



**Three-day regional workshop on**

***“Women Empowerment and Transformation in India in  
Context of Raja Ram Mohan Roy’s Reforms”***

Organized by

**Ananya Institute for Development Research and Social Action, Lucknow (U.P.)**

*In collaboration with*

**New Alipore College, Kolkata**

[Date: May 4 – 6, 2023 at New Alipore College, Kolkata]

**Sponsored By:  
Ministry of Culture  
Government of India, New Delhi**



## Report of the Programme

### **Introduction:**

Raja Ram Mohan Roy (1772-1833) was a social reformer and identified as India's greatest feminist, He was at the forefront to liberate women against social injustices such as female infanticide, child marriage, polygamy, purdah, and sati. He was the founder of the Indian Renaissance Movement and his efforts led to the banning of the "Sati Pratha", the granting of inheritance rights to women, and the promotion of women's education as being equally essential to that of males. Also, he was a freedom warrior, the creator of the Indian language press and the founder of the Brahmo Samaj, and a reporter for the Jana Jagaran. Recognizing his social contributions, the British Government bestowed him with the title "The Father of the Bengal Renaissance". Likewise, King Akbar Shah II, the Mughal Emperor of Delhi, awarded him with the title "Raja" and Nobel laureate, Rabindranath Tagore referred to Raja Ram Mohan Roy as "Bharat Pathik". Raja Ram Mohan Roy's contributions to social reform of women, their education, and empowerment are still very relevant today and also are the founding aspirations of the Indian Constitution. Against this backdrop and to commemorate the 250th birth anniversary of **Raja Ram Mohan Roy in Women Empowerment and Transformation in New India** is being organized by **Ananya Institute for Development Research and Social Action, Lucknow Uttar Pradesh**, in collaboration with **New Alipore College, Kolkata** under the auspices of **Ministry of Culture, Government of India, New Delhi** to discuss and deliberate upon the pertinent issues, dimensions and aspects of women empowerment and transformation in India in the context of commemoration of Raja Ram Mohan Roy.

### **Objectives of Workshop:**

- To highlight the concept of social reforms of Raja Ram Mohan Roy and its impact on modern India
- To examine the role and contribution of Raja Ram Mohan Roy in the eradication of women-related social unjust and the resultant women's development and transformation.
- To highlight gender perspective in the development and governance of modern India
- To examine the status of women and their participation in the development process, decision-making, and socio-economic and educational empowerment of women
- To examine the government policy initiatives, schemes, and programs for the empowerment of women as well as their main-streaming in development and governance.

### **Venue:**

The programme was held at New Alipore College, Kolkata, West Bengal, India. The boarding and lodging facilities for the participants and resource persons were provided in a guest house.

## **Duration & Dates:**

Three-Day Workshop was organized on 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> May, 2023 at New Alipore College, Kolkata, West Bengal, India.

## **Programme:**

In view of the objectives of the workshop, programme schedule was prepared (See Annexure- I).

## **Participation:**

Overall 100 participants attended the workshop. The participants included officials of different government departments and organizations. Besides this representatives of civil society organizations had also attended the workshop. List of participants is shown in Annexure-II.



Participants attending the regional level workshop

## **Seminar Director:**

- ✚ Dr. A. K. Singh, Director, Ananya Institute for Development Research and Social Action, Lucknow (U.P.)
- ✚ Dr. Jaydeep Sarangi, Principal, New Alipore College, New Alipore, Kolkata.

## **Workshop Coordinator:**

- ✚ Smt. Jayita Dutta, HOD, Department of Philosophy, New Alipore College.

## **Workshop Organizing Secretary:**

- ✚ Dr. Aniruddha Kar, HOD, Department of Sanskrit, New Alipore College.

## **Resource Persons:**

- ✚ Dr. A. K. Singh, Director, Ananya Institute for Development Research and Social Action, Lucknow
- ✚ Dr. A. P. Singh, Director of Ram Mohan Foundation, Kolkata
- ✚ Dr. Purna Chandra Maity, President All Bengal Principals' Council
- ✚ Sri Debashish Kumar, Honorable MLA, Rash Behari Constituency, Kolkata
- ✚ Prof. Sumita Chakrabarti, Former Dean of Arts, Commerce and Management Faculties, University of Burdwan
- ✚ Prof. A. K. Panda, Vice Chancellor, Sadhu Ramchand University, Jhargram, West Bengal
- ✚ Ms. Kalyani Thakur Charal, Social Activist and Noted Writer, Kolkata
- ✚ Prof. A. P. Singh, Department of Social Work, Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar College, University of Delhi, Delhi
- ✚ Dr. Sarup Prasad Ghose, Director, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies (MAKAIAS), (An Autonomous Body under the Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India)
- ✚ Dr. Swapan Kumar Panda, Associate Professor of Bengali, Gurudas College, Kolkata
- ✚ Prof. B. Ghosh, Department of Sociology, Burdwan University, West Bengal
- ✚ Dr. Jayanta Chowdhury, Associate Prof. Department of Rural Development, Tripura University, Agartala and Secretary, General GFSRD
- ✚ Dr. Mahua Mukherjee, Professor of Dance, Rabindra Bharati University
- ✚ Dr. Ashis Giri, Director, Eastern Zonal Cultural Centre, Kolkata
- ✚ Dr. Probal Roy Choudhury, Professor, Department of English, Director, Centre for New India Studies, Sister Nivedita University
- ✚ Prof. Samar Biswas, Deptt. of Anthropology, North Bengal University, West Bengal
- ✚ Shri S. Chatterjee, Former Principal Secretary, Government of Assam and India Representative Asian Development Bank, Present GFSRD
- ✚ Jackson Dukpa, Founder and President Global Village Connection, Bhutan

## Workshop Proceedings

**Day -1: May 4, 2023:**

### **Inaugural Session:**

Ananya Institute for Development Research and Social Action, Lucknow in collaboration with New Alipore College, Kolkata organized a 'Regional Workshop' on 'Women Empowerment and Transformation in India in Context of Raja Ram Mohan Roy's Reforms' on 4th -6<sup>th</sup> May, 2023 in New Alipore College Auditorium to commemorate the 250th birth anniversary of Raja Ram Mohan Roy (1772-1833), the Father of Indian Renaissance. The workshop has been sponsored by the Ministry of Culture, Government of India. Dr. A.K Singh, Prof. Ajay Pratap Singh, Dr. Purna Chandra Maity, Prof. Sumita Chakraborti, Prof.A.K. Panda and Ms. Kalyani Thakur Charal , Shri Debashis Kumar graced the occasion.



