



# Miranda House

## UNIVERSITY OF DELHI

### Departmental Annual Report - 3

#### Departmental Activities: Curriculum and Beyond

Department: History Society

Year: 2023-24

Department Society and its Office Bearers:

President - Annu Saini

Vice President - Anupriya Singh

General Secretary - Irom Linda Chanu

IT Cell Head - Shambhavi

Treasurer - Mandeep Kaur Puri

Staff Advisors: Mrs. Madhu

#### Part B.1

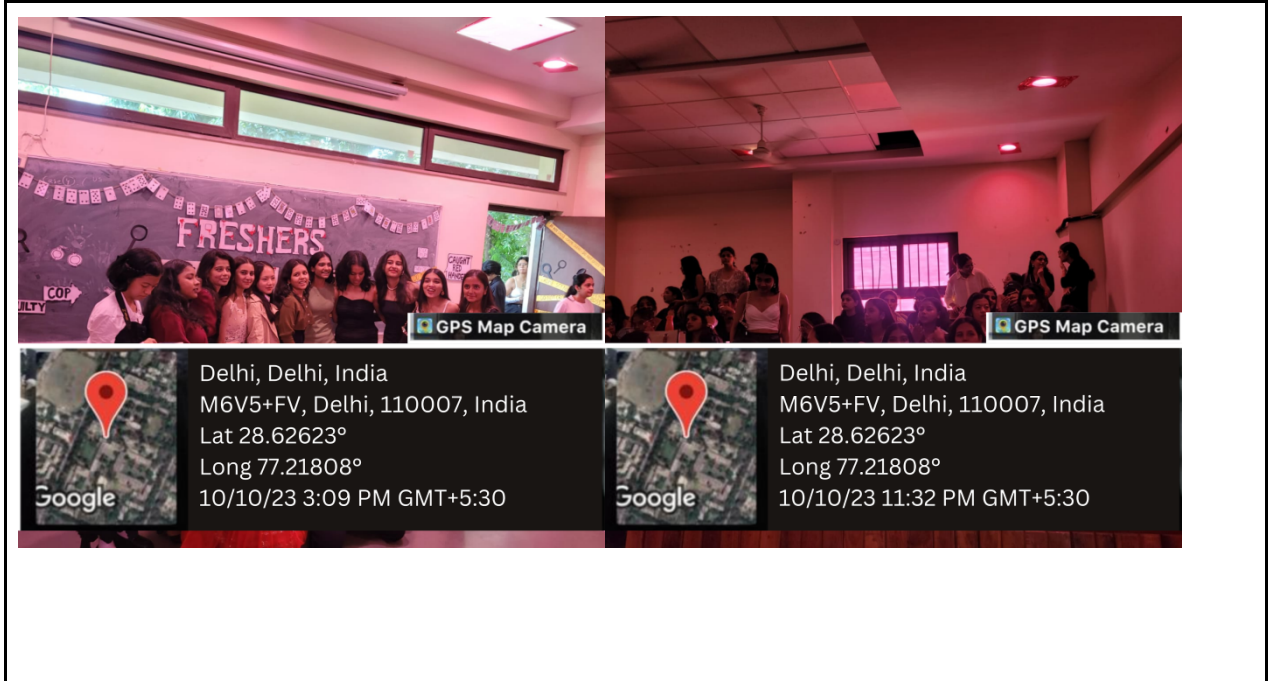
Seminars/conferences/workshops/extension activities conducted by the Department

S. No.	Title of the programme/Conference/Workshop/Seminar/Webinar	Name and designation of Resource Person/Guest Speaker	Number of Participants	Report of the programme/Conference/Workshop/Seminar/Webinar
1.	Heirloom Heist : Freshers'23 (10 October 2023)		100+	The History Society of Miranda House organized Freshers 2023 'Heirloom Heist' on 10 October 2023.



