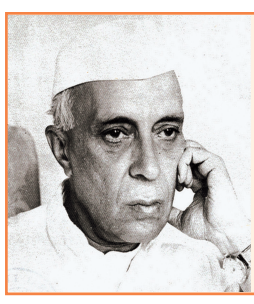




Bimonthly Journal of Jawaharlal Nehru University



A University stands for humanism, for tolerance, for reason, for the adventure of ideas and for the search of truth. It stands for the onward march of the human race towards ever higher objectives. If the Universities discharge their duties adequately, then it is well with the Nation and the People.

Jawahar



The symbol is a graphic statement which stands for international academic exchange and onwards search of knowledge for the betterment of human being.

The overlapping circular segments of the design denote global interaction, creating a flame emitting enlightenment, this flame emerges out of the traditional Indian 'diya' (lamp)-a source of Light, Understanding and Brotherhood.

The design is also representative of the rose-bud closely associated with the name of Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru.



JNU News is a bimonthly journal of Jawaharlal Nehru University. It serves to bridge the information gap and tries to initiate constant dialogue between various constituents of the University community as well as with the rest of the academic world. Views expressed are those of the contributors and not necessarily of JNU News. All articles and reports published in it may be freely reproduced with acknowledgment.

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JNU News had a free ranging discussion with the Vice Chancellor on his thoughts after completion of a year as the head of the university. He highlighted both achievements and areas of concern. The interview:

JNU News: You have completed more than a year as Vice Chancellor – has it lived up to your expectations?

VC: Expectations – one is expectation from self and from others. After visiting all the schools and the feedback that I got, I developed plans that I wanted to execute. I laid my road map and hence initially I had expectations from myself not from others. We wanted to reform our administrative system in small ways but those that would lead to bigger gains in future. However I realized that we have to move gradually since we needed to activate the system of governance and delivery. A few targets we have been able to achieve.

We were able to fill many positions in the administration – Registrar, Finance Officer, Deputy Registrars, Librarian, Assistant Librarians, Assistant Registrars, SO's and some more – many of which had been vacant for a very long time. We have also implemented promotion policies for the administrative staff. We have now initiated training of the staff to increase their competence – in-house training to begin with; workshops on administrative matters. We have also started online computer training.

We were able to complete the promotion of all those Faculty (around 20) whose promotion was due upto 2008. For all others the process is on and we will take up all these cases of promotions very shortly.

The other reform that we could initiate is the online admission and registration of students. This has by far been successful, however needs further refinement and is a very satisfying experience since many were apprehensive about it.

I am also happy that today we are able to issue final certificates to the students within 4-6 weeks after his/her having completed a program. At the time I joined I was signing degrees of students who had passed out in 2008. Foreign students are especially happy that they get their degree before they leave the country. We are now developing e-tracking theses system so that one is able to get the reports etc on time. Work on this is already on.

I must also mention that last year we were able to put up our accounts and activity report to the Parliament on time; probably this has been done for the first time in many years. Finance is currently following file tracking on biweekly basis. At present this is a manual system but we should be able to develop a system to e-track the files!

There are some problem areas which need more attention – projects cell for example. We have now got all the information

An interview with Vice-Chancellor

on the new projects, about 110 or so, computerised. We send online reports to all PIs every two months, so that they can check the records. While there will be every attempt to help the faculty in purchase etc, and clear their papers on time, one has to realize that an Institute has to have some financial discipline. We have also now appointed a committee to suggest ways and means for the governance of the project cell. I meet all officers regularly. We follow on the tasks assigned to each one of us and report in the next meeting. It is not easy to get people to do what they are supposed to do but I'm hoping that by the end of this year more rigour will set in.

We have been able to stream line some regulations in the Estate branch. Lot of information on the collection of dues etc was missing. This has now been computerized and the bank accounts are reconciled regularly. This had not been done for over 6-7 years. Due to this reform our internal receipts have increased. We have also put everything under rate contracts, so one doesn't need to get quotations etc for buying regular store items. The Engineering section still needs lot of improvement and we are trying to make it more efficient and responsive. We are also developing an electronic way of filing complains. The e-complaint software is ready and will be launched soon. This will also help the officers to have an overview of the number of complaints and the action taken.

JNU News: In effect you are moving towards e-governance.

VC: Yes. Each section will be e-governed first and then the whole University. The problem with establishing a robust e-governance system earlier was lack of data. We did not even had concrete information regarding the number of students or the research projects etc. So, first we started by working on that and that's where we are slowly moving ahead.

JNU News: I'm glad you talked about administrative reforms because that was one thing you had mentioned was your priority and there seems to have been a lot you have accomplished and some areas you are working on.

VC: Yes, a lot needs to be done yet. We have constituted a committee headed by the Rector which will further look into the ways and means to improve our functioning. We have already delegated powers. The financial power of Deans etc has been also increased so that the time spent on taking decisions and the movement of files is decreased.

JNU News: A year ago we had talked about that in the interview where you had said that you wanted elections and a student's body as a medium of dialogue with the students. Now we have a union and you are happy about it but do you think things will improve now?

VC: I am happy that student elections were held and we have a student body functioning. I am in touch with them or they keep coming and let me know the problems of the students in general or of a particular student. As far as possible I try my best to help.

In conversation with.....

One thing we have to understand is that the VC doesn't have all the power to do anything or everything. There are a lot of constraints under which one works and within these constraints we try and resolve as many issues as possible. A few days back there was an interaction session of students with the librarian to discuss and find answers to the matters related to library. We hope more such sessions are organized. These are helpful as we come to know about what we need to do.

JNU News: Again a year ago you said you had an academic vision for JNU. There it was more a matter of convincing people, changing the mindset. Do you think you have been able to get people on your page?

VC: Not absolutely. What I have done is I have visited all the Schools and a lot of Centres. I interacted with the faculty as well as the students. One concern is to increase the quality of output and research. We have to compete with ourselves and the idea has to be that I have to do better than myself. Also we need to introspect and find out if we are better academically than what we were two decades back! I came to know through these meetings what research is being done in different centres. With this information we have been able to organise an interdisciplinary seminar series where the Social Sciences seminars are held in Science schools on topics that are of interest to both and vice versa so that the students get better exposure to other areas as well. We were also able to convince students to start their own intellectual series. We are also planning to start trans-disciplinary research clusters. Recently faculty members from different science schools put up a joint project to the DBT and it has already sanctioned to the tune of about 17 crores. A few faculty members have also floated a group on cognitive science. They are holding seminars and should be able to submit a joint project for funding soon. A few faculty have signed an MOU in Climate Biology and Glaciology and here the School of International Studies and Social Sciences along with three other universities, Jammu University, Kashmir University and Sikkim University are going to submit a mega project. On three programmes, public health, education and climate change we are connecting ourselves to the Meta University concept.

JNU News: This Meta University is the proposed one in Delhi with Delhi University, IIT, JNU, Jamia etc. So, have admissions and other modalities been worked out?

VC: It is clear that in future education is going to move out of the boundaries of the campus. The urge of the student or for that matter the faculty is sometimes more than we can provide at one place. Knowledge is growing and the pool of knowledge is so huge that interaction is necessary and required.

The model and modalities of functioning of Meta University is not very clear. We had some discussion about this in Deans' committee meeting. A committee is being formed to look into this. Once it is clear it will be discussed in various bodies and in the Academic Council.

I should also mention that today higher education in India is also an issue about quality, accessibility besides numbers. That is

where places like JNU are so important because we provide education even to students who cannot otherwise afford it. Places like JNU are needed for innovation and quality education with social relevance.

JNU News: But what are we doing in places like JNU? Our USP has been the teacher student ratio which has gone out of the window in the past few years and it can't improve even after all the recruitment because the demand to take more students will always be there. In a sense our university has already lost its edge of having every teacher in a centre know every student. A lot of things used to get done with this close interaction between the two. Now we are turning into any other university with lectures and so on as the new method.

VC: That is a problem and unless interaction is there between the teacher and the student that edge would not be there. While this is true for teaching Masters students I still feel at the M.Phil./Ph.D level this cannot be an excuse. Nevertheless I am hopeful within next year if we are able to do recruitments as planned, we hope to achieve an overall ratio of 1:10 which is what I am looking to achieve as of now.

JNU News: This brings us to the question most teachers and students are asking, what is happening with the recruitment?

VC: As you know the recruitment process was with held for want of clarification and adoption of UGC norms. Through a number of meetings we have now crossed this barrier. I must thank all the faculty for their understanding and help in this process. We have also now received a letter of approval from MHRD to our modified statutes. The recruitment process is on way.

JNU News: Tell us a little about the role of the IQAC. What kind of benchmarks are they going to establish?

VC: We had to get ourselves NAAC accreditation first, as we were losing out on grants, equipments etc. The NAAC report, a huge document, was made ready and sent to the NAAC office. This was a major task..The idea of the IQAC is to see that the quality norms for recruitment and promotions are adhered to. IQAC will also analyse our publications and research and also teaching to constantly monitor the progress and standard of the university. Basically it is a quality management cell.

Due to the ranking systems, everybody talks about where JNU stands in world ranking! I have my own views on this. However IQAC is also doing some research to develop our own ranking system.

JNU News: When we had talked to you the last time you had a set of priorities. Now one year into the job, do you have a different set of priorities or maybe areas that need immediate attention?

VC: The broad priorities are the same – academic excellence, increased output, provide better facilities and responsive administration. In order to move in all the directions, during this

In conversation with.....

tenure we had four Academic Council meetings, four Executive Council meeting, financial meetings, two court meetings and we could take some concrete decisions. We have moved ahead on all fronts and I am confident that the effect of some of the initiatives we have taken will be felt in the years to come.

JNU News: So there is a sense of achievement in terms of administrative matters. What do you think are the specific incidents you would remember from the first year a few years down the line?

VC: I think it would be, our effort to move towards e-governance, bringing the faculty from different schools to hold joint seminars, develop trans-disciplinary thinking, holding Deans' meeting in Schools rather than in Administration, starting language empowerment cell, initiating training programs in AIRF, and other training workshops conducted through EOO office and of course the student elections. And another would be the hunger strikes – which also gave me and Rector, who would handle these issues very well, a different kind of experience. My greatest satisfaction is my meeting with the students on the open day as also on other days. With them I could talk about their academics and also they would let me know their problems with respect to teaching, research and living. On individual basis I could take up their problems and find solutions. Many who left or those around communicate their views, their satisfaction or otherwise, personally as also through emails. I enjoy meeting and talking to students.

JNU News: What have been your greatest disappointments?

VC: One cause of concern is the speed at which we work. Despite working for long hours I am unable to meet my targets.

