

Conferences and Seminars

2019-20

Webinar ‘The Past and the Present: Delhi’s two Imperial Cities’ on 14th May, 2020

The Department of History organized a successful Distinguished Speakers webinar on 14th May, 2020, during the lockdown period. Convener of the webinar Dr. Saumya Gupta spoke about how it is fascinating to organise a webinar in the time of the current pandemic and lockdown. Dr. Swati Pal, Principal, Janki Devi Memorial College talked about the deep interest of Shri Brij Krishan Chandiwala, the founder of the college, in Delhi and its history. The panellists were renowned historians Rana Safvi and Swapna Liddle. Both delivered enthralling lectures on the history of Delhi from Medieval to Colonial period. Rana Safvi commenced her presentation with defining the term 'city'. When talking about Shahjahanabad, she said it had both the aforementioned attributes; plus, it was situated on the banks of a river; and the country's ruler used to reside there as well. Swapna Liddle started her presentation while talking about how New Delhi is about how Old Delhi is perceived. Shahjahanabad, according to her, has a spiritual and temporal aura of empires that ruled there. She talked about the political agendas of the British in making New Delhi as their capital. The webinar was attended by over 200 people and had an extremely interactive Question and Answers session.



Janki Devi Memorial College
University of Delhi
Department of History



presents

Distinguished Speaker Series Webinar

on

The Past in the Present: Delhi's Two Imperial Capitals

Panelists:



Rana Safvi

Historian, Author of

*The Forgotten Cities of Delhi and
Shahjahanabad: The Living City
of Old Delhi*

Swapna Liddle

Convenor of the Delhi Chapter of
INTACH, Historian, Author of

*Chandni Chowk: The Mughal City
of Old Delhi and
Connaught Place and the Making of
New Delhi*



Session will be on Zoom

14th May 2020

Session Time: 4 PM - 5 PM

Please log in by 3:30 - 4:00

For registration, please fill the Google form:
<https://forms.gle/KVMsdtx7uZkAa4sN6>

For Further details, contact

Saumya Gupta (saumyagupta@jdm.du.ac.in)

Natasha Nongbri (natashanongbri@gmail.com)

Manisha Agnihotri (agnihotri.manisha@yahoo.com)

Talk by Dr. Jyoti Atwal, 28th February, 2020.

In continuation of the film screening held on 24th February, Dr. Jyoti Atwal, Associate Professor at Center for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, delivered a talk on the theme of '*Cinematic Representations of Gendered Violence and Caste in India*'. The talk was well attended by the students whereby Dr. Atwal discussed hindi films with the above theme. The session was highly interactive and clips from different films were also screened during the session.



Janki Devi Memorial College
Heritage History Association



presents a talk on

**Cinematic Representations of Gendered
Violence and Caste in India**

by

Dr. Jyoti Atwal

Centre for Historical Studies,
Jawaharlal Nehru University

Venue: Room no. 16, JDMC

28th February, 2020

10:30 AM

Himanshi Garg
President
09425255220

Sakshi Upadhyay
Vice-President
07011159917

Talk by Professor Syed Ali Nadeem Rezavi, 13th February, 2020

On 13th February, 2020, Heritage, the History Association of Janki Devi Memorial College, organized a talk on 'Making of a School of Architecture: Akbar and Fatehpur Sikri' by Professor Syed Ali Nadeem Rezavi. The President of the History Association, Himanshi Garg, welcomed everyone and the Principal, Dr. Swati Pal, felicitated Professor Rezavi with a potted plant. In her address, she confessed that she finds Fatehpur Sikri more interesting than the Taj Mahal, though the latter has its own significance and beauty.

