A guide to the

Hitesranjan Sanyal Memorial Collection

an archival collection of old Bangla periodicals; documents relating to the social history of Bengal and the Communist Parties of India and Great Britain in microfilm rolls; colour transparencies of 19th and early 20th century paintings, lithographs and photographs; reports of the Indian Census, 1872-1951, and Occasional Papers of the CSSSC on microfiche cards

at

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The CSSSC is grateful to the ENRECA programme of DANIDA and the India Foundation for the Arts for their financial assistance towards the setting up of this archive.
About this guide:

All documents available in microfilm rolls are arranged alphabetically. The ‘index of Bangla periodicals’ and the ‘subject index’ located at the end of the guide refer to entry numbers; the ‘index of names’ refer to page numbers.

Microfiches of Occasional Papers of the CSSSC and transparencies of visual materials are listed at the end of the guide; there is no corresponding ‘subject index’ to these items. For Government Reports and Proceedings, the name of the department to which the document is related is mentioned first.

In case of Reports of Commissions appointed by the government or any of its agencies, the title is shown as it appears on the title page of the manuscript or printed report.

Figures in parentheses used after the title of books/periodicals/manuscripts denote:

1. Periodicity [for periodicals and journals only]
2. Place(s) of publication
3. Language
4. Editor(s)/Author(s)
5. Publication year of the first volume available in the Archive
6. Subject [Sometimes it is hard to define the articles in a periodical under a single subject head. In such cases, more than one subject may be mentioned, in the order of emphasis. Thus, *Tattvabodhini Patrika* is described as Religion - Brahma / Natural Science / Education. Minor subjects are usually ignored. Fiction and poetry appeared on the pages of most Bangla periodicals irrespective of its main area of emphasis, so mention of ‘literature’ will be avoided in the subject field, except where the periodical is primarily a literary one.]
7. Source: location of the original document.

List of abbreviations used in the guide:

BSP: Bangiya Sahitya Parishat.
(PM)MF: Pradyot Mukherjee Collection.
CSS: CSSSC’s own collection, either collected from other libraries or its own documents microfilmed for preservation.
M/I: Microfilm collection of the ICSSR with the CSSSC.
MF: Microfiche collection.
b.s.: Bangla Calendar year.
Sak: Shakabada.

About the Collection:

The Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta, has played an important role in social science research in India since its inception in 1973. The Library of the CSSSC, in particular, has proved to be an invaluable resource for researchers and students in eastern India and for scholars from all over the world working on Bengal. Besides its collection of books and periodicals in the social sciences, the CSSSC Library has acquired a large number of non-book materials required for a research library.

The CSSSC’s microfilm collection began with the acquisition of the Indian Census Reports from 1872 to 1951, in microfiche form distributed by the Inter Documentation Company of Switzerland. Besides, the widow of economic historian Pradyot Mukherjee gifted her husband’s collection of microfilms containing valuable materials on Indian history. Along with this, a considerable number of microfilm rolls, mainly on the Communist and
Labour Movements, belonging to the Indian Council of Social Science Research, was incorporated in this collection. In addition, there are a few rolls acquired by the CSSSC from time to time on demand from scholars and some that were gifted by faculty members.

The CSSSC has been publishing Occasional Papers since 1975, which reflect the results of ongoing research at the Centre. These were published in mimeograph form and are preserved in the Library. A selected set of microfiche copies of the Occasional Papers are also available as duplicate copies from the Library of Congress.

The idea of beginning a microfilm collection of old and rare printed materials originated from the research needs of scholars at the CSSSC working on the social and cultural history of Bengal. Most of these materials located in various old libraries in Calcutta and its surrounding areas are in a perilous condition of decay and are fast becoming unusable. In 1993, a project was begun by the CSSSC to preserve in microfilm old Bengali periodicals containing materials on social history. This was made a constituent part of a collaborative research project of the CSSSC with Roskilde University, Denmark, and the Centre for Basic Research, Kampala, funded by DANIDA, on the study of Nationalism, Modernity and Urban Culture. A major portion of the present collection has been filmed from the Bangiya Sahitya Parishat library of Calcutta (listed below as BSP). This is the most exhaustive collection anywhere of 19th and early 20th century Bengali periodicals. A project is now being undertaken to expand the collection to include 19th and early 20th century books and other printed materials.

The latest addition to this Archive is the collection of transparencies of 19th and early 20th century paintings, prints, illustrations and photographs from Bengal. This is part of an ongoing project of the CSSSC on Hybrid Genres: A Photographic Archive of Visual Material of the Late 19th and Early 20th Century in Various Calcutta Collections. This project is funded by the India Foundation for the Arts, Bangalore. The Centre is procuring colour transparencies and corresponding photo negatives of these paintings and photographs for use by scholars.

At present, the total collection in this Archive is as follows:
Total number of 35mm / 100ft microfilm rolls are 411. Among these, the Bangla periodicals comprise 330 rolls, 54 rolls belong to the ICSSR collection, which contains mainly Communist and labour movement documents and Government Reports, a few from the P. Mukherjee collection and the rest from the Centre’s earlier collection. Nearly 540,000 pages of documents are available in these 411 rolls and there are nearly 270,000 film gates. 4458 microfiche cards of the Indian Census material from 1872-1951 along with about 100 microfiches of the Occasional Papers of the Centre are also part of the Collection. The Visual Archive now has about 1500 colour transparencies and an equal number of photo negatives.

The entire collection is named after Hitesranjan Sanyal, who, until his sudden death in 1988, was at the forefront of the Centre’s researches in social and cultural history of Bengal.

How to access the Collection:
As part of CSSSC Library, the Collection is open to all research scholars working in academic institutions for purposes of research and study. Service is available between 10.30am and 5.30pm, Monday to Friday. The collection is housed at:
Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta,
10, Lake Terrace, Calcutta 700 029, India.
Phone : (91) (33) 466-6472 / 466-5477
Fax : (91) (33) 466-6958
E-mail : postmast@csssc.ernet.in
The Bangla Periodicals:

The main systematic, classified and complete part of the Hitesranjan Sanyal Memorial Collection consists of microfilms of old Bangla periodicals. When in 1993, the CSSSC decided to use some of its research grant for the preservation of research materials on the urban history of Bengal, the first priority was given to Bangla periodicals.

The first printing press in Calcutta was established in 1777, twenty years after the battle of Palashi and the seizure of power by the East India Company in Bengal. By 1800, thirty-eight printing presses had been set up in and around Calcutta, all owned by the European printers. The pioneering effort of Charles Wilkins with the assistance of Panchanan Karmakar led to the first metal typecasts in Bangla in 1778. This ushered in the era of Bangla printing.

But it had to wait until 1800, when Fort William College needed books in Bangla as teaching materials for newly arrived company officials from England and the Serampore Baptist Mission resolved to spread Christianity in the local language. A rough estimate shows that, between 1801 and 1832, 212,000 copies of books in forty languages were published from Serampore Mission.

In 1817, the Calcutta School Book Society was set up to publish books in English and Indian languages. The School Society was established in 1818 and in the following years, English and Vernacular Schools were established throughout the country with a steady increase in the number of schools each year.

The first Bangla periodical, *Digdarshan*, edited by J. C. Marshman (1794-1877), was published by the Serampore Baptist Mission from its own press in 1818. This periodical had three different editions published simultaneously, one in Bangla, one in English and the third bi-lingual. In the following month, from 23 May, 1818, the first Bangla weekly newspaper, *Samchar Darpan*, started publication from the same press, under Marshman’s editorship. The first newspaper edited by a Bengali appeared in June that year: *Bangal Gajeti*, edited by Gangakishore Bhattacharya. From that time, the publication of Bangla periodicals steadily increased. The following table shows the number of new periodicals published each decade between 1821 and 1930:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>New Publications</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>New Publications</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1821-30</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1881-90</td>
<td>295</td>
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<tr>
<td>1831-40</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>1891-1900</td>
<td>224</td>
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<tr>
<td>1841-50</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>1901-10</td>
<td>225</td>
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<tr>
<td>1851-60</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>1911-20</td>
<td>262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1861-70</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>1921-30</td>
<td>552</td>
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<tr>
<td>1871-80</td>
<td>259</td>
<td>Total no. of periodicals published between 1821-1930:</td>
<td>2080</td>
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</table>

This can be shown graphically as follows: 010020030040050060001821-301841-501861-701881-901901-101921-30YearNo. of periodicals

The chart shows a steady increase in the number of Bangla periodicals between 1831 and 1870, followed by a decline between 1891 and 1920. There is no agreed explanation for this decline. One suggestion is the huge rise in the price of printing paper; another is the introduction of steam and later electrically driven printing presses which saw the decline of the small entrepreneurs in the field.

Most of the periodicals included in the above table were shortlived. Only a handful ran for several decades: of these, *Tattvabodhini patrika* appeared for nearly a hundred years, *Sangbad Prabhakar* for more than fifty years and *Bharati* for fifty years. Of the 2080 titles mentioned above, the number of periodicals to be found today on the shelves of all libraries...
in and around Calcutta is not more than 400; the rest are presumably lost for ever.

The principal microfilm collection of periodicals in the Hitesranjan Sanyal Memorial Collection comes from the Bangiya Sahitya Parishat library in Calcutta which is the largest repository of 19th century Bangla periodicals in the world. The microfilm collection has been made possible through the generous collaboration of the authorities of the Parishat.

**The Communist Party literature and other documents:**

Besides the microfilm holdings of Bangla periodicals, the Collection also has documents relating to the Communist Parties of India and Great Britain, materials on Positivism in 19th century Bengal and microfiches of Indian Census reports, 1872-1951.

Of the Communist Party materials, *Janayuddha* was the Bangla organ of the Communist Party of India in the 1940s. The organ of the Third International published by the Communist Party of Great Britain, *International Press Correspondence* (1921-37), is a source book of world Communist and Labour movements. The Collection also has the proceedings and evidences of Meerut Conspiracy Case.

**The Visual Archive:**

As part of an ongoing research project, the Centre started procuring transparencies of pictorial material of the 19th and early 20th century Bengal - mainly paintings, prints, religious and popular pictures, journal covers and illustrations, advertisements and photographs - which are lying scattered in different private and institutional collections in Calcutta. Presently the collection has nearly one thousand, five hundred colour transparencies and the corresponding photo negatives of Kalighat paintings, Battala wood engravings, Company paintings, works of the European artists on India, prints of different Art Studios in Calcutta, illustrations from *Prabasi, Bharati, Bharatbarsa* and other Bangla journals, early mythological oil paintings and a collection of early photographs in India. The transparencies have been made from the collections of individual art collectors in Calcutta and from art galleries in Calcutta and London.

This collection aims to build a combined pool of textual and visual materials on the culture of colonial Bengal. The *pat* paintings of Kalighat and the Battala wood engravings of the 19th-century were important popular art forms in colonial Bengal. With the development of printing technology, a few art studios in Calcutta, mainly the Kansaripara and Chorbagan Art Studios, started to print pictures for the popular market. These are now considered by historians as an independent genre of popular culture. Another important discovery is a variety of oil paintings on religious and mythological subjects which were produced by local painters over the late 19th and early 20th century.

