



International Conference On Recent Trends in Historical writing

The International Conference on the '*Recent Trends in Historical writings*' was organized by the Department of history on 12th March 2020. Students and faculty members of the department were actively present along with the Professors and students of other colleges in Chennai. This Conference was held with the objective to promote discussions on the recent trends in the art of writing history and also to encourage the audience to have an inter disciplinary approach when it comes to study of Genealogy, study of letters, Childhood studies and Art History as emerging trends of historical writings.

The Conference started with an Inaugural session where a prayer song was sung by the students followed by which the welcome address was given by Dr.D.Anuradha, Head of the Department of History. After this the guests were honored by the faculties of the History Department, followed by which Dr.Melchias Gabriel, Deputy Principal of Loyola College felicitated the conference. Rev.Dr.Arockiasamy Xavier SJ, Principal of the St. Joseph College, Trichy, who was also the former Principal of Loyola College and a well-known Historian delivered the Keynote address. In that he deliberated on the importance of Historical research and the need of young students to understand the research methodology. He added that, adapting new techniques and Inter-Discipline approach in the field historical Research is the need of the hour. The new interpretation of History should develop humanity and our society. After this Prof.Ranganathan.J, Co-ordinator of the Department of history proposed the vote of thanks.

Two sessions were held after this where the first session was held from 10:00 am to 11:30 am. The speaker for this session was Dr. Conor Mulvagh. He is a lecturer in Modern Irish History at the University College, Dublin. He was introduced by Dr. L. Selvanathan, Assistant Exam controller and former Head of the History department. This session was moderated by Dr. L. Selvanathan. Dr. Conor's topic was *Home and Family in the making and writing of history: The case of the Mac and Neil family, 1916-1945*. His speech enlightened the audience with better and broader image of the Mac Neil family and also threw light on perspectives and options which were not even discussed before. After his speech the students were allowed to raise their questions for which Dr. Conor Mulvagh answered very patiently which helped the students to get a clear cut picture of his speech.

The second session was between 11:30am to 1:30pm. This session was moderated by Dr. Bernard D' Sami, Senior Fellow, LISSTAR, Loyola College, Chennai. He introduced Dr. David Kerr, the speaker of the second session. Dr. David Kerr is a lecturer in History at the University College, Dublin, Ireland. His topic was *Fascism for Children: The cult of the Duce in Children's letters to Mussolini*. His speech allowed the students to have a better understanding on the term Fascism and the role of fascism among the children. After his speech there was an interactive session between the students and him through which the students were able to clear their doubts regarding Fascism. Finally the vote of thanks was proposed by Dr. Ranganathan, Co-ordinator of the Department of History, Loyola college. The conference overall was a grand success and also turned out to be very informative to the participants.