

## **Professor Rosinka Chaudhuri, TORCH Global South Visiting Professor 2017-2018**

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### **News Release**

TORCH welcomes Professor Rosinka Chaudhuri to its centre as Global South-Mellon Visiting Professor 2017-2018.

Rosinka Chaudhuri is Director and Professor of Cultural Studies at the Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta (CSSSC).

Her books include *Gentlemen Poets in Colonial Bengal: Emergent Nationalism and the Orientalist Project* (Seagull: 2002), *Freedom and Beef-Steaks: Colonial Calcutta Culture* (Orient Blackswan: 2012) and *The Literary Thing: History, Poetry and the Making of a Modern Literary Culture* (Oxford University Press: 2013, Peter Lang: 2014). She has edited *Derozio, Poet of India: A Definitive Edition* (Oxford University Press, 2008), and, with Elleke Boehmer, *The Indian Postcolonial* (Routledge, 2010). Her most recent publication is *A History of Indian Poetry in English*, published by Cambridge University Press, New York, in 2016.

She has also translated and introduced the complete text of the letters Rabindranath Tagore wrote his niece Indira Debi as a young man, calling it *Letters from a Young Poet (1887-94)* (Penguin Modern Classics, 2014); this received an Honorable Mention in the category A.K. Ramanujan Prize for Translation (S. Asia) at the Association for Asian Studies Book Prizes 2016. Currently, she is editing and introducing *An Acre of Green Grass: English Writings of Buddhadeva Bose* for Oxford University Press, New Delhi. Her current research is tentatively titled *Young Bengal and the Making of Modern India: The Road Not Taken*.

Her knowledge and expertise are welcome at TORCH and are a timely contribution to work that is ongoing to make curriculums and conversations at Oxford more inclusive.

Professor Chaudhuri said 'I am pleased to be joining TORCH and working with both Elleke Boehmer and Peter McDonald at this exciting time and for my research to be so warmly received by colleagues in the humanities at Oxford. I am looking forward to teaching and engaging with students and sharing ideas and perspectives on literature, history, postcolonialism and translation studies.'

Elleke Boehmer (Professor of World Literature in English, University of Oxford) expressed her delight at Professor Chaudhuri's arrival: 'Rosinka is a wonderful addition to TORCH and the Faculty of English. Her research has been influential and pioneering and throws light on an often overlooked dimension of postcolonial studies. Rosinka will teach students, lead open events, and contribute to Oxford in a number of other ways while she is with us.'

Professor Chaudhuri is based in TORCH and at St Hugh's College during Michaelmas Term.

The TORCH Global South Visiting Professorships Programme is designed to bring world-leading figures to the University of Oxford for at least one term and be

included in the teaching and research environment, hosted by leading academics in the humanities. Funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the Programme is a collaboration between the Faculties of the Humanities Division and Colleges of the University of Oxford.

Previous Visiting Professors to TORCH have included Midori, Imogen Cooper, Michael Govan, Maya Lin and Simon Schama.

<https://www.indiatoday.in/education-today/news/story/global-south-fellow-indian-professor-1070373-2017-10-24>

<https://www.ndtv.com/education/study-abroad-indian-professor-selected-as-first-global-south-fellow-at-oxford-university-1766333>