

Editorial

Netaji Subhas Open University, the only State Open University in West Bengal, has been devoted to impart higher education to students both within and outside the state since its very inception in 1997. Over the years, being a part of the Open and Distance family the University succeeded in reaching a vast section of young scholars thereby establishing its significant contribution in the horizontal expansion of higher education in the state. To keep up with the aspirations of a huge number of students' earnest effort is given to retain the quality of education and simultaneously to initiate various academic programmes along with its regular based curriculum.

With this, as one of its basic objective, the School of Social Sciences of Netaji Subhas Open University has taken up several academic endeavours covering a wide range of disciplines from Political Science, History, Sociology to Economics and Public Administration. Dedicated towards the Open and Distancemode of education the school through its serious involvement in organising a number of National & State level conferences & seminars, series of Audio –Visual Lectures and also Netaji SubhasChandra Bose Memorial Lecture portrayed its vision to combine the best of conventional and open system so that a continuous enriching interaction between the two is possible. With an honest intention in bridging the academic pursuits with that of technological assistance, the School of Social Sciences, is glad to introduce an Online Journal namely *NSOU Journal of Social Sciences*.

As a brainchild of the School of Social Sciences, *NSOU Journal of Social Sciences* is the first such attempt of its kind from the University. It is a peer reviewed online journal that covers academic scholarship from different branches of social science like Political Science, History, Sociology and the like. As an annual publication, the journal encourages quality well thought articles from academicians and young research scholars concerned with traditional disciplinary lines and also respect plurality of approaches in all fields of Social Science. *NSOU Journal of Social Sciences* also features a book review section in which a substantive analysis of a book on social science is to be introduced to our readers in each & every issue. The content can be accessed online through the University website. All articles are refereed by experts who are distinguished in their own arena of specialization. The first Issue of the Journal ventures out with scholarly contributions from the faculty members of the School of Social Sciences and in due course it wishes to include deeply pondered articles on social sciences for which detailed specifications is highlighted on the inside cover of the Journal.

The Online Journal is expected to reach its target readership and sincerely hope that the cherished mission of the school to stimulate the consciousness of the readers on the articles will be appreciated in the right academic earnest.

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Editors