Even some of my own commitments I could not fulfil. In our governance system one is dependent on others. For example we wanted to create better facilities, like cafeteria for faculty, in our Guest House, improve Faculty club and ISA office and others. This did not mature. Another disappointment has been the lack of timely response from the Schools, Centres and from the faculty. For example, we had requested all the faculty to fill up a form, for which a format was provided (one page only) describing their background, interest and academic output. So far only about 200 faculty have responded!

This year I wish to spend more time attending to the issues and problems of IHA and Library. The DSW and the Librarian have taken new initiatives and I am hopeful that we will start seeing some positive changes. I am meeting all the concerned to see that the annexe building are completed on time. For this we have now been able to get necessary grant from UGC. We are also working towards making this campus barrier free. For this we were able to get grants from the Ministry of Social Welfare. Other smaller initiatives on providing more ATMs, improving roads, repair work in hostels and old transit houses, etc have been taken. For this we were able to get some grants from UGC. We have also got grant for providing fire safety in the Library as also in some science schools. SBI has given some grant for making a good Children Park!

I only hope I can come upto my own and others' expectations. I have so far received lot of support from everyone and hope this will continue.

JNU News: Thank you very much Vice Chancellor for the interview.

Movement

New Chairperson/Coordinator

- ◆ Prof. Vijayachandra Naidu, as Chairperson, Centre for South, Central, Southeast Asian and Southwest Pacific Studies, School of International Studies
- ◆ Prof. Krishnendu Ghosh Dastidar, Centre for Economic Studies and Planning, School of Social Sciences, as Coordinator, EXIM Bank-JNU Library

Administration

- ◆ Mrs. Shipra Awasthi as Assistant Librarian, Central Library
- ◆ Sh. Mukesh Kumar, as Senior Assistant, Administration Branch
- ◆ Sh. Naveen Bisht as Senior Assistant, Administration Branch

- ◆ Sh. Sunil Devasia as Senior Assistant, Administration Branch
- ◆ Sh. Mayank Kashyap as Senior Assistant, Accounts Section, Finance & Accounts Department
- ◆ Sh. Bhagwat Kumar Pandey as Lift Operator, Engineering Branch

Retirements/Resignation

- ◆ Prof. Christopher S. Raj, Centre for Canadian, US and Latin American Studies, School of International Studies
- ◆ Prof. Sankar Basu, Centre of Russian Studies, School of Language, Literature and Culture Studies
- ◆ Sh. K. K. Jain, Private Secretary, Office of Vice-Chancellor, JNU
- ◆ Sh. Naresh Kumar, Section Officer, Evaluation Branch

Movement

- ◆ Smt. Susheela S. Narayanan, Section Officer, PFP Section, Finance & Accounts Department
- ◆ Sh. Chand Narain, Section Officer, Academic Staff College
- ◆ Sh. Ratan Mani, Assistant, Evaluation Branch
- ◆ Smt. Tapasya Sharma, Assistant, Bill Section, Finance & Accounts Department
- ◆ Sh. Sube Singh, Caretaker, School of International Studies
- ◆ Sh. Ghanshyam Pathak, Office Attendant, Brahmaputra Hostel
- ◆ Sh. Mohan Lal, Plumber, Engineering Branch
- ◆ Sh. Manohar Lal, Wireman, Engineering Branch



◆ **Dr. K. Kasturirangan**, Member, Planning Commission, is the new Chancellor of the University. He assumed office on March 30, 2012. His appointment is for a period of five years.

Achievements/Awards



◆ **Prof. Sudhir Kumar Sopory**, Vice-Chancellor JNU was conferred the award of D. SC (Honoris Causa) in recognition of his contribution as scientist, outstanding teacher and academic administrator, by Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, in their 94th Convocation held on 17 March 2012.



◆ **Prof. V. K. Jain**, School of Environmental Sciences has been appointed as Vice-Chancellor of Doon University, Dehradun, for a period of three years.



◆ **Dr. Alka Acharya**, Centre for East Asian Studies, School of International Studies has been appointed as Director, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi, for a period of two years.



◆ **Prof. Niraja Gopal Jayal**, Centre for the Study of Law and Governance, has been awarded the Sanjaya Lal Prize 2011 by the Board of Oxford Development Studies for her article "A False Dichotomy? The Unresolved Tension between Universal and Differentiated Citizenship in India"



◆ **Sh. D. P. Tripathi**, JNU Alumnus has been elected as Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha)



◆ **Dr. Anup Kumar Das**, Documentation Officer, Centre for Studies in Science Policy, School of Social Sciences, was declared the runner up in the 2011 Emerald Digital Usage Award. This award was instituted by the Emerald Group Publishing Limited, United Kingdom in partnership with student competitions.com. The title of his award winning business plan was "Enhancing Digital Usage of E-Journals by Researchers and Scholars at Jawaharlal Nehru University, India".



◆ **Sh. Yeshraj Singh Pal**, Section Officer has been appointed as Assistant Regional Director in Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya, Wardha.

Achievements/Awards

पुष्प प्रदर्शनी 2012 में पुरस्कृत जेएनयू के बगीचे

जवाहरलाल नेहरू विश्वविद्यालय की उद्यान शाखा ने दिल्ली कृषि-उद्यान सोसायटी, डिविजन आफ फ्लोरिकल्चर एंड लैण्ड स्केपिंग, भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान संस्थान (भा.कृ.अ.स.) द्वारा जिनेटिक्स डिविजन, भा.कृ.अ.स., के प्रांगण में आयोजित पूसा उद्यान शो 2012 में भाग लिया।

यह प्रतियोगिता दिल्ली और नई दिल्ली के सभी प्रदर्शकों (सरकारी अथवा गैर- सरकारी एजेंसी / संस्थानों / निजी संगठनों / राजदूतावासों / होटलों / क्लबों / पौधशालाओं / व्यक्तिगत (निजी) श्रेणियों के लिए खुली थी। दिनांक 22.02.2012 को भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान संस्थान पूसा, नई दिल्ली की निर्णायक समिति ने प्रशासन ब्लाक के सामने का बगीचा, कुलपति आवास का बगीचा, अरावली अतिथि गृह का बगीचा, डीन (छात्र) कार्यालय के सामने स्थित बगीचा, कुलदेशिक का निजी बगीचा और आवास सं. 1318 पूर्वांचल के बगीचे का भी निरीक्षण किया।

उपरोक्त पुष्प प्रदर्शनी में जवाहरलाल नेहरू विश्वविद्यालय को निम्नलिखित पुरस्कार प्रदान किए गए-

1. डी.ए.एच.एस. चैलेंज कप — कुलपति आवास के बगीचे को दिल्ली और नई दिल्ली में आबंटित सरकारी आवासों में सर्वश्रेष्ठ मध्यम निजी बगीचा के लिए प्रदान किया गया।
2. डी.ए.एच.एस. चैलेंज कप — अरावली अतिथि गृह के बगीचे को दिल्ली और नई दिल्ली में स्थित संस्थानों, राजदूतावासों, होटलों और क्लबों में स्थित सर्वश्रेष्ठ लघु बगीचा के लिए प्रदान किया गया।
3. डी.ए.एच.एस. चैलेंज कप — प्रशासन भवन के सामने स्थित बगीचे को दिल्ली और नई दिल्ली में स्थित सार्वजनिक सर्वश्रेष्ठ विस्तृत बगीचा के लिए प्रदान किया गया।
4. डी.ए.एच.एस. चैलेंज कप — डीन (छात्र) कल्याण कार्यालय के सामने स्थित बगीचे को दिल्ली और नई दिल्ली में स्थित सार्वजनिक सर्वश्रेष्ठ लघु बगीचा के लिए प्रदान किया गया।
5. नीति सिंह स्मारक चैलेंज कप — कुलदेशिक के निजी बगीचे को दिल्ली और नई दिल्ली में स्थित सर्वश्रेष्ठ अति लघु निजी बगीचा के लिए प्रदान किया गया।
6. डी.ए.एच.एस. चैलेंज कप — आवास सं. 1318, पूर्वांचल के बगीचे को दिल्ली और नई दिल्ली में स्थित आबंटित सरकारी आवासों में सर्वश्रेष्ठ अतिलघु निजी बगीचा के लिए प्रदान किया गया।



कुलपति आवास



अरावली अतिथि गृह



प्रशासन भवन



डीन (छात्र) कल्याण कार्यालय

7. एस.पी.एस. राघव चैलेंज कप — जवाहरलाल नेहरू विश्वविद्यालय को गमले में स्थित सर्वश्रेष्ठ गेंदा (अफ्रीकी) के लिए प्रदान किया गया।
8. डी.ए.एच.एस. चैलेंज कप — उद्यान शाखा, जवाहरलाल नेहरू विश्वविद्यालय की पौधशाला को 20 और 30 गमलों (एक-वर्षीय पुष्पीय तथा पर्णावली) के सर्वश्रेष्ठ समूह के लिए प्रदान किया गया।

Achievements/Awards

विश्वविद्यालय उपरोक्त पुरस्कारों से गौरवान्वित हुआ है जोकि उद्यान शाखा / इंजीनियरी विभाग और सभी उद्यान कर्मियों (मालियों) के अथक प्रयासों से संभव हो सका है। विश्वविद्यालय के उच्च अधिकारियों के प्रोत्साहन और सार्थक योगदान के कारण ही उद्यान शाखा इन पुरस्कारों को पाने में सफल हो पायी है।

सुनील कुमार
उद्यान अधिकारी

Jawaharlal Nehru University seeks co-operation with Ghanaian University

A four member delegation from Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), met with the Vice Chancellors of the Universities of Ghana and Cape Coast.

The delegation, under the leadership of Prof. Sudha Pai, Rector and Pro-Vice-Chancellor of JNU, was in the country to explore bilateral relations and collaboration with the two universities, in the areas of science research and African Studies, through exchange programmes.

Ghana and India have similar curricula thus a strong academic link between them undertaking joint research projects, to be funded by the Indian University, would be beneficial to both countries.

Prof. Sudha said when the collaboration takes off, professors from Ghana could enjoy a year's sponsorship to JNU to do research studies.

JNU would again network with the University of Ghana to train its students in African studies and expose them to African perspectives.

Professor Sudha acknowledged Ghana's rich traditions and cultural values, and said the JNU would therefore, sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of African Studies of the University of Ghana, towards achieving that objective.

