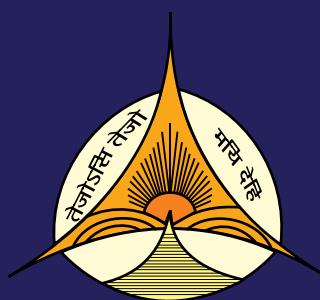


Dimensions



JESUS AND MARY COLLEGE 2021-2022



From the Principal's Desk

Established in 1968, with a vision to empower young women who enter the gateways of higher education through sound knowledge, skills and a commitment to serve society, Jesus and Mary College focuses on educational approaches that instil human values, principles and ideals that enable women to become agents of social transformation. As a leading women's liberal arts college, the distinctive characteristic of JMC is in providing a gender-sensitive education that assists students to realize their full potential and self-worth. It encourages students to contribute significantly to the development of diverse spheres of life, from social, cultural, economic and political. An eminent team of experienced academicians and administrators contribute substantially toward the management and progress of the college.

The vision and mission of JMC define its educational policy. They have been its major strengths from the time of inception to the present. The college provides a caring and nurturing environment where the students come into their own, blossoming into confident, young individuals ready to face the world. Efforts are made to instil the values of mutual trust and team work through varied curricular and extra-curricular activities. The success of the institution's mission is driven by the value-based ethical behaviour of its committed faculty members, staff and students. The college believes that all aspects of education focus on the core values of contributing to national development. The college admits students from diverse national and international backgrounds which promotes a multicultural ethos on the campus.

The last academic session has presented us with both the challenges and the joy of returning to the physical mode of teaching-learning. The staff and the students of JMC have demonstrated exemplary efforts in overcoming the difficulties of transitioning from an online to an offline model of education. The return to the campus made us realise the immense potential of collaborative work as the senior batches organically took on the responsibility to mentor their juniors. Their guidance in the organisation and management of events in the physical mode and assistance with academics made the transition easy for the students who joined JMC during the pandemic. The success and the energy of the last session testify to the commitment of the staff and students toward the college.

I congratulate and thank the Editorial team for their hard work to bring out this copy of the annual college magazine.

Prof. Sandra Joseph
Principal



JESUS AND MARY COLLEGE

University of Delhi

2021-22

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From the Editorial Desk

I am not sure if we can say that we are returning to a new post-pandemic normal. We switched back with utmost precautions to offline mode, after a long gap of two years in February 2022. There can never be a simple pre and/or post-pandemic binary in our world. But yes, we are cautiously inching towards new modes of being, new pedagogical methods, modes of examination, and classroom teaching in the present moment. We are still trying to make sense of this new world. The body of writings presented here constitutes a humble attempt on the part of our students to comprehend the changing contours of a post-pandemic learning environment through art, poetry, and visual essays. We hope you enjoy reading it as much as we did in bringing it all together.

The digital medium has become an integral part of our everyday contexts blurring the boundaries between our offline and online lives. Dimensions, too has gone digital in the last couple of years as we attempt to reach out to a larger audience through its incorporation into the official webpage of the college.

This edition is special because it documents the awarding of a well-deserved A + grade after the much-awaited NAAC peer team visit in November 2021. We have included a short section containing a report on the visit and a select few photographs showcasing the highlights of the event.

I take this opportunity to thank Prof. Sandra Joseph for her constant support and guidance. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to Ms. Purnima Topden, Department of English, for teaching me everything about the art of putting together a college magazine. Special thanks are due to the staff editors, Ms. Kashish Dua and Ms. Aneesha Puri for working tirelessly and meticulously throughout the year. I would also like to thank Dr. Anupama Srivastava and Dr. Birendra Singh for the Hindi section of the magazine. Most importantly, I would like to thank my editorial team for working all year round.

I take immense pleasure in presenting before you Dimensions 2021-22.

Happy reading!

My very best to you

Dr. Sugandha Sehgal

Convenor and Editor,

The Magazine Society

Student Editorial

Here comes the day when I sit down to write the final piece while I sign off as a student editor for Dimensions, the prestigious annual magazine of our college. It feels like yesterday when I stepped into the incredibly beautiful premises of Jesus and Mary College, and today I take immense pride in not only leading the magazine society but also putting together the official magazine of our college. It has helped me shape my leadership skills and astonished me with the extraordinary talent we have. Serving Cauldron and its members as the President for the academic session 2021-22 was a great privilege and honour. Every member of Cauldron holds a very special place. This magazine is the result of the passionate creativity and hard work of young writers and artists. I hope this will give you time to reflect on the avenues of your imagination.

Paving through memories, gushing through the past, homes were the only place to travel from one room to another. With imagination and dedication, we came up with this year's theme 'Wanderlust' and gathered the finest pieces of imagination that take us around the world. I hope you can find something on these pages that will stay with you for a while.

Nonetheless, the academic session 2021-22 has been one of the toughest transitions for all of us. These years were something we never imagined in our wildest dreams, but have given us some wonderful life lessons and helped us discover a newer version of ourselves.

