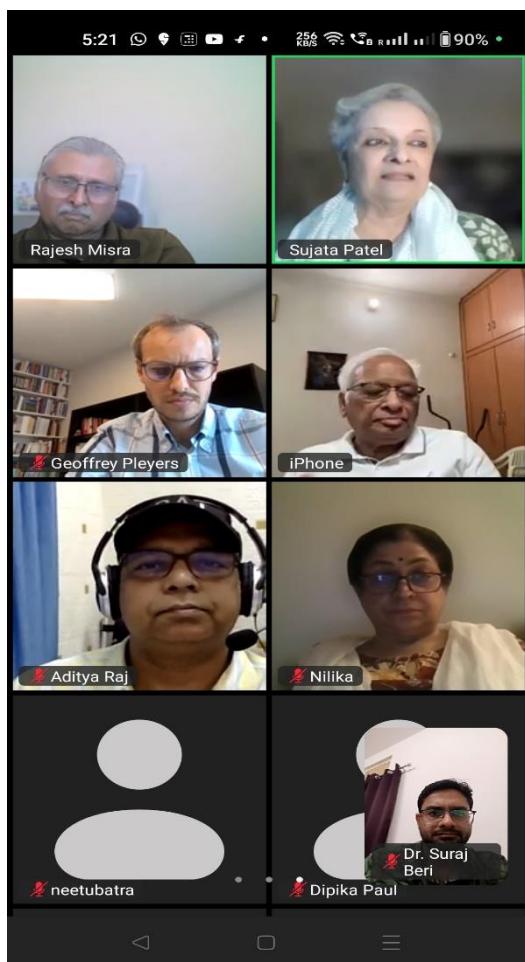


Report of Activities, Lecture Series conducted by Dept of Sociology, Nagaland University 2025

1. Panel Discussion titled "Remembering Michael Burawoy: Theory, Practice & Politics" on 20th May 2025

Department of Sociology at Nagaland University, in association with Research Committee 01 (RC 01) of the Indian Sociological Society (ISS) hosted a distinguished Panel Discussion titled "Remembering Michael Burawoy: Theory, Practice & Politics" on 20th May 2025. The event brought together eminent sociologists and scholars to reflect upon the contributions of Michael Burawoy to sociological thought, emphasizing the interplay between theory, practice, and politics in contemporary sociological inquiry. The session was chaired by Prof. Sujata Patel, Professor of Sociology (Retd.) at the University of Hyderabad, whose leadership provided a structured and engaging dialogue. Panelists included: Prof. Geoffrey Pleyers, President, International Sociological Association, who highlighted the global relevance of Burawoy's work in public sociology and its ethical implications. Prof. Rajiv Gupta, Former Professor and Head, Department of Sociology, Rajasthan University, who reflected on the impact of Burawoy's methodology in Indian sociological practice. Prof. Rajesh Misra, Former Professor and Head, Department of Sociology, Lucknow University, who discussed the theoretical underpinnings and critical approaches in Burawoy's scholarship. Dr. Aditya Raj, Associate Professor, Department of Humanities & Social Sciences, IIT Patna, who examined the intersections of academic research,

activism, and policy-making in Burawoy's work. The event was convened by Prof. Nilika Mehrotra, Convenor of RC 01, and co-convened by Dr. Suraj Beri, ensuring a seamless organization that promoted inclusive academic discourse. The discussion fostered a thoughtful exploration of Michael Burawoy's legacy, particularly his advocacy for reflexivity in sociological research, the significance of public sociology, and the ethical responsibility of sociologists in addressing contemporary social challenges.





2. **Knowing for the Margins: Feminist Methodologies in Sociology by Prof. Arvinder Ansari, Jamia Millia Islamia, 18.08.2025**
 Dept. of Sociology, Nagaland University, Lumami in association with RC 01 Theory and practice in Sociology, organized a Special Lecture on 18.08.2025 at 3.30pm online. Prof. Ansari's lecture discussed in detail various aspects of feminist theory and the challenges of studying gender through empirical work. She explained different strands within feminist methodologies and how Indian sociological writings have engaged with feminist approaches.



3. Islands as Socio-Ecological Space: Contextualizing Majuli River Island, Assam

Department of Sociology, Nagaland University in association with RC 01: Theory and Practice in Sociology - Indian Sociological Society, organized a special lecture on October 31, 2025 (Friday). The speaker for the lecture was Dr. Simashree Bora, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Cotton University, Guwahati. Dr. Sandeep Gupta, Dept. of Sociology, NU introduced the speaker and Dr. Suraj Beri, Co-Convenor RC 01, ISS moderated the event. The lecture focused on islands as socio-ecological spaces, with particular emphasis on Majuli River Island in Assam.



**Department of Sociology
NAGALAND UNIVERSITY**

**RC 01: Theory and Practice in Sociology
INDIAN SOCIOLOGICAL SOCIETY**



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Special Lecture Series*

Islands as Socio-Ecological Space: Contextualizing Majuli river island, Assam



DR. SIMASHREE BORA
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY,
COTTON UNIVERSITY, GUWAHATI

Simashree Bora completed her Ph.D. (2017) at Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Her research involves gender studies, sociology of religion, and environmental and ecological studies. She is interested in gender discourse and Neo-Vaishnavism in the state of Assam. Bora has held teaching appointments at Jyoti Dal School of Liberal Arts, Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies, Mumbai; Maharashtra National Law University, Mumbai, and South Asian University, New Delhi.

