

Abstract Book

**Summary of Lectures
Delivered at 67th Orientation Programme
November 13 – December 11, 2017**

**UGC-Human Resource Development Centre
Jadavpur University
Kolkata – 700 098**

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From the publishing desk

Every new faculty member in higher education will be required to undergo a four week Orientation / First level Programme which will be focused on some broad area of knowledge spanning a few allied disciplines. The objective of the orientation programme is to make teachers a central position of socioeconomic changes and put them in centre stage of national development. UGC-Human Resource Development Centres are assigned the responsibility to organise this Systematic Organised Programmes to ensure updation of teachers and librarians.

The UGC-Human Resource Development Centre, Jadavpur University, is organizing the 67th Orientation Programme, the 3rd among the four such programmes sanctioned by the UGC in the session 2017-18. There are two notable highlights of the programme. First is a study tour at Sea Explorer, where the participants would get first-hand learning experience in disaster management, which they would thereafter document in terms of reports. Our sincere thanks go to Mr. Tapas Chowdhury, for arranging such an important study tour for the participants of the 67th Orientation Programme. Second highlight of the programme is survey-based group project for which the participants have been divided into **seven** groups and each group is given a particular topic to research and debate on. This would be part of the evaluation of the participants as well. Programme schedule allows for laboratory and library work to carry out these surveys and presentations.

While selecting topics, three criteria have been kept in mind: topics of current affairs of national as well as international importance, topics of general interest for moral, psychological and professional development and topics of cross-discipline and multi-discipline in nature. On top of all these, there have been two sessions on performing arts with live demonstration.

This Abstract Book collates summary of most of these lectures delivered by experts and eminent researchers in the relevant fields both from within and outside West Bengal. The summary lectures are arranged thematically according to the above-mentioned perspectives. We hope that the participants of the 67th Orientation Programme would find this Abstract Book useful for ready references of what they

have learnt through this programme. Preparation of this study reference was a hard task as all the resource persons are eminent researchers, scholars and/or teachers to find out time for preparing their materials and send within deadline of time but at the same time it was a pleasant experience too to have most of the abstracts from them. This procedure would not have fulfilled without the inspiration of Professor Suranjan Das, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Jadavpur University, who has always been a source of inspiration for all of us at HRDC. Our sincere and heartiest thanks are bestowed to the Director, HRDC, Prof. Rajat Acharyya for his ever dynamic motivation. We are really grateful to the University administration for all their help. At the end, we look forward to receiving suggestions from participants for improvement in endeavours like this. This Abstract Book is a small, though not insignificant, step towards documentation and dissemination of information regarding how we are trying to design the course curriculum for Orientation Programme at the HRDC, JU. With suggestions and feedback from all stakeholders we can make projects like this even improved and significant.

November, 2017

Dr. Nandan Bhattacharya
Mr. Prabir Kr. Chatterjee
Ms. Chaitali Mukherjee

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Schedule for 67th Orientation Programme (November 13th - December 11th, 2017)				
Date	10:30 AM – 12:00 Noon	12:00 Noon – 1:30 PM	2:15 PM – 3:45 PM	3:45 PM – 5:15 PM
Nov 13	Inauguration Session: 11:00 am: Welcome Address by Prof. Suranjan Das , Vice Chancellor, Jadavpur University 11:15 am: Overview of the Programme by Dr. Nandan Bhattacharya , Assistant Director, UGC-HRDC 11:30 am: Inaugural Address by Prof. Chinmoy Guha, and former Head, Department of English, CU, Exploring the Human Condition: The French Perception Vote of Thanks by Chaitali Mukherjee , UGC-HRDC		Swapan Chakravorty Kabiguru Rabindranath Tagore Distinguished Chair Professor in the Humanities, Presidency University <i>The University and the Humanities</i>	
Nov 14	Sugata Hazra School of Oceanography, JU <i>Disaster Management and Sustainable Development</i>		Kavita Singh School of Criminal Justice and Administration, NUJS <i>Water Pollution: Legal and Procedural</i>	
Nov 15	Arijita Dutta , Department of Economics, CU <i>Kanyashree Prakalpa in West Bengal, India: Justification and Impact</i>	Sushil Haldar Department of Economics, JU <i>Health Economics-Some Emerging Issues in Indian Context</i>	Swapnendu Bandyopadhyay Department of Economics, JU <i>Fun and Games</i>	
Nov 16	Sumita Sen Department of International Relations, JU <i>Human Rights & Gender</i>		Lab & Library Work	Muktipada Sinha Department of Education, JU <i>Mindfulness in Education</i>
Nov 17	Supriyo Ghoshal Secretary, WB Right to PSC, GoWB <i>Emotional Intelligence</i>		Dr. Shubrangshu Aditya Counseling Services & Studies in Self- Development, JU <i>Stress: Neuro-physiology and Management</i>	Soumitra Basu Department of Philosophy, JU <i>Basic Skills and Processes of Psychological Counselling</i>
Nov 18	Saikat Sinha Roy Department of Economics, JU <i>From 'Planning for Industrialisation' to 'Energizing the Process of Governance': The evolution</i>		Gour Krishna Pattanayak Finance Officer, JU <i>General Financial Rules</i>	Interactive Session with Dr. Nisar Ahmad Mir Jt. Secretary, UGC & In Charge of HRDC

Lunch Break: 1:30 PM – 2:15 PM

Schedule for 67th Orientation Programme (November 13th - December 11th, 2017)				
Date	10:30 AM – 12:00 Noon	12:00 Noon – 1:30 PM	2:15 PM – 3:45 PM	3:45 PM – 5:15 PM
Nov 20	Samita Sen School of Women Studies, JU <i>Qualitative Methods of Research</i>		Ashok Viswanathan Satyajit Ray Film & Television Institute, Kolkata <i>Cinema and Literature</i>	
Nov 21	Mahidas Bhattacharya School of Language & Linguistics, JU <i>Origin of Language</i>		Rupa Bandyopadhyay Department of Philosophy, JU <i>Theories of Sentence-Meaning: Indian and Western</i>	
Nov 22	Arun Bandyopadhyay Department of History, CU <i>Environmental Studies In Historical, Political and Academic Perspectives, Part I: The Global Dimension Part II: The Indian Dimension.</i>		Lab Work/Library Work & Submission of write up of Survey based Group Project & Discussion	Evaluation of Survey based Group Project write up Malabika Roy Department of Economics, JU
Nov 23	Survey based Group Project & Discussion Evaluators: Madhumita Chattopadhyay Department of Philosophy, JU & Malabika Roy Department of Economics, JU		Ranjan Chakrabarti Vice Chancellor, Vidyasagar University and Professor of History, JU <i>Problems of Writing Bengal's Local History</i>	
Nov 24	Study Tour at Sea Explorer		Study Tour at Sea Explorer	Evaluation of Survey based Group Project write up Madhumita Chattopadhyay Department of Philosophy, JU
Nov 25	Basab Choudhury Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, WBSU <i>Plagiarism</i>	Uma Chattopadhyay Bandyopadhyay Retired Professor of Philosophy, CU <i>Ethics and Values: An Understanding</i>	Ramaprasad Bhattacharya Joint DPI, GoWB <i>CAS/Service Matters</i>	

Lunch Break: 1:30 PM – 2:15 PM

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Date	10:30 AM – 12:00 Noon	12:00 Noon – 1:30 PM	2:15 PM – 3:45 PM	3:45 PM – 5:15 PM
Nov 27	Shibashis Chatterjee Department of International Relations, JU <i>1. Domination/discrimination and the private/public debates in feminism</i> <i>2. Understanding multiculturalism</i>		Gopa Dutta Department of Bengali, JU <i>Bibhutibhusan as a Short Story Writer</i>	
Nov 28	Abhra Bose Department of Bengali, Visva Bharati <i>Language Change: Progress or Decay?</i>		Suchisree Roy Performing Arts: Indian Classical Music <i>Raga and Realisation</i>	
Nov 29	Deepak Kumr Retired Professor, JNU <i>Science and Society: A Historical Perspective</i>		Samantak Das HoD, Department of Comparative Literature, JU <i>Human Subject in 19th Century: Science and Literature</i>	
Nov 30	Pradip K. Ghosh Pro-VC, JU <i>Laws of Nature and Symmetry</i>	Lab Work/Library Work	Sandeepa Bhat School of Public Law and Governance, NUJS <i>Space Law: Developments and Current Trends</i>	
Dec 1	Shanta Dutta Department of English, Presidency University <i>Interface between Science and Literature in the 19th Century Novel and 19th Century Poetry</i>		Partha Pratim Basu Department of IR, JU <i>India's Foreign Policy: The Contemporary Concerns</i>	
Dec 2	Holiday			

