

DESHABANDHU MAHAVIDYALAYA, CHITTARANJAN



Online Lecture on the Inaugural Session of the Add On Course on

MUSEOLOGY

Speaker

Dr. Sangita Kar

(Independent Researcher)



‘ Role of Museum in Understanding History ’

26th May 2025 • 7 PM

Centre for Continuing Education & Life Long Learning

Department of History

Under the aegis of IQAC

Your presence and participation is solicited

Report on the Inaugural Online Lecture of Add-on Course in Museology

Topic: “The Role of Museums in Understanding History”

Speaker: Dr. Sangita Kar

Organized by: Department of History, in collaboration with Centre for Continuing Education & Life Long Learning, **Deshabandhu Mahavidyalaya, Chittaranjan**

Date 26/5/2025

Google meet link <https://meet.google.com/fcv-gwpt-jjj>

The Department of History, in collaboration with Centre for Continuing Education & Life Long Learning, under the aegis of IQAC organised an invited online lecture by Dr. Sangita Kar on *“The Role of Museums in Understanding History”* as the inaugural session of the newly introduced Add-on Course in Museology. This lecture served as a compelling introduction to the evolving landscape of museology and highlighted the dynamic roles that museums play in interpreting history.

Dr. Sangita Kar, a dedicated scholar with a Ph.D. in Museology from the University of Calcutta, has specialized in the architectural and cultural heritage of West Bengal and its representation in museums. With hands-on experience as a Project Linked Person and trainee at the Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis Memorial Museum & Archives, Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata, Dr. Kar brings both academic depth and practical insight into the field. Her passion for preserving and promoting cultural heritage has shaped her professional journey and academic contributions.

In her lecture, Dr. Kar emphasized that museums are no longer static repositories of artefacts but have transformed into active storytellers that shape and reshape public understanding of the past. She highlighted the shift from linear historical narratives to inclusive, thematic presentations that incorporate diverse perspectives, including those of marginalized communities. The talk also explored the growing impact of digital technologies—such as virtual exhibitions and interactive platforms—in enhancing the accessibility and relevance of museums in contemporary society.

Particularly notable was Dr. Kar’s discussion on community engagement as a core aspect of modern museology. She argued that inclusive curation and community participation are vital in making museums spaces of critical reflection, education, and social cohesion. Through real-life examples from her own work, she illustrated how museums can become vibrant cultural spaces that encourage dialogue and foster intergenerational connections.

The lecture was followed by an engaging question-and-answer session in which both students and faculty members participated enthusiastically. Discussions ranged from the challenges of curating inclusive narratives in regional museums to the role of youth in heritage preservation. Dr. Kar responded with thoughtful insights, advocating for interdisciplinary approaches and stressing the importance of collaboration between scholars, communities, and cultural institutions.

The session proved to be both informative and inspiring, marking a successful beginning to the Add-on Course in Museology and setting the tone for future academic and practical engagements in the field.

