




**VICTORIA INSTITUTION (COLLEGE)
78 B, A.P.C. ROAD
KOLKATA 700009**

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

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INSTITUTIONAL
DISTINCTIVENESS**





Kamal Kutir (The Residence of Keshab Chandra Sen)

NAME OF THE SITE : Kamal Kutir (The Residence of Keshab Chandra Sen)

NOTIFICATION DATE : 05.09.2006

LOCATION :

District : KOLKATA

APPROACH :

Nearest Bus Stand : Raja Bazar Tram Depot **Local Landmark :** Victoria Institution

DESCRIPTION :

The Kamal Kutir or Lilly Cottage is situated at Acharya Prafulla Chandra Roy Road near Raja Bazar Tram depot in Kolkata. The Kamal Kutir presently houses the Victoria Institution - a premier institute of female education which started its journey in 1932 and completed 75 years in 2007.

The beginning of this college can be traced back to the Native Ladies Normal and Adult School, established by Brahmananda Keshub Chandra Sen in 1871. He was one of the noted humanists, harmonizer of religions and a great social reformer of modern India. His purpose was to introduce a comprehensive scheme for female education. In his words, 'specially adapted to the requirement of the female mind and calculated to fit women for her position in the society'. The school started with a handful of fourteen adult students but the numbers soon began to swell. As Sen envisaged that education for women should be both 'natural' and 'national', 'extension lecture classes' were held for the advanced pupils. It would be contextual to mention here that Keshub Chandra's wife, Smt. Jagonmohini Sen was a student of this institution. In 1879, Keshub Chandra founded another school for girls and named it Metropolitan Female School. However, since these institutions had certain inherent weaknesses, Sen established an institution of Higher Education for women at 10 Upper Circular Road. The school was founded on May 1, 1882. According to Keshub Chandra's biography, written by eminent historian Jogesh Chandra Bagal (published by Bangiya Sanitya Parishad) - since January 1883 this school came to be known as Victoria College. After the death of Keshub Chandra Sen on 8 January 1884, it was renamed as Victoria Institution in 1901. In 1911 the institution received governmental affiliation for teaching up to matriculation.

The college is housed in 'Kamakutir' or 'Lily Cottage' - a place which bears the footprints of Thakur Ramkrishna Paramhansadev, Swami Vivekananda, Sri Girishchandra Ghosh, Sri Rabindranath Tagore and other luminaries of Nineteenth-Twentieth century Bengal. In 1927 Maharani Suniti Devi of Coochbehar, the eldest daughter of Keshub Chandra and President of the Governing Body, bought the entire property of Lily Cottage - the present premises of the college and donated the same to Victoria Institution through a trust deed. A steady rise in the enrolment and progressively good academic results prompted Suniti Devi and other members of the Governing Body like Sucharu Devi, Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy and others to dream that the seeds of female education sown by Keshub Chandra Sen should grow into an institution of higher education, teaching modern courses under the University of Calcutta. Thus, Victoria Institution College came to be affiliated under the University of Calcutta in 1932. Unfortunately, Maharani Suniti Devi did not live long to see the progress of the college. After her demise on November 1932, a solemn memorial service was held in Kamal Kutir, presided over by none other than Rabindranath Tagore himself.



Share

Enlistment of Victoria Institution (College) in the West Bengal Heritage Commission website.

https://wbhc.in/home/place_details/ZDFmZDM1MWY0ZDg5ZDgzN2U0YTFiYTZiZGM4ZTMxZGFkYTQ3ZjJkMWU3NDJjYTU5NGFhMTA1ZGNkZWQ4NWY2NWE0NDkzMWVhODFjMjVjNDliYWlON2JiYTgxZWUzODdhYTQ3MDJkZjI4MGNkMTMwZGFmMmM5ZTJjNzkzZWM5NjRBTTVGMEI4QTNzUkhvOWptSG5LVVg1SHNCVGFaTTBlamxzT3o2R0NZSTBrPQ==



কমল কুটির (কেশবচন্দ্র সেনের বাড়ী)
১৯৫৫ পর্যন্ত এখানে স্কুল হোত এবং দোতলায় ছাত্রীনিবাস ছিল ।

19th century snippet of *Kamal Kutir* (Lily Cottage), the residential quarters of Brahmananda Keshub Chandra Sen, which acted as the centre of women's education.



