

## **A report on the International Research Seminar**

An International Research Seminar along with Kalidasa Mahotsava was organized by the Department of Sanskrit, Bharati College, University of Delhi in association with Kalidasa Academy of Sanskrit, Music and Fine Arts, Delhi on January 19 and 20, 2019. This was the 23<sup>rd</sup> edition of the academic event in which a number of invited talks and research paper presentations took place. The seminar opened with the Saraswati invocation and lighting of lamps by dignitaries like Prof. Ramesh Pandey, Vice Chancellor of LBS Vidyapeeth, New Delhi, Prof. Bal Ram Singh, Director, Botulinum Research Center, Institute of Advanced Sciences and Executive Mentor, School of Indic Studies, University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth, MA, USA, Prof. Ila Ghosh, Director of Kalidasa Academy of Sanskrit, Music and Fine Arts, Delhi. Dr. Mukti Sanyal, Principal of Bharati College, graced the occasion with her kind presence. The convener of the seminar Dr. Asha Tiwari introduced the theme of the seminar to the participants and Prof. Abha Kulshrestha, joint director of the academy, welcomed the gathering of the scholars. Dr. Mamata G. Basak, FDA, USA was the chief guest of the session.

Speaking in the inaugural session of the seminar VC Prof Pandey stressed the fact that Kalidasian literature is replete with benedictional motives. He gave references from various works of Kalidasa. Prof Ila Ghosh's book "Sahityavadhukaavyapurushheeyam" was released by the scholars during the inaugural session. Prof. Mira Dwivedi of the Department of Sanskrit, University of Delhi, presented her talk in which she described the enormous presence of benedictional elements in Kalidasian literature. The renowned orator and Professor Bal Ram Singh gave his talk on the importance of debate in the ancient and contemporary pedagogy. He also described the position of Sanskrit in the United States and said that Sanskrit has around \$87.5 trillion market in the United States. He advocated to add new advances in the field of knowledge to the Sanskrit traditions. Prof Girish Nath Jha, Dean of the School of Sanskrit and Indic Studies, JNU spoke on the need of digitization of Sanskrit manuscripts to make them available to researchers and public at large. Involvement of computers in the study of Sanskrit language will enhance its strength and reach to the people around the globe. Prof. Mahesh Prasad Silori of LBS Vidyapeeth, New Delhi discussed the benefits of yoga practices. He highlighted various topics and dimensions of yoga philosophy in the context of contemporary human life.

Apart from invited talks, many research papers were presented by teachers and research scholars of various disciplines from different institutions of the globe. The themes of the seminar were Lokamangalabhawana in Kalidasian Literature, Nyaya philosophy, Ayurveda, Computational Sanskrit, Water Sciences, Yoga, Jyotish and ancient sciences in Sanskrit in which many scholars presented their researches. In the non-academic attractions were a Sanskrit play enacted by Bharati College students and musical compositions by the team of Dr. Sarita Pathak Yajurvedi, Dr. Sudha Mathur and Dr. Sita Bindra that were enjoyed by all the participants. The seminar

committee has decided to organize the next edition of the seminar at the Bharati College again in the year 2020.