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NEWSletter

H+SS inputs

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MAJOR CELEBRATION: SILVER JUBILEE/ GOLDEN JUBILEE/ DIAMOND JUBILEE/ PLATINUM JUBILEE/ CENTENARY, ETC.

- Department of Arabic celebrated “World Arabic Day” on 18th December 2015
- SANSKRIT DAY was celebrated in September 2015 by the Department of Sanskrit.
- Department of Linguistics on the occasion of Prof. Suniti Kumar Chatterji’s 125th Birth Anniversary organized one three-day International Seminar in two parts in November & December 2015, with 14 eminent speakers, 10 from India & 4 from England, Germany & Bangladesh, in collaboration with the Science & Technology & Biotechnology Departments and Higher Education Department of the Government of West Bengal.
- Concluding ceremony of the celebration of 125th Birth anniversary of Prof. B.M. Barua. The Department of Pali organized an International Seminar on ‘Revival of the Theravada Buddhism in Bengal’ on 13th and 14th January 2015.

Editor: Pijushkanti Panigrahi
Sanjukta Dasgupta

COLLABORATION : NATIONAL / INTERNATIONAL

- Department of Ancient History Seminar organized in collaboration with Adhir Chakravarti Memorial Trust, Kolkata.
- The 2nd International Seminar organised by the Dept. in collaboration with Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies (MAKAIAS), Kolkata and Qutbi Jubilee Scholarship Program (QJSP), Mumbai on the theme “Arabic & Persian Accounts of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad” held on 18- 19 March 2015 in which the Thirty two (52) delegates from USA, UK, Jordan, Iran, Afghanistan and Bangladesh along with the Indian scholars participated. The proceedings of the seminar was published along with the souvenir.
- Arabic Department organized an exchange Program between Egyptian Universities and Iranian Universities.
- Archaeology department, collaborated with Vidyasagar University (Medinipur) and Presidency University on multidisciplinary field research in Purulia and East Medinipur.
- Department of Economics organized eco- friendly Entrepreneurship Development for Women in West Bengal, UGC-Indo-US, 21st Century Knowledge Initiative Programme, 2015-18
- Department of English, Economics and Business management organized Knowledge Initiative Programme (Obama-Singh) Women Entrepreneurs in Eco-friendly Business. Collaboration with Claflin University, South Carolina, USA..Inaugural programme in November 2016 at the American Centre, Kolkata
- Dr Kazi Sufior Rahama (Department of Islamic History And Culture) collaborated in a project Mughal Bengal History Writing sponsored by the Department of Culture, Government of Bangladesh.
- Department of Linguistics, collaborated with the Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore, for the Tharua & Birjia (two endangered languages in India) parts of the Scheme for Protection & Prevention of Endangered Languages project of MHRD. And with Sikkim University (V. Krishnananth) for the project topography and territoriality in Popular Music and the National Imagination.
- The Political Science department organized a two day national conference with Kolkata Society for Asian Studies and MAKAIAS in August 12-13, 2015 on *New Regime under NDA Government and Sino-Indian Relation: Expectation and Uncertainty*.
- On 12th April 2015, felicitation of one eminent Sanskrit Pandit Sri Dinanath Tripathi was organized. An anthology of late Pandit Premchand Tarkabagish was published by the Dept. of Sanskrit in collaboration with the Premchand Tarkabagish Foundation, Kolkata.
- *Ageing and Kolkata: Perspectives, Challenges and Solutions*: organized by the Dept of South and South East Asian Studies, University of Calcutta in collaboration with Indian Association for Asian and Pacific studies, 4th December 2015.



- Professor Chinmoy Guha, Coordinator, DRS (SAP III, Phase III) delivering the welcome address with Professor Dhrubajyoti Chattopadhyay, the Hon'ble Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academic) of University of Calcutta and Dr. Sinjini Bandyopadhyay, Deputy Coordinator of DRS, present on the dais of *Connecting Texts: Literature, Theatre and Cinema*, the conference arranged by DRS of Department of English in March 2015.

