## Educational Tour- 3<sup>rd</sup> September to 5<sup>th</sup> September

Bylakuppe & Bengaluru (September 3-5, 2023)

An enriching three-day educational tour was organized for International Relations students from September 3rd to 5th, 2023, under the guidance of Dr. Nansi and Dr. Subramaniyan. The trip encompassed visits to Bylakuppe, a Tibetan refugee settlement, and Bengaluru, a major academic and research hub.

In Bylakuppe, students gained firsthand experience of refugee life. They met with the regional head of the Tibetan Youth Congress, who provided a detailed explanation of the organization's establishment and its role in supporting the Tibetan community. This interaction offered valuable insights into the challenges and resilience of refugees.

The tour also included visits to renowned Buddhist monasteries, immersing students in the rich cultural and spiritual heritage of the Tibetan community. They witnessed firsthand the self-sufficiency of the refugees, who operate various establishments, including schools and milk societies, with the support of the Tibetan Youth Congress.

The final day of the tour shifted gears to Bengaluru. Students visited the prestigious National Institute for Advanced Studies (NIAS), where they participated in a conference specifically designed for International Relations students. This provided an invaluable platform to engage with current research and interact with experts in the field.

Adding a further dimension to the learning experience, the tour concluded with an interaction session at Christ University's Department of International Relations. Students from both institutions actively exchanged their thoughts and ideas, fostering valuable cross-institutional dialogue and expanding their understanding of diverse perspectives within the field.

This meticulously planned educational tour proved to be a multifaceted learning experience for the participating students. By combining immersive encounters with refugee communities, exposure to leading academic and research institutions, and opportunities for inter-institutional interaction, the tour provided a unique blend of practical learning and theoretical knowledge, enriching their understanding of international relations in a broader context.