



### **FIELD REPORT OF A VISIT TO AN OLD AGE HOME:**

The Department of Sociology, St. Xavier's College, Burdwan has started an Add-on course on 'Gerontology' from 5<sup>th</sup> of February, 2024. The department doesn't only believe in classroom lectures or seminars, it has always given priority to fieldwork as well which encourages the student to analyze how scientific theories interact with real life. The department aims to provide various real-life exposure to the students, and as always, this time also, while deciding on the course objectives, attention has been given to different practical activities.

As a part of the add-on course, all sixteen students of semester 1 of the Sociology Department were taken to an old age home on 6<sup>th</sup> February 2024. They reached the old age home run by Burdwan Foodies Club, which is named 'Second Innings' or more popularly as '*Dactar babur Bridhasram*' situated at Udaypalli near Subhash Sangh Club, Burdwan at 11:30 am. 'Second Innings' was established in the year 2012 and since then it has been working towards the betterment of the elderly people of society who are neglected by their own families. It provides the residents with a space, where they can feel comfort.

The faculties of the department reached there (which was a half an hour's drive) directly from the college at 12 pm. The students formed groups among themselves and they started interacting with the elderlies residing over there as soon as they reached. There were six people

in total, and the students curiously observed them. They spent time interacting with the residents and listening to their life stories. The residents also happily shared all their experiences, their daily activities, as well as their problems. Some of them even wanted to show the rooms, the surroundings, and the garden to the students. They were ecstatic to share their feelings with the students. Their enthusiasm despite the challenges they had faced at various times, inspired the students as well as the faculties. Apart from that, we came to know different facts about 'Second Innings' as well like when it was established, how many residents were there, what facilities the residents get from them, and about their caretaker as well.

The students not only got the opportunity to interact with them but also got the chance to form beautiful bonds with the members. The students as well as the faculties also took several small gifts for them which included different food items and other necessary things. In return, the students got so much love and blessings from them, that some of the students became emotional and could connect with the memories they have with their grandparents. After talking to them, for two hours, the students started clicking pictures with them, and group photographs along with the faculties were also taken.

In the end, the smiles of satisfaction and happiness on both the faces of the residents and the students gave immense pleasure to the faculties as well. Their unbridled attitude and positivity towards lives inspire the students to a large extent. Also, they could understand practically some of the 'elderly issues' present in modern society which is one of the main aims of the course. The students as well as the faculties had a fulfilling experience and we hope that more students, who are aspiring sociologists will come to the forefront to work with the elderly and will be a cause of someone's smile.

---

#### **PARTICIPANTS LIST:**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Roll No.</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>ABANTIKA SHYAM</b>	<b>SOC/23/301</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>ADHRIT SEN</b>	<b>SOC/23/302</b>

3.	<b>ANWESHA SARKAR</b>	<b>SOC/23/304</b>
4.	<b>ATRICK DEY</b>	<b>SOC/23/306</b>
5.	<b>DEYASI HAZRA</b>	<b>SOC/23/307</b>
6.	<b>HENA KHATUN</b>	<b>SOC/23/308</b>
7.	<b>MADHUMITA MONDAL</b>	<b>SOC/23/310</b>
8.	<b>MARGARET MUKTA KISPOTTA</b>	<b>SOC/23/311</b>
9.	<b>POMMY MALLICK</b>	<b>SOC/23/312</b>
10.	<b>PRIYANSHI JHA</b>	<b>SOC/23/313</b>
11.	<b>RACHANA PRASAD</b>	<b>SOC/23/314</b>
12.	<b>RAJLAXMI BALMIKI</b>	<b>SOC/23/315</b>
13.	<b>RITTIKA SULTANA</b>	<b>SOC/23/316</b>
14.	<b>ROHAN KUMAR TIWARI</b>	<b>SOC/23/317</b>
15.	<b>SANCHALI SARKAR</b>	<b>SOC/23/318</b>
16.	<b>SHRAYASREE NASKAR</b>	<b>SOC/23/319</b>

