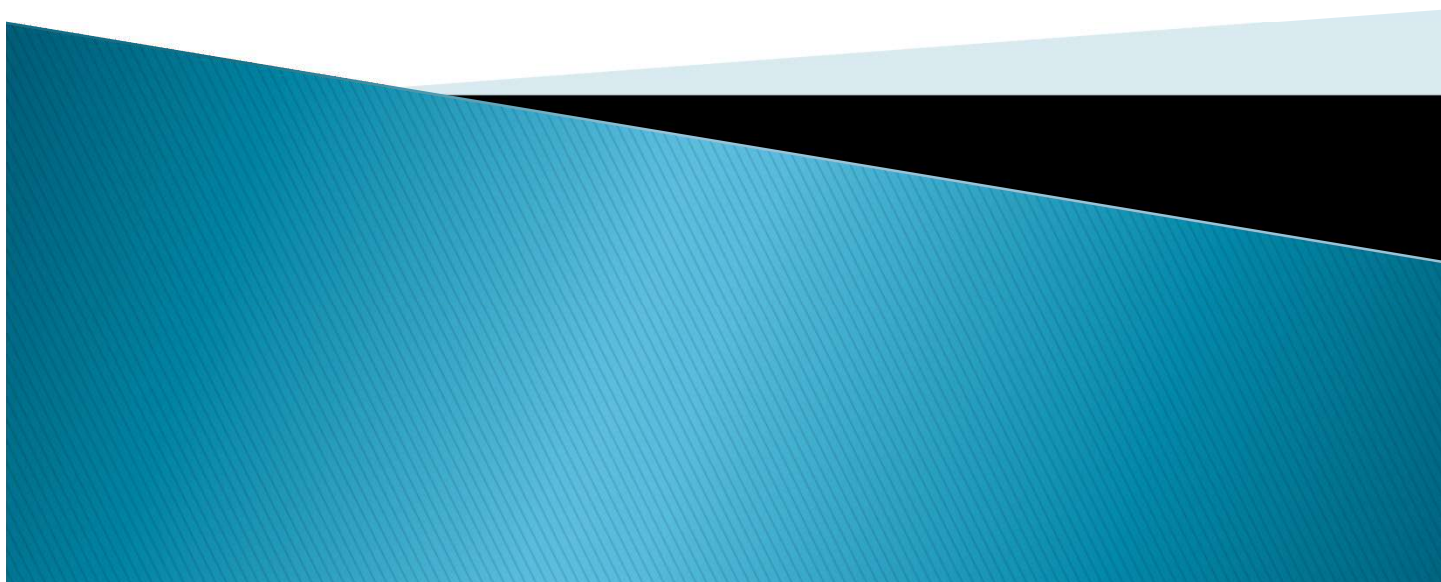


Victoria Institution (College)

78-B, Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road, Kolkata-700009

Workshop / Seminar / Conference

2018-2019

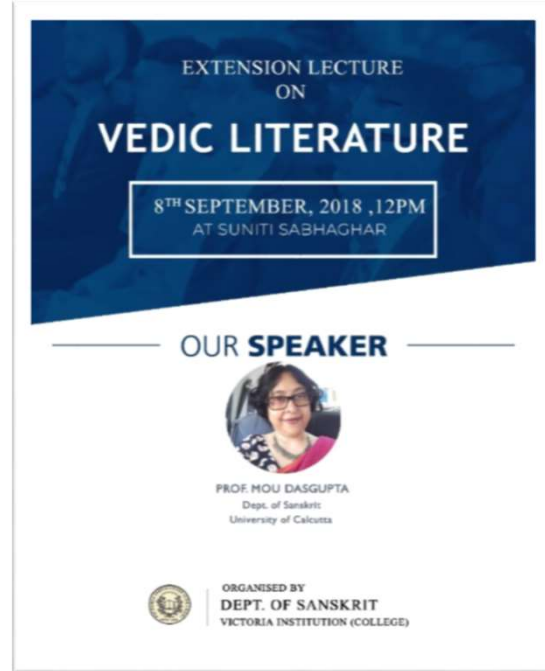


**Victoria Institution (College),
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**Extension Lecture
on 08.09.2018**

An Extension Lecture on “Vedic Literature” has been organized on 8th September, 2018 by the Department of Sanskrit.

