

GENDERSCAPES: A GENDER STUDIES NEWSLETTER

SESSION 2021-2022

**RAMA DEVI WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY
VIDYA VIHAR, BHUBANESWAR**





DEPARTMENT OF GENDER STUDIES PUBLICATION

Rama Devi Women's University, Bhubaneswar

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Alivamohanty
H.O.D. Department of Gender studies
5th September 2022
HOD
Department of Gender Studies
RDWU, BBSR

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MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT



Dr. Aliva Mohanty

Associate Professor

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It is a matter of great pride and satisfaction for the P.G. Department of Gender Studies to bring out the News Letter '**GENDER SCAPES**'. Our department has made tremendous progress in all areas-academic, non-academic, capacity building relevant to staff and students. I am confident that this issue of the Department News Letter will send a positive signal to the staff, students, and people interested in Gender Studies and gender-based activities.

A News Letter is like a mirror that reflects a clear picture of all sorts of activities undertaken by a Department and helps to develop content writing skills among students in particular and teaching faculty in general.

I congratulate the Editorial Board of this News Letter who have played a wonderful role in accomplishing the task in Record time.

I express my deep sense of gratitude to all our faculty members under whose guidance this procedural work has been undertaken and completed within the stipulated time.

I also convey my heartfelt congratulations to all my students for their fruitful efforts.

With Best Wishes.

Dr. Aliva Mohanty

MESSAGE FROM THE PROFESSOR



Dr. Jyotirmayee Acharya

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The Gender Studies aim to increase our capacity for rigorous gender analysis and to promote awareness of its relevance in historic, economic, political, artistic, social, and scientific contexts.

1. Emphasizes both the need for specialized academic degree awarding studies in gender and development and the integration of gender analysis and gender relation perspectives in Rama Devi Women's University and partner stakeholders of other fields of study.
2. Inquiry multiple and overlapping perspectives including (but not limited to) various forms of feminist theory, lesbian and gay studies, queer theory, transgender/trans* theory, and critical sexuality studies.
3. Collaborate with Sarala Devi Centre for Gender Research of Rama Devi Women's University have been pushing across the boundaries of disciplines and identities to promote ambitious and ground-breaking work that is able to build on the strengths of research across the Rama Devi Women's University, and to deeply engage with the complexities of studying gender.

The University Grant Commission (UGC) guideline for the 11th plan has taken a broader view of Women's Studies constituency by supporting University Women Studies Centre and facilitating them to become teaching and research departments in the University system. The past three decades have witnessed the influence of the establishment of these trends within academia, leading to path-breaking feminist research in different disciplines, particularly in the social sciences and humanities. Given the current globalizing gender turn in the International and National New Educational Policy-2020 structure and system, the Women's Studies Centres of the premium Universities in India, have started offering postgraduate courses in Gender Studies since 2014 and onwards. These are to deal with a broader spectrum of social and cultural aspects connected to

male, female, and LGBTQ+ from relational, symbolic, feminist and inter-sectionality perspectives. Gender and sexuality studies analyse relevant topics as they appear in Literature, Language, History, Politics, Sociology, Law, and Medicine. Given gender subjectivity as a contemporary concern, we reviewed the websites of different Universities and Institutions abroad and in India. The premium universities and academic institutions offering post-graduation, M.Phil. and Ph.D. programs in Women Studies, Gender Studies, and Gender subjectivity from an intersectionality perspective are listed out.

About the Department of Gender Studies

The Department of Gender Studies is a multidisciplinary field of study committed to a transformative analysis of the gender relationship and structures of power, especially as they are grounded in socio-spatially constructed categories. We advance the field through innovative teaching, collaborative research, and public and community engagements that promote alternative expressions of knowledge, capability and socially responsible interrogation. Our work is guided by an ongoing process of theorizing, practice and critical reflection which is inspiring a new generation of gender scholars and feminist leaders committed to social justice. We strive to be a globally recognized model of excellence in gender, sexuality and feminist scholarship.

The department offers MA, M.Phil. and Ph. D. programs and organizes seminars, workshops interactive sessions and extracurricular activities. The department is following the CBCS syllabus with a timely mid-semester and end-semester examination system. It also takes the initiative to offer gender sensitization training for the students of other departments and affiliated colleges. As a part of the extracurricular activity students are encouraged to participate at other institutions, in career counselling and placement drives and field internships. Students are also engaged in club activities, field exposure visits, community services, Unnat Bharat Abhiyan, Global Classroom learning, Swachha campus, Yoga, NSS, Sports, and cultural competitions, and take leadership roles in their communities using these new insights and skills.

Vision

To strive for academic excellence in diverse gender scholarship.

