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# SIKKIM UNIVERSITY CHRONICLE

## Two- Day National Conference on Indian Nepali Identity

Sikkim University hosted a two- day national conference on Indian Nepalis Identity on 6- 7 October 2017 at Chintan Bhawan. More than 40 Indian Nepalis who have made their names at national and international levels in the fields of literature, music, journalism, drama, sports, mountaineering, film- direction, army, etc. assembled at Gangtok to tell their stories of struggle and success to the youth of the state and through them to the youth of the entire country with the sole purpose of inspiring them to be achievers and not losers. They were felicitated by the Honourable Chief Minister Dr. Pawan Kumar Chamling during the conference..

Indian Nepalis have age- old issues of national identity. They are considered as foreigners, immigrants and security threats to India, which is an irony if we consider their contribution in securing the borders of India and their sacrifices in the wars India fought with China and Pakistan. This conference was not organized to crib about those who doubt their nationality and who make all kinds of allegations based on their perceptions. Instead it was organized to celebrate and showcase their achievements so that the youth of Sikkim feel inspired to be achievers themselves.



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## Editor's Note

*It gives me immense pleasure to bring back the long awaited edition of the SU Chronicle. At the outset I apologise to all the readers for a long pause in the publication of the issue owing to some technical issues. The month of October was indeed one of transition for the University as we witnessed a change in the administration. Prof. T.B. Subba completed his full term of five years as Vice- Chancellor on 13th October 2017. Similarly Sh. P.K. Singh also completed his term as Finance Officer. We welcome our new Vice- Chancellor (officiating) Prof. Jyoti Prakash Tamang and Finance Officer Mr. Debashis Pal who joined their offices on 16.10.2017 and 12.10.2017 respectively. We also extend a warm welcome to all teaching and non-teaching staff who have joined the University in the past few months.*

*I too am writing to you as the editor for the first time since the baton has finally been passed on to me. I hope I will be able to carry on the legacy of publishing good reading material for all.*

*Enjoy reading and stay warm!!*

*-Kunjini Prakash Darnal*

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### Prof. Sameera Maiti Memorial Lecture

Date : 1st November 2017

Venue : Raap Jyor Cauvery Hall.



Department of Anthropology organized the first Prof. Sameera Maiti memorial lecture on 1st November, 2017 at Raapjyor Cauveri Hall.

Dr. K.R. Rama Mohan, Head of Department of Anthropology explained the need to hold a memorial lecture on 1st November, 2017, as Prof. Sameera Maiti's Birthday falls on the same day. He spoke about Prof. Sameera Maiti's contribution to the department.

Prof. Jyoti Prakash Tamang, Vice Chancellor (officiating), fondly remembered her and expressed that her insights and inputs shall be of value to the department in days to come.

Prof. Sekh Rahim Mondal, Head of Department of Anthropology, North Bengal University, delivered the Memorial Lecture on '21st Century Knowledge Era, Issues and Problems: An Interdisciplinary Approach'. In his lecture, Prof. Mondal touched upon both the theoretical and methodological aspects of 21st century Knowledge Era, the various social issues that the whole world, India in particular, is currently witnessing. His lecture was content rich with different social science approaches to understand the global problems to mitigate the issues with suitable alternatives.

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### **International Seminar on “Politics of Representation: Interdisciplinary Perspectives”**

Department of English, Sikkim University organized a Three-Day International seminar on “Politics of Representation: Interdisciplinary Perspectives”, in collaboration with HRDD, Government of Sikkim and partially sponsored by RUSA from 1 to 3 November, 2017. In a world constantly perplexed by issues of 'Representation', representation ceases to remain an act of reportage. The very act of representation includes a series of inclusions and exclusions, at times disrupting the homogeneity of correspondence and adopting the dictates of ideology. This Seminar was therefore organized to give a discursal space for the analyses of representation with all its intricacies. The inaugural session was presided over by Prof. Jyoti Prakash Tamang, Vice-Chancellor (Officiating) and Shri R.B. Subba, Honorable Minister of HRD, law, Parliamentary Affairs and Sports and Youth Affairs, Government of Sikkim, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Prof. Sukanta Chaudhuri, Professor Emeritus, Department of English, Jadavpur University, delivered the key note address. The Resource Persons of the seminar were Prof. Robert Don Adams, Florida Atlantic University, USA; Prof. Anuradha Dingwaney Needham, Oberlin College, Ohio, Dr. Laurence Needham Ohio, Prof. Saugata Bhaduri, Department of English, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, Prof. Simi Malhotra, Department of English, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, Prof. Anita Singh, Department of English, Banaras Hindu University, and Prof. Amit Bhattacharya, Department of English, Gaur Banga University, Malda, West Bengal. Ninety participants presented papers in four parallel sessions in a span of three days. The seminar was truly inter-disciplinary in the sense that there were deliberations on cross-disciplinary issues. The Seminar concluded with an interactive Panel Discussion on the various aspects of 'Representation'. Selected papers presented in the Seminar will be published in an edited volume.