First and foremost, I express my deepest gratitude to our Principal Prof. Sandra Joseph for acting as a supporting pillar throughout this process. I am incredibly grateful to our convenor, Ms. Sugandha Sehgal for her unwavering guidance throughout the year. I would also like to thank our staff editors, Ms. Kashish Dua and Ms. Aneesha Puri, without whose patience and support this wouldn't have become a collated piece of work.

My special thanks to all the members of Cauldron and all who have contributed to the different stages of putting this magazine together. Finally, I am thankful to Shaoni Dutta, the Vice-President, who not just managed the responsibility of handling and organising major tasks but also was one of the best designers we could ever ask for. My gratitude goes out to the entire editorial board of Cauldron for juggling assignments and editing work, and for being cooperative and helpful during this year. It has been a memorable journey.

Hope you enjoy reading the magazine.

Muskaan Punj
President
Cauldron, The Magazine Society



PRIZE WINNING

Entries

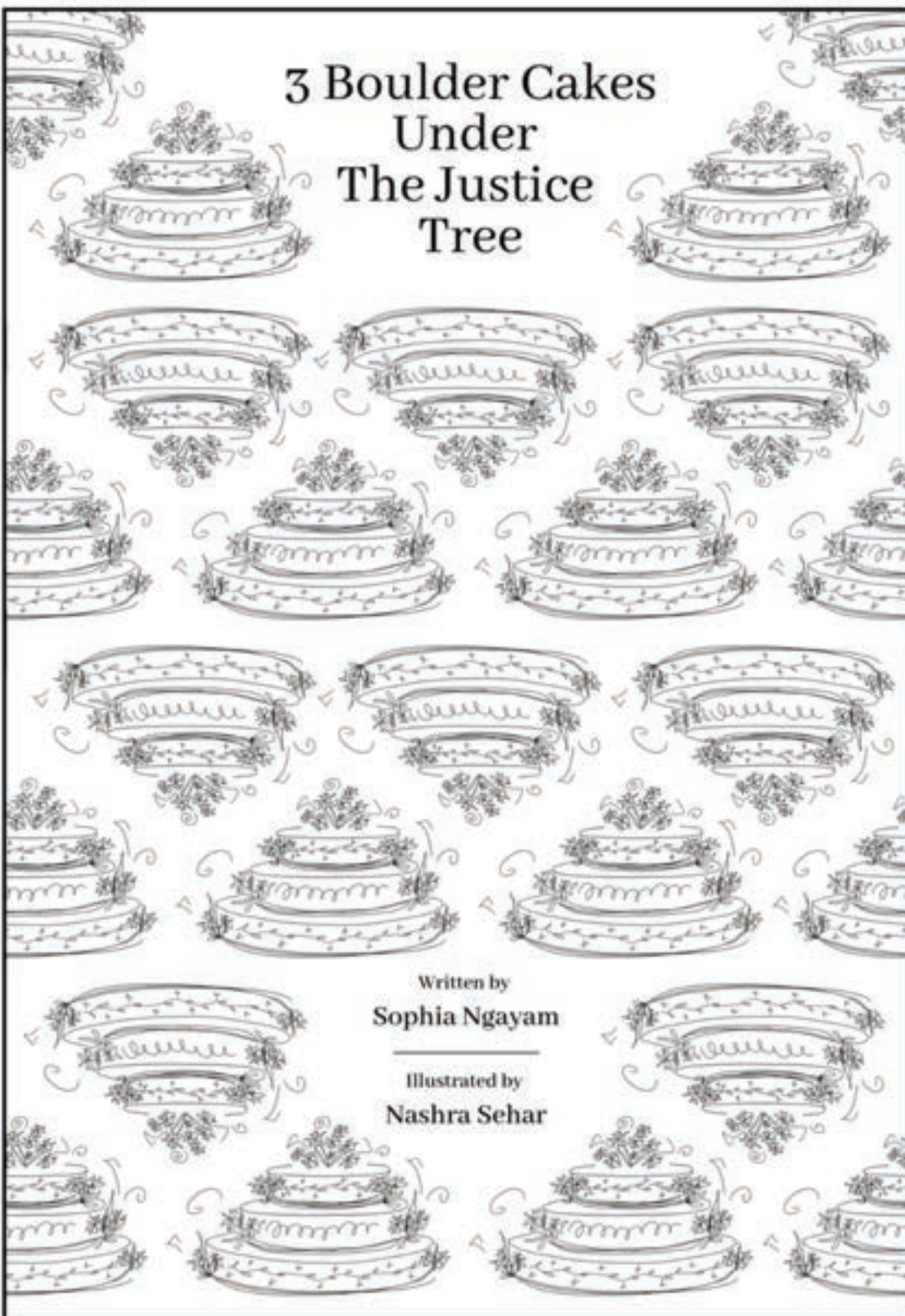
*Illustration by Nashra Sehar
2nd year, B.A. English Honours*

Winning entries of WORDCRAFT

Organised in the month of February, 2022, WORDCRAFT was a new effort to combine creativity. A creative writing, art and photography competition in one, this collaborative competition involved writers, artists and illustrators to team up and create illustrated creative content. While the writers wrote many impeccable pieces of fiction, illustrators and photographers supplied vibrant material to accompany them.