Lunch Break: 1:30 PM – 2:15 PM

Schedule for 67 th Orientation Programme (November 13 th - December 11 th , 2017)				
Date	10:30 AM – 12:00 Noon	12:00 Noon – 1:30 PM	2:15 PM – 3:45 PM	3:45 PM – 5:15 PM
Dec 4	Jharna Sanyal Retired Professor, Department of English, CU <i>Staging Life: The Worlds of Binodini Dasi</i>		Santanu Tripathy Department of Clinical Pharmacology, Tropical Medicine <i>Medical Literacy</i>	<i>Lab/Library Work</i> & 1. Submission of Report on Study Tour 2. Submission of topic of seminar presentation
Dec 5	Nandan Bhattacharya Assistant Director, UGC-HRDC, JU <i>Evolution of Theatre</i>		Lab Work/Library Work	<i>Submission of Write ups for presentation by ALL participants</i>
Dec 6	Seminar Presentation and Evaluation Siddhartha Mitra <i>Department of Economics, JU</i>	Seminar Presentation and Evaluation Santanu Biswas <i>Department of English, JU</i>	Seminar Presentation and Evaluation Amit Kundu <i>Department of Economics, JU</i>	Seminar Presentation and Evaluation Nupur Dasgupta <i>Department of History, JU</i>
Dec 7	Seminar Presentation and Evaluation Abhijit Gupta <i>Department of English, JU</i>	Seminar Presentation and Evaluation Anindyoyoti Majumdar <i>Department of IR, JU</i>	Seminar Presentation and Evaluation Sampa Chowdhury <i>Department of Bengali JU</i>	Seminar Presentation and Evaluation Gangadhar Kar <i>Department of Philosophy, JU</i>
Dec 8	Seminar Presentation and Evaluation Roopkumar Barman <i>Department of History, JU</i>	Lab Work/Library Work	Candidate's evaluation (Micro-teaching) Sanat K. Ghosh Department of Education, RBU	
Dec 9	Candidate's Evaluation (Micro-teaching) Sanat K. Ghosh Department of Education, RBU		Candidate's Evaluation <i>MCQ based evaluation</i>	Tarun Kumar Pradhan Rabindra Bharati University <i>Performing Arts: Mime</i>
Dec 11	Valedictory Session 11 am – 12:30 pm: Valedictory Lecture by Prof. Sourin Bhattacharya, Retired Professor of Economics, JU <i>Standardizing the standards</i>		Feedback and Interactive Session	Certificate Distribution and Disbursement of Payment)

Lunch Break: 1:30 PM – 2:15 PM

**UGC – Human Resource Development Centre
Jadavpur University
Kolkata – 700 098**

**67th Orientation Program
(November 13th - December 11th, 2017)**

1. Time slot of Group Discussion: **23.11.2017 at 10:30 AM - 2:15 PM**
2. Presentation shall be made for **10 Minutes** followed by interaction for **10 Minutes**.
3. Presentation shall be made according to the following order.
4. Write up (**12 TNR; Single spacing**) on the topic must be submitted on **22.11.2017 (5:15 PM)**

Distribution of Group Discussion topic for participants

Group	Name	Subjects	Topic
A	Amit Patra	Bengali	<i>Sahitye Paribesh Chetana</i>
	Sk. Rezwanul Islam	Bengali	
	Nafisa Parvin	Bengali	
	Baishakhi Kundu	Bengali	
	Mitali Singha	Bengali	
	Madhuri Majumdar	Dance	
B	Manjari Chattopadhyay	Economics	Economy vs. Ecology
	Debabrata Roy	Economics	
	Arpan Kumar Roy	Economics	
	Fatema Mandlaywala	Commerce	
	Moutan Roy	Sociology	
C	Souvik Mukherjee	English	Tragedy: Paradigm Shift from Aristotle to Shakespeare
	Deepti Myriam Joseph	English	
	Rangeet Sengupta	English	
	Madhumita Roy	English	
	Amrita Basu	English	

D	Anasua Bagchi	History	History: Constructed Facts?
	Damrupani Bhattacharyya	History	
	Oyndrila Sarkar	History	
	Bhabesh Mondal	History	
	Utsa Ray	History	
	Pramiti Chatterjee	History	
E	Madhura Shamkant Damle	Political Sc.	Intolerance and Democracy
	Yarraguntla Suresh Babu	Political Sc.	
	Probhas Mondal	Political Sc.	
	Thendu Doma Bhutia	Political Sc.	
	Devarati Mandal	International Relations	
F	Doyel Mukherjee	Philosophy	The Vedas: A religious text?
	Rumpa Chakraborty	Philosophy	
	Kasturi Saha	Philosophy	
	Kalyan Panda	Sanskrit	
	Husna Parvin	Sanskrit	
	Tanmay Podder	Sanskrit	
G	Shameek Sen	Law	Nationalism and Internationalism
	Tilottama Raychaudhuri	Law	
	Shouvik Kumar Guha	Law	
	Lovely Dasgupta	Law	
	Md. Jiaul Anam Molla	History	
	Nafisa Sarkar	History	

**ABSTRACT
OF LECTURES
DELIVERED**

**CAS/
Service matters/**

CAS/ Service Matters

Ramaprasad Bhattacharya
Joint DPI, Govt. of West Bengal

Date & Time: 25st November, 2017; 2:15 PM – 5:15 PM

- Enrolment of students in Higher Education in West Bengal is 17%.
- O.P./R.C. is just not a personal requirement. It should be a social responsibility for a teacher to prepare the students. These programmes are designed to serve this purpose.
- Gap between O.P. and R.C. is conventionally one year, but it is not strictly maintained in West Bengal scenario.
- Publication and other criteria are more important and necessary for API Score than Orientation Programme / Refresher Course.
- UGC-listed journals are recommended for publication, but non-listed journals are also taken into consideration.
- Financial support for Projects can mainly be obtained from four sources viz. DST Central, DST State, UGC, Government of West Bengal.
- Number of classes per week is flexible and it depends on number of teachers present at the department.
- Government Colleges are treated or recognized as cadre-based service, but Government-Aided colleges are different. Therefore, the rules and regulations of service continuation and promotion is different depending on the change of service-criteria, namely Govt. To Govt., Govt. To Non-Govt., Non-Govt. To Non-Govt. And Non-Govt. To Govt. Colleges.

Basic Financial Rules and Service Related Rules Applicable for the College and University Teachers

Gour Krishna Pattanayak
Finance Officer, Jadavpur University

Date & Time: 18th November, 2017; 2:15 PM – 3.45 PM

General Financial rules normally includes sanction process, budgeting, spending norms, purchase rules, service benefits, pay and promotion issues and taxation matters, to name a few. The present lecture primarily focuses on these aspects.

Budgeting is essentially estimates for the future period based on past experiences, and flow of funds and expectations thereof. The principle of budgeting is essentially setting some benchmarks for future plan of growth and development. For academic institutes, the main source of funds is funding by the State and Central Governments and other agencies. In addition, there are incomes/revenues generated through fees, testing and consultancy, sale of publications, alternative use of properties and assets, and disposal of junk and other materials.

Purchase and expenditure thereof are primarily intended for academic and research activities and primarily within budgetary allocations and/or sanctions. The purchase of materials, equipment and furniture are now governed by GO No.: 5400-F(Y) dated 25.6.2012 of Government of West Bengal.

Accounting, reporting and auditing are the other crucial elements of general financial rules. In this context, introduction of GST has added another dimension to accounting of purchases. The present lecture shall briefly touch upon the scope, applicability, rationality and impact of GST.

The lecture also elaborate upon Service Rules, particularly pay fixation and promotion, promotion under CAS, retirement benefits and the new Pension Scheme introduced by the GoI with effect from 01.01.2004. Salient features of this pension scheme are as follows:

- This is a contributory Pension scheme, introduced w.e.f. 2004; 10% of Basic Pay as subscription and matching equal contribution by the employer will be provided monthly.
- A Pension fund will be maintained by a Fund Manager, where monthly the subscription and contribution need to be send by a employer.
- The employer shall have no liability for Pension of the employees under the scheme.
- The Fund manager shall release Pension monthly, based on the income on the accumulated funds with them.
- Such Pension would not have any DA or Pay-revision benefits.
- The employer has no financial liability for pension after the retirement.
- The fund manager receiving the funds will pay monthly pensions.
- There is a permanent Retirement Account number [PRAN], which is transferable.
- The scheme is controlled by PFRDA.

Value, Ethics and Human Rights

Ethics and Values: An Understanding

Uma Chattopadhyay

*Retired Professor, Department of Philosophy,
University of Calcutta*

Date & Time: 25st November, 2017; 12:00 Noon - 1:30 PM

The word 'ethics' is used very commonly. Everyone claims that whatever one states or does is ethical. Others' activities, according to this version, may be unethical. We also see whatever is ethical is good and, on the other hand, unethical things are bad. Now the words 'ethical' and 'unethical' involve the notion of value, as the words 'good' and 'bad' in some cases are involved in moral actions. Over and above the simplistic analysis of ethics and values, I shall focus on the notion of ethics, If ethics is individualistic, then what is the relevance of the subject ethics? Secondly, my interest is to show what we shall understand by the word 'value'. Is there any definite notion of value or are there kinds of values? How can we relate the two notions? And finally, what will be the nature of ethics by the notion of value? In this context, I shall consider the notion of values discussed by different thinkers, and what kind of value will be important to the modern local and global society.

