

Relentlessly towards Excellence

RAJAGIRI COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES (AUTONOMOUS)

इवाराज इलाचार

AN INITIATIVE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK



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SATH CHAL



From October 29th to November 1st, the third-year social work trainees embarked on their much-awaited final year study tour, "Sath Chal: Mangalore, Chikkamagaluru-Belur." This memorable journey was the result of the tireless efforts of tour coordinators Melvin Joy and Parvathy K, supported by the committees and guided by faculty in charge, Dr. Anil John and Mrs. Renitta Manuel. The trip beautifully blended adventure, with visits to the awe-inspiring Halebidu Archaeological Site, Chennakeshava Temple, and Hoysaleswara Temple. Adding a meaningful dimension were educational visits to the Asha Kiran Residential School for the Blind and the Canara Organization for Development and Peace, which left a lasting impact on the trainees. This tour, a perfect blend of camaraderie and learning, will forever remain a nostalgic highlight of college life.

WORKSHOP ON DIALECTICAL BEHAVIOR THERAPY



On October 30, 2024, an international workshop on "Dialectical Behavior Therapy" was conducted for MSW students, featuring Prof. Robin Gearing, a Professor of Social Work and Director of the MH-RITES Research Center at the University of Houston, USA, as the resource person. The workshop provided an immersive experience in DBT techniques. The session offered participants a wealth of practical knowledge and insights into therapeutic practices, enhancing their understanding and skills in mental health interventions.

NAVAJEEVITHAM VOLUNTEERING



On 2nd November 2024, MSW second-year students participated in "NAVAJEEVITHAM," an employee gathering of Harrison Malayalam Limited on the occasion of Diwali, under the guidance of Fr. Francis Manavalan and Sr. Shyba Babu. The students assisted in various roles during the program and also interacted with the natives, who were flood-affected families. The students conducted home visits as part of providing psychosocial support. This experience allowed the students to be actively involved in the relief and rehabilitation stages of community intervention, making it an enriching and impactful learning opportunity.

CRITICAL THINKING AND REFLECTIVE WORKSHOP

The Department of Social Work organized a two-day workshop on critical thinking and reflective practices for second-year BSW students on November 4 and 5, 2024. The sessions, coordinated under Dr. Nycil Romis Thomas, were held in Golden Aureole and Chavara Hall. The workshop featured interactive activities and value-based games, fostering active participation and promoting critical thinking among students. The program, which began at 9:30 AM on the first day and concluded by noon on the second day, provided an engaging platform for students to reflect and enhance their analytical skills.

STREET THEATRE WORKSHOP

On 5th and 6th of November, 2024, A two-day street theatre workshop was held for BSW First - Year students by Divyadharshan R. , a catalyst at Fourth Wave Foundation. The workshop introduced students to the practical use of street theatre in engaging communities, a vital skill for social workers. It also helped them develop talents in acting, writing, and directing, highlighting the power of storytelling in addressing social issues and inspiring them to use theatre as a tool for social change.

MS EXCEL TRAINING



Under the Department of Social Work's Placement Cell at Rajagiri College of Social Sciences (Autonomous), Kalamassery, conducted a two-day MS Excel training workshop on November 4th and 5th, 2024, aimed at enhancing employability skills for the MSW second-year students (Batch 2023-2025). Dr. Kiran Thampi, Head of the Department of Social Work, welcomed participants and emphasized the relevance of Excel skills for dissertations and job placements. Led by Mr. Roshan Ravi, Assistant Professor in the Department of Management & Professional Studies, the workshop introduced students to basic Excel. The workshop concluded with a vote of thanks from Ms. Sruthilakshmi M.O., who acknowledged the hands-on learning experience provided.

STREET THEATRE



The Department of Social Work at Rajagiri College of Social Sciences (Autonomous) organized a two-day theatre workshop on November 6th and 7th, 2024, led by Mr. Sajith NS, CEO of ECHOES and Assistant Professor at Christ College, Irinjalakuda. Held at the Golden Aureole starting at 9:00 am and ending by 5:00 pm each day, the workshop offered social work students a creative platform to develop skills in self-expression, empathy, and communication through theatre techniques. Mr. Sajith's expertise provided students with valuable insights into using theatre as a medium for social impact, making it an engaging and transformative learning experience.

