

Prayatna -2019

Annual School Fest

School of Social Sciences

About Prayatna

Prayatna is the Annual School Fest of the School of Social Sciences, Kaziranga University. It is the first annual fest that the School of Social Sciences is organizing. Prayatna means “to put an effort”. The idea behind this is to accomplish dreams by honest efforts. The students of the School of Social Sciences have taken this initiative to provide a platform for the students from all over North East to show their talents and to share their opinions and ideas about topics of social relevance. The idea behind this festival is to bring about a positive change and continuous improvement by building our social relationships and acquiring knowledge through shared experiences.

Objectives

1. To take the School of Social Sciences and initiatives taken up by the school in general and by its students in particular, to the larger student and faculty community of various academic institutions of Assam and Northeast.
2. To create a platform for students from various institutions of Assam and Northeast to come together, exchange knowledge, experience and showcase their talents.
3. To provide a unique stage to the students of Social Sciences specifically, so that they can exchange ideas and opinions with regard to issues of social relevance.

Scope of the Event

Prayatna will be a meeting ground for academic institutions of Assam in Particular and Northeast in general. It will primarily cater to students studying in higher secondary and graduation levels. Although, the event is being initiated at a modest scale to begin with, the organisers of Prayatna hope and aspire to make it into a vibrant and unique platform where students from Northeast India can come together, share their experiences & opinions regarding issues of social relevance and find solutions to current societal problems while showing their talent in both extra-academic and extracurricular activities.

Brief Report

The School of Social Sciences, Kaziranga University organized its first ever Academic Festival, "Prayatna" on 8th& 9th November, 2019 with great enthusiasm and exhilaration. Prayatna is to be an annual event to be organised by the school with an intention of raising awareness regarding the practice of Social Work in particular and about social science disciplines in general among young students. The fest also intends to provide a platform for students of various institutions to come together and get a taste of how such disciplines are practiced. With these objectives in mind, Prayatna 2019 brought together higher secondary students from different educational institutions of Jorhat and Dergaon. The fest was kicked off with a grand inaugural ceremony in the presence of honourable Vice-Chancellor of Kaziranga University Dr. P.K. Mishra, Dean, School of Social Sciences, Dr. Braja S. Mishra and invited guest Dr. Archana Bhattacharya, Founder President, Navkiran Manch&Retired Prof. of English, Kakojan College. Dr. Bhattacharya in her address threw light upon the realities of social activism and the challenges that awaits those who choose the path of addressing social issues. The talk was followed by a unique event. A fundraising competition was held with an intent to familiarize the participants with the concept of fundraising for a social cause. As a part of the event, participants were taken to various spots in Jorhat town, where participants raised funds through various activities. The funds collected by the participants were donated to Feeding India, a national level NGO that works with hunger removal among street children. The first day of the fest was closed with a vibrant cultural evening put together by KUSSS students for the participants.

The second day of the festival was set off with an interactive session with NGO experts. Mr. Pranjal Baruah, Ashoka Fellow& CEO/General Secretary of Mushroom Development Foundation and Mr. Dilip Gaonkar, Programme Coordinator at Parivartan Trust were invited to share their rich practical experiences of social activism in the field of sustainable livelihood generation and mental health and hazards respectively. The session enlightened the participants on significance of social entrepreneurship development and mental health issues in today's society. The session was followed by an Innovative Idea for Social Enterprise competition where participating teams had to come up with an innovative social enterprise idea and present before the judges. The young participants not only took part in every competition but also showed great potential and enthusiasm throughout the festival.

During the valedictory session of the fest, prizes and certificates were given away to the winning teams. The session also included an experience sharing session in which participating students and accompanying teachers shared their experiences of the fest and stated how they and their students have received exposure to the actual practice of social science disciplines during the festival. Prayatna 2019 came to a close with the valedictory address delivered by event coordinator, Ms. Debajani Gohain, a student of BSW, 5th semester in the School of Social Sciences.