

*Curriculum Vitae*

**TANNISTHA SAMANTA**

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**EDUCATION**

Department of Sociology, University of Maryland,  
College Park, MD.

**PhD in Sociology**

*Maryland, U.S.A*  
*Spring 2012 (anticipated)*

Department of Sociology, University of Maryland,  
College Park, MD.

**M.A (without thesis), Sociology**

*Maryland, U.S.A*  
*Fall 2007-Spring 2009*

Centre for Development Studies, (CDS) affiliated to  
Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

**M.Phil in Applied Economics**

*Trivandrum, India*  
*August 2004-May 2006*

University of Calcutta, Department of Economics  
**Masters degree (M.Sc) in Economics**

*Calcutta, India*  
*2002-2004*

Bethune College, affiliated to  
University of Calcutta

**Bachelors degree (B.Sc Honours) in Economics**

*Calcutta, India*  
*1999-2002*

**AREAS OF INTERESTS**

Demography, gender, women's work and family issues.

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Fall 2007- Spring2009: Teaching Assistant, *Introductory Statistics for Sociology*  
Department of Sociology, University of  
Maryland, College Park.

**WORK/RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

Macro International Inc.  
Consultant

*Calverton, Maryland 20705-3119*  
*Summer 2008*

- Organized, synthesized and analyzed the existing literature on barriers to uptake of prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) of HIV/AIDS services in the developing world.

NIH-RFA on Gender, Youth & HIV Risk  
Research Assistant

*Department of Sociology, University  
of Maryland, College Park, MD  
Summer 2008*

India Human Development Survey Group

*Department of Sociology, University  
of Maryland, College Park, MD  
January 2008-present.*

Indian Institute of Health Management Research  
Senior Research Officer

*Jaipur, India  
August 2006-July 2007*

- Worked as part of an international Research Project Consortium (RPC) funded by Department for International Development (DFID), United Kingdom, and led by Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, USA. The consortium is styled “*Future Health Systems: Innovations for Equity*”.
- Supervising, monitoring and evaluating household survey to assess the link between household poverty and health
- Preparing status reports & working papers on stakeholder analysis, West Bengal
- Relationship-building with state government and community service agencies
- Networking and fund-raising activities

Sociological Research Unit, Indian Statistical Institute  
Project Assistant

*Calcutta, India  
January-April 2006*

- Worked on a Project titled “*Forms of Market and Non Market Discrimination: Andhra Pradesh, India*”
- Involved in secondary data analysis, literature review and preparation of preliminary reports on the project

United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)  
Intern

*Delhi, India  
April- July 2005*

- Worked on a Government of India initiative titled as *Knowledge Community on Children in India (KCCI)*.
- Involved in questionnaire designing, ground level research, situation analysis and survey
- Performed networking activities, evaluation and report writing.
- Final report titled “*Impact of Total Sanitation Campaign on Household Sanitation in rural West Bengal- A case study of two blocks*” accepted as a UNICEF working paper in 2005.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

Kanjilal, Barun, Tannistha Samanta and Swadhin Mondal (2007): *A Parallel Health Care Market: Rural Medical Practitioners in West Bengal, India*”, Research Brief No. 2, Institute of Health Management Research, Jaipur, India, in collaboration with *Future Health Systems*.

URL: <http://www.futurehealthsystems.org/publications/policy%20briefs/policybriefsindex.htm>

Samanta, Tannistha (2006): “Mother’s Work and Child Survival: A case study of West Bengal, India” M.Phil dissertation, Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum, India.

Gupta, Kasturi, Marie-Eve Reny, Tannistha Samanta and Shaswati Talapatra (2006): “ The Impact of the Total Sanitation Campaign on Household Sanitation in West Bengal- A case study of Aamdanga and Haldia Blocks”, *Youthspeak: Case studies of Development in Practice*, Knowledge Community on Children in India (KCCI), UNICEF, New Delhi, India. URL: <http://www.kcci.org.in/index.asp>

Samanta, Tannistha and Kasturi Gupta (2005): “*Total Sanitation Campaign and Local Self Governments: Some Insights from rural West Bengal*”, Panchayati Raj Update, Institute of Social Sciences (ISS) Newsletter, October 2005 issue, New Delhi, India. URL: [http://www.localgovernmentindia.org/panchayat\\_newsdetail.asp?newsid=3&month=10&year=5](http://www.localgovernmentindia.org/panchayat_newsdetail.asp?newsid=3&month=10&year=5)

### **RELEVANT SKILLS**

*Microsoft Office*: Word, Excel, Access and PowerPoint. *Data analyses applications*: SPSS and STATA. Have worked with huge survey data sets like- General Social Survey (cumulative data file 1972-2006), India Human Development Survey (IHDS) 2005, National Family Health Survey of India-II (1998-1999), National Sample Survey Organization-India (62<sup>nd</sup> Round, July 2005-June 2006) and Census-India (2001). *Languages*: English, Bangla, Hindi.

### **HONORS AND AWARDS**

Awarded the International Teaching Fellowship (ITF), by the Center for Teaching Excellence in collaboration with the Graduate School, University of Maryland, College Park, MD-----October 2008.

Awarded the Rai Bahadur Ghosh Overseas (Travel Grant) Scholarship, by the Estates and Trust Department, University of Calcutta----July 2007

Awarded the National Scholarship Scheme 2002-03 Award by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India, for being ranked among the first five students in B.Sc. Economics Honors undergraduate degree course, University of Calcutta, India ---October 2003

Special Staff Prize awarded by the Department of Economics, Bethune College, Calcutta, India, for securing the First Rank in the College in B.Sc (Honors) Part I examinations----October 2001

### **TRAININGS, WORKSHOP AND SEMINARS ATTENDED**

Invited to discuss a paper on “*Differentials in Muslim and Non-Muslim Child Health Outcomes- an effect of context or maternal (dis)empowerment?*” at the Roundtable Session of the American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA----August 8-11, 2009

Presented poster titled as “*Individual and Contextual Antecedents of women’s empowerment in India*” at Population Association of America (PAA), Detroit, MI----- April 30-May 2, 2009

Presented paper titled as “*Does work empower women in India?*” at the Eastern Sociological Society (ESS), Baltimore, MD-----March 19-22, 2009

Attended and presented own paper at the International Seminar on “*Women’s Situations and Women’s Studies: South Asian Perspectives*”, organized by the Centre for Women’s Studies, North Bengal University, Siliguri, India ----*December 2006*

Attended a workshop on “Gendering governance or governing women? Politics, patriarchy and democratic decentralization in Kerala”, funded by IDRC, Canada and hosted by Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum, India-----*November 2006*

Attended a workshop on “Using Internet for Social Science Research”, hosted by Centre for Development Studies and Indian Institute of Information Technology and Management, Trivandrum, India----- *March 2005*

Awarded a certificate of proficiency for having participated in the Liberty & Society Seminar organized by Centre for Civil Society, New Delhi, India —*December 2001*

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP**

American Sociological Association (ASA)

Population Association of America (PAA)

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