

# **Inauguration of the Human Rights Cell**

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The establishment of the 'Human Rights Cell' by the Department of Political Science, Salesian College, Siliguri Campus, was held on 9th August, 2017. The inaugurator and keynote speaker for the event was Dr. Rakesh Kumar Singh, Assistant Professor, Dept. Of History, K.G.T. College, Bagdogra. Fr. (Dr.) Mathew Pulingathil (Rector, Salesian College, Siliguri) gave his prayerful message on the occasion. Fr. Jose Velloorputhenpura (Bursar, Salesian College, Siliguri) encouraged the audience with his active presence. Mr. Biju Mathew (Head of the Department of Political Science), Mr. Bikas Sarma and Dr. Veera Renuka Lobo, of the Department of Political Science, Co-ordinator of Human Rights Cell were present during the occasion.

The programme commenced with a prayer song led by Louis Rai and Achish Rongong of III Year Political Science. Mr. Bikash Sharma welcomed the guests and the gathering with a note on Human Rights followed by the lighting of the lamp.

Dr. Rakesh Kumar Singh spoke on the origin and importance of Human Rights with relevant examples. Later he set the tone for an informative and interactive question and answer session.

A presentation on the proposal and planned activities of the cell for the year was presented by the students, namely R M Deepika Rani and Smith Lalrindiki. Sewani Gurung, Secretary of Human Rights Cell delivered a speech on the need for Human Rights Education. A documentary on the history of human rights, their evolution since the decrees Cyrus made in 539 B.C. till the 'Universal Declaration of Human Rights' was also screened.

Prof. Joseph Hansda, (Assistant Professor, Dept. of History) appreciated the commitment of the students requested them to carry forward the message to all, on and off campus through the cell's various activities. Dr. Veera Renuka Lobo expressed her gratitude towards all for the success of the programme and the establishment of the Cell. She also acknowledged the immense support received from Fr. (Prof.). George Thadathil (Principal) of in setting up the Human Rights Cell in the campus.