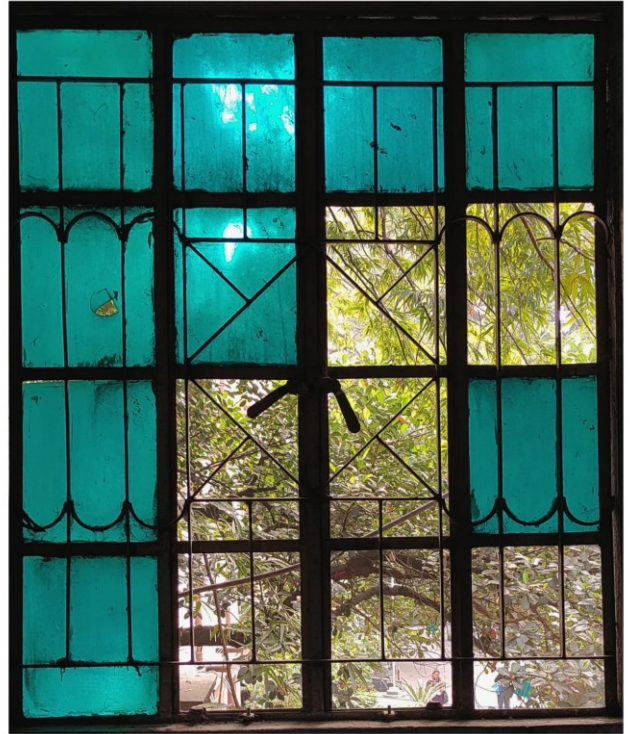
Kamal Kutir (now).



Nabadevalaya
(then).



Nabadevalaya (now).



Inner quarters of
Kamal Kutir.



Objects of personal use.





সৌদামিনী খাস্তোগীর
(Mrs. B. L. Gupta)



মোহিনী সেন (খাস্তোগীর)
পরে কেশবচন্দ্র সেনের পুত্রবধূ

প্রথম ছাত্রীদের
আরো কয়েকজন



যোগময়া গোস্বামী
(স্বামীর বিদায়ক গোস্বামীর স্ত্রী)



কুমারী রাধারাণী লাহিড়ী

প্রথম ছাত্রীদের
কয়েকজন

প্রথম ছাত্রী
৩
ছাত্রী শিক্ষয়িত্রী দ্বয়
(Pupil-teachers)



রাজলক্ষ্মী সেন
(রঙ্গেশ কুমার সেনের স্ত্রী ও
ডাঃ প্রশান্ত কুমার সেনের মা)

First batch of students.

(Soudaminee Khastogir, Mohinee Sen, Jogomaya Goswami)
(Radharani Lahiri, Rajlakshmi Sen)



আচার্য বিজয়কৃষ্ণ গোস্বামী
প্রথম অধ্যাপক। এঁর শিক্ষকতায়
প্রতিষ্ঠানের আরম্ভ।



উপাধ্যায় গৌরগোবিন্দ রায়
প্রথম অধ্যাপকদের অন্যতম। ১৮৭১ থেকে
১৯১০ এ মৃত্যু পর্যন্ত অধ্যাপনা করেছেন
এই বিদ্যালয়ে।