Mission

1. To provide rigorous and multi-disciplinary education in gender studies.
2. To conduct innovative gender research, and demonstrate skills and intellectual insights that address existing development paradigms.

THRUST AREAS OF RESEARCH

❖ GENDER DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AND MAINSTREAMING



❖ TRANSGENDER AND NON-BINARY IDENTITIES

❖ GENDER RIGHTS AT WORKPLACE AND REPRODUCTION



❖ PSYCHOLOGY OF GENDER AND COUNSELLING APPROACHES

STUDENTS' ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS (2021-2022)

SEMINAR ON GENDER PERSPECTIVE OF PUBLIC POLICY



Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India

7RMQ+FW7, UNIT- 9, Bhubaneswar, Odisha 751022, India

Lat 20.283718°

Long 85.839506°

03/03/22 02:38 PM



Figure 1 & 2 : Departmental Seminar Activities On 3rd March 2022 a department-level seminar on “Gender Perspectives of Public Policy” was organised by the P.G. Department of Gender Studies in collaboration with the U.G. Department of Sociology of our university.

Prof. Swarnamayee Tripathy, retired professor of the Dept. of Public Administration, Utkal University was invited as a resource person in the said seminar. During her presentation, she focused on the role of public policy in eliminating gender inequality from the society. She further highlighted on enhancing the knowledge of women on Public Policy to improve their status in the society. The students and faculties of

both departments participated in the said seminar.



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION

Figure 3: On 8th March 2022 International Women's Day was organised by the P.G Department of Gender Studies in the university auditorium. Honourable Vice Chancellor of RDWU addressed the august gathering.

The welcome address was delivered by Dr. Shikha Singh, Director, of Student Welfare, RDWU. The Introduction of International Women's Day was addressed by Guest of Honour Dr. Priya Priyadarshini Nayak, Senior Consultant & HOD, Medical Oncology Department SUM ULTIMATE MEDICARE. Prof. Jyotirmayee Acharya, Dept. of Gender Studies, RDWU gave a talk on the significance of Women's Day and inaugurated the departmental magazine. The Guest of Honour, Prof. Mitali Chinara, Utkal

University shared her thoughts on the empowerment of women. Guest of Honour Smt. Kasturi Ray, Senior Editor, The New India Express also addressed the audience. One of the Chief speakers was Dr. Prabhavati Panda, Sub-editor, of Yugashree Women's Magazine. Tributary song was sung by Dr. Himadri Tanaya Mishra. Vote of Thanks was delivered by Dr. Aliva Mohanty, H.O.D, Dept. of Gender Studies, RDWU.



Figure 4 & 5: 8th March 2022 International Women’s Day was organized by the P.G Department of Gender Studies with the Theme ‘Gender Equality Today for Sustainable Tomorrow’, in the university auditorium. Many of the students of the Dept. of Gender Studies participated in dance performance. The Department unveiled the Magazine **Samatva** by eminent guests & faculty members.

**SEMINARS, CONFERENCES, SYMPOSIA ATTENDED BY
PROF. JYOTIMAYEE ACHARYA**

Name of the Seminar, Conference/Symposia	Name of the Sponsoring agency	Country and date	Paper Contributed	Remarks
Sensitizing HEI's about NEP and bringing HEI forward for NAAC's A & A process	NEP, New Delhi	India 12th November, 2021 at 10.30 am to 12.00 pm	Participated	Focused on six parameters: Multidisciplinary/ Interdisciplinary, Academic Bank of Credit, Skill Development, and Appropriate integration of Indian languages, Outcome Based Education (OED) and Distance Education / Online Education
Learning-cum-Experience Sharing Consultation on Quick Impact Project: Mitigating Sexual Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) through Community Awareness and Support System	CYSD, Sarala Devi Centre for Gender Research, Rama Devi Women's University, Bhubaneswar	India, Bhubaneswar 2nd November 2021 (11.00 AM – 2.00 PM)	Moderator and Panelist	of the Technical Session: Localization SGBV Mitigation Plan Panelist A large number of SGV worriers from different districts shared their case study, impacted policy to open up one stop centre at block level
Empowering the Women to Face Challenges'	Rover and Ranger Unit of Maharshi College of Natural Law, Bhubaneswar	14th November 2021	Chief Speaker in 65th National Webinar	Large number of students have participated in the webinar
State Level Consultation on Draft policy for Transgender	Transgender Welfare trust, The Humanity and Centre for Advocacy and Research, SAKHA, UNDP and HRLN	Hotel Suryansha , Bhubaneswar 23-24 December 2021	Expert	Policy draft was presented and brainstorming group presentation in different areas critically reflected the policy gaps and highlighted the are of inclusion in the draft policy
Consultation on the Draft Odisha State Transgender Policy 2021	jointly with the Transgender Welfare trust, The Humanity and Centre for Advocacy and Research, SAKHA	10th January 2022 from 11.30 AM to 5.30 PM	Coordinated RDWU virtual consultation workshop	The expert suggestion on draft policy were in the area such as issues of : Accessibility, freedom of expression, dignity and life without violence, equal access to education, equal access to health services, employment opportunity, right to family life, homestead land and housing, food security, facilitation in transportation, special scheme for welfare of transgender, social security and inclusion, state level transgender welfare board,

