



## Subrata Mandal

### Research Fellow

#### Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies, Kolkata.

**Subrata Mandal** is an eminent researcher and scholar specializing in Comparative Religion, Buddhist Philosophy, and Social Dynamics. Born and raised in **Kirtankhali village, Sagar Island (South 24 Parganas, West Bengal)**, he brings a profound cultural perspective to his academic inquiries, blending classical linguistic training with contemporary social research.

He is currently serving as a **Research Fellow** at the **Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies (MAKAIAS)**. His current research project (2025–2027) focuses on "**Ramayana and Buddhism as Instruments of Soft Power and Cultural Diplomacy in Southeast Asia**," exploring the civilizational links between India and its neighbours.

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### Research & Fellowship Experience

Mr. Mandal's research trajectory reflects a deep commitment to understanding India's socio-cultural fabric.

- **2021 – 2023:** Served as a Research Fellow at **MAKAIAS**, conducting an in-depth study titled "*The Socio-Economic, Political, and Cultural Dynamics of the Indian OBC Community: Past, Present, and Future.*"
- **Current:** He is a **Ph.D. Scholar** at **Tripura Central University**, Agartala. His doctoral thesis is titled: "*Echoes of the Early Dharma: Hinayana Buddhism in North-East India.*"

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### Academic Foundation

A linguistically proficient scholar in English, Hindi, and Bengali, his academic credentials include:

- **M.A. (Achariya) in Buddha Darshan** from **Central Sanskrit University** (formerly Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan) in 2010.
- **M.A. in Comparative Religion** from **Visva-Bharati University** in 2008.
- **B.A. (Shastri) Hons. in Sanskrit** from **Central Sanskrit University** (formerly Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan) in 2002.
- **B.A.** from the **University of Calcutta** in 1997.

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### Personal Profile

Born on August 25, 1977, Mr. Mandal's academic journey is dedicated to bridging the gap between ancient religious philosophies and the modern socio-economic evolution of Indian and Asian communities.