

## DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

### SWASS Inauguration 2018- 2019

**Date:** 17.07.2018

**Venue:** Lawrence Sundaram Hall, Loyola College, Chennai.



The Inauguration of SWASS was started at 11.40 AM with a Prayer song by the department choir. The next event was the lighting lamp. The chief guest, Mr. Inigo Irudhaya Raj, Head of the department, Dr. Gladston Xavier, President of SWASS Shift II, Prof. Vincent Vijayaraj, Vice Presidents of SWASS Ms. Anne Carolin, Mr. Amul Ciril and Student representative, Mr. Karthick lighted the lamp. Prof. Semmalar, President of SWASS Shift I, introduced the office bearers of SWASS Shift I. Followed to that, Prof. Vincent Vijayaraj introduced the Office Bearers of SWASS Shift II. The oath was taken by the SWASS Members, the Staff and Students of the department along with the Chief guest. Dr. Gladston Xavier, Head of the department explained about the functioning of the association. Followed to his address, the chief guest Mr Inigo Irudhayaraj addressed the gathering. Finally Vote of thanks was given by Mr Amul Ciril, Vice President of Shift II. Thus, the program came to an end by 12.50 pm.

## **Report on the commemoration of Kandhammal Issue**

**Date:** 23.07.2018

**Venue:** Lawrence Sundharam Hall, Loyola College, Chennai.

In commemoration of Kandhammal issue, the Department of Sociology, History, Social Work, AICUF and BLINK organised a one-week program on celebrating Secularism. The inauguration was held on 23rd July 2018 at 11.40Pm in L.S Hall, Loyola College. Rev Dr Maria Arulraj, Director of IDCR welcomed the gathering. Rev.Fr. Ajay Singh was the chief guest of the program. He shared his experience about Kandhammal issue in which he himself was a witness. He also extended by saying that dictatorship not only affects the people but also the people who give voice for Human Rights. India has seen a lot of protests and riots. The present scenario of Indian people is that they have no freedom to choose the religion, says Rev.Fr. Ajay Singh. Later, there was an interaction session in which the students raised more questions regarding Secularism on various aspects. He answered more patiently to clear all their doubts with his own experiences. After that, Rev Fr Maria Arulraj concluded the session by giving a summary of the guest's speech. Finally, vote of thanks was delivered by Prof. Selvanathan, Head of the Department of History. Thus, the program came to an end at 01:10 PM. The event continued for the second day in VISCOM Preview Theatre. The Chief Guest was the former Chief Justice of Madras High Court, Honourable Justice Hari Parandhaman, he has upheld the rights of the people and has given a strong message to those who oppose secularism. The Chief Guest expressed his views and quoted different

cases in our country that has stood on the side of the people favouring secularism and denying the ideas of fundamentalism. He also described about the history of secularism in our country. He extended by saying that the fundamentalist have carried the history and has spread hatred in the mind-sets of the people. Being a former Chief Justice, the way he criticized the Judiciary system and the perspective he had was very interesting and thought provoking. After his speech, there was an interaction session. Students came up with different questions. A participant raised a question on NEET examination. The Chief Guest replied that even though our great leaders like Ambedkar, Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru were barristers by profession, they never reached to the judiciary system for the justice on particular issues. Rather they reached out to the people and they agitated them and got justice. Finally, the session came to an end by 1.00 PM with the vote of thanks by a Professor from the Department of Sociology.

## TEACHERS DAY PROGRAM



Dept of social work students conducted Teacher's Day program on Sept 04<sup>th</sup> 2018, at 12:45pm. The students of shift- II was also part of the teachers day program. The program began with a prayer song by the department students. The students also recited a poem and shared their thoughts ,experience and wished their teacher's . A poem was delivered by 1st Year student Dhivakar and Punitha of shift-I. A game was conducted called "guess who". All the teachers and students participated and enjoyed the game. Gifts were given to teachers as a token of love. Prof Kirubakaran delivered a speech and gave a good message to the students. The second year students shared their views and experience with the teachers .Then program was ended with photo session at 1.15 pm .

On 12.01.2019 Mr. Thiyagarajan who is a chartered accountant was invited to give a guest lecture on the promotion of eco-friendly products. He is involved in making various eco friendly products such as cotton bags, beauty products and organic farming system with the help of women self-help groups.

## **INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE**

The Department of Social Work conducted International Conference on Social Work Profession an Intercultural Perspective. Prof. Shah Jahan from TISS, gave the inaugural session. There was a cultural parade performed by the students of Social Work Department portraying various cultures of India as well as foreign countries which took place in the presence of Fr. Principal. Dr Radha Bathran from Manonmaniam University, Thirunelveli gave the 1<sup>st</sup> session which was replaced Dr Thol Thirumavalavan, she gave a speech on gender differences. Dr Phill Roger Rott took over the next session, who is an international speaker.

T.K. Rangarajan from Communist party replaced Mr Soundararajan and spoke on collective bargaining. Ms Amba Salelkar, Board member at Equals Centre for Promotion of Social Justice, spoke on Culture and Disability. Dr Pealler Rott Monika presented her paper. There was paper presentation by students from various colleges. The next day, first session was given by Dr Thol Thirumavalavan, then by Dr E. Aravind Raj from NIMHANS spoke about cultural changes and implications on health. Then Mr T.M. Krishna and Ms Jenny Dolly spoke on cultural hegemony in the panel discussion moderated by Prof. Parimalam from Visual Communication Department. Mr P.M. Nair retired IPS officer, spoke on human trafficking. The last session was made by Dr Esperanza Gomez form Columbia spoke about Intercultural Social Practice in Colonized Territories. Valedictory by Fr. Jagath Gasper Raj with a thought-provoking speech after some cultural events.

