

# **Annual Report**

## **Department of Sociology (JUNE '21 – OCT'22)**

The Department of Sociology, Kamala Nehru College, University of Delhi in collaboration with Sophia's Girls College, Ajmer, organized its second Student Faculty Exchange Program on **28<sup>th</sup> of July, 2021**. The event was conducted on Google Meet and started at 1:25 pm. The program was commenced by Dr. Archana Prasad mam, Teacher in-charge of the Department of Sociology, Kamala Nehru College. The professor acknowledged the Principal and her colleagues. She also extended her warm regards to all the attendees. Then, Miss Kashvi Yadav, Student President of the Department of Sociology, Kamala Nehru College introduced the speaker Dr. Tanmay Sharma, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Sophia's Girls College.

On **31st July 2021**, the Department of Sociology, Kamala Nehru College, University of Delhi in collaboration with Sophia Girls College, Ajmer organized another virtual lecture of Student Faculty Exchange Program. The event was organized on Google Meet which commenced at 11:05 am. The event was open to students from Kamala Nehru College and Sophia Girl's College and approximately 100 students were in attendance. The Exchange Program was officially opened by Ms. Gargi Sharma from Sophia Girls College. She introduced the department and greeted the guest speaker Dr. Sharmistha Mallick mam, Assistant Professor, Kamala Nehru College.

The Department of Sociology, Kamala Nehru College, University of Delhi had organised the third session of its "Online Lecture Series" on **25<sup>th</sup> August 2021**. The Lecture was given by renowned professor, Dr. Vivek Kumar, Chairperson of Centre for the study of Social Systems, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Dr. Kumar's area of specialization includes Methodology of Social Sciences, Sociology of Marginalized Sections and of Indian Diaspora. He poured his words of knowledge on the topic "Media through the Lens of Sociology". Miss Kashvi Yadav, the President of Department of Sociology, Kamala Nehru College introduced the session and the guest speaker, Dr. Kumar was given a warm welcome by Dr. Archana Prasad mam, the teacher in charge at the Department of Sociology, Kamala Nehru College.

On **15th September 2021**, Department of Sociology, Kamala Nehru College, University of Delhi organised a lecture in collaboration with Sophia Girls' College, Ajmer on the topic "RELIGION IN CONTEMPORARY TIMES." This was delivered by Dr. Khushwant Singh. He completed his masters in Sociology from Indira Gandhi National Open University, Delhi. He has also taught as a guest faculty at Christ University and is currently working as Lecturer in the Department of Sociology, Sophia Girls' College. The event was conducted on Google

meet considering the current circumstances. It was joined by more than 150 students from both the colleges. It began at 1 pm in the afternoon with an introductory speech given by Miss Kashvi Yadav, the President of the Department of Sociology.

The Department of Sociology, Kamala Nehru College, University of Delhi in collaboration with Sophia's Girls College, Ajmer organized a Student Faculty Exchange Program on **18th of September, 2021**. The event was conducted on Google Meet and it started at 1: 11pm. The Exchange Program was officially opened by Mrs. Geetika Yadav , Assistant Professor of the Department of Sociology, Sophia's Girl College, Ajmer. The Professor introduced the department and greeted the guest speaker Dr.Archana Prasad, Teacher-in-charge, Department of Sociology Kamala Nehru College, University of Delhi.

The Department of Sociology, Kamala Nehru College, University of Delhi organised the Young Research Forum on **September 29, 2021**. The event was conducted on Google Meet and started at 10:00 am. The theme for the event this year was Covid-19, Employment Crisis and Social Distress. It was divided into three sessions under three sub-themes namely, Employment Crisis, Gender Imbalance and other social issues related to the theme. The event was initiated by Kashvi Yadav, the president of the Department of Sociology, Kamala Nehru College, University of Delhi. The sub theme for the first session was the Employment Crisis. The esteemed panel of judges for this session were Dr. Anuradha Sharma, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Jesus and Mary College, University of Delhi and Dr. Pravati Dalua, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Kamala Nehru College, University of Delhi. The first presenter was Nisshat Sheikh from Miranda House, University of Delhi and her topic was *The Crisis of Job Loss and Covid-19*. The second presentation was given by Tanishqa and Vibhuti Mehta from Gargi College, University of Delhi and their topic was *Graduates of India in the COVID-19 Era: Stress and Optimism Related to Job-Seeking*. Third was Bhavya Balha from Janki Devi Memorial College, University of Delhi and her topic was *Position of Indian Economy: Unemployment in Various Sectors*.

