



The Natabua Campus organising team with the chief guest Ramesh Chand (sitting middle), CHE Head of School-Education Satish Chand and competition winners.

FNU promotes Hindi language through a week-long program

Learning and preserving culture, traditions and language is vital in this fast day and age. The Fiji National University's (FNU), Natabua Campus recently held a week-long programme to celebrate National Hindi Day and promote the language through speech, creative writing, music, dance and drama.

With the theme 'Hindi – My Identity', the celebration of language, culture and tradition also included activities and competitions organised for participants at the campus in Lautoka.

Department of Primary Education Assistant Lecturer, Sarita Chand said the programme ran from September 10-17 and coincided with the annual National Hindi Day, which was marked annually on September 14 as Hindi Diwas.

"National Hindi Diwas was first celebrated on September 14 in 1949 when the Constitution of India declared Hindi written in Devanagari Script as an official language. This day is observed within the Indian diaspora to promote Hindi language," Chand said.

"We also marked World Hindi Day, this is celebrated globally on January 10 each year to create awareness on the Hindi language across the world."

"Hindi Diwas was celebrated to showcase the importance of the language to our future teachers who are the medium of motivation and change for the next generation."

Ministry of Education, Heritage and Arts Senior Education Officer-Hindi, Ramesh Chand was the guest speaker at the event and highlighted to the future teachers and audience present that a teacher's real learning started when he or she began teaching and gained experience in the language.

He also mentioned that "Hindi is our identity and we must preserve it through the use of the language."

College of Humanities and Education (CHE), Head of School Education, Satish Chand also emphasised the importance of the language to pre-service teachers.

He said pre-service teachers needed to acquaint themselves with the Hindi language so that they were competent in teaching the language. The pre-service teachers were reminded to continuously upskill themselves in the use of the language.

Winners of the various competitions conducted were announced and are listed below;

Competition	Coordinator	Winners	Programme
Essay Writing	Darshani Prasad Vidya Singh	1. Sarveshni Ram 2. Sonali Sami 3. Hrithik Ronesh	- B.Ed Secondary (Hin/Eng) - B.Ed Primary Year 2 - B.Ed Secondary (Hin/Eng)
Hindi Kavita Writing	Sarita Chand Dropati Lal	1. Sarveshni Ram 2. Shayal Raj 3. Shamal Prahith	- B.Ed Sec (Hin/Eng) - B.Ed Primary Year 2 - B.Ed Primary Year 2
Impromptu Hindi Speech	Suraj Singh Sangeeta Jattan	1. Amendra Milan 2. Donal D. Chand 3. Sarveshni Ram	- B.Ed Primary Year 2 - B.Ed Primary Year 3 - B.Ed Secondary (Hin/Eng)
Hindi Karaoke Singing	Naresh Chand Dr Mumtaz Alam	1. Amendra Milan 2. Niklesh Rao 3. Maria Temai	- B.Ed Primary Year 2 - B.Ed Primary Year 1 - B.Ed Primary Year 2



Winners of various competitions during the FNU Natabua Campus week-long celebration.



FNU Bachelor of Education Primary, Year Two students performing a cultural dance.