SPSS TRAINING

On November 8, 2024, a specialized SPSS training session was organized for second-year MSW students at Rajagiri College of Social Sciences (Autonomous), focusing on research applications. Led by Dr. Anish, the training provided in-depth insights into utilizing SPSS for data analysis, equipping students with essential skills to manage and interpret research data effectively. BSW students were also given SPSS training by Dr. Nycil Romis Thomas. The session was a valuable opportunity for students to gain hands-on experience with statistical tools, enhancing their research competencies.

SNEHAKOOTAYMA, A SENIOR CITIZEN'S CLUB



A few students of the first-year BSW programme visited Snehakootayma, a senior citizen's club in Kanjoor, on 9th November. The students were guided by Sr. Shyba Babu of the social work department of Rajagiri College of Social Sciences in connection with the Whole Person

Education Programme. During the visit, the students engaged with the seniors through various activities and games. They also shared a meal with the senior citizens, making the experience even more special. The seniors, full of life and energy, left a lasting impression with their vibrant performances, making the day both inspiring and memorable for the social work students.

PLANTATION DRIVE

On November 11, 2024, the Biodiversity Club, in collaboration with NSS and the ENCON Club, organized a plantation drive at Rajagiri College of Social Sciences. Utilizing a free space on campus, students planted a variety of vegetables, fruits, and other plants, transforming the area into a thriving green space. The event was spearheaded by NSS program officers Dr. Giji George and Prof. Britto Raj. NSS Volunteers from the Social Work Department, contributed their efforts in digging, planting, and tending to the new plants.

SHRAMDAAN, SNEHAVEEDU 2



As part of the Snehaveedu project, a collaboration with K Chittilappilly Foundation and 24 News, 21 NSS volunteers from Rajagiri College participated in Shramdaan to support the construction of a house for a family in need. Led by Program Officer Prof. Britto Raj, the volunteers transported and arranged approximately 600 bricks to reduce labor costs and speed up the construction process. The activity not only eased the workload for the construction workers but also allowed the volunteers to interact with the beneficiary family, creating a meaningful and impactful experience. The initiative highlighted the spirit of community service and the importance of social responsibility.

BLOOD DONATION ORIENTATION PROGRAM



On November 12, 2024, NSS Unit 59 of Rajagiri College of Social Sciences, Kalamassery organized an orientation session on blood donation for NSS volunteers. The session, led by M. Renjith Kumar, Coordinator of the Mahatma Mathrubhumi Study Circle, began at 2:00 PM with the NSS anthem and a welcome address by volunteer Anna Rony. During the session, Mr. Renjith Kumar highlighted the significance of blood donation, detailing the procedures and eligibility criteria for donors. He also discussed eye donation and shared personal experiences, making the session both informative and engaging. The program concluded at 3:00 PM, leaving volunteers inspired to contribute to life-saving initiatives through safe and responsible blood donation practices.

BEST SOCIAL WORK TEAM



On 08 November 2024, the Rajagiri College of Social Sciences (Autonomous) achieved the RunnerUp Trophy of OPSTA 2024 conducted by the Kerala Association of Professional Social Workers (KAPS) at Loyola College of Social Sciences (Autonomous), Thiruvananthapuram. This achievement was led by 3rd BSW students. The BSW students Alana Paul and Arundhathi Anilkumar won first prize in the 'Best Social Work Team' competition.

STATE-LEVEL INAUGURATION



The 71st State-Level Inauguration was held at Ashis Convention Centre, Kalamassery, with ten NSS volunteers actively contributing to the success of the event. The program, inaugurated by Kerala Chief Minister Shri Pinarayi Vijayan and graced by dignitaries including Shri Vasudevan Sivankutty, marked a significant state-level initiative. NSS volunteers, dressed in traditional Kerala attire, welcomed the ministers with bouquets, adding a touch of warmth and hospitality to the event. The volunteers' enthusiastic involvement in assisting and coordinating the event ensured its smooth execution, reflecting their dedication to service and community engagement. The program was a resounding success, leaving a lasting impact on attendees and providing a meaningful learning experience for the volunteers.

LINKEDIN TRAINING SESSION

On November 15, 2024, Rajagiri Central Placement Cell, in association with the Department of Social Work, organized a LinkedIn training session for students. The session, conducted by experts from Face Prep, was held at the Golden Aureole from 11:15 AM to 12:45 PM. Students were introduced to LinkedIn, its features, and how to create a professional profile. They were also guided on activating a LinkedIn Premium account, which was offered free for six months. NSS volunteers played a key role in the smooth execution of the event, assisting with venue arrangements and participant coordination. The session empowered students with essential skills for networking and career development.

SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP COMPETITION



The first-year MSW students, Abhinav Dhanya Prem, Treesa Roshni J C, Gokul Raj R, and Robin Reji, participated in “The Change Maker Challenge”, a social entrepreneurship competition organized by Rajagiri Business School, Kakkanad. The event took place on 16 November 2024 and aimed to encourage innovative solutions to real-world problems while providing a platform for students to demonstrate their entrepreneurial and managerial skills. The team successfully passed the first round, a quiz round and qualified for the second round of the competition. The second round involves a visit to a Kudumbashree-promoted micro-enterprise, where they have to conduct a problem-centered study. This round will help to enhance their understanding of grassroots-level entrepreneurship and develop problem-solving strategies for real-life challenges.

SEM IV ORIENTATION



The fourth semester induction program for the MSW batch 2023–2025 was held on 18th November from 9:30 to 11:00 AM at Golden Aureole. The event commenced with Maria Anjitha serving as the emcee, followed by a prayer led by Shiksha K. Chauhan, Neha Mary John,

Akhil Sabu, and Kennedy Islary. Religious readings were conducted by Anitta Mariam Varghese, Shahfila P.V., and Shiksha K. Chauhan. The welcome speech was delivered by Yudhith XI, and the lamp-lighting ceremony involved faculty members and class representatives. The documentation team, comprising Fathima Heena Hasmi, Anna Alex, and Vishnu P.P., presented their report, followed by experience-sharing sessions by Shruthi Lakshmi and Samson Chrysolyte. Faculty members, including HOD Prof. Dr. Kiran Thampi, class coordinator Prof. Dr. Rajeev S.P., Prof. Dr. Sunirose I.P., Prof. Dr. Deepa Rasheed, and Prof. Dr. Reena Cherian, addressed the gathering. The program concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Alida Joy.

NATIONAL YOUTH CLIMATE CONCLAVE



Shristi Dubey, Alida Joy, Sruthi Lakshmi, Antony V took part in the final round of the National Youth Climate Conclave and Climate Leadership Summit 2024, which the Center for Sustainable Development and Green Skills Academy organized.

ORIENTATION ON E-WASTE MANAGEMENT



On November 20, an informative session on e-waste management was organized for BSW NSS volunteers at Rajagiri College of Social Sciences, Kalamassery. The event commenced with the NSS anthem, setting a purposeful tone, followed by a warm welcome address delivered by NSS Program Officer Giji George. Mr. Skariya, representing the Office of Placement and Career Support, extended his felicitations to the gathering. The highlight of the session was a presentation by Mr. Taju Joseph, who emphasized the significance of managing e-waste responsibly. He shared insights on initiatives led by EY and the Viswasanthi Foundation and suggested activities that the NSS unit could implement to drive e-waste awareness and action. The session concluded at 3:00 PM, equipping participants with valuable knowledge and motivation to engage in environmentally conscious practices.

DYUTI COUNTDOWN



The Department of Social Work at Rajagiri College of Social Sciences, in collaboration with the International Consortium for Social Development (ICSD), organized the Curtain Raiser event for the 24th ICSD Biennial International Conference (Dyuti). The event marked the commencement of the 50-day countdown to the conference. The program took place on November 20, 2024. The curtain raiser featured distinguished speakers, including Dr. Fr. Saju M.D. CMI, Principal and Professor, Vice President for Public Relations and Communications, and Convenor of the 24th ICSD Conference; Dr. Binoy Joseph, Associate Director, Rajagiri College; Dr. Fr. Shinto Joseph CMI, Assistant Director; and Dr. Kiran Thampi, Head of the Department of Social Work and Coordinator of the 24th ICSD Conference.

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON THE ROLE OF SOCIAL WORK IN DISRUPTING GENDERED PATHWAYS TO PRISON



The Department of Social Work at Rajagiri College of Social Sciences, in collaboration with Western Sydney University, conducted an international workshop on the Role of Social Work in Disrupting Gendered Pathways to Prison on November 21, 2024, from 9:30 am-3:30 pm at the Golden Aureole. The theme of the event was Social Work Unlocking the Gates of Change. The inauguration was led by Dr. Fr. Saju MD CMI, Principal, and Dr. Kiran Thampi, Head of the Department of Social Work. The workshop featured eminent speakers, including Dr. Rimple Mehta, Senior Lecturer at Western Sydney University; Dr. Upneet Lalli, Head Coordinator (Training & Research) at ICA, Chandigarh; and Ms. Renitta Manuel.