॥ ১৮৭১-৭২ এর প্রথম অধ্যাপকগণ ॥



গিরীশচন্দ্র সেন
প্রথম কর্মকর্তাদের অন্যতম।



শিবনাথ শাস্ত্রী
দ্বিতীয় বৎসরে (১৮৭২ সালে)
অধ্যাপক রূপে যোগ দেন।

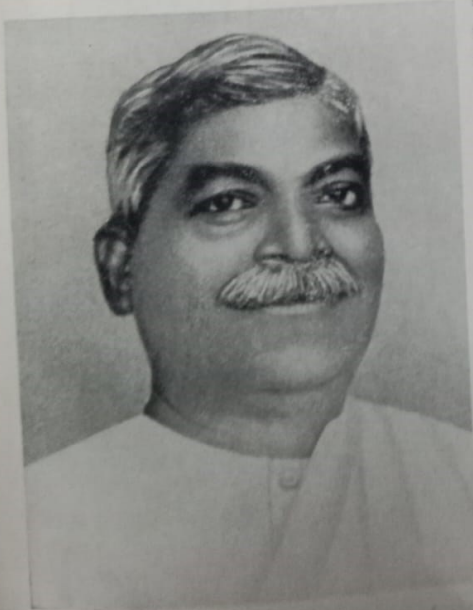
Pioneering Professors of the College.

(Acharya Bijay Krishna Goswami, Gour Gobindo Roy,
Girishchandra Sen, Shivnath Shastri)



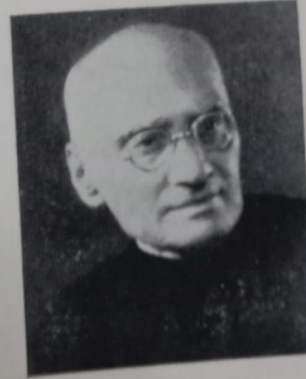
ডাঃ বিধানচন্দ্র রায়
দীর্ঘকাল সেক্রেটারী ও পরে প্রেসিডেন্ট ছিলেন।

শ্রী-প্রফুল্লচন্দ্র সেন
বর্তমান প্রেসিডেন্ট।



সুবোধচন্দ্র রায়
দীর্ঘকাল সেক্রেটারী ছিলেন। এঁর সময়ে
নানা দিকে বিদ্যালয়ের সম্প্রসারণ হয়।

প্রশান্তকুমার সেন
দীর্ঘকাল সেক্রেটারী ছিলেন।
ইনি বিদ্যালয়কে
বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের সঙ্গে যুক্ত করেন।