Most photographers in 19th century India were Europeans, some of them being amateurs or military photographers and some professionals. Ethnographic Photographs are some of the most important examples of their work. Landscape and archaeological studies both by the European and Indian photographers are also important for historical research.

The Centre is now in the process of documenting the works of several local photographers of late 19th and 20th century Calcutta from their family collections. These collections cover family, studio, wedding and outdoor photographs taken over the late 19th and early 20th centuries.
The microfilm collection of Bangla Periodicals

1. **Abodhbandhu** : (1) Monthly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) Biharilal Chakrabarti (5) 1273 b.s. [1866] (6) Literature (7) BSP.
   
   This periodical mainly on literature was published irregularly between 1273-76 b.s. [1866-69]. Main subject of interest are biographical notes on contemporary figures in the field of education.
   
   The Archive has v.1-3 [1273-76 b.s. – 1866-69].
   
   Roll no. BSP39. 35mm negative.

2. **Adrista** : (1) Monthly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) Ramankrishna Chattopadhyay (5) 1303 b.s. [1896] (6) Astrology / General (7) BSP.
   
   This periodical was mainly published to circulate the ideas of ‘modern science’ of palmistry and astrological knowledge.
   
   The Archive has v.1-2 [1303-03 b.s. – 1896-98].
   
   Roll no. BSP208. 35 mm negative.

   
   This periodical was first published by Akshyaychandra Maitreya in 1305 b.s. [1898] from Rajsahi as a quarterly on Archaeology, but continued only for a period of about one year. The above mentioned volumes are continuation of that same periodical as a monthly from Calcutta on Archaeological subjects, as a part of the ‘Nationalist’ effort of revealing ‘forgotten chapters of Indian history’. This periodical was the first attempt to establish a popular platform to discuss and disseminate Archaeological knowledge in Bangla language.
   
   The Archive has issues 7-12 of v.2 [1311 b.s. – 1904]; v.3-5 [1314-16 b.s. – 1907-10].
   
   Roll no. BSP71-72. 35mm negative.

   
   The short-lived periodical on religion and social reform continued only for two years. It is said that Gaganchandra was inspired by Bipinchandra Pal to publish the periodical. Most of the articles published in the periodical were highly ‘nationalist’ in tone.
   
   The Archive has v.1-2 [1806-08 sak – 1884-86].
   
   Roll no. BSP222-223. 35mm negative.

5. **Anjali** : (1) Monthly (2) Chattagram (3) Bangla (4) Rajeswar Gupta (5) 1305 b.s. [1898] (6) Literature / Education – Children (7) BSP.
   
   Published mainly for children with a view to their ‘moral upgradation’.
   
   The Archive has v.1 [1305 b.s. – 1898-99].
   
   Roll no. BSP208.

6. **Antahpur** : (1) Monthly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) Hemantakumari Chaudhuri (5) 1307 b.s. [1900] (6) Women's Studies / Women's Literature (7) BSP.
   
   Publication of this periodical started from January 1898, and Banalata Debi was its first editor. After her death in 1900 Hemantakumari Chaudhuri and Kumudini Mitra took the
responsible for its publication. This periodical was managed and written only by women.

The Archive has v.4-6 [1307-10 b.s. – 1900-03].
Roll no. BSP35-36. 35mm negative.


This periodical was one of the early magazines on health and medicine and ran for a very brief period. This periodical is significant for giving information on the first generation of medicine experts.

The Archive has v.1 [1282 b.s. – 1875-76].
Roll no. BSP107. 35mm negative.

8. Anusandhan: (1) Fortnightly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) Durgadas Lahiri (5) 1294 b.s. [1887] (6) Political Science (7) BSP.

In its first introduction the periodical claimed that it would ‘fight against and expose before the public all types of corruption in Government Organisations, the political parties and in various institutions.’ The periodical was published as fortnightly upto its eighth year and then turned into a weekly. Information on its later volumes is not available.

The Archive has v.1-5 [1294-99 b.s. – 1887-92].
Roll no. BSP82-84. 35mm negative.


Socio political issues mainly related to Hindu Nationalism appeared in this periodical.

The Archive has v.1 [1299 b.s. – 1892-93].
Roll no. BSP72. 35mm negative.

10. Anushilan o Purohit: (1) Monthly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) Mahendranath Bidyanidhi (5) 1301 b.s. [1894] (6) Nationalism (7) BSP.

Containing essays on the question of Hindu Nationalism, continued as Anushilan o Purohit from its second year.

The Archive has v.1 [1301 b.s. – 1894-95].
Roll no. BSP72. 35mm negative.

11. Anushilan o Purohit: (1) Monthly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) Mahendranath Bidyanidhi (5) 1302 b.s. [1895] (6) Nationalism (7) BSP.

This periodical was a continuation of the former.

The Archive has v.2 [1302 b.s. – 1895-96].
Roll no. BSP72-73. 35mm negative.

12. Arati: (1) Monthly (2) Mymensingh (3) Bangla (4) Umeshchandra Bidyaratna (5) 1307 b.s. [1900] (6) Literature / Agriculture / Trade and Commerce / Bengal – Social condition (7) BSP.

An important periodical published from eastern Bengal. Articles on economic issues and agriculture are also found here along with fiction and poetry.

The Archive has v.1-6 [1307-13 b.s. – 1900-06].
13. Arunodaya: (1) Fortnightly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) Lalbehari De (5) 1857 (6) Religion – Christianity / Education / Politics (7) BSP.

This periodical began in August 1856 and mainly dealt with education and religion. Rev. Lalbehari De, the editor of the periodical, was one of the first prominent converts to Christianity. Lalbehari published this periodical to teach and propagate the ‘excellence’ of the Christian system of education and religion for those who did not know English. Another interesting aspect of this periodical is its stand on the rebellion of 1857 which it considered as a threat against Christianity as well as against ‘peace’ and ‘justice’. This periodical continued for six years.

The Archive has v.2-3 [December 1857 – 1859].


The primary objective of this periodical was to propagate the systems of ‘modern’ knowledge. It ran for eleven years. The quality of printing and production was exceptionally good in comparison with other Bangla periodicals of the time.

The Archive has v.1-11[1281-92 b.s. – 1874-86].


The periodical was published with the sub-title ‘Brahman Pandit’, the mission being to rescue Hinduva from the ‘evil influence of Brahmoism.’ Though the periodical was declared as a monthly, its publication was irregular and did not continue for more than one year.

The Archive has few issues of v.1[1811 sak – 1889].


The periodical was published with an aim to ‘save Hinduva and its religious practices and social customs from its present decadence.’ The periodical survived only a year.

The Archive has v.1[1929 samvat – 1872].

17. Atithi: (1) Monthly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) ? (5) 1288 b.s. [1881] (6) Nationalism / Religion – Hinduism/ Literature (7) BSP.

The periodical started its publication with the goal of ‘social reform’. It probably did not continue after its first year.

The Archive has v.1[1288-89 b.s. – 1881].

One of the most important periodicals on the condition and social status of women in the 19th century. It was the early period of women’s education when *Bamabodhini* came into circulation. The debates on this issue appear very strongly on its pages. The editorial board of *Bamabodhini* consisted of liberal reformers propagating the cause of women’s education.

The Archive has volumes of the following years: 1270-78 b.s. [1863-72]; 1289 b.s. [1882-83]; 1291-94 b.s. [1884-88]; 1299-1307 b.s. [1892-1901]; 1309-11 b.s. [1902-04]; 1314-15 b.s. [1907-09]; 1317-28 b.s. [1910-22].

Roll no. BSP128-137. 35mm negative.


Publication of this periodical was inspired by *Bangadarshan*, a monthly from Calcutta edited by Bankimchandra Chattopadhyay. This periodical contains some important articles on social, political and moral issues. Though this periodical was published over a long period [about 32 years] but its publication was interrupted time to time e.g. 11 volumes were published between 1281 and 1295 b.s. then its publication ceased for 13 years, again it started publishing as ‘new series’ from 1308 b.s. and went on for five years.

The Archive has v.1-8[1281-91 b.s. – 1874-85]; new series : v.1-4[1308-12 b.s. – 1902-06].

Roll no. BSP73-78. 35mm negative.


This periodical began publishing from 1331 b.s. [1924] and continued for a considerably long period. Issues related to women and family appeared on the pages of this periodical. Biographies of contemporary women of repute also came along with fiction literature and essays on religious and moral issues.

The Archive has v.6[1337-38 b.s. – 1930].

Roll no. BSP119. 35mm negative.


This short-lived periodical is an important document in the fields of studies on women’s education and gender question raised by the liberal pedagogues in 19th century Bengal. This periodical was published by the Board of Principal’s of ‘Chorbagan Balika Bidyalaya’ on Muktaram Babu Street, a school for women’s formal education and an acting board to conduct the examinations in *Zenana* schools established by Pyaricharan Sarkar in 1863 [1868?]. After Pyaricharan’s death in September, 1875 Bhubanmohan took the charges of the school on himself. Issues related to women, both from liberal and conservative perspectives were featured in the pages of this periodical. Few articles published here even condemned the Hindu social code of conduct for women in general. This periodical was in circulation only for two years.

The Archive has v.1-2[1282-83 b.s. – 1875-77].

Roll no. BSP38-39. 35mm negative.

22. *Basantak*: (1) Monthly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) Prananath Dutta (5) 1280 b.s. [1874]
Basantak started publication from 31 January, 1874, just one month after the appearance of the first cartoon magazine in Bangla, *Harabola Bhand*. Prananath Dutta, the editor of this periodical, was an activist of the Municipal Movement in Calcutta. The main demand of the movement was active participation of Indians in Calcutta Corporation. This illustrated periodical with cartoons on the mismanagement of the city, its thoughtless implementation of arbitrary laws and various caricatures on social issues was used as a tool to justify the cause of the Municipal Movement. The illustrator of the periodical was Girindrakumar Dutta, an activist of the movement. The periodical continued only for two years but is a landmark in the history of political cartoons in the Bangla language.

The Archive has v.1-2 [1874-76].

Roll no. BSP81-82. 35mm negative.

23. **Basantak <illustrations>** : The same publication as above. The illustrations are microfilmed separately for easy access.

Roll no. BSP201. 35mm negative.

24. **Bedabyas** : (1) Monthly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) Bhudhar Chattopadhyay (5) 1890 b.s. (6) Religion – Hinduism / Nationalism – Hindu / Literature / General (7) BSP.

This periodical began its publication to propagate Hinduism.

The Archive has v.1-9[1886-95].

Roll no. BSP100-102. 35mm negative.

25. **Bharatbhritya** : (1) Weekly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) Purnachandra Basu (?) (5) 1872 b.s. (6) Nationalism (7) BSP.

This news magazine continued only for a few months and then collaborated with *People's Friend* and was renamed as *People's Friend o Bharatbhritya* and continued up to the middle of 1874.