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2.	<b>Voice, Agency and Power :</b> Reading the Colonial Archive by <b>Dr. Aparna Balachandran</b>  (27 October 2023)	<b>Dr. Aparna Balachandran,</b> Professor	120+	<p>The History Society of Miranda House hosted Dr. Aparna Balachandran for a talk on "Voice, Agency, and Power: Reading the Colonial Archives" on October 27th 2023. The talk received an overwhelming response.</p> <p>In this session Dr. Balachandran introduced us to the world of archives. Questioning the layman's perception of archives as neutral repositories of information, she unraveled the various ways in which archives are constituted and reconstituted. This critical exercise helped students to reexamine their perception of historical sources. The session concluded with an intellectually stimulating Q&amp;A session. The History society strives hard to organize such exciting historical engagements all through the year.</p>
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3.	<b>Tastes, Threads and Theatre : A quiz on fashion, food and cinema</b>  (22 November 2023)		60+	<p>The curious minds of the History Society and the Quiz Society of Miranda House came together to conduct 'Threads, Tastes &amp; Theatre, a quiz on fashion, food and cinema. The event turned out to be highly enriching with active participation of students across different disciplines.</p> <p>Wide range of questions spanning from very specific details of certain film shots to theories about eating habits hugely engaged the participants. The penchant for minute details and collective efforts of both the societies made this event extremely successful.</p> <p>After a series of thrilling educative rounds the quiz ended with Nandabala, Pragya and Archie of History Honours bagging the winning title.</p>
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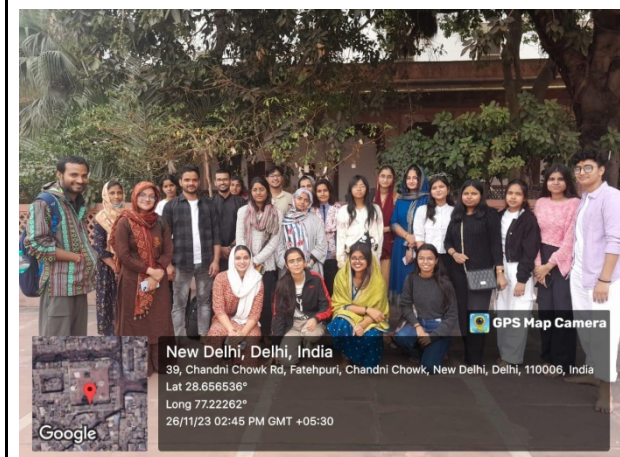




