

# Maulana Azad College

### 8, RAFI AHMED KIDWAI ROAD, KOLKATA - 700013, WEST BENGAL, INDIA

Phone: 033 2249-3737 / 2226-7814 Web: https://maulanaazadcollegekolkata.ac.ine-mail: maulanaazadcollegekolkata@gmail.com, Institutionale-mail: info@maulanaazadcollegekolkata.ac.in



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Key Indicator 7.3.1 - Institutional Distinctiveness

### "Diversity and Inclusiveness in a Multicultural Milieu"

Maulana Azad College, Kolkata, a premier seat of learning, offers a unique instance of multiculturalism. If one analyses its student population, one is amazed at the enormous diversity be it in terms of language, religion or socio-economic categorisation. It is the only co-educational government college affiliated to the University of Calcutta which offers six languages at the undergraduate level. The presence of these six languages – Arabic, Bengali, English, Persian, Sanskrit and Urdu – enables the college to function as a 'language hub'. Students of these Departments perform well in not only University examinations but also in co-curricular and cultural activities. Professors of these Departments, both past and present, are equally engaged in academic and cultural pursuits. Along with their regular teaching, they consistently publish academic books, journal articles and book chapters. They also participate in literary festivals, book launches, mushairah and similar literary events. The Central Library prides on preserving ancient and rare literary texts and manuscripts in Arabic, English, Persian, Sanskrit and Urdu, including the Persian gem Ain-i-Akbari ["Administration of Akbar"]. Thus, the college provides a linguistically and culturally rich environment for both students and teaching staff, encouraging them to constantly pursue excellence in their chosen fields.





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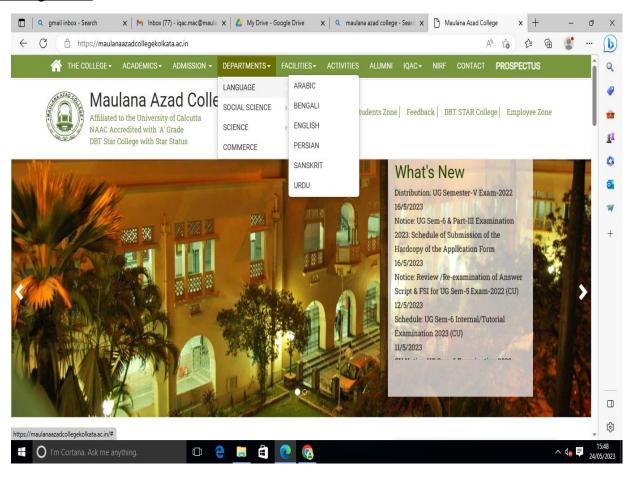


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### Multilingualism:



Six language departments taught at the UG level of Maulana Azad College, Kolkata

School of Languages formed with the teachers of all six language departments as internal members and distinguished linguists and scholars as external members





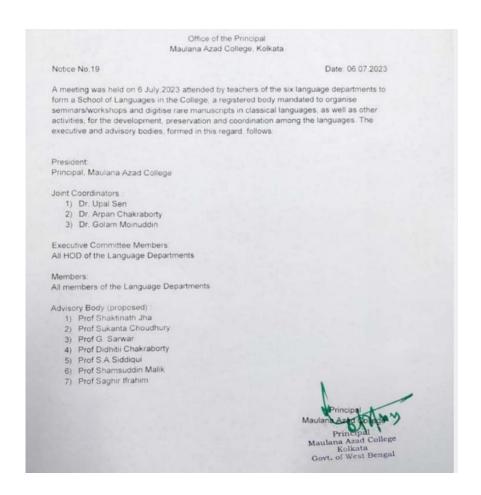
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Head of Sanskrit Department emphasizing the importance of International Mother Language Day





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Head of English Department speaking on this occasion



Arabic Department organising World Arabic Language Day





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*Salana Tarahi Mushairah* - annual poetry symposium in Urdu - at the Raza Washat Ali Memorial Hall, organised by the Urdu Department of Maulana Azad College. The programme had the traditional look and feel of a 'mehfil' where instead of chair or sofa, the participants sat on a rug on the stage of the hall.







