

CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF ODISHA, KORAPUT

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC RELATIONS

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Central University of Odisha, observes Partition Horror Remembrance Day

The Central University of Odisha, Koraput, organized a Partition Horror Remembrance Day seminar on 14th August 2023 commemorating the victims and sufferings of people during the 1947 partition of India. Captain Randhir Singh, NAD, delivered a lecture on this occasion as the Chief Guest. Prof. Chakradhar Tripathi, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of the University, conveyed his best wishes. He said this is the day that we are remembering those who lost their lives in the horrors of partition and suffered the pain of displacement. On behalf of the University community, he paid homage to all those who lost their lives during Partition and applauded the resilience as well as grit of all those who suffered during that tragic period of our history. Prof. Sudhendu Mandal, Advisor-Academic, presided over the programme: Prof. N. C. Panda, Registrar i/c, Finance Officer I/c. & Dean, School of Languages, and Prof. S. K. Palita, Dean, School of Biodiversity and Conservation of Natural Resource, also spoke as the Guest of Honour. Dr. Kapila Khemundu, Associate Professor and HoD I/c. Dept. of Sociology delivered the welcome address.

Captain Singh highlighted the conspiracy made by the few feudal mindset politicians and Britishers for the partition of India in the name of religion. He said, "There were only a few rightist Hindus and a few orthodox Muslims who wanted partition, and the majority of Hindus & Muslims of either side didn't want partition. As per the official record, about 20-25 million families were displaced. About 2 to 2.5 million people are killed as per the official figure, but in reality, more than 20-25 lakh people were killed. He recalled the tragic and horrific life of the people of both countries that happened during the partition and said, "We should learn from the history of our mistakes and not repeat such type of mistake again."

Prof. Mandal highlighted India's rich economic and social culture, which attracted foreign invaders in the past and later ruled the country. He spoke about the history of the partition of Bengal by the Britishers and the partition of India in 1947. He said "

The Partition of India was one of the most defining events in the history of the Indian subcontinent. With no accurate accounts of how many died or lost their homes. Across the Indian subcontinent, communities that had coexisted for almost a millennium attacked each other in a terrifying outbreak of sectarian violence, with Hindus and Sikhs on one side and Muslims on the other—a mutual genocide as unexpected as it was unprecedented.

Prof. S.K. Palita spoke about the Socioeconomic and cultural situations and its reflections on the entire nation following the unexpected partition of India and Pakistan on 14 August 1947 on the basis of religion. India now becomes a growing economic power, and self depended on its defense technology. Today is the day to remember the loss of life and property that was caused on this day, 1947.

Prof. N C Panda pointed out the specialty of celebrating this day in our University. The divided and rule policy of the British. During the partition, people moved from Pakistan to India, and some people moved from India to Pakistan, and he was sharing the experience of the people of Punjab.

Ms. Sristi Mukherjee, Students, compeered the programme and extended the Vote of Thanks. Faculty members, students, and research scholars present at large.

Dr. Phagunath Bhoi, Public Relations Officer