

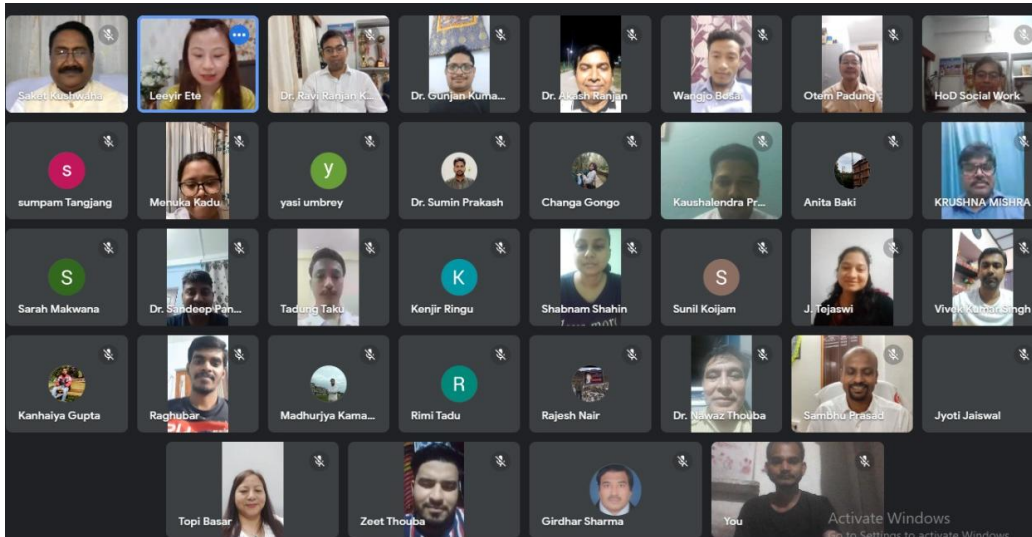


## Special Lecture on

# Youth and Universal Brotherhood

*On the Occasion of "Universal Brotherhood Day"  
Commemorating Swami Vivekananda Historic Speech in the  
World Parliament of Religions at Chicago on 11 September 1893*

**11 September, 2022**



**submitted by**

**समाज कार्य विभाग/ Department of Social Work**

**युवा विकास एवं नेतृत्व अध्ययन केंद्र/**

**Centre for Youth Development and Leadership Studies**

**शारीरिक शिक्षा विभाग/ Department of Physical Education**

**राजीव गाँधी विश्वविद्यालय/ Rajiv Gandhi University**

**रोनो हिल्स, दोइमुख, अरुणाचल प्रदेश**

**Rono Hills, Doimukh, Arunachal Pradesh**

**September 2022**

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## Acknowledgements

I am thankful to the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of RGU, Prof. Saket Kushwaha for his enthusiastic support and endless motivation without whom planning of this programme, would not have been possible. The moral support received from the Vice Chancellor has been more than encouraging and acknowledges the highest contribution of his highest office in successful organization of this programme.

Grateful acknowledgements are also due to esteemed Pro- Vice Chancellor, Prof. Amitava Mitra for his continuous guidance and insightful motivation in hours of need and esteemed Registrar, RGU Dr. NT Rikam as well, for his ever so welcoming gesture, guidance, affection and support along with his enormous cooperation in the organization of this programme. Prof. Otem Padung, Finance Officer, RGU deserves due acknowledgement who delivered the keynote address on the occasion.

I acknowledge the support extended by all the members of Department of Social Work and Physical Education and other colleagues, research scholars, and students. I am thankful to all the participants who have enriched our programme through their lively and active participation. In the end, a big thanks to each one of you going through this report.

**Organising Committee**

## 1. About the University

Rajiv Gandhi University (formerly Arunachal University), located in Rono Hills, Doimukh, Arunachal Pradesh, was established in 1984 with objective of providing high quality educational and research opportunities for the learners of all communities. The University was converted into a Central University with effect from 9<sup>th</sup> April 2007 as per notification of the then Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India. The University offers UG, PG and Ph. D programmes apart from certificates, diploma and vocational course across several disciplines in its departments and centres. There are eleven faculty of Studies, with a total of thirty-eight departments, along with a Centre with Potential for Excellence in Biodiversity. There are 45 colleges affiliated to the University. Ever since its inception, the University has been trying to achieve excellence and fulfill the objectives as envisaged in the University Act. The Faculty members have been actively engaged in research activities. The University has been maintaining its academic excellence. The students from the University are contributing at significant positions not only in State and Central Government Services, but also in various Institutions, Industries and Organizations.

