

NEWSLETTER

January - June 2023

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY DURGAPUR GOVERNMENT COLLEGE

The year 2023 began for the History Department students and teachers with an excursion to the Indian Museum. As part of their skill-enhancement course, the Third Semester students are given an opportunity to get a glimpse of historical artifacts by taking them to a museum. This time, they visited the more than 200 year old Indian Museum situated in Kolkata on 7th January, 2023. They not only viewed old coins and archaeological specimens, but were able to meet an young professional of the Education Department of the Indian Museum, Ms Jagriti Hazra Chakraborty, who informed them about the purpose of a museum and its varied ways of interaction with viewers in recent times.



The final semester students had the good fortune to attend an international seminar by eminent historian Prof. Dipesh Chakraborty, organized by the Kanyashree College in Behala, Kolkata. On 13th February, this year few students, accompanied by two faculty members went to Sarat Sadan, Behala, to hear this talk, followed by a lively interaction. Our student, Subhasish Chakraborty also put forth his questions to the renowned professor. The students also had the

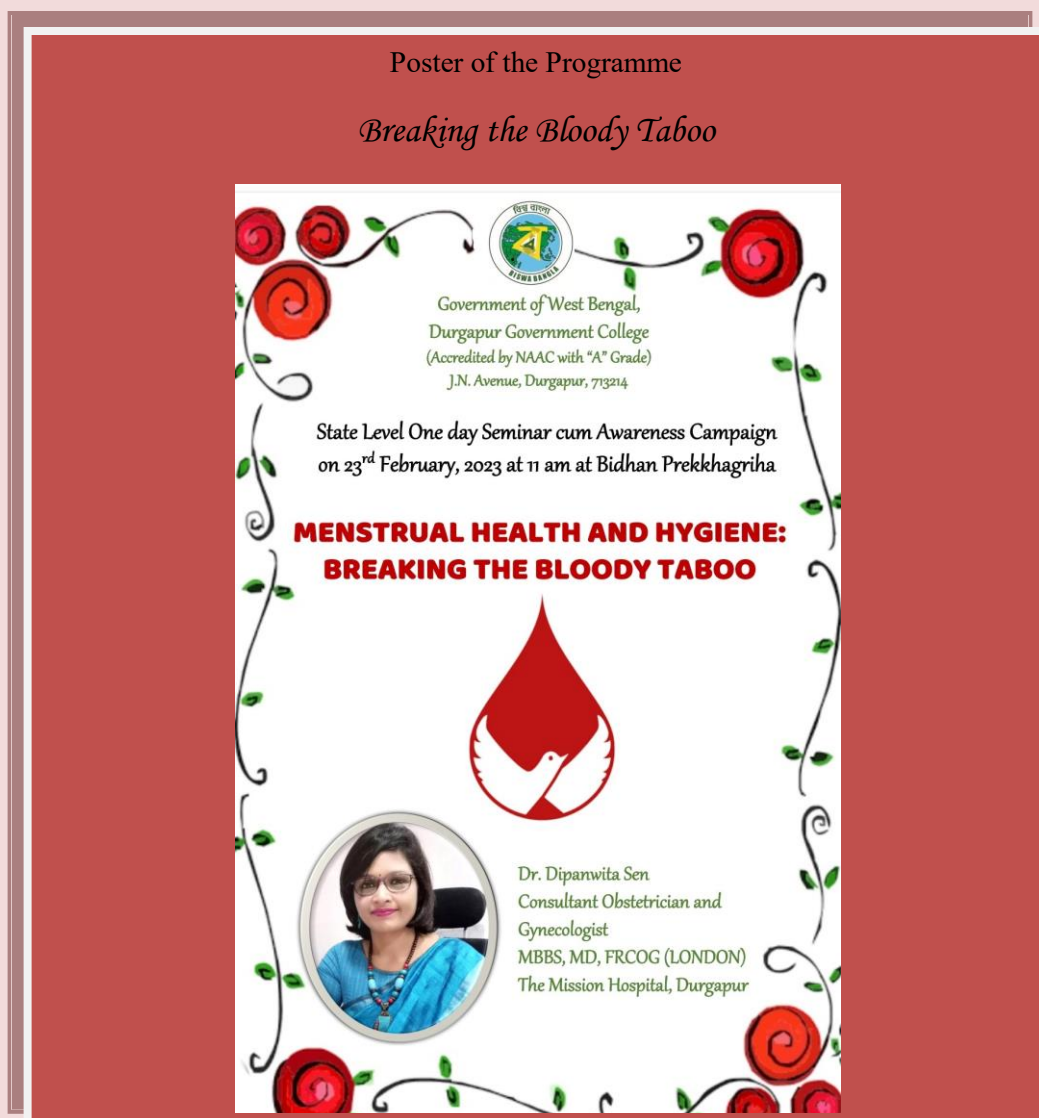
opportunity to participate in a discussion with historian Ranabir Chakraborty, who was presiding over the session.



Students and faculty with Prof. Ranabir Chakraborty

STUDENTS' PARTICIPATION in VARIOUS EVENTS Within COLLEGE PREMISES

On 23rd February, students of our department participated actively in a seminar entitled *Breaking the Bloody Taboo: Menstrual Health and Hygiene*, organized by the Girls' Common Room Committee of the college.



