



NETAJI SUBHAS OPEN UNIVERSITY

School of Social Sciences

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Report of National - Level Research Week on *The Saga of Struggle for Indian Independence* organized by the NSOU Centre for Social Studies and CIQA, NSOU held on 18-23rd January 2023

The NSOU Centre for Social Studies, under the aegis of School of Social Sciences, Netaji Subhas Open University, in collaboration with Centre for Internal Quality Assurance, NSOU organized a **Week-long National - Level Research Week on the theme *The Saga of Struggle for Indian Independence***, which culminated to the celebration of Parakram Diwas (Birth Anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose) held between the **18th to 23rd of January, 2023, from 12noon to 3pm** daily at the Subhas Chandra Sabhaghar HQ, NSOU and online on the zoom platform. The workshop was designed as a blended event, involving participants engaged both physically at the Subhas Chandra Sabhaghar headquarters at NSOU and virtually for the presenters from across the nation. The National-level research week was organized to revive the various perspectives of the history of India's national movement as well as to generate new research on the subject and the plethora of papers presented along with the novel discussions that went on, suggests that the event was a grand success. All the faculties as well as the non-teaching staff of The School of Social Sciences, and other academic schools of studies of NSOU wholeheartedly supported the event and the NSOU ICT team provided much needed online technical assistance to facilitate the presentations from different parts of the country.

Speakers at the Programme:

The Welcome Address was given by **Professor Chandan Basu, Director of the School of Social Sciences** who outlined the pertinence of such an innovative week which began at NSOU with the lead from the School of Social Sciences. The inaugural address was delivered by **Professor Ranjan Chakrabarti, Hon'ble Vice- Chancellor, NSOU** and he formally declared the beginning of the research week at the Inaugural Session: Day 1 [18th January 2023] of the research week, highlighting the vision for a research oriented week which not only creates a platform for young researchers, scholars and students to present their work, but also contributes to the generation of new knowledge and expansion of the academic frontiers

at NSOU at beyond. The Keynote Address was delivered by **Professor Arun Bandopadhyay**, Former Nurul Hasan Professor of History & Formerly Dean of the Post-graduate Faculty of Arts, University of Calcutta, who spoke extensively on Gandhi and Netaji and sparked a lively discourse amongst the participants both online and at the venue. **Dr. Sumit Mukerji** Professor in the Department of Political Science, University of Kalyani was the special guest for the inaugural session and made an enlightening deliberation on Gandhi, Netaji and Nationalism which further took forward the academic discourse and paved the path for the sessions ahead.



Three technical sessions were held on 18th, 19th and 20th January 2023 where research papers were presented by researchers, scholars and young faculties from the country and a total of **eighteen papers** were presented and discussed with participation from around **forty-six** scholars, faculties and researchers, both online and offline, throughout the course of the research week. The technical session I was chaired by Prof. Utathya Bandyopadhyay Professor, Dept. of Political Science, NSOU with papers presented on themes such as Suhashini Gangopadhyay: An unsung lore in the history of Indian freedom movement; Divergent Dimensions of Nationalism in Bengal: Post Partition of 1905; Lathi Khela in worshipping Durga and Independence Movement; Tebhaga Movement of North Bengal: Women's Participation (1946-1948); The Calcutta Marwaris and The Swadeshi Movement: In the Context of Boycott and Swadeshi Politics (1905-1907) among others. The technical session II was chaired by Prof. Sujit Narayan Chattopadhyay Professor Dept. of Public Administration, NSOU with papers presented on themes such as Between Power and

Prudence: The Army in India's Freedom Struggle; Decolonizing the Revolt of 1857; Resisting the Empire's Expansion: Lushais' Expression of Anti-colonialism in British; Japanese Logistical Support and its 'Impact' on the Imphal campaign of the Indian National Army (INA); Labour and the Great War: Tracing the growth of nationalism in the north eastern frontier, 1914-1919; Unearthing the Inter-linkages within the Indian Revolutionary Movement, 1905-1930; The Moplah Rebellion of 1921-22: Was it a nationalist movement, among others. On the second day of the National-level Research Week a documentary film titled ' Sabar Ek Jeevan Katha ' directed by Dr. Ajit Kumar Sil, Associate Professor, Department of Geography, NSOU was also screened and deliberated upon.

The technical session III was chaired by Prof. Pujan Kumar Sen Professor Dept. of Public Administration, NSOU with papers presented on themes such as Nation, Borders and the War : Partition of the Indian Subcontinent and Rise of the Indian Patriot ; The Ambivalence of the Imperialist Gaze: India and Gandhi Through the Eyes of the Colonizer; Reconceptualizing the contributions of Dal Bahadur Giri and Helen Lepcha – Two important figures of the Gorkha Community towards the Indian Freedom Struggle; Liberty of Mind, Liberty of Nation; The National Goddess; A glimpse of an emerging sense of religiosity through the lens of Gaudiya Math within the Indian National Movement amongst others.

On the day of the third technical session ie. 20th January 2023, the valedictory session took place at the Subhas Chandra Sabhaghar HQ, NSOU and online on the zoom platform where the Valedictory Address was given by **Professor Manan Kumar Mandal Director, School of Humanities, NSOU**, with Special addresses delivered by **Professor Anirban Ghosh, Director Centre for Internal Quality Assurance, NSOU** and **Professor Chandan Basu, Director of the School of Social Sciences**. NSOU's resolve to promote research orientation across the disciplines, and create a platform for the honing of research skills by young scholars, faculties and researchers was reaffirmed in the deliberations of all three speakers.



Mr. Debajit Goswami, Organizing Secretary of the National-level Research Week and Assistant Professor of Public Administration, Dr. Srabanti Choudhuri, Assistant Professor of Sociology and Mr. Anupam Roy, Assistant Professor of Sociology, NSOU compèred the various sessions of the research week. The formal vote of thanks was given by, Dr. Choudhuri, NSOU.

The Research Week concluded with a lengthy interactive session and brief feedback from all participants, speakers, and attendees. Certificates and e-certificates were given to offline and online presenters respectively. The event was a grand success with the active participation of all and NSOU Centre for Social Studies is solemnly resolved to undertake more such research oriented activities and take the University to greater heights of excellence.