

Seminar Report

Two-Day Multilingual International Seminar on Voices from the Margins: Revisiting Birsa Munda and Other Significant Tribal Movements

Dates: 15th and 16th November 2021

Birsa Munda College organised a Two-Day Multilingual International Seminar titled "Voices from the Margins: Revisiting Birsa Munda and Other Significant Tribal Movements" on November 15th and 16th, 2021. The aim of the seminar was to critically examine the voices and experiences of marginalised communities, paying particular attention to the legacy of Birsa Munda and other tribal movements that have significantly shaped the socio-political landscape.

TWO-DAY "MULTILINGUAL" INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON

"VOICES FROM THE MARGINS: REVISITING BIRSA MUNDA AND OTHER SIGNIFICANT TRIBAL MOVEMENTS"

15th and 16th November, 2021
Organized by
Birsa Munda College
Hatighisa

CHIEF GUEST


PROF. NIMAL CHANDRA SAHA
Vice-Chancellor, University of Burdwan

Initiative taken by...


Dr. Saranya Mishra
Principal
BIRSA MUNDA
COLLEGE

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT
DR. RAJESH K. MURTHA

CONVENER
DR. B. S. SENGUPTA

MEMBERS
DR. S. K. SENGUPTA
DR. S. K. SENGUPTA
DR. S. K. SENGUPTA

TRUSTEE
DR. S. K. SENGUPTA

GUEST OF HONOUR


PROF. G. B. SAHA
Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor,
University of North Bengal

SPECIAL INVITED GUEST


PROF. G. B. SAHA
Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor,
University of North Bengal

SPECIAL GUEST

GAUTAM DEB
Chairperson,
Board of Administration, Siliguri
Municipal Corporation

VENUE and TIME AT:

BIRSA MUNDA COLLEGE
Affiliated to
University of North Bengal
ATAL, HATIGHISA
WEST BENGAL
PINCODE - 734429
10.30 a.m. (onwards)

TWO-DAY "MULTILINGUAL" INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON

"VOICES FROM THE MARGINS: REVISITING BIRSA MUNDA AND OTHER SIGNIFICANT TRIBAL MOVEMENTS"

Day one 15.11.2021 (10.30 a.m onwards)

❖ **First technical session: 12:00 to 1 P.M.**

Chairperson: **Dr. Nimal Chandra Saha, Honorable V.C. Burdwan University**
1st Resource person: **Dr. Dilip Sarkar, former Registrar University of North Bengal**
2nd Resource person: **Mr. Subodha Bhattacharya, Social Activist and Nepali Post, Nepal**
3rd Resource person: **Shri. Sarkar, ex-Headmaster, J.N.S. Niketan, Santalpara, West Bengal**

Interactive Session Open for discussion
Lunch Break: 30 Mins

❖ **Second Technical Session: 1:40 to 2:15 P.M.**

Chairperson: **Dr. Dilip Sarkar, former Registrar University of North Bengal**
1st Resource person: **Prof. Pradip Sen, Burdwan University**
2nd Resource Person: **Dr. N.P. Tiwari, Associate Prof., Siliguri Dadasaheb College**
3rd Resource Person: **Janak Kacheta, AI Primary School, Siliguri**

Interactive Session Open for Discussion
End of day one


Day Two: 16.11.2021 (10.30 a.m onwards)

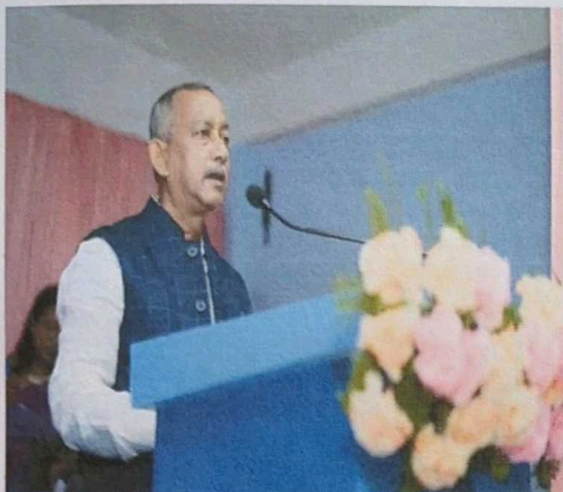
❖ **Third Technical Session:**

Chairperson: **Dr. N.P. Tiwari, Associate Prof., Siliguri Dadasaheb College**
1st Resource person: **Dr. Subodha Bhattacharya, Burdwan University**
2nd Resource person: **Dr. Himanshu Kumar, Prof. Kalyani University**
3rd Resource person: **Dr. Debasmita Mishra, Principal, Birsa Munda College**
4th Resource person: **Mr. Nimal Chandra Saha, NBN Mahavidyalaya, Jangra, Alipuhar**

Interactive Session open for discussion
Valedictory session
Dr. Debasmita Mishra (Control of Examinations, University of North Bengal)
Vote of Thanks: Program Convener
End

The seminar comprised multiple technical sessions chaired by eminent personalities from academia and social activism. The programme commenced with Mr. Gautam Deb, Chairperson of the Board of Administrator, Siliguri Municipal Corporation, inaugurating the event by lighting the lamp, symbolising the enlightenment and auspicious beginning of the seminar. Mr. Deb also delivered the welcome address, extending warm greetings to all attendees and emphasising the significance of the seminar.


Principal
BIRSA MUNDA COLLEGE
P.O. Hatighisa-734429
Dt. Darjeeling



The first technical session on November 15th, 2021 was chaired by Dr. Nimai Chandra Saha, Vice-Chancellor of Burdwan University. Esteemed resource persons such as Dr. Dilip Sarkar, former Registrar of North Bengal University, Ms. Subhadra Bhattarai, a renowned social activist and Nepali poet, and Sunil Sarkar, ex-Headmaster of JNS Niketan, Sundarban, West Bengal, delivered insightful presentations. Topics included historical narratives of tribal movements and their socio-economic implications. The session fostered interactive discussions, allowing participants to exchange ideas and perspectives on the challenges faced by marginalised communities.

Following a brief lunch break, the second technical session commenced on the same day, chaired by Dr. Dilip Sarkar. Prof. Paulami Sen from Burdwan University, Dr. SP Tiwari, Associate Professor at Shibpur Dinobundhoo College, and Jonas Karketta from AI Primary School, Siliguri, were among the distinguished resource persons who presented their research findings. Discussions revolved around the cultural preservation efforts of tribal communities amidst modernisation and globalisation. The session concluded with a vibrant exchange of ideas, enriching the understanding of tribal struggles and resilience.

On November 16th, 2021, the third technical session was chaired by Dr. SP Tiwari. Presentations by Dr. Subodh Hansda from Rabindra Bharati University and Dr. Himangshu Kumar from Kalyani University shed light on contemporary issues faced by tribal populations. Dr. Birendra Mridha,

Principal of Birsa Munda College, and Mr. Bimal Chandra Saha from NBS Mahavidyalaya contributed valuable insights. The session concluded with an interactive discussion, emphasising the importance of community empowerment and sustainable development initiatives.



Dr. Debasis Dutta, Controller of Examinations at the University of North Bengal, chaired the valedictory session. Reflecting on the seminar's proceedings, Dr. Dutta highlighted the significance of academic engagement in addressing the multifaceted challenges confronting marginalised communities. The session concluded with a vote of thanks to all participants, resource persons, and special guests, underscoring the collaborative efforts towards promoting social justice and inclusivity.



The two-day multilingual international seminar on “Voices from the Margins: Revisiting Birsa Munda and Other Significant Tribal Movements” served as a forum for scholarly engagement and