

Sharing and Learning: Research Scholars Workshop IX

Department of Political Science, Salesian College Sonada organized one day workshop for research scholars on the theme “sharing and Learning”, which was held at Salesian College Siliguri Campus on 17th January, 2014. The Conveners of the workshop were Mr. Komal Kaushik Baral and Ms. Nisha Tamang with extensive support from Fr. Dr. George Thadathil. The workshop was blessed with the presence of Dr. Kavita Sarkar, Fr Dr Mathew George , Fr Dr James Chacko and Fr Dr Nirmol Gomes. The idea behind this workshop was to bring research scholars of the region onto one platform with their respective fields of inquiry. There were sixteen presenters and five observers as participants. The research topics shared covered various themes at all three levels: local, national and international.

The registration started at 9:00 A.M followed by inaugural session and concluded at 5:00 P.M with the concluding session. At the end the participants were requested to submit their feedback about the workshop. Many expressed that the workshop provided them with various insights and was fruitful in regard to sharing of experiences concerning their research journey. The participants seem to be happy about the time they got to discuss about their areas of inquiry and the feedbacks they got from the resource person, Fr. Principal and other participants. Some found the concept innovative and its interdisciplinary nature was acknowledged. Some were of the view that active participation of the candidates made the workshop worthy and contended that the workshop has enabled them to get some clarifications regarding their topic. Some contend that it was well organized and the schedule was well prepared. Further, the participants were happy about the quality of the researches in progress.

As for suggestions, firstly, it was felt that greater effort can be made to bring in variety among the participants, especially from outside Salesian family. Secondly, the need to focus on “research methodology” in the workshop as greater contributing element to individual scholars at the beginning stage was also highlighted. Finally, the increased number of researchers calls for probably an allocation of more days than one and participants being grouped as per their stream or into science and social science.

Kaushik Baral and Nisha Tamang