Glimpses of the inaugural session

## Welcome Address:

Dr. Jaydeep Sarangi, the Principal of New Alipore College, delivered the welcome address, emphasizing the importance of Raja Ram Mohan Roy's contributions to Indian society. His speech, filled with passion and knowledge, captivated the audience and set the tone for an insightful and thought-provoking event. Dr. Sarangi commenced his address by expressing his gratitude to all the distinguished guests, scholars, and participants who had gathered to explore the legacy of Raja Ram Mohan Roy and its impact on the empowerment of women in India. He emphasized the significance of discussing and acknowledging the contributions of historical figures like Raja Ram Mohan Roy in the present context, where women's empowerment has become a crucial focus area. Drawing attention to Raja Ram Mohan Roy's visionary ideals, Dr. Sarangi highlighted his tireless efforts in advocating for women's rights and social reforms during the early 19th century. He elaborated on how Raja Ram Mohan Roy challenged the prevailing orthodox customs and traditions that restricted women's freedom and perpetuated gender inequality. By advocating for widow remarriage, opposing child marriage, and promoting women's education, Raja Ram Mohan Roy played a pivotal role in initiating the process of women's empowerment in India.



Dr. Jaydeep Sarangi, Principal, New Alipore College greetings and welcoming the delegates

## Felicitation Programme

In this session all distinguished guests, seminar directors, chief guest, inaugural speaker, key note speakers were felicitate with Workshop memento, Flowers, Shawl, Welcome kit of the workshop, and a small memento cup. Some glimpses of the felicitation programme is presented below:



Felicitation of Dr. A.P.Singh



Felicitation of Dr. S.K.Panda



Felicitation of Kalyani Thakur Charal



Felicitation of Dr. A.K. Singh



Felicitation of Dr. A.K.Panda



Felicitation of Dr. P.C. Maity

## Rammohan Roy Award Ceremony:

In this session Rammohan Roy Awards were provided to some distinguished Professor, Social worker, Activists who work following the philosophy of Raja Rammohan Roy.



**Lifetime Achievement Award, 2023**



**Outstanding social Activist Award, 2023**



**Outstanding Literary Award 2023**



## Inaugural Speech:

Sri Debasish Kumar, Honorable MLA, inaugurated the workshop. He talked about the significance of Raja Ram Mohan Roy in interpreting religion through scientific intervention for the first time in colonial India. He highlighted Raja Ram Mohan Roy's visionary ideas, which aimed to bring about a progressive shift in the Indian society of that time. He emphasized that Raja Ram Mohan Roy was a staunch advocate of women's rights and actively worked towards dismantling social norms and practices that restricted their empowerment. Sri Debasish Kumar emphasized that Raja Ram Mohan Roy's efforts were crucial in challenging the prevailing customs that oppressed women and impeded their progress. A key aspect of Raja Ram Mohan Roy's work, as highlighted in the speech, was his approach to interpreting religion through scientific intervention. He recognized that religion, while an integral part of Indian society, was often misinterpreted and used as a tool to perpetuate discrimination and subjugation. To counter this, Raja Ram Mohan Roy employed scientific reasoning and logic to challenge regressive religious practices that hindered women's rights. Sri Kumar stressed that Raja Ram Mohan Roy's tireless efforts in religious reform played a pivotal role in shaping the discourse around gender equality. By emphasizing the inherent equality of all individuals, irrespective of gender, Raja Ram Mohan Roy laid the foundation for women's empowerment in India. He worked towards eradicating practices such as Sati (the burning of widows), child marriage, and the purdah system, which marginalized and subjugated women.



Sri Debasish Kumar, Honourable MLA, addressing participants

## Speech of the Workshop Director:

Dr. A.K. Singh, the Director of Ananya Institute for Development Research and Social Action, Lucknow, delivered a speech emphasizing the importance of the workshop and its relevance in the present times. He highlighted that Raja Ram Mohan Roy was the first Indian feminist thinker. He acknowledged Raja Ram Mohan Roy's tireless efforts in advocating for women's rights, education, and social upliftment. He highlighted that Raja Rammohan Roy was the first feminist thinker of India. Dr. Singh highlighted the need to revisit Roy's ideas and analyze their applicability in the current context of women's empowerment and transformation in India. He emphasized the workshop's role in promoting dialogue, sharing ideas, and formulating strategies to address the challenges faced by women in contemporary society.



