



GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL  
OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL

# Maulana Azad College

8, RAFI AHMED KIDWAI ROAD, KOLKATA 700013, INDIA  
Phone: 033 2249-3737/2226-7814 e-mail: maulanaazadcollegekolkata@gmail.com  
Website: <https://maulanaazadcollegekolkata.ac.in>



**7.3.1 - Portray the performance of the Institution in one area distinctive to its priority and thrust within 1000 words**

## **Diversity and Inclusivity in a Multicultural Milieu**

Maulana Azad College is a premier seat of learning, continuing its glorious tradition for **close to a century**. It is situated right at the **heart of the city** of Kolkata, and easily accessible. The college is located in a cosmopolitan area where residents speak in a variety of tongues, including Bengali, Hindi, Bhojpuri, Urdu and English. This **heterogeneity** is mirrored in the **mixed demography** of the college, attracting students from different regions of Bengal, North East India, Uttar Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir and even Bangladesh every year, belonging to different faiths, ethnicities and linguistic backgrounds. More than 50 % of students are from reserved category and nearly 46 % are girls. This composition of students may be called a microcosmic representation of India. If one analyses its student population, one is amazed at this **enormous diversity** - be it in terms of language, religion or socio-economic categorisation.

It is the only co-educational government college affiliated to the University of Calcutta which offers six languages at the under-graduate level. These six language departments are the mainstay of the Arts stream in the college, and contribute significantly to the **promotion of arts and culture**. The presence of these six languages – Arabic, Bengali, English, Persian, Sanskrit and Urdu – enables the college to function as a '**language hub**', according it a unique position in the educational area of the city. Two of these Departments, English and Urdu, have a post-graduate section as well, strengthening the **linguistic heritage** of this college. Students of these Departments perform well in not only University examinations but also in **co-curricular and cultural activities**. Professors of these

  
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Departments, both past and present, are equally engaged in academic and cultural pursuits. Along with their teaching, they consistently publish academic books, journal articles and book chapters. They also participate in literary festivals, book launches, *mushaira* [poetic symposium] and similar events. Some of these are organised by the college as well, for instance Mushaira by the Urdu Department, World Arabic Language Day by the Arabic Department and celebrating Nowruz/Navroz [Iranian New Year] by the Persian Department. The International Mother Language Day is also celebrated with due ceremony in February every year.

The Central Library is stocked with books in these six languages, constituting a substantial corpus. It also prides on preserving **ancient and rare literary texts and manuscripts** in Arabic, English, Persian, Sanskrit and Urdu. These are kept not in the main section of the Central Library but in an adjacent annexe. Since these texts are extremely old, they are preserved inside glass cases in order to minimise the damaging effects of dust and moisture. The crowning glory of this rich heritage is a manuscript of the *Ain-i-Akbari* [“Administration of Akbar”], a 16<sup>th</sup> century document recording the administration of the Mughal empire under emperor **Akbar**, written in Persian language by his court historian Abul Fazl. Incidentally, this text constitutes the 3<sup>rd</sup> volume of the famous *Akbarnama* [“Account of Akbar”] written by the same writer.

The college is the preferred choice for many students belonging to the religious minority community. Lord Lytton, the then-Governor of Bengal, had laid the foundation stone of this college in 1924, and studies commenced two years later from 1926. At that time, it was named Islamia College, and was primarily intended as an institution of higher learning for Muslim boy

  
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students who had done their schooling from various Madrassas. In keeping with this, the college building which initially comprised of the ground and first floor was designed along **Indo-Saracenic** lines. There are arches and *jharokhas* [windows projecting outwards] with lattices as well as the *charbagh* [four gardens] which is distinctly Mughal in style. The second floor which was added later, however, is of modern architectural design. The main building of the college and the Baker Government Hostel (college boys' hostel) have been declared as Grade I heritage sites by the Kolkata Municipal Corporation. It is a matter of immense pride that Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, who became the first prime minister of newly liberated Bangladesh in 1971, had been a student of Maulana Azad College and lived in the Baker Hostel.

The college has a rich heritage of inclusive environment, and the heterogeneous nature of the student and staff composition entails celebration of festivals of diverse communities with great fervour. **Saraswati Puja** is celebrated with a lot of fanfare every year, and students participate in worshipping the goddess of learning with much enthusiasm. **Holi**, the festival of colours, is celebrated with equal zest, though a day or two before the actual date since it is a holiday. **Rabindra Jayanti** is observed with recitation of Tagore's poetry and singing of Rabindra Sangeet [Tagore's songs]. Similarly, '**Dawat-e-Iftar**' [meal breaking the daily fasting during the month of Ramzan which culminates in Eid-ul-Fitr] is organised every year, and not only Muslims but also non-Muslim students, teachers and non-teaching staff participate in it. **Jashn-e-Eid Milad-un-Nabi**, commemorating the birth of Prophet Muhammad, is celebrated with a programme at the Raza Washat Ali Memorial Hall (Main Hall on the



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ground floor of the college), and the college building is beautifully decorated with flowers on the occasion.

In order to promote tolerance and harmony, the college encourages diversity through extension and outreach programmes. It collaborates with various non-governmental organisations to arrange events which raise awareness about these issues amongst the students and staff. The highpoint of this endeavour has been a Heritage Walk in the locality around the college with visits to sites of historical and cultural significance by the students and teachers. It is heartening that such efforts at fostering diversity and inclusivity in a multicultural milieu have been covered in news media and received appreciation from all quarters. Such camaraderie between different social communities goes a long way in encouraging feelings of harmony, and contributes towards national integration. Thus, the college provides a linguistically and culturally rich environment for both students and teaching staff, encouraging them to constantly pursue excellence in their chosen fields.



