

Department of Political Science

Sarupathar College

Report on the Students' Excursion to Darjeeling in March 2024

Introduction

The Department of Political Science, Sarupathar College, organised an excursion to Darjeeling from March 10 to March 15, 2024. The trip was designed as an academic and recreational experience, offering students exposure to Darjeeling's rich cultural, natural, and historical heritage and opportunities for experiential learning. A total of 12 students and one faculty participated in the excursion.

Objectives of the Excursion

- To provide practical exposure related to the subject matter taught in classrooms.
- To foster teamwork, leadership, and interpersonal skills among students.
- To explore the geographical, cultural, and ecological diversity of Darjeeling.
- To offer a recreational break for students, enhancing their overall well-being.

Itinerary

Day 1: March 09, 2024

- Departure from Sarupathar railway station and arrival at Siliguri railway station,
- Check-in at the
- Orientation session and briefing about the trip's objectives

Day 2: March 10, 2024

- Departure and arrival at Darjeeling.
- Check-in at the Bubble Beds Hostel

Day 3: March 11, 2024

- Visit to the Tiger Hill for a sunrise view over the Kanchenjunga range.
- Guided tour of the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute (HMI) and Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park.
- Discussion on mountain ecology and biodiversity
- Visit to Ghoom Monastery and a session on Buddhist culture and philosophy.

Day 4: March 12, 2024

- Exploration of the Darjeeling Tea Gardens and factory visit.
- Interaction with local tea sellers

- Visit to the botanical garden
- Visit to the Tibetan Refugee Camp.



Day 5: March 13, 2024

- Ropeway
- Self-exploration of the town by the students



Day 6: March 14, 2024

- Drop to NJP via Mirik, Pashupati market (Nepal border)
- Return Journey to Sarupathar
- End of Excursion

Academic Outcomes

- Geographical Understanding: Students observed the topography, climate, and biodiversity unique to the Darjeeling region.
- Cultural Insights: The interactions with local communities and visits to monasteries provided students with an appreciation of the cultural diversity of the region.
- Economic Awareness: The tea garden visit offered practical knowledge about the tea industry and its global implications.
- Teamwork: Students worked in groups for activities, fostering collaboration and leadership skills.

Conclusion

The excursion to Darjeeling was a resounding success, fulfilling its academic, cultural, and recreational objectives. The trip provided students with invaluable exposure and helped them forge deeper connections with their peers and faculty. Future excursions could build on this experience by incorporating additional interactive sessions and extending the duration of stay in key locations.



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