

Dt - 13/01/23

To
The Teacher-in-Charge
Polba Mahavidyalaya
Polba, Hooghly
Pin- 712148

Sub: Seeking permission to organize a one-day state level Seminar on The care of nature: A perspective from Ecofeminism

Respected Sir,

With due respect, I, on behalf of ICC in collaboration with IQAC, Polba Mahavidyalaya, would like to request your kind permission to organize a one-day state level Seminar on "The care of nature: A perspective from Ecofeminism" in the college premises. The proposed date of the said seminar is tentatively 20/01/23. The date would be finalized according to the convenience of the Resource Person.

- ☐ Proposed Resource Person: Dr. Sanchali Banerjee
- ☐ Proposed Budget:
- ☐ Resource Person Honorarium:

Rs. 1000/-

Hope you would be kind enough to provide your administrative and financial permission for the forthcoming Seminar.

Thanks and Regards,

Convener of ICC

Allowed.
W. K. S. S. S.
13/01/23.



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POLBA MAHAVIDYALAYA

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AFFILIATED TO THE UNIVERSITY OF BURDWAN
Recognized under Sections 2(f) & 12(B) of the UGC Act. 1956
NAAC Accredited

Ref. No.

Date: 13/01/23

Notice

All the Teaching and Non-Teaching Staffs along with the Students of Philosophy of Polba Mahavidyalaya are hereby informed that department of philosophy in collaboration with IQAC and ICC, Gender Sensitization Cell is going to organize a state level seminar on The care of nature: A perspective from Ecofeminism by Dr Sanchali Banerjee on 20/01/23

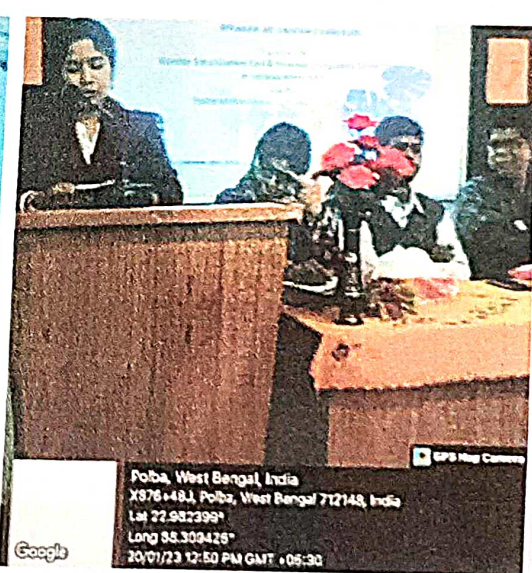
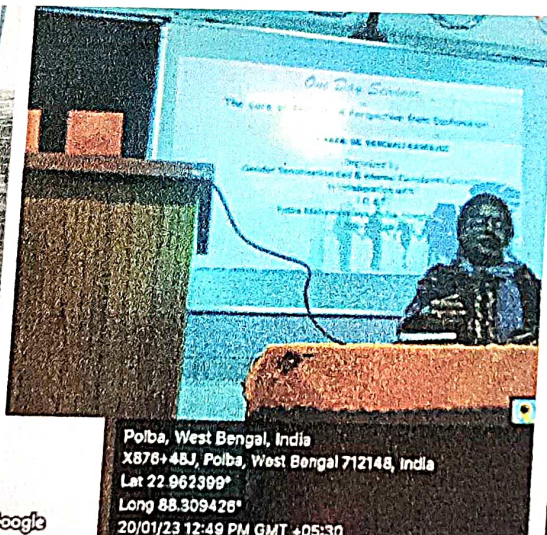
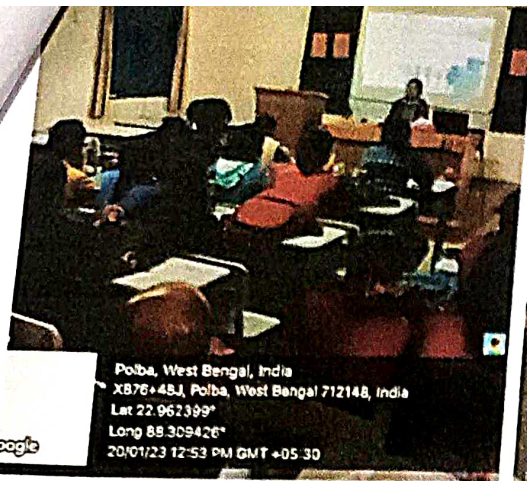
Sanchali 13/01/23