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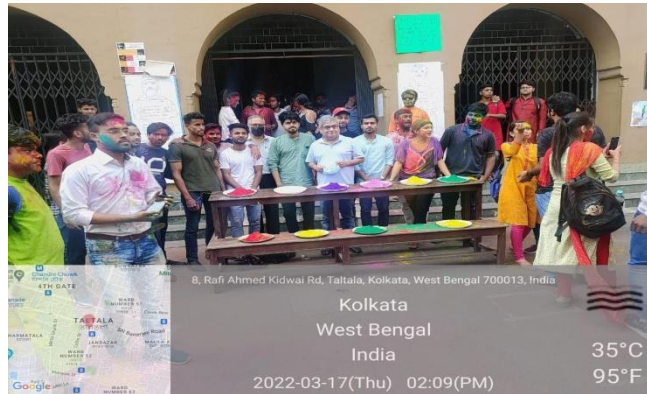
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## Celebration of Diverse Festivals at Maulana Azad College, Kolkata



Principal and students of Maulana Azad College celebrating Holi, the festival of colours



Sri Sudip Bandyopadhyay, Member of Parliament & President of the Governing Body of Maulana Azad College, Kolkata, on the eve of Saraswati Puja at the college campus. Accompanying him are Smt. Nayana Bandyopadhyay, local Member of Legislative Assembly, West Bengal, and Sri Sandipan Saha, local Councillor, Kolkata Municipal Corporation. The college Principal is showing them the preparations of the upcoming Puja.

  
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Saraswati Puja celebrated with fanfare and enthusiasm at the college



Students of all communities enjoying the festivities during Saraswati Puja at the college

  
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‘Dawat-e-Iftar’ at Raza Washat Ali Memorial Hall on ground floor at Maulana Azad College, Kolkata



Girl students participating in ‘Dawat-e-Iftar’ at Maulana Azad College

  
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Jashn-e-Eid Milad-un-Nabi at Raza Washat Ali Memorial Hall on ground floor at Maulana Azad College, Kolkata



College main gate decorated on the occasion of Jashn-e-Eid Milad-un-Nabi

  
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Celebrating Nowruz/Navroz [Persian / Iranian New Year]



Celebrating World Arabic Language Day

  
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Programme on folksongs of Bauls and Fokirs of Bengal, organised by Bengali Department



*Salana Tarahi Mushairah* - annual poetry symposium in Urdu at the Raza Washat Ali Memorial Hall, organised by the Urdu Department of Maulana Azad College. The programme had the traditional look and feel of a 'mehfil' where instead of chair or sofa, the participants sat on a rug on the stage of the hall.

  
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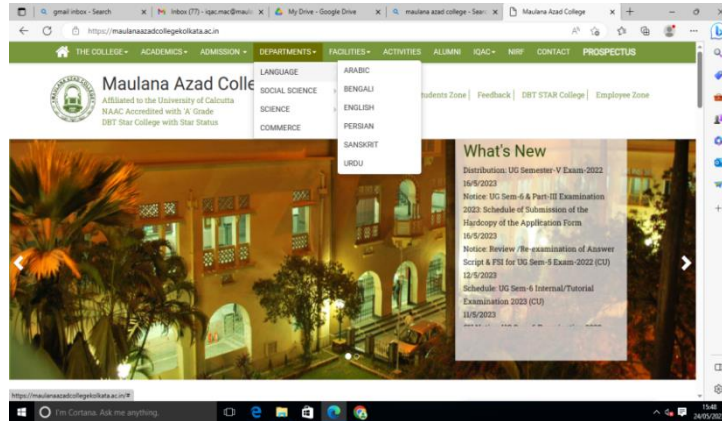
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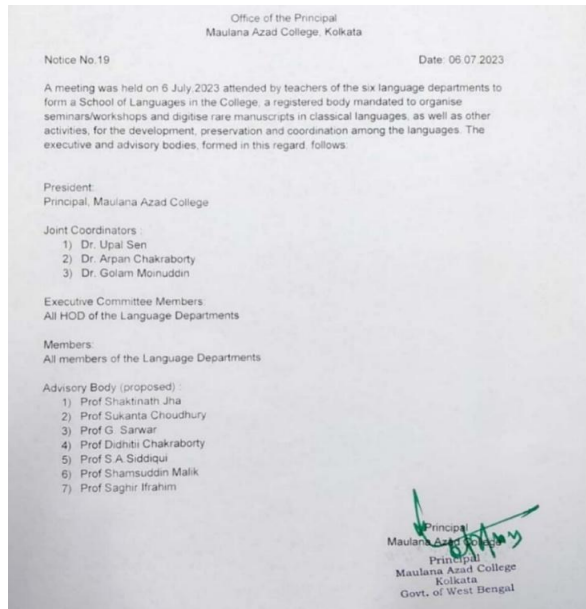
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- Language Hub



Six languages taught at the undergraduate level and two at the postgraduate level (English and Urdu)



School of Languages formed with the teachers of all six language departments as internal members and distinguished linguists and scholars as external members

  
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Alami Yum-e-Urdu (International Urdu Day) celebrated on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2022 in the Seminar Hall of Maulana Azad College



Audience at the International Urdu Day, organised by the Urdu Department

  
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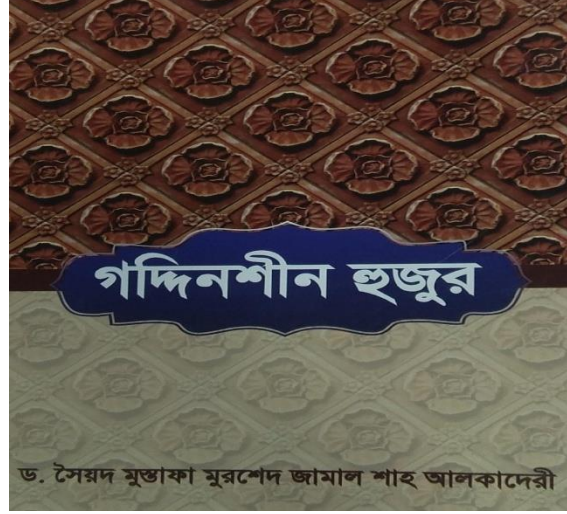