The second session started at 11.05am with the introduction of the sub theme, the esteem judges, Dr. Amrita Sastry and Dr. Urna Sarkar Dutta following the introduction of the student coordinators. The first participant was Ananya from Hindu College, Delhi University. Her research was based on the gendered perspective on the slums of India especially during the pandemic. The second presenter was Kriti from Kamala Nehru College, Delhi University. Her research was on the topic domestic violence. The third presenter was Nanao from Hindu College, Delhi University. Her topic was on the transgenders and their condition during the pandemic

The third session of the Young Research Forum was started at 12.15pm by student coordinators Sunaina Baruah and Nandini Rawat with the introduction of the sub theme for the session, followed by the introduction of the esteemed judges in the panel, Dr. Aruna Grover and Dr. Ritu Sharma. First presenters were Jaanvi Jairath and Rhea Daima from Maitreyi College, University of Delhi. The title of their paper was 'Future of OTT platforms in a post-covid world' followed by Prashanti Komal from Kamala Nehru College, University of Delhi.

The title of her paper was ‘Digitalization and Socialization: A study to explore the impact of social and/or physical distancing norms during COVID-19 pandemic on the use of digital technologies and platforms’. The final presentation was by Yameena Zaidi from Miranda House, University of Delhi, on the topic ‘In Productivity and Health: Surveillance of Workers During the Covid-19 Pandemic’, which went on to be recognised as the best one from this session.

The Department of Sociology, Kamala Nehru College, University of Delhi organized the Digital Art Making Competition on **October 30, 2021**. The event was conducted on Google Meet and started at 03:00 pm. The topic for the event was Spirituality, Superstition, and Legends. The event was initiated by Shivalika Rawat. She introduced the judge for the event, Dr. Urna Sarkar Dutta, Assistant professor, Department of Sociology, Kamala Nehru College, University of Delhi; followed by the general guidelines for the event.

The event was followed by the feedback and observations given by the judge. She appreciated all the beautiful art works. The winner for the competition was Nibedita Saikia. The session ended with a vote of thanks by Vedika Khaitan.

The Department of Sociology, Kamala Nehru College, University of Delhi organized the Orientation Programme for the freshers on **November 24, 2021**. The event was conducted on Google Meet and started at 1:30 pm. It was a one hour session facilitated by the faculty members, third and second year students of the department. The major objective of the programme was to make the students aware of the academic aspects of the course and the rules and regulations of the department.

The Department of Sociology, Kamala Nehru College organised a fresher’s party for the first-year students on **11<sup>th</sup> of December 2021**, Saturday to welcome them. The introduction was given by Noyorika Prasad, second year Class Representative, where she welcomed the first years and introduced the theme of the event, which was “Web Series”. The event included virtual hide and seek, a dance performance by the second-year students, another game which was called this or that, open mic for the first-year students, in which they shared their college experiences so far. Moving forward, the students were presented with a singing performance video prepared by the seniors. After that, the freshers presented their own song and dance performance which was appreciated by everyone. In the end, the freshers were presented with a video message from the seniors. The event ended with a formal vote of thanks by Vedika Khaitan, second year Class Representative.

