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[Home](#) » [The Indian Tribal / News](#) » IIM Ranchi Names Campus Blocks After Jharkhand's Tribal Freedom Fighters

IIM Ranchi Names Campus Blocks After Jharkhand's Tribal Freedom Fighters

*The premier management institute said it took the novel step to cultivate a profound sense of patriotism and respect for the nation's heritage among its students and faculty. **THE INDIAN TRIBAL** reports*

July 1, 2024



Birsa Munda Block

Ranchi

IIM Ranchi on Monday announced the dedication of its administrative, academic and library blocks to tribal freedom fighters. This, the Institute said, was to commemorate India's storied past and a tribute to its relentless struggle for independence.

“Through this initiative, the Institute aims to cultivate a profound sense of patriotism and respect for the nation’s heritage among its students and faculty,” IIM Ranchi said in a statement.

The Birsa Munda Block stands as a tribute to the valiant tribal leader Birsa Munda, who fearlessly led the Munda Rebellion advocating for the rights of the Adivasi community, the Institute maintained.

Tribal icon Birsa Munda was born in 1875 and he led a movement against British colonial rule and the exploitation of tribal communities by landlords and missionaries. He is remembered for organizing tribal people to resist British rule and for promoting indigenous religious beliefs and practices. Birsa Munda was eventually captured by the British and died in prison in 1900. He is considered a martyr and a hero among tribal communities in India.

Since 2021, the Centre has started observing his birthday on November 15 as Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas.



Nilamber Block

“Similarly, the Nilamber Block honours Nilamber, a courageous figure in the fight against British imperialism, while the Pitamber Block celebrates the indomitable spirit of Pitamber, symbolizing

the unwavering pursuit of freedom. Nilamber and Pitamber are remembered for their resistance against the British colonial administration. They fought against the exploitation and injustices faced by the tribal people under British rule,” the Institute said.

“Their legacy is primarily one of bravery and defiance against colonial oppression. They are often portrayed in folk tales and local folklore as symbols of courage and heroism,” it added.

It further maintained that the Sidhu Block and Kanhu Block pay homage to Sidhu Murmu and Kanhu Murmu, brothers and leaders of the Santhal Rebellion, were notable figures in the history of India’s independence movement, particularly in the context of tribal uprisings against British colonial rule in the 19th century.



Sidhu Block

They led a significant rebellion against the British East India Company’s rule in 1855-1856, known as the Santal Rebellion or the Santal Hul. The rebellion was a response to oppressive policies and taxes imposed by the colonial administration, which heavily burdened the indigenous people. Sidhu

Kanhu's leadership in the Santal Rebellion has been remembered as a courageous stand against colonial oppression and an assertion of tribal rights and autonomy.

The influence of tribal freedom fighters in Jharkhand has been profound, laying the groundwork for resistance against colonial oppression and championing the rights and dignity of indigenous peoples. Their legacy continues to inspire contemporary movements for social justice and equality in the region.

These dedicated blocks serve as perpetual reminders of India's tribal freedom fighters and the rich cultural tapestry of the independence movement. By immersing students and staff in the stories of these historical icons, "IIM Ranchi aims to ignite feelings of patriotism, resilience, and a steadfast dedication to justice and liberty".



Kanhu Block

IIM Ranchi's decision underscores its unwavering commitment to preserving and celebrating India's history, paying homage to the sacrifices made by those who fought for freedom, and inspiring

IIM Ranchi pays tribute to tribal freedom heroes

While the administrative block has been named after Birsa Munda, the academic block has been named after Nilamber and Pitamber, The academic programme office, the IT office and the placement unit have been named after Sidhu Murmu. The computer lab has been named after Kanhu Murmu

Animesh Bisoece | Jamshedpur | Published 03.07.24, 06:47 AM



IIM Ranchi.
File picture



IIM Ranchi became the first among 21 IIMs of the country to name its administrative, academic and library blocks in memory of tribal freedom fighters.

“Through this initiative, the institute aims to cultivate a profound sense of patriotism and respect for the nation’s heritage among its students and faculty. We have now placed the name of the tribal freedom fighters near the entrance of the blocks. Within a couple of months, we would be placing a brief life history of the tribal martyrs also near the blocks. We are the first among the IIMs to name blocks after tribal heroes,” said IIM Ranchi director Deepak Kumar Srivastava.

While the administrative block has been named after Birsa Munda, the academic block has been named after Nilamber and Pitamber, The academic programme office, the IT office and the placement unit have been named after Sidhu Murmu. The computer lab and executive education classrooms have been named after Kanhu Murmu.

Tribal icon Birsa Munda was the valiant leader who spearheaded the Munda rebellion advocating the rights of the Adivasi community against British rule while Nilamber and Pitamber are both remembered for their resistance against British colonial administration and fight against exploitation and injustices faced by tribals under the British.

