



# ATMA RAM SANATAN DHARMA COLLEGE

(University of Delhi)

## Report of History Department –International Seminar

**Name of the Program:** International Seminar on Notion of India: History, Politics & Literature

**Date:** 23<sup>rd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> February, 2023

**Organized by (Society/Department):** Departments of History and Hindi collaboration with Ambedkar & Gandhi study circles

### Speakers:

1. Prof. Dinesh Singh, Chancellor K.R.Manglam University
2. Prof. Ananya Vajpeyi, Centre for Study of Developing Societies
3. Prof. S. Inayat Ali Zaidi, Department of History and Culture, JMI
4. Prof. Chandan Kumar, Department of Hindi, University of Delhi
5. Prof. Nand Kishore Pandey, Dean of Social Sciences, University of Rajasthan
6. Prof. Aditya Mukherjee, Centre for Historical Studies, JNU
7. Prof. Ravi Kant, Centre for Study of Developing Societies
8. Prof. Anand Prakash, Department of Psychology, University of Delhi
9. Prof. Girishwar Mishra, Department of Psychology, University of Delhi

The Internal Quality Assurance Cell of Atma Ram Sanatan Dharma College in collaboration with Ambedkar & Gandhi study circles and the Departments of History and Hindi on the occasion of 75 years of Indian independence- Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav organized a two-day Interdisciplinary International Seminar on the theme Notion of India: History, Politics & Literature on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> of February 2023.

The first day started off with the inaugural address of the college principal Prof. Gyantosh Kumar Jha who welcomed the distinguished scholars, faculty members and the students and introduced them to the idea and the vision behind this event. The convener of I.Q.A.C., Dr. Vinita Tuli and Convener of the seminar, Mr. Deepankar carried out the lighting of the lamp by the guests and presenting the token of gratitude marking the official beginning of the two-day seminar. Prof. Pawan Jaggi, Chairman, College Governing Body presented his views on the topic by highlighting the evolution of the idea of India. Prof. Ananya Vajpeyi, Centre for study of developing societies, New Delhi who threw more light on the topic and the essence of the word “Notion” and how it is to be applied in the Indian context. She also shared some memorable creations of her father, Late Shri Kailash Vajpeyi, a great poet, writer and lyricist to elaborate her ideas further. The inaugural session of Day 1 witnessed Padma Shree, Prof. Dinesh Singh who is also the chancellor of K. R. Managalam University and has also been the former vice-chancellor of University of Delhi. His address was filled with interesting stories and witty remarks that enriched the mood of the audience and landed them in fits of laughter while also divulging into what is the true idea of our nationalism and how it has helped in shaping the modern nation-state that we are living in today.



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The speaker for the session, renowned scholar Prof. S. Inayat Ali Zaidi, Department of History and Culture, JMI who presented his views on the idea of India and how it took shape through the ancient and medieval times.

Prof. Chandan Kumar, Department of Hindi, University of Delhi chairing delivered his talk on the literary perspective of the notion of India where he pointed out that India is not be understood as a political entity but as a civilization that has been a great example of social integration and co-existence and how it has taught the world that by communal harmony and tolerance, we can achieve the higher ideals of human life as Indians have done. , Prof. Nand Kishore Pandey, Dean of Social Sciences, University of Rajasthan elaborated further on the topic by pointing out how India has been shaped, not by the rulers alone but by priests, writers, poets, farmers and the common people and how their popular imagination has shaped the idea of India through centuries. Prof. Ravi Kant, Centre for Study of Developing Societies, New Delhi who presented his talk on how film and media has shaped the idea of India and how it has evolved through decades. Prof. Anand Prakash, Department of Psychology, University of Delhi who presented his views on the topic of the session and elaborated on the idea of literature and inclusiveness being strong pillars of the making of India. He further enlightened the young minds on how they are to shape a nation which is to be built on these same principles and not on the absolutist ideas of 20<sup>th</sup> century Europe. Prof. Girishwar Mishra, Department of Psychology, University of Delhi who delivered the valedictory address and elaborated on several less discussed aspects of the notion of India while quoting examples from the Upanishads, texts of Tulsidas, and other literary and historical sources.

## Photograph

