, Tibet, NEFA conflict, NEFA Administration, Notes on the books by W.W. Rockhill, Sarat Chandra De, Charles A. Sherring, George Boyle, and others. Handwritten/ English
13. Undated
Notes on different aspects of India's diplomatic history, China, Indian Politics, Partition of India including notes on books by K. Subramanyam, J.N. Dixit, A. Sreedhara Menon, V.P. Menon, B. Raman, W.W. Hunter, and others. Handwritten/ English

14. Undated
- Contains notes on various books on history, art, culture, and politics of India. There are notes on the works by Stella Kramrisch, F. & B. Allchin, Niharranjan Ray, J.H. Marshall, A.L. Srivastava, S.P. Gupta, D.K. Chakrabarti, G. Possehl, R.N. Dandekar, Alexander Cunningham, Irfan Habib, and others.
- Handwritten/ English

b) Travelogue and Field Visits Notebooks, 1973-2012

15. 1973
- Contain notes on field visits in Bastar and other parts of Central-India. The notebook also contains briefings of forest reports, Verrier Elwin and Wilfrid Grigson's works on the tribal communities in Central India and Swami Prajnanananda's work on the history of Indian music. Also, includes a post card from S.N. Panda appreciating Prosenjit Dasgupta for his contribution and fruitful visit to Gumma village in the Ganjam District of Odisha on 23 November 1977.
- Handwritten, includes Hand-drawn illustrations of Adivasi art in Central India/ English

16. 1975-1977
- Contains first-hand accounts on Dasgupta's field-visits to Bastar, Betla and Burdwan between 1975 and 1977 including details on ritualistic, economic, cultural, and religious life of the indigenous communities like Malhar of Dariapur Village, Burdwan engaged in Dokra crafts. Also, contains valuable information on the works of anthropologist and biologists such as Bronisław Malinowski, Desmond Morris, R.F. Ewer, George B. Schaller, Thelma Rowell, and S.P. Shahi; notes on Helmut Gernsheim's text on photography, and on Bishop Stephen Hislop's tract 'Papers relating to the Aboriginal Tribes of the Central Provinces' (1866).
- Handwritten/English

17. 1977-1978
- Contains important abstracts on Saora and Halbi languages taken mainly from district gazetteers of Orissa, interspersed notes on Saora vocabularies, and Halbi grammar written in both Latin and Devanagari scripts, notes on history of central India, notes on Adivasi communities based on works by Sarat Chandra Roy, R.G. Perry, A.F. Fraser, Christoph von Fürer-Haimendorf, Capt. J. Forsyth, Rai Bahadur Hira Lal and others. Also, includes notes on Andreas Feininger's work on photography, and hand-drawn maps of Kanha National Park and the adjoining sites.
- Handwritten/ English
18. 1977-1978
- Contains notes on various subjects, such as: tiger conservation, forests, elephants, animal demographics, ecology, wildlife census, primate ecology, wildlife sanctuaries of India including notes and remarks on the works of several scholars, such as S.R. Choudhury, P.W. Richards, Iain Douglas Hamilton, J.P. Demster, Claude Martin, Madhav Gadgil, P.C. Kotwal, D.G. Lindberg, George Schaller, Aaron Sussman, and others. There are also notes on Prof. P. Leyhausen's lecture on feline biology delivered in Calcutta on 23 September 1983.
- Handwritten/ English
19. 1977-1984
- Contains field-notes, travel information, excerpts of the interviews conducted by Prosenjit Dasgupta during his visits in Ganjam and Bastar between 1978 and 1983. Includes first-hand experiences of *Ghotul*, marital rituals, and other important institutions of the Adivasi communities of Central India. Also, contains notes on forests, and animal sightings during Dasgupta's trips to Bandhavgarh (1980, 1981), Kaziranga (1982), Gorumara (1983), Saranda (1983), and several useful abstracts of books by A.A. Dunbar, William Baze, A.B. Chaudhuri, John Mackinnon, B.C. Majumdar, Victor Turne on forestry, wildlife, ecology, animal behaviour, languages, religious and cultural lives of the indigenous tribes of Central Indian Highlands.
- Handwritten/English/5 photographs related to the Adivasi art and iconography are glued to the pages of the notebook.

20.