The Department of Sociology, Kamala Nehru College, University of Delhi organized a workshop on career opportunities in the development sector as the second session of the sociology alumni chapter on **January 29, 2022**. The speaker was Miss Muskan Kohli, Founder

of NGO H3 FOUNDATION and the recipient of 2021 Diana Award from UK Diana Award Organization, an alumni of Kamala Nehru College (batch of 2019). The event was conducted on Google meet and started at 1:00 p.m. It was a one and a half hour session facilitated by the faculty members, third, second and first year students of the department. The major objective of the programme was to make the students aware of the opportunities in the development sector.

The Department of Sociology, Kamala Nehru College, University of Delhi organized the screening and discussion of the film Q2P, directed by Paromita Vohra, on **February 2, 2022**. The event was conducted on Google Meet and started at 1:00 pm. The duration of the program was for one and half hour. The discussant for the movie screening was Mr. Sanjay Muttoo, Assistant professor, Department of Journalism, Kamala Nehru College, University of Delhi. The movie was Q2P, a 54 minutes documentary which focuses on how gender and class inequalities are revealed through public toilet provisions. It portrays the condition of women who still have to defecate in the open and cover their faces for the sake of modesty.

The speaker shared his views regarding the documentary and the key elements of the documentary put up by the director. A discussion was carried out further on the documentary. It was an interactive session.

The Department of Sociology, Kamala Nehru College, University of Delhi organized its fourth session of the Online Lecture series on the topic “What is a Minority? Meanings and Politics in India ” on Wednesday, **16 February 2022** at 1:00 pm via Google Meet. The lecture was delivered by Dr. Hilal Ahmed who is an associate professor at CSDS, New Delhi. His primary work revolves around political Islam, Muslim politics of representation and politics of symbols in South Asia. The online lecture began where Dr Ahmed gave an introduction and elucidated on what a minority is, in context to India. He elaborated on critical questions related to minorities, their recognition and on minority politics. A video was also presented which was analyzed by him in respect to the existence of various minority communities in India. Dr Ahmed successfully portrayed through stories the Legal-Constitutional journey of Minorities, ranging through the establishment of the Minorities Commission, to that of the Ministry of Minority Affairs, and the recognition of various religious communities as minorities. He also emphasised on the different features which explain how the community is categorized as a minority.

The third activity organised by the department was a Special Lecture Session on **March 2, 2022**. The event was conducted on Google Meet and started at 1:00 pm. The lecture was on issues of reproductive justice in the global south. It was a one and a half hour session. The guest speaker was Dr. Amrita Pande, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Capetown, South Africa. The speaker began with the lecture by discussing the basic concepts

related to surrogacy. She discussed about the paradox of reproductive labour market and the various research methods related to the ethnographic study of surrogacy which includes fieldwork, interviews, and participant observation. She discussed various narratives and the ongoing discussion related to the issue. This was followed by an engaging and interactive question and answer session.

The annual department meet, Cynosure, 2022 on the **11th of March 2022**. The event was conducted on the platform Zoom which began at 11:00 am. The event was officially commenced with a warm welcome to all the participants, attendees. The theme of the meet was "Women and Well-Being". The event had academic lectures and various inter college competitions such as Declamation, Ad-Venture-advertisement making competition. Soon after, the students and participants engaged in an enriching Open Mic Session where they presented their views on the topic "Women and Well-Being". This was an engaging session as many students sung and recited poems, related to the topic, as well. This portrayed their creativity and interest in the topic. A Quiz Round was also held wherein there were many questions related to the theme, which the students answered, reflecting their opinions. The final competition of the day was Envision - a Slogan writing competition. Lastly, an Academic Lecture was held where guest speaker Professor Nilika Mehrotra was invited to speak on the topic "Women and Social Well-Being". Prof. Mehrotra teaches Sociology at the Centre for the Study of Social Systems, Jawaharlal Nehru University. She specializes in the issues of gender, disability, social policy and historical analysis of the economic and social development processes. She elucidated on the concept of well-being and provided insightful knowledge on womanhood and what a broad and heterogeneous concept it really is. She provided information as to why well-being is hard to quantify and used along the way, case studies to explain the topic. She also touched upon topics of happiness, and what different meanings well-being hold for different people. She also helped the attendees understand the different factors and conditions that come into play when we talk about well-being. Lastly, she talked about the absence of well-being, especially faced by the underprivileged women of the marginalized sections and how they suffer from a lack of sanitation and safety practices. This was followed by an enriching and insightful Q&A session where the guest speaker answered the questions raised by the attendees.