Dr. A.K. Singh, Director, Ananya Institute for Development Research and Social Action, Lucknow addressing participants

## Speech of the Chief guests: Prof. Ajay Pratap Singh

Chief Guest, Prof. Ajay Pratap Singh, Director General, Raja Ram Mohan Roy Library Foundation delivered his thought-provoking talk on the role of Raja Ram Mohan Roy in Indian Renaissance. He outlined the historical context of Raja Ram Mohan Roy's era, highlighting the prevailing social, cultural, and religious conditions in colonial India. Prof. Singh emphasized that Raja Ram Mohan Roy was a visionary thinker who challenged traditional norms and fought against social evils, especially those perpetuated by orthodox religious practices. Prof. Singh further discussed Raja Ram Mohan Roy's efforts in promoting social reforms, with a specific focus on the abolition of Sati, the practice of widow burning. He shed light on the relentless campaign led by Raja Ram Mohan Roy to ban this inhumane practice, which ultimately resulted in the passage of the Bengal Sati Regulation Act in 1829. The chief guest praised Raja Ram Mohan Roy's determination and courage in the face of staunch opposition from conservative elements of society. Furthermore, Prof. Singh highlighted Raja Ram Mohan Roy's significant contributions to the education system in India. He spoke about the establishment of the Hindu College in Calcutta (now Kolkata) and its transformation into Presidency College, which laid the foundation for modern education in the country. The speaker also touched upon Raja Ram Mohan Roy's support for women's education and his efforts to promote the study of English and vernacular languages.



Prof. Ajay Pratap Singh, Director General, Raja Ram Mohan Roy Library Foundation addressing participants

## Speech by Special Guest: Dr. Purna Chandra Maity

Dr. Purna Chandra Maity, President, All Bengal Principals' Council, West Bengal. In his speech, Dr. Maity expressed his deep reverence for Raja Ram Mohan Roy, hailing him as the 'Avatar of God.' He highlighted that Raja Ram Mohan Roy, an eminent social reformer and philosopher, played a pivotal role in the Indian Renaissance, a period of intellectual, cultural, and social revival in India during the 19th century. Dr. Maity emphasized that Raja Ram Mohan Roy's ideas and efforts were instrumental in paving the way for progressive changes in Indian society. He praised Roy's relentless pursuit of social reforms, including advocating for the abolition of the practice of Sati, promoting the rights of women, and challenging regressive customs and traditions. These efforts, according to Dr. Maity, laid the foundation for a more inclusive and progressive India.



Dr. Purna Chandra Maity, President, All Bengal Principals' Council, West Bengal addressing participants

## Speech by Special Guest: Ms. Kalyani Thakur Charal

Ms. Kalyani Thakur Charal, a prominent social activist and acclaimed writer, delivered a thought-provoking speech on the condition of subaltern women in colonial India. She shed light on the significant role played by Raja Ram Mohan Roy in empowering Indian women through his motto of "agitate, educate, and organize." This motto aimed to secure their emancipation and empowerment in a society oppressed by colonial rule. During her speech, Ms. Charal emphasized the dire circumstances faced by subaltern women, who were doubly marginalized due to their gender and their social and economic status. She highlighted how the intersectionality of gender and class compounded the challenges faced by these women, leaving them without agency and subjected to various forms of exploitation. Furthermore, Ms. Charal delved into the life and work of Raja Ram Mohan Roy, an influential figure in the 19th-century Bengal Renaissance. She emphasized Roy's tireless efforts to challenge social norms and advocate for women's rights in a conservative society. His motto of "agitate, educate, and organize" served as a guiding principle to bring about change and upliftment for Indian women.



Ms. Kalyani Thakur Charal, social activist, addressing audiences

## Speech by Special Guest - Prof. A.K. Panda

Prof. A.K. Panda, the esteemed Vice Chancellor of Sadhu Ramchand University, Jhargram, delivered a captivating speech on the significance of Raja Ram Mohan Roy and the social reform movements that emerged during the nineteenth century in India. The speech shed light on the pivotal role played by Raja Ram Mohan Roy and these reform movements in shaping the social, cultural, and intellectual landscape of the nation. Prof. Panda commenced the speech by providing a brief historical context of nineteenth-century India, highlighting the prevalent social practices, religious conservatism, and the need for reform. He emphasized that this period was marked by the rise of Western education, the influence of Enlightenment ideas, and the growing urge for social change. Prof. Panda delved into the broader social reform movements that arose during the nineteenth century in India. He highlighted the efforts of individuals and organizations such as Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar, Jyotirao Phule, and Annie Besant, who fought against social evils such as child marriage, caste discrimination, and the oppression of women. The speaker emphasized how these reform movements paved the way for social progress and laid the foundation for India's modernization.



Prof. A.K. Panda, Vice Chancellor, Sadhu Ramchand University, Jhargram addressing audiences.

## Speech of Special Guest - Prof. Sumita Chakraborti

Prof. Sumita Chakraborti, the former Dean of Arts, Commerce, and Management Faculties at the University of Burdwan, delivered a captivating speech on the significant contributions of Raja Ram Mohan Roy in shaping the evolution of Bengali language and literature during the early nineteenth century. The speaker highlighted Raja Ram Mohan Roy's efforts in revitalizing Bengali prose and poetry. He encouraged the use of colloquial Bengali in literature to make it accessible to the common people. His translations of Western literary works into Bengali introduced new styles and genres to the local literary landscape. Prof. Chakraborti discussed Raja Ram Mohan Roy's role in the establishment of newspapers and journals to propagate his ideas and promote intellectual discourse. His publications, such as Sambad Kaumudi and Mirat-ul-Akbar, played a significant role in disseminating knowledge, fostering social awareness, and encouraging literary contributions in Bengali.



Prof. Sumita Chakraborti, Former Dean of Arts, Commerce and Management Faculties, University of Burdwan addressing participants

## Speech of Special Guest - Prof. A.P. Singh

**Prof. A.P. Singh**, Dept. of Social Work, Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar College, University of Delhi, who explained the relevance of Raja Ram Mohan Roy in woman empowerment and transformation in India. Prof. Singh began his speech by acknowledging the importance of Raja Ram Mohan Roy as a social reformer and visionary of his time. He highlighted Raja Ram Mohan Roy's role in challenging regressive social norms and advocating for the rights of women in 19th century India. Prof. Singh emphasized that Raja Ram Mohan Roy's ideas and efforts laid the foundation for the ongoing struggle for gender equality in the country. Prof. Singh delved into Raja Ram Mohan Roy's significant contributions towards women's empowerment and transformation in India. He discussed Raja Ram Mohan Roy's relentless efforts to eradicate social evils such as Sati (the practice of widow burning) and child marriage. The speaker emphasized how Raja Ram Mohan Roy's advocacy against these practices led to legislative reforms that eventually banned Sati and raised the minimum age for marriage.