FELLOWSHIPS / AWARDS / DISTINCTIONS RECEIVED BY THE FACULTY MEMBERS

- Prof. I. K. Burke (Department of Arabic) was awarded the Certificate of Honour by the President of India for his outstanding contributions in the field of Persian Language & Literature in 2015.
- Dr. Md. Shakeel (Department of Arabic) awarded the Professor Abha Kulshreshta 'Najma' Prize for his outstanding paper presentation at the 47th session of All India Oriental Conference (AIOC) held at Guwahati University, Assam in 2015.
- Dr Bishnupriya Basak, Department of Archaeology received a Research Grant awarded by the Society for Antiquaries of London.
- Dr. Susmita Chakraborty, Department of Library and Information Science was awarded a Commonwealth Fellowship, University College London, London, UK (May – July, 2015) Award: SLA Rising Star, Boston, USA, 2015. Dr. Sabuj Kumar Chaudhuri, was selected for the Netherlands Fellowship Programme (NFP) in 2015 for Advanced Master in Intellectual Property & Knowledge Management (IPKM) in the Faculty of Law of Maastricht University, the Netherlands.
- Prof. Jadab Krishna Das (Department of Commerce) received Best Paper Award in the National Conference on Human Resource Development: Excellence in HRD for Sustainable Growth, Faculty of Commerce, BHU-ICSSR-MHRD, February 14-15, 2015.
- *Shrestha Prabandha Sahitya Samman* by Parul Prakashani of Comparative Indian Language and Literature in Collaboration with Asiatic Society, 2015 was received by Professor Amit Kumar Bhattacharjee.
- Dr. Mau Dasgupta received the Sahitya Akademi Translation Award for Bengali, Kamal Kishor Mishra received two International and three National awards. Also Dr. Rabindranath Bhattacharya, of Department of Sanskrit received three awards.

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING PRESTIGIOUS AWARDS

- Prof. Sanjukta Dasgupta: Visiting Professor, Indian Institute of Advanced Study Shimla, May 2015
- Prof. Chinmoy Guha: Arun Kumar Chanda Memorial Award, Barak Valley, Silchar, Assam, July, 2015
- Prof. Santanu Majumdar: Awarded Fulbright Teaching Fellowship in March 2015 to teach in the English Department of UMASS, Boston, USA, but could not go due to illness.
- Professor Swapna Bhattacharya Department of South and Southeast Asian Studies, awarded the title of "Research Ambassador" by Heidelberg Alumni International. Professor Lipi Ghosh, Grant Award from IIAS, Netherland to join Inaugural Africa- Asia Conference in Accra, Ghana, 24-26 September, 2015. Awarded Fulbright Professional and Academic Excellence Fellowship, 2014-15 Affiliated with California State University, Sacramento, USA, Visiting Faculty, SEAP, Cornell University, USA and Visiting Faculty, Asia Centre, Harvard University. Professor Paula Banerjee, WISCOMP Scholar of Peace Award, Fulbright Scholar 2013-2014.
- Jigme Yeshe Lama of Department of Political Science received the Mira Sinha Bhattacharjee Award in March, 2015, from the Institute of Chinese Studies for the best paper at the 7th All India Conference of China Studies, held at BHU, November, 2014

SPECIAL LECTURES ARRANGED BY THE DEPARTMENT

Department of Ancient history arranged a number of lecture on various topics over the whole year. These topics are mentioned below:

- Greek Gods banqueting in Buddhist Monasteries: Depictions of Paradise or Popular Cults in Zar Dheri, Gandhah.
- Prasanga Kuru Itihas o Mahabharata: Khandavadahana, rajasuya o Dyutakridar katha presented.
- Social aspects from the Image Inscriptions of early north Bengal.
- Women & Bhakti in the early Medieval Tamil Saiva Tradition.
- Weapons in Ancient India: The Case Study of Mahasthan.

DEPARTMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGY ORGANIZED LECTURES ON THE TOPICS MENTIONED BELOW

- A. Early Historic Terracotta of Bengal: an Introduction.
- B. Tracing Origin, Sustenance and Transformation.



- C. Methodology of Studying Epigraphic Material.
- D. Introduction to Historical Geography.

**THE DEPARTMENT OF URBAN ECONOMIC STUDIES ORGANIZED
THE FOLLOWING LECTURES DELIVERED BY EMINENT SCHOLARS**

- Urban Poverty: Celebrating and Challenging the New Common Sense: Professor Ananya Roy, University of California, Berkeley.
- Neo-Liberalisation and Urban Scenario in India: Issues related to Land, Infrastructure and Governance: workshop conducted by Professor Swapna Banerjee-Guha, Senior Fellow, ICSSR.
- Critical Issues in Indian Official Statistics: A Look into Census Data.
- Energising the Nation. Energising the Livelihood: Professor Kuntala Lahiri-Dutt, Australian National University.
- Intermediate Public Transport in Mega-city Region of Kolkata Region.
- Lecture on French and Indian Language and Literature by Professor France Bhattacharya on 8th December 2015.
- First Kalyan Kumar Sanyal memorial lecture, delivered by Professor R.S. Deshpande, National Fellow, Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) and former Director of Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC), Bangalore on Farmer – State and Agriculture ,Time: 3 p.m., 23 July, 2015
- Centenary Celebration Lecture Series – Shri Leeladhar Mandloi, renowned poet and Director, Bharatiya Gyanpeeth delivered a Lecture on “Contemporary Indian Poetry” organized by the Department of Hindi.
- Department of Islamic History And Culture organized ,*Madhyajug: Path o Nirmān* by Prof. Ratnabali Chatterjee, 22nd September 2015 ,*the Evolution of Murshidabad School of Nawabi Architecture* by Samhita Sen on 27th November 2015, *Gunpowder and Firearms in Medieval India: A Preliminary Study* by Sri Biman Samaddar on 22nd December 2015.
- Department of Museology organized special lectures on March 2015 and December 2015.
- Department of Sanskrit arranged some special lectures by eminent scholars-
- Prof. Radhaballabh Tripathi Ex-Vice Chancellor, Rastriya Samskrita Sangsthan ,New Delhi.
- Prof. Marek Lyczka Dept. of Sanskrit Krakow University, Poland.
- Prof. Madhu Khanna Dept. of Sanskrit Jamia Milia Islamia University
- Prof. Dr. S.P. Narang rtd. Prof. Dept. of Sanskrit, University of Delhi, as Visiting Fellow
- “IMAGINING THE RACIAL OTHER DURING THE BRITISH COLONIAL PERIOD” By Dr.

ASHOK MALHOTRA, British Academy Post-Doctoral Research Fellow, Institute of Collaborative Research in the Humanities, Queens University, Belfast, 3rd September 2015 by Department of Sociology.

INVITED LECTURES BY THE FACULTY MEMBERS

- Members of the faculty were invited as Visiting Fellows by the Department of Sanskrit, Jadavpur University under Centre for Advanced Studies (CAS). Various academic institutions and colleges invited faculty members to deliver lectures on various aspects Early Indian History. Professor Suchandra Ghosh delivered the B. N. Mukherjee Memorial Lecture.
- Department of Arabic invited lectures by the faculty members : organised two Visiting Fellow/ Professor program under UPE Scheme –II in 2015. Attended by Prof. Abdul Bari, Dept. of Arabic, AMU, Aligarh and Prof. Syed Hasan Abbas, Dept. of Persian, BHU., Varanasi.

