

Piyasa Mal, Ph.D. Scholar

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Date of Birth: 26/03/1998

Name of supervisor: Prof. Nandita Saikia



Education

- Sep 2021 – present] **Ph.D., International Institute for Population Science, Mumbai.**
Thesis title: *Gender roles among matrilineal and patrilineal tribal women and their health.*
- 2020 - 2021] **Masters in Population Studies (MPS), International Institute for Population Science**
- 2018 – 2020] **M.A. Geography, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.**
- 2015 – 2018] **B.Sc. Geography, University of Calcutta.**

Research Publications

Journal Articles

- ✚ P. Mal, N. Saikia, "Cultural persistence in health-seeking behaviour: a mixed-method study of traditional healing practices among Garo tribal women in Meghalaya, India." *Journal of Biosocial Science*. Published online 2025:1-20. doi:[10.1017/S0021932025000094](https://doi.org/10.1017/S0021932025000094)
- ✚ P. Mal, N. Saikia, "Disparity by Caste and Tribe: Understanding women's empowerment and health outcomes in India," *Social Science & Medicine*, vol. 354, 2024, doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.socscimed.2024.117074>
- ✚ P. Mal, N. Saikia, "Empowering tribal women: a comparative analysis of matrilineal and patrilineal societies in India," *Cogent Social Sciences*, vol. 10, 2024, doi: [10.1080/23311886.2024.2360172](https://doi.org/10.1080/23311886.2024.2360172)
- ✚ M. Adhikari, P. Mal and N. Saikia, "Exploring the link between particulate matter pollution and acute respiratory infection risk in children using generalized estimating equations analysis: a robust statistical approach," *Environmental Health*, vol. 23, 2024, doi: [10.1186/s12940-024-01049-3](https://doi.org/10.1186/s12940-024-01049-3)
- ✚ P. Mal, U. Ram, "First 72-hours after birth: Newborn feeding practices and neonatal mortality in India", *PLOS One*, vol. 18, 2023, doi: [10.1371/journal.pone.0292353](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0292353)
- ✚ C. Kumar, Piyasa, N. Saikia, "An update on explaining the rural-urban gap in under-five mortality in India," *BMC Public Health*, vol. 22, 2022, doi: [10.1186/s12889-022-14436-7](https://doi.org/10.1186/s12889-022-14436-7)

Conference attended

International

Population Association of America, 2023, New Orleans, Louisiana, USA

Population Association of Singapore, 2024, Singapore

35th International Geographical Congress, 2024, Dublin, Ireland

6th Asian Population Association, 2024, Kathmandu, Nepal

National

Indian Association for the Study of Population (IASP) regional conference, 2022, Kashmir

Indian Association for the Study of Population (IASP) National Conference, 2022, Udaipur

Software skills

Ms Office, STATA, SPSS, ArcGIS, QGIS, GEODA, ATLAS Ti.

Area of interest

Tribal women, tribal health, women's health, gender and health, child health

Awards and Achievements

Honoured with Dr. C. Chandrasekaran **Gold Medal** for securing first rank in MPS 2020-21 batches from International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS), Mumbai, India.

Government of India Fellowship for during MPS Course 2020-21 in International Institute for Population Sciences.

Qualified for **Junior Research Fellowship (JRF)** in Population Studies and eligible for Assistant Professor in the National Eligibility Test (UGC-NET) in November 2020.

Qualified for **Junior Research Fellowship (JRF)** in Geography and eligible for Assistant Professor in the National Eligibility Test (UGC-NET) in July 2019.