

## DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

- Name of the event – Special Lecture
- Organised by – Department of History
- Date – 8.6.2024
- Duration- 1 hour 30 minutes ( 1 P.M. to 2.30 P.M. )
- Venue – College premises, Room - 303
- Number of Participants –
  - Students – 56
  - Teachers – 5
- Resource Person – Dr. Mimi Bhattacharya, Associate Professor, Department of History, Dum Dum Motijheel College  
E mail – mimibhattacharya384@gmail.com
- Brief Description of the event – Dr. Mimi Bhattacharya delivered a Special Lecture on ‘Cinema Post Partition : A Journey from Home to the World : Images of Women’. In her lecture, she referred to two Bengali films, Shashi Babur Sansar (1959), a commercial film and Mahanagar (1963), an art film, to elucidate women’s journey from the private domain to the public domain in post partition Bengal, marked by different shades and layers of complexities, economic dislocation being the most prominent. In the films from 1950 onwards, there was a shift from typical domesticity to broader areas where women’s issues were addressed from different perspectives and highlighted their reframed consciousness and new sensibilities. Commercial cinema primarily sustained the film industry and therefore was not that radical or revolutionary in portraying the women as in the new wave or parallel films. The lecture was followed by an interactive session.
- Outcome – The students of semesters 2, 4 and 6 actively participated in the event. They learnt about the differences between commercial and art films, whom do they cater to, how are they funded and therefore the difference in their approach to social issues, especially in depiction of women. Through cinema as a form of popular art, the students were acquainted with the concepts of domesticity, role conflicts of a woman, her dilemma, her professionalism, her confidence and her individual identity and the socio-economic tensions of post partition Bengal. The lecture helped them to think and analyze the contents of their syllabus from a different perspective.