On plagiarism

Basab Choudhury

Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, WBSU

Date & Time: 25st November, 2017; 10:30 AM - 12:00 Noon

By now all of us in the academic circle are aware of the word "plagiarism". The word means using other's intellectual property as our own, and not giving due credit to the person who originally wrote or developed or invented the so-called 'property'. With digital revolution all around, information can be freely obtained from various websites through internet. They can be read or commented up on. But users must not 'steal' information. They must be 100 yards away from the 'copy-paste' method. This is a

matter of academic honesty and institutional sanctity. In some cases, even a person's relatively old work should be properly cited in a newer work/ publication; otherwise, the new work will appear to be a repetition of the old. In the academic world, credit should not be claimed twice for the same contribution. Moreover, repetition of the same work does not lead to personal or professional or institutional development.

Most research activities in Indian institutions are funded by the Government Agencies. They are expensive in terms of developmental work. If plagiarism occurs in the process of development, the purpose of research is lost. We all have to understand and appreciate the issues involved.

The lecture will engage participants in such discussions in the two-way communication mode with an objective of reaching a long-term strategy so that plagiarism, if any, in Indian institutions can be reduced or eliminated.

Human rights and women's rights at crossroads?

Sumita Sen

Professor, Department of International Relations, Jadavpur University

Date & Time: 16th November, 2017; 10:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Human rights has become the most dominant feature in the contemporary world . From the conceptual phase to the present day understanding, codification and standardisation, human rights have universalised the basic rights of human beings. International human rights, in fact, underwent dramatic evolutionary process.

Human rights as we know today, finds its significant reference in the UN Charter in the post World War II conditions. Despite the vagueness in the regulations, human rights advocated global, regional, national political regimes that are not based on race, sex, religion, political beliefs, etc.

The 1948 UN Declaration alongside the two Human Rights Covenants act as standards of conduct of any state vis-a-vis its individuals. The human rights law ,in

fact ,have charter based system as well as that of treaty based system both of which help establish guaranteeing conditions for enjoying human rights by individuals. This exercise has helped examine human rights based policies and practices of states which, in turn, makes states by them to publicly explain their anti human rights policies if adopted . The growing significance of human rights regime prompted large number of states to incorporate human rights provisions in their respective foundational documents. This leaves its strong imprint on the justice delivery systems of respective states. Developments in the area of human rights helped expand and also strengthen political, civil, social, economic, cultural rights of individuals and other groups while, at the same time , making human rights universal, inalienable, inseparable, and interdependent set of rights for a life of dignity and honour.

An important feature of human rights is its categorisation of human beings as citizens, women, children, refugees, stateless, etc. towards whom state responsibility follow. Violations of human rights bring serious political, diplomatic, economic consequences. In fact, human rights violators commonly bring severe sanctions against the violators. The recognition of human rights is a clear move forward in the interest of humanity, but their violations worldwide are no less significant. Different socio- cultural interpretations help support human rights violations by countries. One should also notice that many individual human rights violations remain unaddressed by the UN except the large scale violations. Secondly, several UN agencies are susceptible to global politics resulting in non critical attitude on many blatant human rights violations.

The significant support to international human rights regime is not fully found in the arena of women's rights. The Cambridge Dictionary outlines that women should be allowed the same rights, power, and opportunities as men and that they should be treated in the same way while indicating that a set of activities are required to achieve the same. Till date free and equal life with honour and dignity is mostly overlooked for women within the existing structure of power politics. The Personal Integrity Rights data indicated the human rights issues violated against women. Beginning from the personal rights to political, civil, economic, social and cultural rights domain, women remain mostly within the deprivation limits .Political participation, literacy rate, labour force, health care access, etc. point women's

human rights deprivations. The most significant instrument for supporting women's rights as human rights remains the CEDAW. It defined the meaning of discrimination against women due to unjust social relations, justified and legitimised by states worldwide. Reference can be made of Amartya Sen's observation that "inequalities result and become institutionalised when those suffering discrimination and violence accept the legitimacy of the unequal social order." It is in fact a major issue in implementing women's rights for a life with dignity and honour providing human security in several societies. The existing women's organisations helped the recognition of women's rights but are yet to be fully successful in making human rights real for all women. It is also to be noted that in democracies, in the name of political participation of women, they are mostly limited in lower levels of governance than in the legislature so as to impact better. Secondly, women in non democratic regimes, also exercise very limited power of decision making. Also, women's rights get immediately restricted during wars and conflicts making them vulnerable to higher degrees of exploitation, harassment, subjugation and atrocities. Therefore women remain vulnerable to several forms of human rights violations even today.

At the crossroad?

This millennium again brought global initiatives for human development and human security, which cannot be achieved in the absence of human rights guarantees. This is well reflected in the Millennium Development Goals in which human rights conditions make serious contributions to the achievement of the goals. Secondly, both have an emphasis upon states' role for ensuring human rights, for human development and human security. But often, human rights obligations of states are ignored in the implementation of the MDGs. This is also found in cases of human rights obligations while making effective adjustments between human rights and development.

Methodology

Fun and Games

Swapnendu Banerjee

Department of Economics, Jadavpur University, Kolkata

Date & Time: 15th November, 2017; 10:30 AM - 1:30 PM

In the late thirties, mathematician John von Neumann turned his prodigious innovative talents towards economics. This brief encounter of his with the day's economic theory convinced him that it was in need of a new mathematical tool. In the years that followed, he along with Oskar Morgenstern went about creating a brand new mathematical tool which was offered to the profession in their now classic book 'Theory of Games and Economic Behavior' published in 1944. In this book, they developed the concept of 'two-person-zero-sum' games and other cooperative game theoretic concepts. But soon economists found out that the phenomenon of 'one person's gain is the other person's loss' was too restrictive in many applications. Later John Nash took the next giant step and gave a solution concept for broader class of games which need not be zero-sum. Thus 'Nash Equilibrium' revolutionized what we now know as the 'modern non-cooperative game theory' and laid the foundation for further development in the field.

Game theory (non-cooperative) is sometimes known as interactive decision theory. It deals with situations where people with different (mostly competing) goals try to take into account others' actions in deciding on the optimal course of action. Game Theory has wide applications in Economics, Computer Science, Biology, Political Science, Sociology and other social sciences. In the first part of the lecture we will talk about static games of complete information and dynamic games of complete information. Static games are simultaneous move games and Dynamic games are sequential move games. We will look into relevant solution concepts of the above mentioned games (viz. Nash Equilibrium and others). In the second part of the lecture we will play some games in the class. This will enable the participants to grasp the solution concepts of a varied class of games.

Qualitative Methods of Research (emphasis on gender)

Samita Sen

*School of Women's Studies, Jadavpur University
Dean, Faculty of Interdisciplinary Studies, Law and Management
Jadavpur University*

Date & Time: 20th November, 2017; 10:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Qualitative research methods originated in the social and behavioral sciences: sociology, anthropology and psychology. Today, qualitative methods are widely used, including in the field of marketing research. There are many methods within this broad category, including in-depth interviews with individuals, group discussions; diary and journal exercises; and in-context observations. The presentation will sketch these different methods in brief and indicate some specific analytics for innovations in methods, such as in the context of gender studies. The key in qualitative research is observation, which is used for generating in-depth descriptions of organizations or events, for obtaining information that is otherwise inaccessible, and is often useful for conducting research when other methods are inadequate. The results of qualitative research tend to be descriptive, and in recent years a great deal has been written on the subjectivities involved in such research.

Environment

Disaster Management and Sustainable Development

Sugata Hazra

School of Oceanographic Studies, Jadavpur University

Date & Time: 14th November, 2017; 10:30 AM - 1:30 PM

The goal of disaster management is to reduce the vulnerability of local communities through disaster preparedness and capacity building . Earlier (2000-2015) Hyogo Framework and later Sendai framework (2015-30) set the specific goals and targets for disaster risk reduction. It is observed that Deltas and coastal zones are major impact areas, particularly for multiple disasters exacerbated by Climate Change. By 2025, coastal population will account for 75% of total world population. At the same time , one third of the coastal regions run at a high risk of degradation due to various natural and anthropogenic forcing. Asia is the most threatened region with 69% of their coastal ecosystem at risk of both fast and slow onset disasters. However, there is an inverse relationship between the level of development and loss of human lives in a disaster. Inclusive and sustainable development emerges as an essential requisite for long term disaster risk reduction.

Natural hazards are extreme events of otherwise steady state natural processes. Their magnitude and frequency (recurrence interval) are inversely related .In turn they can affect the environment beneficially or adversely. Understanding of natural processes and environmental change are therefore necessary for any society capable of integrating nature, in it's regular and extreme forms, in the process of development planning. Human activities, on the other hand, are capable of affecting both magnitude and extent of natural hazards and disasters.

A Disaster happens while hazards converge with biophysical and social vulnerabilities. Disaster Risk relationship is given by - Risk of Disaster= hazard*vulnerability/capacity to cope. Vulnerability is the degree to which a system is susceptible to, and unable to cope with, the adverse effects of hazards. If we can assess the vulnerability of society and environment and risks to various hazards, we can undertake effective disaster management through risk reduction.