Convener
ICC and Gender Sensitization Cell

[Signature]
13/01/23

Teacher-in-Charge

Teacher in Charge
Polba Mahavidyalaya
Polba, Hooghly, West Bengal



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Programme of the Seminar

One-day State level Seminar

on

The care of nature: A perspective from Ecofeminism

Organized by

ICC & I.Q.A.C,

POLBA MAHAVIDYALAYA

:Venue:

Polba Mahavidyalaya (Room No. 202), on 20/01/23 Polba, Hooghly, W.B.-712148.

- **Registration: 12.00noon – 12.30pm**
- **Inaugural Session: 12.30 pm – 12.45 pm**

Objectives of the Seminar: Dr. Sharmistha Gupta Dutta H.O.D. Department of Philosophy, Polba Mahavidyalaya

12.45-1:00pm: Lighting of Lamp by the respected Teacher in Charge in the presence of the resource person and other.

Felicitations of Hon'ble T.I.C. Polba Mahavidyalaya, Distinguished Resource Person & by the Students

**Inaugural Speech by Hon'ble T.I.C., Polba Mahavidyalaya,
1:00 pm – 1:15 pm**

Introduction of the Speaker: Dr.Pratima Dhali, Assistant Professor Dept. of Philosophy, Polba Mahavidyalaya.

**Discussion 1:15 pm -2.15pm
Speech The care of nature: A perspective from Ecofeminism by Dr. Sanchali Banerjee**

2:15 break

**2.30-3.00pm
Question answer session and Vote of thanks is given by Dr. Amrita Das**

The Seminar concludes.

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A Progress Report of the Seminar on 20/01/23

A One-day State level Seminar was organized by the department of ICC & I.Q.A.C. of Polba Mahavidyalaya, Polba, Hooghly, W. B.-712148 on 20/01/ 2023. The topic of discussion of the seminar was The care of nature: A perspective from Ecofeminism. We started the Registration followed by the Inaugural Session around. The Objectives of the Seminar was briefly stated by Dr. Pratima Dhali, assistant professor of Philosophy, Polba Mahavidyalaya, Then the programme was carried forward by completing lighting the Lamp ceremony and Felicitations of Hon'ble T.I.C.sir and distinguished resource person were done by the Students. Next the Inaugural speech was delivered by our respected T.I.C. sir of Polba Mahavidyalaya, Mr. N. G. Kaibartya,

We started our Technical Session introducing the Resource person, Dr Sharmistha Gupta (Dutta) Associate Professor, Dept. of Philosophy. Dr., Kali Prasad Mishra, Associate Professor of Sanskrit, Dept. of Sanskrit, Polba Mahavidyalaya delivered the Keynote Speech. Valuable talk was delivered by distinguished resource person Dr. Sanchali Banerjee. The students with audience were highly enriched by his valuable discussion.

Then we moved to the Valedictory Session. Dr. Amrita Das, Dept. of mathematics, Polba Mahavidyalaya addressed Vote of Thanks to the Hon'ble Resource Person, Respected T.I.C. Polba Mahavidyalaya, I.Q.A.C. Coordinator, Dr. Santanu Sengupta, Assistant Professor, Dept. of History, Polba Mahavidyalaya, Hon'ble Bursar, Dr. Sanjay Kumar Ghosh, Associate Professor & H.O.D., Dept. of Bengali, Polba Mahavidyalaya, Dr. Sohini Ghosh, Assistant Professor & H.O.D., Dept. of Education, Convenor of Seminar Committee of Polba Mahavidyalaya, all the Respected Faculty Members & Non-teaching Staffs of our college and also our beloved students. Following that we finally closed our programme.

****Title: The Care of Nature: An Ecofeminism Perspective****

****Introduction****

In recent decades, the intersection of feminism and environmentalism has given rise to a compelling field of study known as ecofeminism. This approach combines feminist theory with ecological insights to address how gender, power structures, and environmental issues intersect. This report aims to explore the ecofeminist perspective on the care of nature, analysing how gendered dynamics shape environmental practices and advocating for a more inclusive and equitable approach to ecological stewardship.

