

## **CURRICULUM VITAE**

**JOHN BOSCO LOURDUSAMY** M.A., M.Phil (Pondicherry), D.Phil (Oxon)  
Department of Humanities and Social Sciences  
Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Chennai - 600 036, INDIA

### **Education**

D.Phil (History) UNIVERSITY of OXFORD, OXFORD, UK

M.Phil (History) PONDICHERRY UNIVERSITY

M.A (History) PUDUCHERRY, INDIA

B.A (History) LOYOLA COLLEGE (Autonomous), UNIVERSITY  
of MADRAS, CHENNAI, INDIA

### **Broad Areas of Research & Teaching**

Science, Technology and Medicine in Colonial India

History of Plantations and Agriculture in Colonial India

Global Circulation of Crops and Commodities

Religion and Modern Science

### **Major academic landmarks/ positions / awards**

**Gold Medals (Three) for Proficiency** - for all the three years of the **B.A. Degree** course, Loyola College (Autonomous), **1988 - 91**.

**Junior Research Fellowship (JRF)** and **Lectureship Qualification** through the National Eligibility Test conducted by the University Grants Commission, **December 1994**.

**Felix Scholarship** for doctoral studies at **Oxford - October 1995 to December 1999**. (Scholarship given annually to seven students from all over India to pursue higher studies at Oxford).

**Queen Elizabeth Visiting Scholarship** held at the Department of History and Sociology of Science, **University of Pennsylvania**, Philadelphia - **September 1996 to April 1997**. (This Scholarship is given to one student from the whole of Oxford once in two years).

**Completion of Doctoral Thesis - December 1999**. Title of the thesis: **'Science and National Consciousness: A Study of the Response to Modern Science in Colonial Bengal, c.1870-1920'**; Examiners: Prof. **Robert Fox**, Professor of the History of Science, University of Oxford; Prof. **David Arnold**, Professor of South Asian Studies, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London.

**Visiting Fellow - Institute of Advanced Study, University of Warwick, UK, May - June 2011**.

**International Scholar, SHOT** (Society for the History of Technology), **2013-15.**

**Visiting Fellow - Trinity College, Cambridge, UK, July 2014.**

**Member, Research Council, Indian National Commission for the History of Science,**  
Indian National Science Academy, **2014-16.**

**Visiting Fellow - Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, June - July 2015.**

**Visiting Fellow - Archival Cell, Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru, Nov - Dec 2015.**

**Visiting Fellow - Technical University Darmstadt, Germany, June - July 2018.**

**The 2024 Sidney Edelstein Prize** of the Society for History of Technology (for the book *Moving Crops*).

**The 2024 Bentley Book Prize** of the World History Association (for the book *Moving Crops*).

**Member, Editorial Board** of the *Indian Journal of History of Science*.

**Member, Editorial Board** of *Technology and Culture*.

**Member, Editorial Board** of Brill's 'Technology and Change in History' Series.

### **Research:**

#### **Research Articles in Journals:**

**'Asutosh Mookerjee and "Nationalistic" Science Education in Colonial Bengal',**  
*Contemporary India* (Nehru Memorial Museum and Library), Vol. I, No. 2, 2002.

**'The Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science: A Tortuous Tryst with Modern Science',**  
*Journal of Science Education and Technology*, Vol. 12, No. 4, 2003.

**'In League with Religion: Advent of Modern Science in the West and India',**  
*Omega: Indian Journal of Science and Religion*, Vol. 7, No.1, 2008.

With M.Arivanandan, **'ICTs for Rural Development? : Answers from Below- A Micro-Level Study of Five ICT-Enabled Villages in Tamil Nadu',**  
*Journal of Rural Development*, Vol. 29, No. 1, 2010.

With Srinivasa Rao, **'Colonialism and the Development of Electricity: The Case of Madras Presidency, 1900-1947',**  
*Science, Technology & Society*, Vol. 15, No.1, 2010.

**'Two Early Pillars of Modern Scientific Education in India: The Meaning and Relevance of the Projects of M.L.Sircar and Asutosh Mookerjee',**  
*Indian Journal of History of Science*, Vol. 53, No. 4, 2018.

With Francesca Bray, Barbara Hahn, and Tiago Saraiva, **'Cropscaes and History: Reflections on Rootedness and Mobility'**, *Transfers*, Vol. 9, No. 1, 2019.

With DV Kanagarathinam **'Rise of Siddha Medicine: Causes and Constructions in the Madras Presidency (1920-1930s)'**, *Medical History*, Vol. 67, No.1, 2023.

With Preethi Mariam George **'Trained Army Nurses in Colonial India: Early Experiences and Challenges'**, *Medical History*, Vol. 67, No. 4, 2023.

With Mahendranath Sudhindranath **'Fluid Ecologies, Sovereignty, and Colonialism: Princely Contestations Over Riverine Islands in Colonial India'** *Shima*, Vol. 17, No. 2, 2023.

#### Articles in Technical Magazines

With Anima Singh, **'Agro-informatics: The Need for an Integrated Approach'**, *i4d* (Information for Development), September 2008.

**'The importance of HiST(ory) for S&T'**, *IEEE India Info*. Vol. 13 No. 4, 2018  
<http://r10.ieee.org/indiacouncil/wp-content/uploads/sites/149/2019/01/icnl-18q4.pdf>

#### Books

***Science and National Consciousness in Bengal, 1870-1930***, Orient Longman, Hyderabad, 2004.

***Religion and Modern Science in Colonial Bengal (1870-1940)***, Sujana Publications, 2007 (on behalf of the Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies, Kolkata.)

With Francesca Bray, Barbara Hahn, and Tiago Saraiva, ***Moving Crops and the Scales of History***, Yale University Press, New Haven, 2023.

Under review: With Axel Siegemund and Renny Thomas, ***Religion and Technology: New Perspectives in the Digital Age*** (edited volume with about 20 chapters)

#### Book Chapters

**'Are Sciences not "Humanities"?'** in Tutun Mukherjee (ed.) *Humanities in the Present Context*, Allied Publishers, New Delhi, 2009.

**'College of Engineering, Guindy'**, in D.P.Chattopadhyay and Uma Dasgupta (eds.) *Science and Modern India: An Institutional History*, Pearson Education, New Delhi, 2010.

**'Betwixt Science and Religion; East and West: Jesuits in 17th and 18th Century Southern India'**, in Yiftach J. H. Fehige (ed.), *Science and Religion: East and West*, Routledge, Oxford and New York, 2016.

With Rishika Czarzasta '**India and Foreign Language Teaching: Enhancing A2K through M-Learning**', in Stefanie Felsberger and Ramesh Subramanian (eds.), *Mobile Technology and Social Transformations*, Routledge, London, 2021.

#### Encyclopedia Article

'**Modern Science and Technology in India**', Oxford Research Encyclopedia, December 2019 (<https://doi.org/10.1093/acrefore/9780190277727.013.349>).

*(In the rest of the document, where the name of the country is not mentioned, it is INDIA)*

#### International Conference Proceedings

With Boris Kizelshteyn, '**Purposeful Learning is Transformative: How Experience with Media Production Tools at a Digital Agricultural Extension in India Suggests an Approach for Deepening the Impact of Educational ICT4D Project**', Proceedings of the 11th IEEE International Conference on Advanced Learning Technologies (ICALT), Athens, Georgia, USA, 6 - 8 July, 2011. (doi: 10.1109/ICALT.2011.180)

#### Oration

'**Modern Science in India: Trends in Reproduction and Production**', Hasi Majumder Memorial Oration, University of Calcutta, Kolkata, 24 February 2011.

#### Invited Talks / Papers in Conferences

'**Science and Religion in India**' - Nehru Centre, The High Commission of India in UK, London, UK, 13 March 1996.

'**From Ambivalence to Ambiversion: A Re-Appraisal of the Cultural Response to Modern Science in Colonial India.**' - Symposium on "Mondialisation of Science" at the XX International Congress of History of Science, Liège, Belgium, 20 - 26 July 1997.

'**J.C. Bose as a Model of a Global and Indian Scientist**' - Workshop on "J.C. Bose and Today", XXVIII General Assembly of the International Union of Radio Science, (URSI), New Delhi, 23 - 29 October, 2005.