The prompts were 'A Trip to Mind Palace', where the creative mind was to be depicted like a physical space; 'Down in Wonderland' which was inspired from Alice's Adventures; and 'The God Complex', which was focused on world-building in the form of science fiction.

The following are two of the best entries we received.



3 Boulder Cakes Under The Justice Tree

Written by
Sophia Ngayam

Illustrated by
Nashra Sehar

Three Boulder Cakes Under the Justice Tree

Shon had grown-up siblings. Of course, this meant they did not play with toys as he did or enjoy company as much as he did. Thus, Shon was often left to his own devices, and amusement was found with great difficulty. Boredom was an unwelcome, frequent visitor. You can imagine then how curious the boy was when, instead of that burdensome figure, a Kangaroo in a blue tux hopped past the street. A nine-year-old simply cannot not chase it.

Shon hurriedly climbed
down

the

stairs

and stepped out of the house.

The Kangaroo turned a corner. Then another. All the while, a bored child in hot pursuit, completely unfazed by the growing distance between him and his grown-up siblings who were undoubtedly still in their own rooms doing grown-up things (like college assignments). In this manner, the two arrived, one after the other, at a large brown gate that Shon could not recall ever having seen before. The Kangaroo knocked seven times. Bum ba-bum. Ba-bum. Ba-bum. And was let in with a loud screech of iron and many years of wear. Shon followed.

A splendid sight stood before him. Here was a scene rendered in lush greens and all the delightful shades of a pastel palette. Tall trees, short trees, herbs and shrubs lined the horizon like a contingent of army men ready to salute the king. A lake spread out in the far distance and Shon had a hankering to peruse the curious landmark, but before he could take a step forward the Kangaroo called out from a little way down the beige road.

‘Ho! Creature, come here!’

Shon composed himself and walked up to the Kangaroo

who was now in the company of a monkey in a crisp white shirt and a serious expression—the kind one wears while doing homework.

‘Are you Man?’ Asked the marsupial.

‘My name is Shon. I’m just a boy; not a man yet. I’m only nine.’ So was the reply.

‘How strange... A Shon-creature, a boy-creature, and a number-creature all at once! You are quite beast-like! But not Man yet? Though you have fingers?’

‘Having fingers does not mean someone is a man.’

‘Oh, but it sure does! Here’s my Left-Hand Man.’ And he gestured at his primate companion who promptly presented his glorious thumbs. ‘I don’t have fingers. That’s because I am a Kangaroo. Fingers are the essence of a man, and height that of a Kangaroo.’

Upon observation, Shon noticed that the Kangaroo wore exceptionally high sandals. The latter, conscious of the scrutiny, cleared his throat and asked pointedly if the number-creature had anything to say. Shon shook his head.

‘I have some business at the Justice Tree for which I need a Right-Hand Man. Would you lend me a hand?’ Shon nodded. ‘Great! As the Right-Hand, you need only write. Left-Hand will hold the clipboard. Now, we are quite late so we must hop to it.’

The Left-Hand Man calmly chased after its hopping master, and Shon happily followed. Thus went the trio with the foxed identities: the two Hands, neither of whom were Men yet; and their marsupial master who wore heights to hide the fact that he was ‘really just a Wallaby’ (so the white-shirt primate revealed in hushed tones to his colleague). Why a Wallaby would so ardently wish to be a Kangaroo, a number-creature can never understand. But that was a curiosity that Shon dwelt on only in hindsight.



As they drew closer and closer to their destination, Shon viewed a giant tree with leaves spread out wide enough to shade some 50 animals. These creatures chatted nervously among themselves – raised eyebrows (some knitted), bulged eyes, energetic gestures, and regular gasps and coos of sympathy. One by one they noticed Mr Kangaroo and shuffled their agitated feet into order.

‘A single file line, my good friends.’ Said the revered mammal, and was promptly obeyed. He took his seat at the clothed table near the trunk of the Justice Tree, the Left-Hand Man next to him, and Shon beside him. ‘Please wait your turn. We will listen to all your concerns and serve justice accordingly.’

First was an aged Beagle with quivering paws. She complained about a pesky Goldfish who wouldn’t stop bobbing its head from the surface of the lake beyond her fences. This worried her for she was sure the Goldfish would one day step out and steal her laundry. After that came a Raccoon claiming there was an Alligator loose in her neighbourhood – possibly the cause of all those

burrows in the park which were never there! A Sloth reported he had been robbed of many bananas in the past six days, and suspected it was the Bullfrog.

Each came and laid their case. ‘Those menacing Water Creatures! Our village is in danger.’ And Mr Kangaroo calmly listened to them all while Shon wrote down their complaints and Left-Hand Man held the clipboard.

