



TUESDAY 27 February 2024

Peace building and Conflict Prevention Month

104

The Chaka

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SEMANTI GHOSH

On Deshbandhu C R Das & his views on Nationalism

Semanti is the Associate Editor, and Head, Editorial Department at Anandabazar Patrika, Kolkata, India. A historian by training, she obtained her Ph.D. from Tufts University, USA. Earlier, she attended Calcutta University and Presidency College. Her published books are : Different Nationalisms : Bengal 1905-47, Oxford University Press, 2017; Swajati Swadesher Khonje, Dey's Publishing, 2012; and Deshbhag : Smriti ar Stabdhatata (ed), Gangchil, 2008, and very recently, Deshbandhu: Samakale Kalantar-e (ed. with Aniket De) Ananda Publishers, 2023. She has a number of articles in several English and Bengali volumes

Rotary
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and is currently working on two book projects : a political biography of Deshbandhu C. R. Das, and also, the Muslim Minorities in the post-1947 West Bengal. In the field of journalism, she writes regular columns on national and international politics and social issues.

Rotary Oration on World Understanding and Peace Day - Dr. Kunal Sarker Peace for Health - AOS Club

The Rotary Club of Calcutta observed World Understanding and Peace Day on 23rd February with the Oration Day lecture delivered by one of the leading cardiac surgeons of India, Dr. Kunal Sarkar. To ensure that the spotlight is equally focused on peace and health, he chose the topic of "Peace for Health" drawn from the WHO's initiative which highlights the need to promote peace and health to protect the world and its people. Peace enables good health and vice versa. Dr. Sarkar helped his audience understand the background to this and the emergence of a new threat with an increase in cardio-vascular and other lifestyle diseases once the Second World War had ended. This was an era when Horlicks and smoking was considered to be good for health and hence the rise in smoking related heart diseases such as heart attacks and heart failure.

He successfully managed to weave in enriching stories of those whose research and inventions led to better diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of heart diseases such as Christian Doppler in Salzburg whose principle of Doppler effect is used in echocardiography. There was also Reno



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Favoloro, an Argentine cardio surgeon who pioneered the life saving coronary bypass surgery. Dr. Sarkar shared another courageous story of how Dr. Christiaan Barnard dared the first human to human heart transplant in South Africa, a historical event and major breakthrough in medical science. What made it even more remarkable was that the heart of a black man was given to a white man at the height of Apartheid in South Africa. We also learnt about the indispensable importance of Islamic Science to the world of science and medicine. Whilst heart diseases is the leading cause for mortality in India, there is a silver lining as life expectancy has now increased to 70 years which is only 7 years behind the US. Dr Sarkar shared advice and guidance on how we can improve our heart health for example a healthy diet, maintaining a healthy weight and regular exercise.

The overarching message to the audience was that health and peace are interdependent therefore the two must work together if we are to build a resilient, equitable and healthy society.

Reportage by Rtn Anindita Shoma Basu, Chaka Team

The entire talk has been recorded courtesy the Calcutta Debating Circle and will be circulated on WA and mail groups - Ed.



Workshop – Empowering with Experiential Knowledge – AOS – New Generations

The Women’s Empowerment Committee organised a workshop on ‘Empowering with Experiential Knowledge’ on 17th of February at 11 am at Rotary Sadan. Around 40 students and professors and Rotarians participated in the event. The speaker was Ms Soma Basu, Cofounder of Knexup. The panel included two other industry experts Mr Kaushik Ghosh and Mr Sugato Banerji. The program started with opening remarks by Chairperson Women’s Empowerment Committee, Rtn Shampa Ghose followed by introduction of the speaker by Co chair Rtn Debjani Ghosh. President Rotary Club of Calcutta, Rtn Kanak Dutta motivated the girls with his inspiring words. The session then started with Ms Soma Basu explaining how Knexup, a unique concept which believes that the high value experiential knowledge of domain experts should not be lost.

Experiential knowledge is not available to individuals in an easily accessible and organised form. Women (students and early career individuals) struggle during their learning journey and at the initial stages of their career because they don’t have access to experiential knowledge of experts which can make them industry ready. This hampers their learning and performance outcomes. Knexup is an inclusive content and networking platform for domain experts and educators to showcase their experiential knowledge and for individuals to access and use this, through multiple channels of engagement and networking. In addition to academic knowledge, educators have a vast amount of experiential knowledge which they are not always able to deliver within a structured curriculum. Knexup’s digital platform will provide these girls and early career individuals with a continuous connection to experts from whom they can get knowledge, mentorship, and guidance on professional and personal development in respective domains.

