

"Empowering the Historical Research and Researchers"

A seminar Report

6-11-2021

The seminar organized by DOS in History and Rajarshi Nalvadi Krishnaraja Wodeyar's Social and Development Studies Centre under the thematic series "empowering the Historical Research and Researchers" was inaugurated by the Honorable Registrar of UOM, Professor R.Shivappa on 6.11.2021 under the presence of Professor K.Sadashiva ,Chairperson of DOS in History, Dr.Gurusiddhaiah Professor DOS in History, Professor P.Jayashree, Chairperson of Department of Studies in Geography University of Mysore , Professor Ramu, Coordinator, Centre for Geo-Informatic Technology, DOS in Geography,UOM.

"If history is to be understood properly, a multidisciplinary study should take place," opined the head of the Department of History, Professor K.Sadashiva.

Speaking at the Thematic seminar series entitled " Empowering the Historical Research and Researchers"" organized by the Department of History of Mysore University, Rajarshi Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wodeyar Center for Social Developmental studies Professor K.Sadashiva said that interdisciplinary studies used to take place in the 1950s till the 1990s under stalwarts like D.D.Kosambi etc. Including the study of inscriptions (Epigraphy), numismatics, and archaeology in historical research would reveal the depth and breadth of history. After the 90s there had been lacunae in the interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary studies. However there has been an increase in Multidisciplinary studies in recent days, and it is a force to be reckoned with and has in fact empowered understanding history holistically and in greater depth.

He further added that at present there are around 80 Research Scholars in the Department of History and annually the DOS in History receives Rs 3.5 Crore as Scholarships. The department having so much resource has to be empowered. There needs an urgent need for Resource Empowerment and Empowering the Researchers through scholarly discourse. For this reason through this thematic series of seminar and workshop an attempt has been made to empower the Research scholars of History by educating them and providing knowledge on the advancing technologies in Research and adapting them to Historical methodology said Professor K.Sadashiva and flagged off the Series of Seminar.

The first topic under the thematic series was presented by Professor Ramu, co-ordinator, centre for Geo-Informatic Technology, DOS in Geography, University of Mysore titled "Origin and evolution of the Earth". Professor Ramu started off by calling history "digging up past and truth" which uses innovative technology of GIS and remote sensing in order to reach accurate conclusions of the past.

"Origin and evolution of the earth"

By Professor Ramu

"History is digging up the past and truth" and geography helps in revealing the past truths by digging up rocks and metals and revealing the evolution of earth and life on earth thus giving a foundation for research in history to be based upon said Professor Ramu. He then proceeded to educate the researchers to show how Geography can be inculcated in history through his slides on the advancement in technology like GIS, Remote sensing technology, Radar and Sonar technology and how it is used in excavation of ancient archaeological sites and how rock smelting technology and geo-polymer technology gives an innovative support in better understanding of History.

He started the topic from the origin of the universe to the nebular theory and origin of solar system which was 15 billion years ago to the formation of earth which is 4.6 billion years ago.

Stages in planetary evolution to important events in earth's history:

Important events	years	% of Earth's history
Origin of universe	1.5 billion years	
Formation of earth	4.6 billion years	
Earliest evidence of life	3.6 billion years	78.0%
Free atmospheric Oxygen	2 billion years	43.0%
First land plants	430 million years	9.3%
First land animals	370 million years	8.0%
Rise of dinosaurs	240 million years	3.8%
Extinction of dinosaurs	65 million years	3.8%
Earliest man	2.5 million years	0.1%

History of life on earth from Precambrian era to Cenozoic era was discussed. Precambrian period -87% years contains no history of life on earth and constitutes only formation of rock. Only 13% involves the history of life forms (Paleozoic, Mesozoic, and Cenozoic).

