

ACTIVITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT

1. Study TOUR TO Bhutan 2019:

On May 2019, plans was made to take the 6th semester students for a field trip from the Department. The students opted for a study tour to Bhutan as they wanted to learn about the culture and environment of that place and compare it with the culture of our state and country.

The Head of the Department gave her consent and requested the Principal to allow our students to visit the place under the guidance of one of the Department teacher, Ms. Omega L. Syiemlieh. Permission was granted on agreement thatthe tour would be self-financed. All the students were excited and registered their names. However, due to some problems, like unavailability of passport and epic, only nine students were able to go for the trip. The team left on the 22nd of May 2019 and returned back on the 27th of May 2019. Even though the Study Tour was a brief one, yet the students were able to learn many things from the culture, food, lifestyle and hospitality of the people, etc. The students benefitted from this trip. Ever grateful to the Principal and the College Authorities for their help and support to the Department of History.





2. Felicitation Program Organised for the Retired Teachers:

To honour the contributions of the two retired teachers of the Department of History, namely Prof J. Choudhury and Prof N. Lytand, the History Department organised a Felicitation Program on 26.11.2021. As protocols of Covid 19 had to be followed, there was a limited number of those who attended the Program.

The Principal, Dr Mrs E. Kharkongor graced the occasion and during her felicitation speech she highlighted the valuable contributions of the two retired teachers to the Department of History and the College in general. The Vice Principal (Self Financed Course), Prof B. Syiem, also delivered his speech stressing on the point that all should follow the footsteps of our retired teachers with sincerity and honesty. On behalf of the Department of History, Prof V.C.S Dkhar in her speech recalled the good times and expressed gratitude to Smt J Choudhury and Smt N. Lytand on how they have guided, led, taught and nurtured the students through their many years of service, and also on how they have both mentored the junior teachers of the Department.

The retired teachers were then presented with mementos and gifts, followed by a speech from them. The Program ended with a Farewell Song from the students along with an interactive session followed by refreshments.

The Program was a grand and successful one, and would always be a beautiful memory in the annals of the History Department, Shillong College.







3. Commemorating Fifty Years of Meghalaya's Statehood:

As a mark to commemorate the **Fifty Years of Meghalaya's Statehood**, the Department of History , Shillong College, organised two 'Guest Lectures' on 6.12.2021 and 29.04.2022

Guest Lecture held on 6th December, 2021

The 'Guest Lecture' that was held on 6.12.2021, had as its Resource person, Prof A.K. Thakur, History Department, NEHU. The topic of the Lecture was "Forms of Consciousness and Creation of States in Modern India." The Program was attended by the Principal Dr Mrs E. Kharkongor, IQAC Coordinator, Prof S Sharma, teachers from different Departments of the College, History honours students, and also a few honours students from different departments.

The Resource Person, Prof Thakur, spoke on the forms of consciousness as an important factor which leads a region/people to push for statehood. He stressed on the point that Meghalaya needs to be conscious and alert of the changes and challenges that the state is facing each day. Meghalaya is completing 50 years of statehood, yet, there is still much to be done as no progress is evident in comparison to the other states. Dr Mrs E. Kharkongor in her speech reminded us about the history of the formation of Meghalaya and encouraged the department to research and publish articles on the subject. The program was conducted by Prof V.C.S. Dkhar (HOD, History Department). In her words of remarks, Prof V.C.S.Dkhar thanked Prof Thakur for the lecture and for his detailed explanation of the "forms of consciousness" which many were never conscious of.

There was an Inter-active session with the students. The students expressed their gratitude as they have learned so much about a 'topic' which is very relevant, and which is related to the topics in their syllabus.

A few momentos and honorarium were presented to Prof. Thakur.

The Program was followed by light refreshment.







Guest Lecture held on 29th April, 2022

The Guest Lecture held on the 29th of April, 2022, was on the topic, "Hill State Movement and the Emergence of Meghalaya".

The lecture was delivered by Prof. A. Banshan Syiem Kharkongor, Department of History, Union Christian College.

The program was attended by the Principal, Dr. (Mrs.) E. Kharkongor, the Vice Principal, Prof. K. D. Roy, teachers and students from the different departments of the College.

The Principal, Dr. (Mrs.) E. Kharkongor, in her speech stressed upon the fact that the youth of today are faced with many challenges due to changes in all aspects of society. She therefore, encouraged the students to prepare themselves for such challenges as they will determine the future of the State and the Nation.

The Department felt the need for a lecture on this topic, "Hill State Movement and the Emergence of Meghalaya", as it is relevant for the understanding of the history of the State which also forms part of the course of study. **It was also felt that the topic is most appropriate as the State of Meghalaya is commemorating its fifty years of Statehood.**

Prof. A. Banshan Syiem Kharkongor has done a comprehensive study on the area and has a number of publications to his credit. His most important work is the book that he recently published and released, *The Hill State Movement in Meghalaya: A Socio-Historical Narrative*, which was published by the Arts and Culture Department, Government of Meghalaya, in commemoration of its fifty years of Statehood.

In his lecture, Prof. Kharkongor stressed on the factors leading to the Hill State Movement, how it transitioned from a Movement that was confined to the political elite and progressed to a mass social movement in its later stages. It also saw the participation of the youth as well as women. An interesting point of note is that songs, slogans and poems became an integral part of mass demonstrations in the Hill State Movement. They were instrumental in galvanising and whipping up the passion of the masses. The lecture was concluded with the point that Meghalaya was inaugurated as an Autonomous State on 2nd April 1970 and as a full-fledged state on January 21st, 1972.

The Guest Lecture was beneficial for both students and teachers alike. It brought to light a number of lesser-known facts and information about the State of Meghalaya and its history.

There was an inter-active session with the students.

The Program was followed by light refreshment.





4. A Farewell Program: “PREPARING FOR THE NEXT LEVEL”

The teachers of the History Department organized a special program for the 6th Semester students, Class of 2022, on the 27th May 2022.

The need was felt to prepare the students for ‘the next’, and so the theme of the program was “PREPARING FOR THE NEXT LEVEL”. The Program was attended by all the students (6th Semester History Honours), and the teachers.

A talk on the theme was delivered by Prof. V. C. S. Dkhar(HOD), where she urged the students to prepare themselves for the future, as they were going to graduate soon. She encouraged the students to always live on the principles of honesty, hard work, sincerity and integrity which in turn would surely bring success. She further stressed on the fact that each student is equipped with talents and creativity which they should pursue-on in order to build their career and future. A part of the speech was also on career counseling. More words of encouragement and advise was imparted to the students by the other teachers of the Department.

The program was followed by the student's presentation. The students expressed their gratitude to the Department and the teachers and also to the College, for they have learned and gathered much through their few years of College life. They were also very grateful for the farewell program, which they say, 'has inspired them a lot and that they are determined and ready to step up to the next level.'

The Program was a grand success and was followed by a time of inter-action and light refreshment.



STUDENT'S SEMINAR:



DEPARTMENT MEETING:



MENTOR-MENTEE MEET:



STUDENT-TEACHER INTERACTION:



TEACHER'S DAY CELEBRATION:

