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HENRY BAKER COLLEGE MELUKAVU

Department of History

ACADEMIC
YEAR

2019-20

FROM DARKNESS INTO MARVELLOUS LIGHT

Henry Baker College, Melukavu Is a Christian, Minority, Co-Educational, Government-aided Arts and Science College Established In 1981, affiliated to Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, Kerala.

POSTGRADUATE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY HENRY BAKER COLLEGE, MELUKAVU

REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES 2019-2020

1. Readathon & Reading Club Inauguration

Reading club activities of the year were started on 19th June 2019 with the inauguration of Reading club. The Day of Reading - **Readathon** - was observed by spending a full day reading. The books for reading were selected from the Department library. They were given the opportunity to select books of their choice. Entire staff and students spent the day reading. 70 students attended the programme.



2. Bridge Course

Bridge course for the first year BA students were arranged from 24th to 28th June 2019. First day of the programme was common to all the first year students of the college. A thorough orientation was given from Day II onwards. Classes given are, How to prepare for college, Career guidance, Time Management, Developing Aptitude in Learning History, How to self Motivate?, Need of Values in Life, and E-Sources for Learning History. Entry level exams were conducted to identify advanced learners and slow learners. One to one counselling was also arranged. The programme ended with a common function, where students gave the feedback of the course.



3. History Association Inauguration

History Association Inauguration of the academic year 2019- 20 was conducted on 28th June 2019. Dr. Justin Mathew M.A, Ph. D., Assistant Professor, University of Delhi inaugurated the meeting and delivered a talk on 'Studying Contemporary History: A Critical Perspective'. 112 Students participated in the programme.





4. Commemoration of Bicentennial Birth Anniversary of Henry Baker Jr. & Honouring of NET Holders in History


Bicentennial birth anniversary of Henry Baker Jr., the Apostle of Hill Aryans was celebrated in the college, under the auspices of the History department on 26th July 2019, at 10 am in the college auditorium. Dr. Beena Paul, Head of the Department, welcomed the gathering. Aravind Shaji III B.A History, recalled 'Baker Days' through a presentation "Remembering Rev. Henry Baker Jr." The principal of the college, Dr. Gireeshkumar G.S, delivered the presidential address. This function was formally inaugurated and made fabulous by the inaugural address of Rt. Rev. Dr. K.G. Daniel, former manager of the college and Bishop of East Kerala Diocese. Dr. P. Sanal Mohan, Director of Kerala Council for Historical Research, talked on **Missionaries and Histories of Indigenous societies.**

On the occasion, the UGC NET holders in History were honoured. Ms. Vasundara KV and Mr. Albin Jose, former students of History department and Miss Sabitha Krishnan, Faculty of Political Science were honoured in the programme. 119 persons participated in the programme.

DR. P SANAL MOHAN


Prof. Sanal Mohan, Director of Kerala Council of Historical Research, is a leading specialist in colonial modernity, social movements and questions of identity, and Dalit movements and Christianity in India. Dr. Sanal's most recent work is *Modernity of Slavery: Struggles against Caste Inequalities in Colonial Kerala* (Oxford University Press, 2015). Numerous learned articles had appeared in nationally and internationally acclaimed journals and edited volumes, and delivered lectures in universities, research centres and professional associations of history worldwide.

Dr. Sanal Mohan was Smuts Visiting Research Fellow at the University of Cambridge; Post-Doctoral Visitors to the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity in Gottingen, Germany; Visiting Fellow to the Centre for the Advanced Study of India at the University of Pennsylvania; Director of the International Social History Workshop for Young Historians held at CODESRIA, Dark Senegal; Graduate School Postdoctoral Fellowship in Colonial and Post-colonial studies at the Department of History at Emory University, Atlanta; Fellow in History at the Centre for Study of Social Sciences, Calcutta; Charles Wallace India Fellow at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London; Honorary Research Associate of the Social Anthropology Programme, Massey University, New Zealand and a fellow of the Social science Research Council.



POSTGRADUATE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
HENRY BAKER COLLEGE, MELUKAVU

Invited Talk
In Commemoration of Bicentennial Birth Anniversary of Rev. HENRY BAKER (Jr.)