Pre disaster activities for risk reduction include vulnerability and risk assessment , risk mitigation, risk transfer, prediction and preparedness planning. It needs to be followed up by post disaster emergency response, reconstruction and rehabilitation keeping the environmental sustainability a priority. Reviewing a set of case studies the paper attempts to find out the scope of synergy of efforts of disaster management and sustainable development. It is observed that attempts to attain the 17 major goals of sustainable development may considerably reduce the risk of disaster to any community or country. India , nearly 10 years after the en action of National Disaster management Act 2005, has adopted a National Disaster Management Plan in 2016. The plan incorporated the approach enunciated in the Sendai frame work (2015-30) with the four basic objectives

1. Understanding disaster risk
2. Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk
3. Investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience
4. Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and to “Build Back Better” in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction.

The NDMP has also outlined specific financial responsibilities for disaster management which envisages a National Disaster Response & Mitigation Fund, a State Disaster Response& Mitigation Fund in each State and, within the States, a District Disaster Mitigation & Response Fund in each district.

However, the paper argues that In the apart from provisioning for ‘fast onset’ disasters, adequate emphasis needs to be provided to prepare a community for “slow onset” disasters particularly those exacerbated by Climate Change . In the state level, we need to publicize our disaster management plans, need to make it more participative and gender sensitive. Anticipating migration due to Climate Change, we may take up appropriate retreat and rehabilitation plans for the vulnerable deltas and coastal communities.

Current Affairs

Kanyashree Prakalpa in West Bengal, India: Justification and Impact

Arijita Dutta and Anindita Sen
Department of Economics, University of Calcutta

Date & Time: 15th November, 2017; 10:30 AM - 12:00 Noon

This study attempts to assess the impact of the much acclaimed Kanyashree Prakalpa, a conditional cash transfer scheme introduced by the Government of West Bengal in 2013 to reduce underage marriage and drop out of adolescent girls. This scheme had come as a much needed intervention at a time when the proportion of underage marriage in West Bengal was the highest in the country and mean years of schooling among girls was lower than the national average (Census 2011, DLHS 4 2012-13). The study uses data from the DLHS 4 (2012-13) unit level data as the baseline information and an independent survey of three districts in West Bengal, Haora, Murshidabad and Kochbihar, as the end-line.

On the basis of data on 1020 households from the latter, we have observed that both underage marriage and drop out has declined in all three districts though the proportion of girls who are out of the Kanyashree net (either dropped out or married before eighteen years) is still significant. In order to assess the impact of this scheme, we have used a difference in difference technique after propensity score matching between two age cohorts of girls in the two data sets. We have observed that there has been a significant decline in both underage marriage and dropout before eighteen among all girls, between the two timelines and this decline is attributed to the additional intervention of KP. This indicates that the scheme has indeed, extended its impact on the society as a whole. However, the effect of this scheme on underage marriage is not significant among Hindus though it has a significant impact on Muslims. Interestingly, its impact on adolescent dropout has been stronger among the Hindus than among the Muslims. We have also observed that the impact is much higher among girls who are now 20-21 years of age than among girls who are now 18-19 suggesting that the impact of this scheme is dwindling over time. One of the possible reasons may be that the real value of the money given as an incentive has decreased over the years due to inflation. Another possible reason may be the significant rise in self-initiated underage marriages. Though this might hint towards

more empowerment and bargaining power of the girls in adolescence, but empowerment here has been used in wrong way.

The overwhelming reason for marrying before eighteen years as reported by the girls was that a suitable groom was available and for dropout was being unable to cope with studies or the high cost of studies. Since, school education is free in West Bengal, not being able to afford costs of education indicates high costs of private tuition which these families must bear in order to cope up with studies. Thus, though the conditional cash transfer has indeed had a very big impact on early marriage and education, in order to sustain this, a coordinated effort at raising awareness and improving the quality of education in schools is very important. It is also necessary to promote education among boys in order to create a balanced development in society, along with imparting sex education among the adolescents.

Law

Water Pollution: Legal and Procedural

Kavita Singh

School of Criminal Justice and Administration, NUJS

Date & Time: 14th November, 2017; 2:15 PM - 5:15 PM

Water pollution is the contamination of water in lakes, rivers, aquifers and ground water. This form of environmental bodies when pollutants are directly or indirectly discharges into water bodies of water. In almost all cases the effect is damaging not only to the human beings but also to the natural biological communities. Water pollution is major global problem which requires ongoing evaluation and revision of water resources policy at international and domestic levels. Water pollution leads to deaths of more than 14, 000 people daily. 580 people die in India of water pollution. Safe drinking water has become a dream for common people in India. The human conference on environment held at Stockholm in 1972. Popularly called as the Magna Carta of human environment warned that the “natural resources of the Earth including air, water, land, flora and fauna and especially the representative sample of natural ecosystem must be safeguarded for the benefit of the present and future generations through careful planning or management as appropriate.” This marked the beginning of the environmental rights in the international arena. The need for environmental rights was first recognized in India seriously after the Bhopal gas tragedy although the water rights in India came into existence after the enactment of water act of 1974.

This brings us to another very important question as to the history of water pollution suits in India. The first known case in this regard is *Galstau v. Dunia Lal* in Calcutta where the plaintiff contended that due to the liquid effluents discharge by the plaintiff caused him health risk. He won the case and the damages had to be paid by the defendant. This case shows that more than 100 years back the people of India were as aware of their rights as they are now. Similarly in a case in the year 1926 the court ordered to stop two sugar factories that were operating at that point of time and releasing dirty water in the river and thereby causing water pollution. Though the only remedy available that time was under law of torts and the suit was filed for causing public nuisance. With advancement of law modern Indian citizen has multiple remedies against the polluter. Still there is a scope of improvement in law and the

procedure needs to be less complicated. In the present scenario the law has advanced and have specific remedy for causing water pollution instead of filling case for public nuisance under the tort law. Post Stockholm conference on environment the laws in India have also been affected largely. Until then only government had the right to sue the polluter.

The 42nd Amendment to the Constitution of India added Article 48A and 51A(g) which comes under the Directive Principle of State Policy and the Fundamental Duties respectively. The Supreme Court of India in **Sachidanand Pandey v. State of West Bengal**, AIR 1987 SC 1109” stated that the Court is bound to bear in mind the above said articles whenever a case related to Environmental problem is brought to the Court. The Article 48A states: “The State shall Endeavour to protect and improve the environment and to safeguard the forest and wildlife of the country.”

The Article 51A(g) imposes a duty upon every citizen of India to protect and improve the natural environment and confers right to come before the Court for appropriate relief. The Apex Court in **Damodar Rao v. S.O. Municipal Corporation**, AIR 1987 AP 171” held that the environmental pollution and spoliation which is slowly poisoning and polluting the atmosphere should also be regarded as amounting to violation of Article 21 of the Indian Constitution.

Space Law: Developments and Current Trends

Sandeepa Bhat B

School of Criminal Justice and Administration, NUJS

Date & Time: 30th November, 2017; 2:15 PM - 5:15 PM

The entry into outer space is undoubtedly the greatest achievement of the twentieth century. The pleasant event of space exploration has resulted in rapid developments in scientific and technological field. But at the same time it carried number of problems requiring legal solutions. Consequently, the space law started to emerge as a separate branch of international law. During 1960s and 70s, five major treaties were entered in the field of outer space under the auspices of the United Nations. These treaties are Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (Outer Space Treaty) 1967, Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts, the Return of Astronauts and the Return of Objects Launched into Outer Space (Rescue Agreement) 1968, Convention on International Liability for Damage Caused by Space Objects (Liability Convention) 1972, Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space (Registration Convention) 1975 and Agreement Governing the Activities of States on the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (Moon Agreement) 1979.

The space treaties advocate for several fundamental principles to govern the activities in outer space. They include; province of all mankind, national non-appropriation, freedom of exploration, use and scientific investigation, common heritage of mankind, cooperation between States and astronauts as envoys of mankind. The Rescue Agreement supplements the Outer Space Treaty by establishing a regime on emergency assistance to astronauts and personnel belonging to other States. The Outer Space Treaty and the Liability Convention also provide for state responsibility and international liability for damage caused by space activities. The Registration Convention asks for the registration of space objects to identify the State/s connected with space activities.

Unfortunately, the progressive development of space law in the international level halted after the Moon Agreement 1979 due to the divergence in the opinion of States. During the time when the space treaties were entered, the States were the only players

in the field of outer space activities. Now in the twenty first century, the private sector has extensively entered into the sphere of space activities, and consequently, commercial use has emerged as the single largest use of outer space. With the shift from State oriented space activities to private sector oriented space activities, questions are posed on the adequacy of existing space treaties to regulate new trends in space activities. Though some States have resorted to national space legislation to fill-in the existing void, such efforts are minimum and scattered. Thus, the moot question to be answered today is; are we heading towards chaos in outer space?

In answering the above question, we need to probe into manifold recent developments consequent to private space activities. They include; (a) claims of private property rights and resource exploitation in outer space, (b) concern of liability for private space activities and viability of space insurance as a solution, (c) nuances of commercial space tourism under the existing space law, (d) space inventions and consequential problems under the traditional patent regime, and (e) challenges posed by private space financing.