Taking the researchers through different eons and explaining the formation of interstellar bodies to the formation of environment conducive to life forms Professor Ramu traversed the origin and evolution of the earth and how it impacted the life forms and stages in their evolution and adaptation to different habitats. He also explained how studying the stages of evolution of earth through the rock formation, fossils, migrating patterns of life forms, disasters, history of floods and cycle of droughts different ice ages gives us an idea of survival of life forms and distribution of population over vast geographical area and evolution of different races of human beings giving a thrust to the history of human race.

With an example of Tardigrades explained about survival of species, with Silurian age he explained the adaptation of plants to weather variation. Study of disasters prepares one in the event of future catastrophes like inundation of coastal areas due to rise in sea levels due to glacial melting because of global warming and climate change. With this he paved the way for Professor Jayashree to educate the students on how changes in ecology lead to changes in survival of mankind where his very existence could be threatened.

"Historical perspectives of ecological changes"

By Professor P.Jayashree

Prof Jayashree, Professor & Chairperson, DOS in Geography, UOM started the seminar topic by first discussing about the age of earth through the origin of earth, plant and animals and how this gives us a perspective on the start and end of History of Mankind. History she says is comprised of historical stories, more so of narrative stories which encapsulates man and his environment. She takes us through the changing nature of the dynamics between man and his environment and its impact on history of Mankind.

To elaborate on the historical perspectives of ecological changes Prof Jayashree takes us through the geological time scale to show the changes of Man and ecology from Primitive Man to Modern Man thus paving way for interdisciplinary approach of inculcating Geology in the historical study of evolution of human from a Primate to Modern technological Man.

Through the help of slides she showed the time scale of different life forms, from the first life forms 3.5 billion years ago till the first advent of humans 1.4 million years ago. The first life form being a primitive plant originated in an aquatic environment and later adapted to different climatic conditions and different habitats.

While studying the history of evolution of plants through Geological time period from primitive aquatic algae to flowering plants she explained how only about 4 lakhs species of plants are known to botanists which is a very small fraction.

Origin and evolution of animals:

How important events determine the historical perspective through the ecological changes with changing nature of Man and his environment.

Role of Man in ecosystem:

Man is an important part of biotic component. His relationship with environment determines the balance and imbalance of natural functions of living beings like birth, growth, health and death. Man's role in different capacities as 'biological man', 'physical man', 'social man', 'economic man' and technological man affect the natural environment around him. Technology of man has drastically changed Man-environment relation from Prehistoric period to the present most industrialized period. Modern technological man is intoxicated with greed and has been responsible for rapid changes to the environment to the extent of threatening the very existence of human beings.

Stages of Historical progression of Man-environment:

1. Period of hunting and food gathering.
2. Period of animal domestication.
3. Period of plant domestication.
4. Period of science, technology and industrialization.

In the first stage of historical progression of man and environment i.e. the period of hunting and food gathering, man was a biological man who was a part of environment and functioned like other animals. His primary goal was basic survival through food and shelter. Man lived in caves and was completely dependent on the whims of nature for his survival.

In the second stage of historical progression, i.e. period of animal domestication we see the evolution of man from biological man to physical man who now evolved from a cave dwelling food gathering man to the one who first started destruction of environment through the invention of fire and tools. Survival was not the primary goal as quality of life increased through discovery of fire, he no longer was a slave to nature rather started exploitation of natural resources by burning of forest. Man started domesticated animals and was travelling with his

herd leading a nomadic life. Sustenance was the goal here and from here we see semblance of community life. However man still exploited environment meaningfully as his requirements were limited and population was still low.

Third stage of historical progression i.e. period of plant domestication shows the progression of physical man to a social man who now started leading a sedentary settled life and initiated cultivation of mainly food crops which resulted into the formation of social groups and organization which gave birth to early human civilizations –“the river valley civilizations” due to the availability of water and fertile land for cultivation. The river beds which were a source fertile land and access to fresh water made them a cradle of civilization.

Emergence of socially organized human communities, civilization and farming practices changed the existing friendly and cordial relationship between man and his natural environment. Man now transition from sustenance to expansion. From burning of forest lands to accommodate expanding population which started spreading out in search of new fertile land to shifting and Jhum cultivation were the most destructive actions of man at this stage of progression. From Natural environment, Man now started sculpting his own cultural environment by building houses to villages up till the industrial revolution.