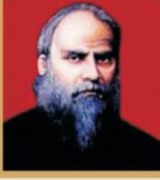
Missionaries and Histories of Indigenous Societies
Dr. Sanal Mohan (Director, KCHR, TVM)

26th July 2019, 10.00am
Venue: College Auditorium

REV. HENRY BAKER JR.

Henry Baker (Jr.), was born on June 14th 1819 at Tanjore in Tamil Nadu, as the son of Rev. Henry Baker Senior and Mrs. Amelie Dorothea Baker. On December 18th 1842, Baker (Jr.) became the Deacon by Bishop of London and on June 25th 1843 he ordained as Presbyter by Bishop of Ripon (for Bishop of London). After his marriage with Frances Ann kitchin, he came back to India.

As a CMS missionary Baker started his mission from Pallom in 1848, from there he reached Mundakkayam. It was the beginning of his mission among *Arrians*. From Mundakkayam he travelled to Erumapra and from there to Melukavu and its neighbouring regions. Rev. Baker was known as the Apostle of mountains, just because of his abundant work among the hill *Arrians* of Western Ghats. He gathered around 1500 converts and ignited them with new faith and education, which truly transformed the *Arrians* from darkness into marvelous light. Baker was the convener of Malayalam Revision Committee of Tract Society in 1870 and the Chairman of Native Church Council. He authored a Malayalam commentary on St. Mathew and Pamphlet on *Arrian* Mission. In 1878 November 13th Rev. Henry Baker (Jr.) died at Madras after 35years very prolific work among downtrodden.



POSTGRADUATE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
HENRY BAKER COLLEGE
is organizing

Invited Talk
In commemoration of Bicentennial Birth Anniversary of Rev. Henry Baker Jr.
On 26th July 2019

We co-ordinally invite your esteemed presence

Dr. BEENA PAUL
HOD History
Convener

Dr. NISHA JOSEPH
Staff Coordinator

ARCHANA P
History Association Secretary
Student Coordinator

Programme

Welcome	:	Dr. Beena Paul (HOD History)
Remembering Rev. Henry Baker Jr.	:	Aravind Shaji (III BA History)
Presidential	:	Dr. Gireeshkumar G. S. (Principal, Henry Baker College)
Inaugural Address & Honoring NET holders	:	Rt. Rev. Dr. K G Daniel (Former Manager of the College and Bishop of EKD)
Keynote Address	:	Dr. Sanal Mohan (Director, Kerala Council for Historical Research, TVM)
Reply	:	Ms. Vasundara KV
	:	Mr. Albin Jose
Vote of Thanks	:	Dr. Nisha Joseph



5. Independence Day Celebration.

Postgraduate department of History celebrated India's 73rd Independence Day on 19th August 2019. On the occasion, re-enactment of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's most acclaimed speech 'TRYST WITH DESTINY' was made by Ms Annie Summer Andrews in English and Ms. Anu Sugunan in Malayalam. A Patriotic song was sung by Navya Jose and team. Different facets of Indian freedom movement were remembered by the students through brief presentations on 'Quit India Movement' by Archana.P, II MA; 'Remembering Gandhi' by Beema Subair IIBA; 'Key Information's about India' by Sreelakshmi Satheeshan IIMA and 'History of VandeMataram' by Abin Jose IMA . A dance was performed by Ms Athulya Thomas and team, signifying the importance of our nation's freedom. The whole staff and students of the department actively participated in the programme. The celebration ended up with the National Anthem at 2.00pm.92 students participated in the meeting.



6. KCHR Public Interface Programme

As part of **One Day KCHR Public Interface Programme**, 55 students and five staff of the postgraduate Department of History, Henry Baker College, Melukavu visited Kerala Council for Historical Research, Trivandrum on 27th September 2019.

The team reached KCHR complex at Vyloppilly Samskriti Bhavan, Thiruvananthapuram at 9.30 am. In the morning itself students got the opportunity to use the KCHR library for an hour and had a glance at new arrivals.