'**ICTs and Development: Milestones and Roadblocks on the Information Super - Highway**' - Annual Conference of Indian Political Economy Association (IPEA), Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar, Punjab, 2 - 3 November 2007.

'**Modern Science - Religion Symbiosis: Historical Perspectives and Future Prospects**' - International Conference on "Science and Spirituality for World Peace", Regional Institute of Medical Science, Imphal, Manipur, 22 - 23 November, 2007.

**'The Need for a Gandhian Knowledge Economy'** - International Conference on "Social Development, Social Movements and the Marginalized: Perspectives and Concerns", Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi, 16 - 19 February 2008.

**'The Changing Contours of Religion- Science Relationship Among Early Modern Scientists in Colonial Bengal'** - National Symposium on "Intersecting Science, Philosophy and Religion: The Indian Perspective" (Organized by the Indian Council for Philosophical Research, Indian Institute of Science and Religion, Pune, and the Institute of Science and Religion, Aluva), Kochi, 16 June 2008.

With M.Arivanandan, **'The Disconnect Amidst Connections: Useful Lessons from the Kiosk Models of Tamil Nadu and Puducherry in Southern India'**, - Asian Telecentre Forum 2008 at the e-ASIA 2008 - Conference organised by the Centre for Science, Development and Media Studies (CSDMS - Noida, India) and co-hosted by the Ministry of Energy, Water and Communications, Government of Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, 13 November 2008.

**'The Need for a "Gandhian Knowledge Economy" ' - "Science for Rural Societies"** programme sponsored by the Department of Science and Technology, Govt. of India, at the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, Mussoorie, Uttarakhand, 11 December 2008.

**'Science and Spirituality vs Science and Development'** - Conference on "The Culture and Philosophy of Science in India" organised by the Project on "Indian Perspectives in Science and Spirituality," Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi; Indian Council for Philosophical Research (ICPR), and Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture, Kolkata, 4 April 2009.

**'Internet, Distance Education and Globalization of Education'** - Higher Education Summit Asia, Singapore, 28 October 2009.

**'Jagadis Chandra Bose, Globalization and the 21st Century'** - J.C.Bose Sesquicentennial Memorial Lecture, Kolkata, 7 November 2009.

**'ICTs and Sustainable Development'**, - 16th Annual International Sustainable Development Research Conference 2010, Hong Kong, 1 June 2010.

**'ICTs and Rural Development'** - "Science for Rural Societies" programme sponsored by the Department of Science and Technology, Govt. of India, at the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, Mussoorie, Uttarakhand, 1 July 2010.

**'ICTs and the Environment'** - Advanced Training Programme in Environmental Sciences (jointly organized by the Govt. of Kerala and the School of Environmental Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi University), Kottayam, Kerala, 20 August, 2010.

**‘Science and Religion in Colonial India: A Historical Perspective’** - The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion, Cambridge, UK, 31 May 2011.

**‘Between God and Science: Elite Strands in Colonial Bengal’** - Public Lecture, Institute of Advanced Study, Warwick University, UK, 1 June 2011.

**‘Gandhian Knowledge Economy’** - Dept. of History, Warwick University, UK, 2 June 2011.

**‘Science, Nation and Development: Bose, Tagore and Mahalanobis’** - Conference on “Tagore, Bose and Mahalanobis: Confluence of Minds” - Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata, 10 January 2012.

**‘Situating the Science and Technology Vision of Nehru in Contemporary India’** - Centre for Nehru Studies, Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli, Tamil Nadu, 21 February 2013.

**‘Minding the Body and Binding the Mind’** - Symposium on “Medical Knowledge Traditions at Work” co-convened with Prof. Mark Harrison, (Univ of Oxford), at the XXIII International Congress of History of Science, Manchester, UK, 26 July 2013.

**‘Jesuits, Science and Religion in Southern India’** - International Symposium on ‘Genetics and Neuroscience: Frontiers in Philosophy, Science and Religion’, Institute of Science and Religion, Aluva, Kerala, 9 February 2014.

**‘Jesuits and Acculturation in Southern India: Historical Perspectives’** - Seminar on “Reading the Footprints and Making History” - In Commemoration of the 200th Anniversary of the Restoration of the Society of Jesus and the 175th Year of the New Madurai Mission, Loyola College, Chennai, 27 February 2014.