				grievance redressal mechanism. The draft has been submitted to the Government of Odisha in due course for consideration.
Webinar to observe National Girl Child Day - 2022'	Subhadra Mahatab Mahabidyalaya, Cuttack-754209	24.1.2022 1 PM-3PM	Chief Speaker 'Girl Child is not a Curse but a priceless Gift of God	Large number of students participated and interacted Letter of Invitation and News published clip are
Webinar to observe National Girl Child Day - 2022	Patamundai Women's Degree College, Cuttack	24th January 2022	Chief Speaker Girl Child Rights-Human Rights: Gendered Perils and New Pathways in India	Letter of Invitation and News published clip are enclosed
One-day consultation workshop on the Review of Criminal Law: Improvement in Status of Women	National Law University, Cuttack With the sponsorship of NCW	17th February 2022 from 9AM to 6PM	Consultant	Letter of Invitation programme agenda are enclosed Large number of expert feminist advocates and academia from India have participated
International Transgender Day of Visibility	jointly organized with SDGCR, Transgender Welfare trust, The Humanity and Dept. of Gender Studies	31st March 2022	Coordinated from RDWU	300 students from representing five depts from various stream have participated and some of them have participated in the competition The celebration covered both print and visual media like OTV, times of India, The Samaja etc.

PhD SCHOLARS' PARTICIPATION IN THE RESEARCH SCHOLARS' CONCLAVE

Name of the Scholar	Topic	Name of the Supervisor
Sucheta Panda Phd-GS-01/2020	“Impact of Stress on Work Life Balance Among the Government and Private Management Institution; A Gender Perspective of Khordha Dist of Odisha”	Prof. Jyotirmayee Acharya
Manaswini Pradhan Phd-GS-02/2020	Role of Residential Hostels in Ensuring School Inclusion and Gender Equality; A study of Odisha”	Prof. Jyotirmayee Acharya
Shradhanjali Sagar Phd-GS-3/2020	“Gender Issues in Police Profession; a Study in Twin City Odisha”	Prof. Jyotirmayee Acharya
Subhashree Rout PhD-GS-04/202	“Gender Dimensions of Geriatric Health Care; A Study on the City Dwellers of Bhubaneswar”	Prof. Aliva Mohanty
Ziniya Patnaik Phd-GS-06/2020	Digitalization and Gender: A Study in Odisha	Prof. Aliva Mohanty
Anita Jagadeb Phd - GS05/2020	Skill Development Programme as a Mechanism for Economic Empowerment of Girls with Special Reference to DDUGKY Programme of Odisha	Prof. Aliva Mohanty



Figure 6: On 9th March the inaugural session of the “Research Scholar” Conclave was organized in the auditorium. Posters related to the topics were presented at the Kuntala Kumari Library. Research Scholars from various departments participated.

A REPORT ON THE EXPOSURE VISIT TO HERITAGE VILLAGE RAGHURAJPUR AND PURI TEMPLE



Figure 7 & 8: Rama Devi Women's University, Department of Gender Studies organized an exposure visit to Raghurajpur, Odisha on 15th March 2022. Raghurajpur is a heritage crafts village of Puri district, 52 kilometers away from Bhubaneswar. It is known for its master painters of Pattachitra, an art form which dates back to 5 BC in the region and Gotipua dance troupes, the precursors to the Indian classical dance form of Odissi.

All the faculties and most of the students from the Department of Gender Studies and Department of Sociology went for this exposure visit. We left for the trip around 9 am and reached the

destination at around 10:45 am. As soon as we entered the village along with my friends and teachers, it felt like we'd stepped into a whole other world. It wouldn't be wrong to say that the entire village is truly a representative of art. It reflects the richness of Odisha's art and culture. Every house there contains a bunch of artists: from a 10-year-old to a 60-year-old. The walls of every house seem to echo the ancient Vedic stories as well as the stories of a common household. We also visited an NGO named "PARAMPARA" wherein both men and women are taught to do a variety of Pattachitra paintings on household articles such as lanterns, small buckets etc. They sell those artworks further and earn enough to sustain their living. The guide of the NGO gave us a brief idea about how they work. The shine in their eyes while talking with them showed how passionate they were about our art and culture. Whoever says that art cannot sustain life would be proved wrong once they visit the village and meet the people there. Then, we went to several houses to take a look at the artworks and truly, wherever we went there was more and more to be amused.



