

HOLY CROSS COLLEGE (An ISO 9001:2015 certified institution) Tripura Central University Reg. Code: 17 Jubatara, P.O. Lembucherra, Mohanpur Road, Tripura (W) Pin - 799210 Phone: (0381) 286 5222 / 09402315672, Fax: (0381) 2342572 E-mail: principalhccagt@gmail.com Web: www.holycrosscollege.in

Report on online photography competition organized by the Dept. Of Zoology, Holy Cross College, Agartala.

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'Zoology' is the science of studies on the various wonders of the animal world. Studies on the diversity of various specimens belonging to all the major and minor phyla of the animal kingdom holds a special place in the course curriculum of Zoology as well. The plethora of varied colours and patterns found across the animal world dazzles our mind every now and then.

Collection of Zoological specimens for further studies has been a common practice among the students/scholars of Zoology. But the ever dwindling number of animals has continued to endanger the diversity across the animal world. Nowadays every little effort towards conservation of biodiversity holds a profound meaning. Henceforth, killing of animals for laboratory studies is discouraged.

But the presence of camera in the hands of most of the young generation has opened up a new avenue in method of sample collection. Now vivid photographic sampling of animals in their natural environment has become possible. Keeping all these things in mind the Dept. Of Zoology, Holy Cross College, Agartala has organized an online photography competition. Where all the students with Zoology (major) were invited to participate in the aforementioned programme. They were asked to submit one photograph per contestant for the said purpose. All photographs were to be of living Zoological specimens in an undisturbed condition in their natural habitats.

A separate Whatsapp group was created where 36 students enrolled. The participants were given a week time for the submission of the final photograph. The wonderful collection of photographs put forward by the student participants amazed the faculty members across all the departments of Holy Cross College. There were colourful photographs of butterflies (class: Insecta; order: Lepidoptera) like *Neptis hylas, Elymnias pealii, Danaus chrysippus, Eueides isabella* put a flutter in every viewers mind. There were also pictures of *Mastigoproctus giganteus* (The giant whip scorpion, class: Arachnida, order: Uropygi), *Musca domestica* (Housefly, class: Insecta; order: Diptera), *Locusta migratoria*(Locust, class: Insecta; order:Orthoptera).

Apis mellifer, Apis dorsata (Honey bee, class: Insecta; order: Hymenoptera) were also well represented.



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Among all the vivid photographs the photograph of the whip scorpion contributed by Pali Debbarma, the photo of dragon fly contributed by Baby Baul were awarded the joint first prize. The beautiful aggregation of both pupa and larvae of monarch butterfly contributed by Khakchang Tripura won him the second position. Whereas the life like representation of *Felis catus* contributed by Niharika Begum won her the third prize. But to encourage the effort of the participants every photograph was awarded the certificate of excellence.

This report is prepared by Baby Baul student of 1st semester Zoology and Dr. Subhalaxmi Bhattacharjee, Assistant Professor, Dept. Of Zoology, Holy Cross College, Agartala.

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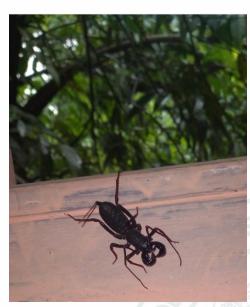
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Dragon fly Joint first prize owner.



"Educating hearts and minds"



Mastigoproctus giganteus Joint first prize winner.



Larvae and pupa of Monarch butterfly Second prize winner.



Felis catus Third prize winner.

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