NEW ALIPORE COLLEGE

COLLABORATION AND MOUS

Academic Session 2019-2020

Topic	Year of Activities	Name of Activities	Collaborative Institution	Venue	Number of Participants
"Nyaya theory of perceptio n and Inference' 'Buddhist theory of morality' 'Mind- Body Relation"	17.09.2019	Faculty exchange	Department of Philosophy , New Alipore College and Kishore Bharati Bhagini Nivedita college	New Alipore College	16

Report of the Faculty exchange on "Nyaya theory of perception and Inference', 'Buddhist theory of morality', 'Mind-Body Relation"

Objectives of faculty exchange programme:

- 1. Promoting collaboration and cooperation among academic institutions: Faculty exchange programmes allow professors and teachers from different countries to share their knowledge, expertise, and best practices in their respective fields, thereby promoting collaboration and cooperation among academic institutions.
- 2. Enhancing the quality of education: By participating in faculty exchange programmes, professors can learn new teaching methods, curricula, and research techniques. This can enhance the quality of education offered by their home institution.

Description of faculty exchange programme:

The faculty exchange programme is an important part of our college's Educational Programme. Our Department participates in this programme regularly. In the year 2019 on 14th September two faculty members from our Philosophy Department visited the Kishore Bharati Bhagini Nivedita college. There we had a nice and enchanning conversation with the students and the faculty members of Philosophy Department of that college. The faculty members arranged a group discussion with the students- who were very enthuniash and eager to hear us. Later on, Prof Nivedita Sengupta spoke on 'Nyaya theory of Inference'. She narrated the whole process and detailed description of this important kind of knowledge as depicted Nyaya texts. This tradition presented an unique explanation of this particular knowledge which is accepted by almost all the other sects of Indian Philosophy . All the students gave a patient and sincere hearing and joined in the question- answer session. Another faculty member Prof. Jayita Dutta spoke on 'Descartes theory of Mind-Body Relation'. Descartes, the ugendary Philosopher , who named as 'Father of Modern Philosophy' present this unique theory

of relation- which is known as 'Cartesian Dualism'. Prof. Dutta gave a detailed and articulated explanation of this relation following Descarte's explanation .Students were listening to her very attentively- some of the students asked some relevant questions regarding this relation- which was answered sympathetically and exactly Prof, Dutta . We enjoyed our visit very much.

After some days, it was the turn of the faculty members of Kishore Bharati Bhagini Nivedita college to our department. All of the students and faculty members eagerly awaited. They visited our college on 17th September, Prof. Ranjini Dutta, the Head of the Department of Philosophy, explained the Nyaya theory of perception. She explained in detail the whole process of this important kind of valid cognition, which is accepted by all the different sects of Indian Philosophical tradition. Prof. Dutta explained this theory along with the process of the acquisition of this type of knowledge. Our students were enriched to a great extent from her presentation. The other faculty named Smt. Namramita Bhuiya explained the Buddhist theory of morality. She started her discussion by enchanning a Buddhist's verse, she sang it so beautifully, all of us, both the teachers and students were moved. It was an wonderful experience. Later on, she explained each and every moral prescriptions of Buddha, the golden advices is very much relevant to the whole mankind in this present day also. It was a pleasant experience to all of us from our department.

Outcomes of faculty exchange programme:

- 1. Collaborative research opportunities can arise from faculty exchanges, leading to the exchange of new ideas and approaches to research.
- 2. This programs help to build relationships between two institution, paving the way for future collaborations and partnerships.
- 3. This Exchange programme can also benefit students, who may have the opportunity to interact with visiting faculty members and gain exposure to different teaching and research styles.



