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The CHC School Journal

In collaboration with

Loreto Day School Bowbazar

COLLEGE STREET

where knowledge lies beyond books

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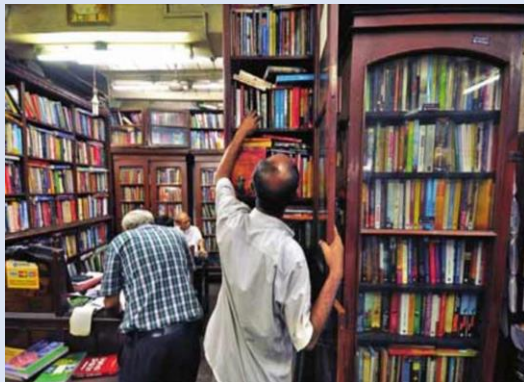


Introducing College Street :

Kolkata has its own 'Boi Para' (colony of books) in the form of College Street, which is the largest bookselling market in the country and the second largest in the world. It is an eminent centre of Kolkata's literary crowd. It is the second home to intellectuals, scholars, academicians, students and booklovers of Kolkata city. It is located between Bowbazar and Mahatma Gandhi Road.



College Street



Publication House in College Street

Famous publication houses like Ananda Publishers, Abhijan Publishers, Dey's Publishing are located here. To a native of Kolkata, College Street and Coffee House can be used as interchangeable terms. 'The Indian Coffee House' has been around for over a century and has seen the likes of stalwarts like Rabindranath Tagore, Subhas Chandra Bose, Satyajit Ray.



The Presidency University:

The Presidency University, originally called 'Hindu College', started its eventful journey in 1855. The most striking feature of the Hindu College was its determined effort to impart secular education. It had also introduced courses in Law, Fine Arts and Engineering.



The Presidency University

Interesting Facts!

The presidency University was earlier known as Hindu College, which was established by David Hare in 1817.



Calcutta University

Calcutta University:

It is the first major public research university located in Kolkata, West Bengal, India. Considered as one of the best state research universities in India, every year CU topped among India's best universities.



Calcutta Medical College:

It was the first institution in India, imparting a systematic education in western medicine. The East India Company established the Indian Medical Service (IMS) as early as 1764 to look after Europeans in British India. English was the medium of instruction in this institution.



Medical College

Interesting Facts !

The Calcutta Medical College was the first medical college to be established in India



Hare School

Hare School:

It is located in College Square, Kolkata. The year 1818 witnessed the establishment of The Hare School by the Scottish watchmaker, David Hare. It is a Government aided all boys-school, sprawling over an area of 2 acres. Bengali is the medium of instruction in this school. The school has gifted to the society some of the eminent personalities like Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose, famous Bengali playwright, Girish Ghosh and the grandmaster, Dibendu Barua.



College Square:

Situated opposite to the main campus of Calcutta University, College Square is a fenced square surrounded on all sides by some of India's oldest education institutions which are gargantuan in their own reputations. A walk along the tank and inside the square is more than just a heritage walk, and uncovers various interesting vestiges of history.



College Square



Idol of Goddess Durga in College Square

College Square Durga Puja:

The Durga puja of College Square, which started in 1948, is one of the biggest crowd-pullers in the city. Ramesh Pal, the well-known idol-maker, got his recognition from this puja and he continued to make idols for the puja until 2000. The College Square Puja is especially known as the spot for food stalls and 'adda' during the five days of Durga Puja.



Indian Coffee House: An emotion

Located at College Street, this place is everyone's favourite 'adda'. Founded in the year 1876, this place still holds the same charm it did over a century back, Chicken 'Kaviraji', 'Mughlai Paratha', Chicken Sandwich, and Mutton 'Afghani' are highly recommended dishes. If you happen to be a coffee lover, infusion is going to land you straight in heaven with its deliciousness.



A view at the ambience of The Indian Coffee House



Indian Coffee House

Interesting Facts!

The Coffee House was memorialized in the song "Coffee House er shei adda ta..." by Manna Dey.

Modern paintings have been added on the upper-tier sitting area. The waiters wear starched white uniforms, a red belt and a signature turban that stands as high as their nose. They make you feel that it is your honour to be served by them. We love the oodles of well-earned attitude that they display.

Food Joints of College Street:

Paramount is one of the few shops in the city that still sells only sherbet, made with syrups that are created there. Not surprisingly, the shop is busiest in the sweltering summer months, when people queue up for some refreshment.

Kolkata is the 92 year-old 'Kalpataru Bhandar', located in College Street. The shop was set up by Radha Binod Dutta. Footballers P.K, Banerjee and Prasun Banerjee were regulars here for it's popular 'k'hili paan'. It is almost a mouth leaving a lingering aroma.

YMCA Canteen needs no introduction. It is a small eatery just opposite to the College Square Pool. It offers delicacies such as steaming hot Chicken and Veg Soup, spicy 'Ghugni', Chilli Chicken, 'Keema', Bread Toast and more. It is a go-to place for college students in the 'Boi Para'.



Paramount



Kalpataru Bhandar



YMCA Canteen



Conclusion:

College Street is a place filled with memories for every Bengali. It adds an old charm to the place, being one of the busiest corners of Kolkata. It is the intellectual nerve centre of the city. This place is one of the most popular hangout zones with the food joints being the most addictive destination for students. It not only offers the students books and libraries, but also prestigious institutions like the Medical College, Presidency University, Calcutta University, which are dream destinations for them. College Street not only attracts local bookworms but also tourists from across the globe. This place is a heavenly paradise for almost everyone.

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