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### Special Lecture on Muhammad Iqbal and His Poetry

On 23 November 2023 the department of Persian, Maulana Azad College organised a special lecture on Muhammad Iqbal and His Poetry" in the Seminar Hall of the college. Prof. Syed Akhter Hussain, Professor, Centre for Persian and Central Asian Studies, School of Literature and Cultural Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi was the speaker of the programme. The program started at 11.30 a.m. Dr. Syed Md. Iqbal Shah Alquadri, Head department of Persian Maulana Azad College welcomed the speaker. Thereafter, Dr. Golam Moinuddin introduced the speaker to the students. Then Prof. Syed Akhter Hussain delivered the lecture on the said topic. He explained different characteristics of Iqbal's poetry citing a number of couplets from his diwan. At last Mr. Khalid Md. Zubair, Assistant Professor, Department of Persian, delivered a vote of thanks. Mr. Jamil Ahmed, HOD Islamic History and Culture & Teachers' Council Secretary, Dr. Umar Khayyam and Dr. Husna Bano (SACT teachers of the department) were also present in this enriching programme.





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<u>Celebrating Festivals of Diverse Communities:</u>



Saraswati Puja celebrated in the college



Students enthusiastically decorating the college campus on this occasion





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Celebration of Holi, the festival of colours



Teachers smeared in Holi colours on this occasion





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Celebration of Nowruz (Persian New Year)



Observing World Arabic Language Day





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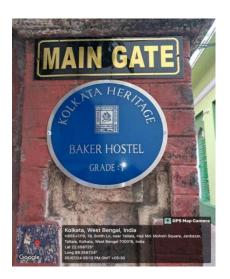
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### Heritage Site

Maulana Azad College has been declared a Grade I heritage site by the Kolkata Municipal Corporation.





The Baker Government Hostel, where boy students of Maulana Azad College stay, has similarly been declared a Grade I heritage site by the Kolkata Municipal Corporation





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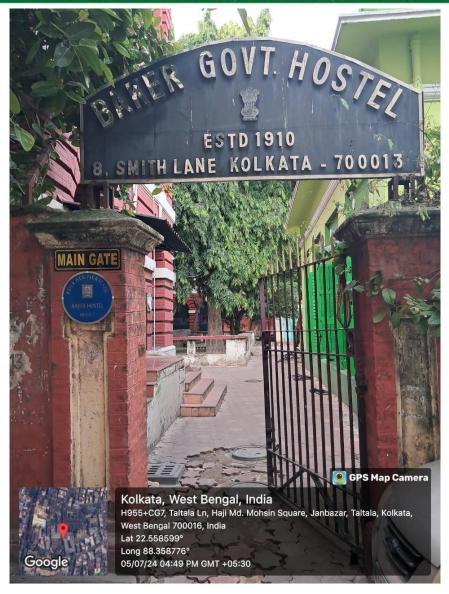




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Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, who became the first prime minister of newly liberated Bangladesh in 1971, had been a student of Maulana Azad College and lived in the Baker Government Hostel.





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Indo-Saracenic architecture prominent in the college main building and garden







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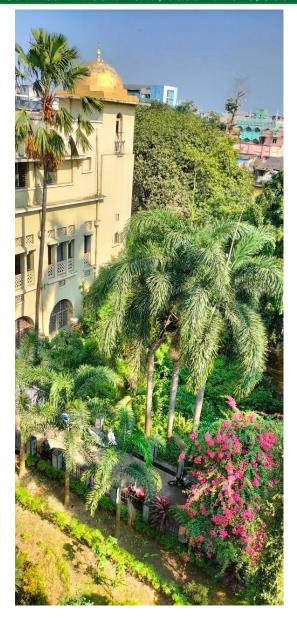
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The dome, showing a distinctly Mughal influence on the architecture of the college main building