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4.	<b>Weaving the Social and Cultural tapestry of Shahjahanabad</b> : A walk to Chandni Chowk  (26 November 2023)		60+	<p>The History Society of Miranda House in collaboration with Raahi and Celluloid, The Film Society, organized a walk to the Old City of Shahjahanabad. The walk explored the cultural and social significance of the historical city of Shahjahanabad.</p> <p>The walk was led by Shalini, a student of History Honours. She explained the historical significance of the place through the lens of different places of worship. This included the Gauri Shankar Temple, Fatehpuri Masjid, St. Stephen's Church, Digambar Lal Jain Mandir, Swetambar Mandir and the Sheeshganj Gurudwara. The walk explored the rich cultural history of Old Delhi over the ages.</p>
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5.	<b>Student Symposium :</b> Exploring the Intersectionality of Caste and Gender: Unravelling Dynamics, Challenges, and Empowerment  (31 January 2024)		120+	<p>The History Society, Miranda House organized a Student Symposium entitled ‘Exploring the Intersectionality of Caste and Gender: Unravelling Dynamics, Challenges and Empowerment’ on the 31st of January, 2024. The panelists and audience engaged in an insightful discourse on various challenges faced by the Dalit-Bahujan community in society at large. The discussions revolved largely around the interrelations between caste and gender.</p> <p>The panel discussion was conducted in two rounds, with the first half marked by discussions on issues like how Dalit gender minorities face unique discrimination in comparison to their Savarna counterparts. The discussion brought in diverse perspectives with a special focus on Dalit women and gender minorities.</p> <p>The second round was primarily centered on legal aspects of caste-based discrimination. It discussed the role of constitutional laws in ensuring justice in matters related to caste based discrimination. The event elicited enthusiastic response from both the students and faculty. They exchanged their</p>
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6.	<b>Workshop on Research Paper Writing</b>  (25 January 2024)	<b>Dr. Vijay Kumar,</b> Professor  <b>Dr. Rohit Rai,</b> Professor	<b>120+</b>	<p>The History Society, Miranda House, organized an in-house workshop on Academic Research Paper Writing by Dr. Rohit Rai and Dr. Vijay Kumar on 25th January, 2024. The event witnessed active participation from all the students. It reflected their eagerness in delving into the intricacies of research paper writing in History.</p> <p>The Research Paper Writing Workshop proved to be an invaluable experience for students. It aimed at equipping them with necessary skills for research writing like choosing a topic, processing the sources and making a historiographically sound argument.</p>