### **Vision**

Rajiv Gandhi University aspires to be India's most vibrant, energetic, responsive and acclaimed University, to be recognized for excellence in teaching, research and providing the highest quality educational opportunities for the learners of all communities. The University aims at nurturing their talent by promoting intellectual growth to shape their personality and serve humanity as multi-skilled, socially responsible, creative, adaptable, contributing and morally sound global citizens.

### **Mission**

Our mission is to provide opportunities and support students from diverse background and assist them to become well-informed global citizens by developing their intellectual, moral, civic and creative capacities to the fullest

through multi-faceted education and sustained engagement with local, national and global communities. The University also aims to carry out academic process for achieving excellence through active and dynamic student-teacher participation and inculcate high moral, ethical and professional standards among students which will enable them to develop knowledge and skills necessary to achieve their professional goals so as to improve the performance and also provide leadership and service to the community.

## **2. About the Department of Social Work**

The Department of Social Work (DSW) at Rajiv Gandhi University (RGU) was established in 2015 with the vision of providing quality Social Work Education in the state of Arunachal Pradesh. DSW at RGU is the first full-fledged Department of Social Work offering face-to-face Master of Arts in Social Work (MASW) Program in the state with a total of four regular faculty members and sixteen students in the first batch. Department offers a Certificate Programme in Environmental Sanitation. The Doctoral Program in Social Work (PhDSW) was introduced with July 2018 to focus on strengthening the research component in the region with an emphasis on 'evidence-based practice and practice-based evidence'. Class room lectures and social work practicum form the main crux of the Program. The students/trainees are also exposed to carefully crafted skill building and personality development programs and are provided with opportunities to participate in workshops, seminars and lectures from external experts on regular basis. The department with a commitment towards 'evidence based practice and practice based evidence' is dedicated in grooming and equipping students to reach their full potential and acquire the knowledge, skills, values and techniques essential to become professional social workers who not only acquire personal and professional competency and growth, but also contribute to the betterment of the society and country at large.

### **3. About the Centre for Youth Development and Leadership Studies**

Centre for Youth Development and Leadership Studies (CYDLS) has been established through the vide notification no. AC-108/2007(Vol-II)/397 dated 11 July, 2017 at the Rajiv Gandhi University (A Central University), Rono Hills, Doimukh, Arunachal Pradesh. It aims to address the issues and challenges, building capacities with a special emphasis on utilizing the energy of youth in the North East Region of India especially in the state of Arunachal Pradesh. Since its inception CYDLS is continuously working towards the betterment of youth through a host of extension activities, skill and capacity development programs, trainings, workshops, seminars, conferences, and instituting awards and scholarships to motivate the youth. The vision of the CYDLS is to groom youth as potential leaders and contribute to sustainable development. The centre's mission is to create a platform for progressive engagement and empowerment of youth through professional training and guidance. Also, for nourishing leadership traits among youth through innovation, research, and skills development, the CYDLS has set following specific objectives as well:

- To promote psycho-social well-being of youth;
- To develop leadership qualities among the youth and orient them towards community building;
- To involve youth in community development by way of aligning them with developmental programmes; and
- To embark on training and research on youth development and leadership.

In order to operationalise the vision and mission of CYDLS, three specific Cells namely Counselling Resource Cell (CRC), Youth and Community Engagement Cell (YCEC), and Training and Leadership Research Cell (TLRC) are working to achieve the objectives of centre.

#### **4. About the Department of Physical Education**

Department of Physical Education a constituent unit of Rajiv Gandhi University (A Central University) established in the year 2015 to promote physical education and develop an interest among people regarding the need and importance sports and exercise which is medium to improve the community health. The syllabi of the courses are so designed as to prepare professionally qualified leaders and teachers in physical education. The infrastructures developed are as per the NCTE standard and norms. A team of competent and dedicated teachers are engaged in relentless pursuit of excellence in Physical Education and Sports for health, fitness and wellness of the citizens. The objectives of the Department are as under:

