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(AUTONOMOUS)



CULTURALLY COMPETENT PRACTICE WITH REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS IN INDIA AND GERMANY: IMPLICATIONS FOR SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION

REPORT OF THE PROJECT BASED CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

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Katholische Universität, Eichstätt, Germany



Culturally competent practice with refugees and migrants in India and Germany: Implications for Social Work Education

REPORT OF CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

The UGC – DAAD research team consisting Dr. Anish K. R. and Anil John from India travelled to Katholische Universität, Eichstätt from 13th July and reached Eichstätt on 14th July. On completion of the visit the team started the return journey on 21st July and reached back in India on 22nd July.

Day 1 (13th July 2019, Saturday)

The team started from India on 13th July. The flight from Cochin to Delhi was at 7.30 am and it reached Delhi by 10.45 am. The next flight from Delhi to Frankfurt was at 12.15 pm and it arrived at Frankfurt 6.40 pm. The reach team had its accommodation in InterCity Hotel at Frankfurt.

Day 2 (14th July 2019, Sunday)

The team started from Frankfurt to Eichstätt at 7.00 pm and reached Eichstätt at 9.00 pm (German time). The team was received by Dr. Monika Pfaller-Rott and Prof. Gerhard Rott and dropped the team at the place of accommodation.

Day 3 (15th July 2019, Monday)

The research team from India and Germany had first joint meeting at faculty cabin of Dr. Monika Pfaller-Rott, Katholische Universität, Eichstätt at 2 pm. The meeting was attended by Dr. Anish K. R., Dr. Monika Pfaller-Rott, Prof. Gerhard Rott Mr. Anil John, Mr. Simon Kolbe and Mr. Lucas Claudio Günther.



The agenda for the meeting were to familiarize with the research team of both countries and to plan the course of action based on the visit of the Indian team. The team also decided to involve the social work students of Katholische Universität, Eichstätt and Rajagiri College of



Social Sciences likewise the previous year, especially to explore and define intercultural competencies and identify parameters based on Knowledge, Skill and attitude in developing intercultural competencies based on their learning in the classroom. The team also reviewed the progress of the research study of previous year and found satisfactory. It was decided to meet students involved in the data collection of the study and to attend their presentation in their classroom on 17th and 19th July 2019. The meeting ended at 4 pm.

On completion of the formal meeting the Indian research team had an opportunity to visit an extension centre of the Katholische Universität, Eichstätt, namely Stabsabteilung für Bildungsinnovation und Wissenstransfer (Staff Department for Educational Innovation and Knowledge Transfer). The Indian team was received by Mr. Thomas Sporer (Head of the Department of Education Innovation and Knowledge Transfer) and his team, Mr. Stefan Raich, Dr. Verena Gutsche, Mr. Thomas Schwab and Ms. Karolina Gutsche.



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The aim of this centre is to focus on the topics of knowledge transfer, by means of mutual exchange of ideas with society, as well as innovative educational methodology and social responsibility. The centre has various initiatives that promote sustainability and civic engagement of students which fosters their social learning.



Day 4 (16th July 2019, Tuesday)

The Indian research team was allocated a room for research in the university and had themselves registered in the central library of the university to use the library and computer lab facilities. The team used these facilities to explore available literature in the on intercultural competencies. At 10.00 am, Mr. Simon Kolbe arrived at the School of Social Work at Katholische Universität and the team was taken for city tour. At first the team visited the central computer facility centre provided for the students of Katholische Universität. It is a facility provided for students to use computers and printing solutions need for them at an affordable cost.



Then the team proceeded to the Caritas centre which offers Psychosocial Services for the elderly, Women and Refugees. Mr. Simon Kolbe explained about various services offered by this centre. It was very informative for the team and could understand about the structure and functions of the centre.



of caritas to provide services for the refugees.

