



Indian Knowledge System

Sri Guru Teg Bahadur Khalsa College, Sri Anandpur Sahib
Punjab, India (Autonomous College)

Organises

Faculty Development Programme
(8th September. to 13th September, 2025)

The Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS) Cell of Sri Guru Teg Bahadur Khalsa College, Sri Anandpur Sahib, in collaboration with the Nucleus of Learning and Development, organized a one-week Online Faculty Development Programme (FDP) on the theme “Indic Local Self-Governance: The Indigenous Roots” from 8th to 13th September 2025. The programme was conducted in online mode via Google Meet, offering an interactive and insightful learning platform for participants across the country.

The sessions were led by **Ms. Tanya Frasz, Research Consultant, Brhat**, who delivered in-depth lectures on the evolution and practice of indigenous self-governance systems in India. She explored diverse themes, including Indic governance traditions in the Vedas, the role of Itihasas and Dharmashastras, local customs and institutions, complexities of ancient governance, and surviving models in the present day. The sessions also focused on integrating these indigenous models into modern classrooms, highlighting their relevance for contemporary governance and education.

The main objective of the programme was to foster interdisciplinary learning by bridging traditional Indic wisdom with modern academic frameworks. Also, equip the faculty with insights to integrate Indian Knowledge Systems into teaching, curriculum design, and institutional practices. The FDP concluded with enthusiastic participation from faculty members across disciplines. The valedictory session reflected on the key learnings, highlighting the relevance of indigenous governance traditions in contemporary contexts. Participants shared valuable feedback, appreciating the interdisciplinary insights and the emphasis on cultural roots in shaping sustainable models of leadership and education. The programme ended with a collective commitment to carry forward the vision of integrating Indian Knowledge Systems into academic, social, and administrative frameworks. The programme was conducted by Dr. Gurpreet Kaur, President IIC & In-charge IKS Cell. The co-coordinators of the event were Prof. Joginderpal Singh (Member, IKS), and Prof. Sharnjeet Kaur (Member, IKS). Other members of IKS Cell were also present during the programme.

No. of Faculty participants: 20

Gautama Dharmasutra & Bodhayana Dharmasutra

- ▶ A village is where righteous men throng.
- ▶ "A righteous man shall seek to dwell in a village where fuel, water, fodder, sacred fuel, kusa grass, and garlands are plentiful. Access to all this must be easy, and many rich people should dwell in such a village. It ought to abound in industrious people, and where Aryas (virtuous, cultured, honest and honourable men) must form the majority. It should have a strong defence against robbers and other disturbers of peace."
- ▶ Both Gautama and Bodhayana mention that their tenets were based on the authority of the "ancients."
- ▶ This theory and practice of a village had endured nearly intact for several millennia. The unbroken continuity of that village system is still in operation.
- ▶ The mass migrations of people from their ancestral villages, forced by invasions, etc., did not disrupt the village system, which remained unspoilt despite these disruptions.

Tanya

Image1: Ms. Tanya Frasz explained the Village Ideals in Dharmasutras

Rgveda, Manusmriti, etc.

- ▶ The mention of Grama and District is made in the Rgveda (10.149.4 and 10.62.11).
- ▶ The Manusmriti (7.114) makes a mention of a hierarchy of their administrative divisions having one Headman each for one village, ten villages, a hundred villages, 500 villages, 1000 villages, and so on.
- ▶ Similar instructions are provided in detail, along with their functioning, as well as the King's duties towards them in the Mahabharata (12.87.3), the Apastamba (2.26.4-5), Shukraniti (1.383-386).

Tanya

Image 2: Ms.Tanya Frasz presented on in-depth exploration of Ancient Administration Systems in Rgveda and Manusmriti