Prof. A.P. Singh, Dept. of Social Work, Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar College, University of Delhi addressing participants



## Paper Presentation Session:

The inaugural session was followed by paper presentation by professors, scholars and the students. The audience was immensely motivated by the thought-provoking sessions. The several discussions had stressed upon the role of Raja Ram Mohan Roy and his contribution in social-reformation, woman empowerment and evolution of Bengali language, literature and culture. Some glimpses of first days paper presentation session:

Name of the Presenter	Title of the Presentation
ANIKET MAHAPATRA	Role of women in Raja Ram Mohan Roy's social, political, and religious reform movements
ARGHADIP PAUL	Raja Ram Mohan Roy's contribution to education in India, the establishment of the Hindu College in Calcutta and the promotion of modern education.
DEBASREE SADHU	Raja Ram Mohan Roy's contribution to education in India, the establishment of the Hindu College in Calcutta and the promotion of modern education.
IRENE KHAN	Raja Ram Mohan Roy's contribution to education in India, the establishment of the Hindu College in Calcutta and the promotion of modern education.
ISHAN BANERJEE	Raja Ram Mohan Roy's contribution to women's education and empowerment
MUDASSAR NAZAR BAIDYA	Raja Ram Mohan Roy's contribution to women's education and empowerment
NUPUR GORAI	Raja Ram Mohan Roy's contribution to education in India, such as his establishment of the Hindu College in Calcutta and promotion of modern education.
PARITOSH KUMAR PAUL	Raja Ram Mohan Roy's contribution to education in India, such as his establishment of the Hindu College in Calcutta and promotion of modern education.
PRASANTA KUMAR PAL	Raja Ram Mohan Roy's contribution to education in India, such as his establishment of the Hindu College in Calcutta and promotion of modern education.
PRITI GUPTA	Raja Ram Mohan Roy's contribution to women's education and empowerment

## Glimpses of the First Day Presentation



Chair person of the Paper presentation session



Chair person of the Paper presentation session



Paper presenter



Paper presenter



Paper presenter



Paper presenter



Paper presenter



Paper presenter

## Day -2: May 5, 2023:

### Welcome Address by the Convener:

The second day of the workshop commenced with a warm welcome address by Smt. Jayita Dutta, the Convener of the Programme. She began by expressing her gratitude to all the participants for their active participation on the previous day and their valuable contributions to the discussions. In her welcome address, Smt. Jayita Dutta briefly summarized the key points and outcomes of the previous day's discussions. She acknowledged the diverse range of perspectives that were shared and the insightful dialogue that took place among the attendees. She emphasized the importance of collaboration and knowledge-sharing in achieving the goals of the workshop. Furthermore, the Convener expressed her appreciation for the expertise and experience of the participants, acknowledging the valuable insights they bring to the table. She encouraged all attendees to actively engage in the upcoming sessions, workshops, and group discussions to make the most of the collective knowledge present at the event. Smt. Dutta concluded her welcome address by expressing her hope that the workshop would serve as a platform for fostering new collaborations, exchanging ideas, and formulating practical recommendations.



Welcome Address by Smt. Jayita Dutta, Convener of the Programme

## Felicitation Programme:

After the welcome address, the distinguished professors, guests, Resource persons and chairpersons of the second day were felicitated. Some glimpses felicitation programme of the second day is presented below.



Felicitation of Dr. Mahua Mukherjee



Felicitation of Dr. Jayanta Chowdhury



Felicitation of Dr. Samar Biswas



Felicitation of Dr. Kackson Dukpa



Felicitation of Dr. S. Chatterjee



Felicitation of Dr. B. Ghosh

## Speech of the Special Guest – Dr. Samar Biswas:

Dr. Samar Biswas delivered his speech on "Raja Ram Mohan Roy - A Pioneer Empowering Women and Powering the Future: An Anthropological Perspective" He shed light on the significant contributions of Raja Ram Mohan Roy, a prominent social reformer and visionary from 19th-century India. The speech aimed to highlight Roy's remarkable efforts in empowering women and shaping a progressive society, while also exploring the relevance of his work in the present and future through an anthropological lens. The speaker commenced by providing a brief historical backdrop, highlighting the social and cultural challenges faced by women in 19th-century India. This context set the stage for understanding the significance of Raja Ram Mohan Roy's endeavors. His advocacy for women's education, widow remarriage, and abolition of sati (widow burning) showcased his progressive mindset and commitment to gender equality. The speaker delved into Roy's wider social reforms, such as fighting against superstitions, caste discrimination, and promoting religious tolerance. These endeavors contributed to a more inclusive and egalitarian society.



Speech of the Special Guest – Dr. Jayanta Chowdhury:

## Plenary Session:

The plenary session of the day was chaired by **Dr. Jaydeep Sarangi**, the Principal of New Alipore College, with **Dr. Mahua Mukherjee**, Professor of Dance at Rabindrabharati University, as the speaker. Dr. Mukherjee delivered a thought-provoking speech on the significance of art and culture in advancing women's empowerment and facilitating transformation. During her address, Dr. Mukherjee emphasized the transformative power of dance and music in dismantling social barriers and challenging stereotypes that restrict women. She emphasized how artistic expressions can effectively raise awareness about pertinent women's issues. Dr. Mukherjee further elaborated on the potential of performing arts as a tool for education and empowerment, particularly for women hailing from marginalized communities. Her insightful discourse shed light on the profound impact that art and culture can have in empowering women, enabling them to transcend societal limitations and strive for equality. The audience was captivated by her passionate advocacy for leveraging the arts as catalysts for positive change, leaving them inspired and enlightened about the transformative possibilities that lie within the realm of artistic expression.