25 students of Semester I along with 2nd year and 3rd year honours students of the department have participated in the lecture. The lecture has been delivered by Professor Mou Dasgupta, faculty from the department of Sanskrit, University of Calcutta.

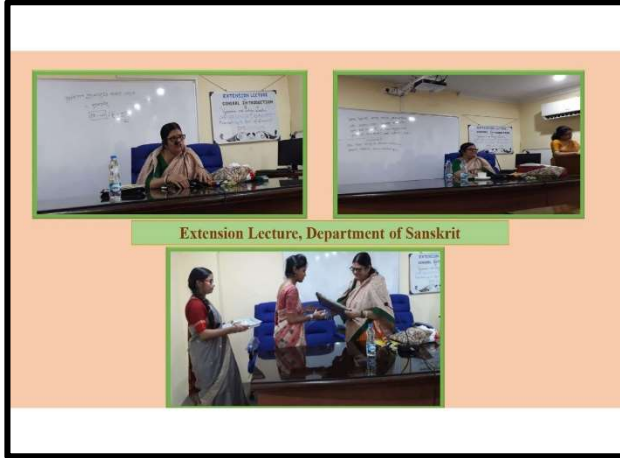
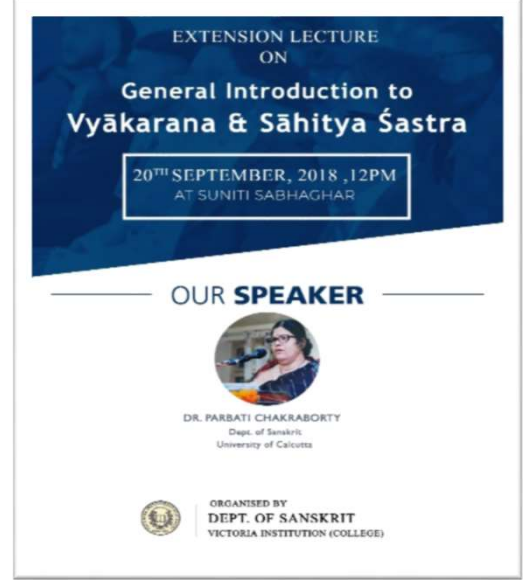


Six teachers of the department have also participated in the programme. The resource person delivered her lecture in a very lucid manner so that students can understand the concept and chronology of Vedic Literature. After the lecture, a question-answer session helped the students to clarify all the doubts. Students participated in the event with great enthusiasm.

**Extension Lecture
on 20.09.2018**

An Extension Lecture on “General Introduction to Vyākaraṇa & Sāhitya Śāstra” has been organized by the Department of Sanskrit on September 20, 2018. The lecture was delivered by eminent scholar Dr. Parbati Chakraborty, Professor, Department of Sanskrit, Rabindra Bharati University.

The topic of the Extension Lecture was very interesting to the students and very much relevant to the current syllabus of CBCS system.



Extension Lecture, Department of Sanskrit

The speaker presented a brief outline of the history and content of Sanskrit Vyākaraṇa (Grammar) and Sanskrit SāhityaŚāstra (Poetics) in quite a lucid manner. At the end of her illuminating lecture, few minutes were also spent for the question-answer session, in which the speaker fully satisfied the curiosity of both the students and the teachers.

**Victoria Institution (College),
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**Extension Lecture
on 10.10.2018**

Department of Economics had invited Smt. Koyali Burman, a field researcher based in Canada to deliver a lecture on *Dialogue Circle: A Model for Community Integration and Development* on October 10th 2018. Smt. Burman talked about developing a non-judgemental platform where participants would be able to share their thoughts and experiences freely.

