

Report 2015

Faculty Convener: Dr. Geetesh Nirban

Student Conveners: Ronika Vungmuamkim and Meenakshi Khosla

As Kamala Nehru College had the valedictory session of the Golden Jubilee Celebration on 15th January 2015, 'Shining Network' made the arrangements for it. The team presented the fifty glorious years of Kamala Nehru College through a short film; the film aimed to trace the essence and spirit of KNC. We also organised a panel-discussion on the 'Changing Role of Women in India'. The distinguished panellists were Dr. Sayeeda Hameed (Former-member, Planning Commission), Dr.V.MohiniGiri (Padma Bhushan awardee, Former-Chairperson, NCW, and Chairperson – Guild for Service) and Savita Ma from *MaDham*, Vrindavan (An empowerment centre for widows and children run by Guild for Service). The panel discussion was followed by an enchanting musical performance by BESY CHOIR of the Bible Society of India from Aizawl, Mizoram.

On 25th March 2015, an interactive session on '*Expressions*' was organised to understand the various nuances of verbal and non-verbal expressions as a part of youth empowerment initiative with Mrs. Avereer Chaurey (Theatre Artist) as the resource person. As per the tradition of Shining Network, the session was commemorated with a release of a book mark that had the quote by Ralph Waldo Emerson, '*The man is only half himself, the other half is his expressions*'.

On 22nd September 2015, Mr. Gerardo Montes-Maroto (Spanish Scholar from Universidad Complutense De Madrid, Spain) addressed the team-members on '*Mindfulness for Building of Social Peace*'. He demonstrated some cognitive and meditative methods of practicing mindfulness—as an everyday life-skill for well-being and peace-building—for achieving higher potentials. A bookmark with the quote of Buddha, '*Refuge to the man is the mind, refuge to the mind is mindfulness*' was released by the guest speaker. We look forward to having extremely value-creating workshops and interactions in the year 2016.

Report (January-May 2016)

Faculty Convener: DrGeetesh Nirban

Student Conveners: ShikhaSoni and ArantxaTalukdar

For Shining Network(the youth empowering and value creating society of KNC working towards building a culture of peace through value based and life skills education), the year 2016 started with an interactive session on *Peace and the Lessons in Biology* organised on 27th January 2016, with Mr Come Carpentier as the distinguished speaker. Mr. Carpentier is currently the Convener of the Editorial Board of the WORLD AFFAIRS JOURNAL, a quarterly publication dedicated to international issues. He touched upon the international issues that hamper the peace process while explicating that biologically violence turns out to be a natural feature and peace is a process- a lesson that mankind learns only through history. Following the tradition of Shining Network, the event was commemorated by a release of a

bookmark with the quote, “ *Conflict cannot survive without participation, and peace is looking for an address*” Bhavya Bhatia, the team member sang a classic version of the song ‘Blowing in the wind’.

On 8th March, Shining Network screened *EcoDharma*, a short documentary on the Bishnoi community in Rajasthan which was followed by a discussion with the filmmakers Ms. Malgorzata Skiba (Poland) and Mr. S. Kumar (India). A bookmark with the quote, “*I don’t want to protect the environment, I want to create a world where the environment doesn’t need protection,*” was released on the occasion. The filmmakers shared their journey of producing and directing this film as well as shedding light on environmental protection emerging as an alternate religion for peace building and community wellbeing. Our own Bhavya enthralled the audience with a rendition of Jon Lennon’s “Imagine”. The screening was followed by refreshments which consisted of Indian snacks and a diverse range of ‘Chutneys’ representing all parts of India as arranged by the students themselves. The ‘Chutney Session’ is an annual event conducted by Shining Network to celebrate the diversity in India. Shining Network calls it a unique way of peace building by generating sensitivity to diverse tastes of India.

For the scholastic year 2016-17, Meghna Jalan from Sociology (Hons) and Kajal Kumari from B.A.(Program) are the student conveners.