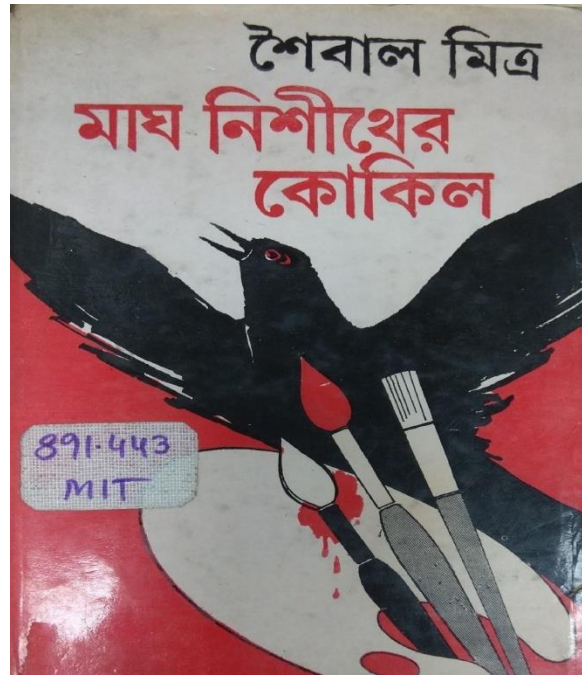
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Book written by faculty member of Arabic Department



Book written by former faculty member of Bengali Department

  
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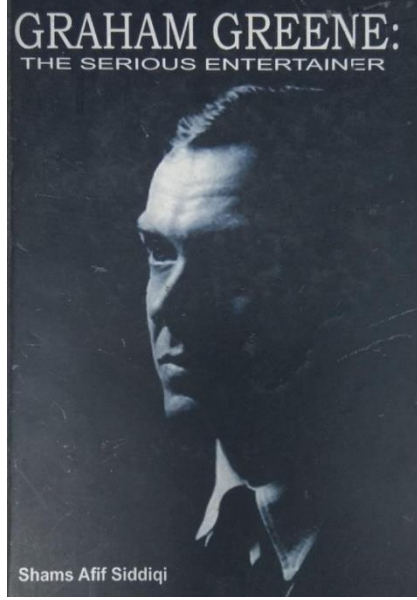
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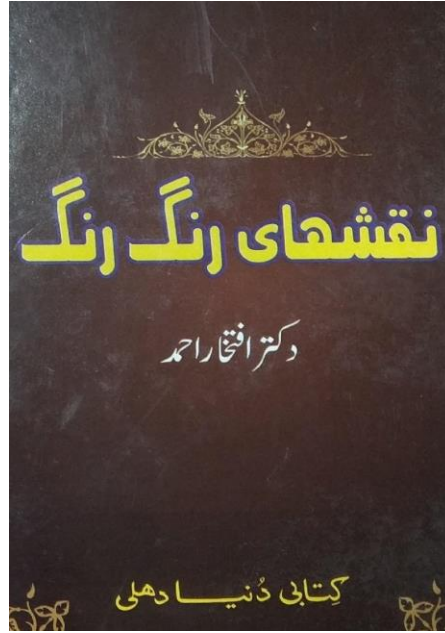
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Book written by former faculty member of English Department



Book written by former faculty member of Persian Department

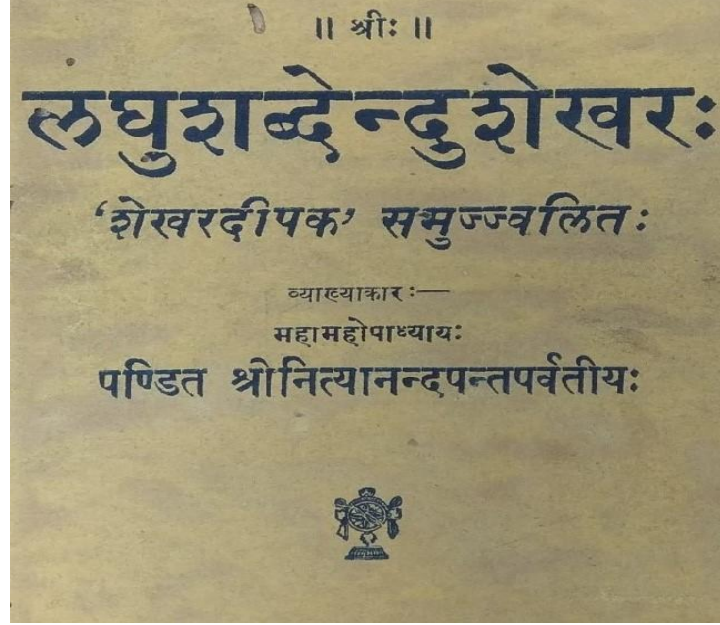
  
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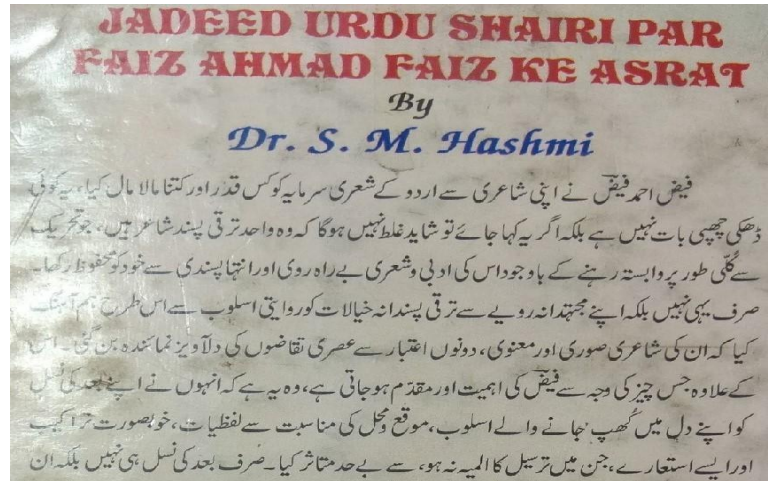
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Old book in Sanskrit stocked in the Central Library of the college



