

Curriculum Vitae

Dr. Piyasa Mal

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Mob: 8697558471

Date of Birth: 26th March 1998

Sex: Female



Education

Sep 2021 – Nov 2025	PhD in Population Studies, International Institute for Population Science, Mumbai. Thesis title: <i>Empowerment, Time Use and Health Outcomes of Tribal Women: A Comparative Study of Patrilineal and Matrilineal Systems in Assam and Meghalaya.</i>
2020 - 2021	Masters in Population Studies (MPS), International Institute for Population Science
2018 – 2020	M.A. Geography, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Specialisation in Population Geography
2015 – 2018	B.Sc. Geography, Lady Brabourne College, University of Calcutta.

Work Experience

Research Associate [Nov 2025 – April 2026]

Humanities and Social Science Department, National Institute of Technology, Rourkela. Sponsored Project: NEXUS (Population Service International)

- Trained field investigators on survey tools, ethical protocols, and data collection methods.
- Monitored fieldwork operations to ensure data quality, consistency, and adherence to study protocols.
- Managed and cleaned primary datasets to ensure accuracy and readiness for analysis.
- Conducted qualitative data analysis

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

- Oral paper presented entitled “Health at the Margins: Systemic and Cultural Barriers to Care among Tribal Women in Meghalaya, India” at **Network for Education and Research on Peace and Sustainability (NERPS)**, Tokyo, Japan. 4-7 March 2026.
- Oral paper presented entitled “The Role of Societal Lineage Structure and Work Burden on Women’s Self-Rated Health: Insight from Matrilineal and Patrilineal Tribal Society Using Time Use Survey” at the **30th International Population Conference (IPC)** 2025, Brisbane, Australia. 13-18 July 2025.
- Poster presented entitled “Women’s Daily Work Profiles and Time Allocation: Insights from Indian Matrilineal and Patrilineal Tribal Societies” at the **6th Asian Population Association (APA)**, Kathmandu, Nepal. 27-30 November 2024.
- Poster presented entitled “Dependency on Traditional Medicines and Women’s Health Issues: A Qualitative Exploration among Indigenous Garo Tribes” at the **35th International Geographical Congress (IGC)**, Dublin, Ireland. 25-30 August 2024.
- Oral paper presented entitled “Women's Empowerment in Matrilineal and Patrilineal Tribal Families: Evidence from Northeast India” at the **Population Association of Singapore (PAS)**, Singapore. 16-17 May 2024.
- Poster presented entitled “First 3 days of breastfeeding practice and its association with neonatal mortality in India” at **Population Association of America (PAA)**, New Orleans, Louisiana, USA. 13-16 April 2023.
- Oral paper presented entitled “Caste differentials in women’s empowerment in India and its association with using hygienic methods of protection during the menstrual period: Evidence from NFHS-5 (2019-21)” at the **Population Association of America (PAA)**, New Orleans, Louisiana, USA. 13-16 April 2023.

National

- Oral paper presented entitled “Rural Urban gap in Neonatal Mortality in India” at the **Indian Association for the Study of Population (IASP) National Conference**, Udaipur. 1-3 December 2022.
- Oral paper presented entitled “Breastfeeding Practice in North India: Evidence from NFHS 5” at the **Indian Association for the Study of Population (IASP) regional conference**, Kashmir. 29-30 September 2022.

Awards and Achievements

- Best poster award at the Population Association of America (PAA) 2023.
- Honoured with Dr C. Chandrasekaran Gold Medal for securing first rank in the MPS 2020-21 batch from the 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.

Web Pages

- ResearchGate <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Piyasa-Mal>
- Google Scholar <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=G9gb8JIAAAAJ&hl=en>
- ORCID <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8800-6770>
- LinkedIn <https://www.linkedin.com/in/piyasa-mal-21a435313/?originalSubdomain=in>

Fieldwork

- Empowerment, Time Use and Health Outcomes of Tribal Women: A Comparative Study of Patrilineal and Matrilineal Systems in Assam and Meghalaya 2022.
- Mapping Glacial Geomorphology and Social Capital in Upper Bhaga Basin, Lahul Himalaya, Himachal Pradesh, 2019
- Physico-Cultural Profile of Sonamuihi village, Purba Medinipur, 2017.

Data Expertise

- Census of India
- National Family Health Survey (NFHS)
- National Sample Survey (NSS)
- Longitudinal Ageing Study in India (LASI)

Recommendations

- Prof. Nandita Saikia, PhD Supervisor, Department of Public Health and Mortality Studies, IIPS Mumbai. Email: nanditasts@gmail.com, Ph: 022 42372455
- Prof. Kailash Chandra Das, Department of Migration and Urban Studies, IIPS Mumbai, Email: kailash.das@iipsindia.ac.in, Ph: 022 42372424

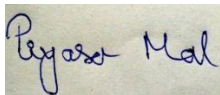
Membership & Volunteering

- ☐ Student member and volunteer at the International Institute for Population Sciences Alumni Association (IIPSAA)
- ☐ Student member at the Asian Population Association
- ☐ Student member at the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP)

Country Visited

United States of America, Singapore, Ireland, Nepal, Australia, Japan

Declaration

A handwritten signature in blue ink on a light-colored background. The signature appears to read "Piyasa Mal".

I hereby certify that the information provided above is accurate.