

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

ANNUAL REPORT 2023 - 2024

The academic session 2023-2024 started with the Orientation of the new batch of students in the first semester. This orientation, held on 02/08/2023, was significant as the New Education Policy had been implemented, so the students had to be made familiar with the nitty-gritties of the new system. The regular classes for the first semester started from the 07/08/2024, and the number of students admitted to the Department of History was 91.

On 2nd November 2023 the Department hosted the inauguration of its club – **"HISTORIA ODYSSEY CONSORTIUM"** which was the brain child of the students of the department and had received the approval of the faculty and the blessings of the principal **Rev. Fr. Dr. Donatus Kujur**. The inaugural lecture was delivered by **Mr. Chepal Sherpa**, Assistant Professor Sushil Kar College, University of Calcutta on the topic **"Ascending from Earth to Heaven: Arguing in political subject as against subaltern politics."** The other guest speaker was **Mr. Salim Subba**, Pijush Kanti Mishra Mahavidyalaya College who spoke on the topic **"Labour and Protest: Remembering the 1955 Saal Ko Aandolan Tea Plantation of Darjeeling Hills"**.



Inauguration OF HISTORIA ODYSSEY CONSORTIUM

After the lecture the members of the board were named:



HISTORIA ODYSSEY CONSORTIUM founding board

1. **GENUINE ISWARARI** [PRESIDENT]
2. **SURAKCHA SUBBA** [VICE PRESIDENT]
3. **RUHYE NISHA** [SECRETARY]
4. **CHODEN BHUTIA** [DEPUTY SECRETARY]
5. **NITESH KR. SHARMA** [TREASURER]
6. **PRATIK PRADHAN** [EDITOR]
7. **PARASH CHETTRI** [EDITOR]
8. **GAURAV THAKUR** [EVENT MANAGER]
9. **SURAJ LAMA** [EVENT MANAGER]
10. **SAURAV LEPCHA** [EVENT MANAGER]

On the fourth of November 2023 the Department had hosted farewell program for **Mr. Salim Subba**, who had been an integral part of the teaching faculty since the year 2018. He had qualified CSC and been appointed as Assistant Professor Pijus Kanti Mishra Mahavidyalay College, Alipurduar. He was felicitated for his dedicated service to the college and the department in particular.



Mr. Salim Subba

The **NSS** Committee had organised a Blood Donation Camp in the college premises 6th of November 2023. Seven students from the department had donated blood towards this noble effort. The donors included:

From the 5th semester

- **Gaurav Thakur**
- **Soyam Lama**
- **Kaveri Thami**

From the 3rd semester

- **Pritika Rai**
- **Lawrence Rai**
- **Shaleen Hang Rai**
- **Phurba Sangay Sherpa**



Mr. Gaurav Thakur donating his blood



Mr. Shakher Chettri, former alumni of the Department joined as the new part time teacher, in place of **Mr. Salim Subba**, from the 21st of November 2023.

The University Exams for the odd semester had started from the 1st of December 2023 following which the college closed for the Winter vacations from the 22nd of December 2023. The college reopened on the 19th February 2024 for the new academic session and classes for the even semester started in earnest.

EDUCATION TOUR

The student from the 4th and 6th semester of the Department had visited Kolkata, Tamil Nadu and Kerala on an educational Heritage Tour – 6th-20th February 2024. The teacher accompanying them was **Rev. Fr. Dr. KJ Joseph** and **MS. Priyanka Mukhia**, a former alumni of the college was the lady escort. The group visited places like **THE INDIAN MUSEUM, VICTORIA MEMORIAL** in Kolkata. From Kolkata the tour group proceeded to Chennai (Tamil Nadu) where they visited **LOYOLA COLLEGE**.



THE VICTORIA MEMORIAL



SRI PADMANABHASWAMY TEMPLE

The students participated in an interactive session with the faculty of Loyola College, particularly with the Faculty of the Department of History on various topics including higher education. From Chennai the tour group proceeded to Kerala where they visited forts, palaces and temples like **THE SRI PADMANABHASWAMY TEMPLE** and **THE PADMANABHAPURAM PALACE**.



PADMANABHAPURAM PALACE

The college had hosted the Inter District State Athletic Meet from the 5th to 7th of March 2024. **Mr. Riwaj Gurung** of the Department of History was the Secretary of the committee organizing the event. In a proud moment for the Department **Ms. Deepa Bishwakarma**, 2nd semester student won the Bronze medal in the Broad Jump category.



MS. DEEPA BISHWAKARMA RECEIVING BRONZE MEDAL FROM V.P.



MR. SALIM SUBBA GUEST LECTURER

A special lecture had been conducted by the department in 27/03/2024 and guest speaker **Mr. Salim Subba**, Assistant Professor Pijus Kanti Mishra Mahavidyalay College, Alipurduar, delivered an enlightening talk on the topic – “Exploring urban dynamics in colonial North Bengal: The case of Siliguri, Darjeeling and Jalpaiguri.”

On the 12th and 13th of April a multi-faceted, vibrant event **Vibes De Vista** had been organised within the college premises the HISTORIA ODYSSEY CONSORTIUM had put up a games stall which was a raging success. **Ms. Meechen Tamang**, 4th semester had participated in the group dance competition at the same event and won the first position.



H.O.C. GAMES STALL



NUMISMATIC EXHIBITION

The HISTORIA ODYSSEY CONSORTIUM in collaboration with **Dr. Saibal Sengupta** of St. Roberts Higher Secondary School, Darjeeling organised a **NUMISMATIC EXHIBITION** in the college on 3rd May 2024. Coins of Pre-independence and Republican India were on display along with coins of Nepal and Bhutan. The exhibition was a success with the entire college visiting the exhibition and gaining new information and perspective on rare coins.

FACULTY ACTIVITIES

Ms. Sumanta Pariyar participated in and successfully completed a two week refresher course on social and cultural context in Indian history from 09th to 23rd November 2023 organised by Ramanujan College, University of Delhi.

Mr. Shakher Chettri participated and successfully completed the NEP 2020 Orientation and Sensitization Program under Malaviya Mission teachers training programme (MM-TTP) of University Grants Commission organised by the University of North Bengal.

CHALLENGES

The implementation of FYUGP was accompanied by a new set of challenges for the teaching faculty of the Department. As the CBCS was also an ongoing one the teaching schedules of each faculty member had to be meticulously worked out with the introduction of new topics and papers there has to be redistribution of syllabus in such a manner that no one teacher would be overburdened so careful planning had to be carried out.

FUTURE PLANS

Several aspects have to be kept in mind regarding future planning of the Department. The Department needs to be upgraded and facilities need to be expanded with regard to bigger Classrooms, Library, ITC. This would help to accommodate larger numbers of students gaining admission under FYUGP and help facilitate advance learning and research. There should be close and transparent collaboration between the administration and the Department which would advance dynamic an effective teaching, learning process.