## **CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION**

On December 20<sup>th</sup> 2018, Christmas celebration was organised by the students and office bearers of SWASS in the Seminar hall, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, Department of social work. Christmas songs were sung by the students of both shift I and shift II. Special Christmas messages conveying love or pardon through chits was done which brought the importance of Christmas with love and without hatred. Skit performed by shift 2 students. A special talk by Prof. Semmalar. A story by was recited by Ms. Delecta Josy, Secretary of SWASS, Shift I.



## **PONGAL CELEBRATION**

Department of social work, Loyola College conducted Pongal celebration on 12-01-2019. All the students participated in the program, Mr .Shivakumar was invited for this program and explained about the farmers issues, he had been engaged in legal work for more than 15 years, from childhood itself he was more interested in social work and participated in many seminars. Thiru. G. Nammazhvar who was an Indian green crusader, agricultural scientist,



environmental activist and organic farming expert, Mr. Shiva Kumar inspired from him and participated in national level programs. He also conducted many programs about Agriculture. Department of social work faculties and students warmly welcoming him to this program.





## **COMMEMORATING SOCIAL JUSTICE DAY**

Department of Social Work organized a discussion on “UNDERSTANDING RESERVATION IN INDIA” on 18<sup>th</sup> of February 2019 with Guest speakers, Prof Arunan, C.P.M and Advocate Gowthama Sanna, moderated by Prof Deepak Nathan. The discussion was majorly on the 10% reservation for the forward caste of the society. Effective participation of the students made the discussion more interesting with a great exposure of a program like this, understanding the dynamics of reservation.





## **INAUGURATION OF BOOK REVIEW CLUB**

The SWASS Office Bearers and Professors came up with an idea of starting a book review club for the benefit of students; the purpose of the club is to have a regular reading and discussion of a book every week with critical reviews and analysis. The Club was inaugurated on 11<sup>th</sup> of February 2019 by the Chief Guest Mr Thousand Sunshine, who is a Social Activist and a Philosopher of Masanobu Fukuoka's ideology and concepts of Organic Farming.



## **CHILDFEST**

**Workshop:** Capacity building for youth advocate (YA4C) on social media and prevention on child sexual abuse. By Thozhamai, coordinated with the Department of Social Work Loyola College.

Venue: seminar hall

Date: 01<sup>st</sup> of February 2019

Topic: Registration, Welcome and introduction by Prof Semmalar Selvi  
President SWASS (Shift 1).

De-briefing: students participated youth camp at Yercaud may 2018. Understanding children and child protection by Mr. A. Devaneyan, Director of Thozhamai. Child sexual abuse and POSCO act 2012. Mr. M. Andrew Sesuraj, Asst Professor, Department of Social Work, Loyola College. He gave an orientation on child sexual abuse and screened a fiction video, which is directed and guided by Head of the Department Dr Gladston Xavier. Amplifying voices of CSA through social media. Mr Ajit Daniel, consultant UNICEF. Reaching out to school children for a safe childhood campaign planning.



# **ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY**

**Dr S.P. Udayakumar**

The students of 2<sup>nd</sup> year M.A. Social Work specializing in Community Development organized a guest lecture on Environmental Sustainability. The guest speaker was Dr S.P. Udayakumar who is a prominent anti nuclear activist in our country who has tirelessly worked against the operation of the nuclear plant in Kudankulam in the district of Tirunelveli. Dr Udayakumar took over the session and spoke on the various issues relating with the threat to environment and how the capitalist exploits the natural and human resources in the name of development. What is development? Increase of wealth among the richest or increase in the living standard of the common people? Of course, we tend to work for the development of the public (ourselves) so that we could utilise and have a standard Life. But according to the capitalist view of development its ultimate aim is to increase the wealth of the richest and keep the poor even poorer. He spoken on the model that the government is implementing in us. There are two type of models the Northern model, it's the type of model which is being practiced in the western countries where they invest and attempt to ripe the ultimate profit from it. The models main aim is to attain the utmost profit not on developing the conditions of the people. On the other hands it's the southern model wherein its aim is to create a sustainable development which will increase the standard of the people by utilising the resources available not on exploiting it. The government has the ultimate power in choosing the type of model which will create a peaceful environment but the government is on the opposite end which is working rigorously to implement the Northern model of development. He also shared an example, of how Samoa a small country was affected and the number of suicidal deaths increased due to

a British developmentalist. The speaker argued that the development model must be eco friendly and be an independent economy based on the resources available. Who's development? What kind of development? At what cost? The above mentioned three factors must be considered for any project. The speaker also went on to explain about the attitude of the capitalist government where the power centre doesn't want to share any information to the public and seek opinion from them. Instead they decide what the public needs. The speaker also spoke on various on-going projects in our state which is a great threat to the environment.





Starting from the neutrino laboratory in the Western Ghats, which is going to destroy the wealthy Western Ghats which is considered as the backbone of both Tamil Nadu and Kerala? The project aims to drill down the mountain and set up a neutrino laboratory. The project if completed will destroy the natural resources of the Western Ghats and will lead to a great destruction to the environment. Then he spoke on how India is dumping nuclear plants in our country which brings a great threat to people if constructed. Developed countries who have already tried many nuclear plants on their own soil have faced huge destructions such Chernobyl in Russia, Russia, Fukushima in Japan and they are moving from nuclear plants to alternate source which is environmental friendly. But on the other hand India is relying on nuclear plant. Then he spoke about the chemical projects such as hydrocarbons, methane extractions in the delta region. These projects destroy the entire delta region and destroy the agriculture and also it will lead to serious health effects to the people. The speaker throughout the session insisted that the government must identify resources and utilize it without bringing any harm to the environment and the people. He also suggested that the development model must natural and people friendly.