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7.	<b>Movie Screening: Please Don't Beat Me, Sir</b> directed by <b>Shashwati Talukdar and P. Kerim Friedman</b>  (7 February 2024)	<b>Shashwati Talukdar,</b> Director	<b>100-120</b>	<p>The Department of History, Miranda House organized the Screening of the movie, 'Don't Beat Me Sir!' , directed by Ms. Shashwati Talukdar.</p> <p>The film was critically acclaimed and internationally recognized. The film sensitively deals with the plight of the Chhara tribe which continue to face unwarranted, illegal arrests and beatings because of its traditional association with theft. The screening was followed by a Q&amp;A round with Ms. Talukdar.</p>
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8.	<p><b>Panel Discussion on Legal Systems and Societal Norms for Dalits and Adivasis with Prof. Sukhadeo Thorat, Bezwada Wilson and Adv Rahul Singh, chaired by Ms. Gorvika Rao</b></p> <p>(8 February 2024)</p>	<p><b>Prof. Sukhadeo Thorat,</b></p> <p><b>Bezwada Wilson</b></p> <p><b>Adv Rahul Singh</b></p> <p><b>Ms. Gorvika Rao</b></p>	120+	<p>The Department of History, Miranda House organized a panel discussion on the theme ‘Legal Systems and Societal Norms for Dalits and Adivasis’ on the 8th of Feb, 2024 as part of its annual academic department festival, Tarikh' 24. The discussion was chaired by Ms. Gorvika Rao, Department of English, Miranda House.</p> <p>The panelists included Prof. Sukhdeo Thorat, Professor Emeritus, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Mr. Bezwada Wilson, an esteemed activist working for the eradication of manual scavenging and Adv. Rahul Singh, Director of National Dalit Movement for Justice - NCDHR.</p> <p>Prof. Thorat opened up the discussion through historical contextualization of caste oppression. He discussed constitutional reforms as remedial measures in that context. Mr. Wilson explored the linkages between caste oppression and manual scavenging and emphasized the social need for emancipation of Dalit Bahujans. Adv. Rahul Singh picked up experiences of the Dalit Bahujan community in legal spaces and obstacles faced by them. The address by the panelists was followed by an interactive Q&amp;A session. The History Society is committed to the cause of social inclusion and equity.</p>
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9.	<b>Cultural Event</b> <b>(8 February 2024)</b>		<b>150+</b>	<p>The two day academic festival on the second day saw a variety of cultural performances. Many of these were derived their inspiration from the theme of the festival.</p> <p>The evening commenced with fascinating presentation of medley of folk songs by the department students. A wide array of folkloric and indigenous dance performances including Sambalpuri, Tiwa, Gondhal and Kalbelia dances also marked the moment.</p> <p>Later, a play inspired by Joothan (Omprakash Valmiki's autobiography) was staged in collaboration with the Equal Opportunity Cell of Miranda House. The poetry recitation by department students around the theme of dalit oppression made the exercise extremely meaningful.</p> <p>A significant part of the evening was spent in a splendid Dastangoi performance on Dr.B. R Ambedkar's life by maestros Poonam Girdhani and Meera Rizvi.</p> <p>The event helped to bring out the rich heritage of ostracized communities as well as their continuous resistance to their persecution.</p>
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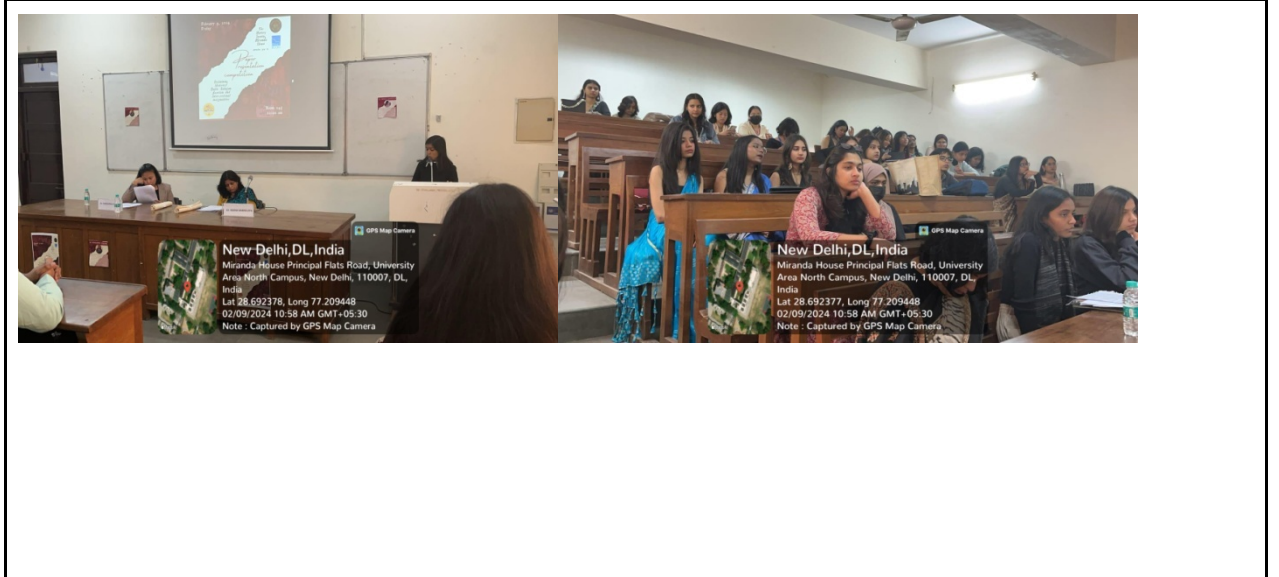