**‘Origins of the Tea Industry in Southern India’** - Dr. Indhrani Sridharan Memorial Lecture, Ethiraj College for Women, Chennai, 14 August 2014.

**‘Tea and Technology: A Historical Glimpse’** - 121<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference of UPASI [United Planters’ Association of Southern India] Coonoor, Tamil Nadu, 8 September 2014.

**‘With an “Eye” to “Cure”’: The Diverse Meanings of the Eye Infirmary in Colonial Madras Presidency’** - University of Wisconsin, Madison, USA, 24 October 2014.

**‘Body and Mind: The Cultural and Intellectual Roles of Pioneering Medical Institutions in Colonial Madras Presidency’** - Duke University, Durham, USA, 28 October 2014.

**‘Tea and Technology: The Case of Colonial India’** - University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, USA, 30 October 2014.

**‘When Dogs Killed on Plains and Answers Lay up the Hills: The Curious History of the Pasteur Institute, Coonoor’** - Yale University, New Haven, USA, 31 October 2014.

**‘Religion in the Language and Spirit of “Science”: Jesuits in Colonial South India’** - Institute for the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology, University of Toronto, Canada, 5 November 2014.

**‘History of Technology in India: Some Reflections’** - Presidential Roundtable on “Promises and Challenges of Doing International History of Technology”, Annual Meeting of the Society for the History of Technology [SHOT], Dearborn, Michigan, USA, 8 November 2014.

**‘“Tea-chnology” - Origins and Growth in Colonial India’** - “Tea for David” Seminar in honour of Prof. David Washbrook (ahead of his retirement from Trinity College, Cambridge), IIT Madras, Chennai, 8 December 2014.

**‘Restructuring of History Curriculum to the Present Social Needs’** - Sri Poornaprajna Evening College, Udipi, Karnataka, 15 December 2014.

**‘Medical Institutions and the Articulation of Difference in the Madras Presidency’** - International Seminar on “Historical Trends and Contemporary Challenges in the Practice of Medicine in India”, IIT Madras, Chennai, 30 January 2015.

**‘Medical Institutions as Sites of Cultural Contest in Colonial Madras Presidency’** - University of Bologna, Italy, 21 May 2015.

**‘Religion and Medicine: The Case of Siddha in Southern India’** - University of Padua, Italy, 26 May 2015.

**‘Technological and Medical Aspects of Tea Plantations in Colonial Southern India’** - University of Lisbon, Portugal, 4 June 2015.

**‘Tea and Technology: A Peculiar Story of Transfer’**, Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, 23 July 2015.

**‘Commodities and Cosmopolitanism: The Case of Tea’** - International Seminar on “Cosmopolitanism in the History of Science”, Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh, 9 August 2016.

**‘History of Science and Technology: Methods and Perspectives’** - Refresher Course in Research Methodology, Pondicherry University, Puducherry, 14 February 2017.

**‘Crops and Global History - A few Reflections’** - Prof. Hiralal Gupta Endowment Lecture, Department of History, Loyola College (Autonomous) Chennai, 27 February 2018.

**‘Moving Crops’**, Institute of History, T U Darmstadt, Germany, 9 July 2018.

**‘Jack of no Trade, yet a Probable King?’** (On jackfruit crop) - Symposium of the International Committee for the History of Technology (ICOHTEC), Saint-Étienne, France, 18 July 2018.

**‘Tea, Technology and Global Flows’** - World Economic History Congress, MIT, Cambridge, USA, 1 August 2018.

**‘From “Coast-Guard” to Cash Crop - Cashew’s Journey to / in India’**, - North Carolina State University, Raleigh, USA, 15 October 2018.

**‘Marigolds and Their Many Roles: Global Circulation of Crops and Culture’** - University of Wisconsin, Madison, USA, 19 October 2018.

**‘Hansa Mehta - A Pioneer Indian Woman Activist and Visionary’** - “National Seminar on Visionary Women in India”, Ethiraj College for Women, Chennai, 14 October 2019.

**‘Approaches to History of Science, Technology and Medicine’** - Refresher Course in History, Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli, Tamil Nadu, 1 November 2019.