Quite a few times, Shon had the urge to point out that ‘a Goldfish cannot walk’, that ‘Alligators don’t dig’, or that ‘it was more likely a monkey that had stolen Grandfather Sloth’s bananas.’ But each time he opened his mouth to speak, his master shushed him.

‘Right-Hand Man, we do not accuse our friends of falsehood. They are worried about their safety and asking for help. And we will help you, Grandfather Sloth. Don’t you worry.’

‘Thank you, Mr Wa- uh Kangaroo. Mr Kangaroo.’ The creature addressed remained cordial and ever-charming... but did his fur twitch a bit just then?

From the direction of the lake, Shon noticed three figures walking towards the Justice Tree. The scene looked somewhat foreboding. Guided by two large Cats, a small turtle trudged slowly through the grass. With his eyes deeply fixed on the ground before him, the Small Turtle walked towards the inevitable—it was time for a public prosecution, and the consultation was hurriedly concluded.

The mammals under the Justice Tree whispered to each other how pitiful it was that they started so young, how painful it must be to have incompetent parents and be subject to faulty teachings. His crimes were no secret. Just as soon as Ms Tortoise had reported the crime the other day the news had spread like wildfire: a Turtle thinks he is similar to a Tortoise!

Mr Kangaroo had been prompt in doling out a punishment suitable for the crime: ‘The Small Turtle must finish 3 Boulder Cakes!’

The torturous cakes were brought out on silver platters by three burly cats, each with a copy of the triple-tiered sentence. The young criminal sat down under the Justice Tree to face his punishment. What a sorry sight it was. The Small Turtle lifted a small flipper and scooped up his first bite of the torturous Boulder Cake. He opened his mouth and began munching on the not-so-sweet delicacy. There were some giggles, some chuckles, some teasing from the two Meerkats on the side, but the Small Turtle continued his penance.

Down went the first tier. Then the second. The Small Turtle slowed and his eyes lost focus. He grew pale and looked sickly. His breathing became deep and desperate. He opened his mouth as if to say something but couldn't. The crowd was extremely pleased. Not only had the criminal been justly punished, but was also unable to speak.

Serves him right. He cannot say anything foolish anymore.

The number-creature grew afraid. The punishment alone was scary, but seeing no wrong in the crime committed was terrifying. Shon's own breathing became heavy and panicked. Why should the Turtle be punished? Because he thought he was similar

to a Tortoise? But aren't they? Should opinions be punished? And aren't Wallabies and Kangaroos also similar? If the Turtle lived on land as Mr Kangaroo wore heights, would that be better? Why do these animals hate water creatures so much?

With the agonising moans of the miserable Turtle and the satisfied murmurs of the crowd drumming his heart, the number-creature pushed forth towards the Turtle. He knocked into hooves, brushed colourful feathers, and grazed the stiff fur of the vengeful creatures gathered under the Justice Tree. But the crowd, suddenly conscious of the intent, pushed him back. Shon heaved and protested under the weight of the resistant crowd, but his grunts were drowned in the animals' rebukes. Pushed further and further from the Small Turtle, Shon was soon shoved out of the herd, and he

tumbled down a long, long hill.

Shon braced himself, shut his eyes and scrunched up his face. The descent was long and perhaps the animals had already moved on from their assault and turned back to jeer at the Turtle. If Shon was ever keen on helping that poor Turtle he'd have to stop falling soon. But here he was back in his room again, so perhaps it was all just a terrible dream.

*Written by Sophia Ngayam Lungleng Shongzan
2nd year, B.A. English Honours*

*Illustrated by Nashra Sehar
2nd year, B.A. English Honours*



The Keeper of Abandoned Things

The sea is rough today. But I want to be reckless, and I don't know any better. To be fair, I'm not all that great at surfing. Dad only taught me the basics. Sometimes when I manage to ride an above-average wave, I wish pride would punch him in the face. *Look old man, I did it without you.* The sea swells under my belly, and I let the first few waves pass. I can't wait too long. It's unlikely that I will be able to ride the later ones. It takes a while to cough up the courage. *Now.* The wave comes and I allow it to take me, and as it breaks into white, I hug the surfboard for dear life until it passes. That was high. Alright, *now.* It's too late to think. The next wave almost takes me under. I attempt to get on my feet anyway. Yes, I'm riding it. I'm on my feet at least. The water swells beneath my feet, and I can't be deterred by anything, not the curling foam, not the adrenaline in my veins, not even the fear of death. I ride the wave for the first few seconds, knowing this is the highest I've ever been. My lack of control is slow to kick in. I can't ride it through. The surfboard slips ahead while I fall back into the foamy cradle, toppled over by subsequent waves, each bigger than the last.