The programme ended with a q & a with students and experts followed by vote of thanks by Hony. Sec. Rtn Sarvani Gooptu

Reported by Shampa, Chair – Women’s Empowerment



The Rotary Foundation

GUEST OF HONOUR	CHIEF GUEST	CONVENOR
Dr. Bharat Pandya Trustee The Rotary Foundation	Barry Rassin Trustee The Rotary Foundation	Anirudha RoyChowdhury Director Rotary International

You are cordially invited to the

Multi District Meet on

FOUNDATION SYMPOSIUM & RECOGNITION




🕒 6:30PM Onwards 📅 7th March, 2024

📍 ITC Sonar - 1, JBS Haldane Ave, Kolkata

Districts : 3030 / 3240 / 3250 / 3262 / 3291

📞 +91 6289 552 475 👤 zoom16online@gmail.com

Salutations to HMC donors

**HMC ROTARY
 BLOOD CENTRE
 FELICITATION
 ceremony**
 VENUE
ROTARY SADAN
2 March, 2024 | 7pm onwards
FELLOWSHIP & DINNER

The poster features a white background with gold and blue accents. At the bottom, there is a silhouette of a group of people celebrating with their arms raised.




HMC ROTARY BLOOD CENTRE
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- SHRI SAGAR PAUL
- SHRI SUMON CHAKRABORTY



HOWRAH MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

REPORTING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ATTENDANCE REPORT (23.02.2024)

Total Members	:	234
Members Present	:	55
Exempted Members	:	65
Visiting Rotarians & Guest	:	25

TODAY

Speaker : Dr Semanti Ghosh, Associate Editor & Head, Editorial Department, Ananda Bazar Patrika

Topic : Deshbandhu C R Das and his View on Nationalism

NEXT MEETING

On Tuesday, 5th March, 2024 at 1.30 p.m. / Lunch 1 p.m.
Speaker : Utpal Chatterjee

Reports and Photographs

- Saturday, 17th February, 2024** - Dadagiri Season 10 – Audition between 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the LBD Resorts & Hotels, 31/1, N. C. Chowdhury Road, Kolkata – 700 042
- Friday, 23rd February, 2024** - Rotary Oration -2024 along with regular weekly meeting followed by fellowship and dinner.
- Sunday 25th February, 2024** - Community Service Committee organised a Free Medical Camp at our RCC Ranihati Netaji Samaj Sathi at 10 a.m. onwards.

Birthdays

Priti Patel Mehrotra	28th Feb.
Ashok Manaktala	01st March
Rajarshi Dey	02nd March
Renuka Shah	04th March

Wish you many happy returns of the day

Anniversaries

Mahendra Kumar Jalan & Spouse Sashi Prabha 4th March



ONE WORLD

We remember with good wishes Rotary Club of Milwaukee, U.S.A., R. I. Dist. 3270

FELICITATION PROGRAMME

On Saturday, 2nd March, 2024 - Felicitations Programme for HMC Rotary Blood Centre will be held at Rotary Sadan at 7 p.m. onwards followed by fellowship and dinner. All members are requested to join with their spouses on that day

On 12th March is the District Governor's visit to the Club. President requests all members and spouses to be present on the special and important occasion at the RWM at 1pm.

WEEKLY MEETING

Special Regular Weekly Meeting will be organised on Sunday, 31st March, 2024 on a Cruise Boat at 6 p.m. onwards followed by fellowship and dinner. Members interested to join are requested to contact Hony. Secretary, Rtn. Sarvani Goptu or the Chairperson, Programme Committee Rtn Satarupa Ghosh Mukherjee for details.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS / EVENTS

Day & Date	Programmes	Timing and Venue
Saturday 2nd March, 2024	Felicitations Programme for HMC Rotary Blood Centre.	At Rotary Sadan at 7 p.m. followed by fellowship and dinner. (Ground floor)
Monday 4th March, 2024	Inauguration of Vocational Centre for differently abled youth and Lupus patients at Deep Ranjani	Deep Ranjani Foundation, 25, Dr Ashutosh Sastri Road, Subhas Sarobar Park, Phoolbagan, Belegata, Kol - 700010
Tuesday 5th March, 2024	Regular weekly Meeting Speaker: Utpal Chatterjee	At 1.30 p.m. / Lunch 1 p.m. Rotary Sadan (2nd Floor)
Tuesday 12th March, 2024	Regular weekly Meeting – DG visit	At 1.30 p.m. / Lunch 1 p.m. Rotary Sadan (2nd Floor)
Tuesday 19th March, 2024	Regular weekly Meeting Speaker: Nandini Bhowmick	At 1.30 p.m. / Lunch 1 p.m. Rotary Sadan (2nd Floor)
Thursday 21st March, 2024	Virangana martial arts training NCLCL children	Rotary Sadan 11 am onwards
Sunday, 31st March, 2024	Special Regular Weekly Meeting	At 6 p.m on a Cruise Boat followed by fellowship and dinner.

MINUTES OF THE 4932nd REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING HELD ON 23rd FEBRUARY, 2024 AT 6.30 P.M. AT THE ROTARY SADAN

President, Rtn. Kanak Dutt welcomed all Members and Guests and called the 4932nd Regular Weekly Meeting of the Club to order.

