

Early 20th century had a compelling state to include Zoology in Indian University system. In 1916, Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) was initiated its glorious journey. ZSI played pivotal role to characterize animal diversity of the main land and islands of the imperial India. Scientific catalogue preparation of the Oriental world was initiated during early academic exercises of the Asiatic Society which was initiated in 1784. Museum of Asiatic Society was initiated during 1796. Initially scientific articles were published in the Journal of Asiatic Society from 1788. First scientific publication was initiated in 1829 as Gleanings in Science, Volume I, followed by Volume II in 1830 and Volume III in 1831. Edward Blyth, an eminent zoologist, also referred by Darwin, for the first time prepared a Catalogue of birds in the Museum of Asiatic Society of Bengal in 1849. During 1851, Catalogue of Mammalian in Museum of East India Company was published. In 1868, Catalogue of Reptiles in the Museum of Asiatic society of Bengal was published by Theobalds. During initial days through preparation the catalogue was the basic motto for the survey activities. As a part of Indian Natural History Project, Barrackpore Menagerie was set up at British India Governor's General Summer residence by Lord Arthur Wellesly (1798-1805). Aim of the project was to collect animals of the subcontinent and keep them to be characterized, described and illustrated. Sir Stanford Ruffles, one of the founders of the London Zoo (inaugurated in 1826), visited Barrackpore Menagerie before his final departure from India. During 1842, Jhon Mc. Cleland, Bengal Asiatic Society Curator formulated a plan for Zoological garden in Calcutta and publish in Journal of Natural History. In 1875, Lt. Governor of Bengal, Sir Richard Temple approved the Zoological Garden, Calcutta. Rai Bhadur Ram Brahma Sanyal, Superintendent of Zoological Garden in 1892 publish a book 'A Handbook of the management of Wild Animals in captivity in Lower Bengal' which was reviewed by 'Nature' journal. Then the scientific activities on complexities of animal organization were reflected through the publications of ZSI, which may act as catalyst for experimental zoological studies in Indian Universities in upcoming futures.

After 1900, world science also witnessed marked changes in concept of life sciences. Ecological succession and

biogeochemical cycles was pioneer to formulate the concept of ecology. Alfred Lotka's predator prey equations, G. Evelyn Hutchinson's studied biogeography and biogeochemical studies and Charles Elton's studies on animal food chain contribute considerably for paradigm shift. Rediscovery of Mendel by Hugo De Vries, Carl Correns and Erich von Tschermak inaugurate the journey of Genetics. 1910 to 1915, T. H. Morgan and his students defined the basic mechanism of inheritance in Drosophila. Hugo de Vries then tried to link between genetics with evolution. During 1909-10 Cambridge University also modified its syllabus through incorporating new concepts of ecology, evolution and genetics.

In India also, Jagadish Chandra Bose published a letter in 1900 titled "On the suitability of responses in organic and living matter" at the International Congress of Physics. In that very year Department of Botany and Department of Physiology started their journey from Presidency College. In 1902, Ronald Ross was awarded the Nobel Prize for his experimental work on transmission of malaria by Anopheles mosquito. During 16th to 20th August, 1897 experiments were conducted in Presidency General Hospital, Kolkata. Jagadish Chandra Bose continued his research on response phenomenon of plant. From 1907 to 1933, C.V. Raman worked in Indian Association for Cultivation of Science and got Nobel Prize in 1930. Excellence of scientific luminaries had widened the passage for advancement of scientific studies. In 1920 at Indian Science Congress, Nagpur session Dr. Nelson Annandale, first Director of ZSI handed over anthro-metric data for statistical analysis to Dr. P.C. Mahalanobis and was published in Records of Indian Museum in 1922. Probable 'error calculation' brought academic relationship between Sir Ronald R. Fisher and D. Mahalanobis. J.B.S. Haldane had joined Indian Statistical Institute in 1957. Biological science was also in the centre of attraction in India with in the first half of 20th century.

Department of Zoology of University of Calcutta had started its journey in 1919 under leadership of Prof. S.N. Moulik, an eminent entomologist, followed by Prof. B.K.Das (1926-31), an eminent ichthyologist, and Prof. H.K. Mukherjee and Prof. J.L. Bhaduri. The first Department of Zoology was initiated in the

University of Allahabad during 1906. Soon after Allahabad (1906) and Lahore (1908), Calcutta (1919), Lucknow (1921), Aligarh (1922), Trivandum (1922), Madras (1927) and Nagpur (1930) became centre for Zoology study. Prof. S.P. Roy Choudhuri, on December 11, 1945 convened a meeting for a society for Zoologist. The Zoological Society of Bengal had started its journey from Department of Zoology, 35, Ballygaunge Circular road. That society had published Proceeding of the Zoological Society, Calcutta since March, 1948 under editorship of Prof. Bhaduri. From 1907, Records of Indian Museum and Memories of Indian Museum were published, but no dedicated journal was published before. In 1954, it was transformed into the Zoological Society, Calcutta and till date serving as a pivotal organization for zoologists in India.

Modern studies of animals in India had a history of around two hundred years, metamorphosed through Taxiotemy, Zoo and Zoology. Exploring new land and life with an imperial intention had the scope to study the complexity and category of animal life. Barrackpore Menagerie to Zoological Society is the transitions of time to emerge 'Zoology' as important branch of biological science in India.

Science 1919 to 2019, hundred years long journey have an impact to extend an extensive network of centres to cater studies on Zoology. Bethune College had initiated teaching of the subject at the Intermediate level began in 1952, Under Graduate (Pass) in 1964, Under Graduate (Honours) in 1973 and Post Graduate in 2005. Aim of the daylong Seminar is to collect glimpses of achievements as well as present advancements in research on Zoology in Kolkata.



Post Graduate Department of Zoology
Bethune College

Organizing Seminar
on

**AFTER A CENTURY,
PROGRESS IN ZOOLOGY**

Date
5th March, 2019



Venue
Centenary Hall,
Bethune College

Program Schedule

Inauguration

11.30AM

Session I

12.00 to 2 pm

Invited Lectures

Break

2 to 2.30 pm

Poster Session

Session II

2.30 To 4.30 PM

Invited Lectures

Speakers

Dr. S.N. Ghosh,

Senior Research Officer
West Bengal Bio Diversity Board

Prof D. Raychaudhuri,

Entomologist

Prof. Parthib Basu,

Dept. of Zoology, University of Calcutta

Prof. Shilanjana Bhattacharya,

Dept. of Zoology, West Bengal State University

Session III

At 4.30 PM

Valedictory

Organizing Committee

President

Prof Mamata Ray
Principal
Bethune College

Vice-President

Dr. Tapas Kumar Misra
Head
Dept. of Zoology
Bethune College

Convenor

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