ALPANA COMPETITION IN COLLEGE PREMISES



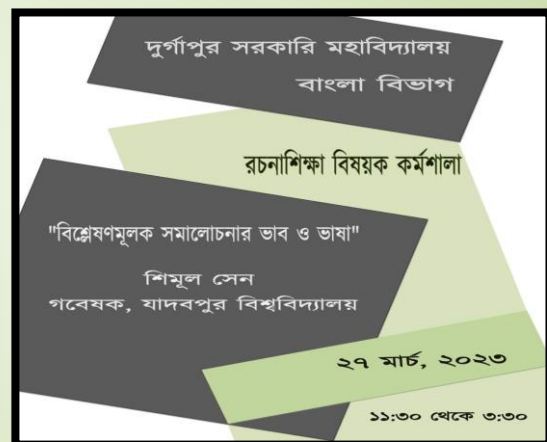
The festival of spring in the month of March is ushered in by an *alpana* competition followed by the celebration of *Vasantosava*. On this occasion, on 28th of February, the History department students represented the department by participating in the *Alpana* Competition. They bagged the 3rd prize.



On 27th March, a very interesting workshop on the nuances of analytical writing, was organized by the Bengali department. Conducted by writer and researcher Shimul Sen, the workshop was open to all students of our college. Few of our 6th semester students who participated were enriched by learning the skills of expressing themselves in a better manner.



Our students along with other participants



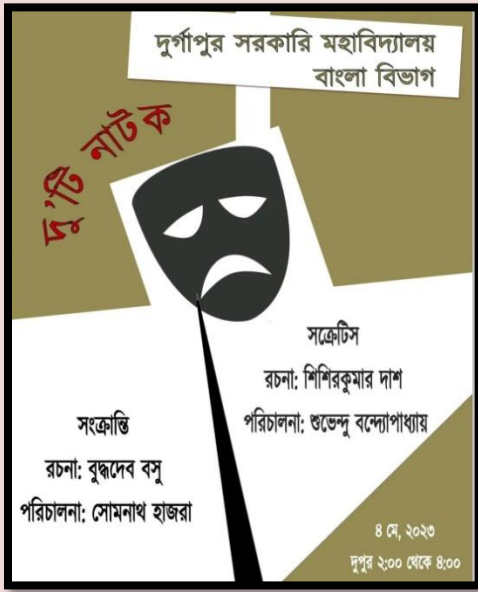
Poster of the Workshop

On 25th March, students and faculty had the opportunity to know about the crisis and pathos of women who were struck in the cross-current of the partition of India in an engaging lecture titled, *Women and Partition*, being delivered by Dr Anwesha Sengupta, assistant professor in the Department of History, Bankura University. Our department was a joint organizer of this programme along with the Internal Complaints Committee of Durgapur Government College and the departments of Bengali and Philosophy.

Anwesha Sengupta speaking in front of a packed audience



On 4th May, two local groups performed two short plays on mythological and classical themes on the college auditorium, which was attended by a large number of students of our department.



Special Lecture organized under Departmental Initiative

On the 13th May, a special lecture has been organized by the department about Women and Culinary Culture in Colonial Bengal, which was delivered by Dr. Suvajit Halder, assistant professor in the Department of History in School of Liberal Arts and Cultural Studies in the Adamas University.



Dr Suvajit Haldar presenting his lecture



The Question-answer session during the special lecture

Students' Seminar by Final Semester Students

On 4th May and 15th May, final semester students presented 12 papers on various themes on the courses - Women and Social Reform in the Nineteenth Century and Modern Nationalism in India, 1885-1947. These were group presentation as part of their Internal Assessment, whereby they had to deliver power-point presentations. The presentations were conducted by associate professors Dr Nandini Jana & Dr Saubhik Bandyopadhyay respectively.



Departmental Achievers

We are really delighted to have two or three very talented students among us, who have excelled in fields outside their curriculum.

Anjali Shaw of 4th Semester (Hons) is a proficient climber and received many awards in rock climbing/ wall climbing competitions in Durgapur and elsewhere. This time, she scaled Mt Renock, a height of 16500 ft. as part of Basic Mountaineering Course of the prestigious Himalayan Mountaineering Institute, Darjeeling. She made us all proud by winning a West Bengal government scholarship, which enabled her to join the course. She also received a silver medal as the second prize for Indoor Artificial Climbing held during the same period.



Subhasish Banerjee of 6th Semester (Hons) received the first prize as his team won in the quiz competition called *Magajstra*, conducted by the college cultural committee on the occasion of the Birth Anniversary of the bard Rabindranath Tagore.



Ranjan Biswas, a student of 6th Semester (Prog), is an avid javeline thrower and received first prize in his college sports meet, as well as in inter-college district championship and in Asansol district meet.



Parent-Teacher Meeting

The parent-teacher-student meet for this session took place on the 26th April, where along with the parents, few students appeared as self represented. In front of the faculty, the guardians expressed their gratitude, but also shared their thoughts and concerns regarding the betterment of their wards, and few voiced their grievances regarding lack of canteen facility also. This meeting is a great forum for interaction among the various stakeholders.





Our ex-student Shraboni Mukherjee, of 2017-2020 batch pursued a degree in Master in Social Work after graduation and is presently employed in the NGO Gram Sathi. She recently participated in a training workshop in Gurgaon, held under the aegis of Kailash Satyarthi Foundation.



Students' and Faculty with the last issue of the departmental wall magazine *Historia*