As per the guidelines Ministry of Human Resource Development and direction from the Director of Collegiate Education, Nai Talim Week (26th September to 2nd October 2019) was celebrated by the Department of History with great enthusiasm. Nai Talim is conceived as a “craft-based” education in which practical skill serves as the centre and foundation of an individual’s spiritual, cultural, and social development. From 26th onwards various activities were conducted to the students to promote Gandhi’s idea on basic education (learning through hand, heart and head).

26th September 2019:

We started the week long programme at Gandhi Memorial Museum, Madurai on 26th September 2019. Three staff members of our Department took our students to Museum and paid tributes to Mahatma. It was the first initiation to create awareness of Gandhian Philosophy among the students during this week. Gandhi is universally known as the most renowned theorist, philosopher and also the practitioner of truth, love, non-violence, tolerance freedom and peace. Hence we took them to Gandhi Memorial Museum and paid tributes and started the “a week long campaign”.

Photo
27th September 2019:

On 27th September we celebrated the 150th Year Birth Anniversary of Mahatma. Special Lecture Programme was organized. Two Resource Persons were invited to deliver the lectures. Head of the Department welcomed the gathering. Principal delivered the Presidential Address. In the first session Mr. Sundararajan, Vice-President, Tamilnadu Sarvodaya Mandalam delivered a Lecture on “Gandhian Philosophy and its relevance today”. In the second session Dr.RamPonnu, Former Principal Kamaraj Govt. Arts College, Surandai delivered a Lecture on “Gandhi in Madurai”. This Programme really insisted the students to follow the ideals of Mahatma such as Simplicity, Truth Love, Tolerance, Peace and Non-Violence.
28th September 2019:

Nai Talim was popularly described as education through handicrafts. True Education can come only through proper exercise and training of bodily organs. Teaching of village handicrafts is considered as the pivot and centre of education. Two Staff members and 15 students visited a nearby handicraft cottage industry. The students spent nearly 3 hours there and learnt the making of basket and bamboo mat. They acquired Practical experience in this field. The method of training the mind through village handicrafts definitely would promote the real and disciplined development of mind. The necessity and value of regarding the teaching of village handicrafts as the central fact would promote the real, disciplined development of the mind resulting in conservation of the intellectual energy and indirectly also the spiritual

30th September:

On the 4th day of the campaign 6 Staff Members and 35 students have visited agricultural farm at Tamilnadu Agricultural University, Madurai. Our students visited Dairy Farming, Poultry farming, other Cattle Rearing places inside the Tamilnadu Agricultural University. They also interacted with the agricultural labourers and learnt the agricultural activities in Paddy field. They also visited the orchid and other places inside the University. To Gandhi, the practice of agriculture signified a promise of limitless reach. It signified a mode of work and being which, while sustaining life, could nurture an ultimate sense of meaning and worth. The students were engaged in meaningful activities by that they integrated with the society.
1st October 2019:

On the 5th Day in connection with the Nai Talim activities, two competitions were conducted by our department for the students. It was conducted as intra-departmental level. The topic for the first competition was “Making of Gandhi Kudil”. There were 4 participants for this competition. Prizes were announced for first two places. For third Place Certificate will be given. The topic for the second competition was “Gandhian Simple Food.” It was also conducted as intra-departmental level. There were 7 Participants. They displayed their food with great enthusiasm. Mahatma actually undertook a total of 17 fasts during India’s freedom struggle. He is considered as the first Nutritionist and diet guru. Students displayed various food of Mahatma which includes goat milk, raw vegetables, unpolished rice, coarse grains millets, groundnut cake etc. Among them, Prizes were announced for first two places for the third place certificate will be given.

On 3rd October Day will be observed On that Day Prizes and Certificates will be distributed

Involvement of the students in these competitions gave them a new impetus in integrating them with the society.
2\textsuperscript{nd} October 2019:

In one of his visit to Madurai Gandhi stayed in Sivaganga Samasthanam, which is presently Department of History. On 2\textsuperscript{nd} February, 1946 Mahatma visited Madurai and Raja of Sivaganga hosted him in his residence. He stayed there for 2 days (Feb 2\textsuperscript{nd} to 3\textsuperscript{rd} 1946). That building was given to British Government later it was converted into Government College. Hence it is a great credit to our Department and we celebrated Gandhi Jeyanthi Day in the room where he stayed.

Mr. K Vaidyanathan, Editor, Dinamani, Chennai and Mr. D.S.R. Venkataramanna, Advocate, High Court Bench, Madurai and Member, Gandhi Memorial Museum, Madurai visited the place on the same day and paid their tributes to Mahatma. Finally Principal and the Guests Planted the saplings outside the room.

The contemporary scenario of involvement of youth in desirable activities is a matter of concern for all. As a matter of fact, the focus towards these adolescents has been as the “Human Resource” having potential which can be enriched further with various inputs. True education of the intellect can only come through a proper exercise and training of the bodily organs, e.g. hands, feet, eyes, ears, nose, etc. In other words an intelligent use of the bodily organs in a child provides the best and quickest way of developing his intellect. The active involvement of students in various activities was effective in accomplishing our goal.