***Date: 31st October, Friday, 2025 *Time: 05:00 pm (IST)**

Abstract

Islands, as the subject of sociological inquiry, have caught scholarly attention in the recent times. Anthropological literature depicts islands as a landscape characterized by their unique geography, cultural practices, and social organization. Considering its unique positionality in both social and academic discussions, this talk explores how islands are conceptualized as socio-ecological spaces. It traces the imagination and visualization of islands in various accounts, including colonial and post-colonial writings. The talk offers an ethnographic engagement with Majuli River Island in Assam to highlight the complex socio-ecological entanglements. Contrary to its depiction as an isolated space, islands like Majuli offer a contextual reading of the intricate relationships between ecology, communities and social institutions.

Chair:

Dr. Sandeep Gupta, Dept of Sociology, NU

Moderator:

Dr. Suraj Beri, Co-Convenor RC 01, ISS

The lecture addressed the emerging scholarly interest in islands as subjects of sociological inquiry. Dr. Bora examined how anthropological literature has traditionally depicted islands as landscapes characterized by unique geography, cultural practices, and social organization. Moving beyond conventional representations, the talk explored islands as socio-ecological spaces, tracing their imagination and visualization across colonial and post-colonial writings. The presentation offered an ethnographic engagement with Majuli River Island in Assam, highlighting complex socio-ecological entanglements. Contrary to viewing islands as isolated spaces, Dr. Bora demonstrated how Majuli offers a contextual understanding of intricate relationships between ecology, communities, and social institutions.

4. The New Mobilities Paradigm: Through the lens of Migration and Intersectionality Studies

The Department of Sociology, Nagaland University, organized a special lecture on November 18, 2025 (Tuesday) as part of its series with RC 01: Theory and Practice in Sociology, ISS. The lecture explored the New Mobilities Paradigm through critical theoretical and analytical developments, examining intersections with migration and intersectionality studies. Dr. Mayurakshi Chaudhuri, Associate Professor of Sociology and Digital Humanities at FLAME University, Pune was the speaker for the lecture. The lecture addressed mobility as an overarching concept in social sciences and everyday lived reality, acknowledging its constant presence throughout human history in enabling investigation of various movements of people connected to material, ideal, and virtual flows. Dr. Chaudhuri examined how concepts of im/mobility reflect global historical trajectories of powerful conditions deriving from imperialism and colonialism. Her presentation traced the historical development of the New Mobilities Paradigm while highlighting deeper theoretical engagements and intellectual developments within Mobility Studies. A key focus was exploring critical intersections between Mobility Studies and other broader domains of inquiry, particularly Intersectionality Studies and Migration Studies, with special attention to postcolonial South Asia. The presentation offered valuable insights into: historical trajectories of mobility shaped by

imperialism and colonialism, theoretical developments within the field of Mobility Studies, interdisciplinary intersections between mobility, migration, and intersectionality regional contextualization with focus on postcolonial South Asia.



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Special Lecture Series

**The New Mobilities Paradigm: Through the lens
of Migration and Intersectionality Studies**



DR. MAYURAKSHI CHAUDHURI
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF SOCIOLOGY,
FLAME UNIVERSITY

Dr. Mayurakshi Chaudhuri is a Digital Humanities, Area Chair of Sociology and the Head of the Department of Social Sciences in the FLAME School of Liberal Education. She is a Board Member (2025-2027) of the research-network WG10 Digital Sociology of the International Sociological Association, and one of the global affiliates at the Institute for Intersectionality Research and Policy, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada. She is the Founding Faculty of Digital Humanities programs (M.Sc. and Ph.D) at Indian Institute of Technology Jodhpur, and has served as a member of the Board of Studies in Digital Humanities for Savitribai Phule Pune University, India, from 2022-2024. Dr. Chaudhuri's research areas include Technology and Society, Migrations and Mobilities, Gender Studies, Historical Sociology, Digital Humanities, and Qualitative Research Methods.

***Date: 18th November, Tuesday, 2025 *Time: 05:00 PM (IST)**

Abstract

Mobility as an overarching concept in social sciences as well as part of the everyday lived reality has been a constant in human history that has allowed for investigation of a variety of movements of people in connection to material, ideal, and virtual flows. Popularly examined through the lens of the "The New Mobilities Paradigm" (Sheller and Urry, 2006), concepts of im/mobility often, if not always, reflect global historical trajectories of powerful conditions (e.g. deriving from imperialism and colonialism) (Urry 2000). This lecture shall trace the history of the New Mobilities Paradigm, as well as highlight deeper theoretical engagements and intellectual developments made within the domain of Mobility Studies. The lecture shall explore critical intersections of Mobility Studies with other broader domains of inquiry such as Intersectionality Studies, and Migration Studies, particularly focusing on postcolonial South Asia.

Chair:

Prof. Nilika Mehrotra, CSSS, JNU & Convenor, RC 01, ISS

Moderator:

Dr. Suraj Beri, Dept of Sociology, Nagaland University & Co-Convenor RC 01, ISS