OPEN MIC EVENT

The Department of Social Work at Rajagiri College of Social Sciences, in association with the University of Johannesburg, organized an inspiring Open Mic session under the auspices of the Afro-Indian Centre for Social Work Education. Held online on November 22, 2024, at 2:00 PM, the event provided a platform for students to present their research insights. The session was facilitated by renowned academicians, including Prof. Shahana Rasool, Head of the Department of Social Work at the University of Johannesburg; Dr. Varoshini Nadesan, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Social Work and Community Development at the University of Johannesburg; Dr. Kiran Thampi, Head of the Department of Social Work at Rajagiri College; and Dr. Rajeev S.P., Assistant Professor and Coordinator of the Afro-Indian Centre for Social Work Education at Rajagiri College.

CONSTITUTION DAY OBSERVATION



On November 26, 2024, Rajagiri College observed Constitution Day with a series of meaningful activities. The celebration commenced with a Pushparchana ceremony honoring Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, during which a short story about his life and contributions to the nation was shared. The event was inaugurated by Adv. Elsie George, District Panchayat President, who delivered an inspiring inaugural address. This was followed by an engaging session on the Indian Constitution by Dr. Rajeev S.P., Assistant Professor, Department of Social Work, highlighting the relevance of constitutional principles in contemporary times. The program concluded with a vote of thanks, after which BSW NSS volunteers organized a rally around the college premises to raise awareness about the importance of the Constitution. The event successfully instilled a deeper understanding and appreciation of constitutional values among the participants.

STREET THEATRE WORKSHOP

RAJAGIRI COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
(AUTONOMOUS), KALAMASSERY

STREET THEATRE WORKSHOP

DIVYADHARSHAN R.
Catalyst, Fourth Wave Foundation

28/11/2024 – 29/11/2024

CHAVARA HALL | 09:00 AM – 05:00 PM

" Theatre is a mirror, a sharp reflection of society "

The department of Social Work at Rajagiri College of Social Sciences, Kalamassery organized a two day theatre workshop on November 28th and 29th , led by Mr. Divyadharshan R. , Fourth Wave Foundation for MSW first year students at Chavara Hall from 9:30 am to 5:00 pm. Through interactive exercises and activities, students learned the fundamentals of theatre and had the opportunity to showcase their acting talents. The workshop also equipped students with the skills to perform a street play.

SEMESTER INDUCTION PROGRAMMES



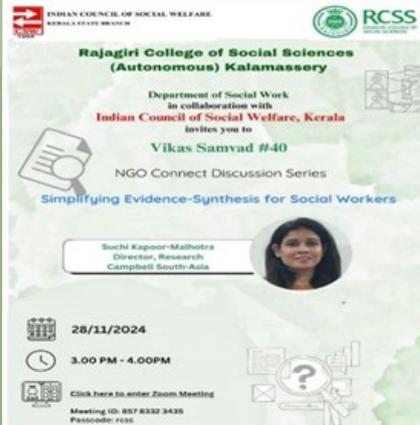
The Department of Social Work organized induction programmes for students across various courses and semesters in November 2024.

The BSW 4th and 6th Semester Induction took place on November 4, 2024, welcoming students back with a focus on building upon their prior experiences. The event highlighted their achievements in fieldwork, community engagements, and academics, inspiring them to continue pursuing excellence. Faculty members and students shared their experiences and insights on leveraging their knowledge for impactful social work practice.

The BSW 2nd Semester Induction, held on November 7, 2024, introduced students to the core values and expectations of their course. This programme emphasized the importance of embracing fieldwork opportunities, engaging with communities, and honing skills essential for future success. Faculty guidance and student interactions set a strong foundation for the semester.

On November 27, 2024, the MSW 2nd Semester Induction Programme was conducted, welcoming students from MSW, CSW, and PGDCSW courses. This event celebrated the achievements of the previous semester and included batch-wise presentations and experience-sharing sessions. Faculty members, led by Dr. Kiran Thampi, Head of the Department, motivated students to sustain their commitment to social work values.

VIKAS SAMVAD



The Department of Social Work of Rajagiri College of Social Sciences (Autonomous), Kalamassery, in collaboration with the Indian Council of Social Welfare (Kerala), conducted its 40th discussion series of Vikas Samvaad. The Department of Social Work of Rajagiri College of Social Sciences (Autonomous), Kalamassery, in collaboration with the Indian Council of Social Welfare (Kerala). This session provided insights into evidence synthesis and its significance in the field of social work. Participants will gain an understanding of how to simplify complex research evidence for practical application, enhancing their decision-making and practice in social work settings.

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