



**Two Day
National Seminar**

On

***Decolonizing the Minds and Reconstructing Indian History :
Retrospect and Prospects***

Sponsored by

Indian Council of Historical Research, New Delhi

February 03rd-04th, 2018



Organized by:

Department of History

Iswar Saran Degree College, Allahabad

(A Constituent Post Graduate College, University of Allahabad)

in

Association with

Akhil Bhartiya Itihas Sankalan Yojna, New Delhi

Dear Sir/Madam,

We feel privileged to extend our cordial invitation for a Two day *National Seminar* on “*Decolonizing the Minds and Reconstructing Indian History : Retrospect and Prospects*”, sponsored by Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR), New Delhi organized by Iswar Saran Degree College, University of Allahabad in association with Akhil Bhartiya Itihas Sankalan Yojna (ABISY), New Delhi.

We solicit your active participation in this seminar with your research paper on the theme/sub-themes of the Seminar. We also request you to inform about this to all interested faculties/researchers/students from all the departments of your institution to participate and submit their research papers.

With regards,

Dr. Anand Shanker Singh
Principal/Chairperson

Dr. Rachana Singh
Convener

Dr. Manoj Kumar Dubey
Organizing Secretary

Important Information :

<i>Seminar Dates</i>	:	<i>February, 3rd – 4th, 2018</i>
<i>Last Date of Online Registration</i>	:	<i>January 20th, 2018</i>
<i>Last Date of Paper Submission</i>	:	<i>January 20th, 2018</i>
<i>Delegate Registration Fee</i>	:	<i>Faculty Member - Rs. 1200/- Only Research Scholar - Rs. 800/- Only PG Students – Rs. 500/- Only</i>



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Colonialism is a policy of a nation seeking to extend or retain its authority and domination over other people or territories. European colonialism began in the 15th century with the "Age of Discoveries". Apart from several other countries, India too came into the clutches of British Empire. India has suffered the burden of British occupation for two centuries. Britishers came to India for trading, followed by political subjugation with the primary object of plundering. They perhaps justified their presence in India as a "divinely ordained" civilizing mission. They spoke of Britain as the most enlightened and philanthropic nation in the world and a nation entrusted with the noble task of spreading the highest kind of civilisation, while the constant atrocities perpetrated on the Indian people were discreetly hidden from sight. To achieve their aim, the British rulers followed two lines : on the one hand, they encouraged an English education in accordance with the well-known Macaulay doctrine; while on the other hand, they pursued a systematic denigration of Indian culture, language, scriptures, customs, traditions, crafts, cottage industries, social institutions, educational system, etc., taking full advantage of the stagnant and dormant Indian society. This resulted in the rapid conquest of the Indian mind and life. They did succeed in colonising the minds a fairly large "educated" class came into existence , which always looked up to its European model and thus ideal, and formed the actual foundation of the Empire in India.

It is well known that the history writing of European colonies is the worst affected. In the beginning it was done mostly by scholar administrators of East India Company. They established the colonial school of historiography which denigrated the subject people while praising the imperial country. Therefore, in most such historical works there was criticism of Indian society and culture. At the same time, there was praise for the western culture and values and glorification of the individuals who established the empire in India. The history of India written by James Mill, Mount Stuart Elphinstone, Vincent Smith and many others are pertinent examples of this trend. This highly biased history was taught in the first three universities in India at Calcutta, Bombay and Madras .This had several unintended consequences. The books by British civil servant historians of the nineteenth century, created a critical reaction. The first

graduate of an Indian University, Bankim Chandra Chatterjee, repeatedly reviled the British interpretation and raised the question, 'When shall we write our own history?' Rabindranath Tagore put it more eloquently "history reveals the country to the people of the country, while the history of India the British have gifted us obscures our vision of India, we are unable to see our motherland in this history."

Came Independence, after long struggle and at a terrible cost. Even after seven decades of achieving political freedom, several of its traces and consequences remain deep in our minds and psyche. Criticism of colonialism, has shifted its focus to its more subtle and lasting manifestations. Prominent among these are the varieties of what came to be known as the 'colonization of its minds.' we have hardly achieved independence in the field of thought. We are still confined to the rigid colonial framework for pursuing our historical studies. Indian history, as it is known today, is to a large extent, a product of its colonial phase. For historians, researchers and intellectuals, it has become hard to shed the colonial psyche. The central objective behind decolonizing the minds is to overthrow alien historiography, this demands dismantling of colonial beliefs and decolonizing our minds in all respects. Let us revisit, reinvestigate, reinterpret, redefine and reconstruct our history and start looking forward towards an Indigenous paradigm shift for better understanding of our history, to make history more meaningful and purposeful as history inspires the present as well as the future of the country.