- To prepare highly qualified teachers and leaders in the field of Physical Education and Sports.
- To serve as a center of excellence and innovation in Physical Education and Sports.
- To provide professional and academic leadership to other institutions in the field of Physical Education.
- To provide vocational guidance and placement services to the professionals in this field.
- To promote mass-participation in Physical Education and Sports.
- To develop and promote programmes of Physical Education and Sports in the country.
- To encourage and produce scientific contemporary literature in the field of Physical Education and Sports.
- To provide community services in the field of Physical Education and Sports

## 5. Background of the Programme

A grateful Nation remembers with love and pride to great son of *Ma Bharati* – *Swami Vivekananda* for his historic speech in the Parliament of the World's Religions in Chicago On 11<sup>th</sup> September 1893. On 11<sup>th</sup> September 1893 Swami Vivekananda, the greatest youth icon ever known to India delivered his historic speech in the Parliament of the World's Religions in Chicago. The electrifying address held the august audience spell bound for the entire brief while for which he spoke. The spirit of India and the kernel of Indian Philosophical thought came beautifully alive in the words of the venerated monk. Addressing the gathering as “Sisters and Brothers of America”, The Great Swamiji gave a valuable insight on Universal Brotherhood. The Message was loud and clear that the whole of humanity belongs to just one great global family. The rich message ringing from the noble lips of the great son of India was to flood the world with the milk of love. He reiterated the *Sanatan Mantra* “*Vasudhaiv Kutumbakam*”. The dream emanating from the holy soil of India was to keep the whole world audience mesmerized. The spiritual thought was so emotionally soaked in genuineness that the world audience came instantly to be confirmed that action appropriate to the tenor and dignity of the occasion was going to be the only saving grace. The humanity was required only to get ready to translate the dream into reality. In this regard, the today's Special Lecture on “**Youth and Universal Brotherhood**” is being organized by the Department of Social Work and Centre for Youth Development and Leadership Studies in Collaboration with Department of Physical Education, RGU to Commemorate Swami Vivekananda's Historic Speech in the World Parliament of Religions at Chicago on 11 September 1893 where he gave the message of “Universal Brotherhood” to the world based on tolerance and universal acceptance.

## 6. Objectives

The precise objectives of special lecture commemorating Universal Brotherhood Day 2022 are specified as below:



- To build capacity of youth with specialized knowledge and skills for a value based social fabric;
- To provide a platform for the youth to understand brotherhood, unity and integrity of the nation;
- To impart knowledge about universal values of brotherhood, empathy and youth empowerment;
- To sensitize youth about symbiotic engagement with different stakeholders for enhanced social and spiritual well-being; and
- To educate youth about leadership as well as self-reliance aptitude.

## **7. Expected Programme Outcomes**

The expected programme outcomes of the special lecture commemorating Universal Brotherhood Day -2022 are specified below:

- Improvement of social cohesion values among youth;
- Enhancement of aptitude for a socially productive and spiritually healthy youth; and
- Sensitization of youth about symbiotic engagement with different stakeholders.

## **8. Resource Persons**

Prof. Otem Padung, Finance Officer, Professor & Former Head, Department of Commerce, Rajiv Gandhi University was the resource person of the day.

## **9. Programme Beneficiaries**

The intended target audience included the postgraduate students, research scholars, and faculty members. Nearly 100 (Hundred) participants attended the programme.

## 10. Modus Operandi

Live web sessions were conducted through Google Meet Platform.

## 11. Session Deliberation

Universal Brotherhood Day is observed on **11 September** around the world. It marks the commemoration of Swami Vivekananda's famous speech delivered on September 11, 1893 in Chicago to the delegates of the World Parliament of Religions. The speech is popularly remembered for its opening words – 'Sisters and brothers of America.'

In joining with the rest of the world in celebrating the Universal Brotherhood Day, Rajiv Gandhi University also celebrated the day with the theme "Youth & Universal Brotherhood". The programme was organised by Department of Social Work and Centre for Youth Development and Leadership Studies in active collaboration with Department of Physical Education & Sports Sciences, RGU. Prof. Saket Kushwaha, Vice Chancellor, RGU delivered the Presidential Remarks. He reminisced his childhood and shared some memories with the students. The key message of accepting the other person in totality and making peace with all; this being the ideal commemoration of 'Universal Brotherhood Day' and the motto being, to make this country and the world at large a better place to live in. He concluded mentioning Josephine Baker's lines, "Surely the day will come when color means nothing more than the skin tone, when religion is seen uniquely as a way to speak one's soul, when birth places have the weight of a throw of the dice and all men are born free, when understanding breeds love and brotherhood". Prof. Amitava Mitra, the Pro-Vice Chancellor called upon the teachers to inspire and awaken the youth as rich demographic dividend of the nation.

