

Goutam Karmakar, Ph.D.

curriculum vitae

Department of English
School of Humanities
University of Hyderabad
Ministry of Education
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Biography

Goutam Karmakar is an Assistant Professor in the Department of English at the School of Humanities, University of Hyderabad, India. He is also an associate member at the Global South Studies Center (GSSC), University of Cologne, Germany, and an honorary research associate at the Faculty of Arts and Design, Durban University of Technology, South Africa. Karmakar has been awarded several research and visiting fellowships, including the prestigious Alexander von Humboldt Postdoctoral Fellowship at Multidisciplinary Environmental Studies in the Humanities (MESH), University of Cologne, Germany, and the National Research Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship at the Faculty of Education, University of Western Cape, South Africa. Karmakar's research interests include literature of the Global South, postcolonial and decolonial studies, environmental studies, and cultural studies.

Karmakar edits the journal *Global South Literary Studies* (published by Routledge, Taylor & Francis group) and also serves as a series editor for the Routledge book series *South Asian Literature in Focus*.

EDUCATION

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| 2020 | Ph.D., English, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, National Institute of Technology Durgapur, India. Dissertation focus: <i>Social Realism and Contemporary Indian Poetry in English</i> . Committee: Shri Krishan Rai (dir./supervisor), Arindam Modak, Joydeep Banerjee |
| 2019 | Post-Graduate Diploma in Folklore and Culture Studies (with distinction), Specialization: South Asian literature. Indira Gandhi National Open University, India |
| 2011 | M. A., English, Specialization: South Asian literature, Postcolonial literature. University of North Bengal, India |

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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| 2025 -- 2027 | Alexander von Humboldt Postdoctoral Fellow
Multidisciplinary Environmental Studies in the Humanities, University of Cologne, Germany |
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2025 --	Associate Member, Global South Studies Center, University of Cologne, Germany
2024 --	Assistant Professor of English, School of Humanities, University of Hyderabad, India
2024 --	Honorary Research Associate, Project Coordinator Faculty of Arts and Design, Durban University of Technology, South Africa
2023 -- 2023	Visiting Scholar, English & Environmental Humanities, Rachel Carson Centre for Environment and Society, LMU Munich, Germany
2022-2023	Postdoctoral Researcher (National Research Foundation fellow) Faculty of Education, University of the Western Cape, South Africa
2018—2024	Head, Assistant Professor of English, Undergraduate major in English Barabazar Bikram Tudu Memorial College, Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University (tenured)

TEACHING, RESEARCH & SUPERVISION INTERESTS

South Asian literature and Culture, Postcolonial Literature and Theory, Decolonial Studies, Global Anglophone Literature, Environmental Studies, Women and Gender Studies, Literature of the Global South

PUBLICATIONS

Monograph

Subaltern Environmentalism: Thinking with Indian Literature (under contract with Routledge)

Edited Volumes

Environmental Justice and Decolonial Activism in the Global South. Eds. Goutam Karmakar and Sule Emmanuel Egya. (under contract with Springer Nature)

Nation and Narration: South Asian Literature and the Making and Remaking of National Consciousness. Eds. Goutam Karmakar and Nukhbah Taj Langah. (under contract with Routledge)

Modernist Transitions: Cultural Encounters between British and Bangla Modernist Fiction from 1910s to 1950s. Eds. Subhadeep Ray and Goutam Karmakar. New Delhi: Bloomsbury, 2023.

Narratives of Trauma in South Asian Literature. Eds. Goutam Karmakar and Zeenat Khan. London: Routledge, 2023.

The City Speaks: Urban Spaces in Indian Literature. Eds. Subashish Bhattacharjee and Goutam Karmakar. London: Routledge, 2022.

Religion in South Asian Anglophone Literature: Traversing Resistance, Margins and Extremism. Eds. Sk Sagir Ali, Goutam Karmakar, Nasima Islam. London: Routledge, 2021.

Special/Guest edited issues

Interdisciplinary Literary Review, Guest co-editor with Somasree Sarkar of the special issue “The Plantationocene: On Histories and Narratives of the Plantation.” Under preparation

The Global South, Guest co-editor with Payel Pal of the special issue “Narrativising Infrastructure.” Under preparation

Capitalism Nature Socialism, Guest editor of the special issue “Literary and Artistic Expressions of Radical Ecology.” Under preparation

African Geographical Review, Guest co-editor with Amber Murrey of the special issue “Extraction, Infrastructural Violence, & Dissent in Critical African Geographies.” Under preparation

English Language Notes, Guest co-editor with Eunice NgongKum of the special issue “Environmental Injustice, Resistance and African Literature.” Under preparation.

