


Resolution of the Emergency Meeting of History DC held on 17 March 2015:

In view of the fact that the Vice Chancellor has objections about the concept note of the seminar proposed to be held on 27 March 2015 and about a speaker already been invited, the History Department decides to cancel the seminar. The Head is to call and inform the four invited speakers about this decision.

Atisew
29.10.14


17.3.15
Head
Deptt. of History
Vidyasagar University
Midnapore-721102, W.B.

VC/.....1043...../20.15.

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To,
The Vice Chancellor,
Vidyasagar University
Through,
The Registrar

Office of the Registrar
Vidyasagar University
Diary No. 2004 Dtd. 4.3.15
Time 4.05
Signature B. Das

OFFICE OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR
VIDYASAGAR UNIVERSITY
Date 9/3/15
Time 11 15 am
Signature

Sub: Booking of Birendranath Sasmal Hall for History Seminar

Sir,

The History Department intends to hold a 1-day seminar on 27 March 2015.

Please find attached our concept note and tentative schedule.

We shall be grateful if you allow us a booking of Birendranath Sasmal Hall for the purpose.

Yours sincerely,

Gautam Chandu Roy
GAUTAM CHANDU ROY 4.3.15

Debjani Das 4/3/15
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DEBJANI DAS

Placed Before the
Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor

Regin
HOD, History
Prior approval of VC required. Was not approved. VC approval taken. This is a seminar of 2015. 9/3

Admission - may kindly be accorded on payment basis. Concept note & list of the speakers have also been enclosed. For your kind perusal & advice. 04/03/15

HOD
The concept note is also very confusing. 9/3

Disc - better to hold Ex. Sem. on themes closely related to the syllabi. A seminar should have a focus. There

1 day Seminar at History Department, Vidyasagar University

27 March 2015

New Directions in Indian History: Select Themes

The study of Indian history is rich and vast; needless to say, this is also true of many other locations. The categorisation of Indian history into three periods – ancient, medieval, and modern – is arguably to an extent polemical and therefore debatable. Nonetheless, it is difficult to totally ignore the knowledge produced from these fractions as it was an attempt to tie ideas into a single thread and produce an overarching idea of India and her history. Scholarly work produced during the colonial period and in the immediate decades following the end of the Raj was ^{of} this kind. It was woven within the politico-administrative, economic, and social structures of pre-colonial and colonial times, by arguing either in favour or against the consequences produced by these structures. Towards the end of the twentieth century, with the emergence of a new wave in history-writing, scholars questioned these discreet structures and the multiple ruptures, and argued that these alone do not make history. To this new way of thinking, history goes beyond the lives of notables and economic production; it is less beholden to teleology or to the hierarchy constructed between the centre and the periphery, and unencumbered by the history of anachronism and nationalism. It also questioned the validity of purely empirical study, with no awareness of the social sciences, and therefore without any clearly stated objective. This vision, therefore, produced a new space in history writing which then looked into and questioned the trajectories and conjunctions within structures studied over long periods of time. Of late, however, another line of thinking has begun to question its over-emphasis on power, governance, and control, and also an over-dependence on especially literary theories. This has further broadened the scope and boundaries of the historical discipline as it interrogates all earlier modes of looking at the past, includes other disciplines of study within its purview, and foregrounds once again human experience as the *raison d'être* of historical enquiry – all in all, re-creating and re-inventing a space of its own and the other too.

Our brief seminar is an attempt to discuss this new direction in history writing – itself giving birth to several directions. Scholars will attempt to, variously, situate the ~~the~~ feminine in Indian history through the lens of tradition, reconstruct how femininity has found representations in Indian society over time, demonstrate how space in life is not only temporal but a mental concept and is recreated over and over again, and understand how the diaspora has found homes in locations far removed from India.

NEW DIRECTIONS IN INDIAN HISTORY: SELECT THEMES

27 March 2015

I

11.00-11.05: Welcome address by HoD

11.05-11.15: Address by the Dean, Faculty of Arts and Commerce

11.15-11.30: Vice Chancellor's address

II

~~11.30-12.15: Prof. Rajsekhar Basu (CU): "Exploring the Girmatiya Experience in Fiji through Bhojpuri Folk Traditions"~~

12.15-1.00: Ms. Krishti Kumar (CSSS): "The Chhaad: Production of a Mental Space"

1.00-2.00: Lunch Break

III

2.00-2.45: Dr. Urvi Mukhopadhyay (WBSU): "Imagining the Powerful 'Other': Representations of Razia Sultan"

2.45-3.30: Prof. Syed Tanveer Nasreen (BU): "Situating the Feminine in India: a Reading of the Jatakas"