Prof. Otem Padung, Finance Officer, RGU, was the resource person of the event. He emphasized on how the youth is the power of the nation, have the potential energy and the power to bring change in the society. He talked on the relevance

of being Present Across the Nation (PAN) today via the aid of digital presence and internet connect and therefore, utilizing the same as a boon and consciously exert its positive emphasis on to the children and the youth. He threw light on being responsible citizens of the country and imbibe the true feeling of nationalism moving away from holding on to just one identity of our own tribe but rather expand one's horizon and spread the concept of love, peace and universal brotherhood.

Mr. Wanjo Bosai, PhD Scholar, Department of English, RGU read out few words from the excerpts of the day by the Great man, Swami Vivekananda himself. He ended his reading with the line "Be proud that thou art an Indian and proudly proclaim, I am an Indian, every Indian is my brother."

Essentially, Swamiji advocated the right to follow one's unique nature and disapproved imposing changes on anyone. This he applied from macrocosm to microcosm, which is from nations to individuals. His idea of toleration is the solution to the discords between nations, religions and cultures on one hand, and discord in families and smaller groups on the other. The way forward to diplomatic and domestic peace is then to follow Swami Vivekananda's idea of toleration -accept the other person in totality and make peace with all. This would be the ideal commemoration of Universal Brotherhood Day.

Nearly 100 participants attended the programme through google meet platform on a virtual mode which included PG students as well as PhD Research Scholars in addition to faculty members, statutory officers, Heads of various Departments, Dean of Students Welfare and those of other faculties of the university. The participants ranged from pan India representing Kerala, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu etc.

# Annexure

### Annexure 1.1.: Programme Schedule

5.00 pm - 5.05 pm	Welcome Address	<b>Dr. Ravi Ranjan Kumar</b> Head i/c, Department of Social Work, Rajiv Gandhi University, Arunachal Pradesh.
5.05 pm - 5.10 pm	About the Programme	<b>Dr. Kaushalendra Pratap Singh</b> Chairperson, Centre for Youth Development and Leadership Studies, Rajiv Gandhi University, Arunachal Pradesh.
5.10 pm - 5.15 pm	Swami Vivekananda's Historic Speech in the World Parliament of Religions at Chicago on 11 September 1893	<b>Live Reading by Mr. Wanjo Bosai</b> PhD Scholar, Department of English, RGU
5.15 pm - 5.20 pm	Remarks by the Registrar	<b>Dr. N. T. Rikam</b> Registrar, Rajiv Gandhi University, Arunachal Pradesh.
5.20 pm - 5.25 pm	Address by the Pro- Vice Chancellor	<b>Prof. Amitava Mitra</b> Pro-Vice Chancellor, Rajiv Gandhi University, Arunachal Pradesh.
5.25 pm - 5.45 pm	Special Lecture by the Resource Person on " <b>Youth and Universal Brotherhood</b> "	<b>Prof. Otem Padung</b> Finance Officer and Former HoD, Commerce Rajiv Gandhi University, Arunachal Pradesh.
5.45 pm - 5.55 pm	Address by the Chair	<b>Prof. Saket Kushwaha</b> Vice Chancellor, Rajiv Gandhi University, Arunachal Pradesh.
5.55 pm - 6.00 pm	Vote of Thanks	<b>Dr. Sambhu Prasad</b> Head, Department of Physical Education, Rajiv Gandhi University, Arunachal Pradesh.