Stress Management, Counselling and Psycho- analysis

Neurophysiology and Management of Stress

Subhrangsu Aditya

Counselling Services & Studies in Self-Development, Jadavpur University

Date & Time: 17th November, 2017; 2:15 PM - 3.45 PM

Stress is an unpleasant internal condition which occurs when perceived demands of a situation exceed one's perceived resources beyond the threshold of coping and resilience. According to Richard Lazarus et al (1984) the experience of psychological stress occurs as a result of 'transaction' (interplay) between two entities – 1) on one hand, presence of stressors (factors causing stress) in the immediate environment or life situation of a person and 2) on the other hand, cognitive appraisal of the situation by the person resulting in stress response. Cognitive appraisal is a mechanism through which an individual can assess a particular life event. Based on this assessment, one has to decide whether one should pursue, give up or get rid of the challenges involved in it. For example, while pursuing a career, a PhD, Post Doctoral fellowship or an independent research project, if the challenges tend to become too stressful one has to make an assessment and decide how much time, effort, money and emotion should be invested into it.

According to Lazarus, cognitive appraisal is of two kinds – primary and secondary, though both seem to occur simultaneously at different levels. Through primary appraisal one decides whether the situation involves challenge, threat, harm or loss. The object under threat in this case can be money, power, status, reputation, career, relationship, life, physical and psychological wellbeing. Through secondary appraisal one can assess potential resources available for dealing with an imminent stressful life event – such as: coping strategy, support system, skills of problem solving, organizing, memorizing, planning, time management, financial management, emotion regulation, empathy, communication, public relation and networking etc. If the available resources appear to be adequate for dealing with the demands of the situation, one remains relaxed. If the resources appear to be a bit inadequate, even then one feels positively aroused, but not stressed. In fact this might actually motivate the person to perform better and put in further passionate effort into the said pursuit. This ability to stretch oneself keeping with the demands of the situation is called

resilience. The degree of resilience one can allow varies from person to person. However, there is a limit or threshold for everyone, beyond which it leads to stress. At this point, the balance of our autonomic nervous system gets inclined toward sympathetic over activity which leads to acute stress responses. This is mediated via sympathetic adrenomedullary (SAM) system. As a result, heart rate, blood pressure increases, there occur sweating, trembling, rapid shallow breathing, palpitation etc. Other internal physiological processes like digestion, sleep, bladder-bowel function, immunity etc. get disturbed. If it continues for days, weeks or months at a stretch, chronic stress responses usher in mediated by hypothalamo-pituitary-adrenocortical (HPA) axis. This increases the risk of different Subhrangsu Aditya, Jadavpur University Page 2 chronic diseases like diabetes mellitus, peptic ulcer, rheumatoid arthritis, hormonal problems, obesity, autoimmune disorders etc. Moreover, certain brain areas get adversely affected by sustained high level of stress hormone (cortisol) in the blood. For example volume and connectivity of amygdala gets increased resulting in excessive anxiety, irritability, guilt, shame, jealousy, frustration, anger outbursts etc. Depression can follow secondarily as brain attempts to take defence against the ever increasing burden of emotional arousal.

On the other hand, another important brain area called hippocampus gets diminished in volume with diminished number of neural connections (less synapses and dendritic spines). This leads to a deficiency in the ability to learn and memorize. Such paradoxically opposite impact of chronic stress on amygdala and hippocampus have been reported by the research of Sumantra Chattarji (2012). At the same time, the prefrontal cortex of brain tends to perform poorly under such ‘amygdala hijack’ situation (Daniel Goleman, 2005). As a result rational thinking, problem solving, planning, time management, practical judgment, creativity, social skills – all tend to suffer. As an intervention strategy, cognitive approach recommends cognitive restructuring of the appraisal system. A positive and more adaptive re-appraisal of the stressful life situation as well as available coping options and resources can significantly reduce the intensity of stress response and resulting impact on physical and psychological wellbeing. The behavioural approach intends to bring back the autonomic balance toward parasympathetic end and thereby inducing a state of relaxation. The life style modification approach focuses on reducing stress prone lifestyle events. Instead, some enriching and meaningful engagements in life can help

one recover from the ill effects of stress both physically and mentally. A positive, purposeful and esteem enhancing fantasy about self, life and future is also helpful in maintaining the islands of wellbeing amidst the ocean of stress. Psychological counselling can provide a space for exploring such meaningful options and make more adaptive self determined rational choices in life so as to progress toward growth and wellbeing.

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1. Richard S. Lazarus and Susan Folkman (1984): Stress, Appraisal, and Coping, Springer Publishing, ISBN 13: 9780826141910, EISBN: 9780826141927.
2. Daniel Goleman (2005): Emotional Intelligence: Why It Can Matter More Than IQ, Bantam Books, New York.
3. Sumantra Chattarji and Harini Lakshminarasimhan (2012): “Stress Leads to Contrasting Effects on the Levels of Brain Derived Neurotrophic Factor (BDNF) in the Hippocampus and Amygdala”, PLoS ONE, January 2012, Volume 7, Issue 1, doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0030481. Some Features of The Global Economy: Drivers and Decelerators

Interpersonal Skills-Transactional Analysis

Supriya Ghoshal

*Secretary, West Bengal Right to Public Service Commission,
Government of West Bengal*

Date & Time: 17th November, 2017; 10:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Interpersonal skills are the set of interactive skills which help us to interact successfully in our social and working life. These sets of skills may also be called as ‘Human’ or ‘Life Skills’ and are exhibited by us when we interact with people around us.

Transactional analysis is a very important tool in analysing our behavioural pattern which shows how effectively we interact with each other and is also one of the most

accessible theories of modern psychology. It has wide application in clinical, therapeutic, organisational and personal development, encompassing communication, management, personality, relationship and behaviour.

The theory was founded by Dr. Eric Berne in 1950's. He said that verbal communication is at the centre of human social relationships and psychoanalysis. He also said that when two people interact, one of them will speak to the other. This he called the transaction stimulus. And the reaction from other person called the response.

Berne stated that each person interacts from three ego states: Parent, Adult and Child. Parent is the taught concept and conditioned and developed by copying our real parents or parent like figures. It is the repository of values and prejudices. We can change it but this is easier said than done.

The Child ego state is the 'felt' concept and the emotional body of data within each of us. When anger or despair dominates reason then the Child is in control. Like our parent we can change our Child ego state as well.

Our 'Adult' is our ability to think and hence it is the thought concept. It determines action of us based on received data and it is oriented towards current reality. If we are to change our 'Parent' or 'Child' we must do so through our 'Adult'.

Emotional Intelligence

Supriya Ghoshal

*Secretary, West Bengal Right to Public Service Commission,
Government of West Bengal*

Date & Time: 19th July, 2017; 12:00 Noon – 1:30 PM

Emotional intelligence is the ability to monitor one's own and others' feelings and emotion, to discriminate among them, to use this information to guide one's thinking and action.

Emotional intelligence is scientifically anchored by four cognitive components:

1. The capacity to perceive emotion.
2. To integrate emotion in thought.
3. To understand emotion &
4. To manage emotion effectively.

When these cognitive components are effectively exhibited in interaction with others, a person has emotional competence, which includes:--

1. Self-awareness; 2. Impulse-control; 3. Persistence; 4. Confidence; 5. Self-motivation; 6. Empathy; 7. Social- deftness; 8. Trustworthiness; 9. Adaptability;
10. Ability to work cooperatively.

Daniel Goleman and others have categorised the component of EI into two areas of concern, each with an awareness and application dimension. Thus, EI has four dimensions:

1. Self-awareness
2. Self-management
3. Social awareness &
4. Relationship management

Applying EI at work requires:

- Being aware of our feeling and acting congruently.
- Sharing our feeling with straight forward and composed manner.
- Treating other with compassion, sensitivity and kindness.
- Being open to emotion and ideas of others.
- Building and mending relationships.

A Sample Exercise

SEPARATE FACTS FROM INFERENCE

Read the narration carefully which follows. Then see how well you can distinguish a FACT from INFERENCE.

Sharma, a buyer with the XYZ Company, was scheduled for a 10 o'clock meeting in Singh's office to discuss the terms of a large order. On the way to that office, the buyer slipped on a freshly waxed floor and as a result received a badly bruised leg. By

the time by the time Singh was notified of the accident, Sharma was on the way to the hospital for x-ray. Singh called the hospital to enquire, but no one there seemed to know anything about Sharma, it is possible that Singh has called the wrong hospital. Examine the statement below. Without discussion put a tick mark against each statement as to whether it is a fact or inference.

Statement	Fact	inference
1. Sharma is a buyer		
2. Sharma was supposed to meet with Singh		
3. Sharma was scheduled for a ten o'clock meeting		
4. The accident occur at XYZ company		
5. Sharma was taken to the hospital for x-ray		
6. No one at the hospital which Singh called knew anything about Sharma		
7. Singh had called the wrong hospital.		