1981-1985

Contains notes on Dasgupta's visits to Betla forests. There are reports of tiger sightings in the notes along with the description of the forest and its wildlife. Important abstracts collected from several magazine/newspapers and academic works of Tim Halliday, S.K. Eltringham, Joy Adamson. K.S. Sankhala on ecology, pollution, energy, and other environmental related issues are there. The notebook also holds a commemorative sticker/bookmark of the Corbett National Park celebrating its golden jubilee.

Handwritten/ English

21.

1986-1988

Contains several trip notes based on Dasgupta's visits to several wildlife sanctuaries of Project Tiger, such as Kaladhungi, Dudhwa, Corbett, Pech, Bandipur-Mudumalai, Nagarhole, Kullu, etc. The notes include description of journeys, details of animal sighting including tigers inside the sanctuaries. Summaries of all the tours Dasgupta took in between 1977 and 1988, and a press clipping from *Times of India* (dated 5 July 1973) about decipherment of the Indus script are also there.

Handwritten, and press clippings/ English

22.

1987-1990

Contains four notes on Dasgupta's visits to tiger reserves in Ranthambore, and Dudhwa including important facts on plants accompanied by botanical sketches, and herbarium samples; notes on travel information for various sites and destinations within India, hand-drawn maps, diagrams on various heritage sites of Calcutta including notes on experiences of severe rainfall, and flooding in Calcutta in September 1978. Contains abstracts and notes taken from various newspapers on subjects related to ecology, environment, etc.

Handwritten/ English

23.

1990-1992

Contains trip notes about Dasgupta's visits to Dalma, Ajanta-Ellora, Sikkim, Kalimpong, Shillong, Yercaud, and Simlipal between 1990-1991 including description of journeys, lists of visited sites, animal sightings, flora, and fauna along with a few herbarium samples; notes on several works on photography, documentary making, and

Handwritten, maps and press clippings/ English

television production. There are several press clippings, and handwritten newspaper abstracts on various subjects including ecology, environment, travels, economy etc. glued on the page; notes and remarks on various works focusing on tiger conservation, tiger behaviour, dated entries of tiger sightings in various reserves in India; lists of various bird species sighted in Seijosa, Assam and Chilka, Odisha in 1996, printed map of Bishnath/ Biswanath District of Assam is kept in the notebook.

24.

1991-1993

Contains brief trip, and field notes on Dasgupta's visits in Chitawan in Nepal, Bharatpur, Corbett, Pench, Corbett, Periyar, Kalimpong, Chilka, Sonapahar in West Khasi Hills, Kaziranga, Madanpur-Ganauli, Gir, Sundarbans, Karbi-Anglong between 1992 and 1993 including details of the journeys, reports on animal sightings, details of vegetation, accompanied by hand-drawn maps and botanical drawings. Also, includes newspaper abstracts, scattered notes on several books, and press clippings glued on a few pages.

Handwritten, and press clippings/ English

25.

1993-2001

Contains tour notes from Dasgupta's visits to Satkosia Gorge, Taptapani, Simlipal, Kalimpong-Lava, Tura, Sariska, Shillong, Gomarda, Sultanpur between 1993 and 1995 accompanied by hand-drawn maps, photographs, botanical sketches, lists of bird and animal sightings, notes of books relevant to the tours. Also, contains newspaper abstracts, some press-clippings, a letter of acknowledgment from Gurusaday Museum, and Gurusaday Dutta Folk Art Society addressed to Prosenjit Dasgupta for donating collection of Dokra arts to the museum dated 6 October 2001.

Handwritten, letter and press clippings/ English

26.

1995-1998

Contains field notes on Dasgupta's visit to Puri, Konarak, Potasali, Seijusa, Annamalai, Ranganathittu, Polpola river valley and Simplipal, Bishnupur, Nrisingnath, Mahananda wildlife sanctuary, Chilka, Parambikulam tiger reserve, and Sunderbans.

Handwritten/ English

27.

1998-2003

The notebook contains tour notes from Dasgupta's visits to Sundarbans, terracotta temples near Shantiniketan, Kumaon, Chilka, Chandernagore-Hooghly, temples in Tollygunj in Kolkata, Karanjia-Khiching, Hollong-Kalimpong, Dudhwa-Corbett, Sovabazar-Pathuriaghata palaces in Kolkata, Ghaats of Hooghly River, Bowali, Koraput, Haflong, Sikkim, Bhutan, Panihati in Kolkata, Chilka, Chikhaldhara, Kaziranga, Taiwan, Vietnam, United Kingdom, accompanied by hand-drawn maps, details of the vegetation, herbarium samples, sighting of different animals and birds, information of the visited sites, travel intelligence, etc; notes on sighting of Comet Tempel-Tuttle in November 1998; and remarks on various books on environmental issues, ecology, conservation, and Adivasi societies of India, etc.

