

Report on 1st Winter School

Center for the Study of Genocide and Justice (CSGJ), Liberation War Museum

Inaugural ceremony

The 1st Winter School organized by the Center for the Study of Genocide and Justice (CSGJ), Liberation War Museum (LWM) took place at Proshika, Manikganj from 18/12/2014 to 26/12/2014. It started with the inaugural ceremony at the Liberation War museum on 18/12/2014. After the inauguration had taken place, the participants were taken to the Gallery of LWM. After lunch, the participants from different universities, volunteers, and the residential mentors started their journey to Proshika, Manikganj from the museum.

Day 1: 18/12/2014

At evening, the ice breaking session was taken to make the participants comfortable and known to each other. Later, the participants got some basic instructions and guidelines for the next 8 days. A documentary was screened before the participants after dinner.

Day 2: 19/12/2014

After breakfast, the day started with national anthem. The first session of the day started on the 'Definition and elements of Genocide: history and development'. The next session was on "Concept of 'Group' in definition of Genocide by authors and Tribunals". After the tea break, the 3rd session started on "The Ten stages of Genocide by Gregory H. Stanton, President, genocide Watch". After lunch, the participants took part in a group exercise on "Case Study on identifying the elements of Genocide".

A documentary film was screened after the group exercise was over. The participants presented their presentation based on their previous group exercise after the tea break. Later, the participants were given time for studying after taking dinner.

Day 3: 20/12/2014

The day started with the national anthem. The first session was taken on the topic of "Crime of Genocide committed in 1971: elements and facts". The next session of the day was on "Adoption of 1973 International Crimes (Tribunals) Act: history and application, Non retroactivity, Its Amendments'. After a short tea break, the 3rd session was taken by Professor Abu Md. Delwar Hossain on the topic titled "Steps taken in 1972-1975 period to try the perpetrators of Genocide & denial of justice after 1975"

The participants involved in the 2nd group exercise on the Act of 1973 after taking lunch. Once the exercise ended, the participants presented their group presentation before the mentors. Following the tea break, the participants and the mentors played badminton together in the playground. Later on, a reading session started on 'Ekattorer Dinguli' after dinner.

Day 4: 21/12/2014

The first session started with the topic of "Process of Memorialization, people's Tribunal" after the national anthem. Then, the next session started on the topic "Establishment of ICT BD and Initiative of

Justice”. After tea break, Professor Rafiqul Islam took a session on “National Tribunal and Its significance for International Criminal Law”. After lunch hour, the participants get involved in the 3rd group exercise. The participants had to be ready for a mock trial. It was on a hypothetical case and a Court room comprising of Prosecutors, defense lawyers, witnesses and Judges. After a short tea break, all the participants participated the mock trial. This session was supervised by barrister Tureen Afroz. A film was later on played after dinner.

Day 5: 22/12/2014

On the 5th day, the participants and the mentors visited the memorial site. After visiting memorials, the participants were divided in different groups to visit the places to gather memories of 1971 war. Each group included one mentor to supervise the groups. The participants had taken interviews till afternoon and then went back to Proshika. After a short tea break, each group started taking preparation for their presentations on the findings. Later, they presented their presentation on the topic “Narration of Stories of 1971 War”. A cultural event later at night took place after taking dinner.

Day 6: 23/12/2014

After having national anthem, the first session of the day started on the topic titled “Breaking the Silence of “War Heroines”: A Bangladesh Perspective”. The session was taken by Umme Wara. The next session was on “Necessity of Witness and Victim Protection in Tribunals: Comparative Analysis and Case Studies”. After the tea break, Zayed Hossain took a session on “Responsibility to Beerangonas”. The session after lunch was on Cambodia experience sharing and documentary screening. Later on, the participants had a group exercise on “What does a “Beerangona” deserve?” the participants divided by some groups presented their ideas before the mentors. After dinner, the participants read from the book “Ami Beerangona Bolchi” & other books on Beerangonas.

Day 7: 24/12/2014

The first session of the day was on “Transitional Justice and comparative analysis between formal and informal mechanisms”. The second session was taken by Professor Muntasir Mamoon on “Research materials on Bangladesh Genocide : sources and works”. After tea break, the third session started on “Role of Civil Society, Media, Young Generation to Prevent Genocide”. After lunch the group exercise of the day started on “Role of young generation”. Then, a documentary film was presented. After that, the presentation on the group exercise started following a short tea break. Later at night, a reading session took place after having dinner.

Day 8: 25/12/2014

After national anthem, the participants started the written exam on all the session they had gone through the previous days. A stage play named “Nimojjone’ was played later part of the day after a tea break. The closing ceremony started at the afternoon. Everybody was given certificates on the successful participation In the Winter School. A cultural program was held after tea break at the evening. All the participants, volunteers, and mentors then celebrated the Christmas together after having dinner.

Day 9: 26/12/2014

The participants sang national anthem after having their breakfast and then departed from the Winter School to Dhaka.