**DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE,**

**KAZI NAZRUL ISLAM MAHAVIDYALAYA**

**BRIEF HISTORY OF THE DEPARTMENT:**

Kazi Nazrul Islam Mahavidyalaya, Churulia, Paschim Bardhhaman, West Bengal, named after the rebel poet Kazi Nazrul Islam, is a Government-Aided, higher education institution, which started its journey on 1st June, 1982. Kazi Nazrul Islam Mahavidyalaya is affiliated to Kazi Nazrul University recognized under section 2(f) & 12(B) of UGC Act. It is a co-educational college and the department of Political Science has been an indispensible department of the college since its inception.

Since higher education is fast changing globally in terms of its form, nature, course contents, pedagogy and techniques of evaluation, universities and educational institutions are experimenting in almost all the domains articulated in the preceding line. Naturally, traditional modes of rote-learning are fast getting challenged for a new philosophy of creative and out of box thinking. Innovations, research, interactive discussions, and new modes of project-based and problem-solving methods, thus, have occupied the attention in the universities in place of blackboard and lecture mode.

The discipline of Political Science, in this regard, has undergone vast changes, in terms of content, theories and practical applicability. The undergraduate course in Political Science has been designed to train the students in the subject and enable them to use the skills and disciplinary insights to critically examine, assess and explain the political phenomenon. The course covers the key sub-disciplines of Political Science like Political Theory, Indian Constitution, Indian Government and Politics, Comparative Politics, Public Administration, Indian Political Thought, Western Political Thought and International Relations. Apart from these key sub-disciplines, there are several other interdisciplinary papers ranging from gender studies, political sociology, state politics, to human rights and the environment. Under the CBCS pattern, more emphasis has been given on the use of research methodology, especially to promote research after PG level.

Initially the college used to provide only general course in Political Science. However, with more and more inclusion of students in higher education, the gradual necessity arose to start of the Honours stream of the subject. Gradually, keeping in mind, the growing demand of the students and to fulfill the need of the hour, the honours stream was started in 2007. Since then a number of students have passed B.A. with honours in Political Science from this college. In the Programme course too, many students have graduated successfully. The Department currently consists of one Full-time Faculty and one SACT.

***VISION:***

The Department seeks to promote a proper understanding of the fundamental realities of politics thereby infusing the fundamental values of the discipline. It also seeks to encourage students to critically comprehend the surrounding socio-political context.

***MISSION:***

* The Department seeks to develop itself as an agent of development and empowerment of the local population, most of who are first generation learners;
* It seeks to develop itself as a knowledge hub, especially for the marginalized section of the society;
* Keeping abreast with the updated syllabus as provided by the UGBS of the University, the Department, in the contemporary challenging reality, seeks to increase the employability of the students by developing their hard and soft skills;
* It seeks to familiarize students with the research methodology ideas, which, we believe, will gradually expose the students to the statistical tools, which will further allow the students to mathematical modeling of political studies;
* To familiarize students about the discipline and enable them to acquire substantive knowledge of institutions and processes of government that shape politics within and among nations;

***STRENGTH:***

* We cater mostly to the students coming from marginalized section;
* A significant section of the students from marginalized sections are inspired to pursue higher studies;
* Special attention is given to those lacking in effective communication skills via tutorial classes;
* Quality study materials are provided to the students both in offline and online mode and required assistance is provided by the teachers as and when necessary;
* Students are very proficient in extra-curricular activities, especially sports, cultural activities, Youth Parliament Affairs, etc;

***WEAKNESS:***

* As most of the students are hailing from marginalized section, their linguistic skill in English remains low;
* Many of the students, despite having comprehension of the subject, suffer from lack of adequate communication skill;
* Students, mostly girl students, often succumb to surrounding pressure to get married and are unable to complete their graduation, and hence the number of drop outs is increasing at an alarming rate;
* Despite rich collection of books, students show relative lack of interest in visiting the library and making use of the resource;

***TEACHING METHODS:***

Keeping with the technological advancements, apart from providing traditional mode of classroom teaching, the Department makes extensive use of the following methods to cater to the need of the hour:

**1. Usual methods of teaching:**

* Lectures;
* PPT Presentations;
* Project/ Assignments;
* Group Discussion;
* Student’s Seminar;
* Continuous Internal Evaluation;

**2. Innovative Methods:**

* Taking students to educational tours;
* Seminar on relevant issues by specialists;
* Educational movies imparted via Smart-class to motivate students;
* Creating awareness among students on different social issues via outreach programmes;