Students also got the chance to visit the Kerala State Archives, which is located nearby. Our team was welcomed to the Archives with a meeting arranged in the Research Hall. Shri. J. Rejikumar, Director, Directorate of Archives, addressed the gathering. Sri. Shibu. J. Assistant Conservator, delivered a lecture on the importance of Archives, different types of sources, how to collect sources from archives, the importance of archival sources for the reconstruction of history etc. Archives department also provided a valuable session on conservation and preservation techniques and methods of archival sources. Signature museum was another attraction in the archival complex. Learning from the source was a great experience for our students.



From 2pm to 2.30 pm, students watched a video presentation of Pattanam excavation. From 2.30 to 4.30 pm, Public interface was arranged. Students got the opportunity to meet the entire KCHR team and had interaction with them. Dr. P.K. Michael Tharakan, Chairman KCHR, and Dr. P. Sanal Mohan, Director KCHR, both renowned historians of Kerala, led the interactive session. The students and teachers actively participated in the interface. The entire crew was happy to share their academic expertise and assured future assistance also. Majority of the students got opportunity to clear and clarify their doubts related to their projects.

In addition, KCHR also gifted us, all its publications worthy of Rs.10000.

One day public Interface programme with KCHR was a real experience for the students. They were inspired by the exposure to different academic endeavours and the experiential learning, they were imparted with. They learned from the sources. This programme enriched both students and teachers.

7. Gandhi Jayanthi Celebration- Imprint

Mahatma Gandhi's 150th Birth anniversary celebrations were inaugurated by the college Principal, Dr. Gireeshkumar G.S, in the Bishop Michael John memorial hall on 4th October 2019 at 11.00am.

As part of the commemoration of Gandhi Jayanthi, Mr. Nithin Jose, Assistant Professor , Post graduate Department of Political Science, St. Thomas College Pala, delivered a talk on **Relevance of Gandhian Principles in Contemporary India**. 98 students participated in the programme.

Major attraction of the programme was **"IMPRINT"**, a photo exhibition on the various facets of Mahatma's life. More than two hundred, rare photographs were exhibited in the exhibition. The photo exhibition 'IMPRINT' was widely viewed and appreciated by the staff and students of the college. 126 students has viewed the photo exhibition.

A **Quiz competition**, based on Mahatma Gandhi's life and activities were also conducted on the occasion. The whole students of the department vigorously participated in the Quiz and Arya Suresh of II M.A won First prize in the competition. The celebration ended up with National anthem.





8. RELEASE OF HISTORICA

HISTORICA, manuscript magazine of the department titled *Scholarium* was released on 13-10-2019. This issue consists of information about historians of Kerala, their contributions and their approaches to history.



9. MOU for Sharing Resources for Expertise and Excellence (SREE)

A Memorandum of Understanding for Academic Collaboration in Sharing Resources and Expertise for Excellence (SREE) among St Thomas College Palai, St Dominic's College Kanjirapally, St Thomas College Ranni, Alphonsa College Palai and Henry Baker College Melukavu was made on 19th November 2019. Accordingly, the Departments of History of these five colleges has agreed to extend their resources and expertise and organize and conduct four academic lectures on selected topics from syllabi in each of the five colleges every year. The colleges have also agreed to the free usage of the resources of their respective Departments for the benefit of the other four. The teachers and students of the Departments of History in these five colleges get the opportunity to come together to discuss the emerging trends and new developments in the subject and update their knowledge.

During the academic year, the Post graduate department of history delivered four lectures in other four colleges. Dr. Beena Paul, delivered a talk on **Nationalism and Construction of Womanhood** at Alphonsa College , Pala and **Nationalism and Women's question** at St. Thomas College, Pala. Dr. Nisha Joseph gave a talk on, **Transition Debate: From Feudalism to Capitalism** at S.D. College, Kanjirapally. Dr. Jibin Mathew talked on **Nationalization of Banks** at St. Thomas College, Ranni.

