



RANI DHANYA KUMARI COLLEGE

(A NAAC ACCREDITED PREMIER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION)

Jiaganj, Murshidabad, West Bengal

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
&
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

Jointly Organize

A STATE LEVEL SEMINAR

ON

Gramsci's Concept of Cultural Hegemony:
Relevance in Contemporary society

Under the Aegis of
IQAC

RANI DHANYA KUMARI COLLEGE



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

PROF. (DR.) AJAY ADHIKARI
PRINCIPAL, RANI DHANYA KUMARI COLLEGE

INVITED SPEAKER

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RANI DHANYA KUMARI COLLEGE



Date : 05-03-2025
Time : 12:00 Noon
Venue : Conference Hall
Rani Dhanya Kumari College
Jiaganj, Murshidabad

THEME

Italian Marxist Antonio Gramsci's seminal concept of cultural hegemony offers profound insights into the dynamics of power in society. The basic premise of the theory of hegemony is one with which few would disagree: that man is not ruled by force alone, but also by ideas. "The foundation of a ruling class", he wrote, "is equivalent to the creation of a *Weltanschauung*." Marx had likewise observed that "the ruling ideas of each age have ever been the ideas of its ruling class." Gramsci, however, found this simple fact much more suggestive than had Marx, for whom it was but a corollary of economic theory. The *homoeconomicus* of industrial England, which had captivated Marx in the British Museum, cast less of a spell in the economically backward land of Saint Francis, Vico and Croce. The tug of this idealist tradition can be seen in Gramsci's estimation of the power, both creative and conservative, of ideas. To ideas he ascribed the vital function of preserving the "ideological unity of a whole social bloc." Not that ideas were powerful enough to eliminate class struggle, but they were obviously capable of muting it sufficiently to allow class societies to function. He employed the concept "hegemony" to describe a process of "intellectual and moral leadership" that embedded a ruling class across society. For Gramsci, the dominant class develops a hegemonic culture through the use of ideology to manipulate other class into accepting their status as subaltern. This seminar aims to explore the core components of Gramsci's theory and to analyze its enduring relevance in the 21st century, examining how it helps us to understand contemporary social, political and economic phenomena. It will provide a comprehensive overview of Gramsci's theory of cultural hegemony including key concepts such as ideology, civil society, war of position, intellectuals, and common sense.



ORGANIZING TEAM

CONVENORS

- ▶ **DR. ANINDITA SAHA,**
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