Basic Skills and Processes of Psychological Counselling

Soumitra Basu

Department of Philosophy, Jadavpur University

Date & Time: 17th November, 2017; 3:45 PM - 5.15 PM

The lecture will concentrate on the following issues:

- a) What is not and what is Counselling;
- b) Listening skills;
- c) Responses to be avoided;
- d) Type of responses used in Counselling;
- e) The necessary factors of Counselling approach;
- f) How Counselling proceeds.

The lecture is designed to enable the participants to provide basic and initial support to the students of educational institutions.

Mindfulness in Education

MuktipadaSinha

Department of Education, Jadavpur University

Date & Time: 16th November, 2017; 3:45 PM - 5.15 PM

Mindfulness is the practice of purposely focusing our attention on the present moment—and accepting it without judgment, i.e, pay attention at the present moment without any justification. Mindfulness is now being examined scientifically and has been found to be a key element in happiness.

Combining meditation, breathing techniques and paying attention to the present moment, mindfulness helps people change the way they think, feel, act and reduce stress and anxiety.

The practices taught in mindfulness courses have been adapted from Buddhism, but are presented in entirely secular terms, as a form of psychological aid. Mindfulness is the practice of purposely focusing our attention on the present moment—and accepting it without judgment. Mindfulness based stress reduction techniques was introduced by Jon Kabat-Zinn at the University of Massachusetts in 1979.

It is increasingly being recognized as an essential support for students, teachers, administrators and parents. There is considerable research being done by the international medical community that has provided a scientific basis for these findings. Mindfulness is known to:

- ❖ increase attention and concentration
- ❖ develop emotional and cognitive awareness and understanding
- ❖ develop interpersonal awareness and skills
- ❖ decrease stress, attention deficiency, depression, anxiety and hostility and enhance inner resilience
- ❖ promote a sense of well-being and Happiness

Please come and rediscover yourself through the awareness of your own breathing system

Here are some of the many ways that developing mindfulness can help us be better teachers:

1. Mindfulness helps teachers understand our own emotions better
2. Mindfulness helps us communicate more effectively with students
3. Mindfulness helps us set up a positive learning environment
4. Mindfulness helps us manage students we find difficult
5. Mindfulness helps strengthen our relationship with students
6. Mindfulness helps us slow down when we need to
7. Mindfulness helps us build community

“We can never obtain peace in the outer world until we make peace with ourselves.”- Dalai Lama.

Economics and Politics

Demographic Outcomes and Emerging Health Issues in India A Critical Analysis

Sushil Kr. Haldar

Professor, Department of Economics, Jadavpur University

Date & Time: 15th November, 2017; 12:00 Noon - 1:30 PM

Recent global estimates of maternal mortality indicate that more than half a million of women died due to pregnancy related causes in 2005. Large proportion of these maternal deaths is concentrated within developing countries. Among developing countries, India shares 17.5 percent global population but the share of disease burden is disproportionately higher in India. India contributes largest sum of births per year (27 million) in the world and alone accounts for 20 percent of global maternal deaths, 23 percent under five mortality rate and 26 percent deaths preventable with childhood vaccinations. India, at the aggregate level is expected to enjoy the benefit of demographic dividend roughly after 2025 but only the numbers of working age cohort cannot guarantee to generate sufficient income if the health status of the future working population remains poor. Therefore, in order to get the real benefit of demographic dividend in future, accumulation of effective human capital is necessary which is possible through an urgent health intervention towards improving the health status of the current mothers belonging to reproductive age group and children since these two groups are fundamental source of attaining the quality as well as quantity of the future working population.

Using NFHS and DLHS data, the present study tries to explore the role of reproductive and child health across the major states of India in the context of demographic dividend which. Reproductive and child health across the major states are found to be poor and it varies to a large extent; since future human capital accumulation largely depends on current health status of the mothers as well as children, therefore, we can conclude that India has enormous potential to extract economic returns from demographic dividend if some corrective measures be undertaken in respect of health in general and reproductive and child health in particular immediately at the policy level.

From ‘Planning for Industrialisation’ to ‘Energizing the Process of Governance’: The evolution

Saikat Sinha Roy

Department of Economics, Jadavpur University

Date & Time: 18th November, 2017; 10:30 AM - 1:30 PM

The Planning Commission has been recently rechristened as NITI Aayog. While the character of the institution has undergone a change, the functions of the institution have evolved from planning for industrialisation to energizing the process of governance. This is especially important in the context of wide ranging economic reforms and an emerging economy in transition. The lecture will trace the evolution both for the institution as well as the process identifying the specific areas of change in policy approach and development outcomes.

Domination/discrimination and the private/public debates in Feminism

Shibashis Chatterjee

Department of International Relations, Jadavpur University

Date & Time: 28th November, 2017; 10:30 AM - 12:00 Noon

Feminism is not only a major social movement but is also a crucial strand of political theory. As is well known, feminists are divided both ideologically and theoretically. They disagree on a number of issues such as the role of patriarchy, the nature of the sex gender divide, the public-private distinction, the relation between discrimination and domination, equality and difference, and the claims of justice versus the ethic of care. In this lecture, we seek to take up two dimensions, namely, the feminist position/s on the public/private distinction and the debates on positions of equality based on non-discrimination and non-dominance respectively. Politically viewed, these are the most contentious debates among feminists and despite having made some progress on these issues there is no general consensus till date. The debate on

the public and the private is essentially one between the domestic and the public roles in life. In political theory this has been expressed through the distinction of the state and civil society on the one hand and the idea of privacy articulated by the Romantic Movement on the other. The argument is that in both cases women have not benefited substantially. Neither civil society nor privacy has penetrated the structure of the patriarchal family and help liberate women in the space where their exploitation is organically rooted. Again, a commitment to formal legal equality based on non-discrimination does not always elevate women's position in society as structures of gender domination remain very much in place. In other words, to the extent norm-setting is done by men, equal opportunities will benefit a large section of women. While socialist and radical feminists approach these questions somewhat differently, the focus of this lecture will be the liberal feminists who remain committed to the idea of gender justice. It is shown that unless liberalism incorporates a large number of gender concerns, the liberal ideas of justice will not be fair to women as a political (and social) category.

Understanding Multiculturalism

Shibashis Chatterjee

Department of International Relations, Jadavpur University

Date & Time: 28th November, 2017; 12:00 Noon - 1:30 PM

Multiculturalism is perhaps the most contested idea in contemporary political philosophy. While cultural diversity is an inescapable condition of life, the positive appreciation of diversity is a remarkably recent development. Multiculturalism sourced in the complex autobiography of citizenship. The idea of a shared political identity despite our innate and inescapable cultural differences has a long and tortuous past. The modern citizen was formed through the discourses of rights and a series of disciplinary practices of the state. The three generations of rights in the West, namely, civil, political and social, were designed to forge the unitary and inclusive citizen who

integrated with the state and owed loyalty to its institutions through a body of shared cultural idioms that were usually crafted in a common medium of expression. This ultimately culminated in winning over the political allegiance of the white, predominantly male, heterosexual, blue collar worker through the largesse of the welfare capitalist state. However, by the 1970s, the tide had started to turn. Several groups emerged who demanded protection and subsidization of their cultural attributes and practices. There were several such demands coming from national minority cultures, the members of immigrant communities and new social movements, who felt marginalized in their own societies in various ways, each with distinctive sets of issues that needs to be dealt with care. Multiculturalism is in a way about dealing with group-related differences and involves many kinds of politics of identity that were buried earlier under the more inclusive politics of distribution. Multiculturalism, in contrast, has raised a series of vexing questions on claims of recognition. This lecture would attempt to summarize some of these debates and explore the possibilities of a liberal accommodation of group differentiated rights.

India's Foreign Policy: The Contemporary Concerns

Partha Pratim Basu

Department of International Relations, Jadavpur University

Date & Time: 1st December, 2017; 2:15 PM - 5:15 PM

Jawaharlal Nehru, the architect of India's post independence foreign policy, wanted New Delhi to play an international role quite disproportionate with its modest military and economic capabilities based primarily on its moral credentials. Nonalignment constituted the fulcrum of the Nehruvian legacy in Indian foreign policy during the Cold War years supplemented by other basic principles such as decolonization, economic development, anti racism, peaceful resolution of conflicts, and support for the United Nations.

This legacy, however, lay shattered in the post Cold War period (since the early 1990s) in the backdrop of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, the severe financial crisis that followed, and finally the collapse of the Soviet Union. All this conjointly led to a significant transformation of the course of India's foreign policy marked by the following features: review of its ties with the United States, the solitary superpower; revisiting its relations with West Asian countries, especially building of full diplomatic relations with Israel; abandonment of an inward looking development policy in favour of a more vigorous economic integration into the globalizing world; pursuit of the 'Look east' policy seeking to forge closer economic and security bonding with Southeast Asian states neglected so far by its policy makers; adoption of a more benign approach towards its South Asian neighbours ('Gujral Doctrine'); and emergence as a full blown nuclear power inviting, on one hand, wide ranging economic sanctions from abroad but fomenting, on the other, speculations about India's arrival as a major global power. The first part of the lecture would cover these momentous shifts.

The second part would focus in this context on the current challenges and concerns in India's foreign policy: impact of domestic (coalition) politics on external relations; strategic partnership with the United States; managing its relationship with People's Republic of China; coping with the Pakistani challenge especially in the context of the burgeoning incidence of cross border terrorism; and finally, doing justice to its image of an upcoming global player of consequence.