Environment, Space, Place, Guest editor of the special issue “Indigenous ecologies and literary responses: Knowledge and rethinking sustainable development.” Under preparation.

Journal of Postcolonial Writing, Guest co-editor with Janet Wilson of special issue “Decolonial Hope: Planetary Sustainability, Solidarity, and Transformation.” Under preparation

Bandung: Journal of the Global South, Guest co-editor with Payel Pal and Pak Nung Wong of the special issue “Coloniality, (In)justice, and the literature of the Global South.” Under preparation

National Identities 27.1-2 (2025), Guest co-editor with Pippa Catterall of the special issue “[Nation, Nationalism and Indian Hindi Cinema](#).”

Scrutiny 228.2 (2024), Guest co-editor with Deirdre C. Byrne of special issue “[Ecology, Decoloniality and African Literature](#).”

Current Writing: Text and Reception in Southern Africa 36.2 (2024), Guest editor of the special issue “[Literature, Activism and Transformative Learning](#).”

Journal of Narrative and Language Studies 11.21 (2023), Guest co-editor with Mustafa Zeki Çıraklı of the special issue “[Capitalism, Anthropocene, and literature of the Global South.](#)”

SARE: Southeast Asian Review of English 60.1 (2023), Guest co-editor with Nukhbah Taj Langah of the special issue “[Religion, Secularism and Nationalism: Literature of South Asia.](#)”

Intersections: Gender and Sexuality in Asia and the Pacific 50 (2023), Guest co-editor with Spandan Bhattacharya of the special issue “Masculinity and Post-Liberalisation Indian Cinema.”

Journal of International Women's Studies 24.6 (2022), Guest editor of the special issue “[On Violence and Resistance: Narratives of Women in South Asia.](#)”

Peer-Reviewed/Academic Articles (Selected list)

Infrastructural Violence, Environmental Injustice, and Decolonial Repair: The Case of South Durban Basin. *Public Humanities* 1 (2025): 1–9.

Necessitating Environmental Education: Indigenous Knowledge and Decolonial Ethics in Rajam Krishnan's *When the Kurinji Blooms*. *Interdisciplinary Literary Studies* 27.2 (2025): 164–191.

Arboreal Dialogics and Environmental Activism: Multispecies Entanglements in Ben Okri's *Every Leaf a Hallelujah*. *Scrutiny* 2 (2025): 1–21.

Decoloniality, solidarity, and indigenous ecology: Reading Nemonte Nenquimo's *We Will Not Be Saved* as hope in the Anthropocene. *Journal for Cultural Research* (2025): 1–17. [co-authored]

Decolonial hope and planetary solidarity: Fostering sustainability through African life narratives. *Journal of Postcolonial Writing* 61.3 (2025): 313–330.

Nation, family and trauma: Techno-nationalism and conflicts of loyalty in the Indian Hindi-language espionage thriller *Mission Majnu*. *National Identities* 27.1–2 (2025): 175–194. [co-authored]

Colonial Modernity and Epistemic Hegemony: Rethinking Environmentalism in Kamala Markandaya's *The Coffee Dams*. *South Asian Review* (2024): 1–20.

Plachimada Struggle and the Environmentalism of the Poor: (In)justice and Activism in *Mayilamma: The Life of a Tribal Eco-Warrior*. *Current Writing: Text and Reception in Southern Africa* 36.2 (2024): 124–137.

“Knowledge Born in the Struggle”: Activism, Decolonial Ecology, and Sustainability in Wangari Maathai's *Unbowed: A Memoir*. *Scrutiny* 2 (2024): 1–22. [co-authored]

“Capitalism and Environmental Injustice: Decoloniality and Ecological Education in Ambikasutan Mangad's *Swarga*.” *ISLE: Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment* (2024): 1–22.

“Towards a critical ecological ontology: literacy, sustainability, and fostering environmental education through the Indian green informational picturebook.” *Journal of Graphic Novels and Comics* 15.6 (2024): 939–959.

“Living with extraction: Environmental injustice, slow observation and the decolonial turn in the Niger Delta, Nigeria.” *International Social Science Journal* 74 (2024): 787–808.

