

THE COSMOS

NEWS LETTER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

DURGAPUR GOVERNMENT COLLEGE

JUNE 2022 -DECEMBER 2022



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Greetings from the Head of the Department

Dear All,

I welcome you all to the Department of Philosophy. The session from June 2022 to December 2022 witnessed a full beaming set of students of the Odd Semester. We had the new comers, the First semester students; all unaware of the College Teaching learning method. We had the batch with just a taste of seniority; our third semester students and also the full bloom and all ripe with the pathos of being a would-be Alumni; the Fifth semester students. Faculties of the Department had all engagements nurturing and nursing the Philosophical thoughts of the students keeping them Philosophically Healthy. The Department took a significant drive to enhance the Reasoning skills and aptitude of students. Students on the other hand had a hearty and ripe time exploring their Philosophizing habits. They presented, wrote poems, and tested hands on painting all harping on one Philosophical mode or the other. This session thus was an experience of hard work, efficient and experiential mode of teaching-learning and to taking steps forwards introducing Students to the present practice of Philosophy worldwide.

Dr. Bhumika Kanjilal

Head. Department of Philosophy



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United we stand: Faculty Members of the Department

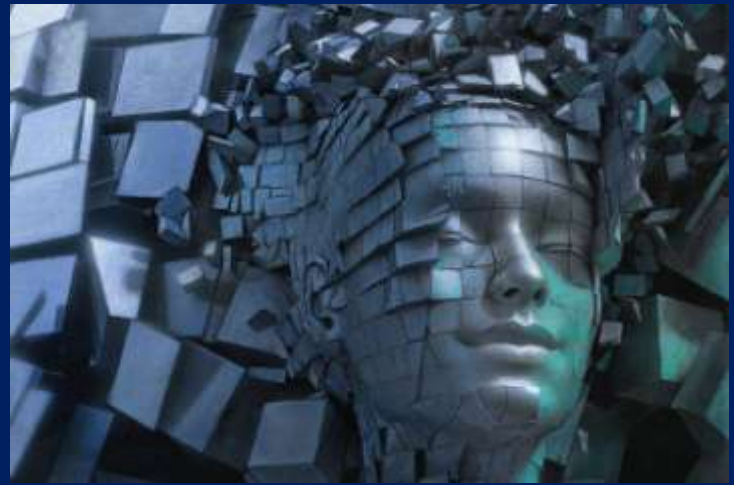
Students and faculty members of the Department of Philosophy spend quality time together. The campus life is a nice combination of learning, practicing and socializing. 2014-2019 witnessed a team of three faculty members for the Department. There was an increase of the number of members to this team in 2020. Now that the Department is running in full strength comprising of five faculty members; there is more space for study, research and innovative learning. Though there is always a work load division in the Department to reduce hazards to the minimal still the Department considers Dr. Shalmoli Palit a senior faculty member of the Department as the chief advisor, Prof. Sujoy Gayen as an extremely efficient planner, Prof. Atasi Rajak as a skillful coordinator and Prof. Sumana Chanda as a young budding talent with multi facets. The theme of the June to December session as will be based on Skill Enhancement of students in the field of logical Reasoning was the conscious effort and decision making of all the faculty members of the Department headed by Dr. Bhumika Kanjilal.



New Announcements:

New Areas of Research and Collaboration

The PPAI, Philosophical Practitioners Association of India working on Philosophical Counselling sessions which is a form of Philosophical practice approached Dr. Bhumiḡa Kanjilal via mail on the issue of collaboration. Philosophical Counselling is an attempt to support those who need a philosopher to decode their uncertainties and concern enabling them to cultivate their inner Philosopher. Dr. Kanjilal was offered an opportunity to collaborate for sessions for students and for the general public. Dr. Kanjilal has just started her journey as a collaborator with the PPAI. Her current research areas being the Philosophical Counselling practiced by J. Krishnamurti; she is all set to help students in particular and ensure their Philosophical Health. Dr. Shalmoli Palit have taken up to the study of Children's Philosophy very recently. Children's Philosophy aims to teach reasoning skills to children. It is research on how a child may answer to pertinent Philosophical questions like what is the mind and what is the brain? Or what is the proof that one exists. The Child may answer from his or her capacity (as per age level) which are interesting for the answers are for many cases quite rational and a possible way of defining complex thoughts.



