



STATE LEVEL SEMINAR

3rd March 2017, Friday

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY
KAMALA NEHRU COLLEGE

NAAC accredited 'A' Grade

UNIVERSITY OF DELHI

ASKOT ARAKOT ABHIYAN:
A Historical Geography of Himalayan Communities

ABOUT THE SEMINAR

The Himalayas form a unique geographical region with its rich landscape of mountain ranges, river valleys, lakes, forests and meadows. It is also an abode of hill communities who hold a close relationship with their immediate environment but are also increasingly being affected by external pressures. The fragility of ecosystems in Himalayas and their transformative nature has always attracted scientists and social scientists alike including geographers and historians.

The department of geography of Kamala Nehru College is inviting Prof. Shekhar Pathak, a noted historian who has studied hill communities in Utrarakhand over a period of five decades. His research organisation is named People's Association for Himalayan Area Research (PAHAR). It is a non-profit organization dedicated to raising awareness of the fragile Himalayan environment and bringing together scientists, social activists, and common people to save the Himalayas. PAHAR has been organizing a trek from Askot (Pithoragarh) to Arakot (Uttarkashi) at a select interval of 10 years. Five such research expeditions have been undertaken between 1974 and 2104 with the participants including scientists, activists, environmentalists, litterateurs, journalist, artists, mountaineers and all those committed to a scientific understanding of Himalayan society, culture, history and environment.

In this academic meet, Prof. Pathak, along with his team, will present the outcome of his research expeditions. This is supposed to give the participants a historical perspective of changing human geography of the study area. The knowledge about human communities in this ecologically and culturally important region and the transitional challenges they are facing will be of interest to participants across disciplines. Since this discourse touches upon the various social, economic, and ecological aspects of the places and people in Himalayas, it has an equal appeal for students and scholars working in areas of environment and development besides that of disciplines of geography and history.

EVENT DETAILS (3rd March 2017, Friday)

Registration & Welcome Refreshment	: 10:00 - 10:30 a.m.
Lecture and Demonstration	: 10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Lunch	: 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.
Interactive Session	: 2:00 - 3:30 p.m.
Vote of Thanks	: 3:30 p.m.

REGISTRATION FEE

Faculty Members	- Rs 250
Students	- Rs 50



OUR EMINENT SPEAKER

Prof. Shekhar Pathak taught in Kumaon University for more than three decades. He has worked on different aspects of Himalayan history, social- environmental movements, folk culture and exploration. He has been a fellow at different organisations like Indian Institute of Advanced studies, Shimla, and Center for Contemporary Studies, at Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, New Delhi. He is a founder of People's Association for Himalaya Area Research (PAHAR). He is also the editor of the Himalayan journal of same name and the Vice President (Asia/Himalaya) of WMPA (World Mountain People Association). Prof. Pathak has written and edited books on Begar System, Freedom Struggle, Forest Movements, Life and Times of Pundit Nain Singh Rawat, Kailash Manasrovar, Languages of Uttarakhand, and Folk Poetry of Kumaon.



Route Map of Askot - Arakot Abhiyan

ABOUT THE COLLEGE

Kamala Nehru College is a liberal arts college for women, accredited with 'A' Grade by National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC). Established in 1964 as a constituent college of the University of Delhi, KNC has come a long way and has established itself as a leading education institution known for its achievements in academics as well as in extra-curricular fields. Kamala Nehru college provides its 3000 students a good learning environment that comprises of well qualified academic staff, a WI-FI enabled Campus, a fully digitised Library, well equipped computer labs and a well maintained playfield. Besides offering courses in the Humanities, Social Sciences, Commerce and Mathematics, the college offers several add on courses including Certificate and Diploma courses in French Language on regular basis, and several other courses related to environment, digital literacy, and communication skills, organised from time to time. The College has a vibrant cultural life where students take part in the literary activities, performing arts and fine arts. The Sports, Nation Social Service and National Cadet Core are also integral part of the college. Thus, the College encourages holistic learning and envisions to empower women to become just, humane and visionary citizens who are sensitised towards environment and community service.

Patron : Principal, Dr. Kalpana Bhakuni

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

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