Sidhu Murmu and Kanhu Murmu (known for leading Santhal uprisings against British colonial rule) rebelled against the oppressive policies and taxes imposed by the colonial administration which heavily burdened the indigenous people.

“The influence of tribal freedom fighters in Jharkhand has been profound, laying the groundwork for resistance against colonial oppression and championing the rights and dignity of indigenous peoples. Their legacy continues to inspire contemporary movements for social justice and equality in the region. These dedicated blocks serve as perpetual reminders of India’s tribal freedom fighters and the rich cultural tapestry of the independence movement,” said a spokesperson of the institution

“By immersing students and staff in the stories of these historical icons, IIM Ranchi aims to ignite feelings of patriotism, resilience, and a steadfast dedication to justice and liberty. The decision underscores IIM’s unwavering commitment to preserving and celebrating India’s history, paying homage to the sacrifices made by those who fought for freedom, and inspiring future generations to uphold the values of courage and perseverance,” the spokesperson added.

Since its establishment in 2009, IIM Ranchi operated from a temporary campus in Suchana Bhavan (behind the Governor’s house) with the students’ hostel at Khelgaon. In 2021, the institute shifted to its permanent campus on a 60-acre plot in Dhurwa, Ranchi.

Courses for ST students

IIT Indian School of Mines (ISM) Dhanbad started the capacity-building programme on basic level information technology and computer training for more than 1,500 tribal students of Classes X, XI and XII of seven Eklavya

Model Residential Schools (EMRS) in different districts of Jharkhand from Monday.

EMRS aims to provide free education to Scheduled Tribe children from Classes V to XII in residential set-up under a scheme implemented by the central government.

The sessions took place at the EMRS schools in Kathijoria (in Dumka), Godda, Ranchi, Lohardaga, West Singhbhum, Dumka and Bhognadih (Sahebganj).

“The course will be conducted in hybrid mode and total duration of the course will be one year divided into two semesters of 13 weeks each. Reading material in Hindi for the entire one-year basic level programme will be delivered to the students at the start of the programme,” said Rashmi Singh who is the principal investigator of the project in IIT (ISM).

Reading materials in the Santhali language, which is the dominant tribal language in the EMRS schools, will be kept in the school library for the reference of the students. Assignments will be given to the students every week to test their progress.



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Jharkhand News: IIM Ranchi honours tribal freedom fighters with campus block names

by [Jharkhand Story](#) — 2 July 2024 in [Breaking](#), [Education](#), [Tribal Issues](#)



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PINAKI MAJUMDAR

Jamshedpur, July 2: IIM Ranchi announced the dedication of its administrative, academic and library blocks to tribal freedom fighters, in a nod to India's storied past and relentless struggle for independence.

Through this initiative, the institute aims to cultivate a profound sense of patriotism and respect for the nation's heritage among its students and faculty.



Birsa Munda Block

The Birsa Munda Block stands as a tribute to the valiant tribal leader Birsa Munda, who fearlessly led the Munda Rebellion advocating for the rights of the Adivasi community.

Birsa Munda was a tribal freedom fighter and religious leader who played a significant role in the Indian independence movement.

He was born in 1875 in the Chota Nagpur region of present-day Jharkhand. Birsa Munda led a movement against British colonial rule and the exploitation of tribal communities by landlords and missionaries.

He is remembered for organizing tribal people to resist British rule and for promoting indigenous religious beliefs and practices.

Birsa Munda was eventually captured by the British and died in prison in 1900. He is considered a martyr and a hero among tribal communities in India.

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Nilamber Block and Pitamber Block

Similarly, the Nilamber Block honours Nilamber, a courageous figure in the fight against the British imperialism, while the Pitamber Block celebrates the indomitable spirit of Pitamber, symbolizing the unwavering pursuit of freedom.



Nilamber and Pitamber are remembered for their resistance against the British colonial administration. They fought against the exploitation and injustices faced by the tribal people under British rule.

Their legacy is primarily one of bravery and defiance against colonial oppression. They are often portrayed in folk tales and local folklore as symbols of courage and heroism.



Sidhu Block and Kanhu Block

The Sidhu Block and Kanhu Block pay homage to Sidhu Murmu and Kanhu Murmu, leaders of the Santhal Rebellion who were notable figures in the history of India's independence movement, particularly in the context of tribal uprisings against British colonial rule in the 19th century.



They led a significant rebellion against the British East India Company's rule in 1855-1856, known as the Santal Rebellion or the Santal Hool.

The rebellion was a response to oppressive policies and taxes imposed by the colonial administration, which heavily burdened the indigenous people. Siddhu Kanhu's leadership in the Santal Rebellion has been remembered as a courageous stand against colonial oppression and an assertion of tribal rights and autonomy.

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