The Archive has v.1 [1872].

Roll no. BSP72. 35mm negative.

26. **Bharati / Bharati o Balak** : (1) Monthly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) Dwijendranath Tagore
This periodical is a landmark both in the evolution of Bangla literature and in the rise of prominent women writers and editors. It was published from the Tagore family of Jorasanko and was often acknowledged as a Tagore family magazine. When Swarnakumari Debi took the responsibility of its publication from Dwijendranath in 1884, it became the second Bangla periodical to be edited by a woman, the first being Anathini by Thakomoni Debi [1875]. It became also the first well organised, widely circulated and well acclaimed monthly in the Bangla language. The periodical was not established to support the women’s cause, but Swarnakumari turned it into a women’s magazine. For few years it was published with the title Bharati o Balak when Balak, edited by Jnanadanandini Debi merged with it. When the publication of Bharati ceased in 1333 b.s. it set a record of the first longest surviving Bangla monthly. This periodical highlighted the women’s cause when it was in the hands of Swarnakumari and Sarala Debi, but generally it was only a literary monthly. Many masterpieces of Rabindranath, Jyotirindranath and many of their contemporaries’ were first serialised in this periodical. Swarnakumari’s writings on the issues of science also marked a popular interest in science among women. In the golden jubilee year of Bharati, the contemporary women writers described it as women's magazine and acknowledged it as their stepping stone on the way to becoming a writer.

The Archive has v.1-50 [1284-1333 b.s. – 1877-1926].
Roll no BSP138-145, 145A, 146, 146A, B, C, D, E 147-152, 152A, 153-167. 35mm negative.

This was one of the most important periodicals in Bangla on medicine and surgery dealing with detail case histories of the patients and the lines of treatment. Most of the contributors were medicine wizards of the time. This periodical received government aid for its publication, and the reports of the government health department and Medical College were published here.

The Archive has v.6 [1896-97]; v.10 [1900]; v.14-16 [1904-06]; v.19-23 [1909-13].
Roll no. BSP4-8. 35mm negative.

29. Bhramar : (1) Monthly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) Sanjibchandra Chattopadhyay (5) 1281 b.s. [1874] (6) Literature (7) BSP.
A very short-lived periodical, it contained mainly literary articles as well as some essays on religion and social issues. Sanjibchandra himself authored most of the articles in this periodical.

The Archive has v.1-2 [1281-82 b.s. – 1874-76].
Roll no. BSP102. 35mm negative.

The Vernacular Literature Committee in Calcutta was established in 1851, with a mission ‘to publish translations of such works as are not included in the design of the tract of Christian Knowledge Societies on the one hand, or of the School Book and Asiatic Societies on the other and likewise to provide a sound and useful Vernacular Domestic Literature for Bengal.’ A grant of Rs. 80 per month was extended to Rajendralal Mitra for publication of such a monthly that could fulfil the ambition of the committee of educating ‘native’ people in the modern systems of knowledge. To fulfil the demand, Bibidhartha came in circulation from October 1851. The 16-page (later 24) was the first illustrated Bangla monthly, and the first magazine covering various scientific and educative subjects. Writing on zoology, botany, anthropology filled the pages of this periodical, along with plays, poetry and caricatures on social issues. After the publication of six volumes, Rajendralal retired from its editorship for health problems. Then, Kaliprasanna Singha took the responsibility of its publication, which continued irregularly for ten months. In the July issue of 1861, Kaliprasanna published a criticism of Nildarpan in this periodical, as a gesture of protest against James Long’s punishment in the court of law for publication of a translation of this play in his name. Consequently, he was forced to stop the publication of this periodical as the Government-funded Vernacular Literature Committee was reluctant to release the grant for continuing its publication. From the following year, Rajendralal restarted its publication in a new name, Rahasya Sandarbha, maintaining the same form and content.

The Archive has v.1-7 [1773-83 sak – 1851-61].
Roll no. BSP10-11. 35mm negative.


This was an important addition in the series of late 19th century periodicals on science. This periodical survived only for three years. One article on the science of Indian classical music was serialised in this monthly.

The Archive has v.1 [1289 b.s. – 1882-83]; v.3 [1291-92 b.s. – 1884].
Roll no. BSP1. 35mm negative.


This periodical was mainly a monthly on literature, also containing some articles on Hinduism. Some satirical writings on the ‘justification’ of the colonial state in India, though written from an orthodox Hindu point of view, are very interesting.

The Archive has v.1-2 [1300-01 b.s. – 1893-94].
Roll no. BSP102-103.

33. Birbhum : (1) Monthly (2) Keernahar, Birbhum (3) Bangla (4) Nilratan Mukhopadhyay (5) 1306b.s. [1899] (6) General / History / Literature (7) BSP.

This periodical started publication as a regional monthly from Birbhum, to represent the district in the domain of national literature. The main emphasis was on the locale of the periodical, the history of the district and the physical and human geography of the locality. The literature of the local people got the first priority here. Articles on religion
and on national issues were also published in this periodical.

The Archive has v.1-5 [1306-12 b.s. – 1899-1906].
Roll no. BSP68-69.


Continuation of the former.

The Archive has v.1 [1317-18 b.s. – 1911]; v.3-4 [1320-21 b.s. – 1913-15]; v.6-7 [1330-31 b.s. – 1923-25]; v.8 [1333-34 b.s. – 1927-28].
Roll no BSP69-71.


This periodical was a representative of the Vaisnav devotees in Bengal. Articles published here preached the ‘greatness’ of Vaisnavism.

The Archive has v.1 [1890]; v.8 [1897].
Roll no. BSP89.


Bangiya Sahitya Parishat is the major library for 19th and early 20th century Bangla periodicals, books and monographs in Calcutta. This comprehensive printed catalogue of the periodicals of the Library is a near exhaustive list of the published periodicals of the period.

Roll no. BSP167. 35mm negative.


This irregular periodical on medicine focused mainly on the indigenous systems of medical treatment. Only four volumes of this periodical were published between 1889-1926.

The Archive has v.1 [1296-97 b.s. – 1890]; v.3 [1306 b.s. – 1899-1900]; v.4 [1333 b.s. – 1926-27].
Roll no. BSP8-9. 35mm negative.

38. Chikitsak o Samalochak : (1) Monthly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) Satyakrishna Ray (5) 1895 (6) Medicine (7) BSP.

This short-lived monthly made a significant contribution in the field of practising medical science in the Bangla language.

The Archive has v.1-2[1895-96].
Roll no. BSP1. 35mm negative.

39. Chikitsa Sammilani : (1) Monthly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) Annadacharan Khastagir & Abinashchandra Kabiratna [1292-93 b.s. – 1885-87]; Abinashchandra Kabiratna &
This monthly journal on medicine is one of the earliest of this kind in Bangla, where all
the three disciplines of medicine prevalent in India, Allopathy, Homeopathy and Ayurved,
were represented. Debates on differences in these three disciplines of medicine were
also published. All the editors and contributors of this periodical were celebrated medical
practitioners of that time. Annadacharan was a noted Allopath doctor, while
Abinashchandra and Shitalchandra were famous Ayurved doctors of that time. Detail
case histories of the patients and lines of treatment were published in this magazine.
The health and health education policy of the government were also reviewed and
criticised in this periodical. The idea of introducing Ayurved as a discipline in the medical
institutes by the government was strongly advocated in this periodical.

The Archive has v.2-6 [1292-96 b.s. – 1885-90]; v.8-12 [1298-1301 b.s. – 1891-95].
Roll no. BSP1-4. 35mm negative.

40. **Chitradarshan** : (1) Monthly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) Beharilal Ray (5) 1297 b.s.
[1890] (6) Literature / General (7) BSP.
An illustrated low priced periodical dealing mainly with art and literature.
The Archive has v.1 [1297-98b.s. – 1891].
Roll no. BSP82. 35mm negative.

41. **Chittaranjini** : (1) Two-monthly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) Rajrajendra Chandra (5)
1288 b.s. [1882] (6) Literature / General (7) BSP.
This illustrated periodical was published by a literary society, known as ‘Shribati
Chittaranjini Sahitya Sabha’, with an ambition of ‘social reform’. It contained mainly
prose fiction and poetry, alongwith some essays on ‘social reform’.
The Archive has v.1-2 [1288-90 b.s. – 1881-83].
Roll no. BSP107. 35mm negative.

42. **Daridraranjan** : (1) Monthly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) Radhanath Mitra (5) 1296 b.s.
[1889] (6) Literature / General (7) BSP.
This periodical was aimed at the development of literature and was distributed free of
cost. Each issue of this periodical contained one or two literary writings by relatively
unknown authors. It openly invited contributions from the new generation of writers.
Books and theatre reviews were also published regularly.
The Archive has v.1 [1296 b.s. – 1889-90]; v.2 [1301 b.s. – 1894-95].
Roll no. BSP78. 35mm negative.

43. **Darshak** : (1) Monthly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) [?]
Publisher – Abinashchandra Neyogi
(5) 1281 b.s. [1874] (6) Literature / General (7) BSP.
This monthly was mainly on literature containing many theatre and book reviews. It was
published for only a year.
The Archive has v.1 [1281 b.s. – 1874-75].
Roll no. BSP208. 35mm negative.

44. **Dasi** : (1) Monthly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) Rama-nanda Chattopadhyay (5) 1892 (6)
Social Work / Women’s condition / Family / General. (7) BSP.
This periodical was began as an in-house publication of Dasashram, a residential work house for poor and hapless women, which Ramananda Chattopadhyay had joined. As a part of its advancement, he planned to publish a monthly periodical to help in the campaign for fund raising for the house and to spread the cause of social work in the country. This periodical contains articles on the pertinence of social work and service for the poor from a religious point of view. Fiction literature, along with essays on religious and social issues relating to women and family, also appeared in this periodical. The day to day activities and the annual report of the rehabilitation centre were also published.

The Archive has v.1-2 [1892-93]; v.4-6 [1894-97].

Roll no. BSP41-43. 35mm negative.

45. Gan o Galpa : (1) Fortnightly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) Matilal Basu (5) 1296 b.s. [1889] (6) Literature / General (7) BSP.

The periodical dealing mainly with literature started in April, 1887. It made a significant contribution in the field of literature.

The Archive has v.2[1296b.s. – 1889-90].

Roll no. BSP210-211. 35mm negative.


This periodical, with writings mainly on domestic science and para science, continued only for a few months. Articles on yoga, astrology, music, cooking, etc. were published in this magazine.

The Archive has v.1 [1293 b.s. – 1886].

Roll no. BSP10. 35mm negative.

47. Government Gazette : (1) Weekly (2) Serampore (3) Bangla (4) J. C. Marshman (5) 1850 (6) Politics / Law / Government order (7) BSP.

This periodical began publication from Serampore Mission Press from 1 July, 1840, mainly to circulate the government orders and regulations in Bangla translation. J. C. Marshman continued the publication of this gazette until the end of 1852, then Krishnamohan Banerjee took the responsibility of its publication. This gazette continued for about twenty five years.