The most destructive actions of mankind of all times can be seen in the fourth stage i.e. a period of science, technology and industrialization. Here man's impact on environment fall into two broad categories:

1. Direct or intentional impact.
2. Indirect or unintentional impact.

Direct impact is preplanned and premeditated. Man is aware of both positive and negative consequences which modify the natural environment for economic development of a region. The changes that are the result of direct impact are seen in:

- Land use changes (deforestation, conversion of grasslands into agricultural lands)
- Constructions and excavations (mining, construction of dams and reservoirs which change the landscape and meanders of rivers.)
- Agricultural practices (excessive use of chemical fertilizers, pesticides, insecticides and their negative impact on water table and food chain)
- Weather modification programs (cloud seeding, dispersal and clearing of fogs and clouds, checking hailstorms)
- Nuclear programs (which contributes to soil, water and air pollution as well as being a cancer causing agent through gene mutations etc.)

Indirect impact is not premeditated. It is an unintentional impact which is a side effect in the accelerated pace of economic growth especially in the industrial development. Release of large scale effluents and toxic elements to river bodies causes choking of river bodies, stagnant waters and seas leading to water pollution. Excessive burning of fossil fuels leads to air pollution, acid rains which cause respiratory diseases in man and other diseases in plants and animals. Leaching of DDT not only causes soil pollution and water pollution by leaching into water table but also enters the food chain the after effects of which is in organisms over a prolonged period of time.

Man is also responsible for changes in atmospheric conditions. Man has been responsible for the increase in the level of Carbon-di-oxide from 0.029%, 290ppm in pre- industrialization era to 368ppm post industrial revolution till 2000 A.D. the current level of CO₂ being 412.5 ppm. It is expected to reach 460ppm by 2025. All of these actions of Modern and technologically advanced man has had an adverse impact on the environment which can be seen in climate change and adverse effects caused by global warming.

Causes of global warming:

- Deforestation
- Industrialization
- Burning of fossil fuels
- Decay of dead organisms
- Respiration of living organisms
- Pollution by automobile
- Thermal power plant
- Cultivation of land
- Eruption of volcanoes
- Domestic cooking

Effects of global warming:

- Changes in animal migration and life cycles
- Changes in rain and snow.
- Glacier melting.

Fresh water on earth is just 3% out of which 2.7% is stored up in glaciers, 0.3% is available as fresh water through water bodies. Glacier melting leads to increase in water table which inundates most of the coastal cities in the world. If unresolved it could lead to submersion of most of the coastal cities across the globe.

Difference between global warming and climate change

Global warming: increase of earth's average surface temperature due to build-up of GHGs (Green House Gases) in atmosphere.

Climate change: long term changes in climate including average temperature and precipitation.

Ozone layer depletion through use of CFCs (Clouro Flouro Carbon) and its negative effects on living organisms due to exposure to UV rays of the Sun.

Demography: world population explosion from origin of earth till 1800 it reached 1 billion and is expected to cross 9.7 billion by 2050 from 7.8 billion in 2011.

Professor Jayashree Concluded her topic by quoting the Malthusian theory and its relevance in historical perspectives of ecological changes.

"Save environment and save life"

"Origin, Evolution and Spread of Man on Earth"

By Professor K.Sadashiva

The concluding topic was presented by Professor K. Sadashiva titled "Origin, Evolution and Spread of Man on Earth" explaining the reason for starting the thematic seminar series with Geographical studies he said that introduction to every historical research starts with a description of geographical area and background relevant to the history and it is the need of the hour to use the advancement in geographical research to methodologies in History. He said there is a general perception that study of history means from the beginning of Indus valley civilization up till 1947. This has limited the research in history to four to five thousand years of study. But in recent days the research has expanded to 38 thousand years in the past. The inclusion of Genetic research has helped in the expansion of research vastly. He thus concluded the seminar which lasted around 3 and half hours by explaining the origin of Man on Earth evolution of Man with different ecological ages and the spread of Man due to various ecological factors and population distribution in great detail.

