

ADBU students offer services to village students



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A university [community](#) in northeast [India](#) has become a [trend](#) setter in offering development communication services when its students of the [Schools](#) of [Technology](#) and [Social](#) Sciences decided to reach out to its neighbourhood communities.

It all started 3 years ago when its Masters students of [Social](#) Work panned out to do a [social](#) audit and needs assessment of its neighbourhood communities and [launched](#) free tuition classes for high school students.

“Three years ago we started off with two hour evening sessions in Maths, English and Science for 40 neighbourhood students studying in classes [8](#), 9 and [10](#),” says Assistant Professor of [Social](#) Work Mr Victor Nazary, coordinator of the Swastyayan program at Assam [Don Bosco](#) University ([ADBU](#)) in Guwahati.

Swastyayan – a commitment – offers free tuition classes for high school students, [as](#) well [as](#) skilling them with personality development, spoken English and leadership techniques.

Today there are [over](#) 300 boys and [girls](#) given free tuitions by some 60 [ADBU student](#) and faculty volunteers from Monday to Friday for two hours in the same classrooms where B. [Tech](#) students hold classes.

Besides, [Social](#) Work and B. [Tech](#) department staff and students, other departments of Psychological Counseling, Human Rights, and Mass Communication have volunteered to join the program.

Last month, the Psychological Counseling department started a Counseling Centre offering free counseling sessions every Friday afternoon for the Swastyayan students and their parents.

“The purpose of the centre is to promote the relevance and benefits of counseling, [as](#) well [as](#) provide free counseling sessions to Swastyayan [community](#),” says Sabatina [Changmai](#) an MA [student](#) in Psychology.

The Human Rights department has stepped in to ensure that in the neighbourhood communities of the university children enjoy Child Rights especially with regard to education, prevention of child labour and trafficking.

This week, the Mass Communication department teamed up with the local [community](#) radio – Radio Luit – to highlight social issues and aired three programs highlighting health issues, busting exam stress, and a children's day special.

Swastyayan's third annual day was held today marking Children's Day with a two hour programme for students and their parents in the presence of [ADBU](#) Pro Vice-Chancellor Fr Joseph Nellanatt, and director of the [Schools](#) of [Technology](#) and [Social](#) Sciences, [Prof](#) Manoranjan Kalita and Dr Riju Sharma respectively.

Deputy Director of Higher [Education](#), Government of Assam, Miss Chinmoyee Talukdar, the Chief Guest at the event addressed the students and their parents. She encouraged all to emulate the example of late [President](#) of [India](#) Mr. APJ Kalam's passion for learning and integrity, and make use of every opportunity the [ADBU community](#) is providing.

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