Handwritten, travel brochures, maps, and press clippings/ English

28.

2003-2007

Contains trip notes and memoirs of Dasgupta's visits to Amarkantak, Hollong-Jaldapara, Antpur (Hooghly), Ambika-Kalna, Shillong, Darjeeling, Kenya, Japan, Thailand, China, Corbett National Park, Barnawapara sanctuary, Vanghat, Eaglenest Wildlife sanctuary-Arunachal Pradesh Shekhawati, Kuldiha, Betla, Egypt, Turkey between 2003 and 2007. Also, includes notes on Dasgupta's visit to the National Museum in Delhi where he saw the Verrier Elwin collection; notes on Dasgupta's visits to Gurney House in Nainital that used to be the residence of the Jim Corbett and his family. The trip notes include travel details, itineraries, details on the visited sites, information on flora, and fauna, herbarium samples, and bird-feather sample (Kenya trip). Also, contains recipes, compilation of Bengali aphorisms, and jokes from Eastern Bengal, travel listings, itineraries, multiple press clippings in both English and Bengali collected from various newspapers on various subjects.

Handwritten/ English, and Bengali

29.

2007-2012

Contains several trip notes on Dasgupta's visits to Satkosia Gorge, Kaziranga, Eaglenest, Corbett, Kalimpong, Bhopal and Sanchi, Simplipal, Namdapha, Greece, Bikaner, Jaisalmer, Kuldiha, Kalimpong, Vanghat, Labangi, Khajuraho, Nameri-Kaziranga,

Handwritten, and press clippings/ English, and Bengali

Gorumara, Jordan, Italy, Sahibganj, Lava accompanied by herbarium samples, insect specimen (butterfly), travel listings, travel brochures, route maps, hand-drawn maps, etc. Also, includes notes on his meeting with Dhokra artist Jaidev Baghel of Kondagam, Chhattisgarh.

30. Undated
- The notebook contains brief notes on numerous Indian and international films, including the works by Satyajit Ray, Ritwik Ghatak, Mrinal Sen, Ingmar Bergman, Tapan Sinha, Charlie Chaplin, Luis Bunuel, Shyam Benegal, G. Aravindan, and others.
- Handwritten/ English
31. Undated
- Contains notes on various subjects such as tiger conservation, wildlife biology, photography, wildlife demography, Project Tiger, tiger reserves of India, and others. These include remarks on the works by Charles McDougal, A.B. Chaudhuri, and several other scholars who have worked on tiger conservation in South Asia. Two-page note including a hand-drawn map of Corbett National Park kept inside the notebook.
- Handwritten/English
- c) Journals and News Notebooks, 2004-2007**
32. 2004-2007
- Contains newspaper abstract and notes on miscellaneous subjects collected from *Anandabazar Patrika* on West Bengal, 'Commies' or communist politics, foreign policy, national and international issues, BJP, economics, history, culture, etc. Also, contains book-notes on Indian orchids, Indian politics, Indo-China relations, and others.
- Handwritten/ English
33. Undated
- Contains newspaper abstracts and notes collected from microfilms of Bengali newspaper *Anandabazar Patrika's* issues dated between the 1950s and 1970s on the subjects including refugee problems, politics, economy, Kashmir problem, Left politics, Hindutva, Indian culture, Indochina relations, Tibet issue, foreign policy, Indian election, and other issues.
- Handwritten/ English, and Bengali

34.

Undated

Contains newspaper abstract and notes taken on various issues such as Industrial policy, China, Indo-China relations, national issues, Communist politics, international relations, West Bengal issues, and others for the years between 1982 and 2002.

Handwritten/ English

II. CULTURAL HERITAGE OF INDIA, 1961-2009

a) Calcutta Heritage, 1961-2008

1.

1961

Maharaj Jaynarayan Ghosal Bahadurer Jibani – a biography of Maharaja Jaynarayan Ghoshal who was associated with the establishment of Bhukailash temple that was set up in 1781 in Kidderpore, Kolkata. The book contains a brief dynastic history of Bhukailash Estate.

