

**Azad Hind Fouz Smriti Mahavidyalaya**  
**Domjur, Howrah**

**DEPARTMENT OF BENGALI**

**STUDY TOUR PROPOSAL**  
**(SEMESTERS – II, IV and VI)**

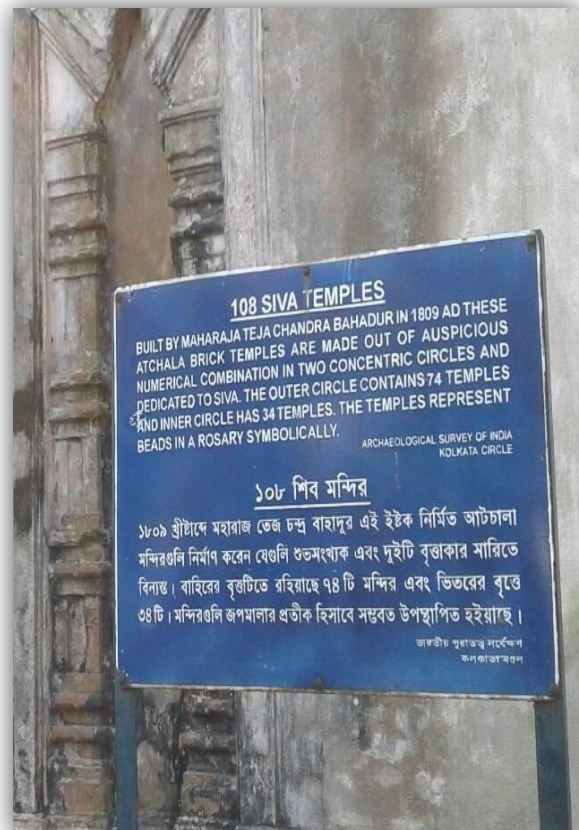
1. Date: 11<sup>th</sup> July 2025 (Friday)
2. Sites:
  - a. 108 Shiva Temple complex
  - b. Samaj Bari
  - c. Prachin Deul
  - d. Ancestral house of Sadhak Kamalakanta Bhattacharya, Sakta poet of Bengal
  - e. Local sites important for folk culture
3. Mode of transport: Local Train from Domjur and Howrah and Toto
4. Number of seats: 20
  - a. Honours Course: 15
  - b. General Course: 5
5. Distance from College:
  - a. Domjur Railway station to Howrah Station by local train (2 hours)
  - b. Howrah Station to Kalna by local train (2 hours)
  - c. Site-seeing at Ambika Kalna by Toto (4 hours)
6. Timings:
  - a. Departure from Domjur: 6 am
  - b. Return to Domjur: 6 pm
7. Contribution from participants: Rs. 450/ per head
  - a. Breakfast
  - b. Lunch
  - c. Evening Snacks
  - d. Entry Tickets

## AMBIKA KALNA

Kalna, often described as the “Temple Town” of West Bengal, is important for its rich religious and historical significance. Ambika Kalna was known as ‘Ambowa Muluk’ between 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries as evident from *Mangal Kavya* of 1495. A map of Bengal made by Von den Brook in 1660 mentions the town ‘Ambowa’. In fact, two Bishnu idols were recovered from Bhigarathi River flowing beside the town were dated by archaeologists to the 10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> century. Hence, Ambika Kalna probably dates back to almost 1000 years.

- **108 Shiva Temples**

The 108 Shiva Temples, also known as Nava Kailash temples, is located in Kalna. The town is more popularly known as Ambika Kalna, named after the Goddess Kali, Maa Ambika. It was built by Maharaja Teja Chandra Bahadur in 1809 after getting ownership of the royal estate of Bishnupur.



The complex features 108 temples dedicated to Lord Shiva, arranged in two concentric circles on the banks of river Bhagirathi. The outer circle has 74 temples and inner circle has 34 temples. The *shiv lingas* are alternative black and white in color. The number 108 is very auspicious & represents the 108 beads in the rosary, a symbol closely associated with Lord Shiva. The temple walls are adorned with intricate terracotta decorations depicting scenes from the Ramayana and Mahabharata.

