

BAOSI BANIKANTA KAKATI COLLEGE

(Affiliated to Gauhati University)

Nagaon, Barpeta

Assam – 781311 (INDIA)

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Website: www.bbkcollege.ac.in



3rd CYCLE NAAC ACCREDITATION 2024

Criterion 7 - Institutional Values and Best Practices

7.2 Best Practices

7.2.1: Two best practices successfully implemented by the Institution



National Assessment and Accreditation Council

An Autonomous Institution of the University Grants Commission

राष्ट्रीय मूल्यांकन और प्रत्यायन परिषद

विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग का एक स्वायत्त संस्थान



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Dr. Pradip Das
Principal

Title of the Best Practice 1:

Preserving Literary Heritage through Manuscript collections

Objectives of the Practice:

- To educate the students on the significance of manuscript preservation and the role of Indigenous Knowledge Systems (IKS) in enriching cultural heritage.
- To explore, document, and disseminate knowledge derived from the manuscript collections.
- To ensure the availability of rare and valuable manuscripts to researchers, students, and the public by maintaining an organized and accessible library collection.

The Context:

The preservation of manuscripts in a college setting serves multiple critical purposes. First and foremost, it educates students on the significance of manuscript preservation and highlights the crucial role that Indigenous Knowledge Systems (IKS) play in enriching cultural heritage. By understanding the importance of preserving these documents, students gain a deeper appreciation of historical and cultural contexts, ensuring that this knowledge is respected and valued. Additionally, the process of exploring, documenting, and disseminating knowledge derived from manuscript collections allows for a broader dissemination of information. This practice not only contributes to academic research but also makes this knowledge accessible to a wider audience, thus fostering a culture of learning and curiosity. Moreover, ensuring the availability of rare and valuable manuscripts to researchers, students, and the public by maintaining an organized and accessible library collection is paramount. This accessibility promotes continued research and study, supports academic endeavors, and helps in preserving the cultural heritage for future generations. By organizing and maintaining these collections effectively, BBK college plays a vital role in the stewardship of our shared cultural and intellectual heritage.



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The Practice:

The Department of Assamese organized a workshop on “Study of Manuscripts and Ancient Books” in collaboration with IQAC on 1st of April, 2023. It was aimed at providing participants with the knowledge and skills necessary to study, preserve, and understand manuscripts.

The Department of Assamese in collaboration with the Department of Assamese, Gauhati University also organized a student visit to KK Handique Library of Gauhati University to participate in a one day workshop on “Study of Manuscripts” on the 18th of March, 2024 at 10.30 am. It was aimed at providing participant students with the knowledge and skills necessary to study, preserve, and understand manuscripts.

Hridayananda Choudhury Library in BBK College has a collection of manuscripts which are scanned and uploaded in the institutional website for open access by the students.

Evidence of Success:

The evidence of success in the best practice of collecting and preserving manuscripts at the institution can be demonstrated through several key activities and initiatives:

1. Workshops and Collaborative Efforts: The Department of Assamese organized a workshop on "Study of Manuscripts and Ancient Books" in collaboration with IQAC on April 1, 2023. This workshop provided participants with essential knowledge and skills for studying, preserving, and understanding manuscripts. The active participation and the knowledge imparted through this event underscore the institution's commitment to manuscript preservation.



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1. Student Engagement and Learning Opportunities: Another notable event was the student visit to KK Handique Library of Gauhati University on March 18, 2024, for a one-day workshop on "Study of Manuscripts." This collaborative effort between the Department of Assamese and Gauhati University offered students practical experience and enhanced their understanding of manuscript preservation. The engagement of students in such activities highlights the institution's dedication to fostering a learning environment focused on cultural heritage.

2. Accessible Manuscript Collections: Hridayananda Choudhury Library in BBK College has taken significant steps to ensure the accessibility of its manuscript collection. By scanning and uploading these manuscripts to the institutional website, the library has made them openly accessible to students. This initiative not only preserves the manuscripts but also makes them readily available for research and study, reflecting a successful integration of technology in preserving cultural heritage.

These activities and initiatives demonstrate the institution's effective practices in collecting, preserving, and promoting access to manuscripts, thereby enriching the educational experience and contributing to the preservation of cultural heritage.

