

# TURKU HANSDA LAPSA HEMRAM MAHAVIDYALAY

( A Govt. Aided General Degree College affiliated to Burdwan University and registered u/s 2(f) & 12(B) of UGC Act, 1956)  
[Established in 2006 and Accredited 'B' by NAAC in 2016]

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## 7. Institutional Values and Best Practices

### 7.3 Institutional Distinctiveness

**7.3.1 Portray the performance of the Institution in one area distinctive to its priority and thrust**

**DOCUMENT: Integration Of A Regional Language In The Undergraduate Course Of The Curriculum: The Practice Of Teaching And Learning In The Santali Department**



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## **INSTITUTIONAL DISTINCTIVENESS**

### **TITLE:**

### **INTEGRATION OF A REGIONAL LANGUAGE IN THE UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OF THE CURRICULUM: THE PRACTICE OF TEACHING AND LEARNING IN THE SANTALI DEPARTMENT**

The Santali Department of this institution came into being in 2007 which was just one year after the establishment of the College. It had the following objectives:

- Incorporating the study of a regional language in the form of a Course to be taken up by students in both Honours and General programs by following the University guidelines.
- Decentralizing the myth of ‘the centre’ and ‘the periphery’ by granting similar value to Santali Language and Literature like all other subjects taught.
- Encouraging the non- tribal students to become aware of the rich cultural heritage of Santali Literature.

The College being located within a tribal area and thus named after two famous tribal freedom fighters, it was inevitable that the language and literature of the tribal Communities be incorporated into the mainstream of the institution’s curriculum so that it could ensure the abolition of a discriminating attitude towards Tribal Community and its culture through a regular practice of cohabitation between the tribal and non- tribal learners getting admitted in the institution. The unavailability of any other higher educational institution in the district to impart an undergraduate degree to the students of the University of Burdwan also became another major reason behind the establishment of the Santali department in the College.

- The General and Honours Course for the subject had been continuing since 2007 and 2008 respectively and the department had evolved to a great extent since then.
- There have been a number of non- tribal students showing their interest in the subject over the past few years and they are allowed to become an integral part of the department through the mutual bonding shared by the teachers and students of the department.
- Teachers prefer teaching in a bilingual mode in the class due to the diversity in the student background.
- They learn to read and write in the Ol Chiki language and become well versed in the intricacies of the language in the course of their study.
- The students of the department generally come from agrarian economical background due to which they are able to maintain their humble standard within the department.

- They are also made to participate in all cultural programs, extra- curricular activities like sports, quiz competitions, exhibitions etc to enrich the institution with their shining presence.
- Regular internal examinations and departmental programs are conducted in all academic sessions until the country was hit by the global Pandemic in March 2020.
- A transparent system of providing scholarships is made available by the institution for the underprivileged tribal minority students of the department.
- Regular celebrations are not possible without the Santali department taking a leading role in the cultural programs specific to their culture and origin. The Fresher's welcome and Teachers' day of the College celebrated in all academic sessions would have been incomplete without their support.
- Teachers also make sure that the tribal students are able to naturally adapt to the general ambience of the institution and feel being in a second home as long as they are in the institution.
- A special provision for the tribal students exists in the form of the Santali Hostel in the College.

The Santali department is highly successful as students have been able to overcome their barriers and out- stand their limitations by reaching out to the larger world by getting placed in further degrees as well as take part in research projects in higher educational institutions. There has also been an increase in the number of students in the department since 2007 and many students are pursuing Masters in Universities. Many students have also found placement according to their own qualification.

A number of problems like the scarcity of fund available at our disposal, the low availability of books, the problem of proper reference material etc have always been there to challenge the progress of the practice. Moreover, most of the students are first generation learners and come from economically poor background. The teachers of the institution are however able to overcome these issues through complete dedication and diligence throughout the year which is manifested in the happiness that the students spread by their presence in the institution.