

Glorious Achievements of Bangabasi College on the Extra-academic Fields

Prof. ASHIS KUMAR MUKHOPADHYAY

Dept. of History

Ex-Prof.-in-charge, Games and Ex-Member, C. U. Sports Board

As I sit down to muse on the days that are past, I am instantly reminded of Poet's moving words :—

“Fond memory brings the light—
of other days, around me.”

Bangabasi College, has always been well-known for its extra-academic activities in the fields of sports and games, debate, eloquence and in histrionic art as encouragement to them has always come from such enthusiasts like our illustrious Founder and the two succeeding Principals—Sri Prasanta Kumar Bose and Sri Sudev Bhusan Ghosh.

ON THE FIELDS OF SPORTS & GAMES

GAMES CLUB (Later on Bangabasi College Athletic Club.)

Prof E. M. Wheeler took charge of the Games Club with only two wings—Football & Volley Ball in 1903. By 1907 the College Football bunch caught the eyes of the football lovers of Calcutta as they forced redoubtable Mohun Bagan to play a barren match against them.

CRICKET TEAM (1918/1919)

The first ever College Cricket Team came into being during winter months of 1918/1919 and the mantle of captaincy very deservingly fell on the broad shoulders of Dr Sushil Chandra Choudhury (Cantab) of the English Department.

INTER-CLASS FOOTBALL COMPETITION (1920)

The first ever inter-class football competition was started in 1920 when Mr. G. K. H. Rahaman, an alumnus of the college and the best 100 yds. sprinter of India of his time, donated for that purpose a very handsome Cup. Fittingly enough that Trophy was named after our illustrious Founder.

HOCKEY TEAM (1924)

The first ever Hockey Team of our college came into existence in 1924 which was also the year of glorious achievement for our I. Sc. students.

COLLEGE PLATOON (1924)

The glorious year 1924 also marked the formation of the first College Platoon for University Training Corps under the supervision of Prof. (later on Major & Vice-Principal) Pramada Charan Mazumder of the Physics Department.

GYMNASIUM (1941)

Principal Prasanta Kumar Bose sincerely believed that a student, without fruitful occupation or healthy recreation, may loose himself in a round of low pleasures. Naturally, therefore, with an eye to and accent on keeping him away from harm Principal Bose in 1941 opened up, under the

wings of the college, a gymnasium, equipped with modern instruments, the first of its kind in any Calcutta College, with well-known Physical Instructor—Nilmoni Das (Iron Man), an alumnus of this College as the In-charge.

PLAY GROUND AND PAVILION (1954)

In his endeavour to bring about moral & physical improvement of the students Principal P. K. Bose, on his own initiative, secured a Play-ground and constructed a beautiful Pavilion on the Calcutta maidan in 1954, the first of its kind for any other College of the State. It was simply because Principal Bose believed in the adage—"All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy." Incidentally it should be mentioned that Ashutosh College became co-sharer of the ground on and from 1955 by an order of the State Government. I (humble writer) arranged with CAB to maintain the ground and in return to use the same on Saturdays, Sundays & holidays.

FOOTBALL GLORIES

The College Football Team won the hearts of the football loving population of Calcutta by winning the Hardinge Birthday Shield for two successive years 1931 and 1932 and then followed it up by lifting the Blue Riband of Inter-Collegiate football tournaments—Elliot Shield in 1934. In 1938 the College Football bunch won the inter-Collegiate League Championship—called the Ashutosh Memorial Shield for the first time and followed it up by winning the League title for the second year in succession in 1939. The standard and reputation of our College Football Team were so high that the Calcutta University XI, that took on the Punjab

University XI, in the final of the inter-Varsity football championship on the Mohun Bagan/East Bengal Ground in December, 1940, included no less than 5 (five) Bangabasi Footballers. The match resulted in a cake-walk victory for Calcutta University boys to the tune of 5 (five) clear goals (5-0). Our crack-centre forward Somana was the idol of the crowd as he himself netted twice and very narrowly missed a hatrick. Somana had also the distinction of leading the Calcutta University Team as the skipper, on that glorious & memorable afternoon.