Dr. Mahua Mukherjee delivering her lecture

## Paper Presentation Session

Chaired by: Dr. Probal Roy Chaudhury, Professor of English, Sister Nivedita University, Kolkata.

## Paper Presentation Session (Parallel Session)

Chaired by Prof. Samar Biswas, Department of Anthropology, North Bengal University, West Bengal.

Name of the Presenter	Title of the Presentation
GOPAL SINGHA	Raja Ram Mohan Roy's efforts to promote religious reforms in India, his critique of idol worship and his support for monotheism.
SOMALI CHAKRABORTY	Best practices and case studies of women's empowerment initiatives inspired by Raja Ram Mohan Roy's ideas
HEMANT KUMAR YADAV	Impact of Raja Ram Mohan Roy's ideas on contemporary issues like gender-based violence, reproductive health, and political representation of women
PINTU DAS	Raja Ram Mohan Roy's political thoughts, his advocacy for constitutional reforms, free press, and civil liberties.
PRAKASH MONDAL	Best practices and case studies of women's empowerment initiatives inspired by Raja Ram Mohan Roy's ideas
RUSHA NATH	Raja Ram Mohan Roy's contribution to women's education and empowerment
ISHAN BANERJEE	Raja Ram Mohan Roy's contribution to women's education and empowerment
PRATIMA BURMAH	Raja Ram Mohan Roy's contribution to social reforms in India, his advocacy for women's rights, abolition of sati, and opposition to child marriage etc.
BIJAYA KUMAR BISWAL	Raja Ram Mohan Roy's contribution to women's education and empowerment
SURAJIT MAHATO CO-AUTHOR ARPITA KUNDU	Raja Ram Mohan Roy's contribution to social reforms in India, his advocacy for women's rights, abolition of sati, and opposition to child marriage etc.
ADRY PRAMANIK	Raja Ram Mohan Roy's contribution to education in India, the establishment of the Hindu College in Calcutta and the promotion of modern education.
SUCHARITA BHATTACHARYA	Raja Ram Mohan Roy's contribution to social reforms in India, his advocacy for women's rights, abolition of sati, and opposition to child marriage etc.
SATHI MONDAL	Raja Ram Mohan Roy's contribution to education in India, the establishment of the Hindu College in Calcutta and the promotion of modern education.
SONALI GIRI	Raja Ram Mohan Roy's contribution to social reforms in India, his advocacy for women's rights, abolition of sati, and opposition to child marriage etc.
RAJDEEP DUTTA	Impact of Raja Ram Mohan Roy's ideas on contemporary issues like gender-based violence, reproductive health, and political representation of women
JAGODA ROY	Ram Mohan Roy's contribution to Indian philosophy
BAITALI PAUL	Raja Ram Mohan Roy's contribution to economic reforms in India, his advocacy for free trade and the liberalization of the Indian economy.
NIRMALYA MANDAL	We encourage interdisciplinary and innovative approaches that explore the intersection of Raja Ram Mohan Roy's ideas with contemporary debates on gender, development, and empowerment.
SHREE CHATTERJEE	Raja Ram Mohan Roy's contribution to women's education and empowerment
SUTAPA DAS	Ram Mohan Roy's contribution to Indian philosophy

MADHUPARNA DUTTA	Raja Ram Mohan Roy's contribution to women's education and empowerment
DR. SOMDATT BANERJEE	Impact of Raja Ram Mohan Roy's ideas on contemporary issues like gender-based violence, reproductive health, and political representation of women
AISHARYA DE	Raja Ram Mohan Roy's contribution to social reforms in India, his advocacy for women's rights, abolition of sati, and opposition to child marriage etc.
GUDDU SINGH AND PROF. DEVARATI MANDAL	Raja Ram Mohan Roy's contribution to education in India, such as his establishment of the Hindu College in Calcutta and promotion of modern education.
AMARTYA SAHA	Raja Ram Mohan Roy's political thoughts, his advocacy for constitutional reforms, free press, and civil liberties.

## Some Glimpses of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Day Paper Presentation Session



Chairperson of the Paper Presentation Session



Chairperson of the Paper Presentation Session



Paper Presenter



Paper Presenter



Paper Presenter



Paper Presenter



## **After Lunch Session:**

### **Guest Speaker: Dr. A.K. Singh - Urban Transformation in India**

The session commenced with Dr. A.K. Singh, a renowned expert in urban studies, delivering a comprehensive talk on urban transformation in India. He emphasized the need for women's empowerment in urban areas and the role of social reforms in bringing about positive changes. Dr. Singh highlighted various challenges faced by women in urban settings, including unequal access to resources, limited job opportunities, and gender-based violence.

He discussed the significance of education and skill development in empowering women and enabling their active participation in urban economies. Dr. Singh stressed the importance of inclusive urban planning and policies that address the specific needs of women, such as safe public spaces, affordable housing, and adequate healthcare facilities. He also highlighted successful examples of urban transformation, where initiatives led by women had significantly impacted their communities.