Published by Phanindra Nath Ghosh on behalf of the Bhukailash Estate/
Photocopy/ Bengali

2.

February 1990

The Statesman: Calcutta: Tercentenary Issue – contains 9 essays on the political, social, economic and cultural history of Calcutta authored by Sunanda K. Datta, Nisith Ranjan Ray, Ashin Das Gupta, R.P. Gupta, Sukumari Bhattacharji, Hiren Mukherjee, Paritosh Sen, Utpal Dutt, Ranabir Ray Choudhury, and Bhabatosh Datta.

The Statesman Press/
English

3.

October-December 1995

Chetana – Newsletter no. 8, Kolkata Chapter contains essays on Nakhoda Mosque titled 'We look back in wonder', 'The story of Battala Press' by Dr Tapti Roy, and an essay concerns environmental issues of Calcutta titled 'Greening My Valley' by Arif Ahmed.

Published by INTACH
(Indian National Trust for
Art and Cultural Heritage)/
English

4.

2000

Scrapbook containing photographs of Mughal and Pahari miniatures from *Padshahnama* from the collection gifted by Oudh Nawab to King George III in 1799 and are kept in the Royal Library Windsor. The photographs were reproduced and published by UK based Publishing House Azimuth Editions Ltd. in 1997. Also, contains photographs of the pages of the book and photocopy of an essay by Dhananjai Mohan, titled as 'Trekking through Sharada Valley'.

Photographs, and copies/
English

5. 2001
- Programme-schedule for Heritage Walk of Panihati (Calcutta) including handwritten notes on important stops, landmarks, heritage sites and important personalities in the region dated 25 February 2001.
- Printed and partially handwritten/ English
6. 2002-2003
- Contains two scrapbooks with handwritten notes on several heritage sites, their history, heritage walks, photographs of notable places in Calcutta. Also, contains press clippings on Calcutta's built heritage, hand-drawn maps of Calcutta's streets, relevant printed materials and photographs related to his book *10 Walks in Calcutta*.
- Handwritten/ Contains photographs, press clippings/Language: English
7. 2007-2008
- Articles on the themes of heritage site in Kolkata, and historically important Durga Puja celebration in Jharkhand.
- Clipping/ English
8. Undated
- 'Glimpses of Calcutta' – an article on some of the major heritage sites of Kolkata.
- English
9. Undated
- A document that contains a Questionnaire for the students from different schools in Calcutta who participated and talked about heritage building issues in a programme of Rotary Club attended by Prasenjit Dasgupta, G.M. Kapur, Barun de (historian), and Alapan Bandyopadhyay (bureaucrat).
- Printed/ English
10. Undated
- 'Dalhousie Square-Calcutta Heritage Walk', and 'Calcutta Heritage Walk' – brochures on the heritage walks organized by INTACH, and the Cruta Foundation.
- Printed/ English

b) Built Heritage of Hooghly District, 1963-2003

11. 1963
'Sankhipta Chandannagore Parichay' – excerpts from a book by Harihar Seth describing the history of the French colony of Chandernagore in Hooghly. Photocopy/ Bengali/ 4 pp.
12. 04 March 1973
Punyamati Mitrabat – a booklet on the local history of Antpur (Hooghly) by Debaprasad Mitra. It contains information on the temple of Sri Sri Radha Govindaji. Booklet/ Bengali and English (Bilingual)
13. 2003
Devi Rajballabhi Matar Pratistha Kahini – a booklet by Sri Nimai Saha Chaudhuri on the history of a temple located in Hooghly district. Booklet/ Bengali

14. Undated
A brochure for the Indo-French Cultural Centre and Museum of Chandernagore, Hooghly. Printed/ English

c) Tea Heritage at Assam: A Project by INTACH, 2007-2009

15. 2007-2009
Correspondence between INTACH committee and tea-garden associations regarding documenting the history and heritage of the tea gardens of Assam. Emails/ English
16. Undated
'Silchar Tombs' – excerpts from the book available with *Cachar District Records*. Photocopy/ English
17. Undated
'Borengajuli Tea Garden' – a brief historical note. Printed/ English