The Archive has the volume published in 1850.

Roll no. BSP14. 35mm negative.


This monthly on domestic affairs and agriculture was published from an organisation known as ‘Grihastha Publishing House.’ The periodical also published prose fiction, poetry and essays on contemporary social and political events.

The Archive has v.1-8 [1316-24 b.s. – 1909-17].

Roll no. BSP120-125. 35mm negative.

49. Grihasthali : (1) Monthly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) Bipradas Mukhopadhyay (5) 1291 b.s. [1884] (6) Domestic science / Family (7) BSP.

This periodical contains articles published on health, hygiene and household chores.
50. **Grihasthamangal** : (1) Monthly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) Ashwinikumar Chattopadhyay (5) 1335 b.s. [1928] (6) Agriculture / Trade and Commerce / Domestic science (7) BSP.

This periodical came into circulation from 1927 as a monthly guidebook, mainly for rural people engaged in farming. Advices for betterment of agriculture by using proper manure and insecticides were given to its readers. This type of effort for a self-dependent agrarian economy under colonial rule can be traced from the beginning of this century. It also published fiction and poetry.

The Archive has v.2-5 [1335-38 b.s. – 1928-31].

Roll no. BSP209-210. 35mm negative.

51. **Halishahar Patrika** : (1) Monthly [v.1]; Fortnightly [v.2] (2) Halishahar (3) Bangla (4) Janakinath Ganguly (5) 1278 b.s. [1871] (6) General / Literature / Religion (7) BSP.

The target of this village based periodical was to teach people ‘high moral values’. It was published as monthly in its first year, fortnightly in its second year and weekly from the third. Issues of politics and social reform were also discussed when it turned into a weekly. Though a village based periodical, it was also in circulation in Calcutta.

The Archive has v.1-2 [1278-79 b.s. – 1871-73].

Roll no. BSP12-13. 35mm negative.

52. **Harabola Bhand** : (1) Monthly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) Durgadas Dhar (5) 1874 (6) General / Cartoon (7) BSP.

This first cartoon magazine in Bangla began publication from 1 January, 1874, just thirty days before the publication of *Basantak*. The periodical was published and printed in the manner of *Punch* and did not continue for more than one year. But it set the trend of publishing cartoon magazines in Bangla.

The Archive has v.1 [1874].

Roll no. BSP81. 35mm negative.

53. **Harabola Bhand <illustrations>** : The same publication as above.

The illustrations published in this periodical are microfilmed separately for easy access.

Roll no. BSP201. 35mm negative.


This periodical on Hinduism was published from Jasohar [presently in Bangladesh] and continued for at least thirty three years. Articles were published mainly on ancient Indian scriptures and Vedic literature, with the aim of saving Hinduism from its ‘present decadence’.

The Archive has v.3-15 [1303-15 b.s. – 1896-1909]; v.18 [1318 b.s. – 1911-12]; v.20-22 [1320-22 b.s. – 1913-16]; v.24-33 [1324-33 b.s. – 1917-27].

Roll no. BSP90-97. 35mm negative.

55. **Janayuddha** : (1) Weekly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) Bankim Mukherjee (5) 1942 (6) Communist Party – India / Bengal – Politics / Economy / Social condition (7)CSSSC.
This periodical was an official organ of the Communist Party of India, publishing political writings in Bangla. It was in circulation at the time of the infamous famine of Bengal of 1943. Day to day reports of the famine were published in this periodical. The sluggish response of the British Government in India to the famine was exposed by the party workers. This periodical is also important for understanding the impact of the war in Bengal and the activities of the Communist Party. The early days of the Tebhaga Movement are also recorded here.

The Archive has v.1-3 [1942-45].
Roll no. CSS55. 35mm negative.

56. Janhabi : (1) Monthly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) Bireshwar Pande (5) 1291 b.s. [1884] (6) Literature / General / Moral science (7) BSP.
As stated in the first issue of the journal, the articles published here had the mission of saving people from moral ‘deviation’. It continued for a year.

The Archive has v.1 [1291-92 b.s. – 1884].
Roll no. BSP208. 35mm negative.

This periodical started as a literary monthly. From the fourth year of this periodical, Girindramohini, a noted woman writer of the period, took charge of its publication. It continued for seven years.

The Archive has v.1-2 [1311-13 b.s. – 1908-09]; v.4 [1315 b.s. – 1908-09].
Roll no. BSP208-209. 35mm negative.

This long-lived periodical is an important document on the initial activities and efforts of the first generation of Bengalee entrepreneurs in colonial India. Many of the articles published here are on the possibilities of exploring new areas of indigenous production and of capturing the market from European traders. The periodical was published from the house of ‘Bangabasi’ for its first seven years, and then transferred to some other publishing house. After the completion of its first decade, it gradually turned to a mouthpiece of Hinduism, during the years of the Swadeshi Movement. Trailokyanath Mukhopadhyay was one of the major contributors in its early days. He wrote essays mainly on the scope for small entrepreneurs to explore the local market despite budget constraints. Fiction and articles on spirituality published in this periodical are also significant. This periodical is one of the very few that continued for thirty nine years.

The Archive has v.1-16 [1297-1315 b.s. – 1890-1909]; v.18-37 [1317-38 b.s. – 1910-32].
Roll no. BSP55-68. 35mm negative.

This periodical was begun from Rajsahi - Boalia and then transferred to Calcutta.
Articles on historical events, natural sciences and philosophy of religion were published here along with poetry and fiction. Essays on the origin and evolution of the earth, the solar system and the human species appeared on the pages of this periodical. This monthly, like many other of the time, was acclaimed as a major contributor in the development of the scientific disciplines in Bengal. After its third year, *Pratibimba*, a contemporary monthly on literature edited by Ramsarbaswa Bidyabhusan, merged with it and it was renamed, *Jnanankur o Pratibimba*.

The Archive has v.1-3 [1279-82 b.s. – 1872-76].
Roll no. BSP222-224. 35mm negative.

60. **Jnanankur o Pratibimba** : (1) Monthly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) Jogeshchandra Bandyopadhyay (5) 1282 b.s. [1875] (6) Literature/ Philosophy / History / Natural science (7) BSP.

A continuation of the former, published only for a year.
The Archive has v.4 [1282-83 b.s. – 1875-76].
Roll no. BSP224. 35mm negative.

61. **Jyotiringan** : (1)Monthly (2)Calcutta (3)Bangla (4) ? (5) 1869 (6) Religion – Christianity / Moral science/ Literature (7) BSP.

This periodical was published to preach and propagate the ‘excellence’ of Christianity. issues covering the family and society from the Christian perspective and condemnation of Hindus for their ‘idol worship’ and their were the major topics of this periodical.
The Archive has v.1-4 [1869-73].
Roll no. BSP106-07.

62. **Kanchdapara Prakashika** : (1) Monthly (2) Kanchdapara (3) Bangla (4) Debendrakumar Ray (5) 1280 b.s. [1873] (6) Literature / Agriculture / Economics / General (7) BSP.

This periodical on literature also contained news items on local incidents. Besides, essays on agriculture were also published. The publication of this periodical probably ceased after its first year.
The Archive has v.1-2 [1294-96 b.s. – 1887-89].
Roll no. BSP14. 35mm negative.

63. **Karnadhar** : (1) Monthly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) Haranchandra Rakshit (5) 1294 b.s. [1887] (6) Religion – Hinduism / Literature / General (7) BSP.

This periodical mainly dealt with issues of Hinduism and appeared irregularly for two years.
The Archive has v.1-2 [1294-96 b.s. – 1887-89].
Roll no. BSP106. 35mm negative.

64. **Khristiya Bandhab** : (1) Monthly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) ? [1903]; Surendranath Sen [1927] (5) 1903 (6) Religion – Christianity (7) BSP.

This periodical continued for a long time as a vernacular organ of the Christian Society of Bengal, and relevant articles to propagate the ‘excellence of Christianity’ were published.
The Archive has only few numbers of v.22 [1903] and v.46 [1927].
Roll no. BSP119. 35mm negative.

Krisak began as a weekly but after a few months turned into a monthly. Its object was to develop the state of agriculture in Bengal by educating its peasantry.

The Archive has v.1-24 [1307-30 b.s. – 1900-24]; v.26-37 [1332-37 b.s. – 1925-31].

Roll no. BSP109-118. 35mm negative.


An early periodical first published in 1285 b.s. [January 1879] from Paikpara Nursery by Nrityagopal Chattopadhyay to promote agricultural and horticultural knowledge. Articles were published on the use of proper manures and pesticides to develop productivity of the land. Articles other than agriculture, mainly essays on social reform and literature, were also published.

The Archive has v.4-6 [1288-92 b.s. – 1882-85].

Roll no. BSP118. 35mm negative.

67. Madhyastha: (1) Monthly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) Manomohan Basu (5) 1280 b.s. [1873] (6) General / Literature / Women’s Studies / Political Science (7) BSP.

Essays were published in this periodical on various social reform issues, along with fiction and poetry. It also took an interest ‘even in politics’. A few articles on women’s position in the family and their education were published in this periodical. Continued for four years.

The Archive has v.2-4 [1280-82 b.s. – 1873-76].

Roll no. BSP40. 35mm negative.

68. Mahajanbandhu: (1) Monthly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) Rajkrishna Pal (5) 1307 b.s. [1900] (6) Economic condition – India / Industry – Bengal / Nationalism (7) BSP.

This periodical published by the sugar merchants of Calcutta raised the demand for economic independence of Indian business. It discussed the prospects for the local entrepreneurs to set up small scale industries for indigenous products. It condemned the taxation policy of the British Government in India. It encouraged entrepreneurs to invest in productive sectors, gave advice on using local resources and simple technologies and provided draft budgets and information on markets. It also published reports of the achievement of individual entrepreneurs in different parts of India.

The Archive has v.1-5 [1307-12 b.s. – 1900-06]; v.11 [1318 b.s. – 1911-12].

Roll no. BSP97-98. 35mm negative.

Periodical published to ‘educate’ women in ‘morality and spirituality’ and to prepare
them for household work and child rearing. Continued over a considerably long period.
The Archive has v.3 [1304-05 b.s. – 1898]; v.7 [1308-09 b.s. – 1902]; v.9-21 [1310-23
b.s. – 1903-17].
Roll no. BSP43-47. 35mm negative.