Speech by Dr. A.K.Singh

## Guest Speaker: Prof. B. Ghosh - Social Transformation in the Context of Raja Ram Mohan Roy

Following Dr. Singh's insightful presentation, Prof. B. Ghosh, a distinguished professor from the Department of Sociology at the University of Burdwan, took the stage to discuss social transformation in the context of Raja Ram Mohan Roy's reforms. Prof. Ghosh delved into the life and work of Raja Ram Mohan Roy, highlighting his efforts to challenge regressive social practices and promote gender equality. He underscored Raja Ram Mohan Roy's role in advocating for women's rights, including the abolition of Sati, a practice where widows were expected to immolate themselves on their husband's funeral pyre. Prof. Ghosh described how Raja Ram Mohan Roy's progressive ideas and activism laid the foundation for future social reform movements in India. Furthermore, Prof. Ghosh shed light on Raja Ram Mohan Roy's contributions to education and the empowerment of women. He emphasized the establishment of institutions like the Hindu College and the Brahmo Samaj, which provided educational opportunities for women and challenged prevailing societal norms. Prof. Ghosh concluded by stressing the continued relevance of Raja Ram Mohan Roy's teachings in the present-day pursuit of women's empowerment.



Speech by Prof. B. Ghosh

## Speech of the Special Guest – Dr. Jayanta Chowdhury:

Dr. Jayanta Chowdhury, Head of the Department of Rural Studies at Tripura University, delivered a lecture on "Localising SDGs and Gender Equality in North East Region of India." In his lecture Dr. Chowdhury highlighted the importance of adapting and tailoring the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to the socio-economic, cultural, and environmental conditions of the North East region. He emphasized the need for effective implementation and impact of the SDGs through localization. Dr. Chowdhury specifically addressed the challenges faced by women in the region and stressed the significance of achieving gender equality. The speaker emphasized community participation and collaboration in localizing SDGs, advocating for the involvement of local communities, including women, in decision-making processes and the implementation of development initiatives. Sustainable livelihoods were identified as crucial for achieving both the SDGs and gender equality, with potential opportunities in agriculture, horticulture, tourism, and handicrafts in the North East region. Dr. Chowdhury also underscored the role of policy and institutional support, calling for inclusive policies that address the specific needs and aspirations of the region. Capacity-building initiatives and strengthening existing institutions were identified as essential for driving sustainable development and promoting gender equality.



Speech by Dr. Jayanta Chawdhury

## Question & Answer Session:

Following the presentations, an interactive question and answer session took place, allowing participants to engage with the speakers and delve deeper into the topics discussed. Several thought-provoking questions were raised, covering a range of issues such as the role of technology in women's empowerment, strategies for addressing deep-rooted social norms, and the sustainability of transformation efforts in rural areas.

The speakers responded with insightful perspectives, drawing from their expertise and research. They emphasized the significance of utilizing technology as an enabler of women's empowerment, while also acknowledging the need to bridge the digital divide and ensure equal access to technology resources. They highlighted the importance of sustained awareness campaigns, community mobilization, and policy interventions to challenge societal norms and promote gender equality.



A Picture of Question Answer Session

## Day -3: May 6, 2023: Valedictory Session

### Felicitation Session

At the outset of the third day programme, Chief Guest Dr. Shiladitya Chatterjee, Convenor of the Programme Smt. Jayita Dutta and the Organizing Secretary Sri. Aniruddha Kar and Special Guest, Sri Parvej Ahmed Khan were felicitated



Felicitation of Smt. Jayita Dutta



Felicitation of Dr. S. Chatterjee



Felicitation of Sri. Aniruddha Kar



Felicitation of Sr. P.A. Khan

## Valedictory speech by Chief Guest: Dr. Shiladitya Chatterjee

The valedictory session began with the presence of esteemed Chief Guest, Dr. Shiladitya Chatterjee, Former Principal Secretary, Govt of Assam and India Representative of Asia Development Bank. Dr. Chatterjee is a renowned advocate for gender equality and women's empowerment, making him a fitting presence for this important occasion. In his address, Dr. Chatterjee emphasized the relevance of Raja Ram Mohan Roy's reforms in the context of women's empowerment today. He highlighted the need to build upon the progressive ideas propagated by Raja Ram Mohan Roy and stressed the importance of creating an inclusive society that empowers women in all spheres.



Valedictory speech by Chief Guest: Dr. Shiladitya Chatterjee

## Presentation by Dr. A. P. Singh

Following Dr. Chatterjee's speech, Dr. A. P. Singh, from the Department of Social Work, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar College, University of Delhi, delivered an insightful presentation on the topic of women empowerment and transformation in India. Dr. Singh's presentation shed light on the historical significance of Raja Ram Mohan Roy's reforms and their impact on women's rights and empowerment in India. Dr. Singh highlighted the pioneering efforts of Raja Ram Mohan Roy in challenging social norms and advocating for the abolition of Sati and female infanticide. He discussed how these reforms laid the foundation for subsequent movements and legislative changes that have contributed to the empowerment of women in India. Furthermore, Dr. Singh emphasized the need to address the existing challenges faced by women in contemporary society, such as gender-based violence, unequal access to education and healthcare, and limited representation in leadership positions. He stressed the importance of adopting a multidimensional approach that addresses systemic barriers while promoting social, economic, and political empowerment for women.



Presentation by Dr. A. P. Singh

## Presentation by Dr. Jackson Dupka

Dr. Jackson Dupka delivered a thought-provoking speech on the intersection of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), women empowerment, and environmental activities in Bhutan. His address shed light on the importance of gender equality in achieving sustainable development, emphasizing Bhutan's unique environmental initiatives and the role of women in driving positive change. He emphasized the need for collective action to address global challenges such as poverty, inequality, and climate change. Furthermore, he highlighted the significance of women's empowerment as a cross-cutting theme that underpins the achievement of all SDGs. Dr. Dupka stressed the importance of recognizing women as key drivers of sustainable development and the need to create an enabling environment for their participation. He highlighted Bhutan's unique development philosophy of Gross National Happiness (GNH), which encompasses social, economic, and environmental well-being. The speaker emphasized Bhutan's success in integrating environmental considerations into its policy framework and the implementation of conservation initiatives such as forest protection, renewable energy promotion, and sustainable tourism. Dr. Dupka delved into the intersection of gender equality and environmental activities, highlighting the critical role of women in environmental conservation efforts. He stressed that women's empowerment and gender equality are vital for achieving sustainable development and ensuring the effective management of natural resources. The speaker showcased various examples of women-led environmental initiatives in Bhutan, including community-based conservation projects, sustainable agriculture practices, and eco-tourism ventures.