Problems encountered:

The college library faced significant challenges in collecting and preserving manuscripts, particularly with funding, as acquisition and conservation costs can be prohibitively high. Limited space compounds in the library made it difficult to store delicate materials under ideal conditions. Expertise was another critical factor. The process of digitization was complex and time consuming.

Fig.: One Day Workshop on Manuscripts



Fig.: Snapshots of the Banner of the workshop

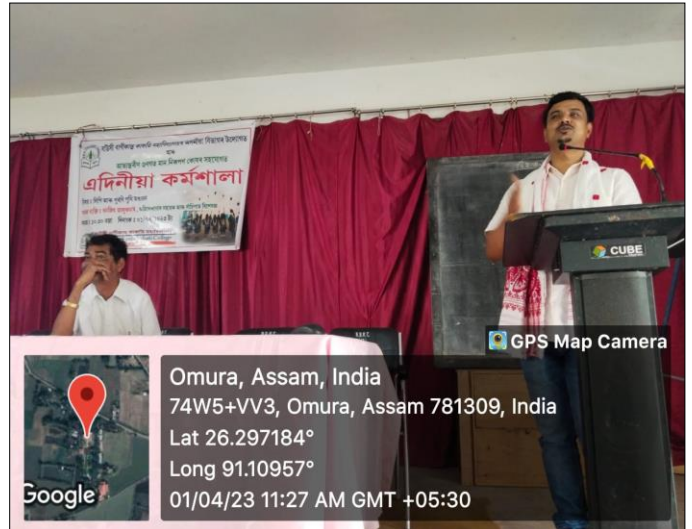


Fig.: Snapshots of the meeting in progress



Fig: Snapshot of the Banner of One Day Workshop in Gauhati University



বাউসী বাণীকান্ত কাকতি মহাবিদ্যালয়ৰ অসমীয়া বিভাগৰ উদ্যোগত
আৰু গুৱাহাটী বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ৰ কৃষকান্ত সন্দিকৈ গ্ৰন্থাগাৰৰ সহযোগত

এদিনীয়া কৰ্মশালা
ONE DAY WORKSHOP

বিষয় : পাঠ সমীক্ষা আৰু সাঁচিপাতৰ পুথি অধ্যয়ন
সমল ব্যক্তি : ধনজিৎ তালুকদাৰ
স্থান : কৃষকান্ত সন্দিকৈ গ্ৰন্থাগাৰ, গুৱাহাটী
দিনাংক : ১৮ মাৰ্চ, ২০২৪ ইং সময় : ৰাতিপুৰা ১০.৩০ বজাত

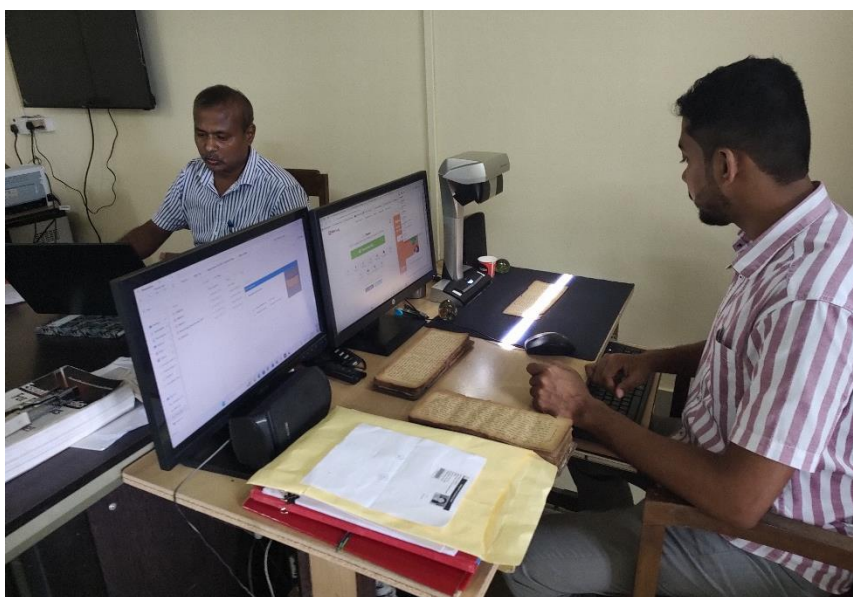
Fig: Snapshot of the Workshop



Fig: Snapshot of the Dr. Mrinal Kr. Misra presenting a manuscript to the librarian