<p><b>10.</b></p>	<p><b>Paper Presentation Competition</b></p> <p>(9 February 2024)</p>		<p><b>120+</b></p>	<p>Yet Another highlight of our annual Fest, Tarikh'24 was an inter-college paper presentation competition for undergraduate students. It aligned with the overarching theme of our academic festival of studying marginalities. The event was graced with the presence of Dr. Reena Kannojiya and Dr. Senganglu as adjudicators.</p> <p>The competition showcased a diverse array of papers delving into distinct dimensions of lower caste oppression in varied social and political contexts across the country.</p>
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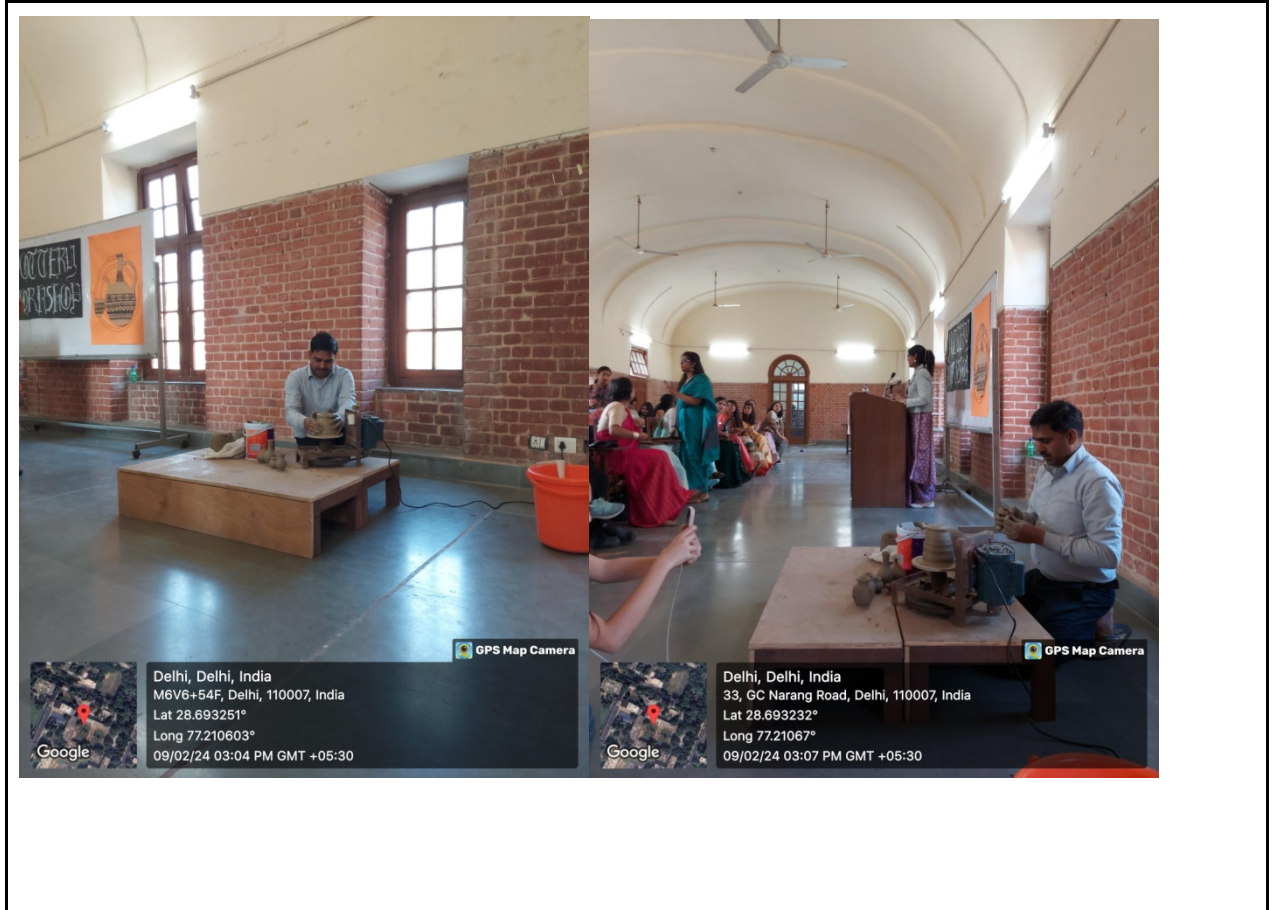
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11.	<b>Pottery Workshop</b>  (9 February 2024)		<p>On the 9th of February 2024, the Department of History, Miranda House also organized a Pottery Workshop as part of its annual departmental fest Tarikh'24. The workshop was conducted by Mr. Angad Prajapati, a craftsperson associated with Dastkari Haat Sarmati.</p> <p>Mr. Angad, then proceeded to set up the essentials that were required for the workshop including the clay, motor and water etc. He demonstrated the technique of achieving various shapes and sizes of pottery. He made bowls, goglets, pots etc. while simultaneously explaining the intricacies involved in the art of pottery making.</p> <p>The second half was devoted to participants trying their hand at the art with Mr. Angad's assistance.</p>
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## Part B.2