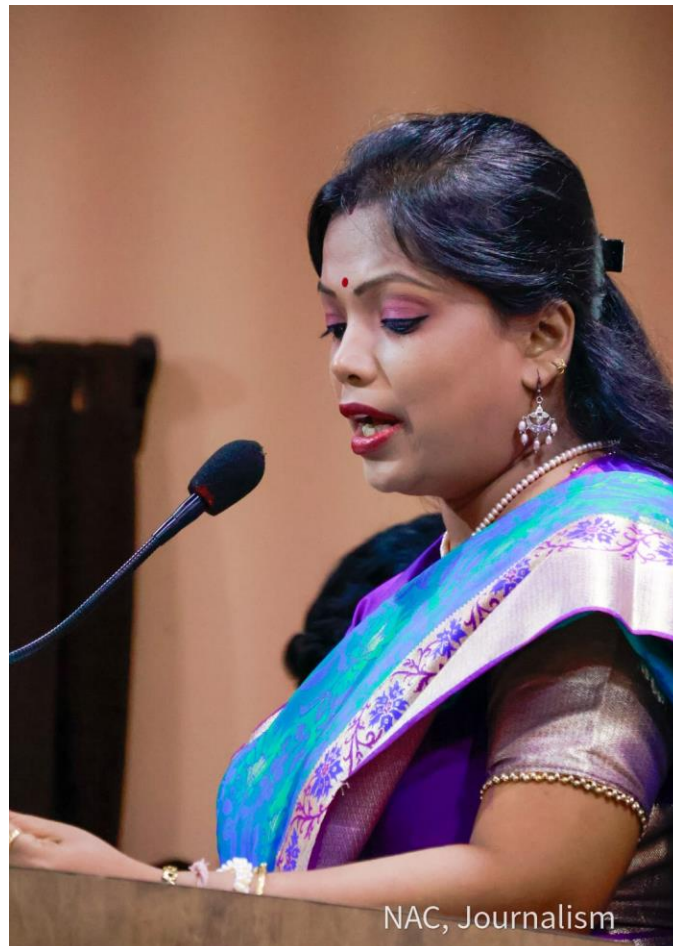


Speech by Jackson Dupka



## **Report Presentation by Smt. Jayita Dutta, Convenor of Workshop**

Smt. Jayita Dutta, the Convenor of the Programme, presented a comprehensive report summarizing the key highlights and outcomes of the Regional Workshop. The report encompassed the various sessions held over the course of the workshop, including panel discussions, paper presentations, and interactive sessions. Smt. Dutta highlighted the diversity of perspectives shared by the participants, which included researchers, academics, activists, and policymakers. She emphasized the significance of engaging in dialogues that bridge the gap between academia and practice to foster meaningful change in the field of women's empowerment. The report also outlined the key recommendations and action points that emerged from the workshop discussions. These recommendations focused on the importance of strengthening legal frameworks, promoting gender-responsive policies, investing in education and skill development, and fostering a supportive environment for women's entrepreneurship and leadership.



Report Presentation by Smt. Jayita Dutta, Convenor of Workshop

## Certificate Distribution Session:

In this session, certificates were distributed to the Paper presenters and Participants in presence of Dr. S.Chatterjee, Dr. Jaydeep Sarangi, Dr. A.K. Singh,



## **Vote of Thanks by Aniruddha Kar, Organizing Secretary**

The valedictory session concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Aniruddha Kar, the Organizing Secretary of the Regional Workshop. Mr. Kar expressed his gratitude to all the participants, speakers, and organizers for their valuable contributions and efforts in making the workshop a success. He acknowledged the significance of Raja Ram Mohan Roy in shaping the discourse on women's empowerment in India and commended the participants for their dedication to advancing gender equality. Mr. Kar also expressed his appreciation for the support and guidance provided by the Chief Guest, Dr. Shiladitya Chatterjee, and thanked him for gracing the occasion with his presence. Furthermore, Mr. Kar extended his gratitude to Dr. A. P. Singh for his enlightening presentation, which provided valuable insights into the historical context of women's empowerment in India. He acknowledged Smt. Jayita Dutta for her diligent efforts as the Convenor of the Programme, ensuring the smooth execution of the workshop. Mr. Kar acknowledged the collaborative efforts of the organizing committee, volunteers, and sponsors, whose contributions were instrumental in the successful organization of the regional workshop. He also expressed his appreciation for the active participation and engagement of all the attendees, whose valuable contributions enriched the discussions and debates. Mr. Kar reiterated the importance of continuing the momentum generated by the workshop. He emphasized the need for sustained efforts and collaboration across various sectors to drive tangible change in the realm of women's empowerment. Mr. Kar encouraged all the participants to carry forward the knowledge gained and to actively contribute to the ongoing discourse and implementation of policies and initiatives that empower women in India.



Vote of Thanks by Aniruddha Kar, Organizing Secretary

## Closing Event

At the end of the programme, feedback were collected from the participants through online Google form. The Principal of the college thanked all the participants and announced the formal end of the three days programme. Seminar Director Dr. A. K. Singh handed over the Portray of Raja Ram Mohan Roy to the Principal, New Alipore College.



Dr. A.K. Singh handover the portray of Raja Ram Mohan Roy



Formal End of the Programme

## Some Glimpses of the Programme



A picture of all participants in the 2<sup>nd</sup> day



Organizing committee with Guests



Paper presenters of the Day-1



Publication of Brochure



A Picture of Active Listeners



Picture of Special Guests

# A sample of Feedback Form

**Feedback Form for Participation**

The Workshop was organized by the Department of Philosophy & Department of Sanskrit, collaboration with IQAC & Research Cell, New Alipore College on 13th May, 2023.

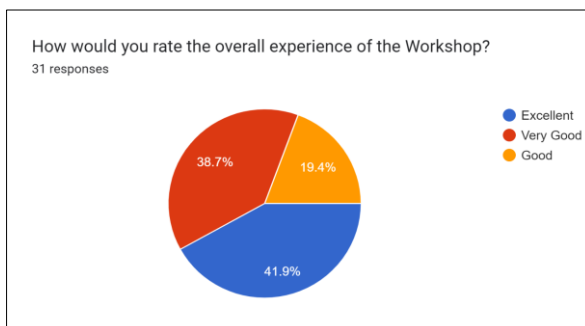
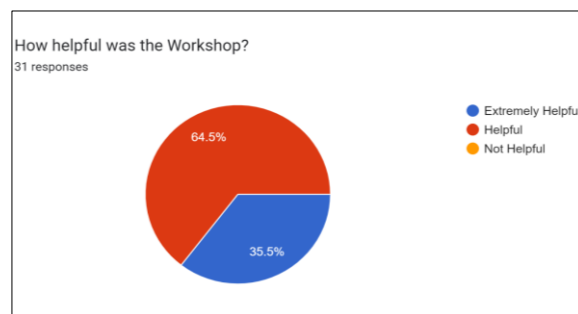
\* Indicates required question

1. Email \*  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Salutation \*  
Mark only one oval.  
 Mr.  
 Mrs.  
 Ms.
3. Name \*  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Name of the Institution/College/University \*  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Department \*  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. Contact No. \*  
\_\_\_\_\_



**Feedback Section**

7. Did the Workshop meet your expectation? \*  
Mark only one oval.  
 Yes  
 No
8. How helpful was the Workshop? \*  
Mark only one oval.  
 Extremely Helpful  
 Helpful  
 Not Helpful
9. Do you think this Workshop enrich you academically? \*  
Mark only one oval.  
 Yes  
 No
10. How would you rate the overall experience of the Workshop? \*  
Mark only one oval.  
 Excellent  
 Very Good  
 Good

## Analysis of Feedback



## Some Picture of Paper cutting covering the Programme

 <p>ধূতের নাম সৌমিত্র সাহা। এদিন ধূতকে বনগাঁ আদালতে তোলা হলে পুলিশ হেফাজত নিরীক্ষা দিয়েছেন কিশোরিকা। প্রেমিক সুনন্দ সাহা পলাতক। তারিখ: ০৫/০৫/১৯</p> <p><b>কর্মশালা</b></p> <p>হয়নি। বনগাঁর ঘটনা। এই একজন ক্ষেপে মারধর করে বেঁধে রাখেন। এক উদ্ধার করে। একজন জখম তার পুলিশ এসে।</p> <p>ফ্যানের ছকে মেওয়া অবস্থায় জানিয়েছে, মূতের )। পুলিশ জনতে চাইয়ের সংসারেই নটনের জেরে এই পুলিশের।</p> <p>এই সময়: 'রাজা রামমোহন বায়ের সংস্কারের প্রেক্ষাপটে ভারতে নারীর ক্ষমতায়ন ও রূপান্তর' বিষয়ে কর্মশালা হলো নিউ আলিপুর কলেজে। কেন্দ্রীয় সংস্কৃতি মন্ত্রকের পৃষ্ঠপোষকতায় লখনৌয়ের অনন্যা ইনস্টিটিউট ফর ডেভেলপমেন্ট রিসার্চ অ্যান্ড সোশ্যাল অ্যাকশনের সহযোগিতায় বৃহস্পতিবার এই আলোচনা সভার উদ্বোধন করেন দেবাশিস কুমার। কলেজের অধ্যক্ষ জয়দীপ ষড়ঙ্গী, লখনৌয়ের সংস্থার অধিকর্তা একে সিং, অধ্যাপক অজয়প্রতাপ সিং, অধ্যাপক সভাপতি পূর্ণচন্দ্র মাইতি, অধ্যাপক সুমিত্রা চক্রবর্তী, কল্যাণী ঠাকুর চাঁড়ালরা উপস্থিত ছিলেন।</p>	 <p>प्रभात खबर 10/10</p> <p>Open 10Coins + Free Delivery</p> <p>संगमल</p> <p>शुक्रवार, ०५ अक्टूबर २०२३ 10</p> <p><b>एसटीएन ने किया प्रदर्शन एसएससी को दिया ज्ञापन</b></p> <p>एनएसटीएन ने दिल्ली में विद्यार्थी के समर्थन में एक प्रदर्शन आयोजित किया। प्रदर्शन में शामिल हुए छात्रों ने एसएससी को एक ज्ञापन दिया। ज्ञापन में कहा गया है कि एसएससी को एक न्यायपूर्ण प्रक्रिया देनी चाहिए।</p> <p>डीए आंदोलन में पूरी दमन दो गुरुओं को हटाने का आंदोलनकर्ता</p> <p>लैंगिक अंतर तो घटा है, लेकिन तकनीकी और पेशेवर शिक्षा में महिलाएं आज भी पीछे : डॉ सिंह</p>
<p><b>Paper cutting of “Ei Samay”</b></p>	<p><b>Paper cutting “Prabhat Khabar”</b></p>