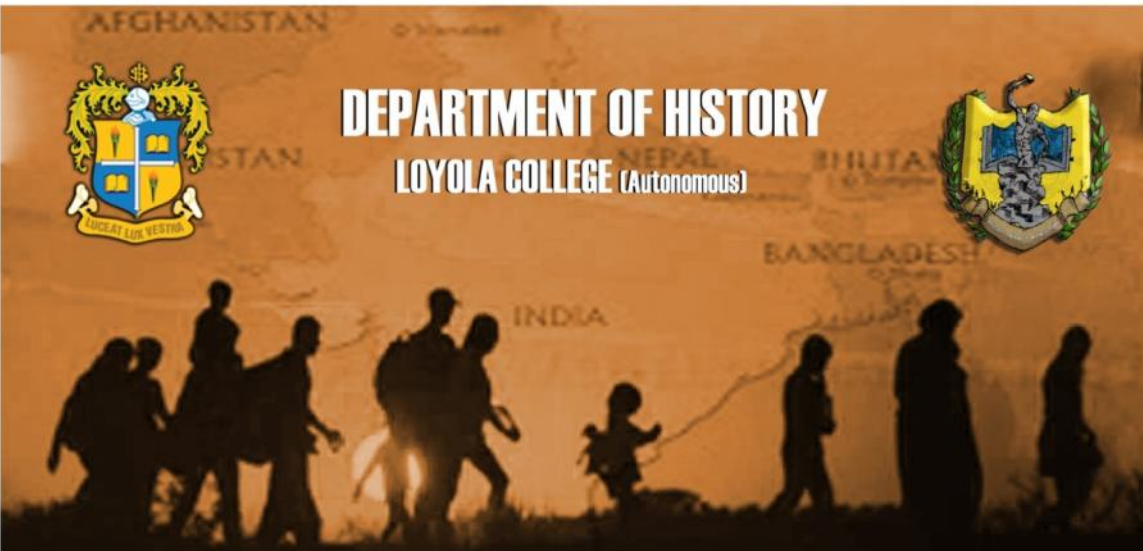




DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
LOYOLA COLLEGE (Autonomous)



We Invite you to the

Dr. G. J. Sudhakar Endowment Lecture

ON

Refugees and Displaced persons in South Asia: Historical Perspectives and Future Directions.

By

Mr. Satchithananda Valan Michael,

Head of Field Office,

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Chennai



25th July 2019

11.30 AM

Y.D.HALL

Dr. Anuradha. D
Head of the Department

Prof. Ranganathan. J
Co-ordinator, Shift -II

DR.G.J.SUDHAKAR ENDOWMENT LECTURE REPORT

The Department of History, Loyola College, Chennai, organized the sixth *Dr. G. J. Sudhakar Endowment Lecture* on ***Refugees and Displaced Persons in South Asia: Historical Perspective and Future Directions*** by **SatchithanandaValan Michael**, on 25 July 2019 at Yeddanapalli Hall, Loyola College. Students and faculty from the Department of History, the Department of Sociology, the Department of English, and distinguished guests - Dr. G. J. Sudhakar and Dr. L. Selvanathan, former HODs of the Department of History, participated in this programme.

The programme began with a prayer song by the Department Choir. Dr. D. Anuradha, Head of the Department of History, delivered the welcome address. Dr. R. Xavier, Assistant Professor, Shift II, honoured Mr. SatchithanandaValan Michael, the Chief Guest, with a shawl. Dr. P. J. Biju Joseph and Dr. I. Princes, Assistant Professors, Shift I, presented SatchithanandaValan Michael with a memento and a gift. Dr. G. J. Sudhakar, in his address, vividly narrated how this endowment lecture was instituted and also dedicated a book on urbanization to the Department of History. Prof. J. Ranganathan, Co-ordinator Shift II, introduced the Chief Guest of the sixth endowment lecture, highlighting his achievements and familiarized the audience with the Chief Guest as a proud alumnus of Loyola College.

The stage was then taken over by SatchithanandaValan, who spoke about the differences between human mobility and forced displacement. He said that migrants and migration are remarkable engines of growth. He said that an estimated total number of refugees in the world is 250 million, about 3 % of the total population of the world, which contributes about 10 % of GDP to the world. He informed the audience that about 60,000 people die annually in the sea as they migrate. He asserted that refugees are an international symbol of hope and constant reminder for peace. The speaker then went on to speak about the United Nations High Commission for Refugees, which was started in 1950. He highlighted the tasks and the challenges met by it from its inception up to the present using a video clip. He explained that a refugee is a person who is outside his / her country of origin or residence owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons like race, religion, nationality, political opinion and so on.

In the statistical data presented by the speaker, there are about 68.5 million forcibly displaced people in the world, out of which 40 million are internally displaced people, 25.4 million are refugees and 3.1 million are asylum seekers. He quoted the words of former United Nations Secretary General, Ban Ki-Moon : “*the refugee crisis is not a crisis of numbers but solidarity*”. He recalled Greek dramatist, Aeschylus words, “*everybody is quick to blame aliens*” to help the audience understand the problem with identifying the person responsible for the refugee crisis.

SatchithanandaValan Michael spoke about the refugees, inter-state migrants in South Asia, the problems faced by them such as lack of education, lack of laws concerning the protection of refugees and the impediments set by the government for refugees. He spoke about the New York Declaration for refugees and migrants, sustainable development goals and the comprehensive refugee response framework. Finally, he concluded the lecture with a request for students to read about refugees, find and reach out to refugees and participate with government activities. He called upon students to become leaders and bureaucrats to make changes for the good of refugees.

Ahilan Joe Woutres J. J., Assistant Professor, Shift I, gave the vote of thanks.

G.J.Sudhakar Endowment Lecture Visual Report



Prayer Song by Department Choir



**Welcome Address by Dr. D. Anuradha
Head of Department**



**Shawl by Dr. R. Xavier
Assistant Professor, Shift II**



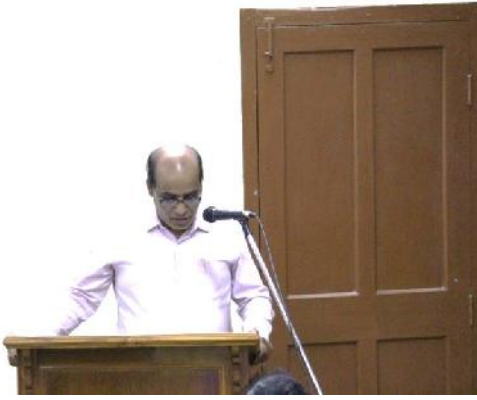
**Memento by Dr. B.J. Biju Joseph
Assistant Professor, Shift I**



**Memorable gift by Dr. I. Princes
Assistant Professor Shift I**



**Special Address delivered by
Dr. G. J. Sudhakar**



**Prof. J. Ranganathan Introducing the
Chief Guest**



**Chief Speaker SatchithanandaValan
Michael delivering Dr. G. J. Sudhakar
Endowment Lecture**



**Votes of Thanks by
Ahilan Joe Woutres J. J.,
President, History Association (Shift I)**



StudentParticipants in the Lecture