

Report on

## Educational Tour

Visit Date: 22.03.2023

Destination: Burdwan Town, Purba Bardhaman, West Bengal



Organized by:  
Department of Philosophy,  
Krishna Chandra College,  
Hetampur, Birbhum, West Bengal.

### Introduction:

The Philosophy Department of Krishna Chandra College, Hetampur (Under The University of Burdwan) organized an educational tour to Burdwan Town, a place rich in historical and cultural significance. The aim of this tour was to provide students with practical exposure to the philosophical concepts discussed in class and to explore the historical and cultural heritage of the region.

### About Burdwan Town and its connection to philosophical fragrance:

Bardhaman, also known as Burdwan, is a town located in the West Bengal state of India. While Bardhaman may not be as widely recognized on a global scale as some other historical and philosophical centers, it does have its own unique philosophical importance. Here are some aspects of its philosophical significance:

**Historical and Cultural Heritage:** Bardhaman is steeped in history and culture. Its rich historical past, including the presence of the Bardhaman Rajbari (Royal Palace) and other historical sites, reflects the interplay of culture and philosophy. The architectural and artistic elements of these historical sites often contain philosophical symbolism and meaning, showcasing the fusion of aesthetics and philosophical ideas.

**Diverse Religious Traditions:** West Bengal, including Bardhaman, is known for its religious diversity. The town is home to temples, mosques, and other religious institutions representing various faiths. This religious diversity can be seen as a microcosm of the broader philosophical discussions surrounding religious pluralism, tolerance, and the coexistence of different belief systems.

**Interdisciplinary Connections:** Philosophy often intersects with other fields such as history, sociology, art, and literature. Bardhaman's historical and cultural significance provides an opportunity to explore these interdisciplinary connections. Studying the town's history and culture can shed light on how philosophical ideas have influenced and been influenced by various aspects of human society.

**Local Philosophical Traditions:** While Bardhaman may not be known for any specific philosophical school or tradition, it is part of the broader Indian philosophical landscape. The town and its surrounding regions may have their own local philosophical traditions, which could include oral traditions, folk philosophies, or unique interpretations of classical philosophical ideas.

**Contemporary Relevance:** Exploring the philosophical significance of Bardhaman extends to the present day. The town and its residents continue to grapple with philosophical questions related to identity, culture, development, and social change. These contemporary issues are integral to the ongoing philosophical discourse.

**Academic and Intellectual Engagement:** Bardhaman is home to educational institutions, including Burdwan University, where academic and intellectual discussions take place. These institutions contribute to the philosophical discourse by fostering critical thinking and philosophical inquiry among students and scholars.

Bardhaman, with its historical, cultural, and religious diversity, offers a unique backdrop for exploring various philosophical themes and questions. While it may not be as well-known as some other philosophical hubs, it is a place where the interplay of culture, history, and philosophy can be examined in a local context, shedding light on universal philosophical ideas and their practical application.

### **Itinerary:**

The tour began on 22.03.2023 with a group of 21 (Twenty-one) students and 04 (Four) teachers. itinerary for the tour included the following key destinations and activities:

**Visit to Burdwan University:** Our first stop was Burdwan University, where we had the opportunity to interact with faculty members from the Philosophy Department. This interaction allowed us to gain insights into the academic and research aspects of philosophy at a higher level.

**Burdwan Rajbari (Royal Palace):** We visited the Burdwan Rajbari, a historic palace that provided us with a glimpse of the architectural and cultural heritage of the region. The intricate designs and historical artifacts showcased the fusion of art and philosophy during the royal era.

### **Meghnad Saha Planetarium:**

Our educational tour commenced with a visit to the Meghnad Saha Planetarium, which is dedicated to the celebrated Indian astrophysicist, Meghnad Saha. During our time at the planetarium, we were treated to an informative and captivating presentation that transported us on a virtual voyage through the cosmos. The state-of-the-art audiovisual equipment and the dome-shaped projection system combined to provide a deeply immersive encounter. This

presentation delved into a multitude of astronomical phenomena and celestial bodies, leaving us both astonished and motivated to delve deeper into the mysteries of the universe.



**Bardhaman Museum:** Our tour continued to the Burdwan Science Centre, which is affiliated with the National Council of Science Museums. This science center offers a wide array of interactive displays and activities with the primary objective of promoting scientific awareness. Our visit included the exploration of exhibits spanning physics, biology, chemistry, and astronomy. These exhibits were thoughtfully designed to be hands-on and engaging, enabling us to actively participate in experiments, simulations, and demonstrations. Through these activities, we gained a practical and enjoyable understanding of scientific principles.



In addition to the exhibits, we had the privilege of attending a science presentation featuring live experiments and demonstrations conducted by expert scientists. This show not only

entertained us but also enriched our comprehension of various scientific phenomena, making it a valuable and memorable experience.

The Bardhaman Museum was a treasure trove of artifacts and sculptures that depicted various philosophical ideas and religious beliefs. Students had the chance to observe and analyze these pieces, connecting them to the philosophical theories discussed in class.



**Interaction with Local Scholars:** We organized a panel discussion with local scholars and philosophers who shared their perspectives on how philosophy is integrated into the daily lives of the people in Burdwan. This interaction allowed us to gain a deeper understanding of the practical aspects of philosophy.

#### **Ramnabagan Wildlife Sanctuary (Zoological Park):**

Our tour culminated with a visit to the Ramnabagan Wildlife Sanctuary, renowned for its rich diversity of plant and animal species, presenting an exceptional educational opportunity in the realm of wildlife conservation. We were granted the privilege of exploring the sanctuary and observing numerous animals and birds in their native habitats. This sanctuary bestowed upon us a tranquil and harmonious setting, fostering our deep appreciation for the significance of conserving biodiversity. During our visit, we also gained insight into the hurdles encountered in wildlife conservation and the proactive measures in place to safeguard these creatures and their ecosystems. This experience left us with a profound understanding of the importance of preserving our natural world and its inhabitants.



**Visit to Religious Sites:** We also visited various religious sites, including temples and monasteries, where students learned about the role of philosophy in shaping religious beliefs and practices. It was a unique opportunity to witness firsthand the coexistence of different philosophical and religious traditions in the town.

### Observations and Learning:

During the educational tour, students made several observations and learned valuable lessons, including:

- The practical application of philosophical concepts in art, architecture, and daily life.
- The historical evolution of philosophical thought in the region.
- The significance of cultural and religious diversity in the context of philosophy.
- The importance of interdisciplinary studies in understanding philosophy in its entirety.

### Conclusion:

The educational tour to Burdwan Town was a remarkable experience for the Philosophy Department. It not only enriched our theoretical knowledge but also provided practical insights into the world of philosophy. The experiences gained during the tour enhanced their understanding of the world around them and helped them develop essential skills such as critical thinking, problem-solving, and creativity. Overall, this tour broadened students' knowledge and impacted on their academic and personal development