This isn't new. I've been overpowered by waves plenty of times. The only problem is that the yellow of dad's old surfboard floats somewhere above the surface. I kick my legs, but the water takes its own lazy time realizing my buoyancy. It's pointless to swim towards it. I'll kick instead, I'll surface, then I'll flail my arms around for help. I can stay afloat. I can swim just enough. But I don't cut to the surface. Each time I start an upward float, another wave crashes in. My legs are heavy and freezing. The sea here is colder. I can't hold my breath anymore, my heart is racing a thousand miles a minute, and something cold and sweet seeps through my veins—it takes a while to recognise panic. My arms are tired, but the waves will throw me to the rocks if I stop moving. There's no breath left in me,

and I'm deep enough that the surfboard overhead has disappeared.

The water hurts my eyes, and I feel its salt in my mouth. It's silent here, way beneath the surface, where I cannot hear the waves crashing. It's getting cold and dark and I'm sleepy. I breathe out the last of my breath, and even as my lungs fight for an extra gasp, they receive nothing but more of the salt, cold, and dark nothingness that surrounds me. At least the rocks aren't in sight, I think, becoming more peaceful by the minute. I try to be angry at myself, at my stupidity, at dad's stupidity. But my head swims, and I spiral into thinking about dad, and how they were wrong, and dad didn't have to struggle all that hard, that if this was the way to go, it wasn't the worst.

I see fish through the blur of the waters. They're blue, pink, yellow, as if out of *Finding Nemo*, while others leave behind a trail of bubbles that's almost glittery. The fish seem unafraid. Turtles swim past, so unbothered by a human presence, they could be rolling their eyes at me. Incandescent jellyfish play around my feet, and maybe it's my dying brain cells, but I hear their small voices, like the ringing of tiny bells. Something brilliant at the bottom fades all else. I'm close enough to see its colours, sinking closer each second until I can touch its coarse texture. They're corals. Beautiful, vibrant ones too, and teeming with life in its labyrinths. I reckon it's pretty to think I'll be a part of this reef soon.

"Abandoned humans are a lot harder to deal with." I clearly hear the words. But that's not surprising, dying neurons often fire up hallucinations. I'm more surprised by my ability to feel shocked. I look around, and giant sea turtles, scowling mermaids and smiling dolphins swim past me. Someone must have sprinkled cocaine in these waters.



The source of the voice floats up from its hiding place within the corals. It's a spoon. Your everyday teaspoon. Silver, small, and animated.

"One of these days, the ocean will be a mass grave of all things man-made," it says, giving me a once over with its small, beady eyes. It uses its handle as a tail to float. Having convinced itself that I'm tolerable, he breaks into a tiny silver grin. "I'm Neough, the silver spoon! I'm not really silver. I guess I am rather ordinary, one of those you find out at the cafes on the shore," he sighs. "Follow me."

I exclaim "*What!?*" into the water, and only bubbles escape my lips. Neough seems to understand. "You'll see. Our cove is at the shallows of the reef. It's where I live. It's probably where you'll live, too. The Keeper

will take care of you."

Neough swims ahead, and I follow. I swim behind a talking teaspoon that calls itself Neough. A leatherback sea turtle floats past with an approving nod, and I swear a few oysters smile at us.

I try to ask, "Why are we here Neough?" More bubbles escape my lips, and Neough seems to read them.

"You ask depressing questions," he says.

I don't care, I bubble, and Neough sighs. "You're given a fork, a knife, a spoon. Most people never need me. The fork and knife meet their cafe needs. But I'm shoved into the dishwasher every day, time and again, without a reason. Existence lost all meaning for me," I couldn't tell if he was crying. "I had no choice." *You drowned yourself?* "You could say so," he sniffled. "It's better than being drowned every day."

This has to be the afterlife. I got dead spoons as company.

Do you have friends here, Neough? Neough the suicidal spoon sobs, and I wonder for a moment if I asked the wrong question. "My friends are the best creatures in the whole sea," he says, and his little eyes sparkle. "They're the best. Rosie Ring, Moby Dick, John—"

Moby Dick? *Moby Dick?* *You have a WHALE FOR A FRIEND?* Neough is bewildered for a second. Then he smiles, "Ah. You humans. No, Moby is not a whale. He's a book. Someone threw him away."

No wonder they did, it's a hell of a book to get through, I bubble. Neough rolls its eyes. "And wait until you meet our Keeper."

We reach Neough's little cove, and Rosie comes rolling towards me. "Hello! I'm Rosie the Wedding Ring. You're very welcome!" She busies herself with smoothing out some musk grass by passing them through her hoop. "I'll make you a comfortable seat!"

Neough whispers in my ear, "Rosie's master drowned

here in a shipwreck. She has been searching for her other half, the mistress' ring since then. She believes true love will find itself reunited at the bottom of the sea."

Cassetta is an old cassette who welcomes me by playing a John Denver song. Moby Dick bows to me, "Call me Ishmael," and I feel a pang of guilt thinking about my copy of him back home, unread and collecting dust.

"Bonjour Mademoiselle," John greets, and recites other words of beautiful French that I don't understand. He's charming either way. He's a message in a slightly broken bottle. *What's his story?* I bubble to Neough in a whisper. "He's a Dear John letter. Sadly, the gentleman hurt his lady's feelings."

