



# DESHABANDHU MAHAVIDYALAYA, CHITTARANJAN

NAAC Accredited B + College

(Affiliated to Kazi Nazrul University)

Recognised Under Section 2(f) & 12(B) of UGC

P.O. – Chittaranjan, District – Paschim Bardhaman, West Bengal,  
India, PIN – 713 331

**Title of the Event:** *Mrcchakatika*: a Literary Introduction

**Number of Participants:** 43

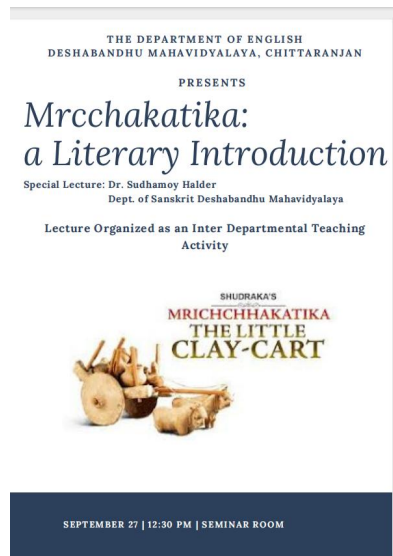
**Date:** Sept 27, 2022

## Report:

The Department of English, Deshabandhu Mahavidyalaya, Chittaranjan organized a special lecture on *Mrcchakatika* by Sudraka in collaboration with the Department of Sanskrit. It is one of the first formal inter-departmental faculty exchange programs, where Dr. Sudhamoy Halder from the Department of Sanskrit addressed the Semester 3 Honours students on a particular classical Sanskrit text as prescribed in their syllabus for the paper Classical Indian and European Literature BAHENG303. The session took place on September 27, 2022 in the Seminar Room at 12:30 pm, and was presided over by our respected Principal Dr. Tridib Santapa Kundu. The session was also attended by the IQAC coordinator of the Institute Dr. Apurbo Kumar Roy, and the seniormost member of the Languages faculty Dr. Sagar Chandra Bandyopadhyay. Dr. Halder started with the ideas pertaining to the stylistics of Sanskrit plays, and how it has evolved over the centuries. He later commented on the grand narrative of Sudraka, the playwright of the text, who was also a King in his own right. According to Dr. Halder, Sudraka's departure from Bharata's tenets in the *Natyashastra* is interesting, as despite his stature as a King, Sudraka incorporated the daily musings of many middle and working class individuals, whereas *Natyashastra* considered them too trivial to be represented in a play. Moreover, Sudraka's avoidance of the myths and epics, show a curious interest for the everyday humdrum 'prakrit' life of the ordinary folk. Dr. Halder also systematically analyzed the title of the play as a two-way metaphor, where Charudutta and Vasantsena's love is as fragile and as ornamental as a "little clay cart," and the quaint domesticity of the play's overall tone. Dr. Halder went on to critically comment on the different characters of the play-- Vasantsena, Charudutta, Madanika, Sarvilak and Samsthanaka. There is also a parallel social revolution which puts Sudraka's political inclinations strangely in perspective. Students were spellbound by Dr. Halder's lucid descriptions and erudite arguments. Many informed questions were asked including the possibility of Sudraka deriving the plotline of the play from Bhasa's extant fragment of prose. Dr. Halder enthusiastically addressed the questions, and promised the Department of English to hold extra classes the following academic year to teach the text to the batch in full details.

## Any Additional Information:

### Flyer





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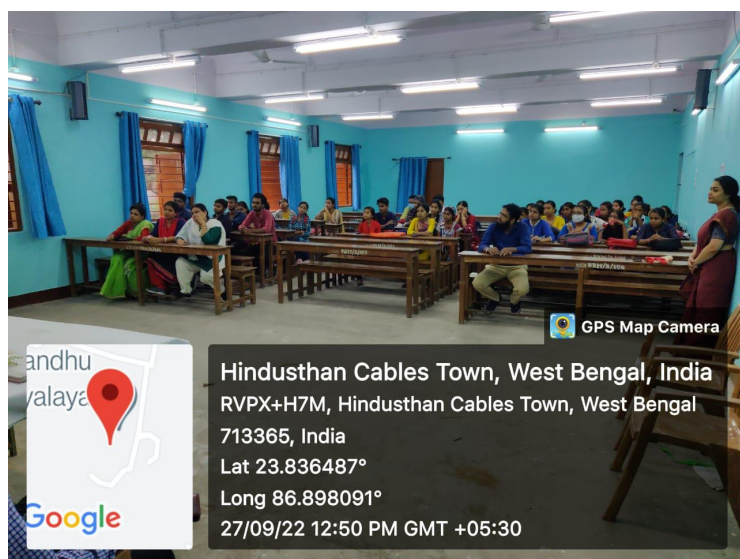
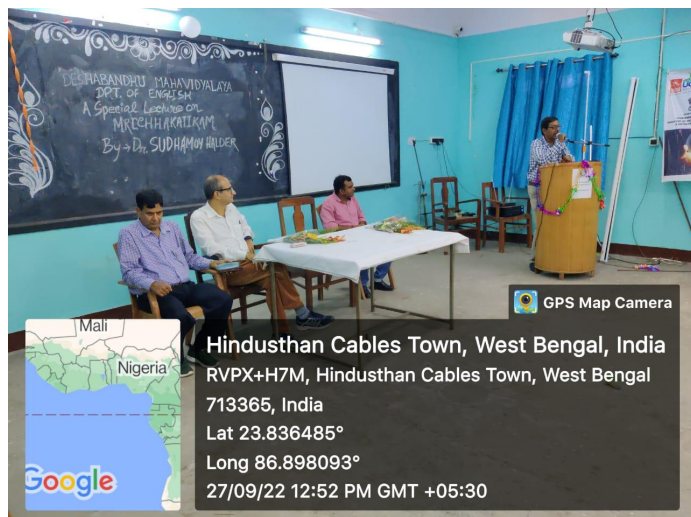
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## Geo Tagged Photo



  
(Tridib Santapa Kundu)  
Principal  
Principal  
Deshabandhu Mahavidyalaya  
Chittaranjan