

THE CITY OF TEMPLES: BHUBANESWAR

The EBSB event at Gandhi Institute of Technological Advancement, Bhubaneswar for students from College of Engineering Pune took place from 14th February 2020 to 19th February 2020. Twenty-four students from COEP along with 3 faculty members participated in the event. The introduction and familiarity session of the event took place as follows.

Bhubaneswar is the city of temples they say. The third day was completely reserved for outings at Dhawli Stupa, Konark Sun Temple and Jagannath Puri. We started off from the campus at around 9:00 and reached Dhawli Stupa (place where the war of Kalinga was fought) at around 10:00. During that, we came to know about the story of Kalinga War from a local resident. Also, the importance of the stupa in the history of India and spread of Buddhism in the world was explained to us.

The main attraction of Bhubaneswar is the Konark Sun Temple built in the 13th Century. The visit to the Sun Temple included the complete explanation of the history of the monument by a local guide, who told us about the history of the temple, the way in which it was made, the meaning of the sculptures on the temple and the demise of the main temple by the Portuguese. We were surprised to know that the new 10 Rupee note has the symbol of Konark Sun temple at the back of it. After that proper Odiya Lunch was taken near the temple. It included a famous Odiya dish called Dalma along with rayta, rice, etc.

Along the Chandrabhaga Sangam, we started off towards Jagannath Puri. On the way, we were explained about the appearance of Lord Jagannath and its relation with Science. As per the locals, the evolution theory relates to the appearance of Lord Jagannath. On reaching there we got to know about the rich culture of the Puri Temple and the efforts the locals have taken to preserve the sacred temple. After visiting the temple, we did some local shopping and returned to the campus.

Fourth day focussed on temples as well as the geographical heritage of Odisha. It started with the Lingaraj temple. It was built in the 12th Century (along with the Jagannath Puri temple), and is one of the oldest temples in the Bhubaneswar city. After that we visited the Khandgiri and Udaygiri Hills which are a major tourist attraction of Odisha. At around 1:00 pm we started off towards the campus.

SNAPSHOTS:



1. Visit to Dahwligiri Stupa



2. Visit to Khandagiri and Udaygiri