The other members of the delegation were Professor Harjit Singh Advisor, International Collaboration; Ajay Dubey, Chair of the Centre for African Studies and Subodh Narayan Malakar of the School of International Studies

**Ajay Dubey, Professor,
Centre for African Studies, SIS**

Campus Activities

Archives on Contemporary History

A new website has been designed for the Archives on Contemporary History (also known as the P.C.Joshi Archives). It showcases some parts of this very rich and unusual collection of materials on the history of the Communist Party and the Indian left generally, carefully assembled and catalogued by the first General Secretary of the Communist Party of India, P.C.Joshi. It currently hosts two small virtual exhibitions of photographs, most of the P.C.Joshi Memorial lectures that have been delivered over the last decade or so, some of the indexes that are available for consultation by scholars, and links to related websites. Please do visit the ACH at: <http://www.jnu.ac.in/Academics/Schools/SchoolOfSocialSciences/Archive/default.html>

This year, the ACH organized, in collaboration with Ambedkar University's Centre for Community Knowledge, an Oral History Workshop for students chosen from JNU and AUD. Held over five weekends, the students were addressed by several oral historians of note, such as Nonica Datta, Suroopa Mukherjee, Chitra Joshi, Pradip Kumar Datta, and Shahid Amin. They presented the oral histories that they collected on the last day of

this workshop on March 31, 2012. These interviews will form part of the ACH and CCD. The response to the workshop was very encouraging, and hopefully it will be repeated in the years to come.

The P.C. Joshi Memorial lecture for 2012 was delivered by Nikhil Dey, renowned founder member of the Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangathan, and principal force behind the Right to Information Campaign. His well-attended lecture, 'Participatory Democracy and the Future of Dissent', was presided over by the Rector Prof Sudha Pai and chaired by the lawyer-activist Usha Ramanathan.

ACH is making every effort not only to digitize existing materials in the archive, but also to expand the collection by inviting donations from members and activists of the Indian left, of all affiliations. It is planned to organize a seminar and exhibition towards the end of the year on left cultural activism, ranging from writing and poetry to drama and cinema, in the period from the 1940s to the 1960s.

**Janaki Nair, Chairperson
Archives on Contemporary History**

Campus Activities

International Food Festival



26 January – Republic Day of India – has significance as well in JNU. It is now a tradition for all foreign students of JNU to assemble at Jhelum lawns and cook their national food. This year

19 countries participated in this appetizing event: Vietnam, Laos, Palestine, Tajikistan, Bangladesh, Iran, Syria, Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Thailand, Tibet, Armenia, South Korea, Nepal, Uzbekistan, Indonesia, China, France and India. The NGO "Unnoticed children of JNU" had its stall too. The event witnessed the graceful presence of Vice-Chancellor, Prof. S K Sopory as chief guest, and Rector Prof. Sudha Pai, International Student's Advisor Prof. Alka Acharya and Deputy High Commissioner of Bangladesh Mr. Mahboob Salleh as special guests. Vice-Chancellor noticed the huge popularity of the festival and promised to help ISA finding a new venue for the International Food Festival next year. Guests from inside and outside JNU enjoyed delicacies made by international students as well as colorful country presentations following the event.

Surajkund Fair & Akshardham Temple Trip

A one-day trip to the highly acclaimed annual national handicraft fair – the 'Surajkund Mela' – and the magnificent temple, 'Akshardham', was organized by the ISA on 5 February 2012. Around 40 international students in JNU visited both places. Needless to say, the participants were absolutely mesmerized by the immense cultural diversity of India as displayed in the range of the handicrafts, cuisine and textiles. The vibrant colours and energetic folk dances were also fascinating and captivated the international students. The architecture of the famous Akshardham Temple had us all spellbound. The high point of this excursion was the fountain-show in the temple.



Freshers Welcome Party



To welcome the new entrants to the campus this semester, ISA organized a welcome party at the ISA office on 12 February.

Students hailing from different corners of world came in large numbers to the get together. 'Freshers' were welcomed with flowers and the 'tika' – the traditional Indian practice of putting a dot of vermilion powder on their forehead. This event combines the objective of familiarizing the new entrants to the campus and building contacts, with loads of fun and laughter. The delicious Indian sweets, cakes and snacks were loved by everyone. Some enthusiastic students put up a show consisting songs and dances which helped in promoting camaraderie and friendship.

Bikash Kumar Mishra
President, ISA, JNU

JNU's Eco-Warriors

The next time you throw a used cup, a plastic wrapper or a piece of paper anywhere inside the Jawaharlal Nehru University campus, you might find the guy standing next to you pick it up and put it in a dustbin nearby. The JNU Eco-Club, a students' initiative to make the campus cleaner and greener, has been running cleanliness drives since February this year at major get-together points in the university premises to discourage littering. The initiative with the larger aim to encourage the habit to reduce, reuse and recycle has since been joined by nearly 200 people from the university fraternity, mostly students.

The Club has held three cleanliness drives since February. In the first phase a popular open-air eatery inside the campus, 24*7; Sabarmati hostel lawns and Godavari Dhaba were cleaned with the help of nearly 30 volunteers. The second phase took place in March at 24*7, Sabarmati lawns, KC Market and Ganga Dhaba. The third phase was run in early April in the surroundings of the following hostels – Tapti, Mahi-Mandawi, Koyna, Shipra, Lohit and Chandrabhaga apart from 24*7 and Sabarmati lawns.

The Club's president Phakharuddin Ansari, himself a Masters final semester student of CCFS/SLS says, "Over the last four years I have seen a drastic reduction in the green environ of JNU. Many new buildings and hostels have been accommodated on patches covered with green trees earlier. Unfortunately, the loss has not been compensated adequately." He adds, "We want JNU to be a role model of a green and environment friendly campus."

The Club, however, has not limited its activity to the campus alone. In the sixteen months of its existence since being formed on November 14, 2010, the club has to its credit three cycle rallies, one of which went all the way to Sariska in Rajasthan. In the last cycle rally to Dahoj village in Haryana, the club members shared the villagers' concerns about the ecological degradation in the Aravallis. The club also ran an

Earth Hour campaign last March and has organised many a plantation drive.

Next on the Club's 'To do list' apart from the cleaning up campaign is the water issue. The nearly 1000 acre campus which is home for around 7,000 students from various corners of India and abroad has hardly any water source of its own. The campus suffers deep water scarcity during summers. Mr. Ansari says, "We intend to run campaigns to create awareness among the university community. Through such campaigns our goal is to make people sensitive about not only water but other environmental concerns as well."

Talking about Club's future plans, he says, "Coming monsoon we are planning to launch a massive tree plantation program and engage every single student to do their bit. The campus can easily become a lush green and beautiful eco friendly zone if we all associate with the campaign." How will the Club do it, and Ansari says that they expect cooperation from the JNU administration and the student community.

The Club has got a few active sympathisers in the teaching fraternity. Dr. Abhijit Karkun of School of Language, Literature & Culture Studies has been particularly active in joining all the eco-club initiatives since the very beginning. The club's president Ansari says, "Whenever I felt down it was Karkun Sir who always encouraged us to keep the ball rolling." Another senior faculty member of School of International Studies, Dr. Alka Acharya, participated in the 3rd campaign with the young students.

"It's amazing to find our teachers, despite their busy schedule and high profile commitments, join hands to shout slogans and pick up waste that many of us throw carelessly," said one student volunteer.

The club has many silent supporters. A student said, "Whenever I am about to throw anything, the JNU Eco Club's cleanliness drive comes to my mind and I walk up to the dustbin."

Change doesn't come easily; not even in one of India's top universities where everyone is educated. Even people who are aware of the importance of cleanliness and greenery are not in the habit of actually doing something. Old habits do not change easily; not when civic sense is not a social norm. The inertia of sticking to habits, however, can be used in favour to clean JNU by creating environmental consciousness.

**Md Phakharuddin Ansari, President
JNU Eco-Club**



Seminar/Conference

Seminar on “Mechanism of Ribosomal Scanning and AUG Selection in Translation: where to begin?”

Dr. Alan Hinnebusch, Program Director and Chief, Laboratory of Gene Regulation and Development at the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Institutes of Health, USA, delivered a seminar in the School of Life Sciences. The event was highly attended by students and faculty, including the Vice Chancellor. The students and faculty also had very productive and enlightening scientific interactions following the seminar.

Protein synthesis (also called mRNA translation) is a key fundamental step for gene expression in all living cells. Control of protein synthesis is vital for normal cell growth and development, as either the unregulated high-level protein production or inappropriate shutting down protein synthesis in cells often have catastrophic consequences including several human diseases. In this case, the non-coding (5' leader) portion of mRNAs also have large impact on protein synthesis efficiency. But the mechanism of how the regulation of the initiation step of protein synthesis or the various factors required for this regulation have not been understood.

In this seminar Dr. Hinnebusch reviewed a large body of scientific research work that elucidated the mechanism of how the beginning step of protein synthesis is controlled at molecular level (see below for a review article). For these studies, Dr. Hinnebusch's laboratory used a model gene, GCN4, which encodes a master transcriptional regulator in budding yeast *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*. Furthermore, he presented startling results demonstrating the finesse by which the cellular machinery works, and, in particular, how general eukaryotic translation factor-1 (eIF1) and eIF1A cooperate to maintain a



permissible conformation of the ribosomes to enable locating the correct position for initiating protein synthesis. These findings are profound and fundamental to our understanding of the mechanism of protein synthesis in eukaryotic organisms ranging from budding yeast to humans.

Dr. Hinnebusch is a pioneer and a true leader in the research on control of protein synthesis in eukaryotes. He is a yeast geneticist and a molecular biologist and has published over 150 peer reviewed articles in top scientific journals, and has several recognitions to his credit. Above all, he is a fantastic mentor and a great human being, and has trained generations of post-doctoral scientists for well over 25 years.

Further reading of the details of his research work: *Microbiol. Mol. Biol. Rev.* (American Society of Microbiology Press) September 2011 vol. 75, pages 434-467

Krishnamurthy Natarajan
Associate Professor, School of Life Sciences

Conference on: “Living in Peace and Harmony in a Multicultural World: The Risale-I Nur perspective”

The Centre of Arabic and African Studies, School of Language, Literature and Culture Studies organized a two day international conference on “Living in Peace and Harmony in a Multicultural World: The Risale-I Nur Perspective” in collaboration with Istanbul Foundation for Science and Culture, Turkey. Risale- I Nur is a 6000 page commentary of Holy Quran written by the great Turkish Scholar and socio-religious reformer Bediuzzaman Said Nursi (1876-1960) who played a major role in shaping the socio-religious and cultural contours of Modern Turkey. The objective of the conference was to deliberate upon the relevance of Nursi's ideas of peace and harmony, meaning and significance of faith in life, peaceful co-existence, interfaith dialogue etc for multicultural societies like India. The conference was attended by delegates from UK, USA, Canada, UAE, Turkey, Lebanon, and Indian universities and colleges. A contingent of about 30 participants from Turkey especially came

to attend the proceedings of the conference. The conference was also attended by a large number of research scholars and students from JNU, Delhi University, Jamia Millia Islamia and Aligarh Muslim University. They actively interacted with the scholars from India and abroad.

