

NAME OF THE EVENT: Visit to National Library

CATEGORY – Educational Tour

ORGANIZING UNIT – RKSMVV Library and Lalbaba College Library

DATE – 22 February 2024

TIME – 11.30 am onwards

VENUE – The National Library, Belvedere, Kolkata - 700 027.

NAME OF RESOURCE PERSON – DR PARTHA SARATHI DAS, Assistant Library & Information Officer, National Library

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS – RKSMVV (17 students and 3 College Faculties) and Lalbaba College (14 students and 3 college faculties and 4 Library staff).

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE EVENT –

Ramakrishna Sarada Mission Vivekananda Vidyabhavan, in collaboration with Belur Lalbaba College organised an educational tour of the National Library on February 22nd, 2024. This was a joint venture of both colleges after implementing the Memorandum of Understanding dated 10th July 2023. Seventeen students and two librarians from Ramakrishna Sarada Mission Vivekananda Vidyabhavan and fourteen students, two teachers, and four library staff from Belur Lalbaba College took the trip. Incidentally, all participating students had opted for Library and Information Science in their MDC/IDC course.

There was a tour of the rare book section, rare book preservation section, Asutosh Mukherjee Collections, and the Newspaper Section. Dr. Parthasarathy Das, Assistant Librarian of the National Library, briefly explained several details regarding rare books, preservation of rare documents, mechanical (fumigation chamber and other related processes), and non-mechanical (indigenous) ways of pest control. He also spoke briefly and very precisely on several aspects of book preservation.

Among the rare books on display were manuscripts on vellum named Pantographia published in London (1799), manuscripts where gold has been used in decoration, and manuscripts by Bibutibhushan Bandyopadhyay, Jibanananda Das, and Sarojini Naidu. Ramcharitmanas by Tulsidas (1790), the first draft of the original Indian Constitution, Hicky's Bengal Gazette by Hicky published in 1780, Skanda Purana written in Assamese on parchment, adi parva of the Mahabharata handwritten in Bengali, a xylography in Tibetan on the first Panch Lama donated by Dalai Lama, were some of the rare manuscripts on display, of which most have been donated.

PROGRAMME OUTCOME – The visit to this prestigious institution gave the students an exposure that greatly enhanced their knowledge about the workings of a library and enriched them in several ways.



ESTD: 1964

EDUCATIONAL EXCURSION

To

THE NATIONAL LIBRARY KOLKATA

jointly organized by



LALBABA COLLEGE LIBRARY,
BELUR, HOWRAH



&

RAMAKRISHNA SARADA MISSION VIVEKANANDA
VIDYABHAVAN LIBRARY, DUMDUM

AN ENDEAVOUR OF BOTH COLLEGES

(AFTER THE SIGNATURE OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING)

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