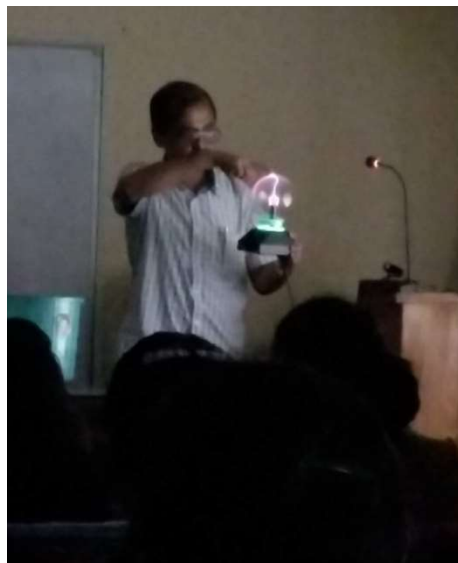


Students as well as the teachers of the department participated in this lecture with great enthusiasm and decided on implementing this model of communication by establishing an interface between various batches of students graduating in Economics from Victoria Institution (College).

**Workshop on Science Awareness and
innovation
on 11.10.2018**

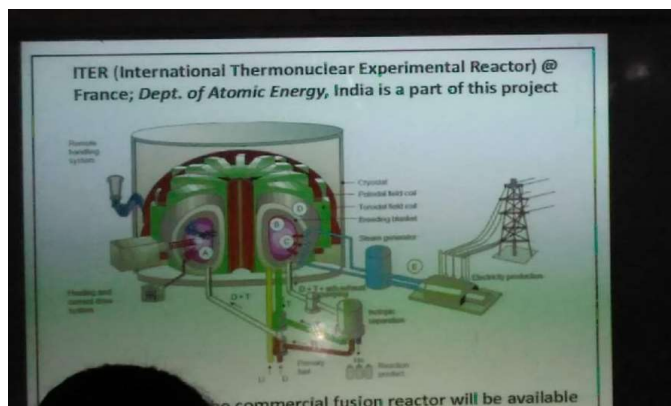
Dept. of Physics, Victoria Institution (College) have organized a day long workshop on Science Awareness and innovation on 11/10/2018. Scientists from the ANURANAN-Science Awareness, a non-profit Society came to our college to deliver several lectures . Theme of the pre lunch session was ‘Universe and its mysteries’, which included three presentations (, ‘Measuring Cosmos’, ‘Evolution of Universe with time’ and ‘Energy options and materials science research’) each of 45 minutes duration.

Post lunch there was an one hour long demonstration of some innovative experiments based on the principles of physics with the theme of ‘Science into our experience’. These experiments were mainly desk-top models with easily available low cost materials which the students could themselves design and try at home.



Resource persons of the various presentations were **Dr. Siddhartha Dechoudhury, Scientific Officer, Variable Energy Cyclotron Center (VECC), Dr. Dirtha Sanyal, Scientific Officer, VECC, Dr. Debashis Bhowmick, Scientific Officer, VECC, Dr. Amit Kumar Jana , who is now engaged in a project called ‘popularisation of science education’ for school and college students and teachers through hands on experiments which are short, simple and low cost under the guidance of Prof. H. C. Verma, IIT, Kanpur and Dr. Bidhan Kumar Bhaumik , Secretary ‘ANURANAN-Science Awareness’ society.**

Near 40 students of our department have participated in this day long programme and enjoyed it thoroughly. They were highly motivated in carrying out new experiments by themselves.



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AnuranaN - Science Awareness

*A registered Society under
West Bengal Act XXVI of 1961
(Registration No. S/2L/42269 of 2015-2016)*

To

September 05, 2018

The Principal

Victoria Institution,
Sealdah.

Regards and respects from AnuranaN for you, the dedicated Teachers, today.

Let me introduce ANURANAN at the very outset.

ANURANAN-Science Awareness, a non-profit Society, has been planned by the Scientists of Bhabha Centre, Kolkata with an objective to interact and inspire students in order to make them passionately curious about Science which would hopefully make them much attentive to studies.

At college level, for the students of physics, we have made a day long program with three presentations, each of duration 45minute, before lunch : one on 'Measuring Cosmos', second on 'Synthesis of elements in Universe and its mysteries' and the third on 'Energy Options and Materials Science Research'. Post lunch, there will be one presentation of duration 1 hour under the title 'Our school days' in which simple experiments will be shown to demonstrate some principles of physics in an interactive manner.

