

**CENTRE FOR STUDIES IN SOCIAL SCIENCES, CALCUTTA,
R-1 BAISHNABGHATA PATULI,
KOLKATA 700094**

GENERAL SEMINAR

Dr. Ananda Bhattacharya
Assistant Director, West Bengal State Archives

will give a talk titled:

“Empire and Archives: Mughal and British”

Abstract

The present paper seeks to explore the definition of archives through the ages, viz., Ancient, Medieval and Modern. The main focus would be on the evolution of Archives in Mughal and British periods. Did the Colonial Raj follow the principles and practices in maintaining the Archives of the Mughal period as and when the East India Company established their stronghold in the soil of Bengal or the entire Archival system, its principles (particularly in terms of provenance) and preservation were completely different. It is no doubt that there were existence of record keeping both in the Ancient and Mughal times, but the term 'Archives' was first coined and used by the British Raj. The British inherited the system of record keeping from the French but did not follow the usual practices and norms in keeping records. The basic argument of the present paper is that the British not only created a new set of archival principles but made the records easy and accessible to the researchers for their own research works.

Date: Monday, 1 October, 2018; Time: 3 – 5 pm

Venue: CSSSC's Seminar Room 2, Patuli Campus

Debdatta Chowdhury
(Convener, Seminar Committee)
All are welcome to attend.