**I think
therefore
I'm five**

PHILOSOPHY CLASSES FOR YOUNGSTERS

QUESTIONS FOR FIVE-YEAR-OLDS	SEVEN-YEAR-OLDS	TEN-YEAR-OLDS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Why do people shout when they go outside? ■ Why does the music sing so nicely? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Why do people treat animals like slaves? ■ Why are there so many answers to God's questions? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Is life a journey? ■ Does luck exist or is it a myth? ■ Do we ever fully appreciate what we have? ■ Does beauty represent strangeness? ■ If life is a puzzle, does it need to be completed? ■ Could a religion exist that had no believers?

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PRACTITIONERS OF PHILOSOPHY: CLASSROOM TEACHING IN THE DEPARTMENT



Faculty members of the Department consider themselves as Practitioners of Philosophy. They play the role of facilitators in the teaching learning process. Faculties carry on with the mentoring job in special classes. This has helped students both slow and fast learners of both Hons and Program. Faculties facilitate learning by using Flowcharts, schematic presentations and displayed logical derivations. Metaphysical thoughts both from Indian and Western Philosophy which are abstract in nature may be better understood in this way. Logic by itself is a practical science of reasoning and hence use of demonstrations of logical syllogisms and use of logical rules prove miraculously well. The session from June to December showed an increase in interest in students towards decoding reasoning-based problems. Faculties and students alike were found strongly inclined towards the practice of problems based on logical reasoning and also to give the whole endeavor an elevation in relating it with ethical issues which is worthy of appreciation.

LEARNING IS FUN, SHARING AND CONVERSING: LEARNING MADE EASY

Learning is made easy in special classes by faculty members by way of group discussions, sharing of real time stories and incidents and allowing students share thoughts on any issue of social or moral value as a preparation before they may actually enter into a discussion. The idea of Open House Discussion was heartily welcomed by students in special classes. In such a case student are free to choose the topic for the day and anyone of them may volunteer to give a push to the motion. It has been observed that the other participants of the group are easily drawn into the discussion. Faculties observe the whole situation and peep into the discussion by rendering thoughtful insights and meaningful questions which adds to the fun learning. Conversation has thus proved to be beneficial to students in easy picking up and easy entangling of dilemmas.



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EXPERIMENTING WITH THOUGHTS:

STUDENTS' SEMINAR

DEMONSTRATIONS AND PPT
PRESENTATION MADE BY STUDENTS ON THE OCCASION

The Title of the Student Seminar was 'Evaluation of the Living Habits of Students a Study' Students of Semester V participated in the Students Seminar organized by the Department on 19.10.2022. The students of third and first semester of Philosophy Hons along with students from other Departments of the College like, History, Political Science, and English participated in the seminar. Faculties were presented to cheer the crowd and to enthuse the participants. A rigorous practice and hard work preceded the whole endeavor. Participants heartily spoke their mind on issues like the living practices of students and how are these habits eroding values and the sense of morality in students. The participants defended their case on Relief work done during Amphan the cyclone that it is no mere publicity stance made by a few good souls. They asked questions on the usage of mobile phones and philosophized on how a device may connect or for that matter dissociates two souls. The Philosophy of the objective /the material enslaving the human soul was also addressed which is nevertheless an issue to be evaluated on moral standards. The participants were much vocal about the impact of Cinema on Youth. Rational questions were raised as to the viability of Cinemas claimed to be based on real life time stories and cinemas based on fictions. The participants appealed and drew attention on the clattering of the human brain by undue false belief which in no sense should be compared to imagination. The Students Seminar thus provided an in-house platform where participants felt free and performed well. Their sense of freedom could be well observed in their presentation and gesture



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TELLING THE WORLD THAT WE CAN:

SKILL ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM AND ONE DAY STATE LEVEL SEMINAR

