

Sociological Illuminations

Newsletter of Department of Sociology
Bamanpukur Humayun Kabir Mahavidyalaya
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Volume 2 Issue 1
June 2021

From the desk of Convener, IQAC, BHKM....

It is a moment of pride for all of us at BHKM as the Department of Sociology releases the first issue of the second volume of *Sociological Illuminations*. As the Convener of IQAC, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the faculty and students of the Department for their hard work, commitment and dedication towards the publication of the newsletter. I am certain that the newsletter will provide a platform for stimulating academic exchange in the Department of Sociology in years to come.

Dr. Arghyadip Paul, IQAC Convener, BHKM

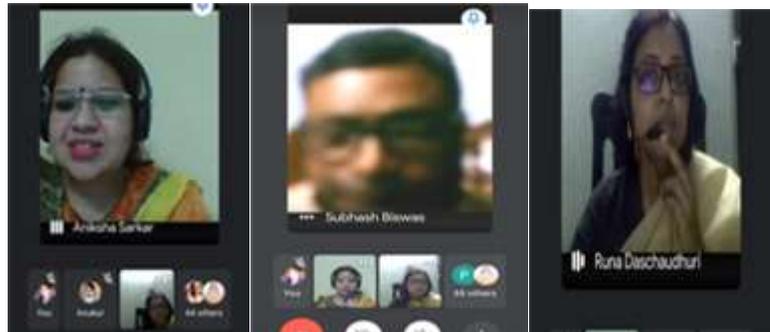


**DR. ARGHYADIP PAUL,
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
AND CONVENER, IQAC,
BHKM**

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State Level Webinar organized by the Dept. of Sociology
on 19th February, 2021
Editorial



“CLASS SOCIETIES IN
URBAN INDIA”

The Principal, BHKM, Dr. Subhash Biswas, in his inaugural lecture of the state level webinar threw light upon several pertinent issues with respect to the concept of class as a dimension of social stratification in India. He also stressed on the need to view classes in a larger purview for instance, by linking class with the crucial social axis of caste. He also pointed out how class as a social indicator has a felt presence in contemporary Indian society which needs to be sociologically re-assessed.

In her welcome address, the Convenor of the webinar Dr. Runa Das Chaudhuri noted how class as an axis of social stratification is a relevant area of study for students and academics in the discipline of sociology. More so since globalization is radically transforming how India's citizens perceive class. In fact India today is a nation in flux, bombarded with



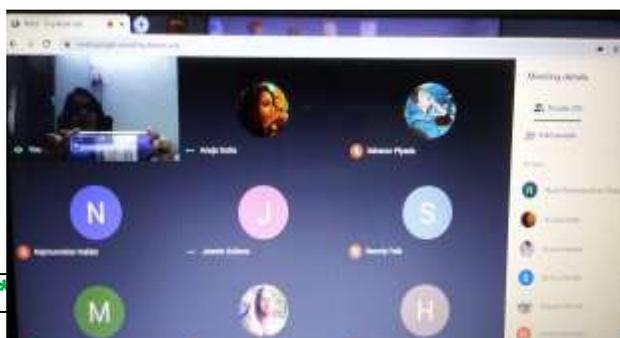
media images of middle-class consumers, navigating the currents of late capitalism and the surges of inequality which these produce. Dr. Das Chaudhuri expressed hope that the webinar's discussion would enlighten participants with the changing dimensions of class as a form of social stratification and also bring to the fore several allied aspects of class inequality, the interface of caste and class in modern India etc.

Next, Dr. Das Chaudhuri introduced the speaker of the webinar Dr. Aniksha Roy.

The speaker Dr. Aniksha Roy commenced on her talk with a critical and nuanced argument of how vaguely ambiguous and fudgy the concept of class is. She also discussed on various allied concepts like class imaging, classes and sub-classes, idea of delusive prejudices and then critically discoursing on the three perspectives of classes. Dr. Roy also deliberated on the epistemology of middle classes in India, the three 'Is' initiator, indicator and integrationist. She ended her lecture by highlighting on the role of technology in the formation of hierarchized stratification of sub-classes in contemporary urban Indian society.

The question and answer session was conducted by Dr. Runa Das Chaudhuri which was followed by the formal vote of thanks proposed by Ms. Sumita Chatterjee, Convenor, Seminar Research Forum and Head, Department of Education, BHKM.

Ms. Anuja Dutta, M.Phil delivering her lecture on 15th March and 18th March 2021



Ms. Anuja Dutta has graduated in Sociology from Presidency University and completed her M.Phil(Sociology) from Jadavpur University. She delivered two online lectures on the module 'Introduction to Sociology' on 15.3.2021 and 18.3.2021 to students of the Department of Sociology, 1st semester, Bamanpukur Humayun Kabir Mahavidyalaya, West Bengal State University. Ms. Dutta still a student herself and in-between in her Ph.D. course admission enthusiastically interacted with the students. She spoke on social mobility, stratification and many other related topics. Many questions were raised by students. Her lectures were treated like doubt-clearing sessions by the first semester students who were preparing for their end-semester examinations. Ms. Dutta's explanations were very well received by the students.



A photo exhibition was put up online by the students of Sociology, BHKM to mark the occasion of World Environment Day on 5th June, 2021. The photographs reflect several scenes of village environment and life. The selected pictures are those clicked by Sannyasi Bisai, Dipanwita Mondal, Chanda Mahato, Sherin Sahani, Manika Sardar and Suhana Parvin.



Dr. Runa Das Chaudhuri conducting the virtual library day on 3rd May, 2021 with second semester sociology students. She spoke on various e-resources available to students and digital libraries which students can access free of cost.



Dr. Runa Das Chaudhuri taking an online class with Sociology 6th semester students on 25.6.2021.



Dr. Runa Das Chaudhuri conducting a quiz on 'Sociological Thinkers' with fourth semester sociology students on 13.5.2020. Questions were asked on Karl Marx, Max Weber and Emile Durkheim on whom their syllabus is based.



Dr. Runa Das Chaudhuri conducting a debate for second semester sociology students on 26th June, 2021.

Participation of Faculty in college activities



Dr. Runa Das Chaudhuri attending IQAC meeting presided by the Principal BHKM on 30th January, 2021 in the seminar hall of BHKM along with her colleagues. Covid protocols of mask wearing, safe distancing, and washing of hands were ensured.



Dr. Runa Das Chaudhuri attending the MGNCRE-SAP "Guidance on Psycho-Social Skills to helpers during Pandemic" workshop conducted online on 30.6.2021.



A picture of the college notice board where notices on internal assignments of the Dept. of Sociology have been regularly posted for the convenience of students. In the above is a notice dated and posted on 15.2.2021 informing 1st, 3rd and 5th semester Sociology students concerning submission of their assignments.

From the alumunus

*Priyanka Mondal, passout of 1+1+1
BA General Programme*



We learnt Sociology from Rdc ma'am at college. I remember myself and my classmate Faima thoroughly enjoying the classes. Ma'am taught us a paper on Indian Social Problems and learning was fun through examples, narratives and theoretical premises which she offered. This course has contributed to our learning about the textures of Indian society, specially about the underprivileged, marginalized and women and children who have always been denied rights in our society.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK FOOD FOR THOUGHT

I am quoting some sayings of famous sociologists which might help you to rethink about sociology as a discipline and practice.

THINK, THINK AND THINK!!!!

You must learn to use your life experience in your intellectual work: continually examine and interpret it.-----**C. W. Mills**

The function of sociology, as of every science, is to reveal that which is hidden--
Pierre Bourdieu

Write about society as news and treat it like sociology.-----**Clifton Daniel**