



The Bishop's Co-Ed School, Kalyani Nagar

VISIT TO THE AGA KHAN PALACE

Heritage defines a lot and the spadework which goes behind making something grand is just huge. Monuments promulgate the heritage in many ways. One such grand site is the Aga Khan Palace which is located in the city of Pune. (Fortunately, only 700 meters away from our school.)

The Bishop's Co-Ed School, Kalyani Nagar had organised a visit to the Aga Khan Palace as part of its Bagless Day Activity on 16th September 2023, 19th July 2023 and 28th October 2023 for students of classes 6th, 7th and 8th respectively.

We started at 9.00 a.m. and the children enjoyed walking along the roadside. Once we were inside the palace complex, the guide briefed us on how the palace was built by Imam Sultan Muhammad Shah Aga Khan III. She also informed us about the house arrest of Mahatma Gandhi and his wife Kasturba Gandhi at the complex. The Aga Khan Palace, Pune is a national monument and a part of India's freedom movement. We saw the memorials of Mahadevbhai [secretary of Gandhi] and Kasturba Gandhi. Some of the ashes of Mahatma Gandhi are interred here.

We were greatly delighted to see the pictures depicting important events in the Indian freedom struggle, personal belongings of Mahatma Gandhi during his stay in the palace like utensils, clothes, and his personal effects [towel, prayer beads, chappals]. The room in which Kasturba Gandhi took her last breath and letter written by Gandhiji on the death of his dear secretary are some of the attractions in the palace. It was truly overwhelming to dive into the ocean of our history and exploring the pearls of our glorious past.

Visiting the Aga Khan Palace was an experience that we will cherish forever. The monument's historical significance, architectural beauty, and personal emotions that it evoked made it a truly unforgettable experience.

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