Book written by faculty member of Urdu Department

  
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PHOTOGRAPHS RELATING TO IRAN SOCIETY NEWS-2019

191



Dated, August 27, 2019; Professor Ram Ahlad Choudhary, Department of Hindi, Calcutta University, and Council Member of the Iran Society, reciting his *kavita* at the Multilingual *Mushaira* (poetic symposium), held in the hall of the Iran Society on the occasion of the Society's 75th foundation day celebration. Seated, on the extreme left, is Professor Aasim Shah Nawaz Shibli, who conducted the *Mushaira*. (Details on p. 178).

Faculty member of Urdu Department participating in Multilingual Mushaira



Faculty members of Persian as well as Islamic History and Culture participating in a seminar on Indian secularism

  
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- Student Diversity

Maulana Azad College, being a premier seat of higher education, is a popular choice of students at the time of admission. These candidates belong to not only the city of Kolkata but also the outskirts as well as the various districts of the state of West Bengal.

#	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
3	1	146 1111 0003 20	202146 2	TAIWAB AHAMED	M	VILL URALA, PO KANCHIARA, PS- AMDANGA, DIST- NORTH 24 PARGANAS	ARABIC
4	2	146 1111 0005 20	202146 2	SUHAIL SHAMSI BEIG	M	VILL. GORAGACHHA, P.O. G. GOBINDAPUR, P.S. RAMNAGAR, DIST. SOUTH 24 PGS	ARABIC
5	3	146 1211 0011 20	202146 1	SABNAJ KHATUN	F	VILL. BARDHANPUR, P.O MRIDADPUR, P.S RAN INAGAR, DIST MURSHIDABAD	ARABIC
6	4	146 1215 0092 22	212146 1	SARIBA KHATUN	F	VILL NAYABAHADURPUR, P.O NAYABAHADURPUR, P.S SUTI, DIST MURSHIDABAD, STATE WEST BENGAL	ENGLISH
7	5	146 1112 0184 22	223146 2	BISWAJIT KAYAL	F	S/O: DEBKUMAR KAYAL, MANIBAG, WORD NO 14 ,KALIAGANI, UTTAR DINAJPUR, WEST BENGAL 733129	ZOOLOGY
8	6	146 1114 0185 22	223146 2	DIYENDU SHILL	M	VILL RADHANAGAR, PO AHIL, PS GAJOLE, DIS TRICT MALDA	ZOOLOGY
9	7	146 1115 0330 21	212146 2	SHAMS AGHAZ NOORI ANSARI	F	GUNIARIAP.O: GUNIARIA BAZARP.S: I SLAMPURDISTRICT: UTTAR DINAJPUR	URDA
10	8	146 1215 0202 22	223146 1	REJUANA PARVIN	F	VILL BISHANPUR PO DHANGARA PS CHANCHAL D IST MALDA PIN 732125	BOTANY
11	9	146 1111 0672- 19	192146 21 0178	MOFAZZAL HOSSAIN	M	VILL : CHURAIL KRISHNAPUR, PO : CHURAIL KRISHNAPUR, PS : KUMARGANI, DIST : DAKSHIN DINAJPUR	ARABIC
12	10	146 1111 0433 20	203146 2	IMON KALYAN DEY	M	VILL. CHANDRAPUR ( JUBLGHATA), P.O DI GHA ( DUTTAPUKUR), DIST. NORTH 24 PARAGANAS	ECONOMICS
13	11	146 1115 0070 20	202146 2	IMTIAZ AHMED MOLL	M	VILLAGE UJORE , POST OFFICE KHAIYAMARA ,POLICE STATION BAKULTALA , DIST. SOUTH 24 PGS.	BENGAU
14	12	146 1111 0388 21	213146 2	DIPTORUP CHAKRABOR	M	GURUSADAY DUTTA LANE,PO RABINDRA SARANI ,UTTAR BHARAT NAGAR,WARD NO 24,SILGURI,DIST DARJEELING,PIN 734006	CHEMISTRY
15	13	146 1115 0376 22	222146 2	ABDULLA FARID	M	VILLAGE: SISHUBARI, PO: GOPAL BAGAN, PS: MADARIHAT, DISTRICT: ALIPURDUAR,735213	POLITICAL SCIENCE
16	14	146 1211 0645 22	223146 1	ABHEREE PAL	F	BARTANA, EGRA - I, PURBA MEDINIPUR	ECONOMICS
17	15	146 1211 0233 22	223146 1	ADRIJA PALAI	F	KHAJURI,DASAGRAM,SABANG,PASCHIM MEDINIPU R	ECONOMICS

  
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- The college also attracts students from beyond the borders of West Bengal every year, and this pan-Indian representation is shown in the table below.