- 1 National Anthem was led by PP Rtn. Nilima Joshi
- 2 Minutes of the 4931st Regular Weekly Meeting of the Club held on 13th February, 2024 were confirmed.
- 3 President informed members that to observe "World Understanding and Peace Day" the Club has organised "Rotary Oration - 2024" and welcomed Dr Kunal Sarkar, Director and Head of Cardiac Surgery at Medica Super specialty Hospital and Chairman, Kolkata Heart Foundation as the Chief Guest and also welcomed District Governor, Rtn. Hira Lal Yadav as the Guest of Honour on that day.
- 4 President also welcomed all PDGs, Dist. Officials, Visiting Rotarians and Guests who attended the meeting on that day.
- 5 **President reported the following :**
 - a) On Friday, 16th February, 2024 – HMC Rotary Blood Centre was inaugurated and handed over to the HMC authorities. On behalf of the Club, President extended his gratitude to all members and others who have generously donated for the Blood Centre. The Blood Centre was a significant Presidential Project and a first for the District 3291. President also thanked other Club Members of the District 3291 who have also joined hands for the Project.
At the request of the President Rtn. Ravindra Khandelwal gave a report on HMC Rotary Blood Centre at Howrah.
 - b) On 17th February, 2024 – Women's Empowerment Committee organised a programme "Empowering with Experiential Knowledge" at Rotary Sadan which was attended by College teachers and students.
 - c) On 17th February, 2024 - the Audition for Dadagiri Season 10 supported by the Rotary Club of Calcutta was held at the LBD Resorts at Kasba. A large number of Rotarians from our Club participated in that Audition.
- 6 **President announced the following :**
 - i) On Sunday 25th February, 2024, Community Service Committee has organized a Free Medical Camp at RCC Ranihati Netaji Samaj Sathi 10 a.m. onwards and President requested members to attend the camp in large numbers.
 - ii) President also informed all members that a Felicitations programme of the donors of the HMC Rotary Blood Center and celebration of its successful completion would be held on 2nd March, 2024, 7 p.m. onwards followed by fellowship and dinner at Rotary Sadan and requested members to join with their spouses on that day.
 - iii) On 7th March, 2024, a Multi District Meet has been organized on Foundation Symposium and Recognition at ITC Sonar at 6.30 p.m. in the presence of Rotary Foundation Trustees Dr Bharat Pandya and Barry Rassin and RID Anirudha Roychoudhury. Interested members are requested to contact the Rotary Office or the Hony. Secretary for more details.
- 7 At the request of the President, Hony. Secretary Rtn. Sarvani Gooptu thereafter conducted the Club Business :
 - a) She welcomed all PDGs, Dist. Officials, Visiting Rotarians and Guests who attended the meeting.
 - b) She then announced the names of Rotarians celebrating their Birthdays and Wedding Anniversaries for the week ending 26th February, 2024 .
 - c) Next Regular Weekly Meeting on Tuesday, 27th February, 2024 at 1.30 p.m.
Speaker : Dr Semanti Ghosh, Associate Editor, Ananda Bazar Patrika
 - d) On Saturday, 2nd March, 2024 - Felicitations Programme for HMC Rotary Blood Centre would be held at Rotary Sadan at 7 p.m. onwards followed by fellowship and dinner and she requested all members to attend with their spouse on that day.
 - e) Special Regular Weekly Meeting would be organised on Sunday, 31st March, 2024 on a Cruise Boat at 6 p.m. onwards followed by fellowship and dinner. Members interested to join and for more details were requested to contact Hony. Secretary, Rtn. Sarvani Gooptu or the Chairperson, Programme Committee Rtn. Satarupa Ghosh Mukherjee.
- 8 President informed members that Rtn. Murarilal Lohia has donated Rs One lakh on his Birthday for the Thalassemia Hospital at the HMC Rotary Blood Center at Howrah. Rtn. Lohia was also Prime Donor of the Rotary Foundation and was felicitated by PP Rtn. Dr. S. K. Sharma.
- 9 At the request of the President, PP Rtn. Nilima Joshi introduced Chief Guest, Dr Kunal Sarkar.
- 10 At the request of the President, Dr Kunal Sarkar addressed the audience on "Human Heart".
- 11 Questions raised by the members were answered by the Chief Guest.
- 12 At the request of the President, IPP Rtn. Raj Kumar Agarwal made an announcement on District TRF Awards and other Awards for the Rotary year 2022-23 owned by the Club. President then handed over the TRF certificates to Rtns. Rajeev Parlikar and Kirit Patel. He also handed over the special mementoes of District support for the Rotary year 2022-23 to Rotary Sadan Staff Mr. Prabir Kumar Mukherjee and Mr. Anjan Kumar Behera on that day.
- 13 On behalf of the Club, Rtn. Ravindra Khandelwal offered the vote of thanks.
- 14 On behalf of the Club, President handed over a memento to Dr Kunal Sarkar.
- 15 Sunshine Box collection was Rs 500/- with special contribution from PP Rtn. Nilima Joshi on that day.
- 16 The Club remembered with good wishes Rotary Club of Gangtok, India, R. I. Dist. 3240
- 17 Before adjourning the meeting, President requested all to join Fellowship and Dinner. On behalf of the Club, President thanked Rtn. Jayanta Kumar Mitra and R Ann Aroti Mitra for hosting fellowship and dinner on that day.
- 18 Meeting was adjourned at 8.10 p.m.

Kanak Dutt
President

Sarvani Gooptu
Hony. Secretary