

## ANNUAL REPORT 2020-2021

Staying resolved to its vision of securing comprehensive and integrated development of the students, La Politique, the Department of Political Science, has organized a wide compass of events and programmes throughout the session of 2020-2021.

Unwavering of the limitations of an online medium, virtual elections were conducted adhering to the democratic ideals of the department. Since then, Union and Executive members have incessantly worked to take the department on newer heights. From having international speakers to launching the first department website of Kirori Mal College and to releasing the first ever e-magazine edition of Aawaz - the annual magazine, La Politique has left no stone unturned to work efficiently even during the unprecedented times of the pandemic.

The official functioning of La Politique commenced with a webinar on **“Is Media Functioning as the Fourth Pillar of Democracy?”** presided over by renowned Journalist Ramesh Menon on the **eve of Gandhi Jayanti** and witnessed an enthusiastic presence of the department students. Soon on **9<sup>th</sup> October**, in the backdrop in Hathras Incident, a sensitized group discussion was organized on the topic **“Gender-Based Violence and Crime with Special Emphasis on the Criminal Justice System in India.”** On **19<sup>th</sup> October**, with respect to the concerns on decelerating economy, a webinar headed by Professor Partha Chatterjee of Shiv Nadar University on the topic **“Indian Economy and COVID- 19: Assessing the Impact”** saw a fruitful engagement. Marking the end of the productive month of October, La Politique, on **30<sup>th</sup> of October**, organized a successful online workshop and certificate course on **‘Basic Research Methods in Social Sciences’** guided by Mr. S.K. Sasikumar, Senior Fellow at V.V. Giri National Labour Institute, Mr. Vinoj Abraham Professor, Centre for Development Studies and Dr. Roopinder Oberoi, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science at Kirori Mal College.

The fresh month of 2021 witnessed an entailing workshop on **“Digital Well-being in the Era of Fake News”** in the presence of distinguished TEDx Speaker, Mr. Rijul Arora on **9<sup>th</sup> January**. Affirming to the new normal, a virtual fresher’s on the theme ”Retro Revival” was conducted on an exuberating evening of 17<sup>th</sup> of January. The juniors, with warmth and ardour, participated and interacted with equally elated seniors.

Further, on **6<sup>th</sup> of February**, an interactive and enlightening session was organized on the topic **“Evolving Role of Public Administration in Contemporary Times”** delivered by Mr. Vivek Atray, Former IAS Officer, an eminent TEDx speaker, and author who also duly took note of all the curious questions.

The month of March also proved to be a promising one with a gamut of events lined after one another. In a collaborative event, La Politique and Praja Foundation conducted a Webinar on the topic **“The Status of Urban Governance in India”** on **18<sup>th</sup> March 2021** with the guest speaker being Mr. Aviral Narayan Dubey, Project Officer in Capacity Building at Praja Foundation.

Continuing the legacy, La Politique organized its annual flagship event Frank Thakurdas Memorial Lecture Series 2021 on **24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> March**, 2021 virtually on Zoom platform under the patronship of Prof. Vibha S. Chauhan. On **24<sup>th</sup> March**, the first Panel Discussion on **“Globalization’s Conundrum – Are we in a flux?”** was presided over by Prof. Antonio Marcio Buainain and Prof. Miguel Rocha de Sousa. The second Panel Discussion took place on **25<sup>th</sup> March** with the inauguration of La Politique Website which ceases to be the first departmental website of Kirori Mal College owing to the industrious Union and Executive members under the constant guidance of Dr. Roopinder Oberoi. It was followed by an ingenious discussion on **“Reimagining India’s Role in the World.”** The venerated speakers for the discussion were Amb. Ashok Sajjanhar, Former IFS Officer, Former Ambassador of India to Kazakhstan, Sweden and Latvia and President of Institute of Global Studies, New Delhi along with Dr. Sinderpal Singh, Senior Fellow and Coordinator of South Asia Programme at Nanyang

Technological University, Singapore. We were graced by the auspicious presence of our honourable Principal- Prof. Vibha Singh Chauhan in all our flagship events who appreciated the department for their consistent work.

**Politicana – the Annual Fest of La Politique – was virtually conducted on 25<sup>th</sup> March**, beholding the enthusiastic participation on the part of students in different competitions and cultural events ranging from open mic to singing, dance and poster making competitions not only from the department but from all over the college's of University of Delhi.

The Department saw its final event, for the time being, with the release of **the department's first-ever e-magazine edition of AAWAZ on the theme "COVID-19, Pre, Contemporary and Post Pandemic Politics."** This year, the department took a step further in encouraging and incorporating magazine entries from PwD students.

The Department has always been striving for an active presence and participation, with an all-inclusive and resourceful approach and the same was ensured by laying Grievance Redressal and Feedback Mechanism via Google Form encouraging responses from the students, involving PwD students by giving them an alternative to submit their articles via voice notes for the annual magazine, involving students to work for the content, poster and outreach departments, conducting online quiz competitions and educating students through concise content and posters on the significance of certain national and international days and events.

Finally, it is often said that "Success usually comes to those who are too busy to be looking for it" and La Politique, committed to its vision and goals, diligently worked and yielded earnest results.