History

Environmental Studies in Historical, Political and Academic Perspectives

Part I: The Global Dimension

Arun Bandopadhyay

Formerly Nurul Hasan Professor of History, University of Calcutta

Date & Time: 22nd November, 2017; 10:30 AM - 12:00 Noon

Environmental Studies in recent years have undergone significant changes in terms of their background, approach, perspectives and target objectives. Introduced from the school to the highest level of university curricula, it is often conceived loosely as some sorts of scientific lessons for the public. The present talk vastly differs from that, and argues that the term environmental history, coined by the scientists themselves to understand the complex subject of environment, is much better suited to examine the multiple aspects of the subject in a global dimension. It has three parts. The first part covers the crucial issues raised by the recent history of global environmental movement from the 1960s onwards, but places them in the context of modern environmentalism of the last 500 years for better understanding. The second part probes into the political dimension of the exercise, both in its shorter and longer historical versions. The Green politics, in its European and the US contexts are specially highlighted here. The last part touches on the wider academic implications of the entire exercise of environmental studies where social science and humanities along with hard science of atmosphere, biosphere and ecology have their respective significant places. The underlying idea is that environmental studies, when seen from the multiple perspectives of time, politics and scholarship become more interesting and relevant, both in their theoretical and practical contexts.

Part II: The Indian Dimension

Arun Bandopadhyay

Formerly Nurul Hasan Professor of History, University of Calcutta

Date & Time: 22nd November, 2017; 12:00 Noon - 1:30 PM

The present paper tries to dwell on some central issues of ecology and community in the context of social history of environment in modern India. It begins with an examination of two analytical paradigms of environmental history of south Asia to better address the questions concerning ecology and community including the broader issues of social equality and justice in the sphere of conflicts over natural resources in colonial and post-colonial era. It then evaluates the existing notion of cultural tradition of prudence at the level of community, called ‘conservation from below’ in the pre-colonial and colonial set up. The broader motivations of the colonial state and their implications on ecology and community are approached from three standpoints: (a) the ideological question (b) the framework of colonial policy and (c) the implications of the activities of various private agencies in the forest. The issues related to ‘social ecology’ reflected the changes affecting the modes of subsistence of the forest dwellers in the colonial era.

In the post-colonial context, a few questions are raised on the social history of water in the context of the controversial Sardar Sarovar Project (SSP), arguing that ‘scarcity’ is only one of the many factors – not the only one factor – to be addressed carefully. The social history of water is often connected with the identity politics of dalits also, as is evident from the developments in the Water Users’ Association in arid Tamilnadu in the late 1980s and early 1990s. The other thing discussed in the paper is the crucial issue of external agency in the management and research on environment in the post-colonial era.

Literature, Language and Culture

Origin of language – an introduction

Mahidas Bhattacharya

School of Languages and Linguistics, Jadavpur University

Date & Time: 21st November, 2017; 10:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Human being having the power of language i.e. the abstract system of verbal communication gifted by the nature or developed by exploring the nature throughout the ages, has separated themselves from all other species. This unique power of communication has made them to rule over the world. Whether this power was achieved or really gifted by nature is a question? To have an answer of it, the quarry on the 'Origin of language' has become one of the most cultivated and controversial areas of human knowledge which is not yet resolved satisfactorily. Sometimes people have become upset and advised to stop the discussion on the area, but that was not accepted to the scholars due to the boundless curiosity for the this truth of human mind. Since the beginning of history people have been trying to resolve this issue in different ways. Whether the socio-economic status of a speech community is advanced or backward is not a matter of consideration, the cat's curiosity of human nature is to explore the area of thought process of the member of that community in respect of language generation and comprehension. By defining and adopting a reasonable idea according to their own logical status and the peripheral knowledge the tried to map the historiography of the mastery on the ability of speech for communication. Sometimes they imposed or adopt the roll of supreme power or a prime mover force on the origin or experimented the human generative ability applying different methodologies like language depriving method, comparative method etc. Whether it is Rome or India the subject does not differ much. Gradually the expansion of knowledge, impact of other disciplines, different experiments and cross examinations etc have made them to adopt new ideas which are more acceptable than the previous one opening several other options for the research and experiments. From the mythological beginning to the genetic views, or from philosophical to the linguistic analysis and cognitive experiments several opinions came into picture one after another by enriching us in different ways. The present status of this study is also under the experiment. This discussion will just present some of the views related to this to have some ideas on the issue.

Theories of Sentence-Meaning: Indian and Western

Rupa Bandyopadhyay

Department of Philosophy, Jadavpur University

Date & Time: 21st November, 2017; 2:15 PM - 5:15 PM

Philosophers of both the East and the West have concerned themselves with issues related to meaning since very ancient times. In present times philosophy of language is treated as one of the major branches of philosophy. There are philosophers who consider this branch as foundational in the sense that various issues in metaphysics and epistemology cannot be settled without settling certain basic issues pertaining to language.

These two lectures will mainly focus upon certain major issues which are discussed by both philosophers of ancient India and contemporary Western philosophers. Some of these issues are:

- (1) What form should a theory of meaning take?
- (2) What do we understand when we understand the meaning of a sentence?
- (3) How do we understand the meaning of a sentence?

In the first half I shall consider the answers given to these issues by two leading philosophers of our times – Donald Davidson and Michael Dummett.

Davidson tried to build up a theory of meaning on the basis of Tarski's semantic theory of truth in which truth has been defined recursively on the basis of the notion of satisfaction. He tried to develop a theory of truth which will yield direct ascriptions of meaning. One other important feature of Davidson's programme is that Davidson's theory adopts the stance of a radical interpreter who does not draw upon the internal mental states of the speaker while interpreting the sentences of an unknown natural language.

Dummett, however, thinks that any theory of meaning must be a theory of understanding which is capable of explaining the concepts deployed by the language to a person who does not already possess those concepts. Dummett shows that Davidson's programme fails to serve this purpose.

The second half of the lecture will be devoted to discussing some classical Indian theories of sentence-meaning. Five major theories of sentence-meaning were prevalent among the philosophers of classical India:

- (1) *anvitābhīdhānavāda* advocated by the Prābhākara Mīmāṃsā school;
- (2) *abhihitānvayavāda* upheld by the Bhāṭṭa Mīmāṃsā school;
- (3) *saṃsargamaryādāvāda* propounded by the Nyāya school;
- (4) *apohavāda* formulated by the Yogācāra Buddhists;
- (5) the Grammmarian theory of sentence-meaning.

Here I shall mainly consider the views of the two different schools of Mīmāṃsā, namely the schools founded by Prabhākara and Kumārila Bhaṭṭa. We shall see that these ancient systems also tried to tackle some of the issues addressed by present day philosophers and came up with interesting solutions.

Language Change: Progress or Decay?

Abhra Bose

Department of Bengali, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan

Date & Time: 28th November, 2017; 10:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Language is not static. It changes. It changes over time, it changes with geographical space. However the process of language change is very subtle, gradual and lengthy; it is often not recognizable in casual observation over a short period of time. Every generation realizes that it has a diction of its own, and while when it deviate from the earlier generation, it is very enthusiastic about the language change, but is almost always critical of the language that follows. Therefore at any given period of time, language is hailed as progress by some, while denounced as decay by others. The name of the topic of the present lecture is taken from the name of a book by John Atkinson, which deals with the changing patterns of the English Language.

In our lecture we would like to focus on the patterns of changing languages with special emphasis on the new words that a language acquires from several source. The new words of every language are often a source of embarrassment for the conservatives. The very fast changes that the languages all over the world in the present period are going through will be a point of discussion. We shall try demonstrate our argument with discussion with special reference to the Bengali Language. The topic of “Bad Language” and slang will also be dealt with in the process.

Staging Life: The Worlds of Binodini Dasi

Jharna Sanyal

Retired Professor, Dept. of English, Calcutta University

Date & Time: 04th December, 2017; 10:30 AM - 1:30 PM

At a time when Bengal/India was trying to forge a new national (swadeshi) identity in all spheres of activity, social, political and cultural, the arrival of a woman on the proscenium stage threw a challenge to the patriarchal, class/caste ridden underbelly of the enlightened bhadralok culture.

Binodini Dasi (1842-1941), more popularly known as Nati Binodini, is now well known (mostly, due to the representations in popular media) as the most powerful, versatile and culturally sensitive actress of her time. But her image as an actress is framed by the legends of her mentor, Girish Chandra Ghosh, and one of her most notable spectators, Sri Ramkrishna. The issues that come up while discussing her life as an actress relate to her social status as a prostitute, her professionalism as an actress, she being utilized as an investment in (sacrifice for?) the establishment of , what came to be known as, the Star theatre.

Binodini was also a powerful writer. If her assessment as an actress has to depend on contemporary reviews, reports and anecdotes, her power as a writer is felt in scripts which she herself had penned. Her autobiographical writings are testimonies to her keen, analytical frame of mind that tears through the veil of the hypocrisy and

betrayal of her social milieu. These are not only historical documents on the status of contemporary theatre but also of the socio-cultural discourses and practices relating to class, gender, theatre, nation etc. She expresses her private anguish in her poetry which finds their resonance in the poems of other poets of the period. A poem like ‘শিখাও আমায়’ (shikhao amay /Teach Me) cuts a subterranean path between her private and public spheres.