Glimpses of the programme

Topic	Year of Activities	Name of Activities	Collaborative Institution	Venue	Number of Participants
"Enviro nmental thoughts as reflecte d in Ancient Indian scriptur es"	05.12.2019	Seminar	Department of Philosophy and Sanskrit, New Alipore College and department of Philosophy, Kishore Bharati Bhagini Nivedita college	New Alipore College	35

Report of the Seminar on "Environmental thoughts as reflected in Ancient Indian scriptures"

Objectives of the Seminar:

- 1. To explore the wisdom and knowledge present in ancient Indian scriptures regarding environmental conservation and sustainability.
- 2. To understand the relevance of ancient Indian thoughts and teachings in the modern context of environmental challenges and crisis..
- 3. To showcase the role of spirituality and ethics in promoting environmental consciousness and responsible behavior.
- 4. To encourage participants to engage in further research and study of ancient Indian scriptures for insights into environmental issues and solutions.

Description of the Seminar:

The Department of Philosophy and the Department of Sanskrit, New Alipore College, along with the Department of Philosophy, Kishore Bharati Bhagini Nivedita College, organized a one-day seminar on "Environmental thoughts as reflected in Ancient Indian scriptures" on 5th December 2019 at room no 209, New Alipore College.

The seminar aimed to explore the insights and perspectives of ancient Indian scriptures on environmental thoughts, and how these can inform and guide contemporary environmental discourse and actions. Two distinguished professors, (Dr) Aparajita Mukhopadhyay, Professor of Philosophy at Jadavpur University, and (Dr) Ratna Basu, former Professor at the University of Calcutta in the Department of Sanskrit, were invited to share their views and insights on the topic.

Dr. Aparajita Mukhopadhyay delivered a talk on the concept of 'Dharma' in Hinduism, and how it relates to environmental ethics. She explored the various ways in which the idea of Dharma, which encompasses duties, responsibilities, and moral obligations, can inform our relationship with the natural world, and inspire us to act more responsibly towards it.

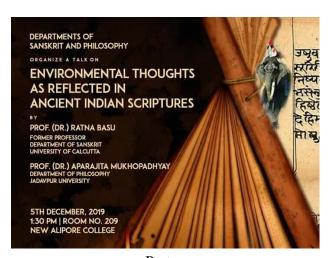
Dr. Ratna Basu's talk focused on the concept of 'Panchamahabhuta,' or the five elements, in ancient Indian thought, and how it can inform our understanding of the interconnectedness of all things in the

natural world. She discussed the ways in which this understanding can inspire us to live in harmony with nature and to recognize the sacredness of all life.

The talks were followed by a lively discussion and exchange of ideas among the participants, which included students, faculty members, and members of the general public. The seminar concluded with a vote of thanks to the speakers and organizers for their contributions to the event.

Outcomes of the Seminar:

- 1. The seminar focused on the intersection of ancient Indian scriptures and environmental thought, highlighting the wisdom and relevance of these teachings in modern times.
- 2. The role of human beings in maintaining a harmonious relationship with nature was emphasized, with the speakers highlighting the need for responsible consumption and sustainable practices.
- 3. The webinar also explored the concept of "ahimsa" or non-violence, and how it applies not just to human beings but also to our treatment of the natural world.
- 4. The speakers stressed the need for a holistic approach to environmental sustainability that takes into account not just the physical environment, but also the social, cultural, and spiritual dimensions of our relationship with nature.
- 5. The seminar concluded with a call to action, encouraging participants to draw inspiration from the wisdom of ancient Indian scriptures and to work towards creating a more sustainable and harmonious world for future generations.



Poster Glimpses of the programme





Topic	Year of Activities	Name of Activities	Collaborative Institution	Venue	Number of Participants
Environ mental conscio usness'	06.02.2020	Special Lectue,St udent Exchange	Department of Philosophy, Dept. of Bengali, Dept. of Journalism and Mass Communication, Dept. of Economics & Dept of Sanskrit, New Alipore College and Vijaygarh Jyotish Ray College	New Alipore College	41

Report of the Special Lecture, Student Exchange on 'Environmental consciousness'

Introduction:

On 6th February 2020, a student exchange program was organized at New Alipore College, where Dr. Arpan Sarkar, Head and Assistant Professor of Sanskrit, delivered a talk on the topic of "Environmental Consciousness." The program aimed to create awareness among students about the importance of environmental conservation and the role they can play in promoting sustainable practices. The attendees of the program were students from the humanities departments of Vijaygarh Jyotish Ray College.

