

## Dr. Anirban Ash

Assistant Professor



### General:

Date of birth 4<sup>th</sup> July 1981

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West Bengal, India  
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### Education:

Nov 2015 – Aug 2016 Post Doc., Zoological Survey of India, MOEFCC, Govt. India,  
New Alipur, Kolkata

Jan 2013 – Jan 2015 Post Doc., Chemistry Division, CSIR-Indian Institute of  
Chemical Biology, Jadavpur, Kolkata

Jul 2012 – Jan 2013 Post Doc., Department of Helminthology, Institute of  
Parasitology, Biology Centre, ASCR, České Budějovice, Czech  
Republic

2008 – 2012 PhD, Faculty of Science  
University of South Bohemia  
České Budějovice, Czech Republic  
Thesis topic – **Diversity of tapeworms (Cestoda) in  
freshwater fish of India** (degree awarded on 22 June 2012)

2003 – 2005 MSc. in Zoology  
Special paper – **Environmental Biology**  
North Bengal University & Darjeeling Govt. College  
Darjeeling, West Bengal, India

2000 – 2003 BSc. in Zoology  
B. K. C. College, Calcutta University Kolkata  
West Bengal, India

**Research Interests:** Morphology, including ultrastructure, systematics and phylogeny of tapeworms (Cestoda), especially groups parasitic in freshwater and marine fishes; ecology and life-cycles of aquatic fish helminths, including trematodes (Digenea), with focus on communities of larval stages in freshwater molluscs.

Planning to apply for projects, which will be mainly based on the evaluation of adequately processed material of both ecto and endoparasitic helminths, from freshwater fish of the various river basins of India. These specimens will be collected by Indian researchers or by joint teams of foreign and Indian research institutions during several expeditions. The worms found in freshly collected fish will be fixed for morphological, ultrastructural and molecular analyses. Successful implementation of the aforementioned project would open up new vistas and avenues whereby the mystery surrounding the biodiversity of hitherto unknown / ignored flatworm species of India would be revealed. Depending on its successful outcome, projects on parasite life cycle studies, bio- indicator species and identification of hosts from parasites (especially in the context of marine fauna) would be planned and executed. A full proof database including all endemic helminth species of the Indian sub-continent is an absolute necessity.

Beside the above mentioned plans also very much interested in wildlife biology based projects mainly related to mammals and birds.

### **Employment:**

<b>August 2016 – Present</b>	<b>Assistant Professor, Department of Zoology, University of Burdwan, Burdwan, West Bengal, India</b>
June 2012 – Jan 2013	Postdoctoral researcher, Institute of Parasitology, Biology Centre, ASCR České Budějovice, Czech Republic
June 2008 – June 2012	Research assistant, Institute of Parasitology, Biology Centre, ASCR České Budějovice, Czech Republic
Jan 2007 – June 2008	Honorary research fellow, Jhargram Raj College Jhargram, West Bengal, India
Jan 2006 – Dec 2006	Honorary research fellow, Darjeeling Govt. College Darjeeling, West Bengal, India

### **Fellowships or Scholarships:**

Nov 2015 – Aug 2016	Post Doctoral Fellowship of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (Zoological Survey of India)
June 2014	ICOPA Scholarship to attend ICOPA XIII from 10–15 August, 2014, in Mexico

June 2014	DST ITS Grant to attend – 8 <sup>th</sup> International Workshop for Cestode Systematics and Phylogeny from 18–22 August, 2014, in Brazil
Jan 2013 – Dec 2014	DBT RA (Post Doctoral) fellowship (independent funding coordinate by Prof. Muniyappa)
Jan 2012 – Dec 2012	Centre of Excellence (P505/12/G112 European Centre of Ichthyoparasitology)
Jan 2009 – Dec 2011	Research Centre, Ichthyoparasitology (LC522) Ministry of Education, Czech Republic
June 2008 – June 2012	PhD fellowship, Ministry of Education, Czech Republic

**Research stays abroad (Except Czech Republic):**

February – March 2012	Alain de Chambrier, Natural History Museum, Geneva Switzerland
26 <sup>th</sup> July – 9 <sup>th</sup> August 2011	Janine Caira, University of Connecticut, Storrs, USA
16 <sup>th</sup> – 25 <sup>th</sup> July 2011	Eric P. Hoberg, US National Parasite Collection, Beltsville, Maryland, USA
5 <sup>th</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup> November 2009	Alain de Chambrier, Natural History Museum, Geneva Switzerland