Department of Archaeology had taken initiative to organize three lectures by the special speakers, mentioned below:

- J.H. Rivett-Carnac and the creation of a colonial past in nineteenth and early twentieth century India', presentation given at the Queens University, Belfast, November 2015 (Bishnupriya Basak)
- 'New Evidence of Monastic Buddhism in Western Bengal: Excavations at Moghalmari' at the Special Lecture Series of the *School of Historical Studies*, Nalanda University, September 2015 (Rajat Sanyal).
- 'Early Historic Ceramics of Eastern India' at the Centre for Archaeological Studies and Training, Eastern India, in April 2015 (Kaushik Gangopadhyay)
- Urban Economic Studies organized lectures, panel discussions by NIT, Durgapur, FOSET, Siliguri Municipal Corporation, Raidighi College, Siliguri Institute of Technology and Institute of Public Enterprise, Hyderabad in collaboration with Indian Association for Social Science Institution.
- Dr. Susmita Chakraborty was invited as a Speaker by ICIML, Lahore, Pakistan, 2015, Special Libraries Association, Session of SciTech Division: Transforming international librarianship, Boston, USA, 2015, Dept. of Lib. & Inf. Sc., Humbolt University, Berlin, Germany, 2015, Department of Information Studies, University College London, London, UK, 2015, Co-chair in a session, COLNET International Conference, New Delhi, 2015 of Department of Library and Information Science.
- Prof Chinmoy Guha was Invited to deliver the keynote address and principal lecture "Rabindranath Tagore and Romain Rolland" in international seminar in Paris on *Romain Rolland and India*, University of Paris-Sorbonne and Romain Rolland Association, Paris, 16 June 2015. Prof Santanu Majumdar presented a paper on translations of *the Gita*, Ramakrishna Mission, Narendrapur, at a conference on Literary Responses to Sanskrit



texts, 29 September 2015. Dr Sinjini Bandopadhyay presented a paper on “The Story of Satyavati” in the international conference on *Characterisation of Women in Sanskrit Works*, Department of Sanskrit, University of Calcutta, February 2015.

- Prof Tanmoy Ghosh presented the following papers: “Language Acquisition vs. Learning: A Bilingual Perspective”, Refresher Course lecture, School of Linguistics and Languages, Jadavpur University, 14-16 September 2015. “The Linguistic Idiosyncrasies of Shakespeare: A Stylometric Perspective”, national seminar on *Multiple Shakespeare*, Serampore College, Serampore, 6 October 2015.
- Dr Rangana Banerjee presented a paper on “A whole theatre of others”: *Haider/Hamlet* for Indians, National level UGC Seminar, Victoria Institution (College), 4 December, 2015.
- 8th Memorial lecture on ‘Pandit Dharmadhar Mahastavir’ at Pandit Dharmadhar Welfare Society, Pottery Road, was delivered by Prof. Bela Bhattacharya on 27th July, 2015, invited Lecture was delivered by Dr. Saswati Mutsuddy on “Impact of Pali on Buddhism: A Study”, National Seminar on ‘Bharatiya Gyan parampara me Pali aur Prakrit ka yogdan’, organised by ‘Pali-Prakrit Scheme of Rastriya Sanskrit Sansthan’, New Delhi 04-06 December, 2015 and Department of Pali.
- ‘India-Myanmar Relations.’ Invited lecture was delivered by Prof Swapna Bhattacharya Chakraborty at the “Kolkata Dialogue” on “Look East to act East : New Frontiers in Trade, Investment & Business Cooperation,” organized by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Govt. of India and Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC), at the Hotel Oberoi Grand, Kolkata, 9th January, 2015.

DEPARTMENTAL SUPPORT FROM EXTERNAL FUNDING AGENCIES

- Indian National Science Academy funded the project on Environmental and Ecological Change as Inferred from Copperplate Inscriptions of Bengal (Rajat Sanyal)
- The Premchand Tarkabagish foundation arranged a book release function and a seminar lecture on 12th April 2015 and they have promised the Dept of Sanskrit to hold an endowment lecture every year in the memory of late Pandit Premchand Tarkabadish. Prof. Sitanath Acharya has completed his tenure as *SHASTRA CHUDAMANI* sponsored by RASTRIYA SANSKRIT SAMSTHAN, New Delhi.
- UGC, ICSSR, National commission of Social Science Research have granted funds to the Women’s Studies Research Centre.
- DRS Phase 111 UGC Grant to the Department of English

PUBLICATIONS BY THE FACULTY MEMBERS AND BY THE DEPARTMENT

- The Department of Urdu faulty members have published many papers in high impact – journals. Research undertaken by the Urdu faculty and Ph.D students has been featured



online, in print, and on television and radio.