This is a historical destination on Burdwan district.





- **Samajbari**

The Samajbari or the Samadhi Mandir is located in Dainhat on the banks of Bhagirathi River. The region came under the control of Bardhaman Raj in 1728 during the reign of Maharaja Kirtichand. The royal family selected this region to perform Gangajali before demise. They were cremated here on the banks of the Bhagirathi River and their ashes were preserved in the Samajbari constructed for this purpose in 1740 after the death of Maharaja Sriyukto Kirtichand Roy. The tradition continued till Maharaja Tejchandra whose 'samaj' is in Kalna.



- **Deul**

Kalna Deul refers to the Pratapeswar Temple in Ambika Kalna. It is a Rekha Deul (common in Odisha) temple, known for its curvilinear *sikhara* (tower) and single arched entrance.

The temple is located within the Rajbari Complex and is famous for its magnificent terracotta designs. It was built in 1849 under the supervision of Pearykumari Devi, the first wife of Raja Pratap Chand (the only surviving son of Maharaja Tej Chand Rai).



- **Ancestral House of Sadhak Kamalakanta**

Kamalakanta Bhattacharya (1769–1821) also known as Sadhaka Kamalakanta, was a Bengali Shakta poet, mystic and yogi of the late 18<sup>th</sup> century. He is often considered to have followed the example of Ramprasad, both in his poetry and in his lifestyle.

Kamalakanta was born at Ambika Kalna to a Brahmin priest, Maheswar Bhattacharya and his wife, Mahamaya Devi, in a poor family. His father died early but his mother managed to send him for higher education.



Kamalakanta started a school in addition to his work as a Brahmin priest but struggled with poverty. Throughout his life Kamalakanta was a great devotee of Kali and composed many impassioned devotional poems which made him famous during his lifetime.

The Maharaja of Bardhaman, Tej Chandra, asked Kamalakanta to be his Guru and also appointed him as a court advisor. Kamalakanta's songs made



**8. Study Tour Rules:**

A Study Tour is an opportunity to explore new places, ideas and cultures. For the safety of the participants, it is important to follow some basic rules and regulations:

**1. IDENTITY CARD:**

All participants must wear college identity cards.

**2. PUNCTUALITY:**

All must be on time for scheduled activities and departures.

**3. BUS BEHAVIOUR:**

The bus must be kept clean. Noise should be kept to a minimum so that the bus driver is not distracted.

**4. TOUR SITES:**

All must be respectful of property and people at the sites and on the way. Damage to property or rowdy behaviour will not be permitted during the tour.

**5. LOST OR STOLEN ITEMS:**

Each participant will be solely responsible for his/her belongings.

**6. SAFETY:**

- a. No tour participant may leave the group to explore alone for any reason whatsoever, without permission. Be aware of the surroundings and exercise good judgment at all times.
- b. Any student indulging in risky behaviour, disobeying authority or possessing illegal substances will not be allowed to continue the tour.

**NOTE:**

These are basic guidelines for the tour. There may be additional directives depending on the situation for the safety of all.

Breach of rules will result in a call to the student's guardian.

Under extreme circumstances, the student may be sent home at own expenses.

**9. Objectives of the Study Tour:**

- Kalna is important for its rich religious and historical significance. The study tour will give the students some glimpses into the rich cultural heritage of the country.
- They will realize the importance of preservation of historical monuments and artifacts.
- The study tour will provide exposure to the architectural marvels of medieval Bengal.
- The study tour will also foster interest in an inter-disciplinary approach to teaching-learning.
- Finally, the students will get a much needed break from the conventional classroom study.

**10. Study Tour Outcome Activity:**

The Study Tour will be followed by curricular / co-curricular activity to assess the students' involvement and interest in the tour. The activities will be conducted by the Bengali Department. E-Certificates will be given to all participants and three prizes will be given to the first, second and third place-holders.

Date: 10.7.2025

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*Head, Department of Bengali*

*S. Chakraborty*  
Principal  
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