Our students has also been benefited by the expert lectures from other history departments. Dr. Susha .P, St.Thomas College, Ranni, gave a lecture on **Industrial Revolution** , Dr. Joji Thomas, S.D. College delivered an excellent lecture on **World System Theory**, Mrs. Sethulakshmi V.M, Alphonsa College extended her expertise on **Green Revolution** and Dr. Cyriac Jose, St. Thomas College, Pala lectured on **Exploration and Excavation Methods in Archaeology**. The collaboration was very effective and both students and teachers benefitted through the sharing and interaction.

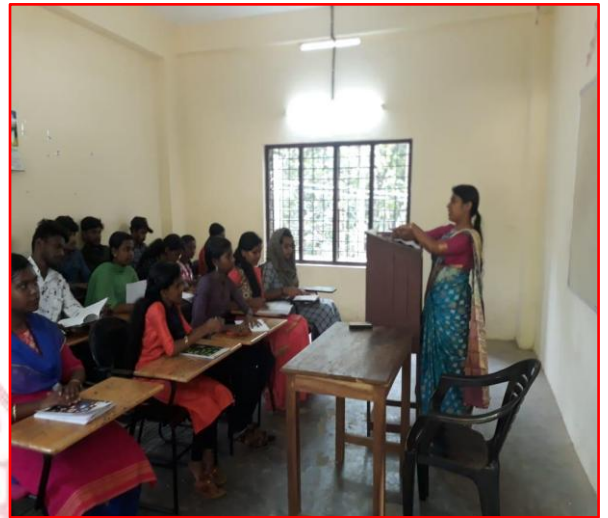


Dr. Susha P. St.Thomas College,Ranni

Dr. Joji Thomas,S.D.College, Kanjirapally



Dr. Cyric Jose, St.Thomas, Pala.



Mrs.Sethulakshmi V.M Alphonso College.



Dr. Beena Paul @ Alphonso College, Pala



Dr. Beena Paul @ St.Thomas College, Pala.



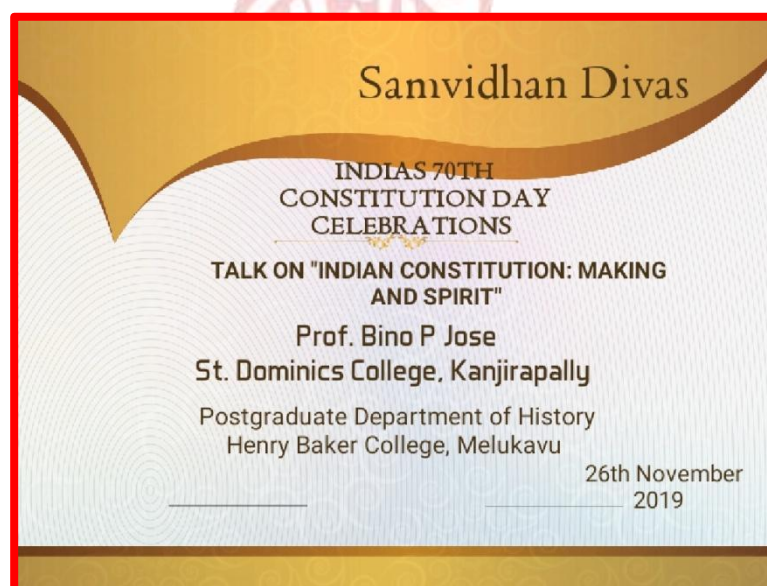
Dr. Jibin Mathew@St.Thomas College, Ranni

10. 70th Constitution Day Celebration.

Postgraduate department of History commemorated India's 70th constitution day as SAMVIDHAN DIVAS in the Bishop Michael John memorial hall on 26-11-2019. The presidential Address was delivered by Dr. Gireeshkumar.G.S, Principal of the college. Reading out the preamble of the constitution was done by Dona Joseph of III B.A History.

On the occasion, an **invited talk** on '**Indian Constitution: Making and Spirit**' was delivered by Prof. Bino. P. Jose, Assistant professor, Department of History, St. Dominic College, Kanjirappally.

A **Quiz competition** was also conducted on the theme of Indian Constitution. All the students actively participated in the competition and Abin Jose of I M.A won the prize. The celebration ended up with National Anthem. 81 students attended the meeting.