18. Undated
 'History of Harmutty Tea Garden Hospital' – a brief historical note. Printed/ English
19. Undated
 'Barbarua: About the name', and 'History of Dinjan Tea Estate' – essays from *A Short History of the Upper Assam Tea Company, Limited. (1862-1962)*. Photocopy/ English
20. Undated
 'Seasons in the Sun', 'The lost sounds of tea', 'Tea- the eco-friendly industry', 'Of tea Memsahibs', 'Creepy Crawlies and other Critters', 'Story Time', 'Gracious Living in the Wilderness' essays by Sarita Dasgupta who was born and brought up in the Milicajan Tea Garden. Printed/ English

21. Undated
 Two undated photographs in Sepia without captions. Photographs/ Sepia colour/ 2 pp.

III. WRITINGS/ARTICLES AND LITERARY ACTIVITIES OF PROSENJIT DASGUPTA, 1968-2007

a) Trip Notes, 1968-1970

1. 1968
 An essay on the travel experiences in Odisha in 1968. It describes the famous heritage sites such as Lingaraja temple, Dhauli, Udaygiri-Khandagiri, Puri, and other places. It also gives information about the Tribal Research Centre in Odisha. Typed (Proof corrected)/ English/11 pages
2. 1969
 'Holiday 1969' – an essay on the travel experiences in Gujarat, Rajasthan, and Delhi areas. Includes descriptions of major heritage sites, and the wildlife sanctuaries of these regions. Typed/English/Two proof-corrected copies/30 pages

3. 1970
 ‘South India- Madras and Kerala 1970’ – an essay on the experiences during travel around some of the key heritage sites in Madras, and Kerala in the 1970s. Typed/ English/two proof-corrected copies/ 21 pages
4. 1970
 ‘Trips, Not Visits’ – an essay includes Dasgupta’s travel experiences in Jagdalpur, Chitrakoot, Raipur, and other places in the 1970s. It provides glimpses of his encounters with the Adivasi communities. Typed/English/Proof-corrected/ 12 pages
5. 1970
 A note on the experiences of encountering wildlife of Betla wildlife sanctuary in the 1970s. The essay was composed in 1990. Untitled/Typed /English/two proof-corrected copies/ 4 pages
6. Undated
 ‘Trip No. 3’ – an essay on the travel experiences in Dongar, and adjoining places in Madhya Pradesh giving details on wildlife. Typed/English/ two proof-corrected copies/ 11 pages
7. Undated
 ‘Trip Note 4’ – an essay contains travel experiences of unspecified places. It talks about everyday encounters and gives glimpses of the lifeways of rural Adivasi communities in India. Typed/English/ Typed and partially handwritten/ 14 pages

b) Books, 1986-1990

8. 1986
Common Forest Trees – self-published brief descriptive account of the plants naturally grown in the forests of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, West Bengal, and Assam. The book includes botanical drawings. Printed/Handwritten notes/proof-read copy/ English/ hand-drawn illustrations on tracing papers

9. 1990
- Conservation- A Primer for India (An inquiry into broad ecological processes, and problems of soil, water, and nature conservation in India – self-published book by Prosenjit Dasgupta. It is a concise account on environmental issues, conservation, and the role of the Adivasi communities.*
- Printed/English/48 pages

c) Published/Unpublished Articles, 1999-2004

10. 1999
- 'Local Colour' – self-reflexive short essay on encounters with the Adivasi communities in India.
- Published in *Statesman*/ Press clipping/ English
11. 2004
- A Survey of Bird Calls 1997-2000 at Calcutta –Dasgupta wanted to get the article published in an upcoming issue of the magazine.
- For publication in Cheetal magazine along with a letter to the editor of the magazine, dated 28 April 2004/ 2 typed copies/ English
12. Undated
- 'On Corbett's Trail' – an article giving glimpses of Jim Corbett's life and times and the making of Corbett National Park in the Kumaon, India.
- Press clippings/ English
13. Undated
- 'Ancient Art' – an article gives an account on Om Prakash Kukki, an expert based in Bundi, Rajasthan and his discoveries of prehistoric rock paintings in Rajasthan.
- Published in *Statesman*/ Press clipping/ English

d) Literary Activities, 2002-2007

14. 2002-2007

Papers relating to various activities of Prosenjit Dasgupta including ecological conservation, rural development, and heritage preservation. Comprise correspondence from George B. Schaller, copies of letters sent to Sudesh Luthra (Deputy Secretary, Lok Sabha Secretariat), and A.K. Johari of the National Forests Commission, and emails regarding several birding groups within India and abroad, alleviation of Adivasi alienation, and the prospects of the National Rural Employment Bill 2004. Also, includes a letter from Wasif Mirza, the descendant of the royal family of Oudh living in Kolkata, mentioning some errors in Prosenjit Dasgupta's book *10 Walks in Calcutta*.