Figures 9: In the exposure visit to Raghurajpur, Odisha on 15th March 2022 students attended workshop with the master *Pattachitra Painter Training Centre* Sanskara and learned how the NGO is assisting the Bhubaneswar museum to preserve the old *pothi* engraved in Palm leaves.



Figure 10 & 11: Students also exposed to the Gotipua nacha and the story behind the folk dance at Raghurajpur, Odisha on 15th March 2022.

We got to know about the traditional process of making Pattachitra and also got to see beautiful idols made of wood and stone carvings. At last, we got the opportunity to witness Gotipua dance. It was such a heavenly and overwhelming experience. The visit to Raghurajpur was

so satisfying that I've left my heart there, literally. Finally, our trip ended with visiting the Jagannath Temple, Puri, having mahaprasada, and returning home with serene memories of the trip

SHARING EXPERIENCE BY THE STUDENTS EXPOSED TO RAGHURAJPUR THE HERITAGE CRAFTS VILLAGE, ODISHA, INDIA

Rama Devi Women's University organized an exposure visit to Raghurajpur on 15th March 2022. Raghurajpur is situated in Puri district and it is well known for its arts and crafts, especially Pattachitra. In every single house we could find that there is an artist, and it was a village of artists. Outside every house we could see wall paintings. Every house had their own craft products and they seemed to be small shops. The main source of income of this village is Pattachitra. We could see various crafts made in their houses starting from mirror to small keychain toys for children and glass vases painted with various folk arts like Dasharatha and Radhakrishnan and our deity Lord Jagannathan. Raghurajpur is also famous for gotipua dance and we also got a chance to watch it, and it felt like it was being performed by stout Men but in original the small girls were performing it. We also went to an NGO there which is called Parampara, there we saw a workshop going on for the training of art and craft. A lot of married and unmarried women were there, who were painting various crafts like vase, table lamps for sale. It is a good source of income for them. We also saw stone sculptures; small limestone being engraved to make beautiful sculptures like elephants, Puri Jagannath temple and birds and many more

We learned a lot of things from them, and I bought a Pattachitra, a keychain and flower vase for myself. One thing I would say that they were a bit expensive because of being handmade, but overall, it was a good experience for us.

Sanat Serolin Mishra

Pg. 2nd year (Gender Studies)

Raghurajpur is a heritage crafts village in Puri district, Odisha It is known for its mastery in Pattachitra painting, an art form that dates back to 5th Century BC. It is also home to the Gotipua dance troupes, a precursor to the Indian classical dance form of Odissi. All the faculties and most of the students from the Department of Gender Studies and the Department of Sociology went for this exposure visit on 15th March 2022. We left for the trip around 9 a.m. and reached the destination at around 10:45 a.m. The heritage crafts village of Raghurajpur is Odisha's best known for its Pattachitra art. The art form is used to decorate none other than the Lord of the Universe- Lord Jagannath. Raghurajpur is famous for Pattachitra paintings on a piece of cloth. There are many types of Pattachitra like Tussar cloth Pattachitra, Palm leaf Pattachitra etc. Art and culture

reside in this Village. The best impression of this village is that there is no pushing sale of their art and for this one will surely love this village. Again, there is no competition or jealousy among the villagers to sell the products. They don't stoop low to sell their Products. Every house there contains a bunch of artists- from a 10-year-old to a 60-year-old. The walls of every house seem to echo the ancient Vedic stories as well as the stories of a common household. We also visited an NGO named "PARAMPARA" wherein both men and women are taught to do a variety of Pattachitra paintings. The village is also the birthplace of Padma Vibhushan, Guru Kelucharan Mohapatra, the greatest proponent of Odissi dance form. The predecessor of the Odissi dance form, Gotipua also originated from Raghurajpur which is home to Gotipua Gurukul, Dasabhuja Gotipua Odissi Nrutya Parisad established under the guidance of Guru Maguni Charan Das. At last, we got the opportunity to witness Gotipua dance. After getting much knowledge about this place, we all headed to Puri Shree Jagannath temple. There we had Abhada, which was the most delicate part of our whole day. Then we returned home. And it was such a great day...