## Annexure 1.2.: Programme Brochure



**RAJIV GANDHI UNIVERSITY**

Rono Hills, Doimukh – 791112, Arunachal Pradesh

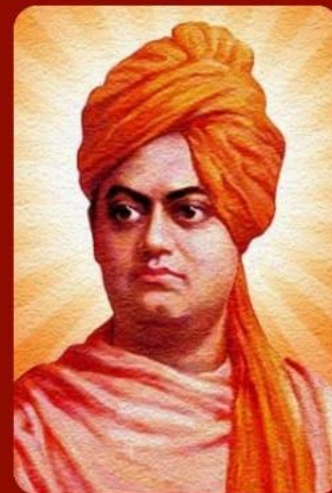


### Special Lecture on: "Youth and Universal Brotherhood"

**Date: 11 September, 2022 (Sunday)**

**Time: 05:00 p.m onwards**

**Platform: Google Meet**



**Swami Vivekananda**  
(1863-1902)



#### CHAIRPERSON

**Prof. Saket Kushwaha**

Vice-Chancellor, RGU

#### PATRONS



**Prof. Amitava Mitra**  
Pro-Vice Chancellor, RGU



**Dr. N.T Rikam**  
Registrar, RGU

#### RESOURCE PERSON

**Prof. Otem Padung**

Finance Officer and  
Professor & Former HoD, Commerce  
RGU



*On the occasion of "Universal Brotherhood Day"*  
*Commemorating Swami Vivekananda's Historic Speech in*  
*the World Parliament of Religions at Chicago on 11 September 1893*

*Organised by*

Department of Social Work and  
Centre for Youth Development and Leadership Studies (CYDLS)  
in collaboration with

Department of Physical Education  
Rajiv Gandhi University, Rono Hills, Doimukh, Arunachal Pradesh

Link to Google Meet: <https://meet.google.com/aim-zvki-gjf>



## Programme Schedule

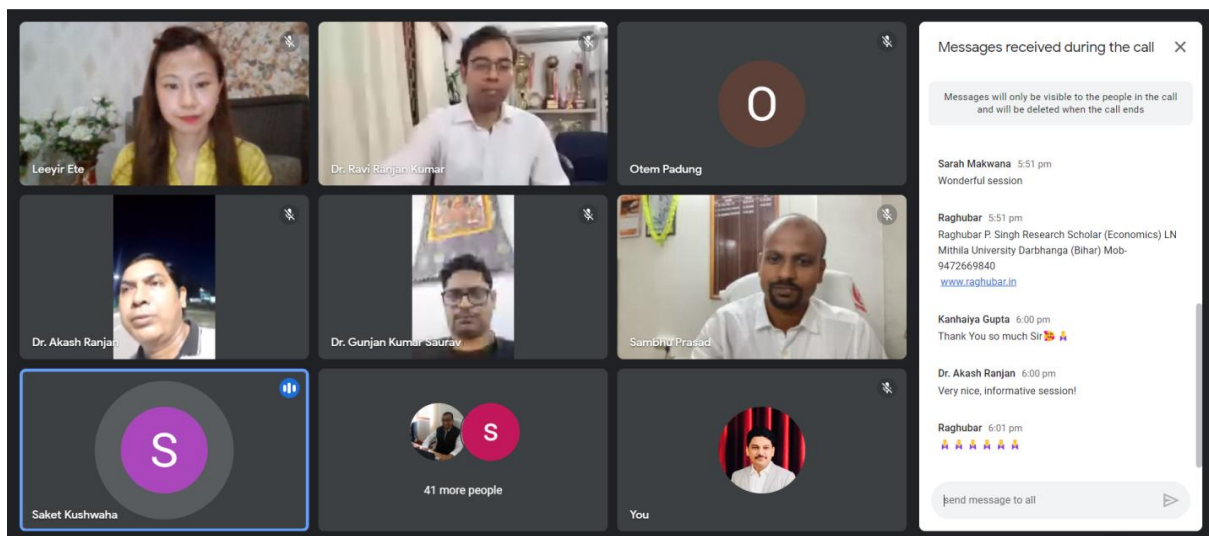
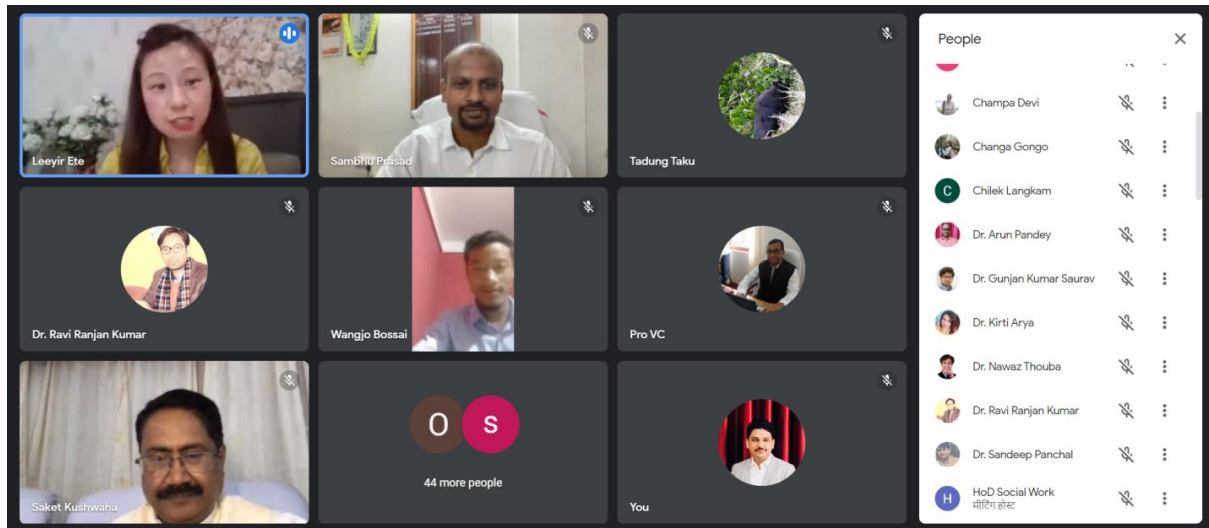
11 September, 2022 (Sunday)

