

# **DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY**

## **SEMINAR REPORT**

### **Seminar on: “Understanding History and Its Methods”**

**Date:** 20 February 2026

**Venue:** Smart Classroom, Old Academic Building–01, Rama Devi Women’s University (RDWU)

The Department of History, Rama Devi Women’s University, organized a seminar on “**Understanding History and Its Methods**” on 20th February 2026. The distinguished resource person for the seminar was **Basanta Kumar Mallik**, a renowned scholar and expert in the field of History.

### **Objectives of the Seminar**

1. To help students understand the meaning, scope, and enforcement of Understanding History and its Methods.
2. To provide adequate and systematic information about historical methods, sources, and interpretations.
3. To make students competent in clearly and deeply understanding Medieval Indian History: Perspectives and Challenges.

### **Proceedings of the Seminar**

The seminar commenced at **10:30 AM** in the Smart Classroom, Old Academic Building–01, RDWU. The esteemed guest, Prof. Dr. Basanta Kumar Mallik, arrived at the venue along with the faculty members of the Department of History and was warmly welcomed by the students and staff.

The session began with an introductory address by Mr. Paramjit Singh, who highlighted the remarkable achievements, academic contributions, and scholarly excellence of Prof. Basanta Kumar Mallik. After the formal introduction, the session was handed over to the resource person to deliver his lecture.

Prof. Mallik initiated his presentation by explaining the concept of History, its meaning, nature, and importance in understanding human civilization. He elaborated on various methods of studying History, including:

- Use of primary and secondary sources
- Critical analysis and interpretation
- Historiography and changing perspectives
- Interdisciplinary approaches

He gave special emphasis to **Understanding Medieval Indian History**, discussing its diverse perspectives, interpretative debates, and methodological challenges. He explained how medieval history should be studied beyond communal or biased interpretations and highlighted the importance of objectivity, evidence-based research, and critical thinking.

The session was highly interactive. Students actively shared their views and opinions on historical interpretation. Prof. Mallik responded thoughtfully, adding depth to their perspectives and encouraging analytical thinking. He clarified several misconceptions and introduced new dimensions of understanding history that many students were unaware of earlier.

The floor was then opened for a **Question-and-Answer session**, where students raised insightful queries related to historical sources, medieval historiography, and research methodology. Prof. Mallik addressed each question patiently and comprehensively, making the session intellectually enriching.

## Learning Outcomes

By the end of the seminar, students:

- Gained a deeper understanding of the meaning and scope of History.
- Learned about different historical methods and research approaches.
- Developed clarity regarding Medieval Indian History: its perspectives and challenges.
- Understood the importance of critical thinking and objective analysis in historical studies.

It was indeed a valuable academic experience for all participants.

## Conclusion

At the end of the session, the distinguished guest was felicitated and presented with a sapling as a token of respect and appreciation from the Department of History.

Finally, **Dr. Jitendra Suna**, Senior Faculty Member of the Department of History, delivered the Vote of Thanks, expressing sincere gratitude to Prof. Basanta Kumar Mallik for his enlightening lecture and to all the participants for making the seminar a grand success.

The program concluded on a positive and appreciative note.

## Seminar Photos and Attendance

# RAMA DEVI WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY



*RENOWNED MEDIEVAL HISTORIAN*

## **PROF. DR. BASANTA KUMAR MALLIK**

Former CPGC and Head of the Department of History,  
Utkal University

**TOPIC : UNDERSTANDING HISTORY AND IT'S METHODS**

**20 February 2026**



Topic - Understanding History & Its Methods

By: Prof. Dr. Bosanta Kumar Mallik

Time - 11:00 AM

Date: 20th Feb 2026

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Topic - Understanding History & Its Methods

By: Prof. Dr. Bosanta Kumar Mallik

Time - 11:00 AM

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