



# NETAJI SUBHAS OPEN UNIVERSITY

*Accredited by NAAC with Grade 'A'*

## Foundation Day Lecture 2022

*On the 26<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day*

---

### Programme Report

#### Schedule:

Date: 25 November, 2022; Time: 2pm;






Mode: Blended-Offline: Subhas Chandra Sabhaghar, NSOU Headquarters

Online: zoom Link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84562988304>

YouTube link- <https://youtu.be/KjQNJ2Dc48k>

**Preview:** After the two mighty covid years, everyone emerged victorious and in organizing this assemblage of the coveted day, everyone stood firm and resolute to uphold NSOU's motto of reaching the unreached. It has been said and believed since long that for any great work to be done, it is important to have the right foundation. It actually forms the platform on which the future stands. This exactly stands true for Foundation Day. 25<sup>th</sup> November, 1997 is our foundation day from which the institution started its journey. With the recognition of apex bodies like the UGC, the Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI), and now the UGC-DEB, NSOU has emerged as a force to reckon with in terms of empowering a wide cross-section of society through education with its multiple options. The University has assembled in this blended congregation to rejoice the existence as NSOU step on to 26 years in the higher education arena. It is to be recognized as all stakeholders have responded resilience, goodwill, and grit and made this day happen again.

#### Objectives of the Programme:

-  To celebrate the 26<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day of the University
-  To uphold the most prestigious Foundation Day Lecture
-  To release University Publications
-  To string the integrity and fraternity among the stakeholders
-  To inspire and motivate for future achievements

**Participants:** Around 118 attendees joined the event through online and offline.

**Nature of participants:** Former Vice-Chancellors of NSOU, members of the statutory committee, visionaries of the University, luminaries, faculty members, officers, staff, scholars, guests from various academia.

#### Proceedings of the Ceremony:

**Initiation:** Dr. Papiya Upadhyay, the Master of the Ceremony (MoC) greeted one and all in the blended assembly. On behalf of the university fraternity, she welcomed all esteemed attendees to the auspicious Foundation Day adorned with the Foundation Day Lecture 2022. In the august event, she welcomed Prof. Sajal Nag, Professor of History & Dean, School of Social Sciences, Assam University, Prof. Rajan Chakrabarti, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Netaji

Subhas Open University, Dr. Ashit Baran Aich, Registrar (Acting), NSOU, Former Vice-Chancellors of NSOU, members of statutory committees of the university and extended the warmest wishes to all the visionaries of the University, luminaries, faculty members, officers, staff, scholars, and guests from various academia.

**Felicitation:** Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor took the kind to felicitate Professor Sajal Nag with a flower bouquet and UTTORIO. Registrar (Acting) was pleased to felicitate the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Ranjan Chakrabarti with a flower bouquet and UTTORIO. Professor Ranjan Chakrabarti also felicitated immediately past Vice-Chancellor, Professor Subha Sankar Sarkar with a flower bouquet.



**Welcome Address:** At the onset of the propitious occasion, Dr. Upadhyay requested Dr. Ashit Baran Aich, Registrar (Acting), Netaji Subhas Open University to welcome all the dignitaries and participants present offline and online with his address. Dr. Aich jubilantly reminisced NSOU's achievements in the past and reiterated the resounding present glory. He heartily welcomed all dignitaries, guests, employees of the university. Dr. Aich pronounced the past foundation Day lectures delivered by the eminent personalities in the field of science, technology, education and social development. He acknowledged everyone for making this day happen.



**Introduction of the esteemed speaker:** To do the honours, the MoC requested Professor Anirban Ghosh, Director, Centre for Internal Quality Assurance to kindly introduce the session and the illustrious speaker. Prof. Ghosh introduced Prof. Sajal Nag with poise and grace. Prof. Sajal Nag is currently a Senior Professor, Department of History and Dean, School of Social Sciences, Assam University, Silchar. He was the first Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Chair Professor of Social Sciences, Presidency University, Kolkata, a former Commonwealth Fellow 2004-05 to United Kingdom, Charles Wallace Fellow at the University of Cambridge 2008 and Senior Fellow at Nehru Memorial Museum and Library,

2013-2014. He was a Senior Visiting Fellow at Queen’s University, Belfast and also a Visiting Fellow at Wolfson College, University of Cambridge. His main areas of interest are nationalist thought, nationalism, communalism and ethnic conflict in India in general and north east India in particular. His recent shift in interest is towards environment and climatic history in South Asia. He has numerous publications-national and international to his credits. Prof Ghosh then invited Prof. Sajal Nag to deliver the much-awaited foundation day lecture (FDL) entitled, “The Invisible Mahatma: Millenarian Impact of Gandhi and Anti-colonial Resistance”.

### **Excerpts from the Foundation Day Lecture:**

Prof. Nag elucidated upon the following in his lecture:

- ✚ The effect of the Non-cooperation movement in NE India
- ✚ The Chergola Exodus episode
- ✚ Calling off the non-cooperation movement-the tussle of anti-colonialism
- ✚ The story of the Barat valley of Manipur
- ✚ The discontentment of the Kabuli Nagas
- ✚ The effect of civil disobedience movement
- ✚ The incidences of the Bhubon Hills vis a vis Bhubon God
- ✚ Restoring the Nagaraaj
- ✚ The inspiring and scintillating saga of Gaidinliu
- ✚ The flare of Gaidinliu-the Naga Raani
- ✚ The quintessential of Mahatma’s address
- ✚ Gandhiji’s invisible intervention in the foray of NE India
- ✚ Glimpses of Netaji’s tribute to the Mahatma
- ✚ The dual role of Mahatma Gandhi-the leader and incognito teacher etc.



