

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

Report of Guest lecture on

‘Brain Donation’

24th July 2021

The brain is one of the most important organs of the human body and it has time and again fascinated students of psychology. The study of the brain has guided students of psychology to understand various mental processes. Some of the important studies in psychology revolve around the discourse and discussion of neurodegeneration and neurological disorders. Brain donation enables researchers to study various neurological and psychological disorders by the use of brain tissue. India has only one brain bank situated at NIMHANS, Bangalore.

Therefore there was a need to create awareness among students about brain-related illnesses and donation. To educate students on ‘Brain Donation’ a guest lecture was organized on 24th July 2021 by the Psychology department. The resource person was Dr. Anita Mahadevan professor and Head of the Department of neuropathology at NIMHANS, coordinator for Human Brain Bank, founder member and honorary secretary of Neuropathology Society of India.

Dr. Anita Mahadevan explained the reasons for brain donation and she eliminated the myths of brain donation such as brain transplant. She discussed the process of brain evolution and the difference between human and animal brains. She conducted an in-depth discussion on neurological disorders and neurodegeneration by citing examples of Parkinson’s disease, Alzheimer’s, and Epilepsy. Dr. Anita Mahadevan rightfully explained ‘why is there a budding need for brain banks in India’. She concluded the session by informing students about the process of brain donation. The lecture was attended by 38 degree college students. The students expressed the lecture was insightful and informative. This inaugural program of the Psychology department was a huge success.