

Golden Jubilee Celebration of Presidency College Alumni Association (1951-2001) —A view from the organization

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The pre-eminent position of Presidency College and its contribution towards the development of modern education and dissemination of scientific knowledge needs no elaboration. It has produced a galaxy of scholars who have left their glorious marks in wide walks of life in India & abroad. Presidency College Alumni Association started its journey in 1951 with the objective of promoting a feeling of fellowship and fraternity between the past and the present generation of students of Presidency College. It has the basic motto of furthering the academic and cultural development in the widest sense.

Founded at the hands of several luminaries of contemporary society in Bengal in 1951, Presidency College Alumni Association's journey toward development and progress has attained 50 years. The First President of the Association was Atul Chandra Gupta, the First Secretary was Jatish Chandra Sengupta—the then Principal of the College. Among others were luminaries like Dr. Syamaprasad Mookerjee—the First Vice President of the Association, Biren Ray, Umaprasad Mookerjee, Ajit Nath Ray, Somnath Maitra, Nirmal Chandra Chunder, Rathindra Chandra Deb, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Radhabinode Pal, Dr. Suniti Kumar Chatterjee, Bhupati Mohan Sen—the first ex-student of Presidency College who became its Principal and many others who have shown their worth and qualities in Indian society and glorified us.

Since inception, Presidency College Alumni Association has been instrumental in furthering the interests of the Alma Mater as a whole. It has a publication named Autumn Annual published every year. It has been edited by scholars like Atul Chandra Gupta, Srikumar Banerjee, Subodh Chandra Sengupta, Amulyadhan Mukherjee, Asok Mitra, Hiranmay Banerjee, Sankarshan Ray, Amalendu Dasgupta, Debjyoti Das, A. M. Goon, Nityapriya Ghosh and Anjali Mookerjee at present.

Alumni Association performed a leading role in celebrating the 175th Anniversary of Presidency College in 1992-93. Every year it celebrates the Founder's Day of the college, arranges the Festival Cricket Match between the alumni and the present students. It arranges cultural programmes esp. of music and recitation and on the occasion of its Golden Jubilee these have gained momentum. For the last few years it had been arranging Seminars on topics of current interests in which eminent jurists, academicians and dignitaries from corporate houses had been participating. These include personalities like Tapan Ray Chaudhury, Bimal Kumar Jalan, Mukul Majumder, Sukanta Chaudhuri, Hiranmay Karlekar, Amlan Datta, Subir Chaudhuri, Chittatosh Mookerjee, M. J. Akbar and many others. Besides, the Association arranges special seminars to commemorate the birth centenaries of important alumni and scholars of Presidency College and felicitation programmes. These programmes are organised in and outside Presidency College every year.

The Association also arranges programmes of delight and gay like Steamer Parties in winter and picnic parties besides the get together on 20th January in the college ground. Thousands of alumni members, students and staff of the college participate in these programmes and enjoy each others' company. The members of our Presidency Alumni Chapters and brotherly organisations from Europe and USA also come and join on the occasion. Our Association arranged programmes along with Biswa Banga Sammelan Millennium Committee last year.

Presidency College Alumni Association Office is situated in the ground floor of the main building of the college. The spirit of continuity and progress along with a relentless effort towards matured development has brought our association to the present time since 1951. It looks forward to ensure a glorious future while upholding the tradition of academic, cultural and organisational excellence for the coming generation.

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