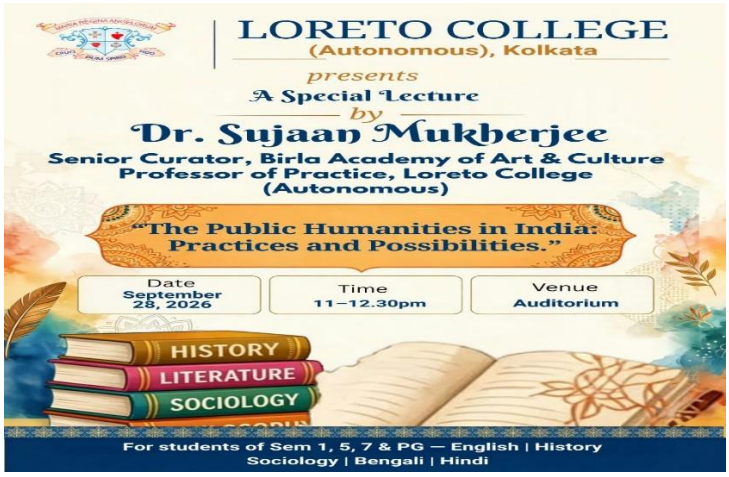
Event Report: Special Lecture on Public Humanities in India

On September 28, 2026, Loreto College (Autonomous), Kolkata, organized a special lecture titled 'The Public Humanities in India: Practices and Possibilities' delivered by Dr. Sujaan Mukherjee, Senior Curator at Birla Academy of Art & Culture and Professor of Practice at Loreto College. The lecture was conducted from 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM in the college auditorium and was attended by students from multiple disciplines including English, History, Sociology, Bengali, and Hindi across undergraduate and postgraduate levels.

The lecture provided students with profound insights into the evolving field of Public Humanities and its significance in contemporary India. Dr. Mukherjee's expertise elucidated how humanities scholarship extends beyond academic boundaries to engage with public audiences and address societal issues. Students gained an understanding of diverse practices through which historians and humanists contribute to public discourse, cultural preservation, and community engagement. The discussion highlighted innovative methodologies for making historical knowledge accessible and relevant to broader populations, moving beyond traditional classroom and archival settings.

This lecture aligns seamlessly with the History Department's educational philosophy and objectives. History as a discipline extends beyond mere documentation of past events; it involves critical analysis, interpretation, and meaningful communication to diverse audiences. For history students, this lecture reinforced the discipline's social responsibility and practical applications. It demonstrated how historical training equips students with skills to engage in public dialogue, contribute to heritage preservation, and address contemporary challenges through historical perspectives. The interdisciplinary nature of the event, bringing together students from English, Sociology, and other humanities disciplines, reflected the interconnectedness of humanistic inquiry and the collaborative potential in addressing public concerns. The lecture reinforced that modern historians must be not only rigorous scholars but also effective communicators capable of translating academic knowledge into meaningful public engagement, ultimately enhancing the relevance and impact of historical studies in society.




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