Brief Introduction Resource Persons

Dr.k.Sadashiva: Originally from Tumkur district, he holds First class in MA in History from the University of Bangalore. In 1992 he obtained his Ph.D. from the University of Mysore on the Thesis "Social Legislation in Mysore State – 1881-1947". He has served the DOS in History, University of Mysore in various capacities as, an Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, Professor, and Chairperson of the department for nearly 30 years. Appointed as the Research Officer of the Jagjivanram Research Faculty in 2009 at the University of Mysore, he currently serves as the Director of the Jagjeevan Ram Center.

His various research papers have been presented and commended in many State, National and International Conferences and Symposiums.He has authored around 20 works in the subject of history. Many of his research papers have been published in reputable journals in the country. . He has attended various historical conferences at Denmark, Sweden, England and Germany for academic purpose.

He is majorly involved in research on Dalit history and culture and has published 12 volumes on Babu Jagjivan Ram where he gives a comprehensive account on the life and work of Babu Jagjeevan Ram. These scholarly works have provided momentum for Dalit studies and Dalit movement.

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ವಿಷಯ: 'ಶ್ರೀ ರಾಜರ್ಷಿ ನಾಲ್ವಡಿ ಕೃಷ್ಣರಾಜ ಒಡೆಯರ್ ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಅಧ್ಯಯನ ಕೇಂದ್ರದ ವತಿಯಿಂದ 'A History of Life on Earth' ವಿಷಯಾಧಾರಿತ ಒಂದು ದಿನದ ವಿಚಾರ ಸಂಕರಣವನ್ನು ಆಯೋಜಿಸಲು ಅನುಮತಿ ನೀಡುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ.
ಉಲ್ಲೇಖ: ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು, ಇತಿಹಾಸ ಅಧ್ಯಯನ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮಾನಸಗಂಗೋತ್ರಿ, ಮೈಸೂರು, ಇವರ ಪತ್ರ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 28-10-2021.

ಆದೇಶ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಡಿ.ವಿ.7/210/2013-14, ದಿನಾಂಕ: 06-11-2021

ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು, ಇತಿಹಾಸ ಅಧ್ಯಯನ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮಾನಸಗಂಗೋತ್ರಿ, ಮೈಸೂರು, ಇವರು ತಮ್ಮ ಅಧ್ಯಯನ ವಿಭಾಗದಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಶ್ರೀ ನಾಲ್ವಡಿ ಕೃಷ್ಣರಾಜ ಒಡೆಯರ್ ಅಧ್ಯಯನ ಪೀಠದಲ್ಲಿ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 06-11-2021ರಂದು ಹಮ್ಮಿಕೊಂಡಿರುವ 'A History of Life on Earth' ವಿಷಯ ಕುರಿತ ಒಂದು ದಿನದ ವಿಚಾರ ಸಂಕರಣವನ್ನು ಆಯೋಜಿಸಲು ಅನುಮತಿಸಿ, ಸದರಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಕ್ಕೆ ಅಂದಾಜು ವೆಚ್ಚ ರೂ. 15,600/-ಗಳನ್ನು (ಹದಿನೈದು ಸಾವಿರದ ಆರು ನೂರು ರೂಪಾಯಿಗಳು ಮಾತ್ರ) ನಿಯಮಾನುಸಾರ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತೆ ಉಪಯೋಗಿಸಲು ಆಡಳಿತಾತ್ಮಕ ಮಂಜೂರಾತಿ ನೀಡಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ.	ವಿವರಗಳು	ಮೊತ್ತ
1	ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಗಳು ಒಬ್ಬರಿಗೆ ರೂ. 2000/- (2 * 2000)	4,000-00
2	ಆಹ್ವಾನ ಪತ್ರಿಕೆ	1,000-00
3	ಸರ್ಟಿಫಿಕೇಟ್	1,200-00
4	ಫ್ಲೆಕ್ಸ್ ಮುದ್ರಣ ವೆಚ್ಚ	1,200-00
5	ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸುವವರಿಗೆ ನೀಡಲು ಊಟ ಸರಬರಾಜು ವೆಚ್ಚ (80 * 95)	7,600-00
6	ನೀರಿನ ಬಾಟಲ್ (10 * 10)	100-00
7	ಅಲಂಕಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಹೂಗಳು	500-00
	ಒಟ್ಟು ಮೊತ್ತ	15,600-00

