Report for the Eighteenth Belarani De Memorial Lecture, 2025

Name of the Event: The Eighteenth Belarani De Memorial Lecture

Organised by: Department of Political Science

Date: September 15, 2025 (Monday)

Venue: Room 303

Duration: 1 Hour 45 Minutes

Number of Participants:

Students: 66

Faculty+ Guests: 20

Resource Person: Prof. Sumit Mukerji, Department of Political Science, Kalyani University

Brief Description: The Belarani De Memorial Lecture is organised annually to commemorate the legacy of the founder of the Department, Smt. Belarani De, through lectures by eminent experts of the discipline. Simultaneously, the departmental journal Perception is released, containing contributions from present and former students and faculty. The Memorial Lecture and the theme of Perception are kept the same to create a cohesive frame of everyday realities and to understand the inherent political dynamics. This year, the theme was Conservatism and Vigilantism, and Prof. Mukerji's lecture dealt with religious fundamentalism as a result of the conservative backlash and how it fosters vigilantism.

Outcome: The lecture revolved around a few case studies where systemic realities of alienation, lack of financial security and polarisation have eased the recruitment of vulnerable populations into terrorism and vigilantism through tools like online games. The need for the state to address these issues, as well as for students to recognise the conservative backlash resulting from the crisis of liberal democracy, which compounds such instability, was outlined by the lecturer.



SHRI SHIKSHAYATAN COLLEGE The Eighteenth Belarani De Memorial Lecture

Topic

'Cyberspace and Religious Fundamentalism in South Asia: An Indian Perspective'

By

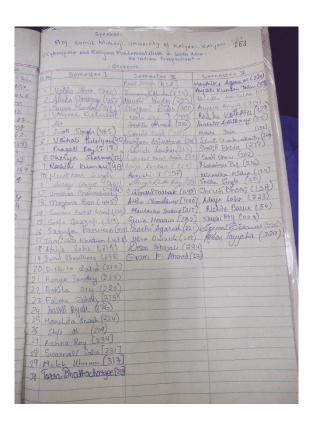
Prof. Sumit Mukerji Department of Political Science, Kalyani University, Kalyani

Date: 15th September 2025, Monday

Time: 11:30 am Venue: 303

Organised by

The Department of Political Science 11 Lord Sinha Road, Kolkata 700 071



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