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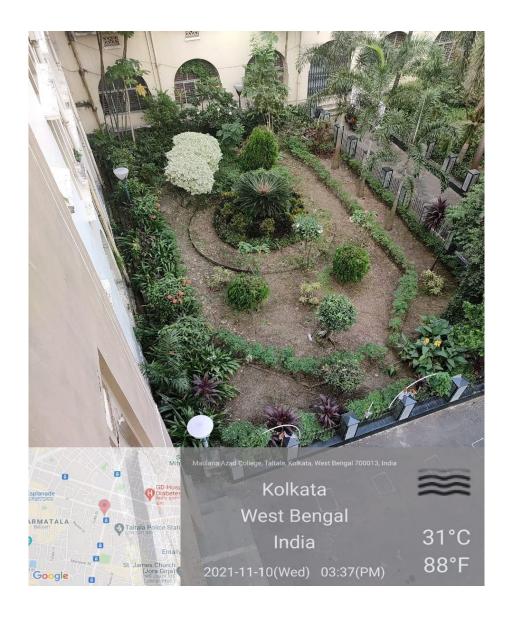
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Aerial view of one of the four gardens in front of the college main building. It is part of the Charbagh, an Indo-Persian quadrilateral garden with a layout of four gardens.





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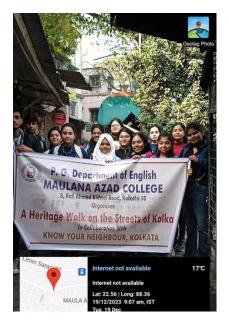
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### Heritage Walk



Students participating in the Heritage Walk on the Streets of Kolkata in collaboration with 'Know Your Neighbour', an NGO



Visiting Calcutta Madrasah College (established in 1780) as part of the Heritage Walk





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Visiting the historical Baker Government Hostel during the Heritage Walk



The students also visited a bakery to have a bit of Christmas cakes in course of the Heritage Walk. This outreach programme was covered in *The Telegraph*, a reputed English daily newspaper.





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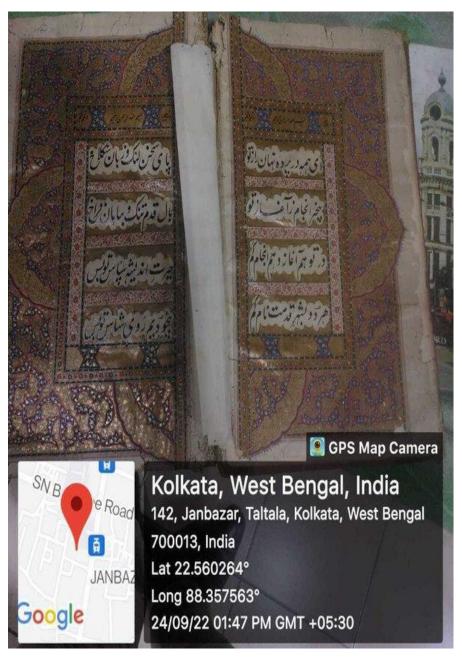
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### Archive of old and rare manuscripts and books in the Central Library:



Ain-e-Akbari by Abul Fazl





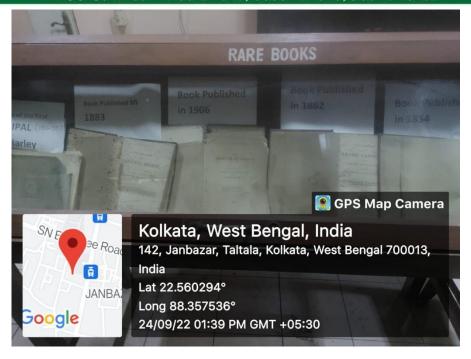
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Rare books and manuscripts at Maulana Azad College



