

Gangadharpur Mahavidyamandir

Department of Sanskrit

Session-2024-2025

Educational tour Report

Place of visit: Hazarduari Palace, Murshidabad, West Bengal

Organized by: Dept. of Sanskrit, Gangadharpur Mahavidyamandir, Howrah

Date: 17th December 2024

Objective of the Tour:

The primary objective of this educational tour was to gain firsthand experience of historical architecture, explore the cultural legacy of the Nawabs of Bengal, and enhance classroom learning with practical exposure to heritage conservation, museum studies, and Indian history.

Places Visited:

1. Hazarduari Palace Museum:

- The highlight of our trip, the Hazarduari Palace is an iconic structure built in the 19th century by architect Duncan MacLeod for Nawab Nazim Humayun Jah.
- The name “Hazarduari” means “Palace of a Thousand Doors (Real and false doors)” – 1000 doors were built to confuse intruders.
- The museum housed inside the palace has a vast collection of:
 - British-era paintings and furniture
 - Swords, armor, and firearms
 - Historical documents and artifacts from the Nawabi period

2. Nizamat Imambara:

- Located beside the Hazarduari palace and one of the largest Imambara in India.

3. Katra Masjid:

- A historical mosque built by Nawab Murshid Quli Khan in the 18th century.
- Unique because the Nawab is buried beneath the steps of the mosque, as per his wishes.

4. Jahan Kosha Cannon & Wasif Manzil:

- The Jahan Kosha is a massive cannon made in the 17th century.
- Wasif Manzil, a small yet elegant palace, gave us insights into royal lifestyle and architecture.

5. Kathgola bagan:

A popular attraction on a customary tour of Murshidabad is the Kathgola Palace and Garden, built by Dhanpat Singh Dugar and Lakshmipat Singh Dugar in 1873. The Dugars hired a French architect to renovate a part of their palace. A Bengali architect was also involved. This palace is a perfect blend of art and architecture and connoisseurs of true art will get a taste of both. Victorian lions and Michael Angelo statues have changed the place. The Adinath temple is famous and there are several Jain and Hindu temples. There are 17 images of Jain tirthankaras. There was a zoo inside. The palace has been converted to a museum and showcases magnificent chandeliers, mirrors, furniture, etc.

Learning Outcomes:

- Understood the socio-political scenario of Bengal under the Nawabs.
- Gained insight into Indo-European architectural styles and museum curation.
- Strengthened bonds between classmates through teamwork and group activities.
- Encouraged appreciation for cultural heritage and preservation.

Memorable Moments:

- Group photography in front of the Hazarduari Palace
- Informal discussion organized by our faculty at the end of the day

Conclusion:

The study tour to Murshidabad was not only educational but also enriching on a personal level. It connected us with India's glorious past, and emphasized the importance of conserving our heritage. We returned with memories, notes, and photographs that will remain with us for a long time.

Few glimpses of the study tour:







 **GPS Map Camera**



Murshidabad, West Bengal, India

Siraj Ud Daulah Road, Hazarduari, Murshidabad, West Bengal
742149, India

Lat 24.186823° Long 88.268677°

17/12/24 03:36 PM GMT +05:30

Study Tour-Murshidabad Captured by GPS Map Camera