- “Injustice and subaltern environmentalism: tribal ecosystem and decolonial practices in Bhoopal’s *Forest, Blood & Survival: Life and Times of Komuram Bheem*.” *Journal for Cultural Research* 28.4 (2024): 333–352.
- “Where else can they go?": Violence, resistance and the socio-cultural trajectories of Kashmiri women in Freny Manecksha’s *Behold I Shine: Narratives of Kashmir’s Women and Children. Sexuality, Gender & Policy* 7.4 (2024): 348–365. [co-authored]
- “Transformative Learning with Wangari Maathai: Fostering Environmental Education and Sustainability Through the Green Picturebook *Seeds of Change: Planting a Path to Peace*.” *Journal of Human Values* 31.1 (2024): 97-117.
- “Grievable/Disposable lives in the Anthropocene culture: Ecoprecarity, indigeneity and ecological wisdom in *Kaala Paani*.” *International Social Science Journal* 74 (2024): 1633–48. [co-authored]
- “Examining (in)justice, environmental activism and indigenous knowledge systems in the Indian film *Kantara* (Mystical Forest).” *Socio-Ecological Practice Research* 6.2 (2024): 117-130. [co-authored]
Editor’s Choice.
- “Acid attacks and epistemic (in)justice: Violence, everyday resistance and hermeneutical responsibilities in the Indian Hindi film *Chhapaak*.” *Sexuality, Gender & Policy* 7.1 (2024): 22–42. [co-authored]
- “Epistemic Responsibility and Community Engagement in Sindiwe Magona’s *Beauty’s Gift*.” *ELOPE: English Language Overseas Perspectives and Enquiries* 20.2 (2023): 65–79. [co-authored]
- “Knowledge Born through (In)Justice: Gender Testing, Imposed Humiliation, and Epistemic Interventions in the Indian Hindi Film *Rashmi Rocket*.” *Quarterly Review of Film and Video* (2023): 1-36. [co-authored]
- “Arguing for Environmental Education: Sustainability and Decoloniality in Bessie Head’s *When Rain Clouds Gather*.” *English Academy Review* 41.1 (2023): 88-104. [co-authored]
- “Delinking the Capitalist Episteme: Empathy and the Decolonial Turn in Amitav Ghosh’s *Jungle Nama*.” *Current Writing: Text and Reception in Southern Africa* 35.2 (2023): 105-120. [co-authored]
- “Cognitive (In)justice and Decoloniality in Amitav Ghosh’s *The Nutmeg’s Curse*.” *Journal of Human Values* 30.2 (2023): 119-133. [co-authored]
- “Extraction and Environmental Injustices: (De)colonial Practices in Imbolo Mbue’s *How Beautiful We Were*.” *Etropic* 22.2 (2023): 125-147. [co-authored]
- “Partition and Pluralism: Perceiving Epistemic Terrains of Hope and Resilience in *Divided by Partition, United by Resilience—21 Inspirational Stories from 1947*.” *SARE: Southeast Asian Review of English* 60.1 (2023): 56-80. [co-authored]
- “Tackling Environmental and Epistemic Injustice: Decolonial Approaches for Pluriversal Peacebuilding in South Africa.” *Peace Review* 35.3 (2023): 496-510. [co-authored]
- “Episteme and Ecology: Amitav Ghosh’s *The Living Mountain* and the Decolonial Turn.” *South Asian Review* 45.3 (2023): 315-335. [co-authored]
- “Delinking “The Gentleman’s Game”: Visual Epistemic Representations in the Film *Shabaash Mithu*.” *Visual Anthropology* 36.2 (2023): 142-174. [co-authored]
- “(In)visibility, Mediated, and Sporting Perceptions: Bollywood, Biopics, and the Epistemic Turn in *Mary Kom*.” *Visual Anthropology* 36.3 (2023): 249-279. [co-authored]