### Extension Activities organized

**1) Name of the Programme: Heritage Walk Society named *Raahi***

**Name of the agencies/consultants involved, with contact details (if any): Virtual and Physical Walks conducted by student leaders and specialists**

**Duration: Once a week during Academic Semester**

**Period: 1 Aug. 2023 to 30 June 2024**

**Coordinators: History Department Student Council**

**(Raahi President-Shalini Ranjan**

**Raahi Vice President- Yushvita Sharma)**



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S. No.	Title of the Programme /Conference /Workshop/ Seminar/ Webinar	Name and Designation of Resource Person/ Guest Speaker	Number of Participants	Report of the Programme/ Conference/ Workshop/ Seminar/ Webinar
1.	<i>Fortress of Tuglaqabad</i>  (26th August 2023)	<b>Anas Khan</b> Founder, Unzip Delhi	180-185	<p>Raahi, the Heritage Walk Society, organized a walk to the Tughlaqabad Fort. It was led by Anas Khan, renowned walk leader and founder of Unzip Delhi.</p> <p>The walk explored the ruins of the fort, dissecting the water channels, defense mechanisms, and layout of the monument. It discussed its political and cultural symbolism. The group also visited the tomb of Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq where the walk leader shed light on Tughlaq architecture.</p>





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2.	<i>Qila-i-Mubarak: Jamuna Tere Itihaas</i>  (3 <sup>rd</sup> Sept. 2023)	<b>Sohail Hasmi,</b> Heritage enthusiast	89- 90	<p>Raahi, the Heritage Walk Society, organized a walk to the Red Fort. It was led by Sohail Hashmi, renowned scholar and walk leader.</p> <p>The theme of the walk was to understand the role of river Yamuna in the settlement of Shahjahanabad. The walk also explored the intricacies of Mughal Architecture, traditions and culture. The walk leader shared various stories and legends surrounding the fort and its inhabitants. He also showed prints that represented the fort in its authentic Medieval glory, which made the participants very interested.</p>
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3.	<i>Spiraling in CP</i>  (24 <sup>th</sup> Sept. 2023)	<b>Shriti K. Tyagi</b>  Founder, Beyond Bombay & Beyond Delhi	60-65	<p>Raahi, the Heritage Walk Society, organized a walk to Connaught Place. It was led by Shriti K Tyagi, a renowned walk leader.</p> <p>The walk was based on Sam Miller’s book “Delhi: Adventures in a Megacity” and its usage of the concept of spiral to explore CP. The walk uncovered the colonial and urban history behind this place- its legacy and architecture. The group visited various decades-old shops and stores, and also made a stop at a dargah that lies hidden in this spiral.</p>
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4.	<i>Ghalib Ki Haweli</i>  (1 <sup>st</sup> Oct. 2023)	<b>Archita, Anshika,</b> Students, Department of History, Miranda House	45-50	<p>Raahi, the Heritage Walk Society, organized a walk to Ghalib ki Haveli. It was led by Anshika and Archita, students of the Department of History, MH.</p> <p>The walk uncovered the life and legacy of Mirza Ghalib, one of the most well known poets of his time. The walk leaders explained the architecture of the haveli and socio-political context of Ghalib's time. The group then recited Ghalib's poetry and many attendees shared their own works as well.</p>
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5.	<i>Purana Qila</i>  (8 <sup>th</sup> Oct. 2023)	<b>Arushi Agarwal,</b> <b>Irom Linda Chanu,</b> Students, Department of History, Miranda House	50-60	Raahi, The Heritage Walk Society of Miranda House conducted a heritage walk to Purana Qila or the Old Fort. Being thrown back and forth as the capital of Dinpanah and Shergarh, the complex provides a spectacular architecture alongside a pleasing moat supplied by Yamuna, also referred to as the sixth city of Delhi.
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6.	<i>National Museum</i>  (29 <sup>th</sup> Oct. 2023)	<b>Dr. Joeeta Pal,</b> Professor Department of History, Miranda House	60-65	Raahi, The Heritage Walk Society of Miranda House organized a heritage walk the National Museum, New Delhi which has been a space for the collection, conservation and exploration of the rich and diverse heritage of the subcontinent, ever since it was established at Janpath in 1960.
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Sunday, 29 October, 2023 · 12:58 pm

