PRESIDENCY UNIVERSITY KOLKATA



MAY 2024



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DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

Department of Political Science Presidency University, Kolkata

invites you to a talk on



THE GAZA CONFLICT: A TALK BY PROF. KINGSHUK CHATTERJEE

On 23rd of April 2024, the Department of Political Science had Prof. Kingshuk Chatterjee as the speaker of the talk, highlighting the complex histories of the ongoing conflict in the Gaza Strip region between Israel and the Palestinian Arabs. Prof. Chatterjee emphasized the major structural determinants of this conflict while talking about the demographic shifts in Israel and the Gaza Strip, western mediation in the region, conflict over space and infrastructure, and the way in which this conflict is affecting the regional balance. More than fifty listeners gathered for the talk.

SCHOOL OF ASTROPHYSICS



COLLOQUIUM AT THE SCHOOL OF ASTROPHYSICS

The School of Astrophysics invited Prof. Subhasish Banerjee, Ashoka University, for a talk in the colloquium series held on the 3rd of May 2024. The title of the talk was" Ethics in data-driven models and AI/ML," where he examined some ethical considerations in purely data-driven predictive analytics applications. The issues arising from the possible unreliability of data-driven analytics models when deployed in the wild were discussed in the first part. In the later part, he highlighted the risks in automating decisions about people, particularly those related to the possibilities of bias, unfairness, and discrimination. The session threw an insightful venue for the significance and application of the data driven model of AI/ML.

PROF. SHYAMAL SENGUPTA MEMORIAL SYMPOSIUM



"Towards Realising SSG's Dream: Testing the Quantumness of Increasingly Massive Objects." was the main idea behind the symposium arranged by the school of Astrophysics in the centenary tribute to Prof. Shyamal Sengupta, a legendary figure of Presidency Physics. The talk was followed by a tribute session chaired by Prof. Biswarup Mukhopadhyaya (IISER Kolkata), where speakers like Prof. Parongama Sen, Prof. Indra Dasgupta, Prof Anirban Kundu, Prof. Ananda Dasgupta reminisced about their experiences and learnings from the eminent physicist. Prof. Debasish Sen and Prof. Abhishek Dhar shared their contexts virtually. The hall was filled with nearly sixty students.

DEPARTMENT OF LIFE SCIENCES



AN INTERACTIVE SESSION ON FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESEARCH AND NETWORKING IN GERMANY

An interactive session with Dr. Katja Lasch, Director, DAAD Regional Office, New Delhi, was organized on the 10th of May 2024 at Presidency University, College Street Campus, Kolkata. The program was attended by PG students, research scholars, and faculty members of different departments of Presidency University and other universities/ institutes around Kolkata. DAAD is one of the reputed Foundations in the world that sponsors students for new PhD fellowships to do their PhD in German Universities/laboratories. They also offer fellowships to those candidates who are doing their PhD studies in Indian Laboratories and want to pursue a part of their PhD study in a German Laboratory for a few months (sandwich program). They also provide a short travel fellowship for faculty members to establish collaboration with German laboratories. The primary intention of this meeting is to foster networking among various German fellowship holders, including Humboldt, DAAD, Max Planck, and Other fellowship recipients located in different institutes around Kolkata.

DEPARTMENT OF PERFORMING ARTS



VADYAM AND NRITYAM

The Department of Performing Arts organized a music workshop cum demonstration under "Vadyam" – the instrument series on 24th of April,2024 in Black Box Theatre. The resource person was "Mandola Joy," the multi-instrumentalist, one of the exponents of Indian Classical Music instrument playing.

A dance workshop cum demonstration was also organized under "Nrityam" – the dance workshop series on 25th of April,2024 and 26th of April,2024 in Dance Studio. The resource person was Dr. Madhura Damle. Dr. Damle, Assistant Professor (Political Science), Presidency University, Kolkata, is also a trained Kuchipudi artiste. A disciple of Vanashree Rao and, subsequently, Dr. Madhuri Majumdar, she has been performing Kuchipudi for the last seventeen years.

NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME (NSS) CELL, PRESIDENCY UNIVERSITY



AWARENESS PROGRAM ON WORLD MALARIA DAY

Malaria is a life-threatening disease caused to humans by a parasite called Plasmodium, which is spread through the bite of infected mosquito mosquitoes predominantly in many tropical and subtropical countries. Each year, nearly 290 million people are infected with malaria, and more than 400,000 people die of the disease. Hence, World Malaria Day is celebrated on April 25 to raise awareness about the disease, prevention, and control. Hence, an awareness program was organized by Unit III, NSS Cell, Presidency University, through oral presentations by student volunteers. Further volunteers walked around various classes talking about ways to reduce mosquito breeding and, hence spread of malaria

INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON "PROTECTION OF RIGHTS OF ELDERLY PEOPLE IN INDIA: SOCIO-LEGAL ISSUES, CHALLENGES AND PRIORITIES IN THE MODERN WORLD



On April 25th and 26th, an International Seminar on "Protection of Rights of Elderly People in India: Socio-Legal Issues, Challenges, and Priorities in the Modern World" was jointly organized with Surendranath Law College, Kolkata, at the AK Basak Auditorium in Presidency University. The keynote speaker for the event was Hon'ble Justice Biswaroop Chowdhury from the High Court, Calcutta. This seminar addressed the gaps and challenges in the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007. It aimed to bring together civic society, caregivers, medical experts, social workers, and youth to discuss the socio-legal framework for older people in India and explore pathways for policy reform and improved elderly care.

It was a two-day program. On the first day, the invited speakers for the event were—Prof. Bianca Brijnath from the University of Melbourne, Prof. Irudaya Rajan from International Institute of Migration and Development, Prof. Arunagshu Talukdar (Head of the Department of Geriatrics) of Medical College Kolkata; Dr. Anindita Ray Chakravorty, Head of Department of Food and Nutrition, Maharani Kasiswari College; Prof. Azara Abidi Head of Department of Sociology from Jamia Milia University; Mrs. Nilanjana Maulik, Secretary of ARDSI Kolkata Chapter, and other eminent faculty members and speakers.





On the program's second day, distinguished faculty members from esteemed Colleges of West Bengal, such as St. Xavier's University, Maharani Kaseswari College, and Surendranath Law College, participated. Assistant Professors of different institutions presented more than 10 papers. Several research scholars and final-year master's students working in Ageing and Elderly Rights also attended on the second day to make the event a grand success. Around 200 members, including NSS volunteers, students, faculty members, and external beneficiaries (other college faculty members, students, and NGO personnel), attended the event to make it a success.

CLEANING THE CAMPUS (SWACHATA MISSION)



NSS Cell volunteers of Unit 2, Presidency University, cleaned the campus area under the 'Swachhata Mission' on 25th May 2024. Several NSS volunteers of Unit 2 participated in the program and facilitated the Swachhata Mission. Our motto was to clean the campus environment before the ensuing monsoon as no waste materials and leaves may cause any unhealthy situation. They also monitored if there was any stagnant water on the campus or not, as it may cause mosquito-related diseases.

UPKEEPING PLANTS IN SUMMER



Focusing on proper plant upkeep becomes crucial in summer to ensure they thrive in the challenging conditions ahead. This drive was held during the hottest seasons to promote a drive for caring for plants. Volunteers empowered gardeners and plant enthusiasts with the knowledge and tools to ensure their plants thrive during the summer, contributing to a greener and healthier outdoor environment.

SUCCESS STORY

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to Ms. Barninee Das on her recent success. Her achievement is commendable and a testament to her hard work and dedication. We hope this serves as motivation for all students. Presidency University wishes her continued success in all her future endeavors.



Barninee Das

3rd Year, 6th Semester of Economics Department, Presidency University for securing AIR 1 for admission to the Master of Science in Quantitative Economics programme, 2024-2025 at Indian Statistical Institute.

