

REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON “THE POLITICS OF DISSENT OF THE INFORMAL WORKERS IN INDIA.”

The Department of Economics in collaboration with the Department of History and the Alumni Association of St. Joseph’s College (Autonomus) Irinjalakuda, organized an international workshop on the topic, “**THE POLITICS OF DISSENT OF THE INFORMAL WORKERS IN INDIA.**” on 4th July 2019. The topic of the workshop was a much discussed and very much relevant in the current developing state of India. The inaugural session included a welcome speech by Ms. Mayalaxmi K.P, the president of St. Joseph’s college alumnae. The audience was addressed by our beloved Principal through her presidential speech. Dr. Najjil George delivered the felicitation speech, reinforcing the importance of quality of education and implying the duties of IQAC as he is the IQAC Coordinator of the college. The workshop was officially inaugurated by the chief guest Ms. Manjusha Nair accompanied by the principal and other eminent personalities by lighting the lamp.



The inaugural speech was given by MS.Manjusha Nair,(Assistant Professor Department of Sociology and Anthropology, George Mason University)during which she fondly recalled her time as a young woman at St.



Joseph's. She also threw some light on her journey as a researcher working abroad and also as an educator in a foreign university.

Later the day, the sole speech commenced with a brief introduction to what the seminar was

going to be about. The seminar was based on the book Ms. Manjusha had researched and written. It was a deep study into the lives of informal or otherwise unorganized sector of workers in Bhilai, Chattisgarh. She mainly focused on the unsuccessful demonstration that these workers had organized themselves into against company management they were working under, and the reason why they dramatically failed. Her study dealt with the labor movements among these workers and how it has affected them socially and economically. It was understood that radicalization of the right wing parties has contributed a lot to the hardships in Bhilai. Political aspects were also discussed.

Ms.Manjusha also put some spotlight on her studies in South Africa and Ethiopia ,of how they were completely different from India economically for these informal workers. And also how Indian investors in these countries have contributed in more dissent of unorganized sector of the population.

The sole session was concluded with a quick briefing of the whole seminar and was followed by an interactive session.



The audience which included various participants from different educational institutions, both academicians and scholars exploited the author for more details and in depth knowledge that she had acquired during the years of research.

The workshop came to a successful end with handing over a token of Appreciation to the key speaker for her valuable propagation of research knowledge.