



Department of Geography

Extension Activity

“Forest as a Resource: Observation and Conservation”

REPORT

The Geography Department of Dr. Patangrao Kadam Mahavidyalaya, Ramanandnagar (Burli), organized an enriching trekking activity to the Geographical Kundal Jain Mandir Dongar dated on **31st August 2024**. The event was part of the syllabus related the **group activities**. Department has efforts to provide students with experiential learning opportunities, connecting them with the rich forest resource and cultural heritage of the region. Total 55 students and 09 teachers were participated in this trek. **19 students of geography department** participated in this trekking along with Assist. Prof. S. A. Maske, Assist. Prof. P. S. Koli and Assist. Prof. S. B. Kurhade. The visit to the Kundal Jain Mandir dongar, is a site of significant geographical historical and religious importance, it allowed students to understand insights into the geographical features, Flora and Fauna of the Forest as well as architecture and history of the ancient Jain community in the region. Students and teachers has guided to the local peoples about conservation of vegetation communities. Prin. Dr U. V. Patil provided detailed information about awareness about plantation, importance of forest resource and historical jain mandir.

The group started their journey early in the morning at 7:45 am and reached the Kundal Jain Mandir dongar along the way, they explored the scenic beauty of the region, learned about the geographical and historical context of the site.

Trekking route

Starting point: Kundal village

Trail length: approximately 5-7 km

Difficulty level: moderate

Estimated Time: 3-4 Hours

Observations and Findings:

Vegetation cover and different types of vegetation found in the field work area. It's a type of Tropical dry deciduous forest with teak, bamboo and types of shrubs. Dominant species are teak (*Tectona Grandis*), Dhawda, Bamboo, Neem, Peepal, Banyan Trees etc. Also many types of shrubs and species are available in the study area. Some types of birds were observed in the forest area.

Conclusion:


The forest visit provided valuable experience, enhancing our understanding of geographical concepts. We observed diverse Flora and recognised the significance of conservation efforts. The trek to Kundal Jain temple is not just a physical journey but also a spiritual one, offering a glimpse into the rich heritage of Jainism. The combination of natural beauty and historical significance makes it a must-visit destination for trekkers and pilgrims alike.

Outcomes:


- The interest about local environment increased among the students.
- The students got information about various factors of Forest.
- Realized the importance of different types of plants in the environment.
- Created awareness about Natural resources and environment.

Beneficiaries:

19


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Old Digambar Parshwanath Jain temple



Trekking Group



Teachers & Students enjoying nature While Trekking



Students While Trekking

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