So you're all... abandoned things? "That's a harsh way to put it," comes a little voice behind me. It's a sock. He's not just a sock. He's The Other Sock. The one we never find. "Considering you're one of us now. Would you call yourself, so ungraciously, *an abandoned thing?*"

I'm not an abandoned thing, I reply, with a sickening feeling that he could be right.

"Sure you're not. None of us is. We're special, and perhaps unloved, but we're the things that you half-believe the sea will return but it never does. We're the misunderstood, the ones they never miss until heartbreak knocks them down one fine day. We're made of forgotten love and nostalgia, we're warm socks from a Christmas morning and teaspoons from a first date; we're keepsakes of broken marriages. And you're one of us."

You're wrong, I find my heart breaking, *I'm not forgotten, or abandoned.*

"You don't belong here, Charlotte." Of all the things that my death has brought me, this voice is the most precious of all. It is gentle and deep, even through the waters, with a subtle nasal undertone. It is also the

one that I find the most unbelievable. *Dad?* A single, perfectly round bubble escapes my lips. I was still weightless, floating, but this time a heartache replaced the water in my chest. A suck in mouthfuls of water, overwhelmed suddenly by a desire to breathe. *Dad...*

My father touches my arm. I feel it warming my frozen core. His skin is whiter, more translucent than I remember. He smiles at me, "Take my hand. You're never abandoned Charlotte. You're loved, and you're precious." I take his hand, and we swim upwards. I find myself not having to take responsibility for my body anymore, I am safe in his hands. "Your recklessness is a pity. Your life is more precious than you think," he says, I listen, smiling, sleepy, despite the water in my lungs. *Come with me then. I won't be reckless.* He smiles down at my face. "Someone has to get you to the shore," he says. *So you're the Keeper of the Abandoned Things...* Dying was worth it if this is what it brought me, I think, as I let his warmth spread through my freezing veins, as I close my eyes, safe in the knowledge that I haven't been abandoned.

I regain consciousness up at the shore, alive and safe. I'm surrounded by paramedics and coastguards who declare it a miracle that the currents did not throw me to the rocks. The sand feels soft beneath my palms, and the sun feels warm against my skin. It is a miracle indeed. I'm the most precious life to the Keeper of Abandoned Things.

Written and illustrated

By Shaoni Dutta

2nd Year, B.A. English Honours

Winning entries of **WORD WEAVES**

Organised in the month of March, 2022, WORD WEAVES was a unique event sponsored by SCHOLASTIC, the world's largest publisher and distributor of children's books. Winners of this event received exclusive gift hampers from Scholastic. The creative writing competition witnessed active participation from students of Jesus and Mary College. The prompts were of two types - picture prompts, as well as a word-based prompt. 'A Trip to the Afterlife' was one of them, while the picture prompts included a desolate house, along with a picture of a flash of lightning.

The following are three of the best entries we received.

Do you want to know about Victor?

victor is the name of the boy who works the night shift at the gas station store where the town meets the highway—he spends the hours from nightfall to dawn in his own world of fluorescent tubes that cast blue shadows under his cheekbones, between shelves full of plastic wrappings reflecting the light and near the glow of his phone’s screen that looks back at him and his tired eyes. once it becomes that specific kind of late, the kind where no one really comes in anymore, he hijacks the playlist and speakers and plays vivaldi, sometimes mozart, sometimes beethoven. he pulls the wrapper off a cherry-flavoured lollipop and considers that at four am, the artificial flavouring tastes almost better than the real thing.

victor is the name of the boy who secretly smoked in the parking lot of the school. he had scouted out the perfect corner where nobody ever found him and where between him and the graffiti-stained wall, the smoke painted a peaceful scene, and each nicotine-heavy breath calmed the hunger in his chest.

victor is the name of the boy who lost both his parents in a car crash when he was barely ten, and suddenly it’s him and his little sister alone in the world, and he has to be a big brother before he can be anything else—and they get adopted together, and their new family is kind of odd, kind of mismatched, kind of chaotic, and a little deeper down, a bit frightening, but it’s a family nonetheless. he doesn’t call them his parents, but he watches his sister do it, and he is grateful that she wasn’t old enough to recall their faces and their voices. he is a big brother, to a lot of people all of a sudden, and he hides the old family pictures under the bed because they make him weak, and he doesn’t need questions.

victor is the name of the boy that has a weird fascination with snakes—when he goes to the zoo with school or

family he stays in the reptile house for hours, despite the fact that it’s always uncomfortably warm, and he looks at the snakes in their glass enclosures, the big ones and the small ones, and he likes to believe that they enjoy his company a little as well, because sometimes they come closer to the glass or move their heads in his direction. he gets his own pet snake eventually, and he has never felt happier, he thinks.

victor is the name of the boy who had his first relationship with his history teacher when he was seventeen—it was all brief eye contacts and hints of touches and kisses in the car during the break times, he remembers his bedsheets had smelt sweet, some kind of floral scent, and he remembers him talking about old composers and the history of computers when victor was about to fall asleep in his arms. he thinks he probably only passed the subject because he was sleeping with him, he didn’t study for history and was still among the best students. he still has his number, buried somewhere in his contacts, but he hasn’t felt like calling him since he graduated.