70. Manasi / Manasi o Marmabani : (1) Monthly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) MANASI :
Induprakash Bandyopadhyay, Shibratan Mitra, Subodhchandra Bandyopadhyay and
Fakirchandra Chattopadhyay [1315-16 b.s. – 1908-09]; Induprakash Bandyo-
padhyay, Jatindramohan Bagchi, Subodhchandra Bandyopadhyay and Fakirchandra
Chattopadhyay [1316-20 b.s. – 1909-14]; Jagadindranath Ray [1320-22 b.s. – 1320-22
b.s. – 1914-16]; MANASI O MARMABANI : Jagadindranath Ray and Prabhat-kumar
Mukhopadhyay [1322-36 b.s. – 1915-30] (5) 1315 b.s. [1908] (6) Literature / General
(7) BSP.
One of the most important periodicals on literature. Manasi was started in 1908 and
continued for seven years when Marmabani, another important weekly on literature,
merged with it and jointly continued as a monthly. Continued over a long period. Important
reviews on art and literature, news of literary activities and criticism were also published.
The Archive has : MANASI: v.1-7 [1315-22 b.s. – 1908-16]; MANASI O MARMABANI :
v.8-21 [1322-36 b.s. – 1916-30].
Roll no. BSP246-266. 35mm negative.

71. Marmabani : (1) Weekly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) Jagadindranath Ray and
Amulyacharan Bidyabhusan (5) 1322 b.s. [1915] (6) Literature / General (7) BSP.
Started in 1915 as a weekly and merged with Manasi in the same year.
The Archive has v.1 [1322 b.s. – 1915].
Roll no. BSP266-267. 35mm negative.

72. Masik Prakashika : (1) Monthly (2) Calcutta[?] (3) Bangla (4) ? (5) 1793 sak [1871] (6)
Literature / Nationalism (7) BSP.
Mainly poetry and fiction with nationalist fervour were published in this periodical.
The Archive has v.1-2 [1793-95 sak – 1871-73].
Roll no. BSP.100. 35mm negative.

73. Nababarsiki : (1) Annual (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) Dwarakanath Bidyabhusan (5)
1287 b.s. [1880] (6) Information / General (7) BSP.
The directory type periodical containing information on surface transport, railway,
navigation, tourism,
population, taxes and tariffs of various items and so on, started in 1284 b.s. [1877]. This
periodical is the first directory in Bangla language, also containing biographical notes of
contemporary Bengalees established in different fields.
The Archive has the volume of 1287 b.s. [1880].
Roll no. BSP98. 35mm negative.

74. Nababidhan : (1) Monthly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) Chiranjib Sharma [Trailokyanath
Sanyal ?] (5) 1301 b.s. [1894] (6) Religion – Brahmo / Education / Philosophy (7) BSP.
This periodical was published as an organ of Keshabchandra Sen’s breakaway Brahmo
Samaj. Essays on religion, education, reform issues and philosophy [mainly Positivism]
were published.
The Archive has only few numbers from v.1 [1301 b.s. – 1894-95].
Roll no. BSP.106. 35mm negative.

Mainly a periodical on literature; Bankimchandra, Rabindranath, Hemchandra, Nabinchandra Sen, Indranath Bandyopadhyay were among the regular contributors. Besides publishing literature and literary reviews it also took interest in Indian history and religion. Ran for five years.
The Archive has v.1-5 [1291-96 b.s. – 1884-90].
Roll no. BSP78-81. 35mm negative.

A major periodical on religion, philosophy, science, education and literature which continued for forty-three years. Its main interests were the religions of India, the ancient history of India, and modern science, technology and medicine. It published articles on demography, economic issues and physical and social anthropology; raised debates on gender issues, women’s education, modern European social and political philosophy and ethics.
The Archive has v.1-39 [1290-1328 b.s. – 1883- 1922]; v.42-43 [1331-32 b.s. – 1924-26].
Roll no. BSP14-35. 35mm negative.

77. Nirmalya : (1) Monthly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) Rajendranarayan Mukhopadhyay (5) 1307 b.s. [1900] (6) Literature (7) BSP.
This periodical on literature was published for five years from 1898c.
The Archive has v.3-4 [1307-08 b.s. – 1900-01].
Roll no. BSP211. 35mm negative.

78. Pakshik Samalochak : (1) Fortnightly (2) Dwar-bhanga (3) Bangla (4) Nirodchandra Mukhopadhyay [Thakurdas Mukhopadhyay?] (5) 1291 b.s. [1884] (6) Literature (7) BSP.
This periodical mainly on literature was published in March, 1894, from Dwarbhanga in Bihar. It had a significant contribution in the field of literature and literary criticism. Besides literature, it also contained articles on various social issues.
The Archive has v.1-2 [1291-92 b.s. – 1884-86].
Roll no. BSP211. 35mm negative.

This periodical on Hindu religion appeared in 1897.

Girishchandra Sen of ‘Bharatbasiya Brahmo Samaj’ took the initiative to publish this periodical for women in 1878. The aim was to ‘educate’ the Bengalee women in scientific method of child rearing and house-keeping. From its 15th year the editorial responsibility was transferred to the Arya Nari Samaj and Mohini Debi, daughter in law of Kesabchandra Sen, became its editor. This periodical continued for twenty eight years.

The Archive has v.3-5 [1287-89 b.s. – 1880-83]; v.11-14 [1295-98 b.s. – 1888-92]; v.16 [1300 b.s. – 1893-94]; v.26-27 [1310-11 b.s. – 1903-05].

Roll no. BSP47-49. 35mm negative.


The publication of *Paricharika* ceased in 1906; after ten years in 1916, Nirupama Debi, Princess of Coochbehar, resumed its publication as a ‘new series.’ In this phase the periodical continued for nine years.

The Archive has v.1-9 [1323-32 b.s. – 1916-26].

Roll no. BSP49-54. 35mm negative.


This periodical was published with the ambition of ‘saving from superstition and ritual dependence.’ Besides publishing essays on religion, social conditions and reform issues it also presented literature. Bankimchandra’s *Sitaram* was first serialised in this periodical. In its first issue, the editorial note claimed women as its target reader, and promised suitable writings for them.

The Archive has v.1 [1291 b.s. – 1884-85]; v.3-4 [1293-95 b.s. – 1886-89].

Roll no. BSP54-55. 35mm negative.


Periodical published to propagate Islam and its humanitarianism.

The Archive has v.2-3 [1306-08 b.s. – 1899-1902].

Roll no. BSP224-225. 35mm negative.

84. **Pracharak**: (1) Monthly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) A. C. Majumder (5) 1929 (6) Medicine – Homeopathy (7) BSP.

Monthly journal of Homeopathy containing essays on medicine contributed by practising Homeopaths. Continued for a long period.

The Archive has v.4 [1929].
85. **Pradip**: (1) Monthly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) Ramananda Chattopadhyay [1304-06 b.s. – 1897-1900]; Baikunthanath Das [1306-08 b.s. – 1900-02]; Biharilal Chakrabarti [1308-12 b.s. – 1902-06] (5) 1304 b.s. [1897] (6) Literature / Art (7) BSP.

A well circulated periodical of art and literature. Lithograph prints of modern Indian and European art were reproduced in this periodical. Most contemporary literary figures were among the regular contributors.

The Archive has v.1-8 [1304-12 b.s. – 1897-1906].

Roll no. BSP84-86. 35mm negative.

86. **Pradip – illustrations**: The same publication as above. The lithographs printed in this periodical are representative of early 20th century popular art. The illustrations are microfilmed separately for easy access.

Roll no. BSP201. 35mm negative.

87. **Punya**: (1) Monthly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) Prajnasundari Debi [1304-08 b.s. – 1897-1902]; Hitendranath Tagore & Ritendranath Tagore [1310-12 b.s. – 1903-06] (5) 1304 b.s. [1897] (6) Domestic Science / Popular Science / Women’s Studies / Literature (7) BSP.

This periodical, a women’s magazine, began as an in-house publication of the Tagore family of Jorasanko. Besides publishing fiction and poetry it contained numerous articles on domestic science and presented hundreds of cooking recipes most of them authored by Prajnasundari Debi, the first editor of this periodical.

The Archive has v.1-5 [1304-12 b.s. – 1897-1906].

Roll no. BSP36-38. 35mm negative.

88. **Purnima**: (1) Monthly (2) Hooghly (3) Bangla (4) The Editorial Board, *Purnima* [1300-03 b.s. – 1893-97]; Satindra Deb Ray [1304-09 b.s. – 1897-1903]; Bishnupada Chattopadhyay [1310 b.s. –1903-04]; Bishnupada Chattopadhyay & Kshitindra Deb Ray [131-16 b.s. – 1904-10] (5) 1300 b.s. [1893] (6) Literature / General (7) BSP.

Monthly periodical on literature and literary criticism. Published on every full moon [hence *Purnima*].

The archive has v.1-4 [1300-03 b.s. – 1893-97]; v.6-7 [1305-06 b.s. – 1898-1900]; v.9-10 [1308-09 b.s. – 1901-03]; v.12 [1311 b.s. – 1904-05]; v.16-17 [1315-16 b.s. – 1908-10].

Roll no. BSP86-89. 35mm negative.

89. **Rabibarer Lathi**: (1) Irregular (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) Keshab Sen (5) 1336 b.s. [1929] (6) Religion – Hindu / General (7) BSP.

Essays on Hindu religion and caricatures of Brahmos were published regularly. Continued for a very brief period.

The Archive has v.1 [1336 b.s. – 1929-30].

Roll no. BSP100. 35mm negative.


When the publication of *Bibidhartha Sangraha* ceased in 1861, after the Vernacular
Literature Committee expressed its reluctance to continue its financial support it was revived under this name by Rajendralal Mitra. These two periodicals contributed significantly to the cultivation of ‘modern’ knowledge in Bangla over a period of twenty years.

The Archive has v.1-6 [1919-28 samvat – 1862-71]; v.7 [1278 b.s. – 1871-72]; New series v.1 [1280 b.s. – 1873-74].

Roll no. BSP.11-12. 35mm negative.


A monthly periodical published for children, continued up to its 46th year (1973) regularly and then became an irregular periodical. The last issue of the periodical published in 1988.

The Archive has v.1-31 [1334-65 b.s. – 1927-59].

Roll no. CSS61-74. 35mm negative.


An important 20th century periodical for children.

The Archive has v.2-10 [1344-52 b.s. – 1937-46].

Roll no. CSS56-60. 35mm negative.


An important periodical on the fine arts in Bengal in the first half of this century. Important Indian and foreign paintings of the time were reproduced in this periodical.

The Archive has v.1-4 [1330-34 b.s. – 1923-28].

Roll no. BSP191-194. 35mm negative.

93. **Sachitra Shishir – illustrations** : The same publication as above. Multicoloured and halftone illustrations filmed separately for easy access.

Roll no. BSP201-202.

94. **Sadhana** : (1) Monthly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) Sudhindranath Tagore [1298-1301 b.s. – 1891-94]; Rabindranath Tagore [1301-02 b.s. – 1894-96] (5) 1298 b.s. [1891] (6) Literature / Literary Criticism / General (7) BSP.

An important publication on late 19th century Bangla Literature. The most important literary figures of the time were among the regular contributors.

The Archive has v.1-4 [1298-1302 b.s. – 1891-95].

Roll no. BSP125-128. 35mm negative.