In 1945 our College Football Team went to play at Deoghar and annexed the Archer Memorial Shield. Four more football successes came our way to add glory and prestige to the colourful career of our football section when our boys lifted the Hardinge Birthday Shield in 1964, won the League-titles (Ashutosh Memorial Shield) in 1955 and 1965 and the Behrampore K. N. Memorial Shield in 1985.

No major success came by way of winning major trophies for our Hockey & Cricket sections although year after year our boys donned the colours & flannels respectively of the C, U. Hockey and Cricket Teams for the Inter-Varsity tournaments. Five of our Hockey players—Brajendralal (Brijlal) Z. A. Ariff, Sisir Ghosh, Haripada Guha & Biru Pradhan represented the State also in Inter-Provincial Hockey Championships. Two of our cricketers—Sisir Ghosh and Tapanjyoti Banerjee donned the flannels of the State in the Ranji Trophy. Once Tapanjyoti was a member of the East Zone Team in the Daleep Trophy. Sunil Ghosh was invited to join the Football squad for the 1948 (London) Olympics. Byomkesh Bose represented India in 1951 Asian Games (Delhi) & 1952 Olympics (Helsinki). Ashin Shome

(Natki) was a stand by of the 1958 Asian Games (Tokyo) Football Team.

BEST PRODUCTS OF BANGABASI COLLEGE ATHLETIC CLUB

PANKAJ GUPTA M.B.E.—An international figure in the sports world. A top-notch football Referee & Hockey Umpire.

Secretary—I.F.A., B.H.A., C.A.B. & Board of Control for Cricket.

Manager—Olympic Hockey Team—1932, 1936 & 1948.

Manager—Indian Cricket Team in England 1946 and in Australia 1947-48.

Manager—Indian Football Team in Australia 1938. Awarded M.B.E in 1945.

SAILESH CHATTERJEE (Bangabasi & M. Bagan). A member of the Bengal Team that won Inter-Provincial Hockey Championship in 1936. Mohan Bagan Captain 1934.

SUKUMAR DATTA (DARBARI) (Bangabasi & M. Bagan) Dependable full-back in Football. Varsity Blue in 1932 & 1933.

JAMINI ROY (Bangabasi & M. Bagan) Varsity Blue in 1935. M. Bagan's Hockey captain in 1936.

BHABATOSH BHATTACHARYYA (Bangabasi & M. Bagan) C. U. Blue in Football in 1935.

PARITOSH CHAKRABORTY (Bangabasi, M. Bagan & E. Bengal) A talented football back. C. U. Blue in Football. Played for Bengal in the Santosh Trophy. A member of the A.I.F.F Team that played against Chinese XI in 1948. E. Bengal's football captain in 1945.

SUNIL GHOSH (Bangabasi School, College & E. Bengal) one of the most outstanding inside forwards on view. In his headwork a near approach of legendary Mona Datta. Varsity Blue in Football, Cricket & Hockey. Donned the colours of Bengal XI in Santosh Trophy regularly. Invited to join the Football squad for the London Olympics. Played against Chinese XI in 1948. E. Bengal's captain in 1944.

SISIR MUSTAFI (Bangabasi & E. Bengal cricketer) A Varsity Blue in Cricket & donned the flannels for Bengal in Ranji Trophy in 1943-44.

Z. A. ARIFF (Bangabasi & M. Bagan) Brilliant Hockey Left-half back. Varsity Blue. Played for Bengal in the Inter-Provincial Hockey tournament.

BROJENDRALAL (BRIJLAL) (Bangabasi & M. Bagan) C.U. Blue in Varsity Hockey. Mohun Bagan's Hockey captain in 1937.

GYASUDDIN (Bangabasi & E. Bengal) Excellent football half-back. Varsity Blue. Represented Bengal in the Santosh Trophy.

