

Best Practice 2

Promotion of Bengali Folk Tradition

1. Title of the Practice: Promotion of Bengali Folk Tradition

2. Objectives of the Practice: The main objectives of this practice are to preserve and promote the rich tradition of Baul music, a vital part of Bengali folk culture, and to instill its values and ethos in the college community. This initiative seeks to counter the erosion of traditional cultural practices due to rapid industrialization and globalization, nurturing an appreciation for the humanity, equality, and love encapsulated in Baul music. The underlying principle is cultural preservation through active engagement and education.

3. The Context: In an age of rapid industrialization and the pervasive influence of globalized cultures, traditional folk music like Baul is at risk of losing its authentic flavor. The college recognized the need to preserve and promote this unique aspect of Bengali heritage. Baul music, with its roots in the teachings of Lalan Fakir, offers profound lessons in humanity, equality, and love, which are increasingly relevant in a world filled with discrimination and hatred. Over the past two years, Kabikankan Mukundaram Mahavidyalaya has made efforts to incorporate the ethos of Baul's values and morals into various programs, aiming to sensitize students and staff to this rich cultural tradition.

4. The Practice: Kabikankan Mukundaram Mahavidyalaya has organized several Baul music programs on campus to promote Bengali folk culture. Baul music, a traditional folk song genre of rural Bengal, has been showcased through these events. The college has hosted two Baul musical programs, featuring local Baul singer Manas Mohanta from Arambagh and his associates, who performed brilliantly and received enthusiastic responses from the students. These programs aim to sensitize students to the ethos of Baul music, allowing them to imbibe its moral values.

To further strengthen this initiative, the college has established a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the 'Gnosai Parab Cultural and Welfare Society' organization, known for its active promotion of the Baul-Fakir tradition in Bengal. This collaboration is expected to bring significant cultural benefits to the college. Despite limited resources, the college intends to organize more large-scale Baul music programs. The unique intent and




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active participation of students and staff in these events highlight the college's commitment to cultural preservation.

5. Evidence of Success: The evidence of success lies in the positive feedback and enthusiastic participation from students during the Baul music programs. The performances have sparked a keen interest in Baul music and its underlying values among the college community. The collaboration with 'Antarjatic Gnosai Parab' has further bolstered the college's efforts, providing cultural enrichment and educational opportunities. The success of these programs indicates that the college is effectively promoting Bengali folk culture and instilling valuable moral lessons in its students.

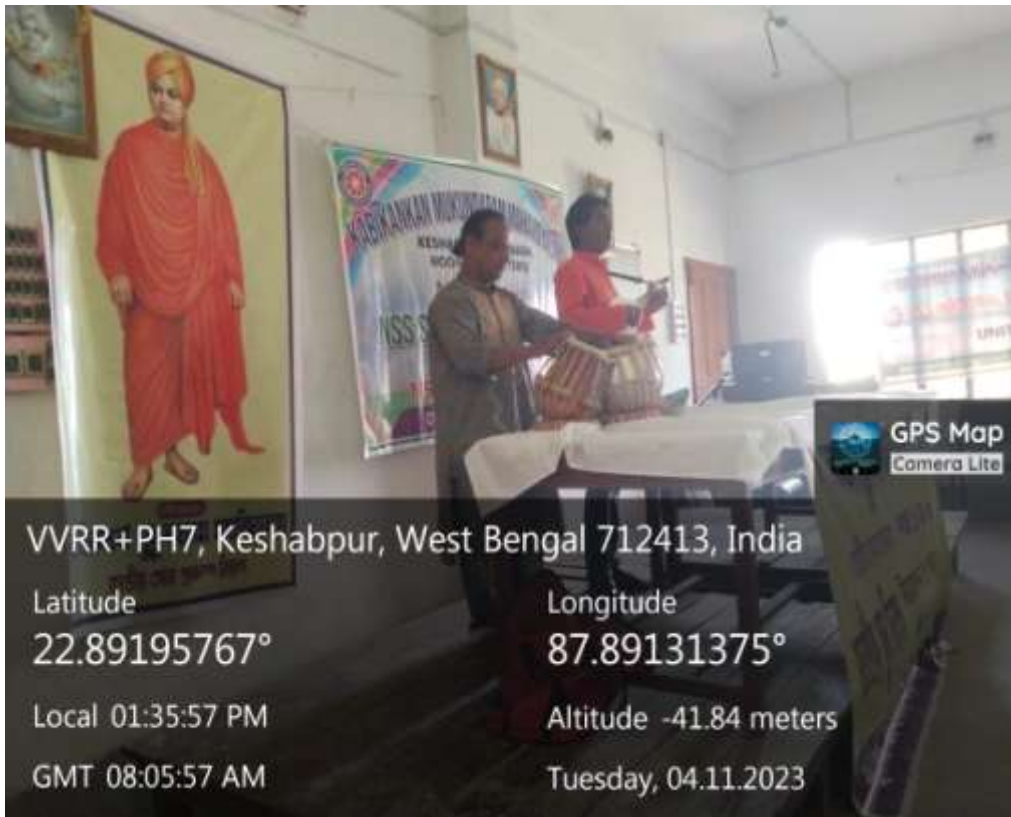
6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required: One of the main challenges faced is the lack of sufficient resources to organize more extensive Baul music programs. While the college has managed to host a few events with limited resources, scaling up these initiatives requires additional funding and support. Engaging local artists and ensuring their continued participation also presents logistical and financial challenges. Despite these limitations, the college's commitment to promoting Baul music remains strong, and it continues to seek ways to overcome these obstacles.

7. Notes (Optional): The college plans to further engage the local community in these endeavors, expanding the reach of Baul music and its values. By involving local people, the college hopes to create a broader appreciation for folk sensibilities and ensure the sustainability of this cultural practice. Establishing more partnerships and seeking external funding will be crucial for organizing larger and more impactful programs in the future.




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