95. **Sadharani** : (1) Weekly (2) Chinsura (3) Bangla (4) Akshayachandra Sarkar (5) 1280 b.s. [1873] (6) Political / General / Nationalism / News – political, municipal and rural report (7) BSP.
This periodical was politically vocal and critical of the activities of various local bodies and the government. Rural reporting and news from the districts of Bengal were special features of this periodical.

The Archive has v.1-5 [1280-82 b.s. – 1873-76].
Roll no. BSP40-41[also in BSP99]. 35mm negative.

A very important periodical for Bangla literature in the late 19th and early 20th century.
The Archive has v.1-33 [1297-1330 b.s. – 1890-1924].
Roll no. BSP226-246. 35mm negative.

97. Sahitya Kalpadrum : (1) Monthly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) Sureshchandra Samajpati [Shibaprasanna Bhattacharya ?] (5) 1296 b.s. [1889] (6) Literature (7) BSP.
Another significant periodical on literature, continued for a brief period.
The Archive has v.1-3 [1296-99 b.s. – 1889-93].
Roll no. BSP.84. 35mm negative.

98. Sahitya Ratnabhandar : (1) Monthly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) Krishnachandra Mukhopadhyay (5) 1296 b.s. [1889] (6) Literature (7) BSP.
A short-lived periodical on literature.
The Archive has v.1 [1296 b.s. – 1889-90].
Roll no. BSP107. 35mm negative.

An early 20th century periodical on literature and literary criticism.
The Archive has v.1-12 [1307-18 b.s. – 1900-12].
Roll no. BSP211-217. 35mm negative.

A periodical for children, dealing mainly with the history of India and science.
The Archive has v.1-10 [1883-92].
Roll no. BSP103-104. 35mm negative.

101. Samachar Chandrika : (1) Weekly [1822-29]; bi-weekly [1829] then daily (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4)
Bhabanicharan Bandyopadhyay [1822-48]; Rajkrishna Bandyopadhyay [1848-52]; Prankrishna Bidyasagar [1852-77] (5) 1831 (6) General / Information (7) BSP.
This newspaper of conservative Hindu opinion was descended from its predecessor Sambad Kaumudi. After a row between Bhabanicharan and other members of Kaumudi
on religious issues, Bhabanicharan established a printing press of his own at Kalutola and started *Chandrika* as a weekly from 5 March 1822. The antagonism between *Kaumudi* and *Chandrika* lasted for a long time. *Chandrika*, however, increased its circulation rapidly and turned to a bi-weekly from 1829 and finally into a daily. This newspaper continued for a long period and recorded and criticised the most important steps on social reform in Bengal.

The Archive has only the volumes of 1238 b.s. [1831-32] and 1283-84 b.s. [1876-78].

**Roll no. BSP174-75. 35mm negative.**

102. **Samachar Darpan** : (1) Weekly (2) Serampore (3) Bangla (4) J. C. Marshman (5) 1837 (6) General / Information (7) BSP.

This weekly newspaper was first published on 23 May 1818, only a month after the first appearance of the first Bangla periodical *Digdarsan* from the same Serampore Baptist Mission Press and under the same editor. For a brief period between 1832 and 1834 *Darpan* circulated as a bi-weekly. Though the name of Marshman appeared as its editor, it was the Bengalee *pundits* associated with the Serampore Mission who were responsible for its publication, Tarinicharan Siromani being one of them. The wide range of news items published in this newspaper includes notification of appointments and transfers of government officials, government orders on civil administration, the situation of trade and commerce in India, overseas news items and also letters on classical ‘oriental’ knowledge. This news magazine continued for a long period. It was published from Serampore Mission up to 1840, was revived by Bhagabaticharan Chattopadhyay in 1842, stopped and again from the Mission from 1851. The final number appeared in 1853.

The Archive has only few numbers from the volumes published between 1837-38.

Roll no. BSP175. 35mm negative.

103. **Samadarsi** : <or *The Liberal*> (1) Monthly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) Sibnath Shastri (5) 1281 b.s. [1874] (6) Religion / Ethics / Social system / General (7) BSP.

The periodical was published with an English sub-title, *The Liberal*. Religious and socio-political issues found space in this periodical. Rajnarayan Basu, Sibchunder Deb, Dwarakanath Gangopadhyay, Chandrasekhar Basu were among the regular contributors.

The Archive has v.1-2 [1281-83 b.s. – 1874-77].

Roll no. BSP118-119. 35mm negative.

104. **Sambad Bhaskar** : (1) Bi-weekly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) Srinath Ray [1839-40]; Gourisankar Tarkabagish [?] (5) 1849 (6) General / Information (7) BSP.

This newspaper first appeared as a weekly from March 1839 with the name of Srinath Ray as its editor. But Gourisankar Tarkabagish was actually responsible for its publication. From January 1848 this newspaper turned into a bi-weekly and into a tri-weekly from April 1849 and continued for a long time. News items and articles published on social and political issues are important for the political and cultural history of 19th century Bengal.

The Archive has the volumes published in 1849-50 and in 1854.

Roll no. BSP173-174. 35mm negative.

Art / General science and information (7) BSP.

This monthly for young readers was published with multicoloured illustrations and had a wide circulation for a long period. Besides publishing fiction, it also contained information on natural sciences. This is an important periodical for the younger generation in the first half of this century.

The Archive has v.1-14 [1320-33 b.s. – 1913-26].
Roll no. BSP194-198. 35mm negative.


After a brief pause of few years the same Sandesh was restarted from 1931 as a ‘new series’. The character and content remained the same as before.

The Archive has v.1-3 [1338-42 b.s. – 1931-36].
Roll no. BSP198-200. 35mm negative.

107. Sandesh / Sandesh Nabaparyay – Illustrations : The same publications as above. The multicoloured and half-tone illustrations filmed separately for easy access.
Roll no. BSP202. 35mm negative.


Sangbad Prabhakar, one of the most important 19th century newspapers which continued for a long period, circulated as the first Bangla daily from 1839, and recorded the details of the social reform movement until the end of the 19th century. After experimenting for eight years as a weekly and confronted by financial problems Ishwarchandra turned the publication into a daily and the public supported him. From then he did not look back. Till his death in 1859, he was the editor of the newspaper and then his younger brother, Ramchandra Gupta, took over the responsibility. It was in circulation even in the 1880s after which it became irregular and finally ceased. As a newspaper Prabhakar performed an important role to mould public opinion and influence local authorities mainly on education, economic and urban development problems. As a conservative Hindu, Ishwarchandra himself was critical of women’s education question, but opened his paper to debate on these issues.

The Archive has volumes published in 1247 b.s. [1840-41]; 1255-64 b.s. [1848-58]; 1266 b.s. [1859-60]; 1270 b.s. [1863-64]; 1285 b.s. [1878-79].
Roll no. BSP168-172. 35mm negative.


First appeared as a monthly periodical in 1835 under the editorship of Haranchandra Bandyopadhyay. It appeared as a weekly from 9 April 1836 and as a daily newspaper from 1844. Adwaitachandra became its editor in 1841 succeeding his elder brother Udayachandra Adhya. This newspaper continued for seventy three years and published news items and features on social and political issues.

The Archive has v.36-38 [1277-79 b.s. – 1870-72].

Important periodical mainly on fine art. Coloured illustrations and lithographs were regularly printed in this periodical.

The Archive has v.5 [1322 b.s. – 1915-16]; v.8-10 [1329-31b.s. – 1922-25].

11. **Shilpa o Sahitya – Illustrations**: The same publication as above. Multi coloured and half-tone illustrations printed in this periodical filmed separately for easy access.

12. **Shilpa Puspanjali**: (1) Monthly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) Amritalal Bandyopadhyay (5) 1293 b.s. [1886] (6) Art / Literature (7) BSP.

Periodical on art and literature, significant for understanding the development of these in 19th century Bengal.

The Archive has v.1-2 [1293-94 b.s. – 1886-88].

13. **Shilpa Puspanjali – Illustrations**: The same publication as above. Illustrations printed in this periodical filmed separately for easy access.

14. **Shishu**: (1) Monthly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) Baradakanta Majumder (5) 1319 b.s. [1912] (6) Children’s literature (7) BSP.

Periodical of literature for children.

The Archive has v.1-2 [1319-20 b.s. — 1912-14].

15. **Somprakash**: (1) Weekly (2) Calcutta then Changripota (3) Bangla (4) Dwarakanath Bidya-bhusan (5) 1269 b.s. [1862] (6) General / Information/ Politics (7) BSP.

This important newspaper on political and cultural subjects, was first published in 1858 from Calcutta, with the support of Ishwarchandra Bidyasagar. The press was transferred to Changripota, Dwarakanath’s own village in 1862. *Somprakash* first entered the arena of politics with much nationalist zeal and was subsequently banned under the ‘Vernacular Press Regulation Act of 1878’ in March 1878. After two years silence, it started again from April 1880 and continued until Dwarakanath’s death in 1886.

The Archive has several isolated numbers published between 1862-80.


This periodical on medicine and public health started in 1897 and established itself as a major periodical on medicine in Bangla. This periodical was published during the outbreak of plague in Bombay and Calcutta, which created panic among the citizens. This periodical documented the minute details of the plague epidemic in Calcutta.

The Archive has v.2-5 [1305-08 b.s. – 1898-1902].
117. Tamoluk Patrika: (1) Monthly (2) Tamulk (3) Bangla (4) Trailokyanath Rakshit (5) 1281 b.s. [1874] (6) Literature / General (7) BSP.

Mainly a periodical on literature, published from Tamulk in Medinipur.

The Archive has v.1-2 [1281-82 b.s. – 1874-76].
Roll no. BSP13-14. 35mm negative.


This periodical was an organ of the Brahmo Samaj. Most of the social reform activities, like women’s education, religious reformation, science education, were strongly supported in this journal. A very important periodical for the propagation of science and modern thought in Bengal.

The Archive has volumes published in the following years: 1765-76 sak [1843-54]; 1778-89 sak [1856-57]; 1781 sak [1859]; 1784-1827 sak [1862-1905]; 1829-33 sak [1907-11]; 1835-45 sak [1913-23]; 1848-53 sak [1926-31].
Roll no. BSP175-190. 35mm negative.

119. Ugrakshatriya Pratinidhi: (1) Monthly (2) Calcutta (3) Bangla (4) Srishchandra Ta [1298 b.s. [1891]] (6) Religion – Hindu / History – Kshatriya community (7) BSP.

This periodical is an example of the caste histories produced at the end of the 19th century. This one recounted the glorious ancient history of the Kshatriyas and sought to establish the Ugra-Kshatriya or Aguri as a Kshatriya caste. Continued for a very brief period.

The Archive has v.1-2 [1298-99 b.s. – 1891-93].
Roll no. BSP.207-208.

120. Utsaha: (1) Monthly (2) Rajsahi (3) Bangla (4) Surendrachandra Saha [1304-06 b.s. – 1897-1900]; Brajasundar Sanyal [1307-09 b.s. – 1900-03] (5) 1304 b.s [1897] (6) Literature / History (7) BSP.

