**KALIMPONG COLLEGE DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS (1962-2022)**

**Kalimpong College, Kalimpong, 12.11.2022**

Kalimpong College celebrated its Diamond Jubilee on the 12th of November, 2022. The programme commenced with the host, Ms Anukampa Subba, Head of Department, Department of English welcoming the Principal, Dr. Rajendra Pasad Dhakal, the Chief Guest, Mr. Kumar Prasad Chettri, President, Governing Body, Kalimpong College and the Guest of Honour, Padmashree Mr. Kaajee Singh Vidhyarthi, all the invited guests, teachers and students. She gave an introduction of the college and briefed the gathering about the different events and programmes that were conducted to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of the college.

The Principal, The Chief Guest and the Guest of Honour were invited to the stage and were garlanded by the teachers along with all the invited guests that included Principals of various colleges, retired teachers, alumni, past and present Governing Body members. This was followed by the lighting of the Diya by the dignitaries on stage.

The next programme was the felicitation of Prof Kumar Prasad Chettri, Governing Body, Kalimpong College. The citation was read out by Prof. Sudha Gurung, Head of Department, Department of Nepali. The Principal, Dr. R.P Dhakal, presented the citation and offered him a shawl and Dhaka Topi. The college also felicitated Padmashree Mr. Kaajee Singh Vidhyarthi. Prof. Sudha Gurung, Head of Department, Department of Nepali, read out the citation which as presented by the Principal along with a shawl and Dhaka Topi as a mark of respect.

After the felicitation the host requested the Guest of Honour, Padmashree Mr. Kaajee Singh Vidhyarthi to address the gathering. He started by thanking Kalimpong College for the honour given to him. He expressed his gratitude and pleasure to be able to be a part of the Diamond Jubilee Celebration of the college. He focused on the need to protect, preserve and promote our Nepali culture, tradition and heritage in these evolving times when every aspect of life is getting westernized. He expressed the need for our youth to use their talents in the correct field and direction. Before leaving he informed the students about the availability of a scholarship of the central government and encouraged them to take up music studies.

The host thanked the Mr. Kaajee Singh Vidhyarthi for sharing his thoughts and welcomed a special guest of the programme, Dr. Shanti Chettri, Vice Chancellor, Gourbanga University.

The Principal, Dr. Rajendra Pasad Dhakal, came up with his report. He started by thanking Prof. Kumar Chettri, President, Governing body and the chief guest for the day for his endless contribution to the college. He thanked Padmashree Mr. Kaajee Singh Vidhyarthi for gracing our programme and Dr. Shanti Chettri, Vice Chancellor, Gourbanga University for his presence inspite of his hectic schedule. He further expressed his gratitude towards all the principals of various colleges, invited guests, members of Governing Body, Alumni Association, friends and family for being a part of our celebration. He briefed the gathering about the ongoing and upcoming infrastructural developments of the college. He shared his experiences as the principal and credited every member of the Kalimpong College team for the achievements of the college over the past few decades. Being at the verge of his retirement, he expressed his good wishes for the college and thanked all the invitees and left with his word to be there for everyone whenever called for and needed. Lastly, he felicitated Dr. Shanti Chettri, Vice Chancellor, Gourbanga University with a shawl and Dhaka Topi.

The host requested Dr. Shanti Chettri, Vice Chancellor, Gourbanga University to share his thoughts on the occasion of Diamond Jubilee Celebration of the college. He congratulated the Principal for the achievements of the college during his tenure. He emphasized and acknowledged the challenging role a principal has to play and congratulated the college for having completed the second cycle of NAAC with a B++. He highlighted the exemplary status the hill colleges have achieved and expressed the need for all the colleges to maintain the excellent academic environment they have prepared together and the need to improve it. Lastly, he gave his good wishes to the college for the future.

This next event was the release of the Kalimpong College Magazine, REEDS, Diamond jubilee Issue by the dignitaries on the stage. This was followed by the welcome dance presented by the teachers of the college, Mrs. Binita Rizal, Mrs. Tanishtha Manna and Mrs. Reshma Pradhan. After the dance, the Principal offered Mementos and college Magazine to all the guests. This was followed by the presentation of momemtos to the Principal, Dr. R.P Dhakal, by the Principals of invited colleges to congratulate the college on having completed 60 years of existence. This part of the programme was concluded with a Maruni dance by the students of the college.

The next session of the day’s programme, jointly conducted by Ms. Pauline Ahoy and Ms. Arpita Chettri, Department of Commerce, was prize distribution of the Sports(Inter & Intra College), Book Review and Photography competition that were conducted on the occasion of diamond Jubilee of the college. Before the prizes were given out, the Principal felicitated the only living testimony of the establishment of the college, a student of the first batch(1962) of the college, Mr. B.R Chettri. While addressing the gathering, Mr. B.R Chettri, recalled his first class in Kalimpng College, in a room in the present day B.T College with only 11 students, from where Kalimong College had begun its journey. He took us down his memory lane and compared his times with the present day. He congratulated the Principal, Dr. R.P Dhakal, for his dedicated service to the college. Before leaving, he expressed his gratitude for bringing back the nineteen year old lad of 60 years back to his Alma Mater.

Lastly, a folk dance was presented by the students of the college. The programme concluded with the Vote of Thanks by Prof. Sudha Gurung, Head of Department, Department of Nepali and the declaration of the closing of the day’s programme by the Principal.

**EVENT DETAILS**