victor is the name of the boy who writes computer programs for fun, to him numbers and strings of code are like reading a story, telling a story—he spends his free time on his computer, and he tinkers with scraps of technology. he counts more accidental electric shocks passing through his fingers per day than conversations with other people, and he likes it that way. he enjoys watching sparks fly, and he causes power outages sometimes, just for fun, especially for fun.

victor is the name of the boy who gets overwhelmed too quickly. his ears ring constantly, he seems to hear the buzz of every electrical thing around him, every sound from the heater, every car that drives by—he cries through pounding headaches and wishes his siblings would shut up outside the locked door to his room, and

he wishes he could go back. he doesn't know where 'back' is. maybe the old house of his parents, maybe the car of his history teacher, maybe the gas station store he works at—he doesn't know which option is more tragic.

victor is the name of the boy who loves thunderstorms. he goes out in the rain without an umbrella and looks up at the grey sky above him, despite the drops hitting his eyes. he lets the wind tear at his clothes and brushes back wet strands of hair from his face, and he watches lightning flare across the sky and waits for the thunder. he feels free then.

victor is the name of the boy who works the night shift at the gas station store where the town meets the highway, right now he's probably listening to vivaldi and pondering his existence, in twenty minutes he will take a break to have a smoke, and he will see his old history teacher next to his car, and he closes the store for an hour or so, and it's not as cathartic as he had hoped.

victor is the name of the boy who finally tells his sister how important she is to him and who deletes the number from his phone and who throws away the box under his bed and who makes a first appointment with a therapist.

victor is the name of the boy that works the night shift at the gas station store where the town meets the highway — and one night he is here and the next he is gone.

don't ask me about victor.

right now, he is free.

Cuckoldry

My dear husband.

He was a terrible man. So bland and grey. Always working. And I got up every morning, at the break of dawn, to play the role of the loyal, caring housewife, and make the cruel morning working-husband-friendly. I navigated out of the stern four walls of our bedroom to our spacious living room, dark only till the curtains were drawn and what little light these heartless woods could muster found its way into this gloomy house.

Though the service was a terrible punishment, the morning silence was pleasant. I hated his voice. It was incredibly annoying. Still, because he earned a more than comfortable salary, it was bearable. So I got up every new day earlier than I liked, crept into the kitchen and made my husband a hearty breakfast. And when the alarm rang he'd get up and stumble into the bathroom, take his own sweet time sobering himself, and just as well stumble back out. He'd dress in his white collar, put on his tan leather shoes, knot a double Windsor, gel his hair and step out of the bedroom to greet his beaming wife. And I'd be there to suit his liking. He'd take his seat at the table, and I, the elegant yet active housewife, would gently place his morning meal at the table. He'd smile at me and indulge his greedy eyes.

But when the show was all played and done, and I was left to my own company, I'd wait for my Darling to come strutting through the woods into my quiet, blue house. My Darling was suave. My Darling was charming, and he was the one for me. He'd come by my house and greet me in his voice of honey, and we'd spend the day hopelessly in love. All at once, the trees became cosy, this faraway house became a pretty little secret, and all I heard was that voice next to me and the rush of cool water from the river nearby.

*By Ashley Ann Joy
1st year, B.A. Psychology Honours*

In hindsight, I should've come clean the first time my husband grew suspicious and asked me what I did at home all day.

"Don't you get bored?"

But poor man—he was too ignorant to see through my pathetic denial. Perhaps I should've become a bit weary when my husband came home with his hair sticking out in odd directions and shapes. And all the other days hence when they seemed to mimic horns.

Of course, you never really realise how far gone something is until it's too late. Each day he came home a little odder and each time I waved it off as nothing, for the woods do like to play tricks on people. But for the most part, I mused he had an affair of his own brewing behind my back. I wouldn't mind that; then we'd be even. But fate works differently.

Perhaps I should've been more concerned when he developed a sudden, rather strong, appetite for greens despite his initial meat-oriented palate (was this because of the other lady?) But a change in food preferences is hardly a good cause for suspicion. So I went on. I paid no heed to his odd and disfigured head, his strange appetite, his thickening body hair, and least of all, to his cold and hollow brown eyes which seemed to see less and less of me every day. Less lust, less greed, less life. *Less.*

It was very foolish of me, of course. Most wives would worry seeing their husband slowly turn into an animal. But I was intrigued and watched with fascination. I watched with more intrigue than I had ever bestowed on my husband before, as he scarfed down his greens, as he struggled with his tableware, and carelessly maneuvered himself around the house. I listened intently as he slurred his words and forgot my name, as he yelped and moaned and altogether stopped talking. I made myself comfortable in our bed when he took to the floor for rest at night. I smiled and walked

alongside his burly figure as he clopped and creaked from room to room.

This house suits him. The woods suit him.