The inaugural session was chaired by Prof. R.N.Menon, Dean School of Language, Literature and Culture Studies. Prof. M. Aslam Islahi, delivering the welcome speech, remarked that JNU has the distinction of being the first institution in India to introduce the revolutionary ideas of Bediuzzaman Said Nursi. He further said that true to his name Bediuzzaman was the wonder of the age and that he did not belong to Turkey alone rather he belonged to all people. Dr. Mujeebur Rahman, convener of the conference, briefly introduced the theme of the conference. Guest of Honour Mr. Riza Akcali, former minister and Member of Parliament in Turkey and a much respected figure, spoke highly

Seminar/Conference

of the Indian tradition of hospitality and expressed his delight at the reception received in India. He said that our time is marked by explosion of science and knowledge. But the increased knowledge has not solved the problems of humanity. There are endless conflicts, wars and tensions and all kinds of problems. Referring to the author Ian Malcolm he said that perhaps we should turn to Ustadh Bediuzzaman Said Nursi for the solution to these problems. Dr. Ihsan Qasim Salehi a well known authority on Nursi who translated Risale-I Nur into Arabic said that this book offers solutions for the problems of the age. Risale- I Nur is like a panacea for all the diseases and ills afflicting the society. Risale-I Nur addresses entire humanity and suggests solutions to all problems. Similar opinions were expressed by the Dr. Abdul Hakim al –Anees from Dubai. In his speech Abdul Hakim Al-Anees said that Bediuzzaman Said Nursi was very fond of India although he never visited India. He was particularly inspired by Imam Sirhindi and Shah Waliullah Dehlavi. Nursi lived in pain for the sufferings of humanity. Nursi truly was a man of peace and love.

The inaugural address was delivered by Shri Arif Mohammad Khan, Former Union Minister, and a noted scholar and speaker. He began his speech by saying that it was always a delight to be in JNU. He further said that the choice of venue for a seminar on living in Peace in Harmony in a multicultural world was the most appropriate one as JNU was a living embodiment of harmony in a multicultural environment. He spoke at length on the dynamic approach of Bediuzzaman Nursi to the interpretation of Quran. He termed Nursi's magnum opus "Risale-I Nur" as the "Barkat" (Blessing) of Quran. Quoting extensively from Quran he stressed the point that diversity is ordained in the scheme of God. Quran describes this diversity, this pluralism as the signs of Allah. The colours of our skin, the various languages which we speak, they are all signs of Allah. Then are we going to fight against these signs of Allah? The real problem comes when people arrogate to themselves the power of God. With reference to India's tradition of pluralism he said that India is known for its long cherished practice of pluralism since the time immemorial. India has received the Parsis, Jews, Christians, and Muslims. The presence of a large number of Sadat (Prophet's progenies) in India testifies to the fact that when these people were persecuted in the Arab world itself, India welcomed them with open arms. India does not just tolerate pluralism rather India welcomes and practices pluralism. He stressed that when this wonderful message of Bediuzzaman will go from this land of pluralism and diversity it will have added respectability and

value. Referring to Nursi he said that Bediuzzaman found manifestation of the divine in human cooperation, in mutual love, in coming together of human beings. Indeed these are brilliant thought. He said that religion is for man making but when religion is used for empire making then problem starts. This is what Bediuzzaman has spoken time again in his Risale-i Nur. He concluded his speech hoping that the deliberations of this international seminar will show new light to the world and we will be able to create a better world where we have more understanding, where we are more concerned about each other, where we have the feelings of brotherhood for each other.

Prof. Faris Kaya, Secretary General Istanbul Foundation for Science and Culture, delivered the key-note address. Prof. Kaya beautifully elaborated the core aspects of the message of Bediuzzaman Said Nursi and he especially highlighted the moral issues and the centrality of morality in the thought of Nursi in the light of his Damascus Sermon. He said that there is a dearth of morality in today's life. Despite advancement in science and knowledge, problems of humanity have not diminished, rather they have escalated. Social crises, violence of various types, consumerism, and problems arising out of modernity, problems arising out of religious differences etc; may be attributed to the neglect of spiritual life. Said Nursi's Risale-I Nur offers solutions to these problems.

Prof. Ravindra Nath Menon, Dean SLL&CS, while delivering the presidential remarks, congratulated the Centre of Arabic and African Studies for organizing such an important seminar and said that throughout history religion has been exploited by people to dominate over others. This has largely happened because of the wrong interpretation of religious scriptures. Against this backdrop the role of Said Nursi is laudable by virtue of his rational and scientific interpretation of Quran in 6000 pages. Nursi emphasizes on values such as love, compassion, humility, non-violence and education. Education rids us of ignorance and transforms us into thinking human beings. We must emphasize on these values because at one level all religions emphasize on the unity of mankind. The inaugural session ended with a vote of thanks proposed by Dr. Rizwanur Rahman of the centre.

In the middle of the session there was a DVD presentation for 15 minutes about the life and works of Bediuzzaman Said Nursi. A special Turkish plaque was also presented to Prof. R.N. Menon by His Excellency Mr. Riza Akcali.

The first academic session was on "The Methodological and Educational Aspects". The session was chaired by Prof. Bilal Kuspinar from Canada. Five papers were presented in this sessions which included "Mecca Medina Paradigm: The Nursi Perspective on Reform" by Prof. Colin Turner of Durham University, UK, "Bediuzzaman Said Nursi" by Prof. Akhtarul Wasey of JMI, New Delhi, "Bringing Faith, Meaning and Peace to life in a Multicultural World: The Risale-I Nur's Approach" by Prof. Farida Khanam of JMI, New Delhi, " Education and Empowerment through Education: Lessons for Said Nursi for Muslims in India" by Dr. Zubair Hudawi of Kerala and "Bringing



Seminar/Conference

Faith, Meaning and Peace to life in a Multicultural World: The Risale-I Nur Perspective” by Abida Kawser of JMI, New Delhi.

The second academic session, on “Modernity, Globalization and Reform”, was chaired by Prof. Colin Turner of Durham University. Four papers were presented in this session. Dr. Sanaullah Nadwi of Aligarh Muslim University spoke on “The Mind Matter Intrigues: Nursi's Critique of Positivism and Materialism”; Prof. Hamid Nasim Rafiabadi, Director of S.H. Institute for Islamic Studies, Srinagar, Kashmir, presented a paper on “Bediuzzaman Said Nursi and the Theory of Clash of Civilization: A Critical and Comparative Study”; Dr. Mohammad Ajmal of JNU presented paper on “Globalization and the Thought of Unity in Diversity of Nursi: The Role of Risale- I Nur”; and Dr. Md. Qutbuddin of CAAS, JNU made a comparative study of Sir Syed Ahmad Khan and Nursi in his paper “Reform and Education: A Comparative study of Bediuzzaman Said Nursi and Sir Syed Ahmad Khan”. This session generated quite a bit of debate and discussion among the speakers and the audience.

On the second day, there were parallel sessions and the 3rd session in was titled “Human Nature, Faith Youth and Women's Issues”. The session was chaired by Dr. S.A.M. Pasha of JMI. In this session, Prof. M. Aslam Islahi of JNU, Prof. Alparslan Acikgenc of Yildiz Technical University, Turkey, Mr. Abdul Majid Sayem of Kashmir, and Ms. Sneha of JNU presented their papers. The parallel session was chaired by Prof. Shafique Ahmad Khan Nadwi of JMI, papers in Arabic were presented by Prof. Zubair Ahmad Farooqui of JMI, Dr. Ihsan Qasim Salehi of Istanbul, Dr. Abdul Hakim Anees of Dubai, Dr. Ahmad Farhat of Lebanon, and Prof. Ayub Nadwi of JMI.

After the tea break, Arabic papers were continued in the session titled “Contribution of Nursi to change and other issues”. The session was chaired by Prof. Aslam Islahi. Maulana Saeed al Azmi Nadwi, Rector, Darul Uloom Nadwatul Ulama Lucknow, presented his paper titled “The Role of Bediuzzaman Said Nursi in the upbringing of new generation in Turkey”. Other paper presenters in this session included Dr. Abdul Majid Qazi of JMI, Ali Katioz of Turkey, Dr. Nasim Akhtar Nadwi of JMI and Dr. Obaidur Rahman of Baba Gulam Shah Badshah University of Rajouri in Kashmir. The parallel session was on “Multiculturalism, Peace and Harmony”. The session was chaired by Prof. Zikrur Rahman, Director India Arab Cultural Centre, JMI. Prof. Thomas Mitchell of USA, Dr. Obaidullah Fahad and Dr. S.A. Kazmi of AMU, Dr. Abdul Quddoos of AUS, Assam, and Dr. Sheikh Jameil Ali of Kashmir presented papers on different aspects of multiculturalism, Peace, Harmony in the thought of Nursi. All the papers were appreciated by the participants and audience and the session generated intense debate and discussion.

The titles of the four parallel session held in the afternoon were “Scholasticism and Comparative Framework”, “Interfaith Dialogue and Pluralism”, “Spirituality, Revivalism and Reform”, and “Dialogue and Co-existence”. Fourteen papers were presented by eminent scholars on different aspects of Nursian Thought and Movement. The paper presenters included: Dr. S. A. M. Pasha of JMI, Dr. Irfan A. Omar of USA, Prof. Bilal Kuspinar of Canada, Dr. Wali Akhtar Nadwi of Delhi University, Md. Obaidullah Qasmi of DU, Dr. Abdul Majid Andrabi of Kashmir, Quamer Shaban Nadwi of JNU, Mahmood Alam Siddiqui of JNU, Dr. Arafat Zafar of Lucknow University, Dr. Md. Akram Nawaz, Afsal Hudawi, Dr. Wasiul Haque and Mohammad Ahmad of JNU.

His Excellency Prof. Burack Akcapar, Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey to India attended the Valedictory Session as Guest of Honour. Prof. Thomas Mitchell of USA representing the delegates presented the feedback about the conference. In his speech he appreciated the wonderful hospitality, excellent arrangements and the high quality of papers presented and the lively debates and discussions that followed. In his erudite speech, the Turkish ambassador Prof. Burack Akcapar dwelt on the affinities and linkages between India and Turkey. He emphasized that Turkey and India were two leading democracies of the world and shared historical and cultural affinities exemplified by the fact that some 9000 words are common to Hindi, Urdu, and Turkish languages and that the wonder of India, the Taj Mahal, has a strong Turkish connection. He further said that India and Turkey are not only great democracies; they are also big market economies, scientific hubs and are shaping the future of the world. A lot depends on the cooperation between these two countries. India and Turkey have shown to the world that democracy is a global and universal offering and is not exclusive to the west. With regard to Bediuzzaman Said Nursi he said that overlooking the two problematic approaches to religion, religion today is a part of life and this simply cannot be ignored. Bediuzzaman Said Nursi's relevance in the pluralistic world is demonstrated by his assertion not on tolerance but on mutual cooperation and acceptance. He ended his speech by thanking the organizers to invite him to the conference.

