

Report (2017)

The Department of Sociology in the academic year 2017 witnessed a series of academic activities which gave faculty and the students an access to the greater knowledge. The activities included academic lectures, book discussion, field visit and annual department day. On the academic front, eminent scholars from esteemed universities and research institutions visited the college on several occasions, and they critically reflected on various current social issues and shared their perspectives of the contemporary society.

The year began with a field visit to Suraj Kund Mela on 10th February for 4th semester Honours students of the Department. The visit was undertaken as a part of their Skill Enhancement Course. The field visit enriched their understanding on use of camera which helped them to make ethnographic films for their course.

The department feels the need for the students to remain updated about the latest works in the discipline. Keeping this in mind Sociology Book Club Erudition invited Dr. Manisha Sethi (Jamia Millia Islamia) to hold a discussion on her book 'Kafkaland: Prejudice, Law and Counter terrorism in India' on 25th February. The discussion gave an exposure for the students to critically reflect on the issues of terrorism and counter terrorism. Continuing the same spirit, on 6th March, the department held its annual meet Cynosure on the theme of 'Music and its Significance to Social Life'. This inter-college event saw huge participation of students from various colleges/universities in both curricular and co-curricular competitions. The meet was also marked by the academic lecture as well as the release of annual department newsletter Habitus. The lecture was on 'Music, Memory and Society: Understanding forgotten traditions' by Dr. Sumangala Damodaran from Ambedkar University, Delhi. The department annual newsletter Habitus gave a scope to sociologically investigate the social significance of music on everyday life.

On 6th April a lecture on the 'Social construction of disability' was delivered by Dr. Mahesh Panicker from Lady Shri Ram College. On 11th April an editing workshop on film making was conducted by filmmakers for the fourth semester students to enable them for making documentaries.

In the month of September, the department had the opportunity to host the prestigious and most awaited event of the year 'M.N. Srinivas Declamation'. On 27th September this inter-college competition for the B.A. Honours (Sociology) first semester students was held where students from ten colleges of Delhi University participated. The topic for the declamation was 'Right to Privacy: A Threat to Democracy'. Kamala Nehru college team was the winner of this Declamation. This event was judged by three eminent personalities, Pro-Chancellor and Professor Emeritus K.L. Sharma (Jawaharlal Nehru University), Dr. Shabana Khan, Assistant Professor, (Indian Institute of Science Education and Research) and Dr. Kalaiyaran, Assistant Professor, (Institute for Studies in Industrial Development).