



SCREENING OF THE FILM- 'NIBHRITOCHARI: SOLITARY SOUL'

At times, besides practical activities, visual and story-telling methods become very important to make the students understand many complex and multifaceted issues that are going on in the society around them. Keeping this in mind, the Department of Sociology, St. Xavier's College Burdwan, on their fourth day, i.e., on 8th February 2024 of the Add-on course in 'Gerontology' organized a special screening of the Bengali documentary named '*Nibhritochari: Solitary Soul*' directed by Sourav Sarkar. The film was screened in the auspicious presence of the director himself.

Sourav Sarkar is a film director and a writer. His first film, '*Anoochcharito*' (Unuttered) which was released in 2012 was screened at the 3rd India International Film Festival, Tampa Bay, 2012, the 7th VIBGYOR International Film Festival, Kerala, and two other film festivals in India. The film was used for the sensitization of several senior students of schools as well as colleges through the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India. Another popular film he directed, '*Dugdhonokhor- The Milky Nails*' was released with INOX and PVR Cinemas, Kolkata. The film '*Nibhritochari: Solitary Soul*' which was selected to screen today for the first-semester students as a part of their course was nominated for screening at the third Prayag International Film Festival, New Delhi. The films '*The Humane Judicature*', '*The Stolen Star*', and many others have come up, keeping some more films in a queue. All of his films have portrayed various social issues like the problem of aging, budding motherhood among maid-servants, bullying, mental health issues, and autism very beautifully.

Today's event as always started with the felicitation program at 11:30 am in the Academic Seminar Hall of St. Xavier's College, Burdwan. The guest was felicitated and some small tokens were handed over to him by the faculties of the department, Mr. Diptangshu Nag, and Ms. Ahana Mandal. He gave a brief of his documentary before starting the film. The director explained various concepts of aging as well with the students. After that, the documentary was played which is based on lives in an old-age home named- *Godhuli*. The film portrayed the various causes of the coming of the elderly to the elderly care centers, some glimpses of their everyday life, and most importantly, it has shown that spending life in a positive way is extremely important. It also depicted that providing residents with varied activities and social opportunities can improve their quality of life. He had compared beautifully the cycle of life with that of nature as well. The film has very efficiently illustrated in the last scene that staying active even in the later phases of their lives can bring them from darkness to light. The usage of various metaphors in the documentary promoted active and healthy aging in society. In short, the documentary just in 25 minutes portrayed the complexities of aging issues as well as the ways of handling the social, psychological, economic, and other elderly issues.

The screening of the film was followed by a discussion with the students. The director asked them questions and also gave them some questions to write. The students enthusiastically participated in the discussion and the conversation between the students and the director was very engrossing. The session ended at nearly 1:30 pm with a vote of thanks by Ms. Kaushiki Banerjee, faculty of the department. We hope that the students on the fourth day of their course gain some more knowledge and this will further help them in their career.

PARTICIPANTS LIST:

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| 3. | ANWESHA SARKAR | SOC/23/304 |

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| 4. | ATRICK DEY | SOC/23/306 |
| 5. | DEYASI HAZRA | SOC/23/307 |
| 6. | HENA KHATUN | SOC/23/308 |
| 7. | MADHUMITA MONDAL | SOC/23/310 |
| 8. | MARGARET MUKTA KISPOTTA | SOC/23/311 |
| 9. | POMMY MALLICK | SOC/23/312 |
| 10. | PRIYANSHI JHA | SOC/23/313 |
| 11. | RACHANA PRASAD | SOC/23/314 |
| 12. | RAJLAXMI BALMIKI | SOC/23/315 |
| 13. | RITTIKA SULTANA | SOC/23/316 |
| 14. | ROHAN KUMAR TIWARI | SOC/23/317 |
| 15. | SANCHALI SARKAR | SOC/23/318 |
| 16. | SHRAYASREE NASKAR | SOC/23/319 |



Fig 1: The students with the director of the film.



Fig 2: The director explaining the concept of his film.