ଓଡ଼ିଶାର କଳା ସଂସ୍କୃତିର ଐତିହାସିକ ବ୍ୟାପ୍ତିର ଉପରେ ଏକ ଗବେଷଣା ପତ୍ର "ରଘୁରାଜପୁର" ... ଏହି ଗାଆଁଟି ପଠକଟି, ଗୋଟିପୁଅ ନୃତ୍ୟ ଏବଂ କେଳୁଚରଣ ମହାପାତ୍ର ଜନଭଣ୍ଡାରୀଙ୍କ ପ୍ରଭାବରେ ସମୃଦ୍ଧ ହୋଇଛି । କୁନ୍ଦଳିକା ଏପରି ଲାଗୁଛି ଯେ ଯେତେବେଳେ ଏହାକୁ ଦେଖିବାକୁ ମିଳେ ତେବେ ଆମେ ଆଶ୍ଚର୍ଯ୍ୟରେ ପଡ଼ିଯାଉଛୁ ।

Pragyan Paramita Mohapatra

Pg. 1st year (gender studies)

On 15th March we went to Raghurajpur for an exposure visit. This field study has added more familiarity with the cultural heritage of our state. Raghurajpur is situated in Puri district and it is famous for its marvelous and splendiferous crafts. Every single house was painted with beautiful themes of the most eminent epics-the Ramayana and the Mahabharata.

We went to an NGO, named PARAMPARA. The NGO had given us more understanding about this craft (Pattachitra) and there we came to know how in this dynamic world, people of this village are naturally carving and painting, using natural colours, canvas, etc.

In the whole trip, the shortcomings that I noticed is that the essence of this religion is unmarked by the people. This place should be given an ample amount of respect that it deserves.

Saheen Parween (UG. Arts 1st year)

An Educational tour is part of the academic experience in most schools and colleges. Such tours help students to understand first-hand experience in various fields. At last the long-awaited day came or my halcyon day for which I was waiting fidgety when I along with my companions stared off to Raghurajpur, the Pattachitra village on an educational tour by our university, this is one of the most popular places for staggering art work in whole Odisha.

Though I don't know much about artwork, I enjoyed watching all of their talents. The whole village was full of this masterpiece of Pattachitra and artistic as well.

Pattachitra evolved from Sanskrit. When broken down into two parts, Patta means cloth, and Chitra means picture. Hence, Pattachitra is a picture painted on a piece of cloth. This form of art is closely related to the cult of Shri Jagannath and the temple traditions in Puri. Believed to have originated as early as the 12th century, it is one of the most popular living art forms, and people in Odisha practice it to this day.

Whenever someone speaks about "Heritage", instantly remember vividly about Raghurajpur: the heritage crafts village of Odisha. It is not just any ordinary village; it is the heart and soul of creativity. Located around 12 kms away from Puri, Raghurajpur is the home of around 500 Chitra Kars (artists who are experts in Pattachitra painting). Each household has at least one Chitrakars who is highly skilled and immensely creative. Raghurajpur is famous for Pattachitra: paintings on a piece of cloth. There are many types of Pattachitra like Tussar cloth Pattachitra, Palm leaf Pattachitra etc. With evolution and innovation, now the Chitrakars have started painting exquisite Pattachitras on coconuts, betel nuts, clay pots & bottles.

And also, we saw the most creative dance form of Odisha that is 'Gotipua nrutya'. It was really fascinating and eye-catching. Then we headed to Shri Jagannath temple Puri. And we had Abhada, which was the most satisfying part of our whole day. It was really a great day. We learnt so many things. Looking forward to more such study tours and more such events organised by our university.

Saloni Acharya (UG1st year sociology)

An exposure trip to Raghurajpur, Puri was organized by our university, on 15th March 2022. Raghurajpur, a small village in Puri district, occupies a unique place in the cultural map of India. It is famous for its master Pattachitra painters and for the birthplace of renowned Odissi dancer Kelucharan Mohapatra and Gotipua dancer Maguni Charen Das. It is also the birthplace of Shilp Gucke DR. Jagannath Mahapatra who is a prominent Pattachitra Artist. The village runs from east to west with houses arranged in two neat Rows facing each other. The outer walls of most of the

houses are wonderfully decorated with mural paintings of mythological scenes from the Ramayana and the Mahabharata. The Artisans, who produce different varieties of handicraft items such as palm leaf engravings, stone carvings, papier Mache toys and masks, wood carvings, wooden toys, cow dung toys and tusser paintings. This is also the only village in India, where each family is engaged in one craft or another-some of them are winners of National awards.

Both Men and women work as artists. The artists are friendly enough towards visitors and do not hesitate to share details regarding the Origin of the craft or the techniques involved in making them. The village is known for Gotipua dance (a precursor to Odissi). It's a dance performed by young boys dressed as Feminine dancers and involves acrobatic postures. The Ganjita and Dash avatar playing Cards Carry the Pattachitra paintings on them. Many of the crafts are artworks available for sale at Raghurajpur, Every villager is an artist and every house is an artist's studio. Here art is not just a profession of passion but it is a way of life for them also.

