

# **Loyola College (Autonomous)**

**Chennai – 600 034.**

## **Department of History**

### **Report of the Loyola Forum for Historical Research**

The Fifth Annual National Conference of **Loyola Forum for Historical Research (LFHR) 2016** was organised by the prestigious Department of History on 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> July at the Lawrence Sundaram Hall, Loyola College, Chennai. The programme was inaugurated by the Rector Rev. Fr. A. M. Francis Jayapathy S.J and the Principal Rev. Fr. Dr. M. Arockiasamy Xavier S.J. The Chief Guest of the program was Dr. Y. Subharayalu, Head of the Department, French Institute of Pondicherry. The program was set about with the invocation of God's blessings. Dr. L. Selvanathan, Head and Associate Professor, Department of History delivered the Welcome Address. He disclosed that it was Fr. Rector's thought of 'Green Loyola' stood as the inspiration behind the theme of the seminar.



At the very outset, the Principal acknowledged and appreciated the Head of the Department in particular and the Faculty for organising such a wonderful national seminar on the theme '**Urbanisation and Environment.**' He said that the beginning of the academic year 2016-2017 had been earmarked by the Fifth Annual National

Conference. Further he added that the Tamil society has a lot of traditional knowledge and wisdom acquired throughout the ages and it should be transferred to the future generations. The development of our country should not be at the cost of the poor, marginalised, down trodden and most importantly of our 'Environment.'



Rev. Fr. A.M. Francis Jayapathy S.J., delivered the Inaugural Address. He aroused a sense of curiosity among the students by posing questions, which he later explained. He asked them about the meaning of urbanisation. **It is transposing and transplanting one's own roots in the soil and still try to preserve of something what they are and what they were in a forceful and different environment.** He stressed on various human interactions with nature that have considerable effect on the environment. We cannot fail to consider the three facts of the current models of development:

1. Environment
2. Model of Development
3. Culture of throwing waste.

The culture of littering and throwing garbage began when there was a disproportionate growth of the number of cities. The culture had slowly penetrated into the urban life. He explained various human activities that have negative effects on the environment. There are various factors that are responsible for the environmental degradation; one such is that we have failed to maintain sustainable

balance between ourselves and the environment. The drastic growth of the population in cities has led to the culture of littering. He suggested that such kind of a development would be a false concept of urbanization. In conclusion, he said that the urbanization should take place without posing any threat to the environment.



Prof. Dr. Subbarayulu in his keynote address examined the meaning of Urbanisation in its real sense. He explained the four major centres of ancient civilisations, the **Growth of Harappan Civilization** and the development of cities in the neighbouring regions of Harappa through interaction with the students. He gave a brief explanation on the recent excavation conducted at **Keezhadi** in Sivagangai district, a Sangam age site and its relevance to the urbanization. The keynote address was well set on Urbanisation in the ancient period with reference to the civilizations of India and abroad.



The first session of the conference was begun with the input by the Resource Person Dr. E.V. Ramasamy, Associate Professor, School of Environmental Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam on "**Waste Management: Lessons from History.**" He emphasized on '**Ecological Footprint**' and provided the statistics about the population and environment.



After his wonderful presentation, Dr. E. V. Ramasamy moderated the paper presentations which began at 2:15 p.m. Scholars from various parts of our country presented their papers on proposed themes. The first paper was presented by Dr. K. Kanniah; Associate Professor (Retd) of History from Pondicherry on '**Urbanisation of Cuddalore Amidst National Disasters-Colonial Experience.**' Dr. Joy Sheryl, Associate Professor at Women's Christian College, Chennai, presented a paper on the topic '**Urbanisation and its Impact on Municipal Solid Waste Generation in Chennai.**

Dr. Mrs. V. Manimozhi, Assistant Professor and Ms. Madhusri Mahato, Research scholar, Ethiraj College for Women presented a paper on the issue '**Challenges Posed by Urbanisation in the Third World.**' Dr. Shinoy Jesinth from Malabar Christian College, Calicut presented a paper on '**Urbanisation, Gentrification and Neo-colonial Environment: A Case Study of Calicut City, Kerala.**' The paper explained about the concept of gentrification.