- “Epistemic (dis)belief and (dis)obedience: Zakes Mda’s *The Heart of Redness* and the decolonial turn.” *Journal of Narrative and Language Studies* 11.21 (2023): 24-39. [co-authored]
- “Delinking stigma and vulnerability: HIV/AIDS, South African Women and epistemic solidarity through literary narrative.” *Health Care for Women International* (2023): 1-9. [co-authored]
- “The politics of conservation: examining the human- wildlife conflict in Bollywood ecocinema *Shereni* (2021).” *Journal of Environmental Planning and Management* 66.12 (2022): 2447-2466. [co-authored]
- “Moral Dogma and Ethical Relativity in Joseph Conrad’s *Almayer’s Folly*.” *The Explicator* 80.3-4 (2022): 127-131. [co-authored]
- “Women and War: (Dis)illusionment and Disclosure in Niromi de Soyza’s *Tamil Tigress*.” *Journal of International Women’s Studies* 24.6 (2022): 1-12.
- “Mothers and Daughters: Reclaiming the Besieged Body of Woman in Ashapura Debi’s Trilogy.” *Journal of International Women’s Studies* 24.5 (2022): 1-16. [co-authored]
- “Rooted in the Uprooted: Material Memories of Migration from Kashmir.” *Visual Anthropology* 35.3 (2022): 287-308. [co-authored]
- “Framing the Feminist Horror: Repression, Revenge, and Retaliation in *Stree* (2018) and *Bulbbul* (2020).” *Quarterly Review of Film and Video* 41.2 (2022): 196–224.
- “Discourse(s) of Identity: Precarity and (In)visibility in Farida Karodia’s *Daughters of the Twilight*.” *Journal of International Women’s Studies* 24.4 (2022): 1-15. [co-authored]
- “Room (Un)occupied: Repression, Precarity, and Autonomy in Sadia Abbas’s *The Empty Room*.” *Intersections* 47.1 (2022): 1-19. [co-authored]
- “Identity, Indigenecity and ‘Mythologerm’: Reading the Stories of Satyajit Ray’s Professor Shonku as Postcolonial Science Fiction.” *Comparative Literature: East & West* 6.1 (2022): 45-63. [co-authored]
- “Of personification and Equilibrium: An Ecosophical Appreciation of the Agency of the Earth in N K Jemisin’s *Broken Earth Trilogy*.” *IUP Journal of English Studies* 17.1 (2022): 1-15. [co-authored]
- “Azad Kashmir Reflections in Vikram A. Chandra’s *The Srinagar Conspiracy*.” *South Asia Research* 42.3 (2022): 428-443.
- “Multi-modal Engagement with Aranya: Appropriating Ecological Awareness in Amruta Patil and Devdutt Pattanaik’s Graphic tale *Aranyaka: Book of the Forest*.” *Journal of Graphic Novels and Comics* 12.6 (2021): 1307-1327. [co-authored]
- “Prostitution and Perceptiveness: Violated and Aging Bodies in Rizia Rahman’s *Letters of Blood*.” *Asiatic* 15.2 (2021): 111-127.
- “Of Capitalism and Animal Oppression: Exploring the Ecological Engagements with Select Crime Fictions of Sunil Gangopadhyay and Samaresh Majumdar.” *South Asian Review* 43.3-4 (2021): 198-211. [co-authored]
- “(Re)visiting the Past: Wounded History and Traumatized Memory in Qurratulain Hyder’s *Sita Betrayed* and *Fireflies in the Mist*.” *Asian Journal of Women’s Studies* 27.2 (2021): 258–276. [co-authored]
- “Formulating the ‘Alternate Archives’ of Produced Locality: Locating the Diasporic Consciousness in the Select Poems of Sujata Bhatt and Debjani Chatterjee.” *ELOPE: English Language Overseas Perspectives and Enquiries* 17.2 (2020): 149-164.

Interviews (Selected list)

Ecomodernity, decoloniality and environmental justice: Joan Martínez-Alier in conversation with Goutam Karmakar. *The Journal of Peasant Studies* 51.7 (2024): 1678–1689.

“Towards a Decolonial Feminist Intervention: Ethics and Perspectives of Françoise Vergès.” *Journal of Gender Studies* 33.3 (2023): 357–60.

“Gender at the Root of Everyday Life”: Equity, Activism, and the Perspectives of Diana J. Fox. *Journal of International Women’s Studies* 24.6 (2022): 1-12.

“Feminism and Intersectionality: Black Feminist Studies and the Perspectives of Jennifer C. Nash.” *Journal of International Women’s Studies* 23.1 (2022): 388-395.

“Perspectives on nation, identity and politics in the context of contemporary Kashmir: an interview with Nyla Ali Khan.” *National Identities* 24.2 (2022): 111-120.

“Feminism, Body, Sexuality and Time: A Conversation with Elizabeth Grosz.” *Journal of Gender Studies* 30.4 (2021): 496– 500.

“Identity, Politics and Ecology in Postcolonial War- Torn Society: An Interview with Romesh Gunsekera.” *South Asian Review* 42.3 (2021): 301–309.

“Shannon Sullivan’s perspectives on transactional bodies, racism, and identity: a pragmatist feminist approach.” *Journal of Gender Studies* 32.2 (2021): 136-143.

“Body, sexuality, marriage and feminism: an interview with Jane Gallop.” *Journal of Gender Studies* 30.8 (2021): 971- 979.

