

International Mother Language Day 2024

The Library Society celebrated the **International Mother Language Day** on February 21, 2024, which is an annual event of the Society. There was a performance which depicted the sacrifice of the martyrs of 1952 – the brave hearts who gave their lives for the sake of making Bangla the mother language of East Pakistan. A special tribute was offered to the legendary poet and playwright of Bengal, Michael Madhusudan Dutt, to observe the bicentennial birth year of the poet. The performance concluded with a display of an interview video of a leading expert in the field of language studies – Professor Sukanta Chaudhuri (FBA), Professor Emeritus at the Department of English, Jadavpur University, where he shared his perspectives on the role of youth in promoting Bengali and other regional languages. His speech placed much emphasis on the annual theme of International Mother Language Day – **“Multilingual education is a pillar of intergenerational learning”**. Participation of students and staff advisors of Eastern Cultural Society and Literary Society contributed in making the programme successful to a large extent.

Learning Objectives -

1. Understand the historical significance – To educate students about the 1952 Language Movement and its impact on linguistic rights.
2. Appreciate linguistic diversity – To recognize the importance of preserving and celebrating indigenous and regional languages.
3. Develop intercultural awareness – To encourage respect and understanding of different languages and their cultural heritage.
4. Enhance critical thinking – To reflect on how language plays a role in identity, resistance, and societal progress.
5. Encourage creative expression – To use poetry, music, and drama as tools to convey the significance of language and cultural preservation.
6. Promote global citizenship – To instill awareness that language rights are a universal issue and that ideals like freedom of expression transcend national boundaries.

Learning outcomes –

1. Students gained a deeper appreciation for linguistic diversity and the importance of preserving indigenous languages.
2. The recollection of the 1952 language movement helped students understand the sacrifices made for linguistic rights, especially in Bangladesh.
3. Remembering the martyrs instilled a sense of gratitude and responsibility in students to uphold linguistic and cultural heritage.
4. Through poetry, songs, and performances, students learned how art can be a powerful medium to celebrate and protect linguistic heritage.
5. This programme reinforced the significance of language in shaping identity, culture, and historical consciousness, making it a valuable educational experience.









