

**Patkai Christian College (Autonomous)**  
**Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC)**  
**Institutional Distinctiveness (2019 – 2020)**

**Online Class and Examination: Converting Challenges into Opportunities**

The covid-19 pandemic engulfed the entire world from the first quarter of 2020 necessitating lockdown and restricting human activities in all walks of life. Among the hardest hit are educational institutions putting the process of traditional teaching-learning at great disarray. With the abrupt closure of the college as per the directive of the government, the college management wasted no time in switching on to the online mode of class and examinations. All basic technical infrastructures including new software were put in place. Faculty and students were given orientation on the usage and benefits of the new educational software for online class and examinations. At the hindsight, the challenge posed by the covid-19 turns out to be a great opportunity for technology-enabled teaching-learning. It pushes the mind not only to be adaptive but also to explore a whole new horizon for learning from the digital world – e-library and e-resources. Being a residential autonomous college with no encumbrances on affiliating to a university, quick decision-making is a forte here.

With the UGC suggesting implementation of online mode of class and examination in April 2020 in the aftermath of the outbreak of the covid-19 pandemic, the college came up with college-specific guidelines for online class and examinations based on the UGC guidelines. The teaching-learning mode switched from the traditional to the online mode, almost in seamless manner. ICT enabled classrooms with LCS were set up to enable the teachers take the classes from the designated classrooms. Class routines were remade keeping in mind the need for proper syllabus coverage with proper monitoring by the academic deans. This new exercise has proved that online delivery of lectures and study materials and online examinations – theory and laboratory practical, descriptive and multiple choice questions, continuous assessment and evaluation of scripts in the digital mode and declaration of results - is not just an alternative academic exercise. It offered a whole new experience serving the cause of environmental protection as the entire process is paperless and very cost effective. Aside, being a residential college, the faculty and staff remain on campus even during lockdown and/or closure of educational institutions timely and effective troubleshooting. Another advantage of the college being residential in the new situation is the close proximity

of the college library and all information and communication technology infrastructure at the disposal of the faculty and staff.

With all these facilities in place, results for the Even Semester of the undergraduate and postgraduate courses were declared by 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020. Consequently, online class for the intermediate students was started by August 2020, and the whole process of examination for the Odd Semester (2020) ended in January, 2021. While many of the educational institutions across the country remained stranded and unsure of the direction to go, the college could successfully end the teaching- learning and evaluation process, and push forward the momentum of academic progression till date.



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