A. SOMANA (Bangabasi & E. Bengal) Crack Centre forward. Varsity Blue & captain. Played for Bengal in the Santosh Trophy and a few International matches. E. Bengal's captain in 1943.

BYOMKESH BOSE (Bangabasi & E. Bengal). C.U. Blue. A regular member of the Bengal XI for Santosh Trophy. Represented India in 1951 Asian Games and 1952 Helsinki Olympics. E. Bengal's captain in 1951.

SISIR GHOSH (Bangabasi, E. Bengal & M. Bagan) Varsity Blue in Cricket & Hockey. Donned the flannels for

Bengal & Bihar in the Ranji Trophy as the wicket-keeper batsman.

HARIPADA GUHA (Bangabasi & Customs) A brilliant Hockey inside forward. Varsity Blue. Represented Bengal in Inter-Provincial Championship for several years.

BIRU PRADHAN (Bangabasi, M. Bagan & Customs) An excellent Hockey inside forward. Donned the colours of Bengal XI in Inter-Provincial Championships regularly for many years.

SACHIN HALDER (Bangabasi & Aryans) A football back. Varsity Blue. Once represented Bengal in the Santosh Trophy Captain and after retirement coach of Aryans Club.

ASHIM SHOME (NATKI) (Bangabasi & E. Rly.) Very talented inside forward. Varsity Blue in 1957 & 1958. Donned the colours of the Bengal XI for Santosh Trophy in 1957 & 1958. A stand by in Indian Football Team for the 1958 Asian Games. But a very promising career was cut short by a tragic accident on 30/6/1959 to which he succumbed on 2/7/59.

BALAI MULLICK A varsity Blue in Volley-Ball in 1963. At present an N.I.S. coach grooming the young aspirants after Volley Ball career & fame.

KAMAL DAS A varsity Blue in Athletics in 1960. His varsity and state record in Discus Throw in 1960 could not be bettered for many years.

TAPANJYOTI BANERJEE (Bangabasi, M. Bagen & E. Rly.) A very useful all-rounder in Cricket. A dependable middle order batsman & a highly rated medium pacer. Varsity Blue in 1969 & 1970. Regular Ranji Trophy

Cricketer for over a decade. Donned the flannels for East Zone once.

DULAL BHATTACHARYYA (Bangabasi, Bata & B.N.R.) A Varsity Blue in Football in 1970. At present an N.I.S. coach. On the permanent staff of I.F.A. as a coach to nurse the colts (Junior & Sub-Junior) & to brush up the seniors for the Santosh Trophy.

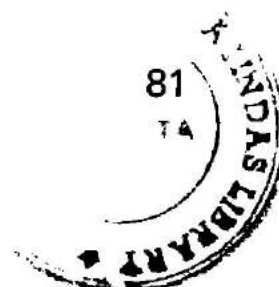
SATYABRATA GOSWAMI (Bangabasi & Rly. F. C.) A member of the Junior-Bengal Team in 1981. Very fine attacking medio with a deadly right-footed punch.

SANKAR MITRA (Bangabasi & Aryan) Diminutive and ever-smiling Sankar was a very resourceful linkman & a fine snatcher of the ball. A Varsity Blue in 1983 & 1984.

RATAN SIL (Bangabasi & Wari) A dependable goal-keeper under the bar. A Varsity Blue in 1985.

BANGABASI COLLEGE WIN 4TH TITLE GLORY

The foot ball instinct of Bangabasi College Team, which had often found expression to upset the calculation of many a strong combination in the past and earned for them the reputation of a strong League-fighting Team in recent years, stood them in good grace when they crashed Charu Chandra College Team to their first defeat of the League tournament by a solitary goal on the University Ground, in the replayed final, on Tuesday, the 9th November, 1965. The first meeting between the two teams ended in a draw—with the Score-Sheet blank. Thus Bangabasi College regained the coveted trophy Sir Ashutosh Memorial Shield after a lapse of ten years.