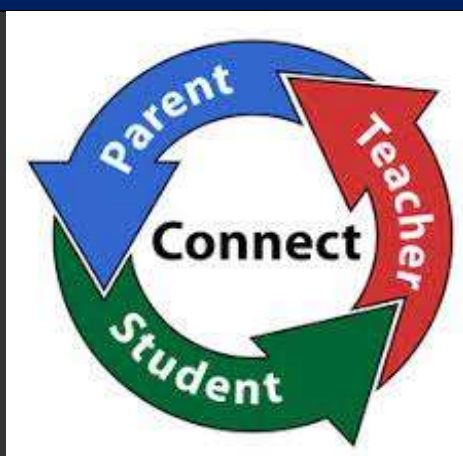
The Department organized Skill Enhancement program on 28.11.2022 and a One Day State Level Seminar on 2.12.2022. These two events had a Students Presentation session and were judged by external experts. For the Skill Enhancement Program an External expert from Kazi Nazrul University, Asansol was invited while for the Skill Enhancement Program the external expert was from Jadavpur University Kolkata. These events were consciously planned to make students aware of the present-day practice in the field of Philosophy which heavily leans on the art of group or collective appearance and also on collective opinion on any philosophical issues. For the Skill Enhancement Program, the faculty members choose the Philosophical story telling sessions mode where students in groups need to defend their case using Logical reasoning as a skill. Students were allowed to participate in total three groups where they need to choose any one incident from the epic stories and need to defend. The two concerned participant may vary in opinion based on the strength of the Logic and reasoning they use. The external Expert Dr. Debabrata Sahia judged the best performance and certificates were given to the participants of the respective groups. For the One Day State Level Seminar the participants had to choose a story from the Jataka tales depicting moral and value and then have to defend their case individually. The student's presentation session was given the shape of a Philosophical Café where a public poll was also taken. For both the events a student was assigned the role of a Philosophical Referee. The participants, the attendees, the faculty members all had a taste of how their adrenalin rush could help in ratiocination.



BUILDING WE FEELING:

PARENT TEACHER MEETING

The Parent Teacher Meeting was organized by the Department on 22.11.2022. Parent Teachers Meetings are for most cases on sensitive issues like the attendance of the student or the internal marks obtained and particularly on the class performance of the students. Faculty members had all such discussions with the parents but on a positive and constructive mode so that the confidence level of either the student or his parent not be harmed in any way. Parents shared their opinions and suggestions and were willing to have more than one such meeting. The students were giving a clear message on the objective of such meeting. The objective was certainly not to demotivate due to low grades as may be true of individual case or to praise exceedingly some in front of others which may affect self-respect. The meeting was certainly to build a strong we feeling amongst teachers-parents-students. This trio may then work on the experiential mode of learning.



The Parent Teacher Meeting resolution and future plan was truly futuristic. Faculty members along with the parents discussed on the summative role of both ends and thus proposed of framing a Philosophy Club where parents and faculty members would join. The club may work digitally keeping communication via WhatsApp group or physically. Parents of Alumni may also be members of the club and may share their experience. The proposed Club may function for the development of communication, peacemaking solutions on issues like learning disorders, living practices so on and so forth; thus, forging through the evils that may creep in young minds. The functions or decisions of the club off course would be forwarded to the Principal, Durgapur government College for his permission.

OUR SHOOTING STARS:

ALUMNI (B.A HONS IN PHILOSOPHY 2019-2020 BATCH)

Students of the 2019-20 batch appeared for the KNU Endsemester2022 Examination. They were 28 in number. All passed for the Examination. We congratulate our Alumni for their hard work. Out of the 28 students, 7 students took admission in Kazi Nazrul University; M.A in Philosophy; First semester 2022-23 batch. Let the sunshine on them forever. Let life give all success to them. Let their desires be fulfilled. This batch was full of life, responsible and thoughtful. They had heartily participated in different activities of the Department like Webinars during the time of the pandemic, seminars post pandemic, educational tour so on and so forth. In cases like Orientation program where we needed their assistance as the senior most class, they had relentlessly extended their help. They had also participated in cultural events like Road Art show organized by the Cultural sub-committee of the College. We had NCC Cadets and NSS workers from this batch. As Alumni they still keep contact with the Department and render their valuable help when asked for. We wish them to supersede us in name and fame.



CREATIONS WORTHY OF APPRECIATION:
POEMS PENNED BY STUDENTS

Philosophy for all Seasons

Philosophy for Summer may be to keep the cool;

Philosophy for Monsoons may be to soak;

Philosophy for winter may be to keep the fire burning;

Philosophy for spring may be to preserve the hues;

*Philosophy for Autumn may be to hold on to that last
twig;*

Is it for the Seasons then or is it for me?

Is it for the Subjective or for the Objective?

Is not then a ReLook inside?

A U turn from outside

Seasons come and go

*Philosophy keeps the brave face for Philosophy accounts
change and Change is Philosophy*

Santanu Mondal

Semester V, (Philosophy Program; 20-21 Batch)



Questioning Life's Proportion

Is Life a tale of Continuous Existence?

Is Life a tale of Memories preserved?

*Is Life a heap of superimposed layers based on now juicy, now
dry segments of time?*

*Epistemology, Metaphysics or Ethics which rules this
Continuous Existence?*

If all does so what may be their proportion then?