Contains Photograph (black-and-white)/
Language: English

15. 2004

Book proposals, contract, and questionnaire related to two books by Prosenjit Dasgupta. Contains copy of the book contract by Hermes Inc. for the book *10 Walks in Calcutta* and photocopy of the undated questionnaire sent by Penguin India related to his book *Tracking Jim: A Hunt in Corbett Country*.

English

16. 2007

Travel itinerary, information and internet resources related to Dasgupta's tour in Egypt in 2007.

English

IV. MATERIALS ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES, 1977-2011

1. 1977-1997

Excerpts from anthologies edited by Martin W. Holdgate, Gilbert F. White and M. Bolton.

Photocopy/ English (Brittle)

2. 15 May 1985

Small hydro power (SHP) – the bulletin presents the prospects of developing small hydro-power projects for developing countries and reports of major activities of the multinational network of hydro-power projects for exchanging experiences and information

Bulletin/ Published by the Secretariat of Regional Network (Asia and Pacific) for Small Hydro Power (RN-SHP), United Nations, Industrial Development Organization/ English

3. July 1991
- 'Watershed Management strategies in Central Himalayas: The Gaula river basin, Kumaun, India' – an article by S.K. Bartarya.
- Published in *Land Use Policy* journal/ Includes handwritten notes of S.K. Bartarya/ English
4. 1993
- 'Effect of Initial Litter Quality on decomposition rates of the tree-leaf litter in Himalayan Forest Ecosystems' – an article by V.P. Upadhyay.
- Published in *Tropical Ecology*, Issue: 34 (1), 1993/ Journal of the International Society for Tropical Ecology/ English
5. 1993-1995
- Articles relating to wildlife conservation by Raman Sukumar, K. Surendra Varman, and Uma Ramakrishnan.
- Published in the *Journal of Biosciences*, and the *Proceedings of International Workshop on Conservation of Asian Elephants*/ English
6. 1994
- Selected pages from the book *The Economic Value of Biodiversity* by David Pearce, Dominic Moran, and IUCN Biodiversity Programme.
- Published by Earthscan/ English
7. 1995
- 'Namdapha Tiger Reserve Arunachal Pradesh' – minutes of the Winter Symbiosis, 13-26 December 1995 organized by IIT Mumbai's Wildlife Club. Also, contains lists of flora and fauna, geographical details, and travel information pertaining to the topic of the symposium.
- Publisher: IIT Bombay Wildlife Club/ English
8. 1996
- A bulletin on the convention on biological diversity organized by Ministry of the Environment and Forests, Government of India's Press Information Bureau, 26 November 1996.
- Bulletin/ Publisher: Ministry of the Environment and Forests, Government of India's Press Information Bureau/ English

9. 1996
- 'Visualization in biodiversity Research: A case-study of Mehao Wildlife Sanctuary, Arunachal Pradesh, North-East India' – an article by S. Narendra Prasad, B. Prabakaran, and C. Jeganathan. Published in *Current Science*, Volume 71, no 12, 1996/ English
10. October 1998
- The Asian Elephant in Southern India (A GIS Database for Conservation of Project Elephant Reserves)*. Also, accompanies a letter from Surendra Varma addressed to Prosenjit Dasgupta dated 16 September 1999. Technical Report No. 3/ Publisher: Asian Elephant Research and Conservation Center, Centre of Ecological Sciences, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore/ English
11. 1999
- 'Birds of Kaziranga National Park, India' – an article by M. Barua and P. Sharma. Published in *Forktail* (Journal), Issue no. 15, 1999/ English
12. 1999-2004
1. *Samsad News*, Vol. 17, No. 11, November 1999
 2. *Samsad News*, Vol. 17, No. 12, December 1999
 3. *Samsad News*, Vol. 18, No. 2, February 2000
 4. *Samsad News*, Vol. 20, No 10 and 11, October November 2002
 5. *Samsad News*, Vol. 20, No. 12, December 2002
 6. *Samsad News*, Vol. 21, No. 3, March 2003
 7. *Samsad News*, Vol. 21, No. 7, July 2003
 8. *Samsad News*, Vol. 21, Nos. 9 and 10, September-October 2003
 9. *Samsad News*, Vol. 21, Nos. 11 and 12, November-December 2003
 10. *Samsad News*, Vol. 22, Nos. 3 and 4, March-April 2004
 11. *Samsad News*, Vol. 22, Nos. 5 and 6, May-June 2004.
- Monthly newsletter of the Prakriti Samsad, a council of nature-watchers, conservationists founded in 1978 in Kolkata (Prakriti Samsad group regularly participates in several governmental and non-governmental projects related to nature-study, and conservation-awareness)/ English