Prof. Faris Kaya, Secretary General Istanbul Foundation for Science and Culture read out the recommendations of the conference which focussed mainly on increasing cooperation between JNU and Turkish institutions in general and IFSC in particular. Turkish Ambassador Prof. Burak Akcapar on behalf of Istanbul Foundation for Science and Culture presented a set of books to Prof. M. Aslam Islahi, Chairperson of the Centre.

**Mujeebur Rahman, Associate Professor
Centre of Arabic & African Studies, SLL&CS**

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Fifth Lecture in the JNU Seminar Series Towards Interdisciplinarity



The School of Social Sciences organized the fifth lecture in the “JNU Seminar Series Towards Interdisciplinarity” on 3 February 2012 at the Committee Room of School of Social Sciences. The Lecture titled “Computational Linguistics, Corpora and Standards: The Big Picture” was delivered by Dr. Girish Nath Jha of Special Centre for Sanskrit Studies. Professor Alok Bhattacharya, School of

Life Sciences, chaired the meeting. Professor V.V. Krishna, Chairperson, CSSP, formally introduced the seminar series. This series addresses the challenge of interdisciplinarity. Specifically, it seeks to enable, sustain and nurture dialogues across disciplines. This initiative intends to close the gap between the 'two cultures' within JNU and aims to generate and energize research ideas and ways of thinking about knowledge and scholarship.

In this lecture Dr. Jha briefly introduced the field of Computational Linguistics (COLING) as an inter-disciplinary area of research and application under artificial intelligence (AI). There are two popular approaches to COLING, namely, (a) the grammar based approach where formal models of language analyses are developed and used, and (b) the statistical methods of COLING where large sized annotated corpora are used to train computers to learn linguistic patterns. He also introduced the national and international standards and the necessity to develop resources as per global standards. He highlighted the efforts to develop language technology standards in India under Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS).

In this context, Dr. Jha demonstrated the progress made at JNU with examples from his projects “Indian Languages Corpora Initiative” (ILCI), and “Developing Computational Tools for Sanskrit and Sanskrit-Hindi Machine Translation”, both funded under the Technology Development for Indian Languages (TDIL) program by the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (MCIT).

The Lecture concluded with Chair's remarks and a vibrant interaction with the audience.

Earlier JNU Seminar Series Towards Interdisciplinarity held the following events:

- First Lecture “the Unclear Nuclear Future” by Professor R. Rajaraman of School of Physical Sciences on 29 April 2011. Professor Zoya Hasan of School of Social Sciences chaired the session.
- Second Lecture “Indian Modernity” by Professor Avijit Pathak of School of Social Sciences on 14 October 2011. Dr. Rohini Muthuswamy of School of Life Sciences chaired the session.
- Third event Panel Discussion on “Science and Globalisation” on 25 November 2011. Professor Rupamanjari Ghosh of SPS, Professor V.V. Krishna of CSSP, SSS, and Professor B.S. Chimni of CILS, SIS were discussants in this event.
- Fourth Lecture on “Climate Change” by Professor Arun K. Attri of School of Environmental Sciences. Chair: Professor V.V. Krishna chaired the session and Dr. Rohan D'Souza of CSSP, SSS was a discussant.

Anup Kumar Das
Documentation Officer
Centre for Studies in Science Policy, SSS

Fifteenth P.C. Joshi Memorial Lecture

The P.C. Joshi Archives on Contemporary History of Jawaharlal Nehru University organized the Fifteenth P.C. Joshi Memorial Lecture on 28 February 2012 at School of Social Sciences Auditorium. The Lecture titled “Participative Democracy and the Future of Dissent” was delivered by Shri Nikhil Dey, a social activist. Shri Dey is associated with Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sanghatan (MKSS) and National Campaign for People's Right to Information (NCPRI). He has been actively engaged in different grassroots social movements such as Right to Information, Right to Food, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment

Guarantee Act (NREGA) and Lokpal Bill. Dr. Usha Ramanathan, Independent Law Researcher and Activist, chaired the Lecture session.

In this lecture Nikhil Dey lucidly discussed the formation of social movements in the remote areas across India, with the participation of workers of unorganized sectors, agricultural laborers and other marginalized communities. He also pointed out that social exploitation, social discrimination and political corruption of ruling machineries are the major reasons for



socio-political dissent across the country. Thus, worker groups have been engaged in mobilizing social movements to achieve their right to livelihoods, and other human rights. In this direction, he pointed out how Right to Information movement brings some sorts of transparency and information flow in the functioning of

NREGA. Targeted beneficiaries of NREGA and other national schemes are now better informed about their rights and how to participate in those livelihood schemes. Existence of RTI also helps in minimizing malpractices and corruption as citizens are more vigilant than a decade earlier.

The Lecture concluded with Chair's remarks and a vibrant interaction with the audience.

Anup Kumar Das
Documentation Officer
Centre for Studies in Science Policy, SSS

जेएनयू में यात्रा साहित्य पर अंतर्राष्ट्रीय संगोष्ठी

पिछले दिनों 12 मार्च से 14 मार्च 2012 तक जवाहरलाल नेहरू विश्वविद्यालय के भारतीय भाषा केंद्र के तत्वावधान में 'यात्रा साहित्य में भारतीय संस्कृति और सभ्यता की अभिव्यक्ति' विषयक तीन दिवसीय अंतर्राष्ट्रीय संगोष्ठी का आयोजन हुआ। संगोष्ठी के उद्घाटन सत्र में आरंभिक वक्तव्य में जाने-माने विद्वान सैयद एम. अशरफ ने प्रथम यात्रा वृत्तान्त के रूप में हजरत आदम की यात्रा का जिक्र करते हुए कहा कि विदेशों से बहुत से लोग भारत आए और सभी ने भारतीय संस्कृति को सराहा। विशिष्ट अतिथि के रूप में बोलते हुए प्रो. दीप्ति एस. त्रिपाठी ने बताया कि यात्रा साहित्य एक विधा के रूप में कम लिखा गया लेकिन लगभग हर विधा में यात्रा वृत्तान्त मौजूद हैं। मुख्य अतिथि के रूप में बोलते हुए टर्की के प्रो. हलील टोकर ने कहा कि यात्रा वृत्तान्त हर मनुष्य को लिखना चाहिए और जिन लोगों ने यात्रा वृत्तान्त लिखे तथा भारत को जिन-जिन दृष्टियों से देखा, उसकी चर्चा विशेष महत्वपूर्ण है। इंटरनेशनल इस्लामिक यूनिवर्सिटी, मलेशिया के प्रोफेसर अमीर एच. जिब्रफगू ने अपने उद्घाटन भाषण में कहा कि जब कोई मुझसे भारत को एक वाक्य में बताने को कहता है तो मैं बताता हूँ कि भारत अपने इतिहास का अद्वितीय संग्रहालय है। संगोष्ठी के उद्घाटन सत्र का अध्यक्षीय वक्तव्य केन्द्रीय महिला विश्वविद्यालय, ढाका, बांग्लादेश की कुलपति प्रो. परवीन हसन ने दिया। उन्होंने कहा कि यह संगोष्ठी यात्रा साहित्य को एक विधा के रूप में मजबूती देगी। इससे पहले भारतीय भाषा केन्द्र के अध्यक्ष प्रो. कृष्णास्वामी नाड्विमुत्तू ने स्वागत भाषण में कहा कि यात्रा-वृत्तान्त अन्तर्नृशासनात्मक होते हैं, उनमें पूरी एक संस्कृति का आख्यान होता है। यात्रा साहित्य एक तरह से किसी विशेष संस्कृति का अनुवाद होता है। संगोष्ठी के निदेशक डॉ. ख्वाजा इकरामुद्दीन ने सेमिनार का विषय प्रवेश करते हुए कहा कि भारत में के बारे में लिखे गये यात्रा-वृत्तान्तों की लम्बी परंपरा रही है। हम इसी परंपरा के जरिये भारत की बहुलतावादी संस्कृति और साझी विरासत को जानने का प्रयास कर रहे हैं।

हिन्दी और उर्दू भाषा में आयोजित पहले सत्र में 'सुब-ए-सादिक' के ऐतिहासिक और साहित्यिक महत्व की चर्चा करते हुए डॉ. आलिम अशरफ ने कहा कि 'सुब-ए-सादिक' में 1080 हिजरी यानी 1638 ई. तक के हालात को दर्ज किया है। पटना ऑरियंटल कॉलेज के डॉ. शकील अहमद कासमी ने सैयद सुलेमान नदवी के सफरनामे 'जुनुबी हिन्द' पर अपनी राय व्यक्त करते हुए कहा कि इसमें चश्मों, झीलों, लजीज फलों, खूबसूरत फूलों, मेवों, अनाजों, विविध सब्जियों के अतिरिक्त रस्मों-रिवाजों का विस्तारपूर्वक वर्णन किया गया है। मैसूर की सैर के दौरान लेखक ने देखा कि सुल्तान के नमक हराम वजीर की कब्र पर जूतों का ढेर है। हज के दौरान जिस प्रकार शैतान को कंकड़

मारा जाता है, उसी प्रकार मीर जाफर और मीर कासिम को जूतों का नजराना पेश किया जाता है। डॉ. खालिद अशरफ ने युसुफ कंबल पोश के 'अजाइबाते फरंग' नामक यात्रा वृत्तान्त के बारे में बताया। डॉ. नवान खान ने कहा कि हमें सफरनामों का आलोचनात्मक दृष्टिकोण से भी देखने की आवश्यकता है। अध्यक्षता करते हुए डॉ. अनवर पाशा ने कहा कि सफरनामे में अफसाने की झलक भी मिलती है। इसे एक किस्म की डायरी भी माना जा सकता है।

संगोष्ठी के दूसरे सत्र में डॉ. हसन अहमद खान ने 'नवाब सिकन्दर बेगम : एक हिन्दुस्तानी सफरनामा' के हवाले से अपनी बात कही। अपनी हज यात्रा के दौरान लेखिका ने चीजों को बड़ी गहराई से देखा और उसे खूबसूरत अंदाज में सामने रखा। डॉ. जितेन्द्र कुमार श्रीवास्तव ने कहा कि किसी यात्रावृत्तान्त को लिखने के दरमियान लेखक को धर्म अथवा क्षेत्र विशेष की परिधि में नहीं बांधना चाहिए। इंतजार हुसैन की रचना 'जुस्तजू है क्या' पर डॉ. सीमा सागीर ने अपनी राय व्यक्त की। डॉ. अख्तरुल वासेय ने इन सफरनामों पर की गई बातचीत को काफी महत्वपूर्ण बताया। 'हिन्दुस्तान इब्नबतूता की नज़र में' पर्व में डीयू के डॉ. इब्ने कंवल ने इब्नबतूता के सफर का पूरा मंजर ही प्रस्तुत कर दिया। कुर्तुल-एन-हैदर के सफरनामे 'दक्कन सा नहीं था इस संसार में' पर शैराज अजमली ने अपना वक्तव्य दिया। जावेद रहमान ने प्रस्तुत किए गए संगोष्ठी पत्रों पर अपने विचार प्रस्तुत किये। सत्र की अध्यक्षता प्रो. मो. जीनाबाड़े एवं डॉ. देवेन्द्र चौबे ने किया। डॉ. देवेन्द्र चौबे ने बताया कि यात्रा के दौरान लेखक अपने-अपने तरीके से देखी गई चीजों को सामने रखते हैं। इन यात्रावृत्तान्तों को इतिहास की तरह पढ़ने की भी आवश्यकता है। भारतीय भाषा केन्द्र के उर्दू के प्रो. जीनाबाड़े ने बताया कि सफरनामा एक शख्स का बयान होता है।