ಮೇಲ್ಕಂಡ ವೆಚ್ಚವನ್ನು 2021-22ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ 'ಶ್ರೀ ರಾಜರ್ಷಿ ನಾಲ್ವಡಿ ಕೃಷ್ಣರಾಜ ಒಡೆಯರ್' ಪೀಠದಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಗ್ರಹವಾಗಿರುವ ರೂಪಾಯಿ 24,29,782/- ರೂ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ Recurring Expenditure ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ. 10ರ Workshops/Seminars/Special Lecturesಗೆ ನಿಗದಿ ಮಾಡಿರುವ ರೂ. 5 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಭರಿಸುವುದು.

ಆದೇಶದ ಮೇರೆಗೆ,

ಕುಲಸಚಿವರಿಂದ ಕರಡು ಅನುಮೋದಿಸಿದೆ.

B. Shankar

ಉಪಕುಲಸಚಿವ,
ಶ್ರೀಪತುಲಸಚಿವ 06/11/2021

ಯೋಜನೆ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಮತ್ತು ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನ
ಮೈಸೂರು ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾನಿಲಯ
ಮೈಸೂರು

- ಗೆ:
1. ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು, ಇತಿಹಾಸ ಅಧ್ಯಯನ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮಾನಸಗಂಗೋತ್ರಿ, ಮೈಸೂರು.
 2. ಹಣಕಾಸು ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು, ಮೈಸೂರು ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾನಿಲಯ, ಮೈಸೂರು.
 3. ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಲೆಕ್ಕಪರಿಶೋಧಕರು, ಮೈಸೂರು ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾನಿಲಯ, ಮೈಸೂರು.
 4. ಮಾನ್ಯ ಕುಲಪತಿ/ಕುಲಸಚಿವರ ಆಪ್ತ ಸಹಾಯಕರು, ಮೈಸೂರು ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾನಿಲಯ, ಮೈಸೂರು.
 5. ಕಛೇರಿ ಪ್ರತಿ.



University of Mysore
Department of Studies in History
and

Rajarshi Nalvadi Krishnaraja Wodeyar's Social and Development Studies Centre
Manasagangotri, Mysore-06

Organising a Thematic Seminar



Under the Series
"Empowering the Historical Research and Researchers"

Series : 1 A History of Life on Earth

Date : 06-11-2021 Saturday

Time : 10:30AM

Venue : History Department Auditorium, MGM



Inauguration :

Prof. R. Shivappa

Registrar,

University of Mysore, Mysuru.

Topic 1: Origin and Evolution of the Earth



Prof. Ramu

Co-ordinator,

Centre for Geo-Informatic Technology

Department of Studies in Geography

University of Mysore, Mysuru.

Topic 2 : Historical Perspectives of Ecological Changes



Prof. P. Jayashree

Professor & Chairman

Department of Studies in Geography

University of Mysore, Mysuru.

Topic 3 : Origin, Evolution and Spread of Man on Earth



Prof. K. Sadashiva

Professor & Chairman

Department of Studies in History

University of Mysore, Mysuru.

All are Welcome

Chairman, Teaching & Non Teaching Staff and Research Scholars
DoS in History and Rajarshi Nalvadi Krishnaraja Wodeyar's
Social and Development Studies Centre, Manasagangotri, Mysuru - 06