Program Details:

Speaker: Dr. Arpan Sarkar

Audience: Students from the humanities departments of New Alipore College and Vijaygarh Jyotish

Ray College, Kolkata

Program Description:

The student exchange program commenced with an introduction by the organizers, highlighting the significance of environmental consciousness in the current global scenario. Dr. Arpan Sarkar, an eminent academician and expert in the field, then took the stage to deliver an insightful talk on the topic.

Dr. Sarkar's talk primarily focused on raising awareness about environmental issues, their causes, and the urgent need for sustainable practices. He emphasized the role of individuals, particularly students, in adopting environmentally conscious behaviour and influencing positive change in society.

Key Points Discussed:

Understanding the Environment: Dr. Sarkar provided a comprehensive overview of the environment, its components, and their interdependence. He emphasized the importance of recognizing the delicate balance between humans and nature.

Environmental Challenges: The speaker discussed various environmental challenges, such as climate change, pollution, deforestation, and loss of biodiversity. He highlighted the detrimental effects of these issues on ecosystems, human health, and the planet as a whole.

Sustainable Practices: Dr. Sarkar stressed the significance of sustainable practices in mitigating environmental problems. He presented examples of eco-friendly initiatives such as waste management, energy conservation, renewable energy sources, and responsible consumption.

Individual Responsibility: The talk emphasized the role of individuals in creating a sustainable future. Dr. Sarkar encouraged students to make small changes in their daily lives, including reducing plastic usage, conserving water and electricity, and promoting environmental awareness among peers.

Social and Global Impact: The speaker elucidated the social and global impact of environmental consciousness. He discussed the importance of collective action, community engagement, and international cooperation to address environmental challenges effectively.

In addition to the previous information, it is important to note that Dr. Arpan Sarkar's talk on "Environmental Consciousness" was specifically delivered from the perspective of Sanskrit literature. This unique approach shed light on the rich heritage of environmental wisdom and consciousness found within Sanskrit texts.

During the talk, Dr. Sarkar explored Sanskrit literature's profound understanding of nature and its emphasis on ecological harmony. He highlighted how ancient Sanskrit texts, such as the Vedas, Upanishads, and Puranas, contain verses and narratives that depict a deep reverence for nature and advocate for its preservation.

The speaker delved into the concept of "Prakriti" (nature) in Sanskrit literature and how it is portrayed as a divine entity deserving respect and protection. He drew examples from renowned Sanskrit texts, such as the Bhagavad Gita and the Ramayana, to illustrate the profound connection between humans and the environment.

Dr. Sarkar emphasized that Sanskrit literature not only emphasizes the interdependence of all living beings but also offers practical wisdom and guidelines for sustainable living. He discussed the principles of "Ahimsa" (non-violence) and "Dharma" (righteousness), as advocated in Sanskrit texts, and how they can be applied to foster environmental consciousness and responsible behavior.

By exploring the environmental consciousness found within Sanskrit literature, the talk provided a unique perspective on the subject. It showcased how ancient wisdom can inspire and guide modern society towards a more sustainable and harmonious relationship with the environment.

The incorporation of Sanskrit literature's viewpoint added depth and cultural context to the discussion of environmental consciousness. It underscored the relevance of ancient wisdom in addressing contemporary environmental challenges and offered a holistic understanding of the subject.

Overall, Dr. Arpan Sarkar's talk on "Environmental Consciousness" from the perspective of Sanskrit literature provided valuable insight into the environmental wisdom and consciousness embedded in ancient texts. It encouraged students to explore the intersection of literature, culture, and environmental conservation and highlighted the timeless relevance of Sanskrit literature in shaping a sustainable future.

Topic	Year of Activities	Name of Activities	Collaborative Institution	Venue	Number of Participants
"Epic: History & Myth"	9.03.2020	Special Lectures	Department of Philosophy, Dept. of Bengali, Dept. of Journalism and Mass Communication, Dept. of Economics & Dept of Sanskrit, New Alipore College and Vijaygarh Jyotish Ray College	New Alipore College	38

Report of the Special Lectue on "Epic: History & Myth"

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