We have already conducted science programs at Narendrapur R.K.Mission Residential College, for physics students, at Lady Brabourne College for B.Sc students, at Guru Nanak Institute of Technology, Sodepur for B.Tech students; APC College, New Barrackpore, Charachandra College, Lake Road, Kolkata; Bejoy Narayan Mahavidyalay, Itachuna, Hooghly; Gobardanga Hindu College, Gobardanga, 24 Pgs.(N); Dinabandhu Mahavidyalaya, Bongaon for B.Sc students in general, Kaliyaganj College, North Dinajpur and also at Sovarani Memorial College, Domjur, Howrah.

We are eager to conduct science program for the students of your esteemed College preferably with 100 students in a Hall with the above mentioned plan. Projector and microphone will be needed. Probable date may be 11th October, 2018.

Thanking you,

With warm regards,

(Dr.Bidhan Kumar Bhaumik)

Retd. Scientist, Bhabha Center, Kolkata & Secretary, AnuranaN Science Awareness Society.

Copy to :

Dr. Shinjinee Das Gupta , Department of Physics.

204, Harsha Tower, 12 A/1 Umakanta Sen Lane, Kolkata 700 030
Ph: +919007522383, +919874989632, e-mail: anuranaN2015@gmail.com

Victoria Institution (College),
78-B, Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road, Kolkata-700009
First lecture of the 4th series of Extension Lecture
(Dec, 2018 - Mar, 2019)
On 04.12.2018

In continuation with the previous years, the department of Political Science organised the 4th Series of Extension Lecture from December 2018 to March 2019, with financial assistance from the Indian Council of Social Science Research, Eastern Regional Centre, Kolkata.

The inaugural lecture was delivered by Professor Sobhanlal Dattagupta, former Surendranth Banerjee Chair of Political Science, University of Calcutta on December 4th 2018 on the evolution of the idea of state, its transformation from the liberal to neoliberal. Professor Dattagupta began by outlining the transition by earmarking the major historical moments which entailed changes across polity, economy and society. Beginning with a brief overview about the pre-modern era state (absolutist), Professor Dattagupta delved into the question of political modernity. The emergence of modern state was thus placed within the ambit of factors like separation of state from religion (idea of secular), separation between state and government, constitutionalism, republicanism, citizenship etc. Emergence of the liberal (modern) state also facilitated the birth of the capitalist political economy which soon confronted a crisis of its own making. Liberal state thus got mired into its first crisis as a result of the capitalist boom and was left with no choice but to evolve and transform its nature to what came to be known as the 'new-liberal state'. The ideas of Locke made a natural progression towards the ideas of Bentham, Mill and Laski, Hobhouse later.



The new liberal state did away with the restrictive idea of the state (the concept of negative liberty) and remodeled state as the ultimate provider of welfare measures to the teeming million thus giving flesh to the concept of social-welfarism. Soon social welfarism was found to be faltering on the threshold of development induced growth which resulted once again in upholding the magic like role of 'capital'. Political theorists like Friedrich Hayek, Milton Friedman, Robert Nozick etc. ushered in the idea of neoliberalism which once again put reason on the virtue of 'rolling back of the state'. Thus the transformation of state from new-liberal to neoliberal saw the simultaneous emergence of an exclusionary, transactional and a purely economic state.

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**Second lecture of the 4th series of Extension Lecture
(Dec, 2018 - Mar, 2019)
On 08.12.2018**

The second lecture of the series was delivered by Professor Shibashis Chatterjee of the department of International Relations, Jadavpur University on the evolution of the idea of citizenship on December 8th, 2018. Professor Chatterjee began by addressing the notion of citizenship from the perspective of identity, statehood, entitlements and individual rights. He thereafter outlined the evolution of the concept of citizenship, beginning with the Greek-Roman period to the times of Machiavelli, Montesquieu, Rousseau to that of Bodin and Hobbes. The journey of citizenship to a highly legal concept revolving around the state authority and its people(citizens) was elaborated sufficiently. A good part of the lecture elaborated on the collapse of the feudal order in Europe and the advent of mercantilism which in turn shaped the modern notion of citizenship to a substantial degree. The relationship between the modern notion of citizenship and individualism was highlighted as was the fundamental shift which was visible

- people were becoming active participants in the order of things, from merely remaining passive recipients.