As next the team visited Caritas Refugee Integration Centre at Eichstätt. It is a centre that has many activities and services provided for the refugees in Bavarian Region of Germany. This centre also provides opportunities for the refugees to learn German. The team was welcomed by Ms. Natalia and she explained the services provided by the social workers for the refugees in Germany. She also explained to the team software used by the social workers



After the lunch the team visited Prof. DDr. Janusz Surzykiewicz, with whom the team had interacted during the team's previous visit to Eichstätt. He is a faculty member in the Department of Social Education at the Faculty of Philosophy and Education. The team had discussion on areas of collaboration in research especially on religiosity and spirituality of refugees. The team also discussed with Mr. Simon Kolbe on his study on the Intersectional Approach to the process of Integration in Europe for survivors of human trafficking.

Day 5 (17th July 2019, Wednesday)

Team reached the School of Social Work at 10.00 am and the research team was engaged for few hours to work on the research project, especially on the tool of data collection and the quantitative analysis of the social work curriculum review conducted in India, on content dealing with intercultural competence. In the afternoon the team interacted with a group of Social Work students who wishes to come to India to undertake a semester of their study as well as field practicum. The students were found to be enthusiastic and interested to experience the Indian culture.



After the lunch the team attended the presentation of the Social Work Students who did the qualitative data collection from the German side. There were 4 presentations done on various topics related to the qualitative aspects of the study.



The day ended with the dinner hosted by the family of Rott.



Day 6 (18th July 2019, Thursday)

On the fourth day of the visit, the team visited the Health Department of the District of Eichstätt. The team was accompanied by Dr. Monika Pfaller-Rott. The



orientation about the Health Department was done by Mrs. Christine Feil (Social Worker). She explain about the structure of the health care system of the District of Eichstätt. This was an interactive session, where the Indian team could learn about the healthcare system in Germany and they also enquired about the health system of India.

After the lunch the Indian team along with Dr. Monika Pfaller-Rott visited the the International Office of Katholische Universität, Eichstätt. The team had a meeting with Mr. Andreas Riffel (Director of International Office of Katholische Universität, Ingolstadt – Eichstätt) and Mr. Thomas Grubauer (Co-ordinator for International Relations and ERASMUS). The team had discussion on International Excahngge programmes between Rajagiri College of Social Sciences and Katholische Universität, Ingolstadt – Eichstätt. It was decided that the partnership can be sreghntend by signing



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an MoU and the International Office of Rajagiri College of Social Science would follow up the matters related to the Institutional MoU.





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In the evening the team had a meeting with Prof. Dr. Renate Oxenknecht-Witzsch, who is a faculty member of Law at the Faculty of Social Work, Katholische Universität, Eichstätt. Along with her the team visited the city of Neuburg. The team could see a beautiful Castle and a chapel.

Day 7 (19th July 2019, Friday)

Team reached the School of Social Work at 10.00 am and the research team was engaged for few hours to work on the research project. The team also had discussion with Dr. Monika Pfaller-Rott and the future course of action related to the research study and the publications to be produced from the study.





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After the lunch the team attended the presentation of the Social Work Students who did the quantitative data collection from the German side. There were 5 presentations done on various topics related to the quantitative aspects of the study. After the presentation the team had interaction with the students on their experience of being part of the study.



In the evening the entire German research team along with the Indian team had an Indian dinner and it was a splendid experience.



Day 8 (20th July 2019, Saturday)

On the 6th day of the visit, the Indian team was taken to Mount Alps by Dr. Monika Pfaller-Rott and Prof. Gerhard Rott. The team started to Alps by 7.00 am and reached the valley of Alps by 9.00 am. The team took cable car to reach the top of the Alps and could enjoy the scenic beauty of the Apls. The team returned to the place of accommodation by 4.00pm.



Day 9 (21st July 2019, Sunday)

On 21st July the team started their journey back to India. The plan of return journey was to take Train from Eichstätt to Frankfurt. The flight from Frankfurt to Delhi was at 9.15 pm (German time) scheduled to reach Delhi by 9. 25 am (IST) on 22nd July, 2019. The connecting flight Delhi to Cochin was at 2. 10 pm and the team reached Cochin at 5.10 pm.