

Report on Rajpat and Kameteswari Temple Visit

Organized by
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Ancient ruins and historical sites are witnesses of many historical facts. These sites or ruins give us valuable data to reconstruct our glorious past. In India, there are so many sites or ruins of ancient or medieval times. *As, for example, we can refer here to the name of Harappa and Mahenjodarao, Nalanda and Ajanta and Ellora, etc.* Archaeology is a part of History. In Coochbehar there are also many ruins of *the medieval period*. *As, for example, Rajpat and Kameteswari Temple of Gosanimari is famous in this regard.* The students of the History Departments have visited the said historical sites under the supervision of Prof. Fulchan Barman, the Head of the Department on 24th February 2018 to get a piece of knowledge about our past.

The Department has arranged an educational excursion to obtain knowledge about our past. The students took a bus and went from Mathabhanga College to Rajpat. Rajpat was the capital of the Khen dynasty which ruled over the 15th century. The name of kingdom was 'Kamata' and the capital was 'Kamatapur'. The Kamatapur was popularly known as 'Rajpat'. The students visited the area and examined the idols, bricks, well, and Rajpat Museum.

The main roof of "Ma Kamteswari Temple" has been built in the Bengal char chala style having a curved cornish with a circular dome atop. There are two entrances to the temple, the main entrance being on the west and another on the north. There is a nahabatkhana at the main entrance to the temple. The temple is 14 metres (46 ft) high and has a square base of 9.9 metres (32 ft).

Deities inside the temple are two Shiva lingas, an idol of Brahma, a Shalagram/ Narayan shila, an idol of Gopal made of ashtadhatu (alloy of eight metals) and a bronze idol of Surya. There is another Surya idol of the Pal-era on the northern wall of the temple and a Vishnu idol, also of the Pal era, in the south-eastern corner of the temple. Both the latter idols have been brought from somewhere else and placed here. There is another Shiva linga in the south western part of the temple. The students visited the area and got knowledge of its design, technique style, idols, etc. Both Rajpat and Ma Kameteswari Temple are witness of the history.

On behalf of the Department

Prof. Fulchan Barman









