



UTSA SARMIN

JOURNALIST/ RESEARCHER

ABOUT ME

I am an Indian researcher and journalist with experience in working for academic research organizations and various news outlets, websites, and media organizations as a news writer, on-ground reporter, and on-camera presenter. I have written academic papers, made editorial contributions, produced news articles, feature stories, in-depth and opinion pieces on political, social and geopolitical issues in different regions and countries around the world, especially South Asia.

Portfolio (For all my analysis pieces for various organizations, please click:)

<https://utsasarmin.journoportfol.io.com/>

LinkedIn:

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/ut-sa-sarmin-ba7ba48b/?originalSubdomain=ec>

CURRENT WORK

Mahanirban Calcutta Research Group (CRG), Deutsche Welle Akademie (DWA), and Center for International Media Assistance (CIMA)- Facilitator

December 2021-March 2022, Kolkata, India

I am currently working as a facilitator for a collaborative project of CRG, DWA, and CIMA. The project, "South Asia Network for Communication, Displacement and Migration", is conducting multi-stakeholder consultations about media, information and participation in displacement and migration settings in South Asia. The main aim of the consultation is to investigate how information and participation for people affected by displacement and migration can be improved. The dialogues will identify obstacles in media reporting on migrants and refugees, the stakeholders' access to information, and freedom of expression for refugees in the region.

PREVIOUS WORK EXPERIENCE

Mahanirban Calcutta Research Group- Researcher

July 2021-October 2021, Kolkata, India

As a contracted researcher, I am producing and hosting a five-six episodes research-based podcast series on the topic: "Climate Disaster Displacement and the State". The series is based on the climate crisis and subsequent migration of the people of Indian Sundarban. It features an activist, a villager from Mousuni Island, a panchayat (local governance) member, a state official, a journalist and an expert to investigate how all these stakeholders work around the climate crisis and what are their views on climate change, distress migration, and resettlement.

Mahanirban Calcutta Research Group-Research Fellow

March 2020-December 2020, Kolkata, India

I worked as a research fellow for MCRG's Forced Migration Study Desk. As part of my job, I was working on an original research project on the public health of 1971 East Bengali refugees. My job not only required me to provide an original research paper regarding migration but also carry out the administrative work for the organisation and helping CRG to organize public lectures, webinars, three physical national level conferences within the span of a month, proof-read books, format and copy-edit CRG publications, organize meetings, monthly and annual reporting to funders, edit videos, make posters, handle the organization's social media accounts etc.

Tokyo University of Foreign Studies- Researcher

July 2020-October 2020, India

I was working as a researcher for a project headed by Masahiko Togawa, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, Japan. The project is titled "From A Crisis of Public Health to the Crisis of Citizenship: COVID 19 and the Muslim Community in India". It is divided into three sections and I was looking into the case of West Bengal while two other researchers were working on Kashmir and Uttar Pradesh. The aim of the research was to map the popular pan-Indian responses that have emerged as a result of the communalization of the Pandemic and study the metamorphosis of the Muslim community's response to the disease from a threat to public health to a threat to their citizenship.

LANGUAGES

- Bengali- Native
- English- Fluent
- Hindi- Fluent
- Spanish - Pre-Intermediate
- Arabic- Beginner

SKILLS

- Research
- Copy-Editing
- News Writing
- Reporting
- CMS
- Script Writing
- Basic SEO
- Social Media

teleSUR English- *Multimedia Redactor*

September 2018-October 2019, Quito, Ecuador

I worked as a staff writer as well as a presenter for various on-camera political commentaries on issues regarding India. During my time at teleSUR English, not only did I acquire substantial experience in working in an international newsroom where I had to produce at least 5 ready-to-be-published news articles daily apart from frequent analysis/in-depth pieces on issues related to South Asia, U.S., Palestine, I have also learned how to present on camera and used to advise on South Asian news and politics to my colleagues.

101 Reporter- *Freelance Journalist*

May 2018-August 2018, India

As a freelance journalist, I mainly covered by-election news in West Bengal. I wrote in-depth pieces and also did live updating from the ground during by-elections.

Free Press Kashmir- *Contributing Reporter*

July 2017-May 2018, Srinagar, Indian Administered Kashmir

I was working in the conflict zone of Indian Administered Kashmir as a reporter pitching and investigating stories that go beyond mainstream ideas of “conflict” and show the societal impact of a conflict.

EDUCATION

University of Cambridge

MPhil in Development Studies, 2017

- Scholarship: Great University of Cambridge Scholarship 2016
- MPhil Thesis: "Muslim Personal Law and Bengali Muslim Women in India"

University of Delhi

Masters in Political Science, 2016

- Major in Political Science
- Award: Indraprastha College for Women, University of Delhi for standing first in M.A (Previous) Political Science

University of Delhi

BA (Honors) in Political Science, 2014

- Award: Golden Key International Honor Society, University of Delhi, India for being among the top 15% in the university in 2013
- With Honors
- Major in Political Science

CONTACT ME

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ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

- 1) Water Conflict Between India and Bangladesh: A Threat to Human Security in "21st Century South Asia" (ISBN: 978-81-7049-494-2), Publisher: Manas publications, New Delhi, India, 2014. P: 290-300
- 2) Beauty, Women and the Market, SEW Patrika (ISSN 2347-2898), December 2013, Publisher: South Kolkata Society for Empowerment of Women, Kolkata, India. P:91-94
- 3) Women in Cinema: An Analysis of Misogynist Practices of Bollywood, SEW Patrika (ISSN 2347-2898), December 2014, Publisher: South Kolkata Society for Empowerment of Women, Kolkata, India. P: 113-119
- 4) Legal Security of Women: A Comparative Study of India and Bangladesh, Purbasha Ekhon (ISSN 2278- 5779), March 2014, Publisher: Purbasha, Kolkata, India. P: 43-49
- 5) Women in Bengal: 1950-1975, The Indian Journal of Political Science, Volume LXXVII, No.2 (ISSN-0019-5510), April-June 2016, India, P: 267-271
- 6) Hunger, Humiliation, and Death: Perils of the Migrant Workers in the Time of Covid-19 in "Borders of an Epidemic: COVID 19 and Migrant Workers", edited by Ranabir Samaddar, A CRG Publication, 2020
(http://www.mcrg.ac.in/RLS_Migration_2020/COVID-19.pdf)