Fig: Snapshot of the Librarian scanning manuscripts





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Fig: Snapshot of the institutional page of Old Manuscripts

Link: <http://bbkcollege.digitallibrary.co.in/handle/123456789/7>

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Discover

Author
Madhabdev, Shree Shree

Subject
Naam Ghosha
Vaishnav Literature

Date issued
1897

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(Dr. Pradip Das)

Principal
Baosi Banikanta Kakati College
Nagaon (Barpeta)



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Title of the Best Practice 2: Vermicomposting

Objectives of the Practice:

- To foster a sense of environmental responsibility and community engagement among students, faculty, and staff.
- To promote a sustainable waste management practice on campus.
- To provide students with practical experience and knowledge about sustainable agriculture, composting processes, and the role of worms in soil health.
- To produce high-quality compost that can be used to enhance the soil fertility of campus gardens and landscapes.

The Context:

BBK College is embarking on a vermicomposting initiative as part of its broader effort to promote eco-friendly practices on campus. The college, situated in a region with a rich agricultural heritage and a strong emphasis on environmental education, is ideally positioned to serve as a model for sustainable waste management.

The high-quality compost produced through this initiative will be utilized to enrich the soil of campus gardens, promoting healthier plant growth and a more aesthetically pleasing environment. This practice not only contributes to the ecological health of the campus but also demonstrates the practical benefits of composting to the broader college community.

By implementing vermicomposting, BBK College aims to foster a culture of environmental responsibility and sustainability among students, faculty, and staff. This initiative will serve as a tangible example of the college's dedication to reducing waste, conserving resources, and promoting sustainable practices, inspiring the entire campus community to adopt more environmentally conscious behaviors..



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The Practice:

The Department of Zoology, recognizing the educational and environmental benefits of vermicomposting, took the lead in this project by inviting experts from the Agriculture Department of Barpeta District. These experts provided essential training to the students, equipping them with the knowledge and skills necessary to successfully manage and operate a vermicomposting unit. The training covered various aspects of vermicomposting, including the biology of composting worms, the process of organic waste decomposition, and the practical steps needed to maintain a composting system.

With the guidance and support from the agricultural experts, the Department of Zoology successfully set up a fully functional vermicomposting unit on the college premises. This unit processes organic waste generated by the campus, including kitchen scraps from the dining halls and green waste from campus gardens. The resulting compost is a nutrient-rich product that enhances soil fertility and supports healthy plant growth.

Evidence of Success:

Today, BBK College not only produces enough compost to meet the needs of its own gardens but has also extended its reach to the broader college community. The high-quality compost is made available for purchase by students, faculty, and staff for use in their home gardens. This initiative not only helps to reduce waste and promote sustainable practices but also engages the college community in environmental stewardship, fostering a culture of sustainability.

The vermicomposting project at BBK College exemplifies the institution's dedication to hands-on, experiential learning. Students gain practical experience in sustainable agriculture and waste management, enriching their academic experience and preparing them for future endeavors in environmental fields.



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The practice of vermicomposting at BBK College, led by the Department of Zoology with expert support from the Agriculture Department of Barpeta District, has become a cornerstone of the college's sustainability efforts. It not only addresses waste management challenges but also provides educational benefits and promotes environmental awareness within the college community. Through this initiative, BBK College is making significant strides towards a more sustainable and environmentally conscious future.

Problems Encountered and Resources Required:

- a) One of the primary challenges was the initial lack of knowledge and expertise in vermicomposting among students and faculty.
- b) Finding a reliable source for the specific types of worms required for efficient vermicomposting, such as *Eisenia fetida* (red wigglers), posed a challenge. In a rural setting, these worms were not readily available and had to be sourced from distant suppliers.
- c) Effective collection and segregation of organic waste from various sources on campus were initially problematic.
- d) Establishing a vermicomposting unit necessitated appropriate infrastructure, including space for the composting beds, shelter to protect the composting process from weather extremes, and adequate drainage systems. Finding and preparing a suitable location on campus presented logistical challenges.



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Supporting Documents for Vermicomposting

Training on Vermicomposting	Date: 23/11/2021	Report Link: https://bbkcollege.co.in/upload/dept_activities/1684307154.pdf
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Fig: Snapshot of the training on Vermicomposting



Fig: Snapshot of the composting unit



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