

Dr Datta with the Round Square Delegation for Chile

# Round Square Conference at Santiago, Chile : "Dare to Dream, Dare to Lead"

Modern Barakhamba marked a historic milestone by participating in the prestigious Round Square Conference in Santiago, Chile, its first-ever representation on South American soil. Under the inspiring theme "*Dare to Dream, Dare to Lead*," the delegation exemplified the school's commitment to foster global collaboration, leadership and service. The delegation of students **Sarthak Ranganadhan** (XII-B), **Aryaveer Bhargava** (XII-E), **Arhaan Gupta** (XII-G), and **Adhiraj Joneja** (XII-H), was accompanied by Round Square Coordinator **Ms Shalini Dahiya**. Hosted by Craighouse School, the week-long conference centered around the six IDEALS of Round Square: Internationalism, Democracy, Environmentalism, Adventure, Leadership, and Service. Throughout the conference, students engaged with young leaders from across the globe—Romania, South Africa, Germany, Argentina, Peru, the United States, Canada, and more—celebrating cultural diversity, forging lasting friendships, and sharing transformative experiences.

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Keynote speakers, including activists **Trinidad Matta**, **Elizabeth Andrade**, **Alina Namuncura**, and **Adib Anastas**, inspired delegates with their commitment to social change. Actor, writer, and TEDx speaker **Nacho Navarrete** delivered a powerful keynote address, while explorer **Jack Dill** and rugby athlete **José Ignacio Larenas** shared invaluable life lessons on perseverance, adventure, and teamwork. Cultural immersion was a vibrant highlight, with delegates showcasing their traditions through song, dance, and cuisine, while also experiencing Chilean culture through traditional games and local food. Visits to La Moneda, the revolutionary murals by José Venturelli, and the Museum of Human Rights provided deep insights into Chile's history of dictatorship and its resilient journey toward democracy.

In a spirit of service, students worked alongside the nonprofit organization Techo, contributing to projects that improved living conditions for underprivileged communities. Homestays with families from Craighouse School further enriched the delegates' experience, offering them a personal glimpse into Chilean life. Adventure activities, such as white-water rafting on the Rio Maipo and team challenges at the Latitude 90 adventure center, emphasized leadership, trust, and collaboration. Environmental consciousness was also a focal point, with a visit to Ecoterra, where students learned about sustainable agriculture and ethical farming practices.

The Round Square Conference in Santiago was a profound, life-changing experience for the Modern Barakhamba delegation, instilling in them a deeper sense of global responsibility, cultural empathy, and leadership. The school's participation stands as a testament to its dedication to nurturing future leaders who will shape a better world.

### Workshop on Mental Health of Teachers and Understanding Adolescents

### "Not all battles are visible and neither are the victories." — Brittany Burgunder

On 18th and 19th March 2025, a workshop on "Mental Health of Teachers and Understanding Adolescents" was conducted at the HLL and AI Lab of Modern Barakhamba. All teachers from the Middle block, SS block, and PJB, along with their Headmistresses, participated. The session, facilitated by Dr. Rajiv Sharma (Psychiatrist, AIIMS) and Dr. Sarika Bisarya (Psychologist and Special Educator), aimed to empower teachers with strategies to manage their own mental health and effectively support students facing social, emotional, and behavioral challenges.

Key topics included emotional



regulation, stress management, mindfulness, anger control, and fostering positive classroom environments. Practical techniques such as breathing exercises, pausing, and positive thinking were emphasized. Teachers reported significant takeaways, including improved self-awareness, resilience, and enhanced empathy, which they could integrate into their professional and personal lives. The workshop was a valuable initiative, equipping educators to better support student well-being while strengthening the school community.

### Deciding the Future – Career Counselling for Grades 11 and 12

### "Opportunities don't happen, you create them" – Chris Grosser

The Career Counseling Department has commenced its operations for students of Grades 11 and 12 with renewed enthusiasm and dedication. Under the esteemed guidance of the Principal, the department facilitated a series of university visits to the school campus, featuring institutions from both India and overseas.

Renowned Indian private universities such as **Ashoka University**, **FLAME University**, and **KREA University** provided comprehensive insights into the evolving significance of liberal arts education. Representatives from **Boston University**, USA, conducted an informative session on effective essay writing techniques for college applications. Furthermore, delegates from Les Roches and the Glion Institute of Higher Education enlightened students about the career prospects in the fields of hospitality and business studies in Switzerland and Spain.

A consortium of prestigious UK universities—including University College London, King's College London, University of St Andrews, Queen Mary University of London, University of Bristol, and Newcastle University—also engaged with students, offering detailed overviews of their academic programs and sharing valuable guidance on the university application process.

All information disseminated by the visiting universities, including e-brochures, prospectuses, and webinar recordings, has been systematically uploaded to the MS Teams platform under the S7 Career Counseling Team 2025–2026 for students' reference.



Students from Grades 11 and 12 being counselled about future prospects

#### Panasonic Green Impact Webinar

On January 24, 2025, students from the Nature Club of Modern Barakhamba, actively participated in the Panasonic Green Impact Webinar, themed "A Plastic-Free World is a Commitment to the Next Generation." During the webinar, subject-matter experts presented critical insights into the global plastic crisis, its detrimental impact on ecosystems, and the urgent need for waste reduction. They highlighted the vital role that young individuals can play in advocating for a plastic-free world and can collectively drive substantial change. The

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session was highly interactive, providing students with opportunities to engage in discussions, pose questions, and propose ideas for promoting sustainability within their own communities.

The students exhibited remarkable enthusiasm and developed a heightened sense of responsibility towards environmental conservation. The keynote speakers emphasized the need for adopting eco-friendly alternatives to plastic. The experience proved to be both inspiring and empowering for the students, motivating them to actively commit to reducing plastic usage and embracing more sustainable lifestyles.

## Escapade 2025 at Shri Ram College of Commerce

On April 9, 2025, a delegation of 15 students from the **Bizonomics Society** of Modern Barakhamba, attended Escapade 2025, the prestigious Undergraduate Management Festival hosted by Shri Ram College of Commerce (SRCC), University of Delhi.

Escapade 2025 served as a vibrant platform that brought together some of the brightest young minds from across the country, celebrating entrepreneurship, innovation, and managerial excellence. The festival featured an impressive lineup of speaker sessions and engaging activities, providing students with valuable exposure to the world of business and leadership beyond traditional academics.

A key highlight of the visit was an inspiring address by **Colonel Shivender Kanwar**, Founder and CEO of Team Global and a Para Special Forces officer. His session focused on resilience, perseverance, and the discipline required to achieve success, leaving a lasting impact on the attendees.

Beyond the formal sessions, the visit offered students a unique glimpse into life at one of India's most esteemed commerce institutions. Students interacted with SRCC undergraduates, gaining first-hand insights into admission processes, strategies for excelling in board examinations and the CUET, and the academic and extracurricular opportunities available at SRCC. The campus tour further enhanced their understanding of college life, aspirations, and future academic pathways. Overall, the visit to Escapade 2025 was a highly enriching experience, broadening students' perspectives on higher education, leadership, and the entrepreneurial spirit.



Students from Modern Barakhamba visited SRCC

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