- *The Departmental Journal (Vol.16) named – BANGLA SAHITYA PATRIKA was published in May 2015, Edited by Prof. Biswanath Roy and this is a Special Issue on Rabindranath Tagore on the occasion of his 150th Birth Anniversary by department of Bengali.*
- *Medicine in Pali Literature in a Felicitation Vol. of the University of Ceylon, Sri Lanka by Prof. Manikuntala Haldar (De). Mastiska-mon-o-vipassana in Jaggajoti, Journal of the Bauddha Dharmankur Vihara, Kolkata published by Department of Buddhist Studies, Prof. Manikuntala Haldar (De). Dr Jayanti Chatterjee has published a book titled “Theravada O Mahayana Bauddhadharma”.*
- *Department of Sanskrit is going to publish a centenary volume in order to celebrate the completion of hundred years of the university of Calcutta, titled –śaradah śatam.*

OUTREACH PROGRAMME

- Department of Arabic rendered translation services to various Agencies in India such as the Central Bureau of Investigation and Calcutta Police.
- Dr. Susmita Chakraborty of Library and Information Science department, was guest of Honour in a program celebrating one decade of Usha Cooperative, a banking system formed by the sex-workers to fund the education and hostels for their children.
- Linguistics Department organized a scheme for Protection & Prevention of Endangered Languages project of the Central Institute of Indian Languages under MHRD and consolidated report writing of the Mother Tongue Survey of India Project.
- International Round Table Seminar-cum-Workshop on ‘ICOM Diversity Charter’ conducted by Professor Amareswar Galla, Executive Director, International Institute for Inclusive Museum, Copenhagen, on 17 February 2015 and International Seminar on ‘Community Participation in Museological Practices’ on 2 December 2015.
- The Department of Pali organized a seven days’ workshop on ‘ Researches and Research Methodology: Pali & Buddhism’,15th to 22nd January,2015,Coordinator-Prof.Bela Bhattacharya.
- Department of Sociology participated in the Police training of Government of India, West Bengal Police and Kolkata Police; Resource person in Human Rights and Gender Sensitization training, Family Counselling in Legal Aid Services West Bengal (LASWEB), State Legal Services Authority, Government of West Bengal, and also Govt. of Assam for training of counsellors in relation to Juvenile Justice. Associated with NGOs who are engaged in upliftment of women, children, aged and marginalized/excluded sections of the people (e.g. CINI, Save the Children, Care India, Sanlap, Sanhita, Saroj Nalini, Central Women’s Association of India, Women’s Coordinating Council, Indian Association of Women’s Studies, Ganna Unnayan Parshad, Jai Prakash Institute of Social Change.



MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE ADDED

- Newly furnished M.Phil Room with new furniture and computers on donation by Sri Debashish Biswas, Inspector of Colleges, University of Calcutta, New computers
Forthcoming events : Centenary Celebration of Department of Economics.
- The entire class room of the Department of Pali has been renovated under the headship of Dr. Saswati Mutsuddy which was inaugurated by Honb'le Vice Chancellor Prof. Suranjan Das on 1st April,2015.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- The Department of Ancient hHistory is planning to celebrate its centenary in 2017.
- Department of Sanskrit is planning to introduce certificate & diploma course for teaching Sanskrit language to non-Sanskrit students. A MOU with the Lyon Univ. Lyon, France is in progress and expected to be completed very soon which consists of student-exchange programme, collaborative research programme and joint organization of seminars, conferences, lectures etc.
- Prabir Roychaudhury and Amita Roychaudhury Endowment Lecture to be organized by Department of Library and Information Science.
- The Women's studies research Centre is planning to organize- one Day Seminar on Combating Violence against Women, International Seminar on Eco-friendly Women Entrepreneurship and State Level Consultation on Women in Agriculture.
- Department of Comparative Indian Language is going to organize an International Seminar on "Studying Indian Literature in China", Speaker- Professor Jiang Jingkui on January 4th, 2016