संगोष्ठी के दूसरे दिन यात्रा साहित्य पर बात करते हुए प्रो. आनन्द कुमार ने कहा कि सूफी साहित्य के जरिये से भारतीय संस्कृति और सभ्यता को जानना उन लोगों को जानने का एक प्रयास है, जिनकी हम वास्तविक संताने हैं और जिनके नजरिये को हम समाज को बेहतर बनाने का नजरिया मानते हैं। अपने इस उद्घाटन भाषण में उन्होंने कहा कि भक्ति आंदोलन के सूफी संतों ने लोगों में मानवता और प्रेम का संदेश दिया। नानक, निजामुद्दीन, खुसरो, जायसी, चैतन्य, कबीर, रैदास आदि संत हिंसा, सांप्रदायिक नफरत आदि के खिलाफ खड़े हुए और इस देश की बहुरंगी संस्कृति और सभ्यता की पैरोकारी की। यह संगोष्ठी इस संदर्भ में एक बड़ा अवसर है। संगोष्ठी में मुख्य अतिथि के रूप में बोलते हुए भारत सरकार के पर्यटन मंत्री सुबोधकांत सहाय ने कहा कि मुझे इस संगोष्ठी का हिस्सा बनते हुए गर्व महसूस हो रहा

है। उन्होंने कहा कि पर्यटन मंत्री होने के नाते मुझे यह पता है कि भारत में अधिकांश पर्यटक सांस्कृतिक विशिष्टता से आकृष्ट होकर आते हैं। हमारी विविधतायुक्त और कई साल पुरानी संस्कृति उन्हें आकृष्ट ही नहीं करती है, बल्कि अपील भी करती है। इस सेमिनार के द्वारा भारतीय इतिहास के उक्त उजले पक्ष पर प्रकाश डाला जाना एक सकारात्मक पहल है।

इसी सत्र में स्वीडन के उपासला विश्वविद्यालय की प्रोफेसर शोकोफेह टागी ने कहा कि भारत मानवता के इतिहास में एक बहुत बड़ा देश है और यह कहा जा सकता है कि भारत साहित्य और सभ्यता की जननी है। भारत के इस महत्वपूर्ण स्थान को पाने में सूफियों और संतों का महत्वपूर्ण स्थान रहा है। बदायूँ के उसैदुल हक कादरी ने कहा कि सूफी संतों ने जो तालिम पेश की, वही सच्ची इस्लामी संस्कृति है। इस्लामी संस्कृति का तालुकगत नफरत फैलाने वालों से कतई नहीं है। आगे उन्होंने भारत की मुस्तरका तहजीब में सूफियों के योगदान को रेखांकित किया। इंटरनेशनल इस्लामिक यूनिवर्सिटी मलेशिया की प्रोफेसर लैला ताजेर ने ईरान के मशहूर लेखक मीर फिनादिरास्की की भारत यात्रा के बारे में बताते हुए कहा कि वो भारत इसलिए आए थे क्योंकि यहाँ विचारों की आजादी और अभिव्यक्ति की आजादी थी और उस समय के ईरान में ऐसा नहीं था। जाम-ए-नूर के संपादक खुशतर नूरानी ने कहा कि सूफियों ने भारत को दो महान चीजें दी, एक तो उर्दू भाषा और दूसरी भारत की मुस्तरका संस्कृति। उन्होंने कहा कि उर्दू किसी एक मजहब की भाषा नहीं है, बल्कि यह हिन्दुस्तान की एक जवान है, जिसका धर्म से कोई वास्ता नहीं है।

इस सत्र का अध्यक्षीय वक्तव्य देते हुए कचौचा शरीफ के सैयद मोहम्मद कासिम अशरफ साहब ने कहा कि सूफियों ने जिन्दगी जीने के तरीके बताये और उन्होंने भारत की गंगा-जमुनी मुस्तरका तहरीक को आगे बढ़ाते हुए अमन की तामिल दी और अपने तौर-तरीकों से लोगों का दिल जीत लिया। उन्होंने कहा कि सूफियों के द्वारा दी हुई शिक्षाएं आज भी हमारे लिए बेशकीमती हैं और उनकी राह पर चल कर हम हमेशा एक रह पाएंगे। कार्यक्रम के प्रारंभ में सेमिनार के निदेशक डॉ. ख्वाजा मोहम्मद इकरामुद्दीन ने स्वागत भाषण पेश करते हुए कहा कि भारत की विविधतायुक्त संस्कृति और साझी विरासत को समझने के लिए सूफियों को जानना-समझना आवश्यक है। वे आज भी हमें राह दिखाते हैं।

उर्दू-हिन्दी के तीसरे सत्र में डॉ. हुमायूँ अशरफ ने 'गुलिस्तां सदी के सफरनामों में तमददुनी पहलू' पर संगोष्ठी पत्र प्रस्तुत किया। उन्होंने कहा कि सफरनामा किसी जगह का भौगोलिक या महज तारीखी बयान नहीं है। मुम्बई यूनिवर्सिटी से आए डॉ. संजीव कुमार दुबे ने राहुल सांकृत्यायन, अज्ञेय, विष्णु प्रभाकर एवं कृष्णनाथ के सफरनामों की चर्चा की। मेरठ से आए असलम जमशेद पुरी साहब ने 'सफरनामों में सफरनिगार की मौजूदगी: पूने से रांची के सफर की रोशनी में' के हवाले से कहा कि आज के सफरनामों में सफरनिगार काफी हद तक हावी हो जाता है लिहाजा रचना में प्रस्तुत की जाने वाली चीजे अपनी सूरत बदल लेती है। इस्तानबुल यूनिवर्सिटी, टर्की से आए हलील टाकर ने बताया कि हिन्दुस्तान और पाकिस्तान की तुलना में टर्की में सफरनामे लिखने का रिवाज कम है। फिर भी वहां कुछ अच्छे सफरनामे लिखे गए जिसके माध्यम से हिन्दुस्तान की तस्वीर पेश की गई। डीयू के प्रो. अली जावेद ने अपनी मिश्र यात्रा का वर्णन किया। सत्र में पढ़े गए पर्चों पर इस सत्र के अध्यक्ष इब्ने कंवल ने अपनी बात रखी। डॉ. अहमद फातमी ने सफरनामों के स्वरूप पर अपनी बात रखी। डॉ. खालिद महमूद ने कहा कि सफरनामों में तीन बातें आवश्यक हैं - मुसाफिर, सफर और तहरीर।

चौथे सत्र में आसिम शहनवाज सिद्दी साहब ने 'मोहरवी बंगाल के उर्दू सफरनामों में सकाशती: तहजीबी और अदवी तनाजुब में' पर्चे में

एक ओर बंगाल पर लिखे गए तमाम सफरनामों की जानकारी दी, दूसरी ओर बंगाली तहजीब, रस्मों रिवाज का चित्र प्रस्तुत किया। शरीर अफराइन ने बताया कि 1857 से पहले उर्दू में सफरनामे लिखे जा रहे थे, मगर उस समय तक यह तय नहीं हो सका था कि यह सफरनामा है अथवा रोजनामचे या अफसाने। पाकिस्तान से आई डॉ. तंजीमुल फिरदौस ने उर्दू के पहले सफरनामे 'अजाइबते फरंग' पर बातचीत की। भारत के विषय में लिखे गए फारसी सफरनामों पर तेहरान यूनिवर्सिटी से आए वक्ता डॉ. याजदानमनेश ने तीन सूफियों के सफरनामों का तुलनात्मक स्वरूप प्रस्तुत किया। डॉ. जकाई कारदास ने तुर्की अदब के मशहूर सफरनामों की चर्चा की। कलकत्ता यूनिवर्सिटी में उर्दू विभाग की प्रो. शहनाज नबी ने इब्नेबतूता के सफरनामे का बिल्कुल अलग तस्वीर पेश की। भारत में रहने वाली जनजातियों के बारे में लिखा गया नेत्र सिंह का यात्रावृत्तांत 'पहाड और पानी' पर डॉ. अखिलेश दुबे ने अपना पर्चा पढ़ा। कार्यक्रम के अन्त में अध्यक्षता करते हुए डॉ. इकबाल मसूद, प्रो जफरुद्दीन, जनाब अहाजुद्दीन अलमी और डॉ. खालिद महमूद ने पढ़े गए संगोष्ठी पत्रों पर टिप्पणी की।

14 मार्च को पांचवे सत्र में कश्मीर यूनिवर्सिटी, श्रीनगर से आए मुस्ताक हैदर ने 'बैरुनी सैलानियों के सफरनामों में कश्मीर' की तहरीर पेश की। मुसतबा हुसैन के सफरनामों के बारे में पटना यूनिवर्सिटी से आई ज़रनिगार यासमीन ने बताया कि मुसतबा हुसैन के यहां एक ओर जापान, कनाडा, मास्को आता है वहीं दूसरी ओर हिन्दुस्तान और पाकिस्तान भी। डॉ. मो. हसन ने इब्नेबतूता के सफरनामे के हवाले से मोहम्मद तुगलक के समय की चर्चा की। मौलाना आजाद नेशनल उर्दू यूनिवर्सिटी से आए प्रो. शमशुल हुदा ने 'जुनुबी हिन्द' के बहाने मुम्बई, कालीकट, हैदराबाद की तस्वीर पेश की। एहतेशाम हुसैन के सफरनामे 'साहिल और समंदर' पर मो. जफरुद्दीन ने अपनी बात कही। 'हिन्दुस्तानी तहजीबी सफाकत की अहम दस्तावेज : जर्नेली सड़क' विषय पर डॉ. फिरोज आलम ने अपने विचार रखे। अध्यक्षता करते हुए भारतीय भाषा केन्द्र के प्रो. रामबक्ष ने कहा कि हिन्दी की तुलना में उर्दू में अधिक सफरनामे लिखे गए। सफरनामों में रिपोर्टिंग के साथ-साथ साहित्य भी मौजूद होता है। लेखक हमें इसके माध्यम से इतिहास में लेकर जाता है।