**Involvement in research project:**

Nov 2015 – Aug 2016	“Preparation of metadata of Indian fauna from Protista to Mammalia for digitization purpose” – Zoological Survey of India, MoEFCC, Govt. of India
Jan 2013 – Dec 2014	DBT granted RA project (independent funding) – “Isolation purification and characterization of potent bioactive phytoconstituents from medicinal plants possessing anthelmintic properties”
March 2009 – March 2011	Indian National Science Academy (INSA) – Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic (ASCR) Bilateral Exchange Programme – “Diversity, distribution and phylogenetic relationships of metazoan parasites (endohelminths) of freshwater and marine fish in India” (PI – Pradip Kumar Kar, Jhargram Raj College West Bengal, India and Tomáš Scholz, Institute of Parasitology České Budějovice, Czech Republic)

- June 2008 – June 2014      Planetary Biodiversity Inventory: a survey of tapeworms from vertebrate bowels of the earth, National Science Foundation USA (PBI award Nos. 0818696 and 0818823) (PI – Janine Caira, University of Connecticut USA). For details please visit: <http://tapeworms.uconn.edu/>
- June 2008 – June 2012      Czech Science Foundation (projects Nos. 524/08/0885 – Revision of the Caryophyllidea (Cestoda), and 206/09/H026 – Project to support PhD studies) (PI – Tomáš Scholz, Institute of Parasitology České Budějovice, Czech Republic)

### Research experience:

1. Several biodiversity surveys (field sampling) in Austria, Bangladesh, Czech Republic, India and Slovakia
2. Morphological and ultrastructural evaluation of parasites (Staining, histology, SEM preparation, TEM preparation)
3. Molecular taxonomy (DNA isolation, PCR amplification, cloning, sequencing, ML analyses)
4. Systematics and phylogeny of helminth parasites
5. Ecological experiments like prey-predator models, artificial life-cycle models; host-parasite models etc.
6. Chemical analysis of plant extract (HPLC, TLC); Chemotaxonomic studies

### Publications:

1. Aditya G., **Ash A.**, Saha G. K. (2006). Predatory activity of *Rhantus sikkimensis* and larvae of *Toxorhynchites splendens* on mosquito larvae in Darjeeling, India. *Journal of Vector Borne Diseases* **43**: 66–72 (IF in 2011 – 1.177)
2. **Ash A.**, de Chambrier A., Scholz T., Kar P. K. (2010) Redescription of *Vermaia pseudotropii*, a hyperapolytic freshwater tapeworm, and composition of *Vermaia* Nybelin, 1942 (Cestoda: Proteocephalidea). *Revue Suisse de Zoologie* **117**: 665–677 (IF – 1.04)
3. Moravec F., Scholz T., **Ash A.**, Kar P. K. (2010). New data on the morphology and taxonomy of three species of *Rhabdochona* (Nematoda: Rhabdochonidae) parasitizing fishes in India. *Folia Parasitologica* **57**: 395–406 (IF – 1.533)
4. **Ash A.**, Scholz T., Oros M., Kar P. K. (2011) Tapeworms (Cestoda: Caryophyllidea), parasites of *Clarias batrachus* (Pisces: Siluriformes) in the Indomalayan Region. *Journal of Parasitology* **97**: 435–459 (IF – 1.405)