MISCELLANEOUS

- Ancient History department regularly organises seminars, National / International, Student Seminars, Special Lectures and Talks and encourages students to take part in Seminars organized by other academic institutions.
- Arabic Department arranged to start M. Phil. courses in Arabic & Persian. It plans to install smart classrooms & language laboratories.



- Archaeology department thoroughly revised the syllabus for M.A./M.Sc. 2015-2016 Courses,
- Urban Economic Studies produced a regular series of Discussion papers. Two papers are published every year. Following papers were published in 2015-
 - Perspectives of Planned New Towns, Its Transformation, Evaluation, Challenges and Problems: Case of West Bengal (1/2015) – Joy Karmakar
- Growth of Ports and Port Towns in India in the Post Independence Period: in the context of Trade and Urbanisation (2/2015) - Aparna Banerjee, Dr. Sudakshina Gupta, Dr. Uttam Kumar Bhattacharya.
- Dr. Susmita Chakraborty of Department of Library and Information Science was nominated as secretary (2015- 2017), Standing Committee, Education & Training Division, IFLA (International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions). She also attended Librarianship Summer School May 2015, University College London, UK in association with UNC Chapel Hill School of Information and Library Studies, USA. Pratt Institute and the University of Tennessee in Association with the Digital Humanities Department of King's College London, 22nd June to 3rd July 2015.
- Dr. Ram Prahalad Chaudhuri Department of Commerce Chaired one Technical Session at the 3rd Global Summit on Education (GSE 2015) organized by Koperasi Kolej Universiti Islam Antarabangsa, Selangor held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia during March 09-10, 2015.
- Department of Economics organized, the 2nd International Research Scholars' Workshop on 28-29 July, 2015. Invited lectures by Sugata Marjit, the then VC, CU, Dilip Mukherjee, Boston University and Kajal Lahiri, SUNY, Albany. Presentations by 34 research scholars from Universities in India including JNU, ISI Delhi, Kolkata, IGIDR, IIT Bombay, IIT Ropar, etc.
- The Department of Islamic History and Culture for the first time formed the Student Teachers Committee with the elected members from the student and the committee contributed greatly to the department in organising all the activities including the newly formed Medieval Reading Circle, monthly lectures, International workshop and seminar.
- The 'Journal of the Department of Pali' is being published since 1907. It has two special issues on its Centenary Volume and 125th Commemoration Volume of Prof. Benimadhab Barua. Also it has published numerous Volumes of Encyclopaedia of Buddhism under the editorship of Prof. Bela Bhattacharya.

- Department of Sociology annually held Prof. Bela Dutt Gupta Memorial Lecture the 1st was “Selective Appropriation of Gender Ideology: The Mahila Aghadi of the Farmers’ Movement in Maharashtra, 1996-2004” - by Prof. D.N. Dhanagare, Indian Institute of Advanced Studies, Shimla; 2014
- 11th 21 Day Certificate Course on “Legal and Psychological Counselling for Women in Distress” was organized by the Women’s Studies Research Centre. Ongoing publications in vernacular languages: issues concerning HIV Aids, trafficking, women and disabilities and Domestic Violence.
- Department of South And Southeast Asian Studies arranged, *India-Myanmar Relations: Context of Contemporary Geographical Routes and Linkages*, ISAS Insights, No. 327 – 20 April 2016, Institute of South Asian Studies, National University of Singapore, Heng Mui Keng Terrace, Singapore.