

## Report (2017)

The year 2017 like the previous years witnessed a number of activities. The Department of History organised its annual festival 'Chrono' on 28th March and the theme was 'Celebrating the Centennial of the Russian Revolution', wherein as part of the annual lecture we invited Prof. Madhavan Palat (Professor, Peace and Conflict Studies, JNU) who spoke on 'History and Memory'. The event was followed by a number of inter college events like slam poetry competition (LitRiot), a debate on the topic 'Should freedom of speech be absolute?' and the screening of the movie 'Shades of Revolution'.

The Department has been involved with imparting heritage awareness program to the students and this is reflected in the many certificate courses and workshops that the students have undertaken under the guidance of Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH), Delhi. In connection to this Dr. Swapna Liddle, an eminent historian (also associated with INTACH) took some of our students for a visit to Lodi Garden on 19th January. A faculty member, Dr. Archana Ojha took the students to Old Delhi in November 2017 and visited numerous sites of what was once the city of Shah Jahan. Ms. Shikha Prakash took the BA program (6th Semester) students to the Craft Museum and the National Gallery of Modern Art. The students of 1st year were taken to the National Museum on 10th November by Ms. Vinita Malik in what has become a yearly ritual for all the 1st year students.

The Department came up with its second newsletter 'Chronicle 2017' which was released on the Annual College Day held on 21st February 2017.

The Department regularly organises lectures by eminent historians/scholars. Dr. Bharti Jagannathan (Associate Professor, Miranda House, University of Delhi) had delivered a lecture on "Tails and tales within a tele-Ramayana" on 19th January. On 25th August a lecture on "Importance of Heritage and Archival records" was conducted by Mr. Yousuf Saeed (film-maker, author and archivist). Then on 22nd September Professor Ajay Dandekar of Shiv Nadar University (Director of School of Social Sciences) was invited to speak on 'Pastoral Nomadism: Debates and history'.

Students are also encouraged to attend lectures and seminars of eminent scholars in other colleges and venues and in keeping with this many students of 1st years went to Indraprastha College (University of Delhi) where the luminary historian Professor Shereen Ratnagar (formerly Professor at CHS, JNU) delivered a lecture on 'Nomads and the Trade Between Ancient Civilizations' on 8th September.

Movie/documentary screenings have been a tradition with the department and this year too saw some screenings as well. Naresh Kumar, a faculty member screened his documentary work titled 'Singers Sans Sight' (a part of his research) on 28th March. On 24th August the Department in collaboration with USIS Centre screened 'Hidden Figures', a movie about African-American women facing racial prejudice at work-place and overcoming it.

The Department on 17th August organised an in-house event to commemorate the 1942 Quit India Movement or popularly known as 'August Kranti'. The event witnessed patriotic songs rendered by the students of Sangeetika choir (Indian music society), followed by students' presentation on the August Kranti, and ended with poem recitations by faculty members, Dr. Shubhra Sinha and Mr. Naresh Kumar.