

# Ritwik Balo

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## CONTACT

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**Website:** <https://rb.intertext.in/>

## WORK EXPERIENCE

Rani Birla Girls' College

September 2019 — Present

Assistant Professor

- Led the Department of English as Head (August 2020 –2022)
- Adapted the department to online academic and administrative activities during the pandemic, overseeing exams, virtual classes, and organizing events such as competitions, film festivals, and seminars
- Currently teaching literatures in English and Cultural Studies

The Times of Corona

March 2020 — March 2022

Co-founder and Editor

- Launched The Times of Corona to archive the coronavirus pandemic
- Collaborated with artists, climate activists, and scientists to spread awareness on climate change
- Featured on Deutsche Welle, Edex Live, The Jockey Club Museum of Climate Change, the UN's CBD News, and other organizations dedicated to fighting climate change

Wordloop Studio

May 2018 — Present

Co-founder

- Founded Wordloop Studio to accelerate scientific research publication by Indian academics
- Collaborated with researchers and academics from IISC Bangalore, IIT Delhi, IIT Madras, IIT Patna, University of Hyderabad, EFLU Hyderabad, SUTD Singapore, and University of Nebraska–Lincoln, among others

Darbhanga College of Engineering

January 2018 — July 2019

Assistant Professor (under MHRD's TEQIP-III)

- Trained students in Communicative English, Soft Skills, and Personality Development
- Acted as Nodal Officer for Kushal Yuva Program under National Skill Development Mission (NSDM)
- Managed Training and Placement activities

PaperTrue

June 2017 — October 2017

Editor

- Edited academic documents (Research papers, Dissertations, PhDs)
- Edited CVs, Resumes, SoPs, etc...

## TRAININGS

- Participated in MHRD-sponsored Faculty Induction Program at IIT Kanpur (January 2018) and Active Learning workshop at IIT Hyderabad (June 2018)
- Completed AICTE-recognized Short Term Courses on Science & Technology for Sustainable Development and Application Development using Angular Java through ICT at NITTTR Chandigarh (February 2019)
- Trained in Advanced Pedagogy & Digital Tools for TEQIP Faculty Members at IIT Kharagpur (July 2019)

## EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

September 2018 — Present

Jadavpur University

"Indian Sequential Art Post-Liberatization" under the supervision of Rimi B. Chatterjee  
(and co-supervision of Abhijit Gupta)

Master of Arts in English  
Presidency University

August 2015 — May 2017

Bachelor of Arts in English  
North Bengal University

June 2012 — June 2015

Higher Secondary (12th Grade)  
Raiganj Coronation High School

June 2010 — June 2012

#### AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- Awarded the National Junior Research Fellowship by the Government of India (in July 2019) to conduct Doctoral Research

#### PUBLICATIONS

- "But you live in Kashmir": Government induced Terrorism? In Malik Sajad's *Munnu A Boy From Kashmir in Terrorism in Literature: On Examining a Global Phenomenon*, Cambridge Scholars Publishing (ISBN: 978-1-5275-3760-6)
- "Hegemony of the Tech Age: Bio-Politics of Media" in *Global Media Journal Indian Edition*, University of Calcutta, Vol. 8, Issue 2 (ISSN: 2249-5835)
- "The 'Cyber Dasein': Politics, Surveillance, State and Legitimacy of and Around the Self" in *Global Media Journal Indian Edition*, University of Calcutta, Vol. 7, No. 1 (ISSN: 2249-5835)
- "The Traumatic Silence of Paul Celan: 'The Real', 'The Sublime', and 'Negative Romanticism' in pre-sensory poetry" in *On Trauma and Traumatic Memory*, Cambridge Scholars Publishing (ISBN: 978-1-4438-9509-5)

#### RECENT CONFERENCE PAPERS

- "Illustrating Conflict: Depictions of Kashmir in Indian Comic Books" at International Conference on 'Comics in Conflict', University of Florida, USA (Apr 2023)
- "Barbed Wires and Ambiguous Spaces" at National Conference on 'Re-visiting, Re-reading & Re-imagining Partition Literature', SNDT Women's University, Mumbai, India (Mar 2023)
- "Restorying Partition through Comics" at International Conference on 'The Politics of Memory and History', Central University of Kerala, India (Mar 2023)

#### JOURNALISTIC WORK

- "Hail Piracy!" for *Cinebengal Magazine*
- Review of Bappaditya Bandopadhyay's *Sohra Bridge* for *Cinebengal Magazine*
- "Campus Casteism: How Professor Mandal is Fighting Back" for *Round Table India*

#### INTERESTS

- Rock Music
- Comics and Graphic Narratives
- Artificial Intelligence
- Hydroponics