

**Department of Social Work, GBU Campus Visit
By**

**Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Memorial College of
Social Work**

**Morane, District Dhule
Maharashtra, India**

27th December, 2012

*Report by:
Dr. Rituparna Majumdar*



Introduction

Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar College of Social Work, Dhule (Maharashtra) expressed their intent to visit the Gautam Buddha University campus to meet the faculty members and have an academic interaction and exchange of ideas. This initiative is part of their field work curriculum to introduce the students of Masters in Social Work to a different city, place and institute and also be exposed to the programmes and events which different institutes are engaging in.

They visited the GBU campus on 27th December, 2012 (Thursday). Sixteen students along with their faculty member Dr Sudam G Rathod visited us. The GBU Department of Social Work organised half-day programme for the guests.

About Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar College of Social Work

Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar College of Social Work was established by *Samata Shikshan Sanstha* (a social service agency established under the leadership of Prof. Vilas Wagh in 1972 and registered under The Societies Registration Act 1860 and Bombay Public Trust Act 1950 respectively) is the only institution imparting social work education and training in the Dhule district of Maharashtra. It is affiliated to North Maharashtra University, Jalgaon and financially supported with 100% grant in aid by Government of Maharashtra. The College of Social work imparts training in Social Work both at both graduate as well as post graduate levels leading to three year Bachelor of Social Work (B.S.W.) and two year Master of Social Work (M.S.W.) courses, which are generic in nature.

About Department of Social Work, Gautam Buddha University

The Department of Social Work was formed in the year 2011 under the aegis of School of Humanities & Social Sciences. The department offers two year Masters Programme which is divided into four semesters and also has PhD programme in its curriculum. The mission statement of the Department is - 'Competence to Progress; Reaching the Unreached'. The Department aims to provide both academic and professional exposure to students in the field of social work which encompasses social work in administration, welfare, policy development, community organisation, building human resources, research and documentation among others. The Department strives to enhance the intellectual faculties of students and individuals through both scholastic and field endeavours by engaging them in classroom discussions, field work with institutions and open communities and provide them exposure to national and international events and so on.

The Department provides both theoretical and field exposures offering vivid courses like case work, group work, sociology, psychology and mental health, family and child welfare, social welfare, social entrepreneurship, project management, social policy, dynamics of human behaviour, labour welfare, rural and urban development, NGO management among others. The department organises a weekly departmental Seminar with two presentations each week which provides opportunities to the students to prepare themselves in public platform, make formal presentations and learn the decorum wherein they shall be introduced once they enter the professional world.

This was an important event because of the following reasons...

Networking

Networking is an important aspect of social work education. Networking occurs when social workers attempt to strengthen or develop linkages among people, groups or other organisations. There are both direct and indirect benefits of networking. Establishing such contacts may have long term benefits with the institutions if required in the future.

Orientation and Exposure

Exposure visits are organised so that people living in one place can visit another to observe and orient from their activities.

Learning of different organisational set-up

There are vast differences between different culture, educational set-up and student groups. Such events provide opportunities for both the institutions to understand and learn the differences and accept it as they are.



The students of Dr Babasahab Ambedkar College of Social Work visited the GBU campus to be introduced to the curriculum and programmes of GBU Department of Social Work on 27th December, 2012.

The Programme

The programme was attended by **Dr K P Singh**, Dean of School of Humanities & Social Sciences; **Dr. Subhasis Bhadra**, Head, Department of Social Work; **Dr Vinod Kumar Shanwal**, Head, Department of History & Civilisation & Education & Training; **Dr Rituparna Majumdar**,



Dr K P Singh giving welcome speech to the guests

Faculty Associate, Department of Social Work; **Ms Sibghat Usmani**, Department of Social Work; **Mr Siddaramu B**, Research Associate, Department of Social Work; **Mr. Vinay Litoria**, Manager, Corporate Relations Cell.

Due to the vacation break in the university, GBU students of social work could participate in the event, however, Mr Kamal Singh, MSW IV Semester

student volunteered to participate in the event and coordinated the arrangements.