## Student Evaluation Pattern in Sikkim University: An Evaluative Study

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Evaluation is the most vital component of any system of education. Evaluation provides the teacher necessary feedback to study the strength and weaknesses of the children and set a basis for further planning. With the aim of revamping the examination systems in various universities and educational institutions, the University Grants Commission (UGC) has urged the universities to take steps to assess the performance of students through internal and external evaluation. Now a days, several universities have started internal evaluation pattern in India. But a question among the faculty members and those involved in the internal evaluation occurs that: Is the internal evaluation justifiable, fulfill its objectives, concerning the methodology, effectiveness and scientific validity? The present study was an attempt to review the pattern of Internal Evaluation System introduced by Sikkim University since 2008. For the present study, the sample was drawn from the administrators, teachers, students of Sikkim University and from teachers, students, principals of colleges affiliated to Sikkim University. To collect the requisite data for the present study the investigators used copies of annual reports, prospectus and self-made questionnaires. The techniques of content analysis, frequency distribution, percentage wise analysis and t-test were used to analyse the data. Results of the present study reveals that:

- The mode of evaluation in Sikkim University was entirely internal. In the semester system, a student was continuously evaluated through mid-semester tests, term paper/practical examinations, end semester examinations etc.
- The university follows Choice Based Credit System (CBCS). In order to complete a Master's programme a student must earn 64 credits. One credit in Sikkim University is equivalent to 15 classes or 25 marks.
- Keeping in view the practice of internal evaluation at Sikkim University and the steps recommended by the UGC, the investigators of the present study have found that the experience of introducing internal evaluation in Sikkim University has proved to be fruitful. The main purpose of internal evaluation is to diagnose and give remedial teaching to the students. It emphasized activity based learning. As discussed above Sikkim University gives the 50% weightage to Sessional Tests and 50% to the Term- End Examination. The investigators have also mentioned that the Term- End Examination question papers and the answer scripts of the students are evaluated by the concerned teachers. All teachers of each department prepare the date sheet, set the question papers, moderate the question papers, evaluate the answer scripts, and finally submit it to the Controller of Examinations.
- There is significant difference in the perceptions of teachers teaching in Sikkim University and teachers teaching in colleges affiliated to Sikkim University towards the Internal Evaluation System.
- There is significant difference in the perceptions of students studying in Sikkim University and students studying in colleges affiliated to Sikkim University towards the Internal Evaluation System.
- The analysis of the contents of the responses of respondents led us to a clear cut result that majority of teachers i.e. 87.5% (Teachers teaching in Sikkim University) and 80% (Teachers teaching in colleges affiliated to Sikkim University) opined that concerned teacher/individual teacher's decision is considered as final in case of internal evaluation marks allotment.
- Further, majority of the respondents opined that institution does not have any provision wherein students can improve their sessional test marks. On the other hand, very few respondents opined that students can improve their sessional test marks.
- The results further revealed that majority of the teachers and students are satisfied with the existing system of Internal Evaluation in Sikkim University.

### Acknowledgments

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## Prof. T.B. Subba completes his term as Vice- Chancellor

Prof. T. B. Subba completed his term of five years as second Vice- Chancellor of Sikkim University. He handed over the charge to Prof. Jyoti Prakash Tamang, senior most Professor of the University as per the statutes on 13th October 2017 afternoon. Prof. T.B. Subba joined back North Eastern Hill University, his parent University in Shillong.

Prof. Subba will be remembered as a very humble, patient, amiable yet a stern administrator. His contribution to the University will never be forgotten. It was under his tenure that the departments of Limbu, Lepcha and Bhutia were set up and Sikkim University is the only one in the world to offer Post Graduate degrees in these languages.

In his parting message Prof. Subba urged the faculty members, non- teaching staff and students of the University to work together for the progress of the University.



### Upcoming Events:

Two- Week Refresher Course On Basic Physics and Typology

Date: 29th Jan to 9th Feb 2018

Venue: Sikkim University.