Prof. Rezavi, who has extensively worked on Mughal architecture, began by saying that the study of people was more important than measurements in architecture. He pointed out that unlike Europe, in India, secular implied 'tolerance for other religions'. In architecture, Akbar tried to borrow religious icons from different religions though it is imperative to not give a religious dimension to it. According to Prof. Rezavi there is no single feature of architecture that is Mughal, rather, Mughal architecture is an amalgamation of various architectural styles of various traditions. Prof Rezavi also spoke at length about the town planning and architecture of Fatehpur Sikri and its decline. The scarcity of water argument is a myth and it was only abandoned as an imperial capital for political reasons. Lastly, in Prof. Rezavi's words "Fatehpur Sikri is a microscope through which we can understand and decipher Mughal architecture"



HERITAGE



History Association, JDMC

presents

A TALK ON

Making of a School of Architecture:

Akbar and Fatehpur Sikri



By Prof. Syed Ali Nadeem Rezavi

Chairman, Centre of Advance Studies,
Department of History,
Aligarh Muslim University

Date: 13th February, 2020

Time: 10:30 AM

Venue: Seminar Room

Himanshi Garg
President
08319112613

Sakshi Upadhyay
Vice President
07011159917

Transformations Across Times, Contexts and Locations' 23rd October, 2019.

A daylong international and interdisciplinary seminar titled '*Forms and Dynamics of Religious Transformations across Times, Contexts and Locations*', was jointly organised by the History and Philosophy Departments of Janki Devi Memorial College on 23rd October, 2019. This seminar was another step forward in the Distinguished Speaker Series in celebration of 60 years of Janki Devi Memorial College. The seminar had two sessions. The first session focused on the theme 'Syncretic Tendencies in Indian History' with Prof. Irfan Habib delivering the keynote address, and Prof. Uma Chakravarti, Prof. Shireen Moosvi and Prof. SZH Jafri as its eminent panelists. The second session conducted by the Philosophy department dwelled on the theme 'Organized Religion in Crisis' with Prof. Christopher Chapel of Loyola Marymount University and Prof. Rakesh Chandra of Lucknow University as its distinguished speakers.



Janki Devi Memorial College

The Distinguished Speakers Series



FORMS AND DYNAMICS OF RELIGIOUS TRANSFORMATIONS
ACROSS TIMES, CONTEXTS AND LOCATIONS

Keynote Address:
Prof Irfan Habib

PANEL I:

(11:45 AM to 1:45 PM)

Speakers:

Prof Uma Chakravarti

Prof Shireen Moosvi

Prof S Z H Jafri

PANEL II:

(2:15 PM to 4:30 PM)

Speakers:

Prof Christopher Chapple

Prof Purushottama Bilimoria

Prof Rakesh Chandra

Venue: The Library, JDMC
23rd October, 2019
10 AM

An International & Interdisciplinary Seminar organized by the Departments of
History and Philosophy

Convenors: Dr Ruplekha Khullar (9811815504) Dr Manisha Agnihotri (9871688048)
Dr Jayanti Sahoo (9910913529) Ms Natasha Nongbri (9213682004)

'Gandhi in His Times and Ours', 4th October, 2019

'Gandhi in His Times and Ours', organized on 4th of October, 2019 was a daylong seminar under Janki Devi Memorial College's Distinguished Speaker Series. The seminar was organized by the History Department and Gandhi Study Circle of Janki Devi Memorial College.

The seminar consisted of four panelists from a variety of academic disciplines. Professor Alok Rai, Professor Shahid Amin, Dr. Nishikant Kolge and Dr. Rinku. The keynote speaker for the seminar was Prof. Sudhir Chandra a renowned historian and scholar. Seminar commenced with planting of saplings by Professor Sudhir Chandra, Alok Rai and Shahid Amin. Thereafter, Dr. Saumya Gupta addressed the gathering on behalf of the Gandhi Study Circle. Dr. Saumya gave a prolific start to the seminar by giving an introduction on the importance of Gandhi in present times. She spoke about how Gandhi needs to be remembered and debated and most importantly how the present solicits a need to engage with Gandhi and his philosophy of truth in days of fake news. Dr. Swati pal, principal, Janki Devi Memorial College also addressed the gathering and spoke about the importance of Gandhian philosophy in the foundation of Janki Devi Memorial college. The Teachers In charge Natasha Nongbri then addressed the gathering on behalf of the History Department and introduced the keynote speaker.

