

Institute Seminar on “Why Education of Bharatiya Sanskriti (Indian Culture) Essential”

Topic: Why Education of Bharatiya Sanskriti (Indian Culture) Essential

Speaker: Prof. Shiva K. Ojha

Venue: Adjacent to Library, 4th Floor, Main Building, IIT Bhubaneswar

Date: 30th August 2019

Time: 5.30 P.M. to 6.30 P.M.

The seminar began with welcome by Dr. C. N. Bhende (PIC Seminar) followed by brief introduction of the speaker.

Prof. Ojha started by telling that the knowledge contained in the Indian Culture covers the entire creation in three parts – *Adhyatma*, *Adhibhuta* and *Adhideva*. These three substances are interconnected and useful for the conduct of human life in different parts. Then, he said that ancient sages of *Bharat* revealed the very first language, the rich and scientific *Sanskrit*. He said every language stands on three pillars – letters, words and grammar. In case of *Sanskrit*, all these three are scientific. He gave few examples to prove that how *Sanskrit* is very well defined language. The linguistic flexibility of the Indian languages compared to the foreign languages especially English is highlighted using an intuitive approach.

The behavioral aspects pertaining to the cultural exchange like pure ego and impure ego are presented with a greater degree of clarity in thoughts and revoking the conventional thought process of people. He mentioned that sorrows and happiness are the most important parts of life and not the wealth. He told if today’s generation is asked about what is knowledge, they will say various engineering fields, medical, arts, etc. However, knowledge has four types, *Paroksh*, *Pratakshya*, *Aproksh* and *Sakshat Aproksh*. Later he told importance of *Yoga* in the life of human being and he mentioned that he found eighteen differences between *Yoga asanas* and *exercise*. He has given a thought provoking and enriching content in the context of Indian culture and its diversity in various aspects. He mentioned that the details of his talk can be read from his various books.

One of the students asked that how one can reach to his/her own soul. Prof. Ojha answered that there are ways to achieve that, practicing *Yoga*, meditation are some of the ways. The seminar concluded with the Prof. K. R. Srivathsan, (former visiting professor, SES, IIT Bhubaneswar), felicitating Prof. Ojha with a memento of appreciation.

Biography of the Speaker:

Professor Shiva Kumar Ojha was born on 23rd November 1933 in the village Bojha of district Etawah (U.P.) which is situated by the side of river Shri Yamuna. After getting an M.Sc. degree in mathematics from Lucknow university, he obtained Ph.D. degree in the area of specialization “Aerodynamics”, from Department of Aerospace Engineering at IISc. Bangalore, where he was subsequently appointed as Lecturer. In the year 1967 he joined the Department of Aerospace Engineering at IIT Bombay and continued to remain there as professor. During that period he carried out studying and teaching of different subjects related to the field of Aerodynamics, held various administrative responsibilities, guided researches and projects, published research papers, made educational tours abroad and wrote a book entitled “Flight Performance of Aircraft” which was published in U.S.A. Soon after retirement in 1995, Prof. Ojha got interested in studying, teaching and research in the area of Indian Culture. Due to his initiative, one-semester course on the subject of Indian Culture got started from the academic session 2002-2003 in the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences at IIT Bombay and he taught it also there. Prof. Ojha also wrote book (about 700 pages of bigger size) on the subject of Indian culture. It is entitled BHARATIYA SANSKRITI MAHAN EVAM VILAKSHANA (Indian Culture Great and Wonderful) which is in Hindi Language. Based on the contents of this book Prof. Ojha also wrote the following 11 other books in Hindi Language.

1. Why is it essential to understand Indian Culture?
2. Why *Sanskrit-Hindi* Significant, how to promote it?
3. What is the best education?
4. What is *Dharma*, Why is it?
5. What is Happiness-Sorrow, why is it?
6. What are the principal elements of Universe (Creation)?
7. What are the specialities of a Human Body?

8. What are the center-points and exceptional elements?
9. Why Indian Culture Great and Wonderful?
10. What are the Sciences of *Karma* (Action) and *Gyana* (Knowledge)?
11. What is the Science of Devotion?.