OTHER STATES CANDIDATE LIST .XLSX

Sr.No.	CU_Reg_Number	CU_Roll_Number	Student_Name	Gender	Mobile_Number	Email_Id	Present_Address	Hons_Subj
1	146-1111-0710-19	193146-21-0111	MD NAZMUL HAQUE ABID	M	9830355085	san_cl@rediffmail.com	WESTERN PARA, WARD NO.-6, BHOLA POURASHA VA, P.S: BHOLA SADAR, DISTRICT: BHOLA, BANGLADESH	MICROBIOLOGY
2	146-2211-0839-23	233146-11-0085	MS RIPA PAUL	F	1754695275	ripapaul166@gmail.com	SOUTH BETDOBA, BANGLADESH, 1970	ECONOMICS
3	146-1121-1023-16	3146-65-0014	MAJID QUIYOOM LONE	M	9858433847	maidqayoom013@gmail.com	BADROO, P.O-YARIPORA, P.S-YARIPORA, City-BADROO, Dist-KULGAM of JAMMU & KA SHMIR, Pin-192232	PHYSICS
4			MD JARIF HOSSAIN	M	6290279003	hossainjarif50@gmail.com	125/5(ka), south chayabithi, cazipur, dhaka, bangladesh	ENGLISH
5	146-1211-0578-22	222146-11-0130	HIVAJYOTI BORA	F	6900629273	hivajyotibora@gmail.com	NEW GUWAHATI TINIALI GANESH MANDIR PATH , BY LANE -5 HOUSE NO1	SOCIOLOGY
6	146-1111-0326-22	221146-21-0012	EMRAN HUSSAIN KHAN	M	878776410	emranhsnkhan@gmail.com	NOTUN BOSTI COLONY, DIMAPUR SADAR, DIMAP UR, NAGALAND - 797112	ACCOUNTANCY
7	146-1111-0714-21	211146-21-0054	ABU MOHD SAJIDUL HAQUE LASKAR	M	6900086504	aspirantsajid@gmail.com	VILL-BRAHMANGRAM, KALAIN DIST-CACHAR, B ASSAM	ACCOUNTANCY
8	146-1211-0525-20	203146-11-0027	DEEPSIKHA SARMA	F	9101585712	deepsikhasarma2001@gmail.com	HOUSE NO 2019, STATION COLONY, NEAR DURGA MANDIR, GUWAHATI, PANDU, KAMRUP METRO.	ECONOMICS
9	146-1213-0267-20	202146-11-0148	TENZING KADEN BHUTIA	F	7063181826	tenzing.kaden2017@gmail.com	GRPC INDIA PRESS BALWAKHANI BURTUK, GANG TOK, EAST SIKKIM	POLITICAL SCIENCE
10	146-1123-0092-14	2146-61-0120	KUNGA TSHERING BHUTIA	M	9614223352	bhutiakungatshering@gmail.com	GAIRI GAON BLOOMFIELD DALI DARJEELING, DARJEELING	POLITICAL SCIENCE
11	1461211-0280-21	212146-11-0091	SANSKRITI CHETRI	F	7432038472	sanskritichetri25@gmail.com	BEHIND TRINITY HIGH SCHOOL, SHANTIPARA, BANARHAT, JALPAIGURI-735202	SOCIOLOGY
12	146-1211-0366-22	222146-11-0088	TASNIM JANNAT	F	8207062109	jannaattasnim447@gmail.com	VILL-KOLHA, PO: SUDHANI, PS: BARSOI, DISTRICT	POLITICAL SCIENCE
13	146-1211-0265-22	221146-11-0009	SIMRAN KAUR	F	9470153120	Kssimransokhal2809@gmail.com	QUARTER NO. - L4 33, AGRICO, JAMSHEDPUR R, JH	ACCOUNTANCY
14	146-1111-0673-22	221146-21-0029	SHUBHAM KUMAR MANDAL	M	7488123470	shubhamra706124@gmail.com	KANKOMATH, PS- KATRAS, UDALBANI, DHANBAD, JH	ACCOUNTANCY
15	146-1111-0674-22	221146-21-0030	MOZAMMIL AHMAD	M	7978889253	md.mozammil768@gmail.com	MAHANTA BASTI, DYAM ROAD , BARBIL, WORD N	ACCOUNTANCY

- The college displays diversity in other spheres as well, be it in terms of religion, caste category, family income, or gender. However, notwithstanding these factors the students and employees of the college (both faculty members and non-teaching staff) uphold the tenets of harmony in their interactions with each other. The social fabric is strengthened, thereby enabling the college to showcase a microcosm of the country at large.

