

**Loyola College (Autonomous)
Chennai – 600 034**

Department of History

Hiralal Gupta Endowment Lecture

Prof. Hiralal Gupta Endowment lecture was held on 27th February 2018. Dr. John Bosco Lourdusamy, Associate Professor of the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology, Madras was the guest speaker.



**Prayer Song
Department Choir**



**Welcome Address
Dr. Yesubhakthan, Co-ordinator (Shift II)**



**Presenting the Memento
Dr. L. Selvanathan**



**Presenting the Shawl
Dr.A. Arputha Selvi**

The welcome note was delivered by Dr. V. Yesubhakthan, Co-Ordinator (Shift – II) Dr. L. Selvanathan, Head of the Department, honoured the Chief Guest with a Shawl and Dr. A. Arputha Selvi, President (Shift I) Presented memento.



Mr. **S. Arun Selvan** of III B.A introduced the chief Guest. The lecture was on “*Crops and Global History – A Few reflections.*”



Mr. S. Arul Selvan III B.A

The lecture began with the words on M.S Swaminathan, the father of Green Revolution, the importance of food and placed the Global History. The speaker introduced 3 important books that played a very decisive role in turning the focal point of historians towards the studies on agriculture as a means to understand the Global History.



Participants

The books include: *Against the Grain - written by James Scott*

The speaker explained about the opposition of Scott towards the concept of 'State'. He enunciated the stand of Scott and the way he criticised the usual acceptance of History which emerged as the result of the settlement of human beings. He placed the concept that 'civilization was not that of an unrequested blessing'



Dr. John Bosco Lourdusamy

Ecological Imperialism - written by Alfred Crosby.

He explained how the crops played a role in colonization and emergence of imperialism; crops like sugar, tea was introduced in the new world and this lead to a new phase in colonization or dominance. The definition was introduced as the plant species consciously cultivated for an assured hope of return, either for substance or profit. The idea which evolved during this phase was how the 'cropness' of the crop changes as time passes. He also took the example of Marigold which was flower with mystical features among the Aztecs and how it turned to be a part and parcel of the modern Christian worship.



Mr. Melvin George I B.A.



Mr. Kunjuni Sajeev II B.A.



Mr. T.M. Jeya Ganesh III B.A.



Mr. Vijaya Kumar I B.A.

The third book which he introduced was the one which he and three others were working on. The lecture came to an end with the need to protect the farmers of our country. In an estimate the lecture had a structure which began with the introduction of books, the usage of keywords like Domestication, asymmetrical transfer and crops cape.



Mr. John Paul I M.A.
Vote of Thanks



Mr. R. Vidyadharan III B.A.
Master of Ceremony

The lecture was followed by questions which brought in more information. **Mr. John Paul** of I M.A. proposed the vote of thanks. **Mr. R. Vidyadharan**, III B.A. History was the Master of Ceremony.