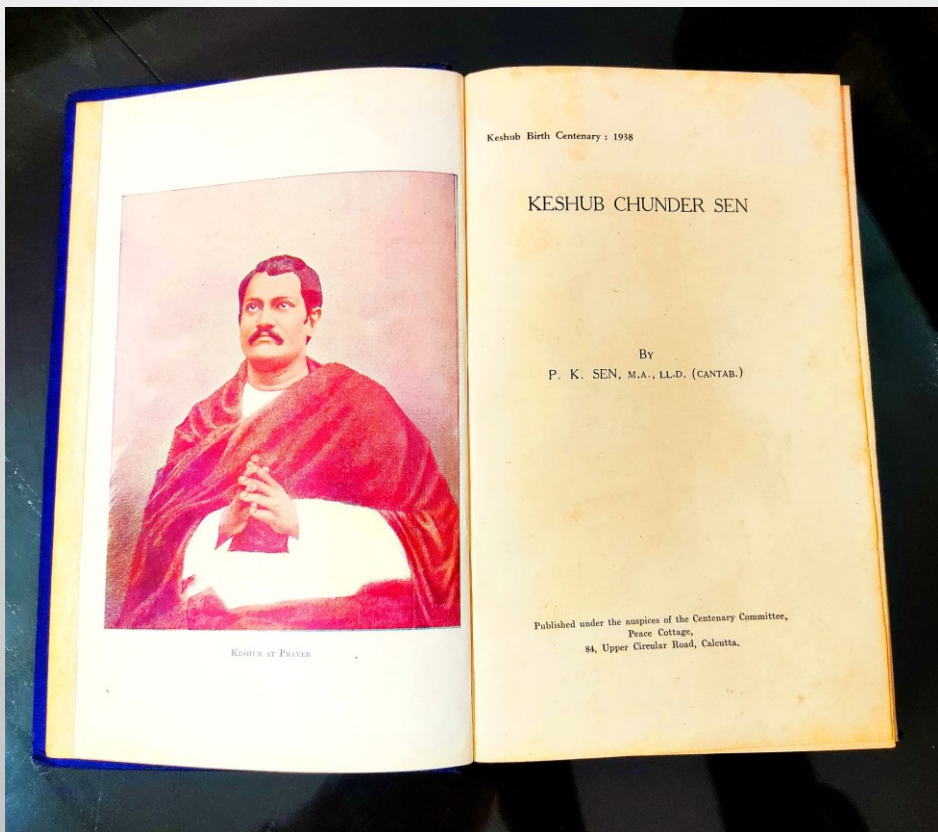
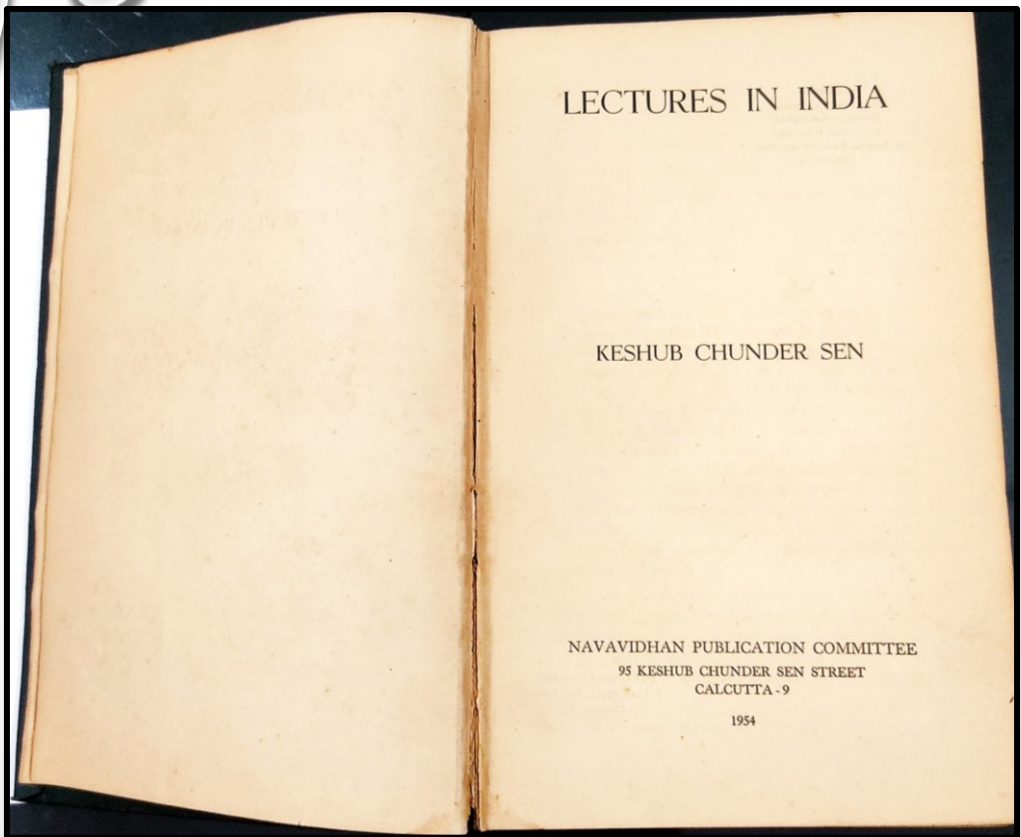
Eminent Administrators.

(Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy, Former Chief
Minister of West Bengal)


(Shri Prafulla Chandra Sen)

(Shri Subodh Chandra Roy)

(Shri Prasanta Kumar Sen)



Rare volumes in the
College Central Library.



Link to Digital Archive - the very repository of the findings of the Heritage Club about Brahmananda Keshub Chandra Sen, his Nabadevalaya and the history of the Institution so far, for the future progeny and researchers interested in this area of study.

<https://victoriacollege.co.in/digital-archive>

- **Link to the Heritage Club** devoted towards preserving & documenting the rich history and heritage of the Institution and its founding family, simultaneously engaging the upcoming batch of students in an interesting research activity altogether.

<https://victoriacollege.co.in/heritage-club>