11. Heritage walk

Fifteen I MA students and four teachers of the department of History conducted a Heritage walk through Karikode (present day Thodupuzha), capital of Kizhmalainadu on 10th December 2019.



12. Student's Participation and Presentation in Seminars

Twenty seven students and teachers of Postgraduate department of History attended the Kerala History Congress held on 9-11 December 2019, at M.G. University, Kottayam. Five MA students of the department of History presented papers on various research problems.





13. Certificate Courses

The Department of history offers five certificate courses. They are, An Introduction to the Cultural Heritage of Kerala, Theory and Practice of Oral History, Stress Management, IT application in History and Archival studies.



14. Study Tour

The study tour for the year 2019-2020 was conducted from 1-1-2020 to 5-1-2020. III BA and IIMA students jointly went on a study tour. Thirty three students and two accompanying staff visited places like Mysore and Coorg.



14. Alumni Meeting

Alumni's meeting of the year 2019-20, was held on 26th January 2020. 150 alumni members and their family were present on the occasion. Silver Jubilee of the Department of History was celebrated on the day. Moreover Net holders of the dept. were honoured. Alumni members also honoured the retiring teacher Prof. Ajitha V.R, Department of Hindi, on the occasion.





15. Professional Development Programme Seminar on Colonialism and Christianity

A Professional Development Programme on Colonialism and Christianity was held on 4th February 2020. Dr. Beena Paul, Head of the Department of History delivered the welcome address. Dr. Gireesh Kumar G S inaugurated the seminar. Sri. Vinil Paul, Research scholar JNU, delivered the lecture, Colonialism and Christianity: A History of Evangelical Mission Work among the Travancore Hill Tribes. Sri. Vinil Paul, a budding historian has a very clear perspective on colonial evangelical mission. Being a social scientist, he authoritatively discussed various events which substantiate the colonial encounter with indigenous and marginalized people. Though colonialism was a setback to many social evils, the majority of historians look upon colonialism as a socio-political evil. Among the native downtrodden it was a great opportunity to escape from the caste/ creed differences and social discrimination. Dr. Jibin Mathew proposed a vote of thanks.

HENRY BAKER COLLEGE, MELUKAVU
F D C In association with
POST GRADUATE DEPARTMENT OF
HISTORY ORGANIZES
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAMME ON
**COLONIALISM
&
CHRISTIANITY**
*Resource person: Sri. Vinil Paul,
Research Scholar, JNU*
Venue : Seminar Hall
Date: 4th February 2020 Time:10 am - 03 pm







16. Workshop on Local History Methodology.

A workshop on local History was organized by the Department of History on 4th February 2020. Resource person of the programme was Sri. Vinil Paul, Research scholar JNU. The purpose of the workshop was to give training in the local history methodology. How to identify the research problem and how to collect and analyze the sources was the focus of the workshop. Thirty students attended the meeting.



17. Tribal Visit

MA students and teachers of the department visited the tribal settlement at Methotty, near Poochupra on 21st February 2010. The team got the opportunity to attend the Sivaratri festival of the Muthuvans as well as to see their various art forms. Moreover they met many elderly people and had interview with them.





18. Webinar

Lockdown days were made fruitful by arranging a webinar on “Online Plagiarism Checking an Easy approach” on 21st May 2020. The programme was arranged in association with the Research and Postgraduate Department of Commerce and IQAC. The programme was mainly for PG History and Commerce students. Thirty nine persons students participated in the webinar.

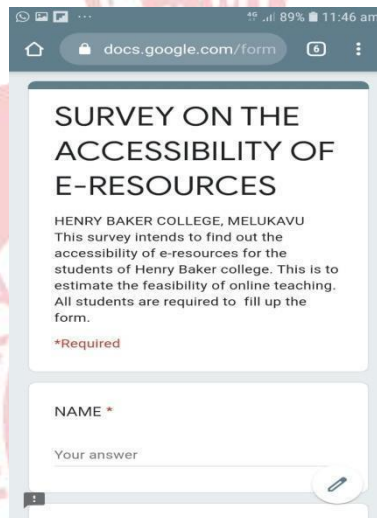
19. Kazhcha 2020

Kazhcha 2020 is a History Department initiative to collect the experiences and feedback on the lockdown period. It also intended to collect and preserve the traditional knowledge system and preserve for posterity. The materials collected through Kazhcha will enrich the Oral History Archive of the college.