  
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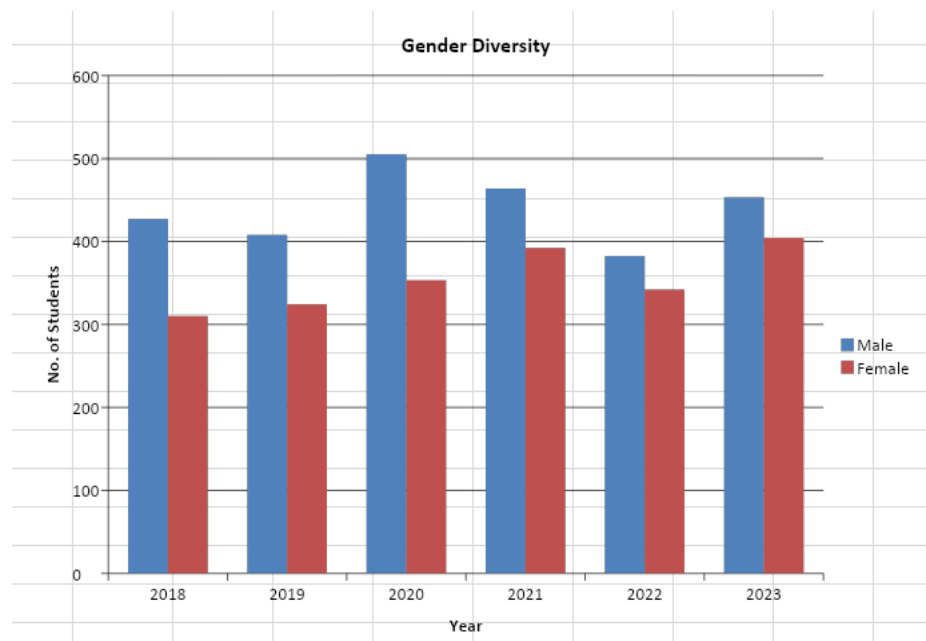
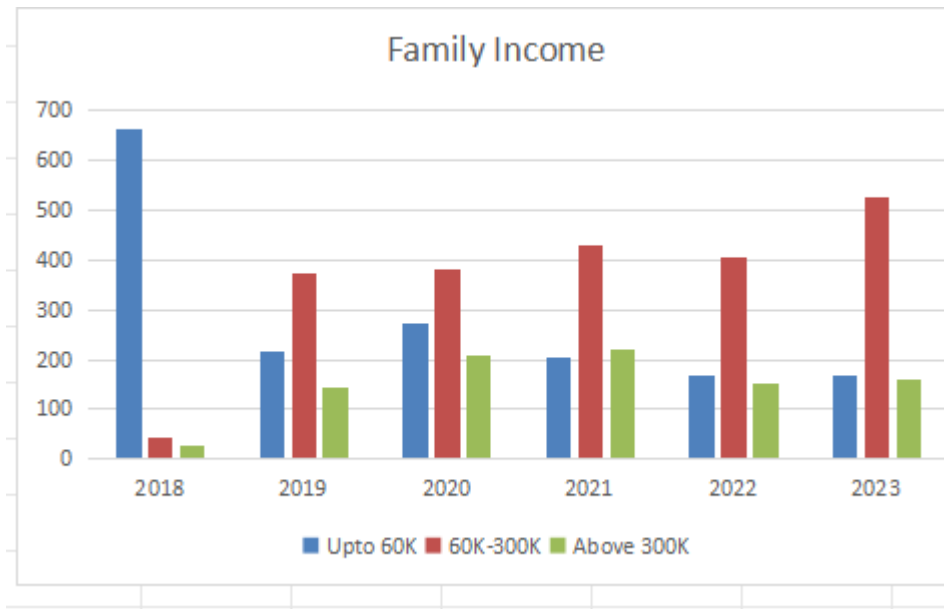
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- Socio-economic Diversity of the student populace:



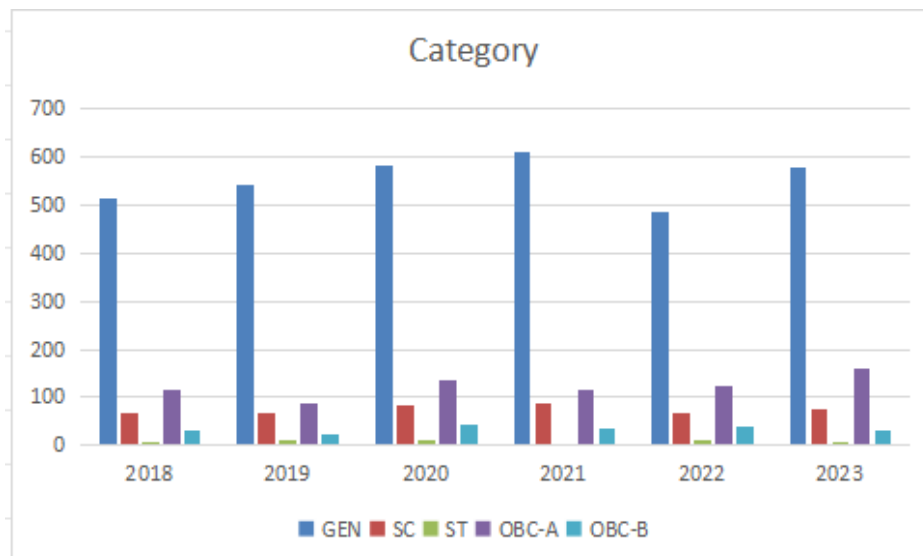
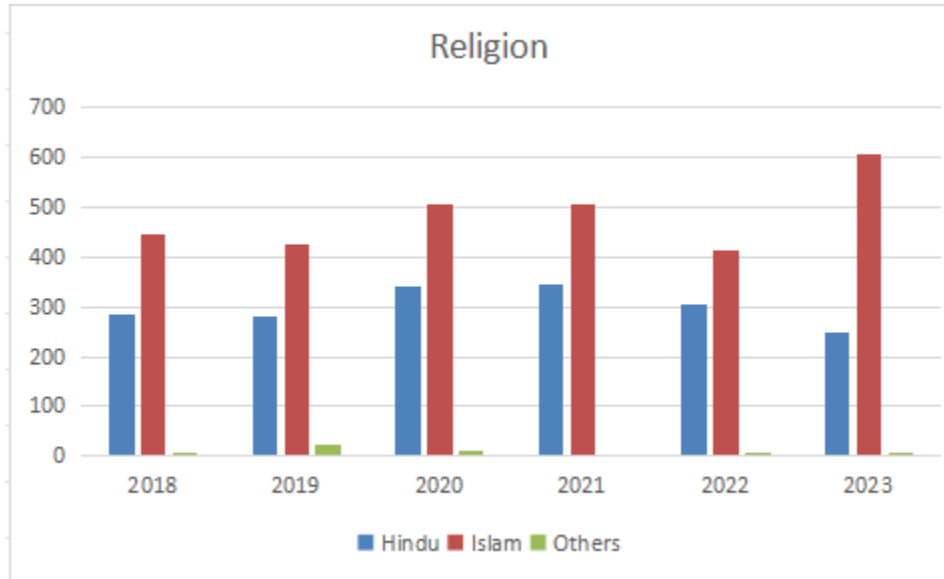
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- Heritage Site

Maulana Azad College has been declared a Grade I heritage site by the Kolkata Municipal Corporation



The Baker Government Hostel, where boy students of Maulana Azad College stay, has similarly been declared a Grade I heritage site by the Kolkata Municipal Corporation