5.00 pm - 5.05 pm	<b>Welcome Address</b>	<b>Dr. Ravi Ranjan Kumar</b> Head i/c, Department of Social Work, Rajiv Gandhi University, Arunachal Pradesh.
5.05 pm - 5.10 pm	<b>About the Programme</b>	<b>Dr. Kaushalendra Pratap Singh</b> Chairperson, Centre for Youth Development and Leadership Studies, Rajiv Gandhi University, Arunachal Pradesh.
5.10 pm - 5.15 pm	<b>Swami Vivekananda's Historic Speech in the World Parliament of Religions at Chicago on 11 September 1893</b>	<b>Live Reading by Mr. Wanjo Bosai</b> PhD Scholar, Department of English, RGU
5.15 pm - 5.20 pm	<b>Remarks by the Registrar</b>	<b>Dr. N.T Rikam</b> Registrar, RGU
5.20 pm - 5.25 pm	<b>Address by the Pro- Vice Chancellor</b>	<b>Prof. Amitava Mitra</b> Pro-Vice Chancellor, RGU
5.25 pm - 5.45 pm	<b>Address by the Invited Speaker</b>	<b>Prof. Otem Padung</b> Finance Officer and Professor & Former HoD, Commerce Rajiv Gandhi University, Arunachal Pradesh.
5.45 pm - 5.55 pm	<b>Address by the Chair</b>	<b>Prof. Saket Kushwaha</b> Vice Chancellor, Rajiv Gandhi University, Arunachal Pradesh.
5.55 pm - 6.00 pm	<b>Vote of Thanks</b>	<b>Dr. Sambhu Prasad</b> Head, Department of Physical Education

