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NEW ALIPORE COLLEGE

GOVT. SPONSORED • NAAC ACCREDITED - GRADE B⁺ • ISO Certified (IN12629A)

NEW ALIPORE, KOLKATA-700 053

E-mail : newaliporecollege@yahoo.co.in • Website : www.newaliporecollege.ac.in

Ref. No.

Date

BEST PRACTICE 1 : TAPPING THE MULTI LINGUAL RESOURCES OF INDIA

The context that required the initiation of the practice (100 – 120 words)

The teachers, students and non teaching staff of New Alipore College come from diverse linguistic, regional and cultural backgrounds and these could lead to the creation and development of a multi lingual / multi cultural space within the College. We have three Departments that teach Language and Literature viz. Bengali, English and Sanskrit and have faculty members whose vernacular is Hindi, Santhali and of course Bengali. In consonance with our vision of INCLUDE INGITE AND INNOVATE, we decided to create a space of interaction and engagement whether cultural or linguistic. The need to break strict barriers between disciplines and cultures necessitated the initiation and continuation of this practice. A cell named " Bhasa Sangam : Tapping the Multilingual Resources in India" has been established on 25th April 2022 with following objectives:

1. Identification of language resources on the campus.
2. To develop and maintain a database of multilingual resources available on campus and to increase awareness and access to multilingual resources available on campus, including academic and cultural resources.
3. To facilitate language learning and exchange opportunities among students, faculty and staff members by wall magazines and discussion groups.
4. To host language-specific study groups and conversation practice/sensitisation sessions

Objectives of the practice (50 – 60 words)

- To make literature and culture of one language accessible to another individual who is not a speaker / reader of that source language
- To develop the spirit, 'know your neighbor'.
- To grow and develop a Translation Studies Centre where texts from Indian vernaculars can be translated to other languages and English
- To make classic texts in Indian Languages especially Sanskrit available in translation
- To give new voice and space to languages like Santhali




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The Practice (250 – 300 words)

Our faculty members regularly engage themselves in translation exercises from Bangla to English. An English translation of a book of historical tales written in Bangla by Abanindranath Tagore *Rajkahini* has been translated into English as *Rajkahini : Princely Tales from Rajasthan* by the efforts of many faculty members of the College and elsewhere .and is being published by Sahitya Akademi. Individual faculty members and also the Principal are engaged in translation projects and act as Resource persons in Translation Centres including the Centre for Translation .Our Principal Jaydeep Sarangi has been instrumental in translating many texts of dalit and non dalit Literature into English, latest being, *A Life Uprooted: A Bengali Dalit Refugee Remembers* , Sahitya Akademi, 2022. Our senior faculty in the Department of English has translated Children's Literature texts like Pagla Dasu of Sukumar Ray and Shakuntala of Abanindranath Tagore into English. We are having Santhali poems translated into English and Bangla from the College. Plans are on to include Hindi in the list of Languages from which we will translate. Our teachers from the Sanskrit Department also help in the translations. We involve students in the translation exercises and have classics available in the vernacular. The students of the Department of English have translated a Latin text Pot of Gold by Plautus into Bengali.


Obstacles faced if any and strategies adopted to overcome them (150 – 200 words)

One of the major obstacles in any exercise is always time. But all our faculty members and students have given their best in the middle of pressures of Semester Examinations and various academic and administrative duties.

Impact of the practice (100 – 120 words)

An English translation of a book of historical tales written in Bangla by Abanindranath Tagore *Rajkahini* has been translated into English as *Rajkahini : Princely Tales from Rajasthan* by the efforts of many faculty members of the College and elsewhere and has been published by Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi.




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