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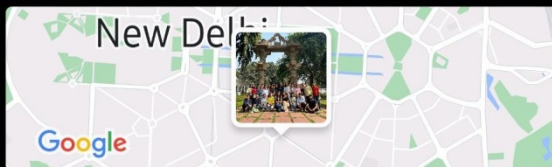
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7.	<i>Hauz Khas Fort</i>  (5 <sup>th</sup> Nov. 2023)	<b>Nandini , Prachi,</b> Student, Department of History, Miranda House	40-50	Raahi, The Heritage Walk Society of Miranda House conducted a walk to Hauz Khas village - today vibrant with eclectic cafes, art galleries and fashion boutiques goes back to the medieval city of Siri, founded by Alauddin Khilji.
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8.	<i>Weaving the Social &amp; Cultural tapestry of Shahjahan abad</i>  (26 <sup>th</sup> Nov. 2023)	<b>Shalini Ranjan,</b> Student, Department of History, Miranda House	70- 80	Raahi, The Heritage Walk Society of Miranda House in collaboration with The History Society and Celluloid, The Film Society, conducted an interesting walk to the Old City of Shahjahanabad, weaving the social and cultural tapestry of the city, focusing on the secular aspects of the various religious places situated harmoniously along a single street.
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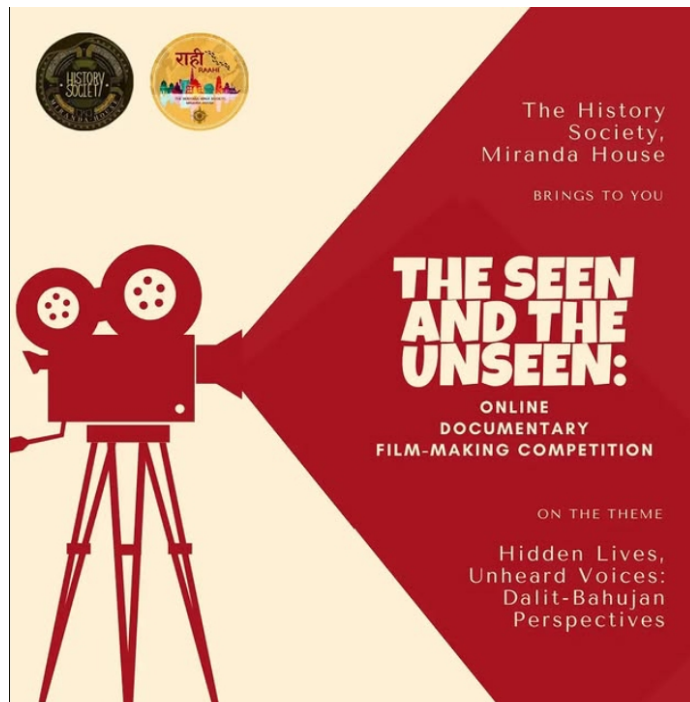
9.	<i>The life of Babasaheb : Remembering the scholar and hero</i>  (28th Jan. 2024)	<b>Nandini and Anika,</b> Students, Department of History, Miranda House.	45-50	To trace the journey of his anti-caste activism Raahi, the heritage walk society of Miranda House, conducted a walk to Dr. BR Ambedkar National Memorial, also known as Mahaparinirvan Bhoomi. The memorial is dedicated to his contributions towards Dalit liberation and Indian
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10.	<i>Documentary making competition</i>  (6th Feb 2024)	<b>Council</b>	50-60	Raahi: the Heritage Walk Society invited entries for an Online Documentary making competition titled 'The Seen and the Unseen: Hidden Lives' on the theme "Unheard Voices: Dalit-Bahujan perspective". Cinema and Filmmaking enthusiasts are free to express their creativity and communicate their views on the issue with the aid of their camera lenses.
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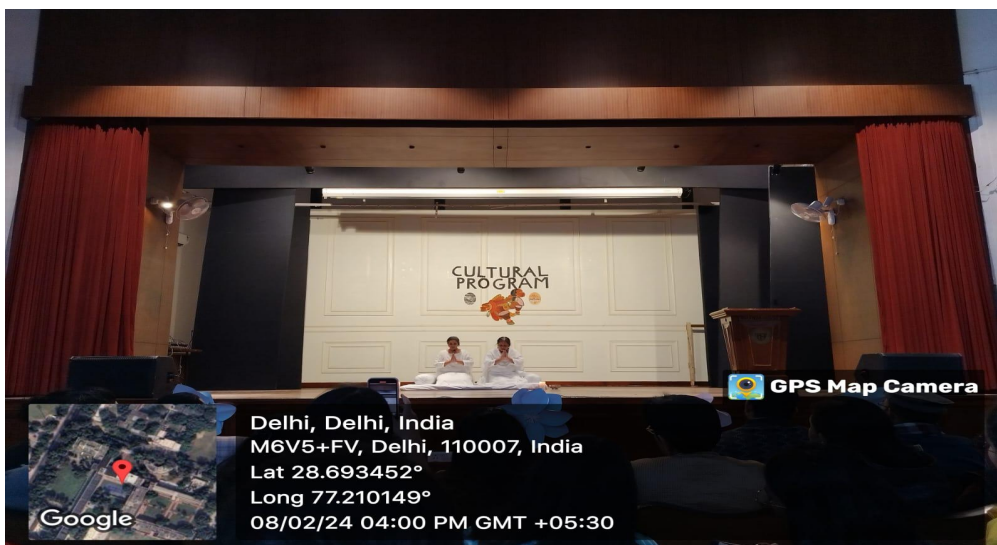
11.	<i>Movie Screening</i>  (7th Feb 2024)	<b>Ms. Shashwati Talukdar and P. Kerim Friedman</b>	90-95	Raahi: the Heritage Walk Society organized the screening of the film, 'Please Don't Beat Me, Sir' directed by Ms. Shashwati Talukdar an internationally acclaimed, thought provoking, revolutionary attempt at highlighting the plight of the Chhara tribal community (which has been historically marginalised and stigmatised as a "group of criminals"),
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12.	<i>A Cultural Evening</i>  (8th Feb. 2024)	<b>Poonam Girdhani and Meera Rizvi</b>	12 0- 13 0	Raahi, The Heritage Walk Society of Miranda House organized A Cultural Evening on 8 <sup>th</sup> Feb. 2024. The event consisted of 4 dance performances, a play and a Dastangoi performance which focuses upon life of Dr. Ambedkar.
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13.	<i>Pottery Workshop</i>  (9th Feb. 2024)	<b>Mr. Angad</b>	55-60	Raahi, The Heritage Walk Society of Miranda House presents before you, a Pottery-Making Workshop, conducted by Mr Angad Prajapati, a craftsperson associated with Dastkari Haat Samiti.
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14.	<i>Roshanara Bagh</i>  (3rd March 2024)	<b>Yushvita,</b> Student, Department of History, Miranda House	65- 70	Raahi, in collaboration with the Women's Development Cell, Miranda House, will take you to Roshanara Bagh where the tomb and garden of this beloved Mughal Princess lie.
