

Yet Another Noble Venture by PAD

By Prof. Biswatosh Sengupta

Photographic Association of Dum Dum, India

Life without a camera is inconceivable today. There is hardly any family without a camera. Starting from scientific innovation to historical lore, from space to under water, from documentation to artistic creation, photography is omnipresent. The present society, in a sense, owes its very existence to photography. It is one of the most popular leisure, tourist and cultural pursuits.

The Photographic Association of Dum Dum (alias PAD), is an institute per excellence, serving globally for the cause of photographic development since 1957. Its motto is to promote and propagate photography through different ways and in various capacities viz. organising annual International Salons, International Conferences, conducting photographic courses free of charge, participating in Salons, organising Students' & Members' Exhibitions and providing teaching support to many organisations to foster photographic education in India.

The inaugural programme of the Seventh Session of the Free Short Term Course on Digital Photo Editing took place on 8th February, 2020 at Benu Sen Study Centre & Digital Research Unit (DRU) of PAD with the august presence of Dr. Bikas C Sanyal, Legion of Honour, former adviser UNESCO, as Guest in Chief and other dignitaries. It started with felicitating the Guests with flowers and mementos. Mr Mrinal Banerjee, Chairman, DRU, while welcoming the guests and participants, emphasized that photography has undergone a sea change from a conventional film base to an electronic sensor based digital system and with that, learning digital editing has become mandatory, and to cater for that need, PAD has come forward through its DRU to offer a very compressive course on digital photo editing using software like Photoshop and Lightroom absolutely free of cost. This course is aimed at creating a good foundation for photographers on digital photo editing which will be at par with international standard. It is elaborative, provides detailed insight in the concept of basic editing and usage of various



Welcome Address by Mr Mrinal K. Bandhyopadhyay, Chairman, DRU



Felicitation to Dr Bikas C Sanyal, Chief Guest. From L to R Prof. B. Sengupta, Shaswati Patit, Dr Sanyal, Prof. Deepak Chakraborty and Mrinal K Bandyopadhyay

techniques and their creative application with due stress on practice. He further stated that the course duration will be around 50 standard class hours. He expressed his gratitude to Prof. Biswatosh Sengupta for framing the course, and to the faculties and our beloved Guru Benu Sen.

After self-introduction by the participants and faculties, Prof. Biswatosh Sengupta, Jt. Secretary, PAD, mentioned that the emergence of Digital technology has helped significantly with

promoting and propagating photography throughout the world. Its advancement has changed the entire scenario and dimension in Photography. A layman seldom bothers about the intricacies of the technology or pictorial quality of a picture, but simply goes on clicking the shutter. But a serious enthusiast can produce beautiful images by creative application of the mind if they have technical knowledge. However beautiful the subject may be, all photographs taken with a digital camera may



Introductory Note by Prof. Biswatosh Sengupta, Jt Secretary, PAD

not be aesthetically pleasing unless they are properly edited. The role of editing in digital photography is similar to the role of cooking food. Today, it is quite common to find fantastic and fascinating pictures, which are products of various types of manipulations with the help of editing software. Thus it is more rational and desirable to go through the basics of digital photography and subsequent editing techniques for producing better pictures and displaying further creativity.

Prof. Dipak Chakraborty, former Principal of Dum Dum Motijheel College, and special guest, highly praised the role of PAD in the academic field and wished grand success of

the course. This was followed by the blessings of another special guest Smt Priti Sanyal, a noted Travel Writer and poet. Her elegant presence and narration of experiences and expectations from photography kept the audience spellbound. She became emotional when she spoke of an image of the twin tower disaster-- the jump of a man from the ninth floor with the hope of saving his life. 'The Falling Man' taken by Richard Drew on 9.11 in New York City at World Trade Centre.

After her deliberation, a video blessing from Sarnia, Canada by P. Sen (Dipak), a founding member of PAD, was direct telecasted. He referred to the October 2019 issue of our "IMAGE" in which our successful partnering with Kalyani University, Viswa Bharati, Ramakrishna Mission, Gurudas College, Photographic Society of Murshidabad etc was reported in detail. He said that the course on Digital Photo Editing has three components: selection, elimination and addition. Its purpose is to create Art to fulfil PAD's mission of promoting pictorial photography. He hoped that this training will essentially enhance the technical and pictorial skills of the participants. He expressed his desire to look forward in the future, when PAD will venture into on-line training and he would be there to participate.



Blessing Message by Prof. Deepak K. Chakraborty, Former Principal, DDM College

Dr. Bikas C. Sanyal was more emphatic on the academic part of the course. He was distinctly pleased by the faculties and requested all the students to take the fullest advantage of their brains. He also pleaded to not misuse the freedom of photo editing. The lurking greed of fame and money should not stand in the path of ethics.

The programme ended with the formal vote of thanks by Prof. Sengupta followed by light refreshments.

So let us hope that this course will enrich the participants, and that Photography will go a long way to cultivate knowledge as a means of livelihood and as a medium of creative expression. It will foster international brotherhood as the language of photography is understood by one and all.



Blessing through Teleconference by Mr P. Sen(Dipak) from Sarnia, Canada.



From L to R: Prof B. Sengupta, On TV Screen Mr P. Sen(Dipak) from Canada, Mrs Priti Sanyal, Dr B.C. Sanyal, Prof. D.K. Chakraborty, Mrinal K Bandyopadhyay and Mr Shibu Bhusan Das

Speech by Mrs Priti Sanyal, Eminent Writer & Special Guest



Inaugural Speech by Dr Bikas C Sanyal



Recommendations from a Local Photographer

In this May Edition of FIAP News we are launching a new section

When we as photographers plan a trip, there is nothing better than being able to get information from a local photographer.

They share their local knowledge of the area to which we are going.

They recommend places to go and things to see and photograph.

They tell us the best times to visit, what we might see and what lenses are good to have with us.

They might even suggest little known spots away from the regular tourist locations where a photographer can get great photos.

This new section in FIAP News is specifically for articles that feature this sort of information in short easy to write and easy to read mini articles.

Only positive and inspiring articles will be published.

It is to be a section that will encourage us to look at our photos of places we love and to enjoy sharing our special local knowledge of this place.

It will be a section in FIAP News where you pick up ideas and plan to see and photograph locations when travel is again possible.

We have seven of these mini articles to launch this section of FIAP News. This section will be ongoing as long as there is adequate support from readers submitting articles for this section. It will hopefully become one of our larger sections filled with lots of wonderful photos and information.

Criteria for these mini articles (short articles) is as follows:

These mini articles should be about a place you know well and be a specific location that you as a photographer like to take visiting photographers.

- Maximum of 2 photos - must be excellent quality and depict the location you are recommending (1024pixels, 96dpi, sRGB, jpg).
- Approximately 200-400 words.
- Information must include personal recommendations for the location. The following is ideal:
 - special things to photograph
 - exactly where to go, eg which road, which pathway
 - the best time of year and best time of day
 - how difficult the location is to access
 - things you might need to take with you, eg which lens, what clothing and footwear
- The mini article must have a short heading which is the place name.
- You must include the name of the photographer and author submitting the article. You are welcome to include your FIAP Distinctions if you hold these.
- No advertising or promoting of commercial tours or companies.
- Send article using the free internet service WeTransfer, <https://wetransfer.com/>
- Direct the transfer to fiapnewsdirector@gmail.com ensuring you include your email address as the sender for contact purposes.

