Report of the International Seminar

One-day International Seminar on 'Begum Rokeya: Influence on Women's Education, Society and Politics'. Dated: 09/12/2023, (Saturday).

Organised by the Department of Political Science and the Department of Philosophy in collaboration with Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of Jibantala Rokeya Mahavidyalaya.

Venue: Seminar Hall, Jibantala Rokeya Mahavidyalaya,

Topic of the Seminar: 'Begum Rokeya: Influence on Women's Education, Society and Politics'.

<u>**Resource Persons</u>**: 1) **Prof. Mahafuja Sultana Hilali**, Associate Professor, Bangla Language and Literature Course, School of General Education, BRAC University, Bangladesh.</u>

2) Mr. Siddique Alam Beg, Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, Raiganj University, West Bengal, India.

3) **Prof. Mau Datta**, Associate Professor, Department of Bengali, Shyampur Siddheshwari Mahavidyalaya, Howrah, West Bengal, India.

Organizing Committee :

Joint Convenors : Mr. Narayan Samanta, Assistant Professor & Hod, Department of Political Science and Mr. Satap Halder, Assistant Professor & Hod, Department of Philosophy, JibantalaRokeyaMahavidyalaya.

IQAC Co-ordinator: Dr. Shamima Sultana, Assistant Professor, Department of English.

AISHE Co-ordinator: Mr. Amit Kumar Pandit, Assistant Professor, Department of Geography.

Joint-Treasurers: Mr. Debabrata Mandal, SACT-I, Department of Political Science and Mr. Anup Kumar Sardar, SACT-I, Department of Philosophy.

<u>Members</u>: Mr. Amir Sohail, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science and Mr. Soumen Sardar, Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy.

<u>Mode of Seminar</u>: This was a blended mode Seminar, happened both online and offline platform parallely. Facebook livestreaming, Google Meet and other digital tools has been used for successfully completion of this Seminar. Prof. Mahafuja Sultana Hilali, form Bangladesh gave her lecture for our participants in the virtual platform (Google Meet).68 paper presenters read their paper by using Google meet link, provided by the Seminar Organising Committee of Jibantala Rokeya Mahavidyalaya.

Introduction

The Seminar was held on 9th December 2023, this date is celebrated every year as Begum Rokeya's birth and death anniversary. Around 11.30 A.M our respected Principal, distinguished guests, Resources Person's, Faculty Members, Students, Participants paid tribute to Begum Rokeya's Statue located at College entrance by offering flower garlands. At 12.30 P.M Principal and other guests started the seminar by lighting the lamp. Principal Dr. AnupMaji, Jibantala Rokeya Mahavidyalaya presided over the Seminar and delivered welcome address. Dr. Chiranjib Mukherjee, Convenor of the Seminar Sub-Committee, Jibantala Rokeya Mahavidyalaya delivered vote of thanks at the end.

Begum Rokeya's visionary feminist and educationist born in 1880 in British India left an indelible mark on history through her profound influence on Women's Education, Society and Politics. Her life's work is a testament to the transformative power of education and unwavering commitment to challenging societal norms. Begum Rokeya firmly believed that education was the key to women's emancipation. In 1909, she founded the Sakhawat Memorial Girls High School. Her legacy in women's education endures through institutions that continue to carry her torch. Rokeya was a trailblazer in challenging societal norms and advocating for women's Rights through her writings. Particularly the influential 'Sultanas Dream'. She envisioned a world where women have played active roles in all spheres of life. Rokeya's courage to question conversions and promote gender equality paved the way for paradigm shift in societal attitudes towards women's capabilities and roles in contemporary time in Indian society. Beyond education and societal transformation, Begum Rokeya was a staunch advocate for women's political participation. In a time when such discussion was unconventional, Begum Rokeya'sl legacy continues to inspire generations. Her holistic approach addressing education, societal norms, and Political engagement reflects a profound understanding of the interconnectedness of these spheres. As we reflect on her contributions, it becomes clear that Rokeya's vision was not confined to her time but remains relevant in the ongoing pursuit of gender equality and empowerment. Our esteemed Speakers Professor Mahafuja Sultana Hilali delivered thought provoking lecture on the topic of 'রোকেয়ার মননশীলতায় নারীর ক্ষমতায়ন'. Prof. Hilali delivered her lecture in the virtual mode from Bangladesh. Mr. Siddique Alam Beg delivered his lecture in the Seminar Hall. He gave thoughtful ideas on 'Education, Empowerment and Emancipation: The Philosophy of Begum Rokeya.

Prof. Mau Datta also shared her thought with our participants on the theme of 'সমাজ উন্নয়নে নারীর ভূমিকা ও বেগম রোকেয়া' . This Seminar is multidisciplinary and bilingualin in nature, so that participants(i.e. Faculty Members, Scholars, Students)from different disciplines were allowed to read their paper both Bengali and English, participants attended this Seminar not only from West Bengal but from JNU(Delhi), Assam and Tripura also.68 participants presented their paper virtually and 4 participants presented their paper physically at the Seminar Hall. They bring a wealth of expertise, and their insights undoubtedly inspired thought provoking conversations.

<u>Aims & Objective</u>: This one day International Seminar has been given details discussion on Begum Rokeya's influence on women's education, Society and Politics in the contemporary Indian society. This multidisciplinary International Seminar gave an opportunity for intellectual curiosity, open dialogue, and the cultivation of new ideas in the academic discipline. In recognising Begum Rokeya's influence, we acknowledge the ongoing struggle for equality and justice, inspired by the life and work of a remarkable woman who dare to dream of a better world for every woman's life in our today's Indian society.

<u>Outcome</u>: There were about 92 students, 20 faculty members and 5 Non-teaching Staffs of our Mahavidyalaya attended this Seminar physically.80 participants virtually attended this Seminar over Google Meet. All the participants are highly motivated much to create their concept regarding Begum Rokeya's influence on Women's education, Society and Politics in contemporary Indian society. This Seminar was very informative and makes good impact.

<u>Participants</u>: 200 participants attended the Seminar. 92 students, (Sem-5, 3 & 1 Honours and general). 20 Faculty Members of our Mahavidyalaya, and 5 Non-teaching Staffs participated in this Seminar. 68 participants presented their paper virtually and 4 participants presented their paper physically.

Narayan Samanta Joint-Convenor. HOD, Department of Political Science. Jibantala Rokeya Mahavidyalaya Satap Halder Joint-Convenor HOD , Department of Philosophy Jibantala Rokeya Mahavidyalaya













