

## DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

- Name of the event – Institutional Visit
- Organised by – Department of History
- Date – 12.12.2025
- Venue – Alipore Museum
- Number of Participants –
  - Students – 45
  - Teachers – 5
- Resource Person – Dr. Jayanta Sengupta, Director, Alipore Museum  
Mail id – director.alipore@wbhidco.in
- Brief Description of the event – The students of semesters 1, 3 and 5 visited the Alipore Museum, a national historic landmark in Kolkata. They explored different sections of the Museum, which included prison cells, wards, execution areas, central watch tower, exhibition hall, Jail Press Building and Jail Hospital. They learnt about the history and evolution of prisons in colonial India, particularly in erstwhile Calcutta. They saw a display of documents and artefacts related to India's freedom struggle and the prison cells of the notable inmates. They also had the opportunity to see the exhibition "The Babu and The Bazar : Art from 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century Bengal" organized by DAG in collaboration with Alipore Museum. Dr. Jayanta Sengupta, Director of Alipore Museum, addressed the students elucidating the relevance of the Museum.
- Outcome – This institutional visit was a part of experiential learning for the students and they could relate it to their SEC papers, Museum and Archives and Understanding Popular Culture of Bengal. They could feel the pulse of India's freedom movement and be acquainted with many unknown or lesser known facts of the history of the period, e.g. the active contribution of many unsung women freedom fighters. The exhibition "The Babu and The Bazar" helped the students to understand the dichotomy and tensions between elite pretence and popular culture, between imported aesthetics and indigenous art forms.



**Fig 1: Director of Alipore Museum, Dr Jayanta Sengupta, with students and faculty of the Department of History, Shri Shikshayatan College**



Fig 2: A composite collage of student experience at the Museum on 12 December 2025