Having outlined the evolution of the concept, Professor Chatterjee raised the issue of citizenship being a technique attempting to bring about a leveling across population groups. Citizenship, he said, tries to balance out over multiple layers of identity; it subsumes all other identities into its fold of state identity alone. The question which he raised therefore was that, whether citizenship is sturdy enough to hold disparate multiple identities together? Thus, fundamental questions about the project of citizenship were being raised from different political positions like the multiculturalists, the feminists, the neo-republicans and the debate between the advocates of globalization and cosmopolitanism versus restricted citizenship.



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**Third lecture of the 4th series of Extension Lecture
(Dec, 2018 - Mar, 2019)
On 25.02.2019**

The third lecture was delivered by Professor Dipankar Sinha from the department of Political Science, University of Calcutta on 25th February 2019. Professor Sinha, began addressing the issue by placing the question within the constitutional ethos of a harmonious relationship between the legislature, executive and judiciary branches of the Indian government and that of an emerging psycho-sociological trend among India's population that the judiciary is alone capable of greater and effective empathy than the executive and legislature. While the former assertion is an institutional/legal truth, the later observation is reflective of the political behavior of the Indian citizenry, and it is therefore within this theoretical space between the two positions that the question / enquiry / reflection about a pro-active judiciary, its efficacy arises. Professor Sinha very effectively, classified the tumultuous relationship between the judicial arm of the state and its executive-legislative counterpart into four periods, namely: phase of establishment (1950-1967); period of friction (post 1965 – death of Nehru); period of judicial rehabilitation (1978-1989) and period of consolidation and image enhancement. Major trends evident during the above mentioned periods were / are a result of the workings of the state, prevalent politics and democracy.

The first period, the Nehruvian era made parliament as the chief custodian of the constitution. It is this period when the provision of judicial review was introduced and also saw the famous case of A.K. Gopalan (1950), Bela Banerjee versus state of West Bengal which are instructive about this period's trend. Judiciary played its prescribed role but remained subservient to the legislature and executive. Post Nehru era, brought Indira Gandhi at the helm and in terms of her relationship with the judiciary this period has been rightly named as the period of friction (1967 onwards). 42nd amendment of the Indian constitution, Keshavananda bharti case, R.C. Cooper case etc. very rightfully are instructive of the high-handedness displayed by the executive vis-à-vis the judiciary of India. The period of judicial rehabilitation (1978-1989) was a period which introduced an extremely significant and critical element in legal affairs, the Public Interest Litigation. It is PIL which was regarded by the citizens as a democratic tool in the hands of the common man, to be used timely and often against any infringement of rights guaranteed by the constitution. On the other hand, this paved the way for the judiciary to become proactive. The last period beginning from 1989 marked a shift. Judicial activism moved from being legal to being highly opinionated, politicized and ideological.



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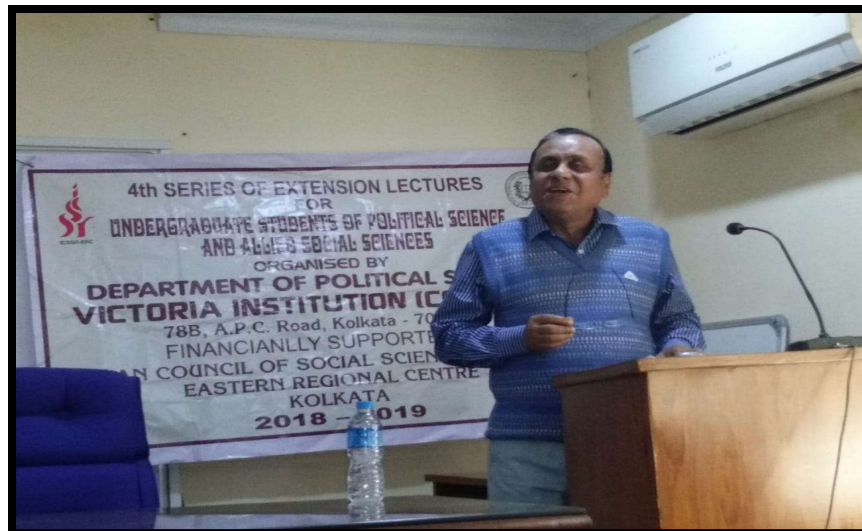
**Fourth lecture of the 4th series of Extension Lecture
(Dec, 2018 - Mar, 2019)
On 01.03.2019**

The fourth lecture was delivered by Professor Tapan Kumar Chattyopadhyay, former professor at the department of Political Science, University of Calcutta on March 1st 2019.