20. Survey

Survey on the accessibility of resources to the students was conducted at the initiative of the History Department.



21. A SHELF FOR MELUKAVU 2020

A program for the collection of old and rare books which include, history books, prayer books, liturgies, old Bible, old textbooks, church histories, Souvenirs, biographies, family histories, children’s literature etc. under the initiative of Department of History to **Preserve the Local Knowledge of Melukavu** , which was a centre of missionary engagements during the colonial period and a prominent Malayaraya centre.

22. HENRY BAKER COLLEGE ORAL HISTORY ARCHIVES (HBCOHA)

Oral History Archives initiated on 3/2/18, by the Postgraduate department of History, is an attempt to collect, record, and preserve the history of the nameless, marginalized and downtrodden, who has never been part of the recorded or written history. Dr. Nisha Joseph is in charge of the Archives. The department is imparting theoretical and practical knowledge

for the functioning of the archives through a certificate course, **Theory and practice of Oral History**. *Kazhcha 2020* is yet another attempt by the department to collect the Covid-19 memories. Every year interviews are added to the Archives. So far more than fifteen interviews were conducted by the students of the Department. Department tries to collect and preserve both oral tradition and oral history, otherwise lost forever.

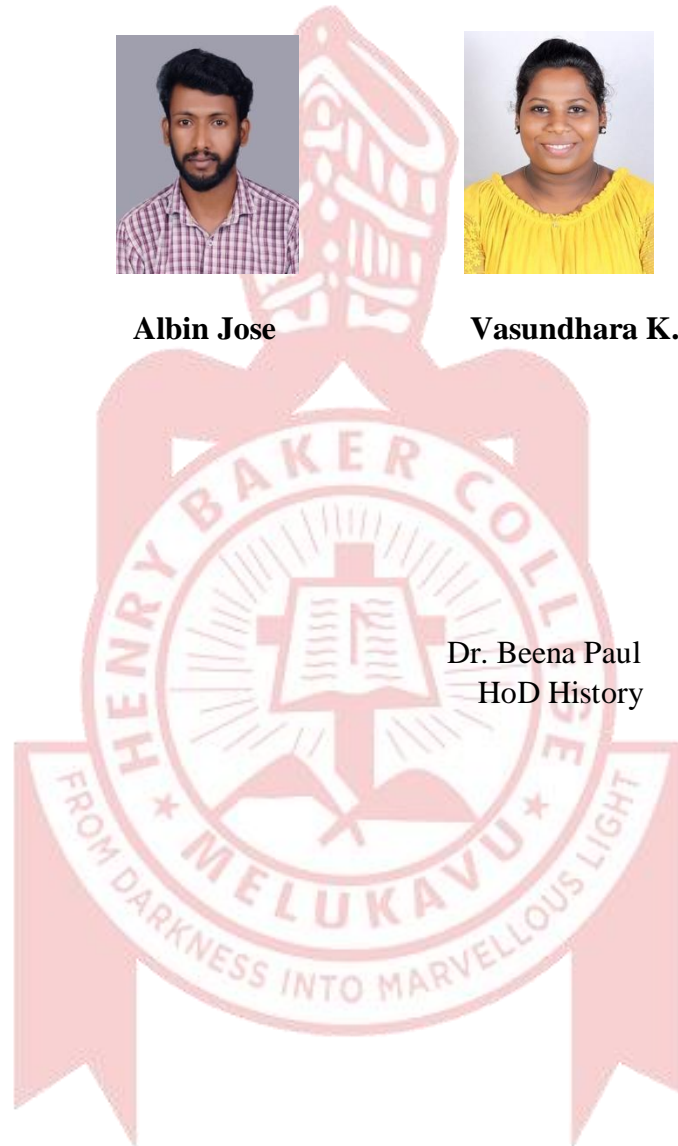
23. OUR NET HOLDERS



Albin Jose



Vasundhara K.V



Dr. Beena Paul
HoD History