

## Report 2012-13

The department of History in its constant endeavour to provide its students an overall understanding of the subject and to inculcate interactive and articulation skills continued the tradition by organising several seminars, festival and such events during this year as well. The year began with a historical walk organised by the faculty member Dr. Archana Ojha where the then 2nd year students absorbed the rich monumental history of the Qutub Complex. This was followed by a guest lecture on 18th January by an American scholar Philip Housey, a faculty member of New York University who spoke on the topic: "Contemporary Issues of American Society and Culture." Again on 18th and 29th February Associate Professor Archana Ojha conducted historical walks where the students were given valuable insights about Nizamuddin Auliya's Dargah and Humayun's Tomb and Masjid Moth monuments respectively. On 1st March 2012 the department organised a lecture especially for the 3rd year students and the speaker Nishat Manzar (a faculty member of Jamia Milia Islamia University) spoke on "Sufism in India: Emergence of the Naqshbandi Silsila." Soon after, on 3rd March the department screened the famous movie The Great Dictator for the then 3rd year students as well as BA Programme students who study Modern European History. With the end of the 2011-2012 annual academic session approaching the department teachers on 19th April organised a special meeting with the 3rd year students to counsel them on their various queries regarding higher studies, the opportunities available to them and such other career related issues.

With the coming of a new batch of students for 2012-2013 academic session the department decided to have an orientation programme for the 1st year students. Accordingly on 26th July the new batch was introduced to the 2nd and 3rd year students and informed about the papers that they would be covering in their 3 years of stay in the college, including the various credit and qualifying papers. Soon after, on 9th August all the three year students were assembled for the department election where the History Association President (Neha Dasgupta, 3rd year), Vice-president (Depopriya Bhattacharjee, 2nd year) and Treasurer (Samira Javid, 1st year) were elected and also the Class Representatives of all 3 years (3rd year – Shubhi Srivastava and Hema Rawat; 2nd year – Akhya Isha and Gitanjali Sreedhar; 1st year – Shivani Allagh and Anaka Asokan). In the following month on 24th September a faculty member of Lady Shri Ram College, Vasudha Pande was invited to deliver a lecture on Modern Indian History and she spoke at length on the topic of Nationalism, Culture and Literature in Modern India. The lecture and the very interactive session that followed afterwards was not restricted to the History department students' but many English department students as well participated in it with equal enthusiasm.

The students of the department under the guidance of the teachers organised a single day departmental festival titled 'Chrono' on 28th September. The festival had many competitions such as quiz, debate and photography where the winners were awarded with attractive prize money. The highlight of the festival was the lecture by the famous writer Mr. William Dalrymple who delivered a very engaging lecture on his famous book The White Mughals of Delhi. The students including many from other colleges and the teachers actively participated in the very interactive question and answer session that followed the lecture.