Rajeswari Roul

PG. 2ndyear (Gender Studies)

An exposure trip to Raghurajpur was organised by our university on 15 March 2022. I would say that it was more of a cultural exposure trip. Engraving one's name on palm leaves, match steps with traditional Gotipua dancers, indulging in century-old Pattachitra making process, creating artworks with foreign artists and gorging on local cuisines. It was a unique opportunity for all of us to explore the heritage village Raghurajpur. During the trip students could explore the local art and they could understand more about Odisha's art and culture. We could experience, through this trip, how rich Odisha's art and culture is.

Sujata Rout (UG 1st year Sociology)

An exposure trip to Raghurajpur was organized by our university. The teachers and students of Gender Studies and Sociology Department organized the trip. Raghurajpur is a heritage village, including 150 houses. There are houses on both sides and the broken structures in the middle are like dividers. On every wall and door of the houses, there is a glimpse of art and painting skills. Raghurajpur is also famous for Gotipua dance and we also got a chance to participate and enjoyed the performance. It was a unique opportunity for all of us to explore the heritage village, where we could realize Odisha's rich art and culture.

Anisha Das

Raghurajpur is a Craft village in Puri district, India. It is known for its master Pattachitra painters, an art form which dates back to 5th Century BC in the region and GOTIPUA dance troupes, (the percussion to the Indian classical dance form to odissi). It is also known as the birthplace of one of the finest and legendary Odissi exponents PadmaVibhushan Guru Kelucharan Mohapatra and Gotipua Dancer Padmashri Guru Maguni Charan Das. It is also the birthplace of Shilpi Guru Dr. Jagannath Mohapatra who is a prominent Pattachitra artist and has a huge contribution on the development of Pattachitra and Raghurajpur Village. Apart From that, the village is also home to crafts like Tusser paintings, Palm leaf Engraving, stone Carvings, blood Carvings, Cow dung toys and Papier Mache toys, and masks. The Pattachitra Paintinting is one made over a cloth known as Patta and a dried palm leaf which is first painted with a mixture of chalk and gum. After that, they prepare Sun Face, Colourful and intricate pictures of various gods, goddesses, and mythological scenes with ornamentation of flowers, trees and animals to paint. The paintings on Tussar Sarees, especially the Sambalpuri Saree depicting Mathura Vijay, Rasalila and Ajodhya Vijay owe their Origin to "Raghurajpur Pattachitra Village ".

Ananya Swain

PG 1st year

An Exposure Visit to Raghurajpur is a heritage crafts village out of Puri district, India known for its master Pattachitra painters. It is also known as the birth place of one of the finest and legendary Odissi exponents PadmaVibhushan Guru kelucharan Mohapatra and Gotipua Dancer Padma shri Guru Maguni charan Das. On15th March we went to Raghurajpur for an exposure visit: Every house in the village was painted with mural paintings of Mythological scenes. Pattachitra is an indicated colourful drawing made on a pat, a specially processed cloth that serves as a Canvas. I, along with my friends, enjoyed it a lot. This trip gave us more information about our own Culture. Later we headed to Shri Jagannath Temple and we had Abhada which is the most satisfying food a person can have. It was a great day. Hope to get many more opportunities to explore more places like this.

Anisha Mohanty

(Sociology, 1st year)

An exposure trip is a fun-filled experience. The tour may be too far away. It is an opportunity for students to have a jolly time together. For some days they can forget about classes & exams. So,

we also had an amazing tour to Raghurajpur, the Pattachitra village which was organized by Ramadevi Women's University.

Near rows of houses, their walls adorned with paintings, will greet you as soon as you enter verdant Raghurajpur village, about 10 km from Puri, the famous pilgrim and beach town of Odisha. Even without asking, you will realize you have entered an artists' village where homes double up as workshops. Once known as the keepers of Odisha's ancient Pattachitra art, largely due to the late Jagannath Mohapatra (winner of President of India's award in 1965) who lived here, today the village artists practicing various traditional arts.

Another important art practiced in Raghurajpur is palm-leaf painting. Fine line drawings in black, sometimes with daubs of colours, are made on interlocked strips of palm leaves. Usually, each drawing is like a tapestry narrating a story. Apart from traditional paintings, the artists also produce souvenirs, such as painted palm leaf bookmarks. And also, we saw the famous dance form of Odisha which was 'Gotipua nrutya'. After getting much knowledge about this place, we all headed to Puri Shree Jagannath temple. There we had Abhada, which was the most delicate part of our whole day. Then we returned home. And it was really such a great day we ever had. Looking forward to more such trips organised by our university.

