



[Accredited Grade “A+” by NAAC]

NATIONAL SEMINAR

ON

Narrating Local History: Community, Caste and Tribe in Odisha

(25th January, 2019)

P.G. Department of History

Utkal University

Vani Vihar, Bhubaneswar

Theme of the Seminar

The expansion and evolution of local history over the last half a century has given rise to both analysis and critical self-reflection. The challenge has been stimulated by the enhanced importance of local history as a popular cultural activity, in parallel with a relatively recent focus in academic teaching provision on the subject. The reflection on the characteristics and role of local history has yielded searching consideration of its relationship with the pursuit of history more broad, most especially in the academic discipline.

Following Rg Vedic thought of know thyself (*atmanam viddhi*) has come a long sleep forward to the robotic 21st century. From historical perspective the study of thyself necessitates the focus from micro to grass root level study. The local history in a way centres round us in a more specific way. Is it better to be extensive or to be localised? Extensive or local are neither opposites or non-mutually incompatible. The option is in transforming stimuli pieces of information in subsequent action. Here only the role of local history may be caste, community, group and tribe. Narration of local history will not only broaden the scope of research but will provide new output to the process of reconstructing the happenings of the past.

Here is an attempt to unveil the various tracts of the people and the land, conduct and custom, legacy and tradition, ethos and philosophy, culture and heritage in broader perspective. A thorough investigation of tit-bit details of the local history of Odisha will highlight hitherto unknown some traits.

The theme being an interdisciplinary one the participants from various disciplines can present their views, suggestions and findings in a border perspective.

Sub Themes:-

- ❖ Approaches to the study of Local history
- ❖ Localised oral narratives; traditions, customs, rites and festivals
- ❖ Group; concept, belief and discord
- ❖ Community; genesis, growth, image and migration
- ❖ Caste; origin, conflict, identity and settlement
- ❖ Tribe; history, features, activities, resistance
- ❖ Paiks; history, identities and movement
- ❖ State formation and localisation; Odra, Kalinga, Kosala, Utkal and others
- ❖ Localisation; individuality, dominance, continuum
- ❖ Villages, *Sasanas* and *Agraharas*
- ❖ Ethno-History and Cultural Studies

About the Department

The Post-Graduate Department of History was founded on 1 December 1959 at the then Ravenshaw College, Cuttack, Odisha. It was shifted to Vani Vihar, Bhubaneswar in July 1962 when the University moved to its present premises from Cuttack. Ever since the Department is functioning in the Old Arts Block of the University. One among the two largest departments, it functions at present as an autonomous Department of Learning and Research. The output of research in the Department, both in the qualitative and quantitative sense, has also got due recognition by the community of scholars and academics all around. The University hence, has accorded it the status of an autonomous Department since January 1995. The Department has successfully celebrated Golden Jubilee Year of its foundation during the session 2009-10.

Points to remember

Last date for submission of Abstract: 25th December, 2018.

Announcement of List of Selected Abstracts: 5th January, 2019.

Last date for submission of full paper: 10th January, 2019.

An abstract will be written in a paragraph, with 250-300 words with up to 4-5 key words in Times New Roman, 12 font size and 1.5 line spacing.

Participants will have to arrange for their own accommodation and travel expenses.

Contact

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