Sub Themes :

1. Colonialism : A Theoretical Overview.
2. Impact of colonialism on :
 - Indian Polity, Society, Economy & Culture
 - Religion & Philosophy
 - Art & Architecture
 - Literature & Language
 - Education
3. Impact of Colonization on Indian Minds & Psyche : Psychological Aspects.
4. Pre Colonial Historiography :
 - Ancient & Medieval Period.
 - Impact of Historical Writing in Pre Colonial India.
5. Colonial Historiography :
 - Ideological dimensions
 - Influential Works
 - Impact of Historical Writing in Colonial India.
6. Post-Colonial Historiography : Cambridge, Nationalist, Marxists, Subaltern, etc.
7. Decolonising the minds and revisiting materials and sources of Indian History
 - Archaeological sources
 - Literary Sources
 - Travelogues
 - Oral Traditions
 - Official records
 - Personal records
 - Pictorial records
8. Historical Research Methodology : Challenges, Approaches, dimensions and New Perspectives.
9. Emerging Trends in History Writing :
 - Oral History

- Regional History
- Environmental History
- Gender History
- Social History
- Demographic History, etc.

Submission of Research Paper:

Experts, academicians, historians, teachers, scholars are invited to contribute their papers on any of the suggested themes. You are requested to confirm your participation by sending the Abstract in 250 words and the full paper on or before **January 20, 2018** along with registration fee. The contributors are requested to submit their manuscript based on the theme/subthemes, typed in English or Hindi (use MS-Word, Arial, Times New Roman Fonts for English, Kruti Dev 010 for Hindi followed by 14 points, 2.6 cm margin on single side of A4 size paper). The papers can be send through e-mail (**seminar.isdc.his@gmail.com**). The proceedings of the seminar would be published in the book form with ISBN.

Registration Procedure: Please remit the registration fee as per instructions given below:

- A) **Faculty Members:** Rs. 1200/- Only
 B) **Research Scholars:** Rs. 800/- Only
 C) **PG Students :** Rs. 500/- Only

In case the paper is submitted under joint authorship registration fee for each individual will be charged separately.

Mode of Payment :

Bank Details for NEFT/Online Transfer :

Beneficiary Name : Principal, Iswar Saran Degree College, Allahabad
 Bank Name : Allahabad Bank
 Branch Name : Katra, Allahabad
 Account No. : 50177688694
 IFSC : ALLA0210086

Note : The scanned copy of the transaction receipt should must be sent via mail to the organizers. Registration fee may also be deposited in cash at venue on January 20, 2018 at 9.00 AM onwards.

Accommodation:

Due to financial constraints the delegates of the seminars who require accommodation will have to arrange it on their own though we will be happy to assist them if they require any help or guidance. Only the invited guests are entitled for it.

Please feel free to contact us for any information:

Dr. Rachana Singh

Convener

Mob. : 9415216490

E-mail: seminar.isdc.his@gmail.com

Website : www.isdc.ac.in

Dr. Manoj K. Dubey

Organizing Secretary

Mob. No.: 09452401637

About the College :

The venue of the seminar is Iswar Saran Degree College, a Constituent Post Graduate College of the University of Allahabad. It was established in 1970 under the aegis of Harijan Sewak Sangh founded by Late Munshi Iswar Saran, a close associate of Mahatma Gandhi. The bonding and association of Late Munshi Ji with Mahatma Gandhi was so strong that he visited the campus twice which accorded the heritage significance to our institution. The forty seven year old history of this institution is a saga of steady progress, stability and self reliance. Started with meagre means and modest infrastructure, new faculties, new subjects and new courses were added from time to time to make it a premier institution of the city as what it is today.

The college runs undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in Arts, Commerce and Science streams followed by various vocational add-on and certificate/diploma courses to prepare more effectively the human resource required to face the future challenges and concerns of the country. We are looking forward to better and newer experiences to achieve the greater heights.

About the City :

Ancient Prayag, now known as Allahabad is situated at the holy confluence of Ganga, Yamuna and mythological Saraswati with rich and magnificent cultural, historical, religious and intellectual legacy. It has many notable sites of historical and religious importance like Sangam, Allahabad Fort comprising Akshayavat Tree and Ashoka's pillar, Bhardwaj Ashram, Ancient Archaeological Sites of Kaushambi, Anand Bhawan, Swaraj Bhawan, Sita Samahit Sthal (65 Km.), Allahabad Museum, Khushro Bagh, Chandra Shekhar Azad Park, etc.

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Vice-Chancellor, University of Allahabad

Patron
Sri R.K. Srivastava
President, Governing Body
Iswar Saran Degree College

Chairperson
Dr. Anand Shanker Singh
Principal

Seminar Guide
Dr. Gayatri Singh

Dr. Rachana Singh
Convener

Dr. Dheeraj Chaudhary
Co-Convener

Dr. Manoj K. Dubey
Organizing Secretary

Organizing Committee:

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Delegate Registration Form



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1. Name [in Block Letters]:
2. Designation:
3. University/College/Institution:
.....
4. Contact No.
5. E-mail:
6. Title of the Paper:
.....
7. Mode of Fee Payment: Cash/NEFT
Amount..... Transaction ID Date.....
Bank Name/Branch Name.....
8. Any Suggestion.....

Date:

Place:

Signature of the Delegate

Note: The delegate registration form with requisite fee must reach on or before Jan. 20, 2018 to
Dr. Rachana Singh, Convener, Iswar Saran Degree College, University of Allahabad,
Allahabad – 211004, E-mail: seminar.isdc.his@gmail.com