Pratiksha Mishra (UG 1st year sociology)

REPORT ON INTERNATIONAL TRANSGENDER DAY OF VISIBILITY

2022



Figure 12: On 31.03.2022 the Department of Gender Studies celebrated International Transgender Day of Visibility at Academic Building 2, room no 222.

The colourful program started with the floral tribute to Maa Sarala Devi by our esteemed guest followed by a flower welcome of guests by student volunteers. Every year 31st March is celebrated as Transgender Day to focus on the importance and significance of transgender community.

The formal meeting started with the address of Dr. Jyotimayee Acharaya, Professor of the Gender Studies Department & Convener, Sarala Devi Centre for Gender Research, RDWU. She shared the ideas of gender and how the Gender Studies Department and Sarala Devi Centre is working on different issues of gender.

Bimala Nayaka, secretary, TWT started with greeting the occasion as Vande Utkal Janani and shared her own experiences and her journey. She shared the heart touching experiences of her own, how she spent long time in the street with starvation, and gradually overcame them for economic purposes. She shared driving auto but no one agreed to her auto because she is a transgender. But now because of the blessing of the grace of Lord Jagannatha, she is enjoying his life to the fullest with respect and dignity. The keynote address was by Meghna Sahoo, Chairperson, TWT. She first expressed her regard for Prof. Acharya for organizing such a program. She emphasized the significance of the transgender day and its objectives. To address the gathering, Meghna Sahoo shared her own experiences and how she is ignored by the mainstream community. Meghna Sahoo is a highly qualified transgender but struggled a lot to fight against her own gender identity to prove herself. She is the 1st transgender Ola cab driver and the first to get a driving license in Odisha. Salma Begam is the first TG Advocate in Odisha. She shared the journey on her legal Earleen and appealed for the gathering to terminate the discrimination from the society and family because society and family are important to cherish an individual. Neha Niharika is a beautician who thanked Meghna Sahoo and expressed her gratitude to Meghna Sahoo as she supported a lot of Neha to build confidence in her life. Prof. Sasmita Mohanty, chairperson of, the PG council was one of the chief guests. On the occasion of International Transgender Community, she shares the motives of the transgender day celebration and refers to Meghna Sahoo asking the students to learn from life's challenges. She shared new ideas about the day celebrated.

Amid the meeting, a retired Principal of Kendriya Vidyalaya Dehradun requested to share his experience about how the transgender community is regulated by society, and especially focused on how he got attached to the community. As an honourable guest, he facilitated and showed respect to the other guests. It was followed by the experience shared by students. Finally,

Prof. Aliva Mohanty, HOD, Gender Studies delivered the Vote of Thanks. She expressed her heartiest gratitude to Vice Chancellor Madam, Prof. Acharya, Prof. Sasmita Mohanty, Meghana Sahoo, and student media professionals for declaring the end of the program.



Figure 13: News Clipping on the celebration of International Transgender Day of Visibility at Academic Building 2, room no 222 held on 31.03.2022 by the Department of Gender Studies

REPORT ON RESEARCH ADVISORY COMMITTEE



Figure 14. On 7th April 2022 a department level RAC Research Advisory meeting was organised by the Department of Gender studies.

RAC members Prof Navneet Kaur, Department of Life Science and Prof. Sarita Supkar Department of Economics and also the member of COE Centre of Excellence RDWU, were invited as Resource Persons for this RAC (meeting). All the Research Scholars of the Department participated and presented their six month's progress report. During the presentation Prof. Supkar shared her views and advised the research scholars about the development of the objectives and tools and the areas of study to focus on. Prof. Acharya further highlighted on enhancing the knowledge and shared view on how to improve their Research tools and improve their Studies. The students and faculties of the departments participated in the RAC meeting.

REPORT ON MENSTRUATION HYGIENE DAY CELEBRATION



Figure 15: Each year on May 28, billions of people across the globe join together to raise awareness about Menstrual Hygiene Management. This global event is known as Menstrual Hygiene Day. The theme for 2022 is ‘#WeAreCommitted’- Making menstruation a normal fact of life by 2030.

Menstruation is not just a “woman thing”. Periods can be a pain- especially if one experiences gender dysphoria, or has a syndrome like PCOS or endometriosis. For most Diverse Gender Groups, having that time of the month is just as painful emotionally as it is physically. Periods is one of the most difficult times for people already dealing with gender dysphoria.

With this context, Youth4Water campaign hosted a panel discussion entitled “Engendered Menstrual Hygiene Management Education & Awareness: Fostering transformation with Diverse Gender Groups” on the occasion of Menstrual Hygiene Day at Ramadevi Women's University, Bhubaneswar on 27th May 2022. The panel consisted of 3 social activists from Diverse Gender Groups; Meera Parida, Sadhana Mishra & Lora Mohapatra. The panel also consisted of two youths from Odisha who asked relevant questions on the topic. The experts enlightened the audience on the issues that diverse gender groups face during menstruation.