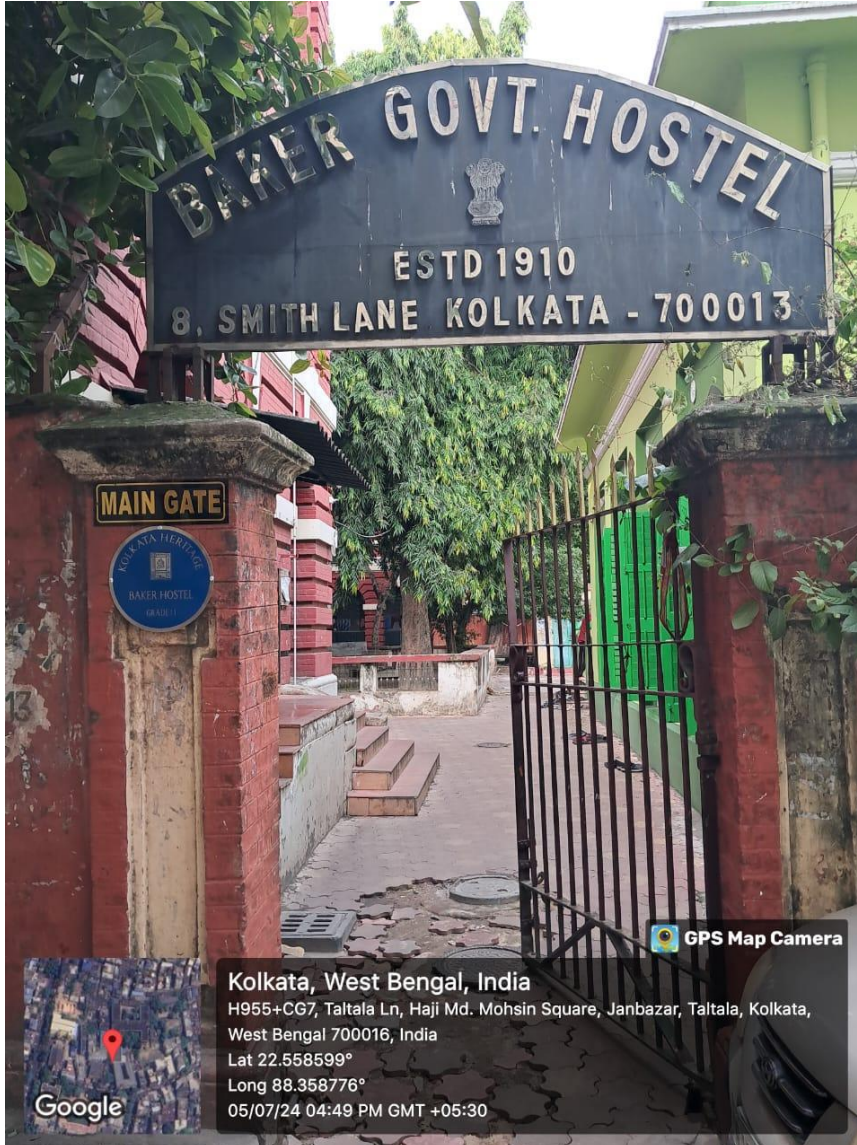
  
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Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, who became the first prime minister of newly liberated Bangladesh in 1971, had been a student of Maulana Azad College and lived in the Baker Government Hostel.

  
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Indo-Saracenic architecture prominent in the college main building and garden



  
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The dome, showing a distinctly Mughal influence on the architecture of the college main building

  
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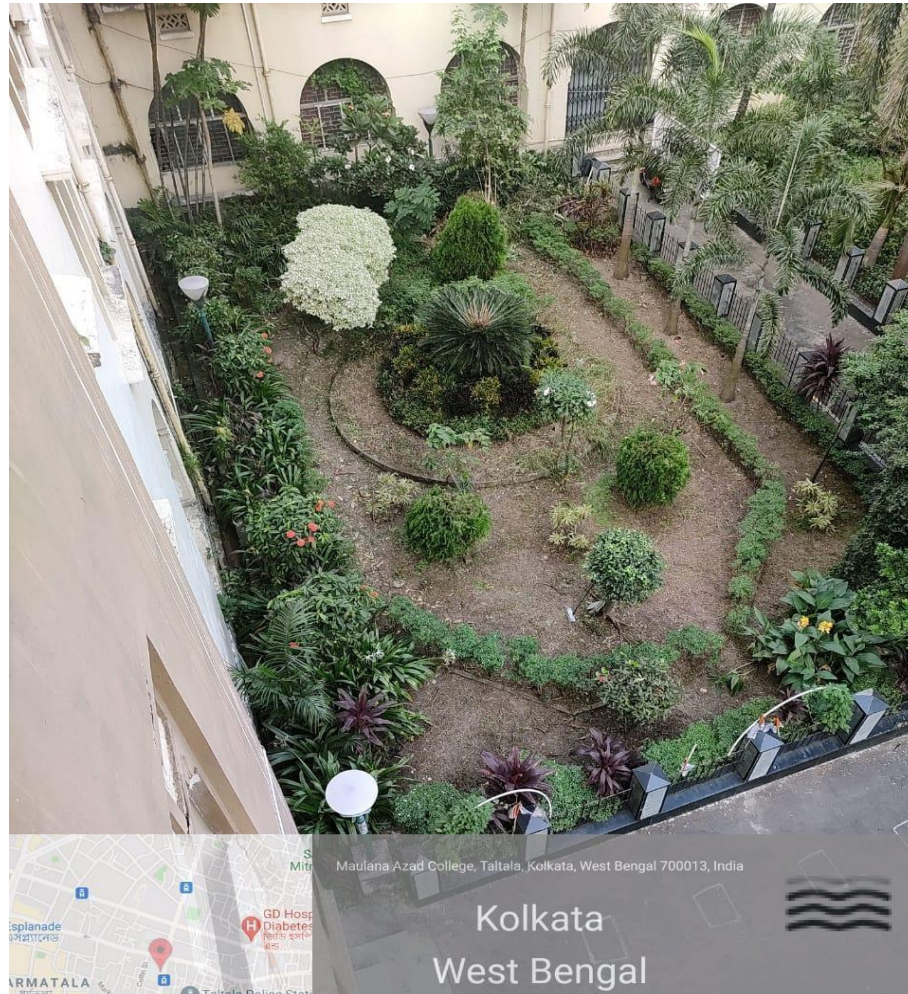
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Aerial view of one of the four gardens in front of the college main building. It is part of the Charbagh, an Indo-Persian quadrilateral garden with a layout of four gardens.

