

Report on the Educational Visit to State Archives

Date: 8th March 2025

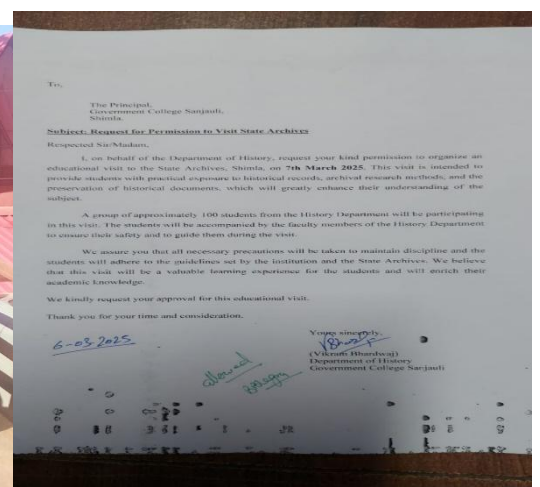
Report on the educational visit to the State Archives, Shimla, conducted by the Department of History on **7th March 2025**.

A group of **85 students** from the History Department participated in this educational excursion. The students were accompanied by faculty members **Mr. Vikram Bhardwaj** and **Mr. Chander Verma**. The visit commenced at **10:00 AM** and concluded at **4:00 PM**.

During the visit, **Mr. Mohan Thakur**, Deputy Director of the State Archives, and his team guided the students through the various sections of archival records. Mr. Thakur delivered an insightful **lecture on the use of archival material in historical research**, highlighting methods of record preservation and the classification of archival documents. The session was highly interactive and allowed students to engage directly with primary historical sources, enriching their academic knowledge.

The State Archives provided **nourishing refreshments** for all the students, which was greatly appreciated. The visit was informative and well-received, offering practical insights that complemented the students' theoretical learning.

Vikram Bhardwaj
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Report on the Workshop on Takri Script at HP State Museum

Date: 23rd February 2025

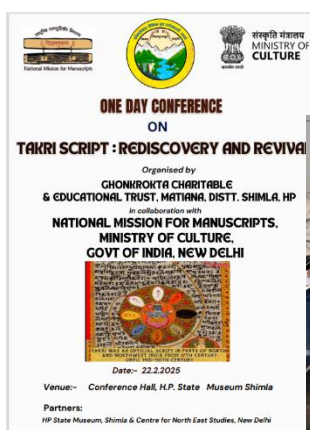
A report on the participation of the History Department in the **workshop on Takri Script** titled "**Takri Script: Rediscovery and Revival – Bridging the Past and Future**", which was held at the **Himachal Pradesh State Museum** on **22nd February 2025**. The workshop was jointly organized by **Ghonrohta Charitable & Educational Trust, Matiana**, in collaboration with the **National Mission for Manuscripts, Ministry of Culture, Government of India**.

A group of **25 students** from the History Department of **Government College Sanjauli** actively participated in this educational event. The students were accompanied by the faculty members of the History Department, including **Mr. Vikram Bhardwaj** and **Mr. Chander Verma**. The workshop aimed to explore the historical significance, technical aspects, and ongoing efforts for the revival of the **Takri script**, an ancient script historically used in the Western Himalayan region.

The workshop provided an enriching learning experience for the students. Experts from the **National Mission for Manuscripts** and the **Ghonrohta Charitable & Educational Trust** delivered comprehensive lectures and interactive sessions on the **evolution, structure, and deciphering techniques** of the Takri script. Students were given the opportunity to engage in **hands-on exercises**, where they practiced writing in Takri and analyzed old manuscripts under expert supervision.

The resource persons emphasized the cultural importance of preserving endangered scripts and how the **Takri script** represents a vital link to understanding the region's **administrative, cultural, and literary** heritage. Special focus was placed on the **paleographic techniques** used in decoding ancient texts and the challenges faced in the **revival and digitization** of Takri manuscripts. Throughout the day, the students exhibited keen interest and actively participated in discussions. The interactive nature of the workshop fostered a deeper understanding of the **technicalities of the script**, its historical applications, and contemporary efforts to safeguard it. The event concluded with a **certificate distribution** acknowledging the students' enthusiastic participation.

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Report on the Educational Visit to Dorje Drak Monastery, Shimla

Date: 10th March 2025

A report on the educational visit to **Dorje Drak Monastery**, Shimla, undertaken by **15 selective students** of the History Department on **8th March 2025**. This visit was organized to enhance the students' understanding of **Tibetan Buddhism, monastic culture, and the historical significance** of the monastery.

The students were accompanied by faculty members of the History Department, including **Mr. Vikram Bhardwaj** and **Mr. Chander Verma**. The visit began at **10:00 AM** and concluded at **3:00 PM**.

During the visit, the students were warmly welcomed by the **resident monks**, who provided a detailed tour of the monastery's architecture, sacred relics, and its rich historical background. The monastery, belonging to the **Nyingma tradition** of Tibetan Buddhism, is renowned for its **unique murals, spiritual practices**, and its role in preserving **ancient Buddhist texts**.

A highlight of the visit was an engaging **lecture by a senior monk**, who explained the **history of the Dorje Drak lineage**, the **transmission of esoteric teachings**, and the monastery's pivotal role in **cultural preservation**. Students gained valuable insights into **Buddhist philosophy**, monastic life, and the impact of Tibetan heritage in the region.

The interactive session allowed students to ask questions about the **ritual practices**, the **symbolism in Buddhist iconography**, and the monastery's **manuscript collection**. The monks also demonstrated aspects of **meditation practices** and their importance in daily monastic life.

The visit provided a **holistic learning experience**, bridging the gap between theoretical studies and **firsthand observation** of cultural and religious heritage. Students expressed their appreciation for the opportunity to engage with such a historically and spiritually significant institution. Such visits play a crucial role in broadening the academic and cultural horizons of our students.

We extend our sincere gratitude to the **Dorje Drak Monastery** for their warm hospitality and to the **college administration** for supporting this educational initiative.

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