

PROGRAM REPORT

Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan Annual Memorial Lecture Series – II

Organized by: Department of Philosophy

Theme: “Panchatantra: Unlocking the Potential of Nitishastra”

Speaker: Dr. Bharat Dash, Deputy Director, Center for Indian Knowledge System, Sri Sri University, Cuttack – Odisha

Introduction

The Department of Philosophy successfully conducted the Second Edition of the Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan Annual Memorial Lecture Series, centered on the theme “Panchatantra: Unlocking the Potential of Nitishastra.” The lecture aimed to highlight the enduring relevance of India’s ethical wisdom traditions and their application in contemporary educational and social contexts.

Inaugural Session

The program commenced with the lighting of the torch by the Chief Speaker and the Principal, symbolizing the illumination of knowledge.

The Principal delivered the inaugural address, stressing the importance of rediscovering Indian wisdom, especially the moral and ethical values embedded in ancient texts like the Panchatantra. He emphasized how such teachings play a crucial role in shaping responsible individuals, future leaders, and value-based citizens.

Keynote Lecture by Dr. Bharat Dash

Dr. Bharat Dash, an eminent scholar and Deputy Director of the Center for Indian Knowledge System, Sri Sri University, delivered an enlightening and thought-provoking lecture.

His session offered:

Deep insights into Nitishastra, the traditional science of ethics and policy.

Interpretations of Panchatantra stories, highlighting their moral, strategic, and leadership lessons.

Practical applications of ancient wisdom for modern life, decision-making, and character building.

Dr. Dash’s engaging storytelling style captivated the audience, inspiring students to explore India’s philosophical heritage with renewed interest.

Student Engagement and Interaction

The session witnessed active participation from students. Dr. Dash encouraged interactive dialogue, answering questions and discussing students' reflections. This created a vibrant academic atmosphere and made the session highly interactive, insightful, and intellectually stimulating.

Coordination and Faculty Support

The event was coordinated under the leadership of the Department In-Charge, Smt. Dr. K. Sitamahalakshmi.

Faculty members of the Department of Philosophy—

Sri Satyam Suryanarayana,

Sri Muppidi Mahesh,

along with faculty from other departments—

Dr. Gowtham,

Sri Noojilla Srinivas,

Smt. Farah,

Smt. S. Rani,

extended their support to ensure the smooth and successful conduct of the program.

Participation

Students from multiple departments—Philosophy, Political Science, Social Work, and English Literature—enthusiastically participated. Their involvement enriched the dialogue and contributed significantly to the academic depth of the event.

Conclusion

The Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan Annual Memorial Lecture Series – II stood as a meaningful tribute to one of India's greatest philosopher-statesmen. The event not only celebrated his intellectual legacy but also strengthened the commitment to promoting Indian Knowledge Systems and ethical education.

The Department of Philosophy continues to uphold this vision through such initiatives aimed at fostering wisdom, values, and scholarly inquiry among students.

