



Govt. of West Bengal Sponsored

International Seminar

on

Ideology, Law and Environment: Ideas of Social Justice in India

Through the Ages

on

22nd – 23rd March, 2018



Organised by:

Department of History

Raiganj University

Raiganj, Uttar Dinajpur

PIN- 733134, West Bengal

About the University:

Nestled in the small district headquarter of Raiganj, Uttar Dinajpur, Raiganj University is an upgraded version of the erstwhile Raiganj University College. Established on 3rd February, 2015, Raiganj University looks forward to grow with time and leave a stamp of quality in the map of Higher Education in the State of West Bengal and subsequently in the grander map of the country. Its journey commenced with 10 academic Departments and today it hosts 21 academic Departments, offering both the Under-Graduate and Post-Graduate Courses. By inviting scholars from USA, UK, Iran and eminent academics all across the country, the students have been exposed to the benefits of skilled teaching and advanced academic training. To accommodate the researching mind, Ph.D and M.Phil programmes have been undertaken from the year of inception. Moreover, scientific programmes, research projects and social welfare programmes are regularly arranged here in the campus for internal quality enhancement and connecting the outer society to the institution. The University works with its mission to create a metamorphic educational experience for students focused on deep disciplinary knowledge, problem solving, leadership, communication, interpersonal skills, personal health and well-being. **Raiganj University is the lone University in the country to have been incorporated under Section 12(B) of the UGC Act, 1956, within two and half years of its creation.**

Concept Note:

From the very onset of the Indian civilization the concept of law, environment and social justice as developed; have been drawing the attention of historians and researchers by shaping multiple historical narratives of Indian history. It is also an undeniable fact that the Sultanate and Mughal periods in Indian history prior to the commencement of the British rule in India were not exceptional in the said field.

Recently environmental issues have been attracting historians and scholars by shaping multiple historical narratives of Indian history. To understand the changing discourses of environmental history, it is necessary, for us, to analyze the dimensions of human and nature interactions in the past, especially in the colonial times. It is important to understand how the 'white masters' used the environment as one of the 'ideological' tools to build the Raj. At the same time, the judicial and legal histories of British India are pivotal to comprehend as how these too were effective in

catering the haloed 'social justice'. The system of social justice was essential to weave a sense of the 'greater good' that justified the British's 'civilizing mission'. However, these aspects are no longer considered to highlight merely themes of social and economic development and national integration but also to grapple a number of complex issues like identity, class and gender, ecology and equity, state formation, ethnic transformation and participatory management of forest resources by the community. The seminar is conceptualized as a response to the need for an inter-thematic reassessment of social history and environmental history. The attempt will be to locate the gaps and problems of the existing research by looking into the different hierarchies and categories of the colonial world and beyond from the perspectives of ideological empire-building, its aftermath especially in the Nehruvian Era and environmental history and related issues.

Sub-themes:

- a) Ideas of Social Justice in Ancient India concerning Law and Environment.
- b) Ideas of Social Justice in Medieval India concerning Law and Environment.
- c) Ideology and State in Ancient and Medieval India.
- d) Ideology & Empire: Environmental Ideologies/ Martial Race Theory/ Orientalism/ Conservatism /Utilitarianism/ Evangelicalism.
- e) Environment & Empire: Colonial Forest Policy/ Communities & Environment/ Eco-feminism/ Ecological History/ Colonial Medicine & Environment/ Railways & Environment.
- f) Law & Empire: Laws for Women/ Environmental Laws/ Tribal Laws/ Reform Acts.
- g) System of Social Justice in India up to the Nehruvian Era.

Call for Paper:

Participants are requested to email their abstract/s and full paper/s (in .docx file, Times New Roman, Font 12, double spaced) to seminarhistoryrgu@gmail.com **on and before 10th March, 2018& 16th March, 2018, respectively**. The abstract should not exceed 300 words and the full paper should be written within 3000 words.

In case of any queries, feel free to contact Mr.Barendranath Giri at +91 9434966976 and Dr. Aniruddha Das +91 9474321986. You can also write to seminarhistoryrgu@gmail.com

Registration:

The registration fees for participating in the seminar would be (i) Rs. 1000/- (Rupees one thousand only) for teachers (ii) Rs. 800/- (Rupees eight hundred only) for Research Scholars (iii) Rs. 400/- (Rupees four hundred only) for students.

Interested participants are requested to deposit their Registration fees within **16th March, 2018**, to the following Account No. by electronic transfer. Such participants are requested to kindly email the scanned copies of the filled-up Registration Form and Receipt of Fee Deposit to seminarhistoryrgu@gmail.com Registration Form may be downloaded from the University website viz. www.raiganjuniversity.ac.in

Account No.	34901673834
IFSC Code	SBIN0000162
MICR Code	733002202
Name	State Bank of India
Branch	Raiganj

In exceptional cases, on the spot Registration for the seminar may be allowed from 09-00 AM onwards on 22nd March, 2017.

Route Details:

It may please be noted that Raiganj, the district headquarters of Uttar Dinajpur, West Bengal, can be reached through **National Highway 34** by *government and private buses*. For those availing *train services*, the nearest railway station, besides **Raiganj** and **Kaliyaganj**, is **Barsoi Junction**. The nearest *airport* is **Bagdogra Airport**.

Accommodation:

Accommodation will be provided, only, to Resource Persons. The University can arrange for accommodation for outstation participants, if they bear the expenses.

Advisory & Organising Committee

Patron-in-Chief

Professor Anil Bhuimali, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Raiganj University

Board of Advisors

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Professor Ananda Gopal Ghosh(Retd.), Department of History, University of North Bengal

Professor Arun Bandopadhyay (Retd.), Nurul Hasan Professor of History & Formerly Dean of the Post-Graduate Faculty of Arts, University of Calcutta.

Professor M. Rajivlochan, Department of History, Punjab University

Professor Projit Kumar Palit, Department of History, Assam University

Professor Rila Mukherjee, Department of History, School of Social Sciences, University of Hyderabad

Jt. Programme Coordinators

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Dr. Aniruddha Das, Associate Professor & Head, Department of History, Raiganj University

Jt. Organising Secretaries

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Shri Ajoy Dutta, Part-time Teacher, Department of History, Raiganj University

Shri Provat Poddar, Guest Teacher, Department of History, Raiganj University

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REGISTRATION FORM

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Prof. / Dr. / Mr./ Ms. _____

Address for Communication: _____

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