Overall, the topics discussed during the session focused on understanding menstruation with diverse gender groups’ perspective, the physical and mental issues related to menstruation in gender diverse populations, challenges faced by Diverse Gender Groups. For instance: Health issues arising from menstrual hygiene – especially from the gender diverse population.

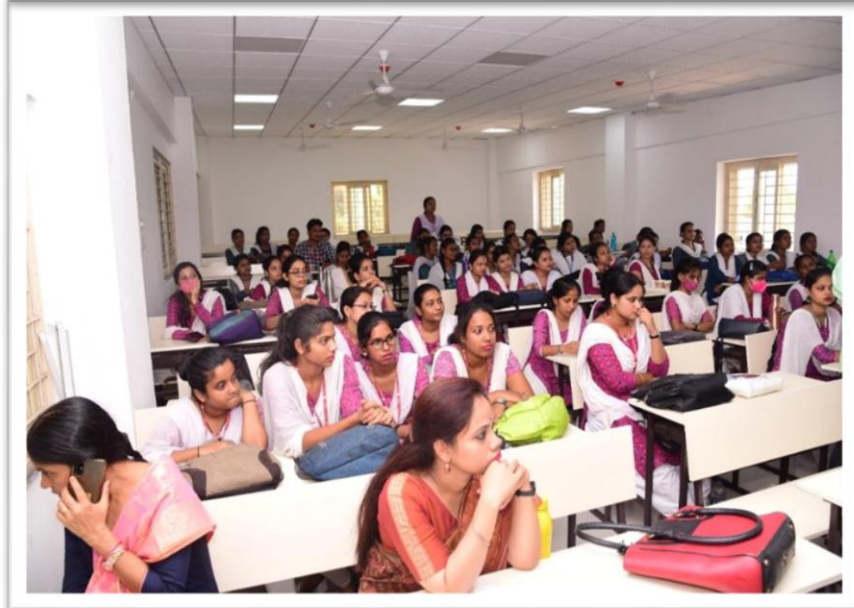
Perspective, spreading awareness among adolescent Diverse Gender Groups on Menstrual Hygiene Day, the myths & taboos associated with menstruation & how it affects the status of Diverse Gender Groups, period equality between women and Diverse Gender Groups, infrastructure and facilities need gaps, Government policy, solutions & way forward, how can youth contribute to create a more inclusive, sensitive, emotionally and physically supportive society and awareness among adolescent girls on Menstrual Hygiene.



Figure 16: Meera Parida shares her views on challenges Diverse Gender Groups face during menstruation.



Figure 17: Lora Mohapatra enlightened the audience about menstruation. The theme for 2022 is ‘#WeAreCommitted’- Making menstruation a normal fact of life by 2030.



REPORT ON SEMINAR CONDUCTED ON GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

The seminar featured good practices examples from members who addressed different aspects of tackling domestic violence, and implementation of a comprehensive strategy, tools and actions facilitating victims seeking help and reporting violence and how to face those adverse situations. The seminar also highlighted that establishing domestic violence services as essential services is an important foundation for supporting victims. It also highlighted various laws related to domestic's violence and helping services to adapt to the challenges posed by the crisis and the subsequent recovery phases. Awareness raising, communication and outreach initiatives were to help victims to outcome all their difficult situations and to ensure that they are aware of available protection measures and support services.



Figure 18 & 19: A seminar on gender-based violence was organised by the PG Department of Gender Studies on 26.05.22.

The participants stressed on the need for gender mainstreaming in social, economic, and cultural policy responses and on the need to ensure the representation of diverse voices in decision making to achieve gender equality and the eradication of gender-based violence in all.

SEMINAR CONDUCTED ON GENDER PERSPECTIVES OF PUBLIC POLICY IN INDIA

Professor (Rtd.) Swarnamayee Tripathy served as the resource person, providing valuable insights on the intersection of gender and public policy. Participants, including students, faculty, and experts, engaged in discussions to analyze existing policies from a gender lens. The seminar aimed to raise awareness about the importance of incorporating gender perspectives in public policy formulation and implementation. The collaborative effort showcased the commitment of the departments to promoting gender equality and informed policy-making.



Figure 20: The Department of Gender Studies and Department of Sociology organized a seminar on "Gender Perspectives of Public Policy in India" on 3rd March 2022.

CELEBRATION AND EXTENSION ACTIVITIES



Figure 21: 5 September 2022, Calibration of teacher's day with lots of performances by the students.



Figure 22: Padmalaya, student of the Department of Gender Studies is performing with RDWU classical Odissi Dance in the occasion of the University Alumni Meet 2022.