

Ramkrishna Bhattacharya



He is an eminent exponent of Carvaka/Lokayata, the ancient school of Indian materialism. He was born on 10 December 1947 in Calcutta. He did his B.A (Hons.in English) (1966), M.A (1968), and Ph.D (1986) from University of Calcutta.

He was Reader, Department of English, Ananda Mohan College, Kolkata, from where he retired on 31 December 2007. He was also a Guest Lecturer, Post-Graduate Studies in English, University College of Arts and Commerce, University of Calcutta, Kolkata (retired after 2006-07 session).

He was an Emeritus Fellow in English, University Grants Commission, New Delhi during 2009-11 and a Visiting Professor, Indian Council of Philosophical Research, New Delhi, during 2009-10.

Major works

Studies on the Carvaka/Lokayata

It is a scientific study of the Carvaka/Lokayata, the materialist system of philosophy that flourished in ancient India between the eighth and twelfth centuries CE, and which has since disappeared. Despite the paucity of material relating to the Carvaka, a reconstruction of its basic tenets reveals it to be the lone contender standing against the perceived binary of pro-Vedic Brahminical schools on the one hand, and the non-Vedic Buddhist and Jain schools on the other.