**ON THE CULTURAL FRONT
COLLEGE MAGAZINE (1903)**

January, 1903 marked the start of the College Magazine which was highly spoken of by the 1905 Report of the University Commission. It served as a connecting link between the past and the present and helped a lot in reconstructing the history of the College. It also served as the training ground for numerous students who later on blossomed forth as renowned writers. In fact many eminent and illustrious personalities had their apprenticeships in this College Magazine. They are—The great Mohitlal Majumder, Prof. Khagendra Nath Mitra, Prof. Lalit Kumar Banerjee, Vice Principal Jitendranath Chakraborty, Prof. Shyamapada Chakraborty, Prof. Nipendra Nath Banerjee, Prof. Janardan Chakraborty, Prof. Ladli Mohan Mitra, Prof. Nirendranath Roy, Novelist Narendra Nath Mitra, Poet Nirendanath Chakraborty, Principal Jagadish Bhattacharyya, Prof. Sadhan Kumar Bhattacharyya, Dr. Sitangsu Moitra, Prof. Sankari Prasad Bose, Novelist Monisankar Mukherjee. (Sankar)

DEBATING CLUB (1909)

The first Debating Club of the College was organised by Prof. Brojo Sundar Roy in 1909. But this Debating Club became a name to conjure with during the fifties when Jiban Banerjee, an alumnus of this College took the debating world of the country by storm by not only winning the Inter-Varsity Championship hold at Santiniketan in 1958 but by coming first in all Inter-Collegiate Competitions held in 1957 and 1958. The other top-notch Debators who brought laurels for their Alma Mater were Asoke Ghosh, Nandan Bhattacharyya, Kamalendu Ghosh & Biplab Das Gupta.

DRAMATIC CLUB (1909)

The year 1909 also marked the birth of our Dramatic Club and the staging by its members —‘Balidan’, the famous Drama of Poet and Dramatist Girish chandra Ghosh, the father of Bengali Stage. The Proud products of the Dramatic Club were—immortal Pankaj Kumar Mullick, the greatest exponent of Rabindra Sangeet. The inimitable Jahar Ganguly, the popular stage & screen hero Asit Baran Mukherjee, the famous composer, music director and singer Salil Chowdhury, renowned film director Tapan Sinha, noted music director Anil Bagchi, and that bunch of talented actors—Sekhar Chatterjee, Satya Roy, Kalipada Sarkar, Shyam Laha, Tulsi Lahiry & well known Rabindra Sangeet Singer Prasad Sen. Kanti Mukherjee’s recitations from Shakespeare were the talk of the town for over three decades. Four of our students—Subhas Mukherjee (1958), Aloke Bagchi (1960), Adhir Bagchi (1963) and Gopal Patra (1968) won Individual Championships in the Inter Collegiate Oriental Music Competitions, organised by the Calcutta University Institute.

A brief resume of the three Festival Cricket matches held on 21.2.87, 22.2.87, & 7.3.87, in connection with the centenary celebrations of the historic College-‘Bangabasi’

- 1) Bangabasi College Professors XI Vs. Ashutosh College Professors XI
Bangabasi — All out for 99 runs in 25 overs.
Ashutosh — 96 for 9 in 25 over
Bangabasi won the match by 3 runs.
 - 2) Present students XI Vs. Past students XI
Present XI — 127 all out in 25 overs.
Past XI — 129 for 5 in 25 overs-winning stroke coming in the last ball.
Ex-student Swapam Ghose was declared— ‘Man of the match’ for his strokeful 50-only 50 of the series.
Bangabasi past students XI won by 5 wkts.
 - 3) Non-teaching staff (Day) XI Vs. Rest XI (Morning, Evening & Commerce)
Day College XI — 110 all out in 20 overs.
Rest XI — 94 all out in 20 overs.
Day College XI — Won the match by 16 run.
Swapam Bose (Badal) was declared ‘Man of the match’ for his brilliant work behind the stumps.
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