Whether it is the public or the private domain, Binodini, in spite of her ‘marginal’ place had the confidence or rather, the guts, to ‘write’, - which is, to strike back, to leave a mark. If her life as an actress has been relegated to cultural memory, her writing is ‘live’ to remind us that writing as performance, for her, was a more radical act than acting itself.

Performing Arts

Raga and Realization

Suchisree Ray

Date & Time: 28th November, 2017; 2:15 PM - 5:15 PM

The little girl had the making of a poet in her who, being told to be sure of her meaning before she spoke, said: "how can I know what I think till I see what I say." Graham Wallas, The Art of Thought.

North Indian classical music is all about expressing one's experience though certain rules and techniques those are to be followed. Two sorts of (classical) musical- forms are there, Dhrupad - the older and conservative genre and kheyal - the younger and democratic one. My genre is kheyal.

The ancient form of classical singing after the Vedic age had been "Dhrupad" and "Dhamar". Basically gods and goddesses were praised through the bandishes (lyrical composition) of Dhrupad ; and Dhamar describes the joyful and colourful Hori festival. Thus Dhrupad was very conservative style of singing . Tansen , the legendary vocalist of Akbar the grate's Court used to sing dhrupad.

After Islamic invasion in India due to the amalgamation of art and culture between two extremely different religion and country, entire socio-economic character of our country as well as music and its form changed. It must be mentioned that court musicians that time had to perform before a Mughal emperor or Sultan and so influences of Persian music could never be avoided. Thus evolved kheyal (a Persian word) that means imagination. This style gave classical vocalists more freedom and space .

The protagonist of the singing style, may be dhrupad , dhamar or kheyal, is Raga. Raga means mood, or emotion though technically means a phrase of musical notes , may be of five six or eight *swara*-s but not less than four. In the vedic age there were only three notes, one middle, one lower and the other upper, gradually other notes were added and thus it became saptak, the seven notes.

As there were no proper scripture of North Indian classical music, Pandit Bhatkhandeji started working on it (*i.e.* framing the pattern of manifestation,

compiling the grammar, and registering the do-s and don't-sets) in the beginning of 20th century though till today it is mostly taught and learnt by listening. It is well understood why, really difficult is the attempt to maintain the authenticity of this core of the core art-form, when we believe in guru shishya parampara, supreme faith in guru, the teacher and his lineage that is Gharana, depending on our limited merit and composure.

The protagonist of north Indian classical music is Raga . Surprisingly, time and hour are mentioned while describing each Raga, like, 'Yaman' is sung in the evening just after dusk. There are ragas, sung in afternoon, moonlit night, midnight, late night, day break. Even the ragas are there for different monsoon like autumn, spring and rainy season! So raga is related to nature and concept of raga emerges out of relation and communication between nature and human being and even with animals.

I personally do feel that we personify a raga while singing. We give him or her a particular character, nature and temperament. It is like portraying someone. He/she may be extrovert, smart and linear; may be shy, introvert and soft. May be, very complicated or simple, bright or sad! We practice difficult vocal workouts to make our voice ready enough to describe and portray apt and appropriate character of the raga.

To be precise my focus in this lecture demonstration will be to focus on how I do relate myself to a specific raga-portrayal and how do i give it a soulful rebirth. I believe it all depends on my approach, reaction and reciprocation towards life and nature. It is more a process of evolution than a process of mathematics.

Evolution of Theatre

Nandan Bhattacharya

Assistant Director, UGC -HRDC, Jadavpur University

Date & Time: 05th December, 2017; 10:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Theatre has its origin in different civilisations in different time. Basically all of these have shown significant similarity to have folk and/or religious element during origin. Later on evolution of this cultural trait took its own way and trajectories according to the social changes of that particular civilisation. Still mainly there are two aspects where transformation occurred, viz. content and form corresponding to the social structure. In Greece it changed from the cult regarding Dionysus to Arena Theatre of Amphitheatre to Aristotolian formula and then gradually adopted the modern shape. In India from Sanskrit *Natyaashastra* to modern theatre took its journey of almost 2000 Yrs. Regarding content, forms like Tragedy, Comedy, realistic, Symbolic, Fantasy, Expressionist, Absurd, etc. appeared in different time. Form of theatre is equally important to create a theatre as the form denotes the design and translation of a dramatic text into theatre. The research and development of form is rather newer concept and the graph shows a **J** shape as most of the forms originated during only last few centuries with a dramatic speed. While Stanislavski, Brecht, Meyerhold, Boal, or even recent Butoh performances are the notable forms practised throughout the world, in India Utpal Dutta, Badal Sarkar produced forms of their own in tuned with the germination ground i.e. society. Theatre is a complete, complex, compound art for and due to this multidimensional imputes it is ever dynamic and current trend of modification of theatre indicates the multidisciplinary mode of approach.

Science

Science and Society: A Historical Perspective

Deepak Kumar

Retired Professor, Jawaharlal Nehru University

Date & Time: 29th November, 2017; 10:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Every society, however crude it might appear from the benefit of hindsight, has certain amount of scientific rationality and endeavour within it. Science is intrinsic to human nature. So has been man's fascination for tools *as homo faber*. How does one place scientific and technological developments in our civilizational growth? What constitutes science in the context of our ancient and medieval past? How much of it is metaphysics or religion? Did *theory* and *praxis* differ? How does one infer the nature, culture and society links? How do the Indian scientific and technological traditions appear in comparison with similar traditions in other culture areas and societies? What changes occurred on the onset of colonialism and modernity? These are some of the questions this talk would try to address.

Laws of nature and Symmetry

Pradip Kumar Ghosh

Pro Vice Chancellor, Jadavpur University

Date & Time: 30th November, 2017; 10:30 AM - 12:00 Noon

In this brief discussion on Laws of nature and symmetry, I will try to explain how natural laws terminate into a unifying law from its diverse behavior. This unity will be shown with simple example. Motion of solar system was unified by Newton's law of gravitation similarly the distinct phenomenon like Electricity, Magnetism and light are explained from Maxwell's theorem. Similar such examples exist in the evolution of life and composition of matters.

Besides we are always looking for similarity in different spheres and often beauty is related to symmetry of the object, pattern and design. Many objects in nature present a high level of symmetry, indicating that the forces that produced these objects feature the same symmetries

- There are many types of symmetry and not all of them have to do with the shape of an object.
- Some examples of symmetries that exist are: local, global, space-time, discrete, super, gauge, charge, parity and time symmetries in the language of science.

Symmetry to a physicist is the symmetry of a physical system is nothing but the invariance of some physical or mathematical feature under some transformation. Invariance, Symmetry and Conservation laws are being important issues in understanding the essence of symmetry in Physical Science.

Albert Einstein's priority was not to know which is fundamental particles but to understand the symmetry governing the laws of nature . In 1905 priority was to establish Space time invariance while with advent of science in 1960 it was to think about symmetry of interaction..

Whether discussion on symmetry ends the travel of physical science or its beginning is a big question

The Human Subject in the Nineteenth Century: Science and Literature

Samantak Das

Department of Comparative Literature, Jadavpur University

Date & Time: 29th November, 2017; 2:15 PM - 5.15 PM

This presentation will briefly look at how the notion of what it means to be human underwent profound change in the course of the 19th century, centring primary on the work of Charles Darwin (1809 - 1882), and the reception of his ideas in a range texts, from the scientific to the literary. Reference will be made to the influence of Darwin's work in medicine, criminology and popular literature, including, but not confined to detective and science fiction.

In order to contextualise Darwin's work, a few earlier examples will be cited.

Interested participants may want to acquaint themselves with texts such as *On the Origin of Species* (1859), *The Descent of Man* (1871, revised edition 1874), Cesare Lombroso's *Criminal Man* (*L'uomo delinquente* 1876; English translation 1911), Henry Havelock Ellis's *The Criminal* (1890), and the works of Charles Dickens (in particular *Great Expectations*; 1860-61), HG Wells (especially *The Time Machine* 1895); and Arthur Conan Doyle (the Sherlock Holmes stories, 1887 - 1927).

VALEDICTORY LECTURE

Standardizing the standards

Sourin Bhattacharya

Retired Professor of Economics, Jadavpur University

Date & Time: 11th December, 2017; 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

The lecture seeks to explore the idea of standards that are often invoked to compare various things ranging from academic performances of individuals and institutions to even the quality of electric bulbs. and then there is the still more difficult question of comparing standards across countries and cultures like in the cases of having a global ranking of universities and research institutions and setting emission norms for automobiles as in, say, bharat standards 1, 2, 3 etc. to standardize the standards one needs a suitable commensurability scale free of intercultural and other kinds of bias. in its absence standardizing may end up in imposition of one over the other, which is all the more likely in a non-homogeneous setting .moreover it may often defeat the basic purpose of the projects as in cases of universal primary education.

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