Mrs. Cinthia Jude, Assistant Professor, Ethiraj College for Women presented her paper on '**The Challenges faced by female college students in the city of Chennai with special reference to growth and development of towns and cities**'. Mrs. Arokiya Anbazhagi, Assistant Professor, Ethiraj College for Women brought paper on '**Urbanisation: Predicament of Migration and Human Rights.**' Mr. Samuel Philip Mathuo, Research scholar at Jawaharlal Nehru University presented the last paper for the day on '**The 18<sup>th</sup> Century Cities of Travancore and Cochin: Tales of Royal Patronage.**



Dr. Kanniah

Dr. Joy Sheryl

Dr. Shinoy

Mr. Samuel Philip

22<sup>nd</sup> July 2016, the **second day of the conference** Resource Person Dr. George Alex, Head and Associate Professor, St. Thomas College, Thrissur moderated the session.



Dr. A. Arputha Selvi Assistant Professor, Department of History, Loyola College, the session in-charge introduced the speaker Dr. George Alex. The Session began with an invited lecture on **Globalisation and Urban Dynamics: A Case Study of Bangalore** by Professor Dr. Vijay Lakshmi Kori, Department of History, Bangalore University, Bangalore. After her input session, research papers were presented focussed on the theme 'Urbanization and Metropolis.'



Vijisha.K, Research Scholar, Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit, Kalady, presented the first paper on '**Old City, New City and Web City in Cannanore.**' Arun.M, Research Scholar at Sree Sankaracharya University, Kalady, presented the second paper on '**Urbanisation and Consumerism: An Overview.**' The Second session came to an end with a tea break.

The Third Session began at 11:00 a.m., Resource Person Professor Dr. Ashwathnarayana, Department of History, Bangalore University, Bangalore gave the input on the theme '**Historical Aspect of Urbanisation.**' Mrs. D. Anuradha, Assistant Professor, Department of History, Loyola College, introduced the session speaker.



Resource Person, Professor Pius Malekandathil from Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University put forth ideas on '**Cosmopolitan Environment and the Making of the Mercantile City of Calicut 1500 - 1700**'.



He emphasized on the impact of urbanization in Calicut from the time of Zamorins to the Portuguese aggression in fifteenth century. Following his input session Dr. Pius Malekandathil moderated the paper presentations. **Dr. A. Arul Jothi**, Associate Professor Department of History, Tagore Arts College, Pondicherry presented his paper on '**The Urban Pondicherry Relating the Indo - French Social and Cultural Co-existence in the Society.**

The second paper was by **Prof. Anas Babu.T**, Assistant Professor, HKRH College on '**Muslim Urban Centres of Medieval South India: A Study on Calicut and Kayalpatanam (1200-1500 A.D.)**' The third paper was presented by **Mrs. Chitra Bharani**, Research Scholar at Ethiraj College on '**People's Park - A Forgotten Icon.**'



Prof. Anas Babu   Dr. Arul Jyothi

Arun.M

Vijisha.K

**Dr. Tilotama Mukerjee**, Department of History, Jadavpur University, Kolkata the resource person of the session presented her input session on, '**Chronicling Cities: Early Modern Eastern India**'. She described Bengal in ancient India, based on the accounts of various travellers.



Dr. Tilotama Mukherjee following her presentation moderated the last session of paper presentations. The first paper was presented by **Prof. C. Ravi**, Department of Zoology, Thiagaraja College, Madurai on '*Analysis of the Ground Water Quality of Madurai City, Tamil Nadu during Early and Later Monsoons of 2014.*' The presentation initiated a new thought on the theme. The Second paper was presented by **Ms. Ishwarya. J**, Assistant Professor of History at Ethiraj College for Women, on '*Industrial Impact: Urbanisation and Tourism Industry in Tamil Nadu.*' The last paper of the day was presented by **Ms. Chawngthanmawii**, Assistant Professor of History at Ethiraj College on '*Urbanisation and Its Impact on the Life of Women: A Study of MHIP, Aizwal.*'

The papers presented in the conference were more inter-disciplinary in nature and intellectually thought-provoking.



The Valedictory Session began with a feedback session in which all the scholars found that the conference created an intellectual curiosity among them to work more on this topic in future.



**Dr. Fathima Vasanth**, Deputy Principal, Loyola College presided the Valedictory function and felicitated the gathering.



The chief guest, **Dr. C. Joseph Barnabas** Principal, Hindustan College of Arts and Science in his Valedictory Address emphasized on the importance of the topics in the historical research.



The discussions held at the conference helped the gathering to have a broader perspective in approaching the research based on the topic. Moreover, the conference was intellectually enriching for students, scholars and the faculties who attended the conference.



The concrete efforts of faculty and Students are noteworthy and praiseworthy. The National Seminar came to an end with the vote of thanks and National Anthem.