  
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- Heritage Walk



Students of the English Department participating in the Heritage Walk on the Streets of Kolkata in collaboration with 'Know Your Neighbour', an NGO, as an outreach and extension activity



Visiting Calcutta Madrasah College (established in 1780) as part of the Heritage Walk

  
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Visiting the historical Baker Government Hostel during the Heritage Walk



The students also visited a bakery to have a bit of Christmas cakes in course of the Heritage Walk. This outreach programme was covered in *The Telegraph*, a reputed English daily newspaper.

  
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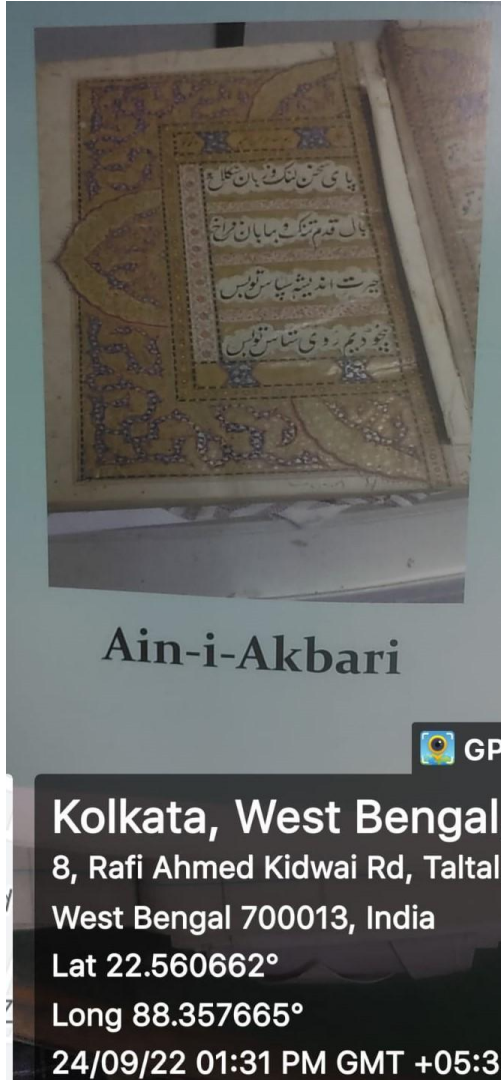
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- Archive of rare manuscripts & books



Manuscript of the famous *Ain-i-Akbari*, a 16<sup>th</sup> century book written by Abul Fazl

  
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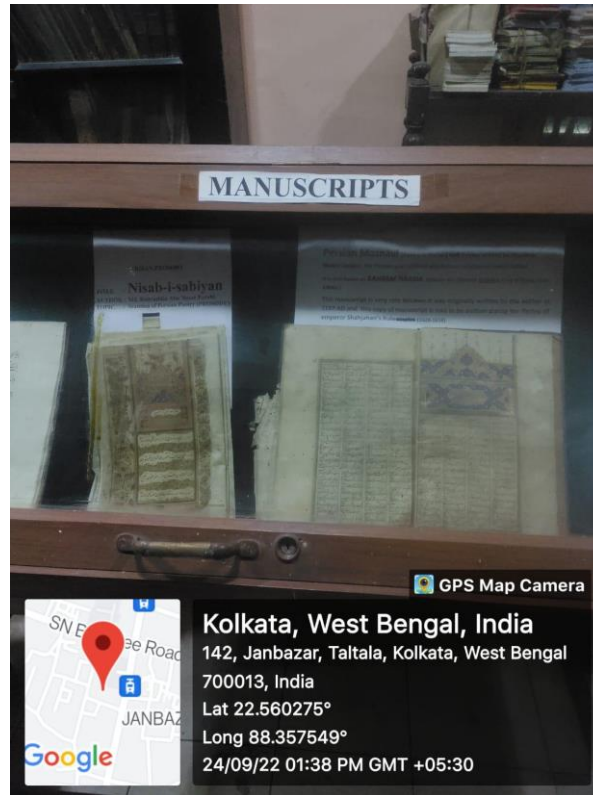
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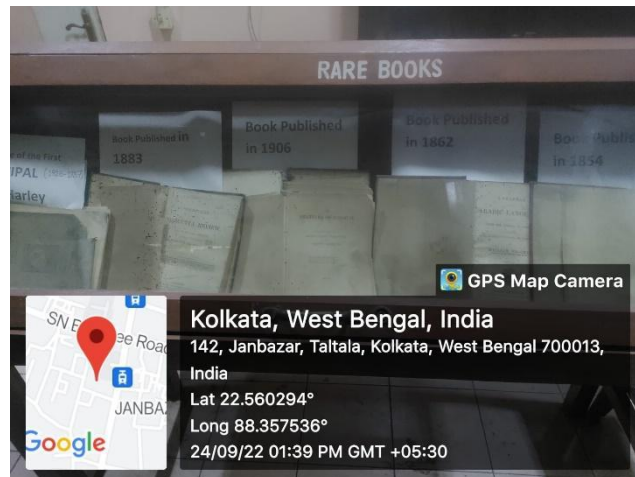
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Manuscripts, old and rare texts preserved inside the Central Library of the college



  
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