

NORTH KAMRUP COLLEGE, BAGHMARA



SESSION: 2020-21

1. Title of the Practice:

Conservation of Indigenous Language and Culture

Objective of the Practice:

Languages are important in our lives as they play an important role in communication and understanding each other. Most of the time, the term native language refers to the language that we learn in early childhood because it is spoken by our family and/or the language of the area in which the child lives. It is also known as mother tongue or arterial language. With the advent of globalization, it has become imperative for us to explore foreign languages. But it should not urge us to alienate our native language. Language is not only a means of communication but also a powerful tool for preserving our culture and heritage. When a language dies, so does part of the culture. Through this practice, the college attempts to conserve the indigenous culture, language and thereby the Assamese and Bodo race.

Context of the Practice:

In India, there are more than 600 languages spoken. There are 22 languages included in the Eight Schedule of the Indian Constitution. India epitomizes unity in diversity, and languages are a big part of our collective identity. Though there are few places where native languages are being used for the official purpose or the teaching at schools, but most of the places English as the language is used in spite of the native language. The college is committed towards the preservation of indigenous languages as it strongly believes that when we lose a language, a community loses its unique vision- its history and culture, we lose the local perspectives and stories. It is tragic that, with loss of their mother tongue, people find themselves unable to speak their first language. It is an irreplaceable loss. To avoid the extinction of the language and culture and in adherence to NEP 2020, the college has adopted this practice.

The Practice:

To celebrate the indigenous Language and Culture of Assam, the college has undertaken the following activities:

1. The college (Department of Assamese) has celebrated International Mother Language Day on Feb 21, 2021.

2. The college in collaboration with the Department of Assamese celebrates festivals like Bhogali Bihu and Rogali Bihu wherein students are motivated to prepare ethnic cuisines like *Pitha* and *Laru*.

3. The Department of Assamese have initiated a humble endeavour of conserving Assamese tradition and culture by curating a museum which consists of various traditional attires of indigenous communities of the state.

4. Various vocational courses on indigenous weaving techniques/patterns and traditional handloom art are provided by the college.

5. Cultural rallies are conducted annually by the college. Students wear traditional outfits and enact various cultural festivals during this procession.

6. The college provides a certificate course on Creative Writing under the Department of Assamese.

7. The college provides a certificate course on Traditional Art and Culture of Bodos under the Department of Bodo.

8. The college has attempted to conserve indigenous Bodo culture amongst students by allowing the Bodo Students to wear their traditional attire (*Dokhona* and *Fasra*).

7. During the Covid- 19 period the college had assigned students to write on the importance of indigenous language (Project on *Baghmara r aancholik bhasa*).

Problems Encountered: We haven't been able to digitalise this initiative yet which we plan to do in the near future.


2. **Title of the Practice:** College Retired Teachers' Forum (CTRF)

Objective: The objective of this practice is to keep the senior and experienced teachers associated with the institution who can provide the college with necessary guidance in times of need.

Context: The college in the given academic year had appointment of a significant number of new academic faculties in various departments. Hence, this forum was created to mentor them when and if necessary.

Practice: A forum for the Retired Teachers' of the college was constituted wherein all the teachers who had retired in the past years became the members of the forum. The forum had Mr. Pankaj Das as President, Mr. Haren Das as Vice President, Mr. Dilip Lahkar as Secretary of the forum. The functions of this forum are:1. To suggest and guide in Academic dimensions of this college 2. To assist in various administrative activities 3. To render service as Guest Lecturer, when and if needed 4. To support during admission awareness drives in nearby areas with whom they had developed a friendly rapport during their service period. This forum not only guided the currently employed teachers as forefathers but also have supported in preparing the college for the upcoming NAAC peer team visit.

Problems Encountered: Because of age and various health issues, the retired teachers are unable to visit the college regularly, when and if needed.



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