

**THE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY ORGANIZES**  
**A SPECIAL LECTURE FOR PG ON**  
**“THE INDIAN DIASPORA IN SOUTH AFRICA”**

The Department of History, organized a special lecture on the topic “**The Indian Diaspora in South Africa**” on the 30<sup>th</sup> of August 2022 at 5 pm in the Physics Smart Room. The lecture was delivered by **Dr. Dasarathan Chetty, Hon’ble Pro-Vice Chancellor, Durban University, South Africa.**

The program began with a brief interaction with the speaker by **Dr. D. Anuradha**, Head of the Department, and **Dr. A. Charles**, Deputy Principal. Dr. Dasarathan Chetty was then honored by our coordinator with a shawl. Mr.J. Ranganathan then introduced the chief speaker to the audience making the already spirited intelligentsia all the more excited for the lecture.

Then, the speaker delivered a spellbinding lecture taking the audience on a whirlwind ride in understanding the complex colonial past of South Africa. The Indian-origin speaker clearly articulated the role played by various entities in shaping the country of South Africa to be what it is today. The trials, tribulations, and subsequent triumphs of the South Africans in a way resonated with the audience as they echoed similarities with the emergence of India from the shackles of colonialism.

The speaker also highlighted how South Africa, despite being one of the most highly developed countries in the world, has its fair share of conflicts with poverty. The speaker’s discourse about ‘Apartheid’ struck a chord with the audience as they got a first-hand account of the gruesome and discriminatory policy from the stories narrated by the speaker from his life. The speaker concluded by highlighting the shared commonalities between India and South Africa and narrated how India and South Africa could be torchbearers of change in the world through the BRICS.

The lecture was followed by a Q & A session. While responding to the questions, the speaker added that cricket played an important role in shaping a strong base for India-South Africa relations.

Ms. Keerthana, a second-year PG student, delivered a vote of thanks. The program concluded with a beautiful rendition of the National Anthem. Mr. Hareesh, Assistant Professor, Department of History served as the Master of Ceremonies for the program. Kudos to the organizers of the event.