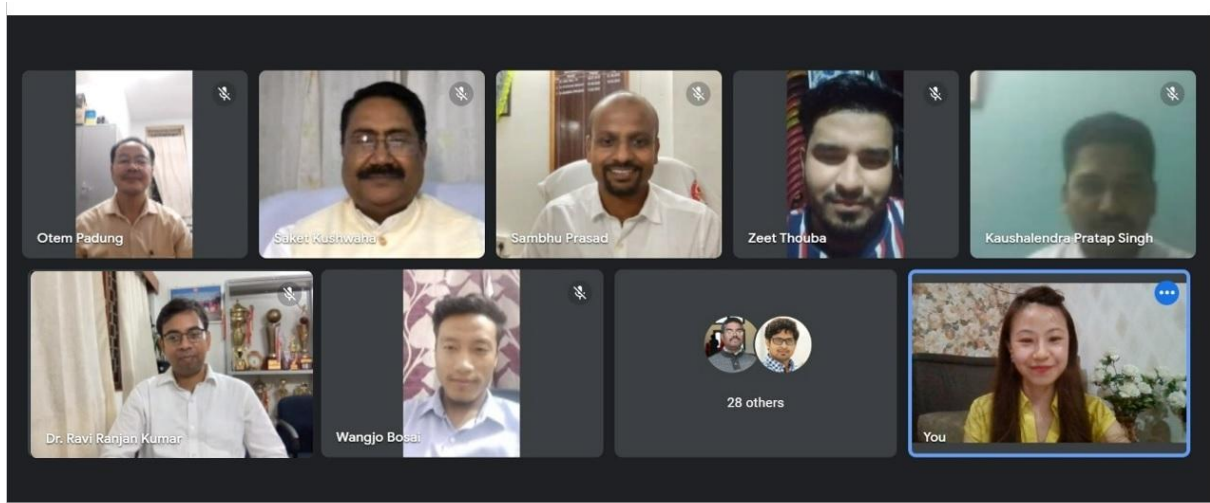
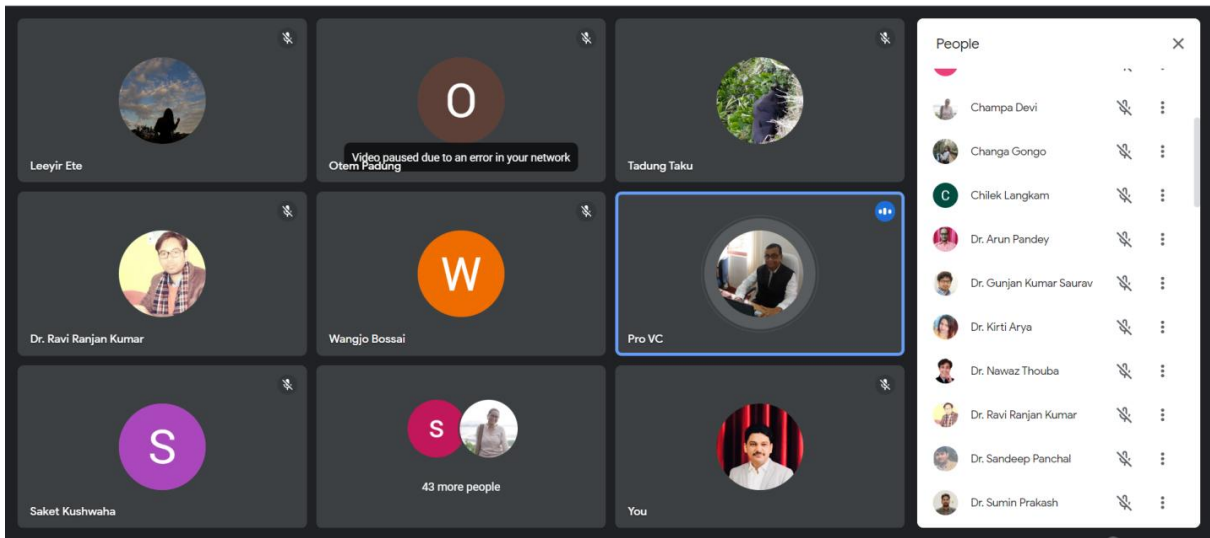
“... मैं एक ऐसे धर्म का अनुयायी होने में गर्व का अनुभव करता हूँ, जिसने संसार को सहिष्णुता तथा सार्दभौव स्वीकृति, दोनों की ही शिक्षा दी है। हम लोग सब धर्मों के प्रति केवल सहिष्णुता में ही विश्वास नहीं करते, वरन् समस्त धर्मों को सच्चा मान कर स्वीकार करते हैं। मुझे ऐसे देश का व्यक्ति होने का अभिमान है, जिसने इस पृथ्वी के समस्त धर्मों और देशों के उत्पीड़ितों और शरणार्थियों को आश्रय दिया है।...”

—स्वामी विवेकानंद, शिकागो 1893

*Your presence is most sincerely solicited*

**Annexure 1.3.: Photographs**





**Annexure 1.4.: Media Coverage**

**<http://www.easternsentinel.in/news/state/universal-brotherhood-day-celebrated-in-rgu.html>**



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**UNIVERSAL BROTHERHOOD DAY CELEBRATED IN RGU  
([HTTP://WWW.EASTERNSENTINEL.IN/NEWS/STATE/UNIVERSAL-BROTHERHOOD-DAY-CELEBRATED-IN-RGU.HTML](http://www.easternsentinel.in/news/state/universal-brotherhood-day-celebrated-in-rgu.html))**

11th Sep 2022 10:09:PM State

Eastern Sentinel Arunachal News

Rono Hills, Sep 11: Universal Brotherhood Day is observed on 11th September around the world which marks the commemoration of Swami Vivekananda's famous speech delivered on September 11, 1893 in Chicago to the delegates of the World Parliament of Religions.