Besides publishing fiction literature, and literary criticism, it also published essays on the history of Hindu religion, politics and astrology. Continued for a considerably long period.

The Archive has v.1-5 [1304-09 b.s. – 1897-1902].
Roll no. BSP104-106. 35mm negative.

Old Bangla Printed books preserved other than in microfilm form:

This catalogue is a near exhaustive list of printed books in Bangla up to 1930.


An important publication propagating Islam.
The Library has v.3-4 [1307-08 b.s. – 1901-02]; v.6 [1311 b.s. – 1904-05].

Other Documents on Microfilm Roll

The day to day personal account of a British official at the time of Sepoy rebellion at Azimgurh during May 12 to October 10, 1857. Appendices to pt.I provide a list of the parties who escaped from Azimgurh. This personal account has been treated as an official document of the ‘Sepoy Rebellion’ with many other important documents.
Roll no. CSS24. 35mm positive.

The volume includes an introduction on the administrative report for the year 1872-73, ‘Historical Summary of the Civil Administration of Bengal’ and Statistical Summary.
Roll no. (PM)MF6. 35mm positive.

This award winning translation published with an introduction (Bhasya) by Shankaracharya.
Roll no. (PM)MF6. 35 mm negative.

The book on Metaphysics with notes and commentaries was printed for sale at General Assembly’s Institution, Calcutta by Babu Rajkumar Chandra for the students in Metaphysics of the higher classes of Philosophy.
Roll no. (PM)MF6. 35mm negative.

The extracts and commentary on the Bengal Tenancy Act revised in 1885 by the Government of India.
Roll no. (PM)MF5. 35mm negative.

Jogendrachandra Ghosh was a noted Indian Positivist and a critic of ancient Hindu social systems. This comprehensive study on labour, as supported by the caste system in ancient India and by modern Positivist Philosophy, marked this as an excellent monograph on Positivism and the Labour question.

Roll no. (PM)MF5. 35mm negative.


Roll no. CSS18. 35mm positive.


These are the proceedings and judgement in the court of law on the Tenancy Act of Bengal. The Bengal Tenancy Act and Tenancy of Agricultural Land Act were modified following the judgement of the appellate jurisdiction. The judgement of this case came out on 14 July, 1884 in favour of the applicant, and the court of law now saw the necessity of modification of the old tenancy conventions set by the East India Company.

Roll no. (PM)MF5. 35mm positive.


An essay from the Positivist point of view on the philosophy of Chaitanya.

Roll no. (PM)MF6. 35mm negative.


This report of the committee to appraise the ‘merit’ of the system of the government in India under the East India Company was submitted to H. Vansittart, then Governor General of East India Company in India.

Roll no. CSS19. 35mm positive.


This was an organ of the All India Congress Socialist Party. In that period CSP, became critical about the role of Congress and campaigned for the socialist path towards India’s independence. Lohia himself was a first generation socialist leader in India.

The Archive has the numbers published between 29 September 1934 and 4 April 1938.

Roll no. M/I45-47. 35mm positive.

Richard Congreve was the founder and leader of the British Positivist Society in England. These manuscripts are reflections of late 19th century British Positivist thought. Jogendrachandra Ghosh was also a first generation Indian Positivist. The correspondences between these two thinkers are important documents for studying the development of Positivism in India and England.

Roll no. (PM)MF1-2. 35mm positive.


This was an organ of the Communist Party of India. It is an important document of the ideological position of the Communist Party in post-independence India, and of the debate raised within the Party on the role of the Party in free India.

The Archive has the numbers published between 29 April 1949 and 27 September 1953.

Roll no. M/I30-32. 35mm positive.


A Report on the financial condition and utility of public funds in India under the rule of East India Company, prepared following a debate in the House of the Lords of the British Parliament in the year 1808.

Roll no. CSS15. 35mm positive.


A detailed account of Mir Jumla’s Assam campaign.

Roll no.CSS5. 35mm positive.


A short article published in the Labour Monthly on the role of the Communist Party and its advancement in England during the World War II. The advancement of the Party, mainly in England, is easily shown by the rapid increase in Party membership.

Roll no. CSS18. 35mm positive.


A two page article on the state of agriculture and agricultural product distribution in England during World War II. The article criticised the role of the government for its food and distribution policy and emphasised the importance of development of agriculture for the victory on the fascist attack during the war.

Roll no. CSS18. 35mm positive.


A military report submitted to the Governor General of India on demand by A. Fullarton.
of the Military department. This is an account of the devastation of the agrarian economy and society in the southern Carnatic plain by the British and their allies.

Roll no. CSS3. 35mm positive [The film contrast is poor, condition is very bad, retrieval through any known system is apparently impossible; the original manuscript is available at the Tamilnadu State Archives].


These are reports on the state of the lower classes of the population following more than one famine year, from all the Provincial Governments to the Committee, headed by Lord Dufferine. The Reports from the Provincial Governments and Committees also reviewed the situation of agriculture and collection of revenue in the preceding years. The report was published by the Revenue and Agricultural Department in December, 1888. Also includes the report of the Factory Labour Commission, vol.II, 1908.

Roll no. CSS16. 35mm negative.


In this lecture the ‘merits’ of Hindu religion and the caste system on the basis of the division of labour was compared to the same in Islam and Christianity and was viewed on the basis of the theories of Positivism. The author, Jogendrachandra Ghosh was the leader of the Indo – Positivist Society, and had a close association with its European counterparts.

Roll no. (PM)MF5. 35mm negative.


An article on the role of India in World War II, also discussing issues on the freedom of India.

Roll no. CSS18. 35mm positive.


A report submitted to the Government by the Intelligence Bureau of the Home Department of the Govt. of India on the activities of the Communist Party in India. The report, India and Communism, prepared by H. Williamson, appointed by the Home Department, succeeds two other reports prepared by Kaye and Patrick. The report was revised up to 1 July, 1935.

Roll no CSS2. 35mm positive.

145. India – Home Political Department : Report on the Anushilan Samiti, Dacca : (2) Calcutta
The confidential deposition, Proceeding no. 21 of 1909, was prepared by the author to overview the political activities of the nationalist groups in different parts of Bengal.


This article is about India’s duty in World War II to resist the assault of Fascism and the question of political freedom for India.


An analysis on the possibility of political freedom for India after the Cripps’ Mission, and an overview of Indian political situation in this context are discussed in this article.


An analysis of the announcement of the partition of India as a necessary precondition for freedom by the British Government.


The role of India in World War II is discussed in this article.


India’s participation in the World War II and the war strategy against the Fascist allies are discussed in this article.


The necessity and importance of India’s immediate political freedom are discussed in this article.

An account of Cripps’ Mission for India’s independence during the World War II. S. Cripps and the War Cabinet did not show any appreciation of the Indian people’s unconditional support in the war. That gesture was described as detrimental to the anti-fascist international coalition and its struggle.
Roll no. CSS18. 35mm positive.

A discussion of the deadlock created by the British Cabinet on Indian independence.
Roll no. CSS18. 35mm positive.

A document on state of agriculture and land relations under colonial rule in Bengal following the implementation of the Permanent Settlement.
Roll no. (PM)MF3. 35mm negative.

This journal popularly known as Inprecor was the official organ of the Third International. It is a primary document on the development of the Communist Parties and the history of international labour and liberation movements.
The Archive has the volumes published between October 1921 and December 1937.
Roll no. M/I1-21. 35mm positive.

A selection of about thirty articles on India published in Labour Monthly between 1920 and 1927 mainly on the role of the political parties in the struggle for freedom and on the labour question. Most of them are contributed by Clemence Dutt, Evelyn Dutt, R. P. Dutt and M. N. Roy. Reports on the contemporary labour movement in India and in England, of the Bombay cotton mill strike are also included in this microfilm roll.
Roll no. M/I22. 35mm negative.

Manuscript of Bankimchandra Chattopadhyay on Hinduism and Positivism important for understanding Bankim’s religious thoughts. The book started with a series of letters addressed to one “My dear J...” (most probably Jogendrachandra Ghosh), but after letter IV, we have chapters V and VI.
Roll no. (PM)MF5. 35mm negative.

Girishchandra Ghosh, one of the leading Positivists and Columnist from 19th century Bengal. He was the founder editor of two leading magazines in English, The Hindoo Patriot and The Bengalee. Some articles written by him published in The Hindoo Patriot were reprinted in this biography. They are: ‘The New Principles of Indian Government’ [HP, 11September, 1856]; ‘An Introduction to the Art of Teaching by Bhoodeb Mukherjee’ [HP, 18September, 1856]; ‘The Civil Engineering College’ [HP, 27November, 1856]; ‘The Medical Wants of the Bengal Poor’ [HP, 12February, 1857]; ‘Mofussil Intercommunication and its Influence’ [HP, 19February, 1857]; ‘Social Union Among Educated Natives’ [HP, 26February, 1857]. All the articles have a Positivist interest. The book is authored by an anonymous author and edited by Girishchandra’s grandson.

Roll no. (PM)MF6. 35mm negative.


Dwarakanath Mitter [1836-74] was a first generation Indian Positivist, contemporary of Jogendrachandra Ghosh and a Judicial Magistrate by profession. He was in the Calcutta High Court in the late 1860s. Reprints of his writings on Positivism, inspired by A. Comte, and his correspondences with Richard Congreve on India and Positivism are microfilmed from the biography.

Roll no. (PM)MF5. 35mm negative.


An early Party publication, important to understand the political stand of the Communist Party in its formative period.

The Archive has volumes published between January 1925 and April 1928.

Roll no. M/I54.35mm positive.


Articles published on Positivism and the Tenancy Law in the above mentioned periodicals between 1873 and 1875 collected together in this microfilm roll.

Roll no.(PM)MF4. 35mm negative.


On the 20th of March 1929, thirty one persons were arrested from all over India, and
subsequently charged with 'conspiring to deprive the King-Emperor of the sovereignty of India,' and 'planning to establish a Soviet style government sponsored by the Bolsheviks.' Most of the 'accused' persons were members of the Communist Party (which includes Muzaffar Ahmed and S. A. Dange) or Trade Unionist and eight of them were Congress members also.

The Archive has the proceedings of the case, exhibits submitted by the Government of India in support of the alleged conspiracy, the defence statement of S. A. Dange and others and extracts from the *Allahabad Law Journal*.

Roll no. M/I33-44. 35mm positive.


This monograph is the substance of a lecture delivered at the Town Hall, Calcutta, on 7 January 1891 by the author on 'Natural Laws as Guides to Moral Conduct.' Dr. Sircar’s works were acclaimed among the Indian Positivists.

Roll no. (PM)MF6. 35mm negative.


A detailed history of Bengal Subah from 1722c.

Roll no. CSS6. 35mm positive.


A collection of essays by Rajkrishna Mukhopadhyay on the religious and cultural history of India and on other topics. An essay on the philosophy of August Comte and a treatise on social understanding from the Positivist point of view were published in this anthology. The author was one among the 19th century Positivists and a contemporary of Jogendrachandra Ghosh.