The Department of Sociology, Kamala Nehru College, University of Delhi, organized a farewell for the outgoing batch of 2022 on **27<sup>th</sup> April, 2022**. The theme for the event was Hawaiian. The event commenced at 2:00 pm with a welcome speech given by Miss. Noyorika Prasad and Miss. Vedika Khaitan, second year Class Representatives, Department of Sociology, Kamala Nehru College, University of Delhi. It was followed by a college video for the batch of 2022 to reminisce about

their time spent in college. After this, all the teachers addressed the students, followed by a singing performance by Dr. Sharmistha Mallick, Association Teacher In-charge and Dr. Urna S. Dutta, Assistant Professor; Department of Sociology, Kamala Nehru College, University of Delhi.

Soon after this, Dr. Archana Prasad, Teacher In-charge, Department of Sociology, Kamala Nehru College, University of Delhi, felicitated the President and the third year Class Representatives with certificates. It was followed by a singing performance by the students. After this, the first set of titles were given to the outgoing batch. Soon after this, a cake cutting session was done, followed by an engaging game "Treasure Hunt". The rest of the titles were given to the seniors, followed by a captivating dance performance by the students. The event came to an end with a speech given by Miss Kashvi Yadav, Student President, Department of Sociology, Kamala Nehru College, University of Delhi.

The students of the Department of Sociology, Kamala Nehru College, University of Delhi organized an interactive session in collaboration with H3 Foundation on **18th August, 2022**. The speaker of the session was Ms. Muskaan Kohli, co-founder of H3 foundation and recipient of DIANA AWARD from UK, 2021, Diana Award Organization. The event was conducted in the college itself and it started at 1 pm in the afternoon. Ms Muskaan discussed the basic principles that go into field work and research. She also discussed the working of the foundation. She introduced the students to the campaigns and the initiatives started by the foundation for the upliftment of those in need. She shared anecdotes and showed photographs to the students for a better understanding of the foundation and their cause. She informed the students about different drives and field visits done by the members of the foundation. She also introduced the students to the ethics that go into research. Finally, she encouraged the students to volunteer in the foundation for a good cause and to bring about change.

The Sociology Association- Societās, Kamala Nehru College, University of Delhi, celebrated Teacher's Day on **5th of September 2022** as a thanksgiving from students to the teaching staff of The Department of Sociology. The celebration officially started with a warm introduction by the Cultural Team Head, Ms, Reet Malik. Following that, third-year students sang Guru Vandana and other heartfelt songs. With this official commencement of the celebration, the teachers also cut a cake.

The Editorial Team Sub-Head, Ms. Anushka Baruah, along with the 2nd year Class Representative, Ms. Yeshika Sharma announced some titles dedicated to the teachers which

was given out by The President of The Sociology Association, Ms. Vedika Khaitan and 3<sup>rd</sup> year Class Representative, Ms. Vandana. After this, the much-awaited activity of the celebration- games, were played with great zeal. The first game, called 'Never Have I Ever' included teachers truthfully answering with either "I have" or "Never" to questions prepared by the students. The second game required the teachers to remember and recall as many names of the students as possible in under 20 seconds. As the celebration came to a close, the teachers bestowed their blessings on the students, along with a soothing song sung by Dr. Sharmishtha Mallick, Association In-Charge of The Sociology Association. A group picture was clicked with all the teachers and the students as a memoir for this special day. The celebration officially ended with a few words from Ms. Pratibha Priya, the Third Year Class Representative. This celebration was thoroughly enjoyed by all the attendees.