

# FIELD TRIP REPORT

**HIRALAL MAZUMDAR MEMORIAL COLLEGE FOR WOMEN**

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY**

## **INTRODUCTION**

The HOD along with the faculties of Sociology department planned for a field trip to Shantiniketan On the month of October, which was beyond our curriculum.

The duration of the trip was 2 nights and 3 days, it was between 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> October 2022 we the students of Sociology department along with our juniors and teachers started our journey early in the morning from Howrah Station.

Leaving behind our home we went towards Tagore's Place, during our train journey of 3/4hours we ensured to enjoy a lot by playing games, singing songs, enjoying the shades of green outside the train window.

Reaching the land of culture and heritage the lush greenery and the earthy smell filled us with calmness.

## **DAY - 1**

After having our lunch, we headed towards the famous Sonajhuri haat.

The Sonajhuri haat is an open-air market with lovely collage of various articles that are Bengal's own, along with pure blissful baul music, folk dance, beautiful handicrafts, and local people selling rabri on cycles gives the pure vibe of traditional market. The haat was as colorful as a rainbow in the sky, we couldn't stop ourselves from buying the craft works.

Heading back towards our hotel we realized this haat is a true reflection of the Cultural Economy as local people earn through their cultural representation.

Mass tourism occurs due to this place at shantiniketan which reflects upon the up gradation of the town's Capitalism.

We ended our first day followed by a yummy dinner and with a lot of horror storytelling.

## **DAY - 2**

After breakfast, we visited Rabindra Bhavana, the Visva Bharati Museum. We gathered numerous data about Tagore's life, ideas, writings and so on. There are four fundamental principles in Tagore's philosophy of education: individualism, naturalism, spiritualism, and internationalism. Santiniketan and Visva Bharathi are both based on these ideologies. He was deeply influenced by his father's (Maharshi Debendranath Tagore) ideologies and spent much of his childhood at the ashram in Shantiniketan. In 1901, Rabindranath Tagore returned to Santiniketan and established Visva-Bharati University, which was initially a small school for the study of Indian culture and traditions.

According to him, the goal of the education should be holistic development of the students. Education should not be limited in classroom, but it should extend to the natural environment. And this idea resulted the formation of Visva Bharati University. Here, students can also learn fine arts and handicrafts. Also, there are buildings such as Udichi, Prantik, Shyamali, Udayan, Path Bhavan, Kala Bhavan, Sangeet Bhavan, where exhibits arts and sculptures and practices music, dance, drama etc. It was unfortunate that these bhavans are closed for the visitors nowadays.

Tagore's idea on true education, teaching and learning method deeply inspired us. We returned to our hotel with a new insight; a practical representation of an ideal educational institution.

### **DAY – 3**

The last day of our trip started with a walk in the greens. We enjoyed the scenic beauty, smelled fresh air in Shalboni forest and moved towards the nearest village, Shalboni village (also known as "Baha Gram"). An old local man told us about the historical value of that village. It is the place where Satyajit Ray had shot his film "Agantuk" (1991), and later a famous bengali serial "Ishti Kutum" was also shot. Thus, this village became famous and economically well in comparison to other villages.

We communicated with some other local fellows. Here are some highlights we noted:

- Students are interested in higher studies. Some of them are lived in Kolkata for their studies or profession.
- Here, some women foundation works for the village women welfare.
- Practice of art and handicrafts are very common matter. They paint their own house in a unique style, sale art crafts in the markets.
- Health and sanitary awareness are still needed.

Our journey ended with full of joy, a lot of memories, a few of money left in our pockets, heavy baggage and so on. Shantiniketan, the land of a rich culture and tradition fascinated us. We enriched ourselves with Tagore's philosophy. We are grateful to our respected Principal madam and honourable faculties for organizing such a wonderful and valuable trip.

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**-: SOME SWEET MEMORIES :-**



Visits on Sonajhuri  
Haat, Rabindra Bhavan  
Museum, Shalboni  
village.