**Summary of the FDL:** Dr. Upadhyay summarized the motivational, passionate and persuasive lecture, that gave insight and inspiration, revealing facts and facets-the calls, cries and rooting of the individual and the nation. The socio-demographic picture of the North-East India enclaved with the nationalistic spirit and the invincible invisible Mahatma was eloquently portrayed by Prof. Nag in his one-hour lecture. His story appealed the flavours of independence and empowerment in the fringes and peripheries of North-East India. The man whose preaching and actions brought vicissitudes into our lives-as individuals and Nation, is truly the Mahatma.

**Release of Publications:** Taking the ceremony to the next stride, the MoC announced the session and once again requested Director-CIQA to call up the release and introduce the following publications:

1. The University Annual Report 2021-2022



## 2. The Foundation Day Lecture 2022

He invited Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Ranjan Chakrabarti and Prof. Sajal Nag to release the publications. These publications are made available online too, on the NSOU website under CIQA publications menu.



Anyone can access to these publications by clicking on the following links:

[http://www.wbnsou.ac.in/about\\_us/CIQA/annual\\_report/20221124\\_Annual\\_Report\\_2021-22.pdf](http://www.wbnsou.ac.in/about_us/CIQA/annual_report/20221124_Annual_Report_2021-22.pdf)

[http://www.wbnsou.ac.in/about\\_us/CIQA/publication/20221124\\_Foundation\\_Day\\_Lecture\\_2022.pdf](http://www.wbnsou.ac.in/about_us/CIQA/publication/20221124_Foundation_Day_Lecture_2022.pdf)

**Presidential Address:** The Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Prof. Ranjan Chakrabarti was invited for the presidential address. In his brief address, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor congratulated Prof. Sajal Nag for his extolled lecture. He congratulated Director-CIQA for organising this auspicious programme and also extended his best wishes for the publications both in print and e-version. The Hon'ble Vice Chancellor's scholarly address reverberated the essence of Mahatma as an enigmatic personality and whose millenarian effect changed the lives of many. He also added that may the coming year be full of many new achievements of the university.



### **Closing session:**

Proud past, strong future! Foundation Day gives a chance to celebrate the anniversary of the university. The MoC concluded that on this Foundation Day we take a pledge to work earnestly for the growth and development of the institute from all aspects. We seek sincerest blessings and wishes from all our teachers, seniors and well-wishers so that we succeed in our mission. She thanked all again on the Foundation Day for making this journey successful. With deep gratitude, she looked forward to being together again.

**Vote of Thanks:** Dr. Srabanti Choudhury, Assistant Professor of Sociology, Netaji Subhas Open University was invited to propose the Vote of thanks. She thanked everyone with grace and humility.




The ceremony clinched with everyone lending their vocals to the National anthem.




Some other glimpses:::::






**Netaji Subhas Open University**  
(Accredited by NAAC with Grade- 'A')  
**Celebration of 26<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day**  
(On blended mode)  
25<sup>th</sup> November 2022




**Professor Sajal Nag**  
Professor of History & Dean, School of Social Sciences,  
Assam University  
(First Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Chair Professor,  
Presidency University) will deliver the  
Foundation Day Lecture 2022  
On *"The Invisible Mahatma: Millenarian Impact of  
Gandhi and Anti-colonial Resistance"*



**Professor Ranjan Chakrabarti**  
Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, NSOU  
will preside over the session

**Please join the Live Online Programme through**



on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at 2pm  
(Dr. Ashit Baran Aich)  
Registrar (Acting), NSOU



## Netaji Subhas Open University

DD-26, Sector-I, Salt Lake, Kolkata-700064

**Celebration of 26<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day**

Venue: Subhas Chandra Sabhaghar  
(Blended Mode)

### Programme Schedule

Date: 25<sup>th</sup> November 2022

Time: 2.00pm

- 2.00pm: Welcome Address by Dr. Ashit Baran Aich  
Registrar (Acting) Netaji Subhas Open University
- Introduction of Professor Sajal Nag by Professor Anirban Ghosh,  
Director-CIQA, NSOU
- 2.10pm: Foundation Day Lecture by Professor Sajal Nag  
Professor of History, Assam University
- Title: "The Invisible Mahatma: Anti-colonialism, National Questions and  
Millenarian Intervention of Gandhi in North East India"**
- 3.10pm: Release of University Annual Report 2021-22  
Release of Foundation Day Lecture 2022
- 3.15pm: Presidential Address by Professor Ranjan Chakrabarti,  
Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Netaji Subhas Open University
- 3.25pm: Vote of Thanks by Dr. Srabonti Choudhuri  
Asst. Professor, Sociology, NSOU
- Master of Ceremony: Dr. Papiya Upadhyay,  
Asst. Professor, Education, SoE, NSOU

Report Prepared by-

Dr. Papiya Upadhyay & Director-CIQA