Professor Chattyopadhyay had divided his lecture into two parts; he began by presenting Gandhi's critique of the modern state and then went on to outline Gandhi's idea of an ideal state.

Gandhi's critique of the modern state rested on its impersonal, extremely technocratic – bureaucratic nature, amoral stance, surveillance which together muzzles the spirit of community based living of an individual. Modern state according to Gandhi was also fraught with a mechanical relationship between authority and the citizens which scuttled all kinds of individual growth.

The second part of the lecture was a veritable revisiting the seminal text, the Hind Swaraj, wherein Gandhi had presented his idea of an ideal state. Larger share of the people in decision making, the concepts of self rule and enlightened anarchy, emphasis on man being a moral being and not merely a legal being were highlighted in the second half. The lecture was drawn to a closure with a brief discussion about the various ways Gandhi scholars have viewed him and his relevance in modern day politics.



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**Fifth lecture of the 4th series of Extension Lecture
(Dec, 2018 - Mar, 2019)
On 15.03.2019**

The fifth lecture was delivered by Professor Manabi Majumdar of the Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Kolkata on March 15th 2019.

Professor Majumdar began by elaborating independently the notions of power, authority and legitimacy, and then went on to weave their inter-relationship in its various nuances. The main elements of her lecture rested on the traditional definition of power (Hobbesian); various faces of power (decision making, agenda setting and thought control); the double faced nature of authority, sources of legitimacy;

Max Weber's classification of authority etc. her lecture made a very special reference to the ways in patriarchy utilizes power and here she mentioned the work of Naira Kabir and her concept of power within and power over. Professor Majumdar concluded by saying a few words about the way, power – authority - legitimacy, as an inter-relational concept has been viewed by Michel Foucault.



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**Sixth and Final lecture of the 4th series of Extension Lecture
(Dec, 2018 - Mar, 2019)
On 25.03.2019**

The final lecture of the series was delivered by Professor Pradip Basu of the department of Political Science, Presidency University on March 25th 2019. Professor Basu presented an extremely compelling and graphical view of the various phases, aspects and characters of the Naxalbari movement which according to his opinion had an everlasting impact on Indian politics. Beginning with the inner party struggle within the folds of communist movement centering around the question of ideology to the eventual split in the communist party, the irreconcilable differences which actuated the split to the various stages of the Naxalbari movement, the positional difference between the debatists and the activists (based on the work of scholar Sanjay Seth) were dwelt upon by Professor Basu. He concluded by effectively pointing out and explaining the positive as well as negative impacts that the said movement had on Indian politics. He categorized the natural tendency to militancy and anarchism, lack of proper understanding of the rural political economy of Indian rural population, a fuzzy notion of class and caste dimension of the Indian rural populace as major drawbacks and elemental flaws of the movement.

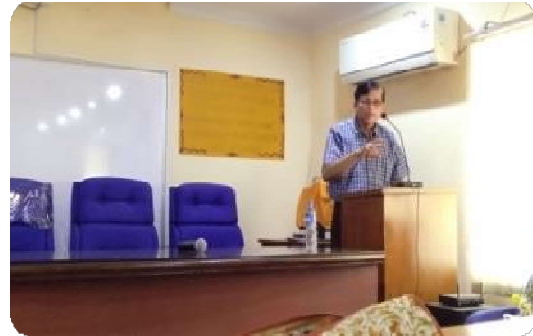
On the other hand, professor Basu enlisted the following as the positive contributions which the movement made for posterity, they being: it presented an alternative to electoral and vote bank politics; the question of poverty received the importance which was long overdue, and the politics of selflessness and sacrifice. It was this lecture, which was followed by a documentary film screening for the students so that it not only helps them appreciate the issue of Naxalbari better but also exposes them suitably to the politics of representation in a very elementary manner. The documentary film that was screened was based on the polemic radical left leader, poet and columnist Saroj Dutta. The title of the film was 'S.D.: his Life and Times'. This film screening was financially supported by the college. All the lectures were followed by extensive rounds of deliberation which saw an unprecedented participation of the students, faculty members of the department of political Science and also from other departments.



