FIELD VISIT BY SEMESTER 2 HISTORY TO THE MUSEUM OF WORDS

Semester 2 students from the Department of History visited the Museum of Words at Belvedere House in the National Library complex on 14 August 2026. It commemorates the different languages and oral traditions of India and is the first language museum in India. The first section was an interactive one called ‘From Nothingness to Sound ’. The “First Word Section”; was interactive, mixing sound and language with olfactory senses. It also explained tribal folklore in a very interesting manner.. There was an audio interactive section as well where one could listen to a piece of literature written in any of the recognised state languages of India. “Mother tongue and I” was the next section where students could see which language was spoken where in the country and how language, even though originating from one state, was spread across the whole country. Next was the Navarasa section where Natyashastra was displayed. Students could choose which dance they wanted to see with the help of an interactive screen. A holographic presentation of the dance was then shown on stage.

The focal portion of the museum explored by the students was the “Timeline of Languages”. The gallery covered both floors, tracing the origin of language from cave markings, Harappan seals, and inscriptions. There were replicas of coins with the script and multiple palm leaf engraving pens. There were also exhibits of empires and their literature, edicts, and more inscriptions. There were many interactive games and a huge map of languages from across the country. The second floor included exhibits of the Quran, a decorative plate, and Mughal folio calligraphy. Many “Lekhanis” were also on display on loan from the Indian Museum. The next display included the printing process with typewriters and printing presses. The students then viewed the Nationalist writings, postcards, and stamps. The next section was “Honoring the Legends,” which used holographic projections to bring respected linguists to life. The students also saw the “Script Restoration Displays,” which showed how old literary sources were preserved and protected and the section that displayed oral traditions and the Library Movement Room.

This experience was deeply educational and enlightening for the students from the discipline of history. It bridged the knowledge students gained from the classrooms to a more practical and visual method of learning. The interactive nature of the museum engaged the students' attention and interest, further intrigued the students, and pushed them to gain more knowledge about the history of languages in the country.


HUMANS HAVE AN INBORN ABILITY
TO LEARN AND SPEAK
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