

LIVES OF MANUAL SCAVENGERS: STUDENTS WITNESS AN EYE OPENING PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION OF CINEMATOGRAPHER PALANI KUMAR



Students of Digital journalism, DDU KAUSHAL Kendra, Loyola College took part in the photo exhibition organized by the Students Union on 9th December 2019, conducted outside LS Hall.

The exhibition had the collection of photographs by Mr.Palani Kumar, cinematographer of the acclaimed documentary *Kakkoos*. In an era of commodification and commercialization of media, his photographs conveys messages of life as it is. Mr.Palani Kumar went in pursuit of showing the real faces of the downtrodden, not documented much.

In line with his work in *Kakkoos*, the photographs were on manual scavenging and the scavengers involved. Students had an engaging interaction with Mr.Palani Kumar. Many of them learned about the life and pains of a manual scavenger for the first time. They were shocked to know that apart from dignity, there was no means to safeguard their life due to lack of safety measures and equipments.

Documenting the lives of lesser-known, Palani Kumar, deserves a lot of praise for his hard work bringing to light the stories of manual scavengers.