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15.	<i>Strolling the lanes of Munirka</i>  (10th March 2024)	<b>Gandhi Riyang,</b> Founder, Munirka Heritage Walks <b>and</b> <b>Irom Linda Chanu,</b> Student, Department of History, MH	25-30	Raahi, the Heritage Walk Society of Miranda House, as it collaborates with Munirka Heritage Walks. Our walk leaders helped us explore the patterns of migrations and settlements by people from North-eastern states of India, in the urban markets and lanes of Munirka.
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16.	<i>Abdul Rahim Khan-i-khana tomb</i>  (14th April 2024)	<b>Aniket,</b> Walk leader, Delhi Darshan <b>and</b> <b>Ishita Shankar,</b> Student, Department of History, MH	65-70	Raahi, the Heritage Walk Society of Miranda House, in collaboration with Delhi Darshan (Naksh Foundation) conducted an exciting walk to the Abdul Rahim Khan-i-Khanan Tomb. The tomb belongs to Khanzada Mirza Khan Abdul Rahim or as we popularly know him “Abdul Rahim Khan-i-Khanan,” was one of the navratna in the court of the Mughal Emperor, Akbar.
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17.	<i>Sunder Nursery</i>  (28th April 2024)	<b>Aastha,</b> Student, Department of History, MH	45- 50	Raahi, the Heritage Walk Society of Miranda House, explores this place hosting great biodiversity along with containing SIX UNESCO world heritage sites, named Sunder Nursery.
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18.	<i>Adham khan tomb</i>  (12th May 2024)	<b>Deepa and Dishna,</b> Student, Department of History, MH	10-15	Raahi, the heritage walk society of Miranda House, explored the tomb of Adham Khan, built in 1562, stands splendacious in Mehrauli and is a protected monument under the Archaeological Survey of India. This one of a kind monument, which has seen British Occupation and restorations, and still narrates its history explicitly.
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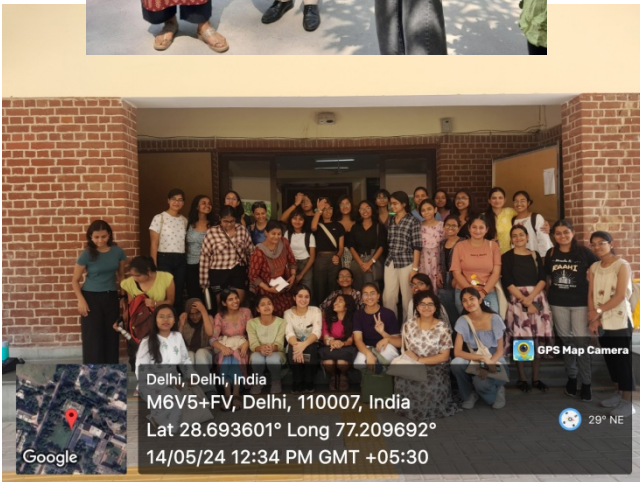




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19.	<i>Tracing the history of Miranda</i>  (14th May 2024)	<b>Dr. Srimanjari,</b> Faculty, Department of History, MH <b>and</b> <b>Yushvita,</b> Student, Department of History, MH	70- 75	Raahi, the Heritage Walk society of Miranda House conducted a walk along the passages of this institution and get a glimpse of the history that surrounds it.
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### Part B.3

Any other event organized as part of students' activities (not listed above)

1.	A two day department trip to Dharamshala-McLeodganj		50+	<p>The Department of History, Miranda House organized a trip to Dharamshala and McLeodganj from 19th-22nd April, 2024. Each year the department takes a trip with students to any place of historical significance.</p> <p>A jam packed schedule with hurried runs to catch the bus on time all the while enjoying the breathtaking view of the Dhauladar ranges was as spectacular as our visit to a Buddhist monastery. A mini trek to a waterfall and discovering secret passages and alleys at the Kangra fort was a thrilling experience.</p> <p>With constant efforts to catch a view of the perfect sunrise, strolling along the mall road and giving in to the temptations of the Tibetan markets to relishing the local cuisine, the trip left the students with anecdotes and fond memories for a lifetime.</p>
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