छठे सत्र के शुभारंभ में फरहत आरा परवीन ने बताया कि शहजाद मंजर का कलकत्ता की तारीखी, तहजीबी, इल्मी, अदबी, और गलियों का वर्णन हमारे तजुर्बों में इजाफा करता है। सफरनामों में अभिव्यक्त भारतीय संस्कृति और सभ्यता पर खालिद सैफुल्लाह ने प्रकाश डाला। जम्मू यूनिवर्सिटी से आए रेयाज अहमद का विषय 'जम्मू कश्मीर में उर्दू सफरनामे की रवायत' था। इन्होंने जगन्नाथ आजाद, सलीम शहजाद, भीमा सिंह आदि के सफरनामों की चर्चा की। नुसरत जहां ने उपनिवेशवादी दौर में लिखे गये तीन महिला यात्रियों-मारिया ग्राहम, ऐनी कैथरीन एल्बूट और खाका सैयाह के सफरनामों की चर्चा की। 'जिस देश में गंगा बहती है' विषय पर इकबाल मसूद का पर्चा था। डॉ. सेन गुप्ता ने विलियम नाइटिन के सफरनामे को विषय बनाकर नवाबी दौर के हालात का बयान किया। डॉ. एख्तर हुसैन ने तिब्बती धर्म गुरु धर्मास्वामी के सफरनामे की चर्चा की। डॉ. रज्जुब रहमान ने 'देहली से आगे' सफरनामे द्वारा हिन्दुस्तान की तहजीब और संस्कृति पेश करते हुए कहा कि यह सफरनामा बिलकिस रियास का सफरनामा है। सलीम शहजाद ने कहा कि इस सेमिनार छात्रों व अध्यापकों के महत्व की बहुत सारी बातें की गई।

सातवें सत्र में सईद अहमद ने 'आजादी के बाद के उर्दू साहित्य में तकसीम-ए-हिन्द के संदर्भ में अभिव्यक्त नास्टेलजिया का वर्णन किया। अशरफ लोन ने पाकिस्तानी सफरनामों में अभिव्यक्त भारतीय जीवन का वर्णन किया। नुसरत अमीन ने सुरैया खुर्शीद के सफरनामों का अध्ययन प्रस्तुत किया, जिनमें कश्मीर की स्थिति का पता चलता है। कमर सिद्दी ने सफरनामों में हिन्दुस्तानी समाज और तारीख की

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चर्चा की। उन्होंने बताया कि गैरमुल्की सफरनामों में हिन्दुस्तान की तारीख और समाज की वास्तविक तस्वीर मिलती है। शगुफ़ता यास्मीन ने 'पाकिस्तानी सफरनामों में हिन्दुस्तान' पर चर्चा की। डॉ. हयातुद्दीन ने हसन रिजवी के सफरनामों के हवाले से हिन्दुस्तान देखने की तमन्ना सामने रखी। खलीकुज़मान ने इब्नेबतूता के सफरनामों में हिन्दुस्तान की झलक को सामने रखा। अकलीमा खातून ने अपने पर्व में कहा कि सफरनामा एक ऐसी सिंफ है जो जिन्दगी के हर गोशे को छूता है। जामिया मिलिया इस्लामिया, नई दिल्ली से आए कौसर मज़हरी 'नक्शे ए राह गुजारेकिल्मी, तहजीबी और अदबी मुताला' विषय अपने विचार प्रकट करते हुए कहा सफरनामे साहित्य कि विधा की तरह ही है, उसके संबंध में कोई साहित्य सिद्धांत मौजूद नहीं है। शहजाद अंजुम ने 'इब्नेबतूता क सफरनामे में हिन्दुस्तानी तहजीब' पर बोलते हुए कहा एशिया का ऐसा कोई गोशा नहीं छूटा जहां इब्नेबतूता न गया हो। लंदन से ऑनलाइन समीउल्लाह मलिक साहब ने कहा कि सफरनामों में हिन्दुस्तान का जिक्र आए बगैर कोई सफरनामा मुकम्मल नहीं हो सकता। जे.एन.यू. के उर्दू के शोधछात्र महबूब हसन ने 'हिन्दुस्तान पाकिस्तानी की नजर से' विषय पर आलेख प्रस्तुत किया। इसमें सैयद अली अकबर रिजवी की भारत में चार हफ्ते के सफर का जिक्र है। डॉ. मो. काजिम ने सतीश बतरा के सफरनामे में मंदिरों, मजारों आदि का विस्तृत वर्णन किया है। डॉ. शमीम अहमद के आलेख का विषय 'दिल्ली और उसके अतराफ में मुस्लिम तहजीब' में 1894 की दिल्ली का चित्र हजरते देहली ने रोजनामचे के जरिये सामने रखा है। इसके पश्चात सत्र की अध्यक्षता करते हुए प्रो. इब्ने कंवल, डॉ. अहमद कफ़ील, परवीन हसन, प्रो. तजीमुन फिरदौस ने पढ़े गए आलेखों पर अपना मत रखा।

सेमिनार के अन्य सत्रों में प्रो. अली जावेद, प्रो. शंकर बसु, प्रो. परवीन

हसन, डॉ. मुश्ताक हैदर, डॉ. संजीव दुबे, डॉ. जेशन तब्बसुब, डॉ. फरजानेह आजम लोत्फी, डॉ. मुजफर आलम, डॉ. परमिंदर सिंह भोगल, डॉ. गोविंद प्रसाद, डॉ. रमण प्रसाद सिंहा, डॉ. मोहम्मद अबुल कावेसेर, डॉ. रंजना बनर्जी, डॉ. रूपा सिंह, डॉ. आर. बालाकृष्णन, डॉ. अनवर पाशा, डॉ. एन. चन्द्रशेखरन, डॉ. देवेन्द्र चौबे, डॉ. तंजीमुल फिरदौस, डॉ. सलीम शाजाद, डॉ. वफा याज्दामानेश, डॉ. जमील असगर, डॉ. आनंद शुक्ला, डॉ. नूरीन खान आदि विद्वानों ने भागीदारी की।

तीन दिन लंबे चली अंतर्राष्ट्रीय संगोष्ठी के समापन समारोह को बांग्लादेश के नई दिल्ली हाई कमीश्नर एच.इ. तारीक अहमद करीम ने संबोधित किया। इन्होंने कहा सूचनाओं का संकलन कर नया ज्ञान पैदा करना मनुष्य का स्वभाव है और यही सभ्यता की गति है। कालिदास, वराह मिहिर, पुराण, अबुल फजल, आदि कई ऐसे लेखक हैं जो हिन्दुस्तानी और इरानी सभ्यता के प्राचीन और प्रगाढ़ संबंधों की ओर संकेत करते हैं। सफरनामों के द्वारा विचारों, संस्कृतियों का आदान प्रदान होता है। कार्यक्रम में आए वक्ताओं प्रो. परवीन और तंजीमुन फिरदौस ने जहां भारतीय भाषा केन्द्र जे.एन.यू. और संगोष्ठी की प्रशंसा की। धन्यवाद ज्ञापन करते हुए भारतीय भाषा केन्द्र के अध्यक्ष प्रो. कृष्णास्वामी नाच्चिमुत्तू, ने कहा यह बहुत बड़ी और प्रभावी संगोष्ठी रही। इस अंतर्राष्ट्रीय संगोष्ठी हिन्दी और उर्दू के अतिरिक्त अंग्रेजी, फारसी और अरबी में भी सत्र आयोजित हुए और भारत, पाकिस्तान, ईरान, तुर्की, मलेशिया, स्वीडन, बांग्लादेश आदि देशों के नब्बे से ज्यादा विद्वानों द्वारा शोध पत्र पढ़े गये।

गणपत तेली, नीतिन गायकवाड़, मीनाक्षी, मधुलिका बेन पटेल, अजय यादव और देवीना अक्षयबर, भारतीय भाषा केन्द्र, जनेवि।

विश्वविद्यालय में हिंदी कार्यशाला का आयोजन संपन्न

पिछले दिनों विश्वविद्यालय में कार्यरत कनिष्ठ सहायकों व टाइपिस्टों / स्टेनोग्राफरों / सहायकों / निजी सहायकों / वरिष्ठ सहायकों और समतुल्य स्टाफ सदस्यों को हिंदी में नोटिंग-ड्राटिंग, पत्र लेखन एवं पारिभाषिक शब्दावली, प्रशासनिक पत्र व्यवहार आदि के बारे में व्यावहारिक प्रशिक्षण देने के लिए 21 मार्च, 2012 को सुबह 10 बजे से शाम 5 बजे तक प्रशासन भवन के कंप्यूटर कक्ष में एक-दिवसीय हिंदी कार्यशाला आयोजित की गई। इसमें 26 स्टाफ सदस्यों ने भाग लिया। इस कार्यशाला का मुख्य उद्देश्य प्रतिभागी स्टाफ सदस्यों की हिंदी में काम करने के लिए बढ़ावा देना था। स्टाफ सदस्यों को प्रशासनिक विषयों पर नोट, ज्ञापन, कार्यालय आदेश तथा सरकारी एवं अर्ध-सरकारी पत्र लिखने का अभ्यास करवाया गया। इस अवसर पर प्रतिभागी स्टाफ सदस्यों को विश्वविद्यालय के विभिन्न संस्थानों, केन्द्रों, विभागों, अनुभागों, शाखाओं आदि के नामों, विभिन्न अधिकारियों के पदनामों की द्विभाषी (हिंदी और अंग्रेजी) सूची तथा दैनिक प्रयोग में आने वाली टिप्पणियों के साथ-साथ द्विभाषी शब्दावली उपलब्ध कराई गई। इस कार्यशाला का उद्घाटन हिंदी सलाहकार प्रो. वरयाम सिंह ने किया और प्रशासन शाखा के उप कुलसचिव श्री के.एच. सीले ने भी प्रतिभागियों को संबोधित किया और उन्हें बिना किसी झिझक के हिंदी में काम करने के लिए प्रेरित किया। कार्यशाला के अंत में विश्वविद्यालय के कुलसचिव श्री संदीप चटर्जी ने स्टाफ सदस्यों को संबोधित करते हुए अपने सारगर्भित वक्तव्य में प्रतिभागियों को हिंदी में अधिकाधिक काम करने की प्रेरणा दी। इस अवसर पर श्री चटर्जी ने विश्वविद्यालय



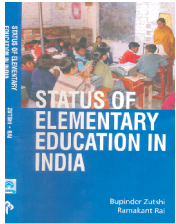
में हिंदी के प्रचार-प्रसार में संलग्न हिंदी एकक के प्रयासों की सराहना करते हुए प्रतिभागियों से कहा कि वे इन कार्यशालाओं में अधिक-से-अधिक संख्या में भाग लें और हिंदी में काम करने के लिए यथासंभव प्रयास करें। उन्होंने हिंदी एकक द्वारा तैयार की गई पाठ्य सामग्री का अवलोकन किया और हिंदी पदनामों में जेंडर की समस्या पर चर्चा करते हुए प्रतिभागियों को इस विषय पर गहन विचार करने की सलाह दी। अंत में इस हिंदी कार्यशाला के संबंध में प्रतिभागियों द्वारा प्रस्तुत विचारों/सुझावों पर भी विस्तार से चर्चा की गई।

**ओमप्रकाश दीवान,
हिंदी अधिकारी, जनेवि**

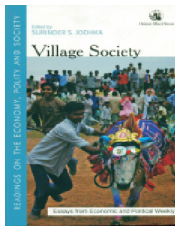
Our Publications

List of Publications

School of Social Sciences



Status of Elementary Education in India
Pentagon Press, by **Bupinder Zutshi, CSRD**



Village Society Orient Blackswan Private Limited, edited by **Surinder S. Jodhka, CSSS**



Non Discrimination and Equality in India: Contesting Boundaries of Social Justice
Routledge, London, by **Vidhu Verma, CPS**

School of Computer & Systems Sciences



Technologies and Protocols for the Future of Internet Design: Reinventing the Web
Premier Reference Source, by **Deo Prakash Vidyarthi**

Alumni Corner

An interview with Shri D.P. Tripathi (Member of the Rajya Sabha)



Wafa: What was your first impression of JNU?