At Rajiv Gandhi University, the programme was organised by Department of Social Work and Centre for Youth Development and Leadership Studies in active collaboration with Department of Physical Education & Sports Sciences, RGU.

Prof. Saket Kushwaha, Vice Chancellor, RGU delivered the Presidential Remarks. Prof. Amitava Mitra, the Pro-Vice Chancellor called upon the teachers to inspire and awaken the youth as rich demographic dividend of the nation.

Prof. Otem Padung, Finance Officer, RGU, was the resource person of the event. He emphasized on how the youth is the power of the nation, with the potential and power to bring change in society.

Nearly 100 participants attended the programme through google meet platform which included PG students as well as MPhil & PhD Research Scholars in addition to faculty members, statutory officers, Heads of various Departments, Dean of Students Welfare and those of other faculties of the university. The participants ranged from pan India representing Kerala, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu etc.

## <https://arunachalobserver.org/2022/09/12/universal-brotherhood-day-observed-rgu-recalls-vivekananda-virtues/>

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Universal Brotherhood Day Observed | RGU recalls Vivekananda virtues | Arunachal Observer

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### Universal Brotherhood Day Observed | RGU recalls Vivekananda virtues

September 12, 2022

RONO HILLS, Sep 11: Rajiv Gandhi University (RGU) on Sunday observed Universal Brotherhood Day, commemorating Swami Vivekananda's famous speech delivered on September 11, 1893, in Chicago to the delegates of the World Parliament of Religions.

The speech is popularly remembered for its opening words: "Sisters and brothers of America."

The programme, themed "Youth and Universal Brotherhood", was organised by the Department of Social Work and Centre for Youth Development and Leadership Studies in active collaboration with the university's Department of Physical Education & Sports Sciences.

RGU Vice-Chancellor Saket Kushwaha said accepting the 'other' in totality and making peace with all was the underlying message of the day in Swami's honour in order to make the country and the world at large a better place to live in.

Pro-VC Amitava Mitra called upon the teachers to inspire and awaken the youth as a rich demographic dividend of the nation.

RGU Finance Officer and the event's resource person, Otem Padung emphasised how the youth have the potential energy and the power to bring change in society. He spoke on the relevance of being present across the nation today via the internet, utilising it as a boon and consciously exerting its positive impact on the children and the youth.

He threw light on being responsible citizens of the country and imbibing the true feeling of nationalism by moving away from holding on to just one tribal identity and expanding one's horizon and spreading the concept of love, peace and universal brotherhood.

The programme kickstarted with the welcome speech delivered by Ravi Ranjan Kumar, head of the Department of Social Work. He emphasised the need to awaken the younger generations and highlighted the need for universal brotherhood in the present-day global scenario.

Kaushalendra Pratap Singh, the department's Assistant Professor gave a bird's eye view of the background of the 127th year of the Universal Brotherhood Day celebration, commemorating the historic electrifying speech in Parliament of the world's religions in Chicago.

Wanjo Bosai, a PhD scholar at the Department of English read out few words from the excerpts of the day by Swami Vivekananda. He ended the extract with the line, "Be proud that thou art an Indian and proudly proclaim, I am an Indian, every Indian is my brother."

The programme concluded with Sambhu Prasad, head of Physical Education proposing the vote of thanks. He acknowledged the youth as the future pillars of the nation and said it was high time to awaken them from parochialism to the higher cause of making the world a better place.

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<https://thedawnlitpost.com/2022/09/universal-brotherhood-day-celebrated-in-rgu/>

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Universal Brotherhood Day celebrated in RGU – The Dawnlit Post – Rise with the Post

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## Universal Brotherhood Day celebrated in RGU

September 11, 2022 TDP News Desk

**RONO HILLS, Sep 11:** The Universal Brotherhood Day was observed at the Rajiv Gandhi University (RGU) on the theme, 'Youth and Universal Brotherhood', in a befitting manner on Sunday.

The Day is celebrated to commemorate Swami Vivekananda's famous speech at the World Parliament of Religions at Chicago on September 11, 1893.

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The event was organized by RGU's Department of Social Work and Centre for Youth Development and Leadership Studies in collaboration with the Department of Physical Education and Sports Sciences.

▼

vice-chancellor Prof Saket Kushwaha, in his presidential remarks, said the key message of