Roll no. (PM)MF5. 35mm negative.


Organ of the Communist Party of India, important for the History of the Party in the late 1930s.

The Archive has the issues published between 13 February 1938 and 21 January 1940.

Roll no. M/I23-24. 35mm positive.


An analysis of the Government Budget of Britain for 1942-43.

Roll no. CSS18. 35mm positive.

168. On the Desirability of a National Institute for Cultivation of Science by the Natives of

Mahendralal Sircar was the founder of The National Institute for Cultivation of Science in Calcutta. This lecture was delivered by the author in 1869, two decades before the establishment of the major nationalist institute for the promotion of science and technology in India.

Roll no. (PM)MF6. 35mm negative.


Records relating to the condition of labour in jute, coal and other industries of Bengal, Bihar and United Provinces, presented before the Parliament of Great Britain in 1908.

Roll no. CSS1. 35mm negative.


This Pamphlet contains essays on the war and India’s independence movement written by P. C. Joshi, G. Adhikary and A. K. Ghosh. The introductory article by P. C. Joshi ‘War Unveils All Parties’ criticised the role of the political parties ‘fighting’ for India’s independence for their political stand during the war; and in a second article ‘Whom, How and Why Does Bose Fight’, he drew a suspected link between Subhas Chandra Bose and the Nazi Germany and also described Bose’s political stand as one aimed at power sharing with Gandhi. G. Adhikary in his essays, ‘Gandhism, a Review’ and ‘From Socialism to Gandhism: Congress Socialist Party and the War’, criticised Gandhi’s stand of ‘class collaboration’ and opposition to any type of ‘class struggle’ and also the role of the Congress Socialist Party during the war. The fifth article ‘Roy – a Masked Compromiser’ by A. K. Ghosh is an account of differences within the Indian Left.

Roll no. CSS4. 35mm negative.


Publication of the Communist Party of India for Party workers. The necessity and strategy of armed struggle also discussed in these volumes. Published simultaneously from Bombay, Calcutta and Madras.

The Archive has the issues published between 1 December, 1940 and 10 April 1941.

Roll no. CSS20. 35mm positive.


Organ of the Communist Party of India, continuation of People’s War. Important for understanding the Party stand at the time of Indian independence.

The Archive has issues published between 25 November 1945 and 16 March 1948.

Roll no. M/I28-29. 35mm positive.

Organ of the Communist Party of India, continued as People’s Age. Important for understanding the political stand of the Party during the War.

The Archive has issues published between 5 July 1942 and 30 November 1945.

Roll no. M/I25-27. 35mm positive.


Part of the debate over the Bengal Tenancy Bill of 1885, this petition contains the demands of landlords.

Roll no. (PM)MF5. 35mm negative.


Article on phrenology, first prepared for a lecture at Canning Hall, Howrah, and then fragments of this lecture were published in the Calcutta Journal of Medicine and finally published as a book. Doubts on the then accepted physiology of the brain and its functions are expressed in this essay.

Roll no. (PM)MF5. 35mm negative.


August Comte in his book, System of Positive Polity claimed that the Brahminical institutions in India had a political potential to combat foreign invasion. This book by J.C.Ghosh was written on that basic premise.

Roll no. (PM)MF6. 35mm negative.


In this article the author showed the importance of ‘working class unity as a necessary contribution to the war’ and urged that the old decisions against collaboration of ‘Labour Party’ and ‘Communist Party’ should now be revised.

Roll no. CSS18. 35mm positive.


Pamphlet issued by the Communist Party of India in August 1940, when the Party was declared ‘illegal’ by the government immediately after the outbreak of the war. The Indian political scenario and the duty of the Communist Party discussed in this pamphlet.

Roll no. CSS4. 35mm negative.

179. Public and Judicial Department Collection, Report from the Government of India, 1942
Report on the performance of the Congress Ministries in different provinces of India, 1937-42.
Roll no. CSS21. 35mm positive.

Translation in Bangla [18th century] of Sanskrit texts on the history of the universe.
Roll no. CSS22. 35mm positive.

A brief report on the trade and commerce of Bengal in the late 18th century.
Roll no. CSS23. 35mm positive.

Report on the economic situation in India under the British government.
Roll no.(PM)MF6. 35mm negative.

183. Report on the Administration of Bengal: see Administration of Bengal.


185. Rongpur: <manuscript, Book 1-5 : Topography and antiquities; concerning the people, the natural products, agriculture and art and commerce including statistical tables, index of native words and account on Assam.> (3) English (4) Hamilton Buchanan (6) Assam – Economic condition / Trade route / Economic Geography / Human Geography (7) India Office Library, London.
An important 19th century survey on the economic geography and cultural practices of northern Bengal and Assam.
Roll no. CSS8-13. 35mm positive.

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Roll no. (PM)MF7. 35mm negative.

A Government Report on the financial condition of India in the 1870s.
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188. The Sepoy Rebellion: <Manuscript> (2) Singapore (3) English (4) R. W. Mosbergen (6) History – Singapore (7) University of Malaya.
A history of the Sepoy rebellion at Singapore.

Article on the strategy taken in World War II after the Churchill – Stalin negotiations. The anti-Bolshevism of the British government was also criticised.


This article gives an analysis by R.P. Dutt of the pre-independence situation in India.


Containing material covering the early phase of Comintern activities relating to India, continued from 15 May to 15 September, 1922 then as *The Advanced Guard*, from 1 October 1922 to 1 February 1923, as *The Vanguard* from 15 February to 1 December 1923, *The Vanguard of Indian Independence*, 15 December 1923 to 15 December 1929.


An important periodical containing Gandhi’s views on various subjects in the period after he took over the leadership of the Congress.

The Archive has the volumes published between 7 May 1919 and 3 December 1929.

Roll no. CSS18. 35mm negative.

Roll no. M/I54. 35mm positive.
The Microfiche Collection
(Census – India, 1872-1951)

* 1872 : General Reports, Ajmere, Bengal, Bombay Presidency, Bombay City, British Burma, Calcutta, Central Province. MF1-93.
* 1872 : Cochin, Coorg, Madras, Madras Town, Mysore, North Western Provinces - v.1-11, Oudh, Punjab, Travancore. MF94-275.
* 1881 : General Reports, Andaman, Assam, Ajmere, Merwara, Baroda. MF276-351.
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* 1881 : Calcutta, Central India, Central Province, Coorg, Hyderabad, Madras, Mysore, North Western Provinces and Oudh, Punjab, Rajputana. MF444-636.
* 1891 : General Report, General Tables, Assam, Bombay, Berar, Burma, Central Province, Madras, North Western Provinces and Oudh. MF637-1009.
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The microfiche collection of the Occasional Papers of the Centre acquired from the Library of Congress. The collection is arranged chronologically with the name of the author, title, publication year and microfiche number.


... 


Chatterjee, Partha: More on Modes of Power and the Peasantry, 1982, OP47. <India – Economic condition / Politics / Peasantry> MF4480.


Bagchi, Amiyakumar: Money and Credit As Areas of Conflict in Colonial India, 1982, OP51. <India – Economic conditions> MF4484.


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Sanyal, Manoj Kumar: Price of Rice and Land Transfer in the West Bengal District (1905/6-1941/42), 1984, OP70. <Land Settlement – West Bengal> MF4501.


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Archive of Visual Material

(Colour Transparencies and Photo Negatives)

The list of visual material of the Archive of the Centre is given below. The list shows the nature of the collection, the code name of the collection and the name of the collector.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Brief Description of the Collection</th>
<th>Collector</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C 1-70.</td>
<td>Paintings by Indian and European Artists from late 19th and early 20th century Bengal. (70 slides).</td>
<td>Shri N.K. Kejriwal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E 1-181.</td>
<td>Works of European and Indian photographers in India, from the exhibition, ‘A Shifting Focus : Photography in India, 1850-1900. (181 slides).</td>
<td>Oriental and India Office Collections, Prints and Drawing Section, 197 Blackfriars Road, London SE1 8NG.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H 1-126.</td>
<td>Illustrations from Bharati and Bharatbarsha, two popular Bangla periodicals of late 19th and early 20th century Bengal. (126 slides).</td>
<td>Bangiya Sahitya Parishat, 243/1 A.P.C. Ray Road, Calcutta 700 006.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K 1-60.</td>
<td>Early oil paintings and prints from Bengal, Late 19th and early 20th century. (60 slides).</td>
<td>Chitrakoot Art Gallery, Presidency Court, 55 Gariahat Road, Calcutta 700019.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M 1-100</td>
<td>Paintings of Abanindranath Tagore, c.1900-1940. (100 slides)</td>
<td>Rabindra Bharati Society, Calcutta.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N 1-96</td>
<td>Photographs of the Konaraka temple and sculptures by Jayanta De, c.1940s. (96 slides)</td>
<td>Sm Kalpana De</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Notes and References


Ibid.

4. This table is based on two works, one by Brajendranath Bandyopadhyay and another by Gita Chattopadhyay; the former’s work, titled *Bangla Samayik Patra* (vol. I, 1818-68c. and vol. II, 1868-1900c.), Bangiya Sahitya Parishat, Calcutta, vol. I - 1936 and vol. II - 1952, and the latter’s work is *Bangla Samayik Patrika Panji* (vol. I, 1900-14c. and vol. II, 1915-30c.), Bangiya Granthagar Parishat, Calcutta, vol. I - 1990 and vol. II - 1994. Both these works are near exhaustive catalogues of titles of Bangla periodicals, but as evidences shows, some titles are not included in both these volumes, e.g. few periodicals published from the remotest places of northern and eastern Bengal, are dropped in the former’s work. One of the most important periodicals published during the Nationalist period of 1905, which was later proscribed, viz, Brahmabandhab Upadhyay edited Sandhya, has not been mentioned in Chattopadhyay’s catalogue. Moreover a major portion of the periodicals are documented in these two lists based on the secondary references, such as, the reviews and reports of the publications, reported in other contemporary periodicals. The reason is the unavailability of the periodicals, among which many are destroyed for ever. So, this table does not represent the accurate figures, but the nearest figures.

I am indebted to Amitabha Ghosh for assuming this correlation between electrification in Calcutta and subsequent rise in machinery installation and infra-structural costs in printing presses, which is responsible for a decline in the number of new periodicals in the first two decades of the 20th century, which also justify the subsequent massive increase in the number of periodicals in the following years. After the successful installation of a basic infra-structure of electric motor driven printing presses, the production capacity of a single press increased tremendously, which gave a boost to the print media.


8 Bharati, 1333b.s.

9 Bandyopadhyay, op.cit. pp.59-60.

10 Ibid. p.9.

11 Ibid. p.8.

12 Bandyopadhyay, op.cit. vol.I, pp5-11.

13 Ibid. p.57

This letter of Bankimchandra Chattopadhyay was reprinted in Bagal, Jogesh Chandra (ed.) *Bankim Rachanabali*, volume III, Sahitya Samsad, Calcutta, 1969. See for text pp. 225-269; for editorial comment p.293.