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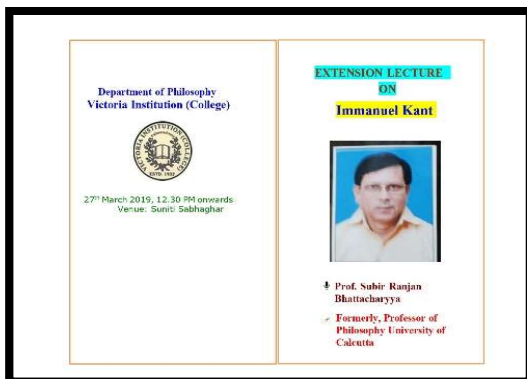
**Extension Lecture
on 27.03.2019**

On 27th of March, 2019, Wednesday, Professor Subir Ranjan Bhattacharyya, former Professor and Head, Department of Philosophy, University of Calcutta, visited department of Philosophy as a resource person to speak on Immanuel Kant, the eminent German Philosopher, for the benefit of the students.



Professor Bhattacharyya is a notable person in the field of Philosophy.

He, however concentrated on The Critique of Pure Reason-the book of repute by Kant. In this book Kant aims to show the limits of what can be known by theoretical reason, and his strategy depends on a distinction between 'phenomena,' objects as we experience them, and 'noumena', i.e., objects as they exist in themselves. He confined his conclusions to the world of experience; Kant can meet the threat of skepticism and put natural science on a firm foundation. The lecture was followed by a question answer session. Around fifty-five students attended the programme



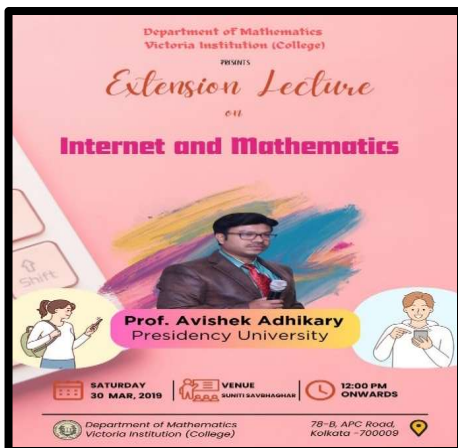
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**Extension Lecture
On 30.03.2019**

Department of Mathematics arranged an Extension Lecture by Prof. (Dr.) Avishek Adhikary, an eminent Mathematician, Presidency University on 30.03.2019 at Suniti Sabhaghar. It was a captivating event that brought together academia and curiosity. With the intriguing topic of "Internet and Mathematics," Prof. Adhikary skillfully navigated through the intricate relationship between these two domains, shedding light on how the internet has transformed mathematical research, communication, and education. The thirty-five students in attendance were not only passive listeners but active participants, engaging in thought-provoking discussions and posing insightful questions to the esteemed speaker.



The Extension Lecture served as a platform for intellectual exchange and learning, where students had the unique opportunity to interact directly with a renowned mathematician and gain firsthand knowledge from his experiences and expertise. It was an enriching experience that broadened horizons and inspired a deeper appreciation for the profound connections between mathematics and the digital world. The topic was "Internet and Mathematics". Thirty five students got the opportunity to interact with the speaker and were enriched by his thoughts and views.



**Seminar and Extension Lecture on
'BIODIVERSITY: IN CONTEXT WITH
MAN-ANIMAL CONFLICT' on 24.04.2019**

A Seminar and Extension Lecture on 'BIODIVERSITY: IN CONTEXT WITH MAN-ANIMAL CONFLICT' was organized by the Department of Zoology on 24.04.2019.

Conflict between humans and animals is one of the main threats to the long-term survival of some of the world's most iconic species.

Honorable speaker of the seminar was Dr. Kuladeep Roy, WWF, India.



20 students of 3rd year (Hons) and 21 students of Sem 1 (Hons) of 2019 and 5 faculty members of the department were present.

All the participants were enriched with this burning scenario of Man-Animal conflicts in the eastern Himalayas, its implications and long-term ecological impacts.