13. 1999-2010
 Extract from draft Working Plans for Cachar Division, 1990-2010 prepared by K.K. Gupta. Two sets of documents listing flora and fauna/ English
14. 2001-2002
 Annual Report of WWF-India's West Bengal Branch. Publisher: WWF-India (World Wildlife Fund)/ English
15. January-February 2004
Nature Notes. Newsletter/ Published by BNHS Members' Club/ English
16. 2011
 Articles on South Asian ornithology and elephant migration by Harkirat Singh, Divyabhanusinh, Sandeep Ranjan Mishra, Debi Prasad Sahoo, and Anup kumar Nayak. Published in *Cheetal*, Volume 49, Issue: (4), 2011/ English
17. Undated
Jatinga Birds – a book by Purakayastha (ADC Forest Department, North Cachar Hills). Published by Forest Department, North Cachar Hills Division/ English
18. Undated
 Information on the major Project Tiger reserves in India. Printed/ English
19. Undated
 Information on plating and potting various types of orchids. English

20. Undated
Contains information on Mahseer Fishing Camp, Corbett National Park. English
21. Undated
A tabular statement describing the distribution of mountain ungulates in various protected forests in India. English
22. Undated
Joint Forest Management (JFM) under Government of India – statistics on forest covers in India. Printed/ English
23. Undated
'Human Impact' – some excerpts. Photocopies/ English
24. Undated
Stickers and bookmarks related to wildlife conservation issued by British Wildlife Appeal, Tamil Nadu Forest Department, Assam Forest Department, and WWF India. English

V. PRESS CLIPPINGS, 1985-2007

1. 1985-2007
Press clippings on various environmental themes including botanical knowledge, Ayurveda, economic issues related to environment, ecological crisis, the condition of the Adivasi societies in India, industrial extraction, trade in natural resources, energy crisis etc. taken from various newspapers including *Telegraph*, *Economic Times*, *Hindustan Times*, *Business Line*, and *Business Standard*, etc. English
2. 1996-2004
Contains four press clippings related miscellaneous subjects including Indo-China relations, travel information from *Statesman*, and *Business standards*, etc. English

3. 1997
- Contains first page of 22 issues of the *Statesman* dated August 1997 including commemorative reprints of the first page of the newspaper corresponding to the same dates in 1947 for celebrating Golden Jubilee of India's Independence.
- English

4. 2003-2004
- Press clippings relating to reviews of Prosenjit Dasgupta's books *Walks in Wild*, *10 walks in Calcutta*, *Conservation: A primer in India*, and *Common Forest Trees* published in newspapers and magazines such as *Outlook Traveller*, *Business Standard*, *Hindu*, *Tribune*, *Statesman*, *Asian Age*, *Pioneer*, and *Times of India*.
- English

VI. MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS, 1940-2011

1. 1940-2000
- Material on Indian history and culture. Includes excerpts from the books and articles by Verrier Elwin, Shashi Bhushan Dasgupta, B. Allchin, Irfan Habib, Colin Renfrew, W. Fairservis, Koenraad Elst, and Christoffe Jaffrelot.
- Photocopies/ English

2. 1958
- Naga Itihasa – a book describes brief dynastic history of the ancient Naga Kingdom by Satyanarayana Rajguru (a historian, curator, and epigraphist associated with Odisha State Museum. He was renowned literary figure of Odia literature for which he received Sahitya Akademi Samman in 1996)
- Book (Brittle)/ Presented by the author in 1977/ Odia/ 174 pp.