****Understanding Ecofeminism****

Ecofeminism emerged in the late 20th century as a critical response to the limitations of both mainstream feminism and traditional environmentalism. At its core, ecofeminism examines the connections between the exploitation of women and the exploitation of nature. It argues that the same patriarchal ideologies that justify the oppression of women also rationalize the degradation of the environment. Key figures in ecofeminism include Vandana Shiva, Maria Mies, and Carolyn Merchant, who have contributed significantly to the development of this field.

****Theoretical Framework****

Ecofeminism integrates several theoretical frameworks:

1. ****Feminist Theory****: This perspective highlights how gender inequality is systemic and perpetuated through cultural, social, and economic structures. Ecofeminism extends this analysis to the environment, suggesting that the same power dynamics that marginalize women also harm nature.
2. ****Ecological Thought****: Central to ecofeminism is the idea that human relationships with the environment should be characterized by respect, reciprocity, and sustainability. Ecofeminists critique anthropocentric views that prioritize human needs over ecological health.

3. **Intersectionality**: Ecofeminism employs an Intersectional approach to understand how various forms of oppression—such as racism, classism, and sexism—interact with environmental degradation. This perspective advocates for solutions that address these overlapping issues.

Key Concepts in Ecofeminism

1. **Dualism and Hierarchies**: Ecofeminists critique dualistic thinking (e.g., nature/culture, male/female) that establishes hierarchies and justifies the exploitation of both women and nature. They advocate for a more holistic understanding of the relationship between humans and the environment.

2. **Ethics of Care**: This concept emphasizes nurturing and empathy in human-environment interactions. Ecofeminists argue that an ethics of care should replace exploitative attitudes with practices that promote well-being for both people and the planet.

3. **Reconnection with Nature**: Ecofeminists advocate for a reconnection with nature that is informed by indigenous knowledge and practices. This involves respecting the wisdom of traditional ecological practices and integrating them into modern environmental strategies.

Implications for Environmental Practice

1. **Policy and Advocacy**: Ecofeminists call for environmental policies that address gender inequality and consider the diverse needs of marginalized communities. This includes advocating for women's participation in environmental decision-making and supporting initiatives that empower women as environmental stewards.

2. **Education and Awareness**: Raising awareness about the connections between gender, power, and environmental issues is crucial. Ecofeminism promotes educational programs that highlight these links and encourage more inclusive and equitable environmental practices.

3. **Community-Based Approaches**: Emphasizing local and community-based approaches to environmental care, ecofeminism supports grassroots movements that integrate feminist and ecological principles. This includes supporting community gardens, local conservation efforts, and sustainable living practices.

****Case Studies****

1. ****Vandana Shiva's Work****: Vandana Shiva, a prominent ecofeminist scholar and activist, has made significant contributions through her work on seed sovereignty and biodiversity. Her efforts in India highlight the impact of globalization on women and the environment and advocate for more sustainable and equitable agricultural practices.

2. ****Community-Based Environmental Justice****: Various grassroots movements around the world, such as the women's environmental movements in Latin America, demonstrate the practical application of ecofeminist principles. These movements often focus on issues like land rights, access to clean water, and the preservation of traditional ecological knowledge.

****Challenges and Critiques****

While ecofeminism provides a valuable perspective, it faces critiques, including:

1. ****Overemphasis on Gender****: Some argue that ecofeminism places too much emphasis on gender at the expense of other factors, such as class and race, in environmental issues.

2. ****Cultural Relativism****: There is a concern that ecofeminist approaches may inadvertently overlook the cultural contexts in which environmental practices occur, potentially imposing a Western-centric perspective on diverse communities.

****Conclusion****

Ecofeminism offers a nuanced and critical perspective on the care of nature, emphasizing the interconnectedness of gender, power, and environmental issues. By addressing the systemic inequalities that contribute to both the exploitation of women and environmental degradation, ecofeminism provides a framework for more inclusive and sustainable environmental practices. Moving forward, integrating ecofeminist principles into environmental policy, education, and community action can foster a more equitable and harmonious relationship between humanity and the natural world.

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