“Revisiting the Ideological Stance of Naga People: An Interview with Easterine Kire.” *South Asian Review* 43.3-4 (2021): 366-372.

“The body and sexuality in cultural representation: an interview with Susan Bordo.” *Journal of Gender Studies* 30.7 (2020): 855-863.

“Literature is the best antidote to fundamentalism”: Tabish Khair in conversation with Goutam Karmakar. *Journal of Postcolonial Writing* 55.2 (2018): 269-281.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS / INVITED PUBLIC TALKS (Selected list)

“Governmentality and Remaindered lives: Infrastructure, extractive necropolitics and the zone of (non)being.” Aarhus Institute of Advanced Studies, Aarhus University, Denmark, 2025.

“Transformative learning: Fostering environmental education and sustainability using visuals.” Faculty of Arts and Design seminar talks, Durban University of Technology, South Africa, 2025.

- “Crude realities: Infrastructural violence, epistemic injustice and extractive necropolitics in Nigeria.” GSSC Seminar Series, Global South Studies Center, University of Cologne, Germany, 2025.
- “Infrastructural Violence, Dissent and Extractive Practices in Africa.” Africa colloquium in Summer Term, Department for African Studies, Humboldt University of Berlin, Germany, 2025.
- “Decolonial Hope and Planetary Solidarity.” Medical Humanities Research Group, Indian Institute of Technology Indore, India, 2025.
- “Translation, Regionalism and Decolonisation.” Short term programme, MMTTC, DDU Gorakhpur University, Uttar Pradesh, India, 2025.
- “(Re-)Framing Environmental Thinking: Indigenous Ecologies and Decolonial Praxis.” Resource person, *Decolonial Ecology: Literary and Cultural Representations in the Global South*, College for Social Sciences and Humanities, Essen, Germany, 2024.
- “Ecoprecarity and the necropolitical Anthropocene: Learning through Indian Popular Culture.” plenary speaker, ICSSR-NERC Funded national seminar “Living with Precarity: Literature in Context in the 21st Century”, Department of English, Bodoland University, India, 2024.
- “Extraction and injustice: Arguing for the decolonial turn.” University of Groningen, Netherlands, 2023.
- “Decolonizing Ecology: Western Modernity and Epistemic Injustice.” Department of History, University of Westminster, UK, 2023.
- “Decoloniality and South African Indian literature.” Plenary talk, *International Virtual Conference on Humanities through Literature, Film and Media 2.0*, organized by School of Sciences and Languages, VIT Chennai, India, 2022.
- “Decoloniality and Language.” UGC-Human Resource Development Centre (HRDC) and University of Rajasthan, Jaipur (2 weeks) Refresher Course on “Towards Linguistic Diversity” (online), 2022.
- “Postcolonial Ecologies.” Indian Society for the promotion of English Language & Literature (ISPELL), India, 2022.
- “Feminism: Debating the Intersectionality.” Department of English, Forman Christian College University, Lahore, Pakistan, 2021.
- “The Journey of Indian Poetry in English: A Brief Overview.” University of Trier, Germany, 2020.

AWARDS, GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS

2025 MIASA Individual Fellowship, University of Ghana, Ghana.

- 2024 Alexander von Humboldt Postdoctoral Fellowship, University of Cologne, Germany, 2025-2027.
- 2024 Guest Researcher fellowship, Linnaeus University Centre for Concurrences in Colonial and Postcolonial Studies, Linnaeus University, Sweden.
- 2024 Visiting Scholarship, Network for Environmental Humanities, Utrecht University, The Netherlands, 2026.
- 2023 Postdoctoral Fellowship, University of South Africa, 2024-2027.
- 2023 Visiting Scholarship, Rachel Carson Centre for Environment and Society, LMU Munich, Germany.
- 2023 ESSCS-TH Summer School Solidarity Fund, Justus Liebig University Giessen, Germany.
- 2022 National Research Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship, University of the Western Cape, South Africa, 2022-2023.
- 2019 Volkswagen Foundation Scholarship, Hanover, Germany

EDITORIAL BOARDS/Service to the Profession

- 2025 – *Capitalism Nature Socialism*
- 2024 – *Humanities and Social Science Communications*
- 2023 – Routledge Book Series Editor [*South Asian Literature in Focus*](#)
- 2023 – *National Identities*
- 2023 – *English Academy Review*
- 2023 – *Critical Humanities*
- 2022 – *South Asia Research*
- 2022 – *Journal of Narrative and Language Studies*
- 2022 – *Journal of International Women's Studies*