5. Ash A., Scholz T., Oros M., Levron C., Kar P. K. (2011) Cestodes (Caryophyllidea) of the stinging catfish *Heteropneustes fossilis* (Siluriformes: Heteropneustidae) from Asia. *Journal of Parasitology* **97**: 899–907 (IF – 1.405)
6. de Chambrier A., Scholz T., Ash A., Kar P. K. (2011) *Ritacestus* n. gen. (Cestoda: Proteocephalidea) and redescription of *R. ritaii* n. comb., a parasite of *Rita rita* (Siluriformes) in India. *Folia Parasitologica*, **58**: 279–288 (IF – 1.812)
7. Yoneva A., Levron C., Ash A., Scholz T. (2012) Spermatological characters of monozoic tapeworms (Cestoda: Caryophyllidea), including first data on a species from the Indomalayan catfish. *Journal of Parasitology*, **98**: 423–430 (IF – 1.405)
8. Oros M., Ash A., Brabec J., Kar P. K., Scholz T. (2012). A new monozoic tapeworm, *Lobulovarium longiovatum* n. g., n. sp. (Cestoda: Caryophyllidea), from barbs *Puntius* spp. (Teleostei: Cyprinidae) in the Indomalayan region. *Systematic Parasitology*, **83**: 1–13 (IF – 1.250)
9. Ash A., Scholz T., de Chambrier A., Brabec J., Oros M., Kar P. K., Chavan S. P., Mariaux J. (2012). Revision of *Gangesia* (Cestoda: Proteocephalidea) in the Indomalayan Region: morphology, molecules and surface ultrastructure. *PLoS ONE*, **7**: e46421. DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0046421 (IF – 4.092)
10. Bharitkar Y. P., Hazra A., Poduria N. S. A., Ash A., Maulik P. R., Mondal N. B. (2014) Isolation, structural elucidation and cytotoxicity evaluation of a new pentahydroxypimarane diterpenoid along with other chemical constituents from *Aerva lanata*. *Natural Product Research*, DOI: 10.1080/14786419.2014.971794 (IF – 1.225)
11. Ash A., de Chambrier A., Shimazu T., Ermolenko A., Scholz T. (2015) An annotated list of the species of *Gangesia* Woodland, 1924 (Cestoda: Proteocephalidea), parasites of catfishes in Asia, with new synonyms and a key to their identification. *Systematic Parasitology*, **91**: 13–33 (IF – 1.250)

For more details please visit: [https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Anirban\\_Ash](https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Anirban_Ash)

### Presentations:

1. 17<sup>th</sup> Helminthological Days (Vranov, Czech Republic; 11–15 May 2009):  
Oral presentation – **Tapeworms (Cestoda: Caryophyllidea) of catfish, *Clarias batrachus*, in India: a big hurdle to overcome** (Second place in PhD student category)
2. 18<sup>th</sup> Helminthological Days (Rožnov pod Radhoštěm, Czech Republic; 10–14 May 2010):  
Poster – **Revision of tapeworms (Cestoda: Caryophyllidea), parasites of *Clarias batrachus* (Pisces: Siluriformes)**
3. 9<sup>th</sup> Slovak-Czech Parasitological Days (Liptovský Ján, Slovak Republic; 24–28 May 2010):  
Oral presentation – **Helminths of fresh-water fishes of India**
4. International Seminar on Recent Trends in Zoology (Jhargram Raj College, India; 8<sup>th</sup> March 2011): Oral presentation – **Freshwater fish cestodes of India: Systematics and phylogenetic relationships**

5. 19<sup>th</sup> Helminthological Days (Česká Kanada, Kunžak, Czech Republic; 9–13 May 2011):  
Invited talk – **Diversity of fish cestodes in India past, present and future**
6. VII<sup>th</sup> International Workshop on Cestode Systematics and Phylogeny (Lawrence, Kansas USA; 11–15 July 2011):  
Oral presentation – **Cestode systematics in India: current status and perspectives**
7. 10<sup>th</sup> Czech-Slovak Parasitological Days (Brno, Czech Republic; 28–31 May 2012):  
Poster – **Diversity of parasites of freshwater fishes in India: underestimation, exaggeration or both? Lesson from tapeworms** (Winner in PhD student category)
8. 8<sup>th</sup> International Workshop for Cestode Systematics and Phylogeny (São Sebastião, Sao Paulo, Brazil; 18–22 August, 2014): Poster – **Revision of *Gangesia* (Cestoda: Proteocephalidea), Parasites of Catfishes in Asia: Species Composition and Distribution**
9. XII<sup>th</sup> ICOPA (Mexico City, Mexico; 10–15 August, 2014): Electronic Posters –
  - **Efficacy of *Barringtonia* sp. and *Clerodendrum* sp against helminthes of medical and veterinary importance**
  - **Anthelmintic efficacy of SQDG, a glycolipid isolated from *Azadirachta indica***