3. 1960-2011
- Material on Indo-China conflicts and Himalayan borderland. Includes several selected pages from the books and articles by P.V.R. Rao, J.S. Lall, P.C. Chakravarti, Walton Francis, Kenneth Maso, G.J. Alder, Alastair Lamb, Nirmal Chandra Sinha, Frederic Drew, Amar Kaur Jasbir Singh, Sitaram Johri, Abdul Gafoor Abdul Majeed Noorani, Margaret Fisher, Shiva Chandra Bajpai, Eric Teichman, Steven Hoffman, and Dorothy Woodman.
- Photocopies/ English

4. 1977
Map of Manasarowar. Published by Government of India/ English
5. July-September 1995
Pages from *Virasat*, newsletter. Published by INTACH/ English
6. Undated
Leaflets containing information and summary of 9 films by Rainer Werner Fassbinder, renowned German Filmmaker. The films listed are *Mutter Küsters Fahrt zum Himmel*, *Die bitteren Tränen der Petra von Kant*, *Despair – Eine Reise ins Licht*, *Faustrecht der Freiheit*, *Berlin Alexanderplatz*, *Bolwieser*, *Fontane Effi Briest*, and *Händler der vier Jahreszeiten*. 9 Leaflets/ Published by Max Mueller Bhavan, Kolkata (Goethe Institute)/ English
7. Undated
‘The Rhine- From Maine to Cologne with Commentary’ – travel brochure for cruise-tour on the river Rhine, Germany. Brochure/ English
8. Undated
Pictures of renowned political and cultural personalities of 20th century India including Nehru, Sheikh Abdullah, C. Rajagopalachari, Lal Bahadur Shastri, Jayaprakash Narayan, C.N. Annadurai, Jyoti Basu, Bal Thackeray, Morarji Desai. M.S. Golwalkar, Patti Sriramalu, B.R. Ambedkar, Sardar Vallabhbhat Patel, Atal Bihari Bajpeyi, Indira Gandhi, Rajiv Gandhi, Mayawati, and Kanshi Ram. The collection also includes some of the iconic photographs of the major political movements of 20th and early 21st century including partition, Kashmir, Gujarat riots, caste movements, Kargil war, Manipuri women’s protest-movements against army atrocities. Printed leaves

9. 2000
Cutouts from a calendar for the year 2000 containing images of miniature paintings of India. Printed
10. 07-21 June 2001
The Indian Messenger, Vol. 139, No. 11-12. Newsletter/ Published by Sadharan Brahmo Samaj, Kolkata/ English
11. 2003
A booklet containing 17 samples of Kalamkari Art presented by Shilpa Guru and National Award Winner Kalamkari artist Shri S. Gurupada, Chetti of Kalahasti. Sample copy/ English
12. 2013
Memoirs of Brig. T.K Gupta, Security Adviser, ITA about Indo-China War and conflict pertaining to NEFA (Arunachal Pradesh) during 1959-1962. English
13. 2007-2015
Printed Materials on Yakshagana, and Theiyyam including a Magazine titled *Kanipura*, Issue No. 38, January 2015 (published by Kanipura Cultural Foundation). Contains write-ups on Yakshagana; and a book titled *Sri Wayanatu Kulavan* authored by Kellu Master, Agalpady, published in 2007 on Theyyam. Kannada
14. Undated
'Sekhawati The Open-Air Art Gallery' – maps of Jhunjhunu district of Rajasthan including important travel-intelligence and details of major sites and historical landmarks of the Shekhawati region covering Sikar, Fatehpur, Jhunjhunu, Mandawa, Bissau, Nawalgarh, Dundlod, Mukundgarh. Also, carries relevant printed copy of Railway timetables. Printed/ English

15. Undated
 ‘Daniell Pouzzner’ – a write-up on several concepts and theories associated with neuroscience, evolutionary psychology, and biology. English
16. Undated
 Dr. Iain Edgar, University of Durham – a write up explaining the development of the research-field on the anthropological studies of dreaming, dream working systems, and ethno-psychiatry. The write-up also includes abstracts of the works by S. Krippner, A. Thompson, L. Drummond, P. Eastham, and others. English
17. Undated
 Round art depicting the image of the deity Jagannatha. Sample copy



Archives of
 Contemporary India
 Supported by HDFC Ltd

© Ashoka Archives of Contemporary India, Ashoka University, Sonapat, Haryana (India)