**‘Elephants in India: An Environmental History Perspective’** - National Seminar on “Environment and Development: Issues, Challenges and Potentialities”, University of Calicut, Kerala, 6 February 2020.

**‘Writing the History of Science and Technology of Modern India’** - PSMO College, Tirurangadi, Malappuram, Kerala, 7 February 2020.

**‘Botanising in the 18th and 19th centuries’** - Seminar on “Natural History, Women’s Agency and Conserving Bio-diversity” (organised by the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute, Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Mc Gill University, Canada, and Dakshina Chitra Heritage Museum, Chennai), IIT Madras, Chennai, 30 April 2022.

**‘Inspirational Origins of Modern Science in India’** - Dept. of Science and Technology (DST) - National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS) “Training Programme on Science and Technology: Global Developments and Perspectives”, NIAS, Bengaluru, 28 November 2022.

**‘Science, Technology and Rural Development’** - (Online) Refresher Course on “Epistemological Issues, Methodological Uses & Skill Development in New Trends of Social Sciences” conducted by Amity University, Uttar Pradesh, and Society for the History of Technology”, 13 June 2023.

**‘How the Past of Modern Science in India may Help its Future’** - Colloquia Series, Harish-Chandra Research Institute, Prayagraj (Allahabad), Uttar Pradesh, 16 June 2023.

**‘Artificial Intelligence, Natural Concerns and Mixed Possibilities for Higher Education’**  
- 37<sup>th</sup> IAPT (Indian Association of Physics Teachers) Annual Convention, Jaipur, Rajasthan, 8  
October 2023.

**‘Fermentation - More Social Than Chemical: The Case of Tea in India’** - Annual Meeting  
of the History of Science Society, Portland, USA, 9 November 2023.

**‘Mentalities and Memories Approaches to History’** - National Seminar on “Memory,  
Mentality and the Making of History”, Government Brennen College, Thalassery, Kerala, 29  
November 2023.

**‘Time for “Reverse Dissemination”: What the Tribal World can Teach the Rest of the  
World’** - St.Xavier’s College, Mahuadanr, Jharkhand, 24 August 2024.

**‘Adivasis and their Medical Worlds: The Case of Colonial and Post-colonial  
Chotanagpur Area’** - National Seminar on “Colonialism, Caste, Science and Medicine in  
Modern India”, University of Calicut, Kerala, 9 October 2024.

### Interviews



TechnoViews Interview  
13 August 2024

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EmN75WLVnVE>



ETV Interview  
12 October 2007

[https://www.youtube.com/results?search\\_query=jbl+profile+etv](https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=jbl+profile+etv)

**Projects***( PI = Principal Investigator )*

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>Tenure</b>	<b>Role</b>
1.	Circuits of Exchange and Indian Ocean Hinterland	European University Institute, Florence	2024	PI
2.	Health and Diseases Management among Munda, Santhal, Oraon and Ho Tribes of Jharkhand: A Historical Analysis	Indian Council of Social Science Research	2023 -25	PI
3.	Moving Crops and the Scales of History	Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin	2016 -19	Co-PI
4.	Transfer of Technology: The Case of Tea and Coffee in Colonial India	IIT Madras	2014 -15	PI
5.	Medical Institutions and Plantation Health Care in Colonial Southern India	Wellcome Trust, UK	2014	PI
6.	Medical Ideas, Tools, Ethics and Pluralism in South India	Wellcome Trust, UK	2012 -15	PI
7.	ICT Innovation in India	Copenhagen Business School, Denmark	2009 -10	PI
8.	Gandhian Knowledge Economy? An Exploratory Micro-Case Study	Dept. of Information Technology, Govt. of India	2009 -10	PI
9.	Technology, Innovation and Rural Participation	IIT Madras	2004 -07	PI

ALMAE MATRES



D.Phil.



M.A., M.Phil.



B. A.



Petit Seminaire Higher  
Secondary School, Puducherry

8<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> Standard



Fatima Higher Secondary  
School, Puducherry

3<sup>rd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> Standard



St. Joseph of Cluny  
Primary School, Puducherry

Upper and Lower  
Kinder Garten, 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Standard



University of Pennsylvania,  
Philadelphia, USA

Queen Elizabeth  
Exchange