



The house of Jadunath Sarkar

The house was the former residence of the eminent historian, Sir Jadunath Sarkar (1870-1958). Sir Jadunath moved with his family into this newly-constructed residence in 1938. The street was renamed Lake Terrace in 1943, and the house was subsequently renumbered 10 Lake Terrace. This is where Sir Jadunath lived and worked for the last two decades of his life. It is in the ground floor study of this house that he passed away on May 19, 1958.

The CSSSC at 10 Lake Terrace

The Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta (CSSSC) was founded on February 1, 1973 as one of the early research institutes of the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR). The Centre first rented and subsequently purchased Jadunath Sarkar's house at 10 Lake Terrace. Gradually building additional floors and extensions to the house to accommodate its offices, library and class rooms, the Centre was located here for the first twenty-seven years of its existence. The CSSSC soon acquired a reputation as one of the country's premier institutions of social science research and inter-disciplinary studies. Its library came to be regarded as one of the city's best-stocked book and periodical resources in the social sciences. And its pioneering Research Training Programme shaped some of the finest young researchers in the field of social sciences.

In 2000, the CSSSC moved out of this location to its new campus at Baishnabghata Patuli. The house at 10 Lake Terrace thereafter underwent some restructuring to become the Jadunath Sarkar Centre for Historical Research (JSRC). Occupying the second and third floors of the building, the JSRC came to house the large Bengali, Assamese, Hindi and Urdu book and newspaper collections of the CSSSC's library, and the book collections donated by different eminent scholars. The premises continued to house in addition a large ground-floor auditorium, the office of the Eastern Regional Centre of the ICSSR, and a guest house facility on the first floor.



Jadunath Bhavan Museum and Resource Centre (JBMRC)

10 Lake Terrace, Kolkata 700029

**A unit of
the Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta
(CSSSC)**

**Set up with the financial assistance of
the Ministry of Culture, Government of India**

Jadunath Bhavan Museum and Resource Centre (JBMRC)

The Jadunath Bhavan Museum and Resource Centre was formally inaugurated in the renovated precincts on 1 February 2015. The idea of lending a new lease of life to this building and creating a composite library, archives and display complex came out of a grant received in 2010 from the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, under its 'Museum Scheme'. It has given the CSSSC a wonderful opportunity to have the premises

professionally restored and redesigned, to bring back to the house a semblance of its former appearance and history, while also equipping it with all the contemporary amenities of a library, archive, documentation centre, office, conference and exhibition space.

The notion of a 'museum' is conceived differently for a space like this. The plan includes (i) displays on the life and works of Jadunath Sarkar in his study and on the many scholars and litterateurs such as Hitesranjan Sanyal, Barun De, Debiprasad Chattopadhyay, Edward Dimock, Arun Kumar Dasgupta, Buddhadeva Bose, Naresh Guha and Sumanta Banerjee - whose books, papers and occasionally photographs have been donated to the institution; (ii) exhibitions using the Centre's archival resources of old periodicals, newspapers, photographs, paintings, prints, posters, advertisements and commercial art, gleaned from disappearing institutional and private holdings; and (iii) invitation to scholars, artists and curators to build on the Centre's archival material and conceive of special research projects and exhibitions in this space.

Facilities

I. JBMRC Archives (Third Floor):

The JBMRC's archives comprise of both digital and analogue material of texts and visuals from the mid-19th century to the latter half of the 20th-century, pertaining mostly to Bengal and the eastern region. Scholars and researchers are encouraged to access the huge collection of old periodicals, newspapers, photographs, paintings, prints, posters, advertisements and commercial art, retrieved from disappearing institutional and private holdings. A large body of digitised texts of Bengali and Assamese periodicals of the late 19th and early 20th century, and of the newspapers, *Amrita Bazar Patrika* (1870-1949) and *Jugantar* (1937-1980) are available as an online resource for unrestricted access. Any affiliated scholars attached to a university or research centre can access this archive. The policy of the archive is open access to all scholars and researchers, with the clause that the material being accessed will be used only for academic purposes and not for any commercial ends. In select cases, non-copyrighted textual and visual material may be made available for commercial publications against a requisite payment.

Users are required to make a prior appointment for using the archives, and will need to provide some identification certifying their institutional affiliations or research projects. The use of the archive is free. A select body of low resolution digital copies of archival images and texts may be availed of by researchers against a fee.

Working Hours: Monday to Friday, 11 am - 5:30 pm

Contact persons: Abhijit Bhattacharya (abh1232@gmail.com), Kamalika Mukherjee (kamalika.mukherjee@gmail.com)

II. JBMRC Library (Second Floor)

A part of the larger library complex of the CSSSC in the main campus at Baishnabghata Patuli, the library in this house consists of the institution's entire non-English language

collection of books, journals and newspapers. While the predominant body of the approximately 25,000 titles in this library are in Bengali, there is also a smaller body of books and periodicals here in Sanskrit, Urdu, Hindi, Marathi and Assamese. A significant feature of the library is its holding of books and journals from the collections of different scholars, some of whose names are given above, which have been donated by the scholars themselves or by their families.