DPT: I first came to JNU in 1973, 13th of July. My first day's experience was memorable. I had distinction in English but I didn't speak the kind of English that the public school educated breed of students did. I was having tea at the Club Building in the

Old Campus. So two girls came there, quiet modern, well educated and said Come on! The vice chancellor is there. Let's go and see. And I said that madam I am having my tea. I pronounced it in a typical Hindi accent. So one girl looked at the other and said let him be. Looks like a rustic poor guy. That day I decided that I would work hard and speak better English than the forefathers of those girls. Incidentally I topped the admission list for the Centre for Political Studies and then with time I got to know those girls as well and all of them became my friends. But thanks to them, I started learning English in my room, 105Kaveri Hostel. I used to come after classes and political work and listen to BBC and speak to the walls for practice. It took me only a month as I did know English; the problem was only the accent. I am the first village born student

to be president of JNUSU. The ones before me were not from poor families nor were they born in a village. My father was a tea stall keeper in the suburb of Calcutta, Howrah, and was born in Sultanpur. He used to sell tea and was the backbone of our family. Since my birth I was visually handicapped partially and the doctors told my parents that I shouldn't be sent to school or else I would gradually lose my vision completely. So I was not sent to school and gradually learnt my alphabet by writing with coal on the ground. The first time I was admitted to school was in class 4. It was only after my high school that I earned a national scholarship and then of course I went to Allahabad University for graduation and then JNU and after that I did not have to look back to those doctors.

Wafa: How did JNU shape the way you think and help in the path you took?

DPT: Although I was politically active before coming to JNU it was nothing compared to my involvement here. My total political baptism began in JNU. I was a political fellow but I was basically devoted to my studies

The first time I came they made me a candidate for the council which I lost because I was campaigning more for Prakash

Alumni Corner

Karat and less for myself. The next year I won the council seat. Incidentally I was against Prakash Karat's re-contest as I was against re-contesting on principle. But then the party decided to go with Prakash Karat and as I had predicted he lost against Anand Kumar. And Anand Kumar was a deserving winner. Then the next elections on 31 January 1975 I won. I was also the first SFI candidate to lead in the School of Languages. Although there were great apprehensions because of my situation and disability but still it worked. The first guest I called to JNU as the President of the students union was Mother Teresa. The Statesman on 21 Feb wrote that the SFI Marxist President of JNU asks the students not to ask any political questions to Mother Teresa. But one person, Pankaj Sharma, a Hindi poet, asked Mother what about the Naxalite prisoners? And Mother Teresa gave a wonderful answer. She said "I pray for them." We also had a movement in JNU which was historical which one can read about in Economic Weekly. It was called Butter and Jam strike because it began with the mess bill problem. There were other issues as well but this was one of the major ones. So the university went on a sine die strike. This was the first time in any University in the world that all of us complied. And the Student administrative body decided that if the JNU administration would not run the University, we will. So students prepared lectures and took classes. JNU is not merely Jwqaharlal Nehru University but Just National Understanding according to me. So classes were started and running and the greatest amazement for the country was that the library run by students was open 24 hours and none of the books were lost and this is recorded. Later obviously the issues were resolved.

I was arrested on 11 Nov 1975 and released on 25 Jan 1977 along with Arun Jaitley. When I came to the campus on 27 Jan 1977 in club building quadrangle and almost The entire student community, staff and even the faculty were there to listen to me and then I was taken to the Students Union office and installed there. So in that sense I was the longest serving JNUSU President from 21 Jan 1975 to 25 April 1977.

After that there was a demand for fresh elections by Free Thinkers and the proposal was accepted in General Body Meeting.

After being voted out I thanked my General Secretary the most who was a Free Thinker, S.S. Singh. Then 22 or 23 April 1977 elections were held. We made Sitaram Yechury the candidate. Prakash Karat said that I should re-contest and I refused as I

was against it. The two names came from the General Body and I made sure that Sitaram was voted as a nominee and not me. In that election the entire CPM was convinced that Sitaram would lose. Prakash Karat did not even campaign. I coined the slogan for him "Badi ladai ucha naam Sitaram Sitaram!" Sitaram won the elections.

Wafa: Are there any changes you see in JNU over time?

DPT: There are many changes taking place in the country and JNU cannot be removed from these but I still think that JNU is the best university in India and I am not saying this because I am from JNU. There are reasons for that, firstly it's a national university, It's a residential university; the teaching is direct and more practical rather than bookish, self study. But depoliticisation has taken place to a certain extent which is in keeping with the trends in the world which is in turn governed by the market. But even then the atmosphere continues. The worst thing that had happened to JNU was the stopping of JNU elections. We had all gone to appeal to the court as well. There was no communalism, no casteism and no gender bias. In fact JNU was the first university to have norms and a body against gender bias. When I became President e that there were joint hostels. Moonis Raza, the then Rector called me and said that these joint hostels should be changed as we live in India. The girls should be allowed to go to the boys' hostels and go to the mess but the hostels should be separate. I agreed with him and convinced my council as that was the demand of many people as well. But many girls surrounded and questioned me and called me a chauvinistic pig. It took me seven hours to convince them but ultimately they accepted because of the affection for me. And the VC, Nag Chaudhary and the Rector congratulated me. Politics and personal relations were separate. There was a sense of tolerance. And students voted based on issues and agendas. When I stood for elections many of my classmates like Jayshankar or Malay Mishra or Shushant Mishra who are well known names now opposed me whereas some who were not my classmates or especially close to me supported me based on their viewpoint. There was always a dialogue and endless discussions over tea with the ones who were opposing me politically. They would give their feedback on what they thought was lacking in my agenda and I would do the same for them. This aspect should not change.

This interview was taken some time ago.



OBITUARY

Sh. Sahib Singh Rathee, Junior Assistant-cum-Typist passed away on 18 March, 2012

We extend our condolences to the bereaved family.

Photo Gallery



1. A delegation headed by H.E. Riza Akcali Ex-Minister and Member of Turkish Parliament visited the Centre of Arabic & African Studies, School of Language, Literature & Culture Studies to attend a workshop on 1 February 2012. Photo shows His Excellency Riza Akcali presenting a plaque to Prof. S.K. Sopory, Vice-Chancellor.

2. A delegation from Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Australia visited JNU on 14 March 2012 and sign a MoU with JNU. Photo shows Prof. Sudha Pai, Rector and Prof. Arun Sharma (Centre) alongwith other officials from JNU and the members of the delegation.

3. A delegation from Twelve International Education Administrators from Universities in the US visited JNU on 20 March, 2012. Photo shows (from right) Dr. Milap Sharma, CSR; Prof. I.S. Thakur, SES, Dr. Milap Punia CSR, Dr. S. Chandrasekaran, (Coordinator), Prof. Harjit Singh, Chief Advisor, International Collaboration, and Prof. Rajiv Bhatt, SBT with other members of the delegation.



4. A delegation headed by Prof. Dr. Bernhard Eitel, Rector, University of Heidelberg, Germany (UHG) visited JNU on 26 March, 2012 and met the Vice-Chancellor Prof. S.K. Sopory. Photo shows Prof. Eitel, and Prof. S.K. Sopory (Centre) alongwith other officials from JNU and the members of the delegation.

5. A delegation of high level officials from Vietnam led by Deputy Prime Minister of Vietnam H.E. Mr. Nguyen Thien Nhan, visited JNU and met the Vice-Chancellor on 29 March 2012. Photo shows H.E. Mr. Nguyen Thien Nhan, presenting a Memento to Prof. S. K. Sopory, Vice Chancellor, JNU.

6. Prof. Ahmed C. Bawa, Vice-Chancellor and Principal, Durban University of Technology, South Africa visited JNU and met Prof. S.K. Sopory, Vice-Chancellor on 9 April, 2012. Photo shows (from right) Prof. Ahmed C. Bawa, Prof. S.K. Sopory, Vice-Chancellor and Prof. Sudha Pai, Rector.





विश्वविद्यालय की विशेषताएँ होती हैं; मानववाद, सहिष्णुता, तर्कशीलता, विचार का साहस और सत्य की खोज। विश्वविद्यालय का काम है उच्चतर आदर्शों की ओर मनुष्य जाति की सतत यात्रा को संभव करना। राष्ट्र और जनता का हित तभी हो सकता है जब विश्वविद्यालय ठीक से अपने दायित्वों का निर्वाह करें।

—जवाहरलाल नेहरू



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7. A lecture-cum-interaction session with Madame Samia Yaba Christina Nkrumah, Member of Parliament and daughter of Kwame Nkrumah, the First President of Ghana, on "The Continued Relevance of Pan-Africanism in the Contemporary World" was organised on 21 March, 2012. Photo show Madame Samia Yaba (Centre) interacting with the participants.
8. Central Asian Studies Programme, Centre for South, Central and Southeast Asian Studies, SIS organized an International Seminar on "Tajikistan in the 21st Century" on 22-23 March, 2012. Photo shows (from right) Prof. S.K. Sopory, Vice-Chancellor, JNU, Shri Ajay Bisaria, Joint Secretary (Eurasia Division), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India and Prof. K. Warikoo, Centre Asian Studies Programme, SIS.
9. The University Library organized a lecture on "E-Book, Choices and Challenges" on 20 March 2012 by Ms. Linda K. Parker, Resource Officer, US Department of State. Photo Shows Ms. Parker delivering the lecture.
10. The University Sports Committee organized Annual Sports Prize Distribution Function on 30 March 2012. Photo shows Shri Kapil Dev (Arjun Awardee, Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan, Wisden Indian Cricketer of the Century) with students after the prize distribution ceremony.



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