*Is it 2 drops of Epistemology, 1.5 drops of Metaphysics, and 1
drop of Ethics?*

*Is it not the case that Proportions presuppose Divisions and
not Continuity?*

*Is it not then that Life embraces all, both Divisions and
Continuity?*

10 **Riya Adhikari**

Semester III, (Philosophy Hons. 21-22 Batch)

THE PROUD MOMENT: STUDENTS AS NCC CADETS



A considerable number of Students of the Department are NCC Cadets and take part in NCC events like World Environment Day, Republic Day parade, Observation of occasions like Independence Day, Gandhi Jayanti, Camp training and the like. Being an NCC Cadets motivates the students to take up a career in armed forces. It develops in students a sense of comradeship, sense of leadership and a sense of secular outlook. Besides it develops a sense of selfless service to the society and spirit of adventure. The NCC Cadets are trained and they take part in social awareness initiatives, in Disaster Management program and Relief work. The Department take special care of students who are NCC Cadets and help them in their studies specially to meet the requirement of the criterion of attendance and their internal assignments. Faculty members arrange extra special classes for such students. Our NCC Cadets are also allowed at times to give inspirational speech to young newcomers on loyalty towards the country, on the necessity of discipline in life and on care and commitment towards fellow cadets. The Department thus benefits from speech giving; in building a holistic practical concept on many Philosophical theories based on Anushashan (Discipline) and Titikshu (patience).

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ADVENTURE: AN ART OF LIVING

STUDENTS OF THE DEPARTMENT TAKING PART IN ROCK CLIMBING ADVENTURE COURSE AND WORLD BYCYCLE DAY



Students of the Department participated in Rock Climbing Adventure Course from 27-31st December 2022. It was a five-day course to Joy Chandi Pahar. Joy Chandi Pahar is a hill in the Purulia district of West Bengal. It is four kilometers from Adra and has an average elevation of 155m (509ft). Participants had their equipment classes every morning. Bouldering practice, the knot class or training which the important part of Rock Climbing is. The Participants had to appear for a PT Theory and Practical exam. There was Camp fire on the closing day of the course. The experience was huge. Hard toil, risk, adventure and fun all was in one package. Students of the Department as participants enjoyed it all.

Four Students of the Department participated in the Bicycle Rally on the occasion of World By cycle Day as part of the Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav held on 3rd June 2022 Organized by Nehru Yuva Kendra Paschim Bardhaman; Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India and Durgapur Sub divisional Sports and Cultural Clubs Coordination Society. They covered a total distance of 120Km from Durgapur Township to Tepantar the Theater Village; Satkhalonia West Bengal. The message of the Event was 'Paddle for the Planet' signifying the case that all living organisms on earth need a pollution free environment to sustain. Moreover, there was message on safe driving and avoidance of accidents on road.



Talents to Cherish: Our Young Artists



Acquaintance:

1. Sukalpa Ghatak, Students of Semester V, Philosophy Program. He is a patient of Cerebral Palsy with 80 percent problem. He is a self-sponsored Regular artist and organizes solo show of his paintings and sketches on themes based on Human species.
2. Sneha Das, Student of Semester III Philosophy Hons. She loves to sketch and paint on themes based on nature.
3. Santanu Mondal, Student of Semester V, Philosophy program. He loves to sketch and paint on themes based on Rural life.



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OUR PICTURE GALLERY



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STAY CONNECTED



A message from the Department to our Students:

The Department of Philosophy, Durgapur Government College believes in Patience and Tolerance. We stand besides our weak students not to make him more dependent but to make him aware that he is stronger than many more in fields unexplored. We become strict with those who may tread the path a little fast only to implant a taste of nobleness. We pass this message to all; with responsibility that there is no harm to lose balance at any crossroads of life since losing balance helps in maintaining balance in life. We build that faith in students that no matter what happens we are always with you all.

Stay Connected.....

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dgcphilosophydepartment@gmail.com

YouTube Channel of the Department of Philosophy-<https://youtube.com/channel/UCfP9r6wYEfmJde>

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO STUDENTS AND ALUMNI MEMBERS

We acknowledge the efforts and contributions of all students and Alumni Members whose hard work went on in the making of this issue: -

Students of Semester I, III and V Hons and Program

1. Sumanta Dewasi
2. Riya Adhikari
3. Sneha Das
4. Ishita Kundu
5. Jamuna Dutta
6. Mamata Mondal
7. Supriya Mallick
8. Chinmoy Ghosh
9. Shankar Konar
10. Raj Bagdi
11. Akshay Hazra

Alumni Members

1. SK, Nasiumddin
2. Roumik Bouri

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