The library offers free reading facilities for all members, against an application form and a document of identification. The lending facilities of the library are reserved only for the faculty of the CSSSC. Due to the fragile conditions of many of the books and journals, there is restricted scope for photocopying and scanning of material in this library. Photography of library material may be permitted in special cases.

Working Hours: Monday to Friday, 10.30 am - 5.30 pm

Contact persons: Sanchita Bhattacharya

(Sanchoney@gmail.com), Anupam Chattopadhyay (anupam.chattopadhyay@gmail.com)

For further details on the collections of the JBMRC library and archives, please check the website of the CSSSC: www.cssscal.org

III. Permanent Display Rooms and Exhibition Spaces

The JBMRC was inaugurated with a special gallery of panels and photographs on the life and works of Sir Jadunath Sarkar, in the ground floor room that used to be his study. There are plans of setting up similar permanent displays around the books, papers, and photographs of some of the other scholars whose collections are in this house, using four old rooms of the original house on the first floor, which have been designed with period furniture.

The first floor of the building has been equipped with a large exhibition hall and an adjoining audio-visual room, fitted with movable wooden panels and special lighting, for the hosting of temporary exhibitions. Apart from two large exhibitions that have been mounted here from the institution's own archival collections, the exhibition halls are also being given out for exhibitions organised by other artists, scholars and institutions.



IV. Ground Floor Auditorium

This is a fully equipped air-conditioned modern auditorium, with good audio-visual facilities, and a seating capacity for around 70 persons. The auditorium entrance lobby has additional seating capacity for another 30 persons or so for a spill-over audience. The lobby is also the place where tea, lunch and refreshments can be served after talks and during conferences. While hosting a variety of the institution's own academic and cultural programmes, the JBMRC auditorium is now the most widely used public facility of the house and is being regular used by outside groups to host lectures, conferences, panel discussions, book launches and film screenings. Next to the Jadunath Sarkar gallery is a large reception room at the entrance of the house, which also serves as a place for the display and sale of publications during seminars, and a waiting space for visitors.



V. Meeting Room, Office Spaces and Faculty Lounge

There are shared office spaces with computer terminals and internet connectivity on all the four floors of the house, that are being used by the administrative staff and faculty who work out of these premises. On the first floor, a meeting room has been designed with a seating capacity for 10-12 persons for smaller official meetings. This is also given out to outside institutions. The third floor, apart from the archives, library stacks and reading rooms, has provisions for a faculty lounge facing onto an open verandah.

The house is serviced with facilities for tea, coffee and snacks during working hours and for all meetings, lectures and conferences.

VI. Facilities available for hiring for academic and institutional events

1. Ground Floor Auditorium, along with the auditorium lobby and reception area
2. Exhibition Hall and Rooms on the First Floor
3. Meeting Room on the First Floor
4. Temporary office spaces for visiting scholars and researchers

For rates, regulations and provisions for the hiring of these facilities, please contact:

Debarshi Sen, Registrar, CSSSC (cssscregistrar@gmail.com)

Ranjana Dasgupta (jbmrc.office@gmail.com)

Appeal for Support for the JBMRC

Set up with a one-time non-renewable grant from the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, the JBMRC is actively seeking financial and institutional support, to keep going its facilities and its growing profile as an academic and cultural resource centre in an elegant renovated old property in the heart of south Kolkata.

Some of the ways you can lend your support to keep the institution going:

- Collaborations for lectures, conferences and research projects
- Collaborations for new projects on archiving and digitisation of private and institutional holdings in the city
- Funding of research fellows, library and archive interns to work with the JBMRC collections
- Funding one or two short term (1 year) visiting faculty positions
- Funding a named faculty position or student fellowship to be housed at the institution
- Hiring of the auditorium and exhibition spaces for conferences, workshops, lectures, film screenings, book discussions and curated shows
- Providing a grant for running a set of annual teaching and training workshops, one in methods of historical and cultural research, the other in methods and protocols of archival documentation
- Providing a grant for running a monthly lecture series, bringing in scholars, archivists, creative practitioners and curators from all over India
- Making a one-time endowment towards building a corpus fund for the institution

To discuss these possibilities, please contact any of the following persons:

Jawhar Sircar, Chairman of the Board of Governors, CSSSC and of the Advisory and Executive Committee, JBMRC (jawhar1952@gmail.com)

Rosinka Chaudhuri, Director and Professor in Cultural Studies, CSSSC (rosinkac@gmail.com)

Tapati Guha-Thakurta, Professor in History, CSSSC, and Convener, JBMRC (tgt1957@gmail.com)