The programme started with the Head of the Department, Dr Subhasis Bhadra, welcoming the guests. In his welcome speech he emphasised that Noble Eightfold Path (key teaching of Gautam Buddha about Right View, Right Intention, Right Speech, Right Action, Right Livelihood, Right Effort, Right Mindfulness and Right Concentration). He stated that these teachings are entrusted in the working and happenings of the university.

The welcome address was given by Dr K P Singh, Dean of School of Humanities & Social Sciences. He reinstated the fact that GBU is based on the principles of humanity, commitment and a strong belief on the upliftment of the marginalised.



Prof. Rathod giving his speech

Dr Rathod from Dr B A College of Social Work gave an introduction about his college and the course curriculum. He emphasised the importance of programme media in social work and thus started the event with a song. He provided his background stating that he belongs to a tribal community and in spite of the challenges he completed his

studies, worked with CAPART (Delhi based non-government organisation) and then went back to his village to work with the local stakeholders. He congratulated GBU faculty for its initiatives taken and also expressed that such exposures are important for students to be introduced to other culture, educational set-up and students outside their community. He also shared that most of the students studying in Babasahab Ambedkar College of Social

Work are from economically backward background and therefore such exposures add to their learning. Additionally, the students are also provided opportunities to strive to excel better than Nirmala Niketan and TISS. They are placed in set-ups like correctional behaviour, social welfare administration, district office and NGOs working in the field of social action.



Dr K P Singh felicitating Dr Sudan Rathod on the occasion

In the next leg of the programme, Dr. Bhadra provided the course curriculum in detail. He also highlighted his work done in the field of 'disaster management and psychosocial support in social work practice'.

Dr. Rituparna Majumdar provided details of the departmental events organised by faculty and students namely, the International Women's Day, Paramita – showcase of handicrafts made by rural artisans, Environment Day. Dr Majumdar also talked about her expert area of social audits and accountability in the trading industries in India.

Mr. Siddaramu B talked about the departmental seminars which are held every Wednesday. It emphasised that articles and research papers are reviewed by the students and presented by them where they face Q&A and queries on the issue. He further spoke on 'Mental Health and Wellbeing for social work practice in 21st Century'.

Ms Sibghat Usmani, the fieldwork coordinator in the department, provided the modalities of the fieldwork expectations and the curriculum etched out. As her expert area, she talked about 'HIV/ AIDS and sexual health in 21st century social work practice'.



Ms Usmani giving her speech at the event

The summary of the event and vote of thanks was given to the guests by Dr Rituparna Majumdar. She stated that following Gautam Buddha's saying '*what we think, we believe*' it is important to strive to excel in the medium we all are part of. She expressed heartfelt gratitude to the students and their faculty members to have visited the campus and provide the department an opportunity to share and also learn from other schools and department.

Programme Schedule

Exposure visit and academic interaction with the students and faculties of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar College of Social Work, Morane, (North Maharashtra University)

Venue: Seminar Hall, School of Management Building

Time: 10.00 AM to 01.15 PM

Date: 27th December 2012

S.N.	Time	Programme	Resource Person
1	10.00-10.10	Welcome Address	Dr K P Singh, Dean, SHSS
2	10.10-10.20	Introduction about GBU and DSW	Dr Subhasis Bhadra, Head, DSW
	10.20- 10.30	Introduction about Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar College of Social Work	Prof. Dr Sudan Rathod, Department of Social Work, Dr B A College of Social Work
3	10.30-11.00	Social Work Curriculum in DSW	Dr Subhasis Bhadra
		Disaster Management and Psychosocial Support for SW practice	
4	11.00-11.30	Departmental Events	Dr Rituparna Majumdar
		Social Accounting and Audit in Labour welfare for Social Work practice	
5	11.30-12.00	Departmental Seminar	Mr Siddaramu B
		Mental Health and Wellbeing for SW practice in 21 st Century	
6	12.00- 12.30	Practicum in the SW Curriculum	Ms Sibghat Usmani
		HIV/ AIDS and Sexual Health in 21 st Century Social Work practice	
7	12.30- 12.45	Vote of Thanks	Dr Rituparna Majumdar
8	12.45-01.15	Campus Tour	Mr Siddaramu B



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT THE FOLLOWING:

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