Professor Sudhir Chandra gave an enthralling keynote speech at the occasion where he spoke about the importance of mother tongue and the importance of Gandhi in the present times, whether it be with reference to the crisis of non- violence or the crisis of environment. The keynote speaker was so well received that the jam packed hall echoed with a long round of applause in response to the address by Prof. Chandra.

After a break for tea, the session opened with the talk of Professor Alok Rai, who spoke about the idea of Hindustan and how it became a Hindi land. He referred to Gandhi with reference to his propagation of Hindustani over Hindi Language. The next in line of the distinguished speakers was Professor Shahid Amin who spoke about Gandhi in the context of his close relations with the peasants. He touched upon interesting anecdotes and testimonies of peasants from Champaran etc.

The post lunch session was chaired by Dr. Saumya Gupta who introduced the last two distinguished speakers, Dr. Nishikant Kolge and Dr. RinkuLamba. Dr. Nishikant Kolge delivered his talk on an important aspect of Gandhi that is,'his practical consideration was as important as his moral and philosophical considerations'. He made his point through Gandhi's idea of non violence and how it was used as a strategy by him many times. Dr. Rinku Lamba spoke on a rather interesting and new aspect of Gandhi's understanding of religion and politics through the prism of Kabir and the Bhakti movement. The program ended with a vote of thanks by Dr. Sandhya Garg, member of the Distinguished Lecture Series Committee and Dr. Manisha Agnihotri on behalf History Department, JDMC.

Janki Devi Memorial College
The Distinguished Speaker Series

Commemorates 150th year of Gandhi Jayanti

Gandhi in His Times and Ours
Keynote: Professor Sudhir Chandra

Panelists:
Prof. Alok Rai
Prof. Shahid Amin
Dr. Nishikant Kolge
Dr. Rinku Lamba

Venue:
The Library, JDMC,
October 4, 2019
9:30 am – 3:30 pm

Organized by the Gandhi Study Circle & History Department, JDMC

Convenors: Dr. Saumya Gupta, Ms. Natasha Nongbri, Dr. Manisha Agnihotri

9818155197, 9213682004, 9871688048

Dr. Vijay Nath Memorial Lecture and Distinguished Lecture Series- 3rd September, 2019

As part of the distinguished lecture series and Diamond Jubilee celebrations of Janki Devi Memorial college, the fifth Dr.Vijay Nath Memorial Lecture was delivered by renowned historian and archaeologist Prof. Nayanjyot Lahiri on 3rd September, 2019. The Vijay Nath Memorial lecture series is an annual event organized by the Department of History Janki Devi Memorial College, which commenced in the year 2015. The Teacher in charge of the history department Ms. Natasha Nongbri welcomed all the guests in the jam-packed seminar room. Dr. Swati Pal, principal of the college addressed the gathering and also called for a two minutes silence in memory of Dr. Vijay Nath. She then invited Professor Lahiri to deliver the memorial lecture titled 'The Archaeologist and the Prime Minister - A Nehruvian Era Story' . The lecture delivered by Professor Lahiri beautifully captured the personality of Nehru not just as a Prime Minister but also as an admirer of the great heritage that the nation takes pride in. The distinguished speaker presented a very academic and heritage loving side of the first Prime Minister. The anecdotes and the vivid pictures of his visits to these monuments reflect Pandit Nehru's very accomplished aesthetic sensibilities. The talk was extremely well received with a question and answer session that followed it. The program concluded with lovely memories of Dr. Vijay Nath shared with the audience by retired professor of the History Department Prof. Kumkum Srivastava. Lastly, Dr. Namita Sethi Convener of the Distinguished Lecture Series presented the vote of thanks to the speaker, faculty and others present on the occasion. Himanshi Garg of History Hons. III year, the history association president also gave vote of thanks on behalf of the history department. History.



Janki Devi Memorial College

Distinguished Speaker Series

and

HERITAGE: HISTORY ASSOCIATION

present

Dr. Vijay Nath Memorial Lecture

by

Prof. Nayanjot Lahiri

(Prof. of History, Ashoka University)

**'The Archaeologist and
the Prime Minister
- A Nehruvian Era Story'**

3rd September, 2019 at 9:30 AM

Seminar Room