REPORT WEBINAR INDIAN NATIONALISM: REVISITING THE PAST 2022

Purpose and Participation

A state level webinar was organized by the Political Science and History departments of Government General Degree College, Mangalkote in association with the IQAC on the 27th of August 2022, to celebrate the completion of 75th year of Indian Independence. The broad theme of the webinar was reconstruction and rethinking of the various nuances of nationalism that have long been neglected by the Indian intelligentsia. For many years the major focus, while discussing the national struggle for freedom, centered around the mainstream ideas and ideologies. These ideas and ideologies typically consisted of the rightist and leftist paradigms, the colonially enforced racial animosity, the oppressive colonial policies, the framing of an independent national future and most importantly the mainstream freedom movements. But a deeper look into the matter brings to the fore a whole realm of independent movements and struggles which though localized and regional in character, nonetheless made huge impact. In this particular webinar we were trying to identify such movements and efforts that need special mention in Indian history. The main purpose of the webinar was to bring to the undergraduate students an understanding of our local history and politics and their influence on the anti-colonial struggle. A total of 53 participants attended the webinar which included both students and teachers. Of these 53 participants 15 were male and 38 were female.

Questions	Excellent (100%)	Good (75%)	Fair (50%)	Poor (25%)
The content delivery	45%	21%	8%	<1%
The percentage of new information	37%	54%	9%	-
Speakers'	65%	37%	-	-

Table showing the responses of the participants:

Knowledge				
Expectations Met	37%	60%	-	-
Overall Experience	57%	40%	-	-

45% of the participants responded that the content delivery of the topics discussed in the webinar by the respected speakers was excellent, while 21% opined that it was good and 8% thought it to be fairly good. 37% of the respondents were of the opinion that 100% of the information contained in the webinar was new to them. While 54% opined that about 75% of the facts were new to them. A majority of the respondents was highly appreciative of the speakers' knowledge about the theme of the webinar and 57% were of the opinion that the overall experience was excellent.

Dr. Suman Mukherjee

Dr. Mukherjee dealt with the forgotten episode of Birbhum's contribution to the Indian national movement. In particular he introduced us to the cottage industry of the Birbhum district of West Bengal and the history of *Amar Kutir*. Founded by revolutionary Sushen Mukherjee in 1927 initially it served as a place for refuge for the activists of the national movement. At that time the place was frequented by the likes of Rabindranath Tagore and Gandhiji. It was a meeting place for the revolutionaries planning on their next course of action. All these history as narrated by Dr Mukherjee shed light on the neglected parts of Bengal's history and the students were definitely enlightened by his lecture. *Amar Kutir* now is a special attraction in Bolepur even among foreign nationals not only for its history but also as a local initiative to encourage cottage industry and small scale business. It looks after and promotes local arts and craft and the cultural heritage of rural Bengal.

Sayoni Choudhuri Patra

Professor Patra talked elaborately about the significance of the Sylhet Referendum of 1947 whose main purpose was to decide that whether the Sylhet district of the Assam province of British India would remain in Assam as a part of post-independence India or would join East Bengal and thus the dominion of Pakistan. The referendum as it turned out was in favour of Sylhet going to Pakistani dominion with the exception of Karimganj subdivision, that would remain in Assam. Professor Choudhuri pointed out here of the sensitivity of the issue that was completely ignored by our colonial masters. The Radcliffe Line gave a Muslim-majority area that was Karimganj to India whereas many of Sylhet's hindumajority areas went to Pakistan. Colonial political activities and decisions have played with people's emotions and have led to their social disruption-these facts were eloquently stated by Ms Choudhuri Patra.



Government of West Bengal Office of the Principal GOVERNMENT GENERAL DEGREE COLLEGE AT MANGALKOTE PANCHANANTALA, KHUDRUN DIGHI, MANGALKOTE DISTRICT – PURBA BARDHAMAN; WEST BENGAL; PIN CODE - 713132

No. 67/22

Date 12/08/2022

NOTICE

This is to notify all concerned that an inter-departmental webinar has been organized by the History and Political Science departments of Government General Degree College Mangalkote, in collaboration with the IQAC, to be held on 27th of August, 2022 (Saturday) 6 pm onwards, keeping in view the 75th year of Indian Independence. All further details will be provided shortly through a flyer.

All the faculty members are requested to remain present at the aforementioned programme.

Dr. Pradipta Kumar Basu Officer-in-Charge

Debug Biswal

Dr. Debraj Biswal Coordinator, IQAC

Hirak hr. Sinhe Mahe Patra.

Mr. Hirak Kumar Sinha Mahapatra Head, Dept of History

Madhumita Chakraberty

Ms Madhumita Chakraborty Head, Dept of Political Science







