

REPORT OF THE NATIONAL SEMINAR ON “ROLE OF NORTH –EAST IN FREEDOM MOVEMENT: UNSUNG HEROES”

19th and 20th MARCH 2019

Organized by

Department of History, Pandu College, Guwahati-12

Sponsored by

MAULANA ABUL KALAM AZAD INSTITUTE OF ASIAN STUDIES (MAKAIAS)

A National Seminar on “**ROLE OF NORTH –EAST IN FREEDOM MOVEMENT: UNSUNG HEROES**” was organized by the Department of History, Pandu College, sponsored by **MAULANA ABUL KALAM AZAD INSTITUTE OF ASIAN STUDIES**. There were about 150 participants which included eminent academicians from different parts of North-East, young scholars and students who actively participated in academic deliberations. The vibrant presentation made by different scholars on the topic of the Seminar made it a successful event. The National Seminar which was held for two days, began with an inaugural session followed by 4(four) technical sessions in which 17 (seventeen) papers were presented and a valedictory function in the Digital Room of the college.

Inaugural Ceremony of the Seminar on 19th March 2019: 10.00 am – 12Noon

The inaugural session witnessed the gracious presence of Dr. I. S Chauhan, former V. C and former Ambassador-Fiji, and a renowned scholar as the Chief Guest. The inaugural session began with our College Anthem followed by traditional lighting of lamp by our dignitaries after which they were felicitated and seated on the dais. Dr. Jogesh Kakati, Principal, Pandu College warmly welcomed the guest with his speech which was followed by the objective of the Seminar delivered by Dr. Shirin Banu, Convenor of the Seminar in which she expressed gratefulness to MAKAIAS for sponsoring our National Seminar. The keynote address was delivered by Professor Meeta Deka, former HOD History of Gauhati University. She focused on the unsung heroes of the North east, the women, students, peasants and common men whose contribution have not got their due honour. She delivered on the intellectual tasks of the historians regarding the various approaches, sources and writing the lesser known heroes into the pages of history.

Professor Sarah Hilaly, HOD, History, Rajiv Gandhi University spoke about the resistance to colonial rule by various tribes of Arunachal Pradesh which manifested in a series of raids into British territory which culminated into rebellions.

The next speaker Prof. Amena N. Passah, Professor, Department of History NEHU, Shillong opined that it was widely felt that the Khasi-Jaintia people did not participate in the Freedom Struggle against the British Raj. However, there were valiant heroes who posed a threat to colonial hegemony. She dwelt on the Khasi-Jaintia men who rose to the occasion to defend their motherland.

Before the speeches of the dignitaries each of them were introduced to the audience with their brief biodata by Joint Conveners Dr. Nizwm Sona Baro and Ms. Banasree Phukan. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks by Joint Convener Dr. Navaneeta Baruah.

Date: 19/03/2019

Technical Session I

12.30pm-1.30pm

The session was chaired by Dr. Moushumi Dutta Pathak, Associate Professor, Arya Vidyapeeth College in which two papers were presented, one on “Gomdhar’s clarion call for Anti-British Movement” presented by Dr. Sikhamoni Konwar, Principal, Karmashree Hiteswar Saikia College. Another paper was presented by Firdausi Akhtara Basid, a Ph.D. scholar on “The Heroic Balled of the Mutiny (1857) Jangiyar Geet (song of the warriors). Another paper was presented by Dr Kanon Medhi and Dr. Anup Kumar Deka of Karmashree Hiteswar Saikia College on “Swadhinota Andolonor Agragami Nari Chandraprabha Saikiani”. Another paper was presented by Dr. Malabika Das, Dept. of History, Handique Girls College on “The Role of Student Community in the First Phase of National Struggle”

Technical Session II

12.30pm-02.00pm

A parallel session was held in another conference room of the college which was chaired by Prof. Amena N. Passah, Professor, Department of History, NEHU in which three papers were presented. First, Abhijeet Jaiswal, Post Graduate Students of University of Hyderabad presented an interesting paper on “Female agency accommodation and Nationalism, Assamese Women in the limelight of the freedom struggle”, second Kabyashree Sarma and Jhorna Sonowal, Research Scholars presented a paper on “Participation of Women of the Brahmaputra Valley in the Freedom Struggle”. The next paper was presented by an M.Phil Scholar Barasha Das on “Understanding the Role of Assamese Women in the Quit India Movement with special reference to the Golaghat District of Assam.

After the presentation of papers there was comments from the chairpersons and discussions regarding the presentations.

20/03/2019

Technical Session III

10.30am-11.15am

The session was chaired by Dr. Radha Das, Assistant Professor, Department of History, Gauhati University. Two papers were presented in this session, one jointly by Dr. Nurul Islam and Dr. Ranjan Kumar Bhatta of Karmashree Hiteswar Saikia College on “Influence of Mahatma Gandhi in Freedom Movement of Assam”. Secondly, Dr. Shirin Banu, HoD, History, Pandu College presented her paper on “Sankar Chandra Barua: The Revolutionary Freedom Fighter of Golaghat, Assam”.

Technical Session IV

11.30am-01.00pm

This session was jointly chaired by Dr. Sikhamoni Konwar, Principal, Karmashree Hiteswar Saikia College and Prof. Sarah Hilaly, HoD, History, Rajiv Gandhi University, Itanagar in which eight (8) papers were presented by various scholars, first Babita Rabha from L. C. B. College, Guwahati presented her paper on “Jana Neta Sarat Chandra Rabha as the Unsung Hero in the Freedom Movement” followed by Hemen Das, a Ph.D. scholar from Pondicherry University whose paper was on “Anti-British uprisings and their Unsung Heroes in North-East India. A study till 1919”. Puja Bhattacharjee, PGT, History, Royal Global School presented her paper on “Remembering Pushparam Kahar: Unsung Hero of the Revolt of Lachima”. Next, Dr. Nizwm Sona Baro, Assistant Professor (Senior Grade) of the Department of History of Pandu College presented her paper on “The Chronicle of Patharughat: Re-assessing the Peasant Uprising in Darrang District of Assam”. This was followed by a paper on “Peasant Movements in Colonial Assam, with special reference to Raijms” presented by Jini Rani Boro, Assistant Professor, Dpt. of History, R. G. Baruah College, Guwahati. Mr. Binay Kumar Nath, Assistant Professor, Dept. of History, Handique Girls College presented the paper on “Peasant Movement in Colonial Assam: A critical study on the role played by Raijms”. Next Amar Deka, and Sanchayita Khakholar, Ph.D Scholars, Gauhati University jointly presented a paper on “Phulguri Uprising and the Freedom Movement in Assam”. This was followed by Dr. Rituparna Manikyal, Assistant Professor, Department of History, D. K. D. College, Dergaon presented a paper on “Role of Unsung Women in Freedom Movement in North East”. After the presentations, the Chairperson gave their valuable comments to the scholars regarding their presentations and there was a vibrant discussion on this important theme of the seminar.

Valedictory Function

01.15 pm to 01.45 pm

The National Seminar was concluded by a Valedictory Function in which the convener of the Seminar gave a brief report of the papers presented. After this our Chief Guest, Dr. I. S. Chauhan had expressed his opinion on the various papers that were presented. This was followed by a speech by Dr. Nabajit Kumar Das, Academic Consultant, NE, MAKAIAS. He enlightened the audience about the activities of the MAKAIAS, besides sharing his opinion on the successful functioning of the National Seminar. This was followed by award of certificates to the various scholars followed by vote of thanks by Mrs. Banasree Phukan, Assistant Professor (Senior Grade), Department of History, Pandu College.



Students performing the College Anthem during Inaugural Session



Lighting of Lamp during the Inaugural Session



Prof. Meeta Deka, key note speaker is being felicitated by Dr. Shirin Banu



Dr. Jogesh Kakati, Principal, Pandu College delivering the Welcome address during the Inaugural Session



Prof. Meeta Deka, Professor & Former HoD, History, Gauhati University delivering key note speech



Invited speaker Prof. Sarah Hilaly, HoD, History, Rajiv Gandhi University, Arunachal Pradesh delivering speech in the Inaugural Session



Invited speaker Prof. Amena N. Passah, Dept. of History, NEHU, Meghalaya delivering speech in the Inaugural Session



Invited Guests during Inaugural Session



Invited Guests and audience during the Inaugural Session



Invited Chief Guest Prof. I. S. Chauhan is being felicitated by Dr. Jogesh Kakati, Principal, Pandu College



Dr. Rajib Handique, Professor and HoD, History, Gauhati University delivering a speech during the Inaugural Session.



The Chief Guest Dr. I. S. Chauhan, Former Ambassador, Fiji, Former Vice Chancellor, Barkatullah University, Bhopal delivering a speech in the Inaugural Session



Dr. Shirin Banu, HoD, History, Pandu College and Convener of the National Seminar delivering the objectives of the Seminar during the Inaugural Session



Chief Guest Prof. I. S. Chauhan with the faculties and some students of the department after Valedictory Function



A scholar is being presented certificate during the Valedictory Function of the National Seminar