His shoulders were wide and sturdy, his legs were skinny and long, and his hair was thick and brown and hid his hard skin. But his antlers were the crown of his magnificent transformation. Wide and angular, they were the making of gods.

Those were the glory days of my deer husband. Then, he was at his best.

However, this could not last long. With gracious thanks to my deer husband, I enjoy a fabulous spread of venison with my Darling for dinner tonight. Gracious thanks for his remarkable provisions. Through and through, the resourceful man that I knew him to be. And as an act of propriety and for his kindness to us, my Darling and I have hung his sublime and fantastic head – antlers, shallow brown eyes and everything – right in our living room. I wish I could say I wanted things back to the way they were, but, perhaps, in such a longing, I would dishonour the sacrifices of his life. And that would be too cruel—to be an insatiable wife to the end.

May my deer continue to bless us in incredible ways to the very end.

*By Sophia Ngayam Lungleng Shongzan
2nd Year, B.A. English Honours*



Dead Men Tell Great Tales

Necromancy is evil, everyone knows that. People who use it are evil and so is Windfall Manor at the edge of our town. It is said to be built on the bones of people sacrificed by the owner, covered by a cursed mist that never dissipates, even in the warmest months. It is also a famous horror story that people tell on bonfire nights. It seems more myth than reality.

No one has seen Mrs. Windfall in years, people think she never existed at all. The lights often seen flickering in the windows are just assumed to be fairies up to no good. This is why I didn't think twice about sneaking onto the grounds for pictures. I needed a few good photographs for my school project, and if I managed to capture some shots of the ever-elusive fairies I would be guaranteed the win.

Climbing over the wrought iron gate is easy, entering the manor itself is not. The door is locked, and the large brass knocker in the shape of a skull watches menacingly as I try to pick the lock. I hear shuffling from behind it and I freeze. There's someone inside and it sounds too big to be fairies. I try to back away, slowly, one step at a time, and the door swings open. I stare at the person at the gate, and he stares back.

"Nigel?" I say, stunned. Nigel blushes bright red and dissolves into mist before I can process whom I am seeing. Nigel, the quiet, gawky boy I'd partnered with sometimes in class. The boy who died a month ago in a car accident. A dead boy in the flesh, staring at me.

Or, perhaps, not in the flesh.

I stare into the corridor, brightly lit with intricate fluorescent lamps fixed to the walls. I still have no idea what to think when a loud voice startles me. "Nigel, what—" a tall girl with bright green hair comes into view, a large chocolate bar in one hand, and a whisk

in the other. She stills and blinks at me. I blink back. Then her face clears and she rushes forward towards me, making me take a step back. She isn't deterred. "Oh hey!" she grins, "Aren't you the girl from the aerial arts club?"

"Um," I say, my eyes darting around the room.

Should I run? She doesn't look very threatening. The girl bounces on her heels, her grin widening even further as she says, voice high and excited, "You are, aren't you? That's so convenient! Nigel's a little shy, you know?"

"I— what?" Almost all the adrenaline has left me now, only leaving me bewildered. "Who are you?"

"Oh, I'm Keira. The necromancer? I've heard quite a bit of rumour about me in town," she—Keira—laughs, eyes crinkling good-naturedly. "Although," she adds, "Most aren't quite true. I don't murder people to create an army of the undead. That would just be a waste of time, and what would I even do with an army? It's much better to learn from them."

"Learn from them?" I ask bewildered.

"Oh yes," Keira says, "You see, a lot of spirits have at least something they *really* wanted to do before dying, so I help them out, and in return, they help me out. Did you know Nigel's a great baker?" I did, he'd baked mini cupcakes for me as a get-well-soon present when I'd broken my leg, I nod.

"Well then," Keira grins, turning around and jerking her head in a motion for me to follow her, "One of his wishes was about you, actually."

I hesitate, then follow. "Me?"

We enter what looks like a large kitchen, completely

cluttered and smelling delicious. The walls are patterned and tiled, the counters dusted with flour, and a bowl of batter sitting precariously on the edge. A light wind rustles past me and I whirl around, only to see Nigel standing there, a blush still staining his cheeks. He clears his throat, “I just wanted to say sorry, because I didn’t get to say it before– I was a little afraid.” He pauses and looks at Keira, who nods at him encouragingly. “About that accident, when you broke your leg, I was the one who had set up the stage–”

“You?” I ask, frowning, “I wondered...” I want to be angry, and I *am* a little irritated. The broken leg had put me off practice for weeks, and I had missed the annual performance. I look at Nigel, who nods miserably, wringing his hands together. He looks so forlorn. My annoyance evaporates and I feel a little ridiculous. Nigel’s *dead*, and one of the things he stayed back for was to apologise, the least I can do is ease his worries. “Well, it’s been months now, it’s okay. See? My leg’s fine,” I smile, lifting my leg and wriggling my foot. “It’s okay. And the annual performance happens every year, I’ll get my chance.”

Nigel stares at me, then says, tentatively, “Really?”

“Really,” I say.

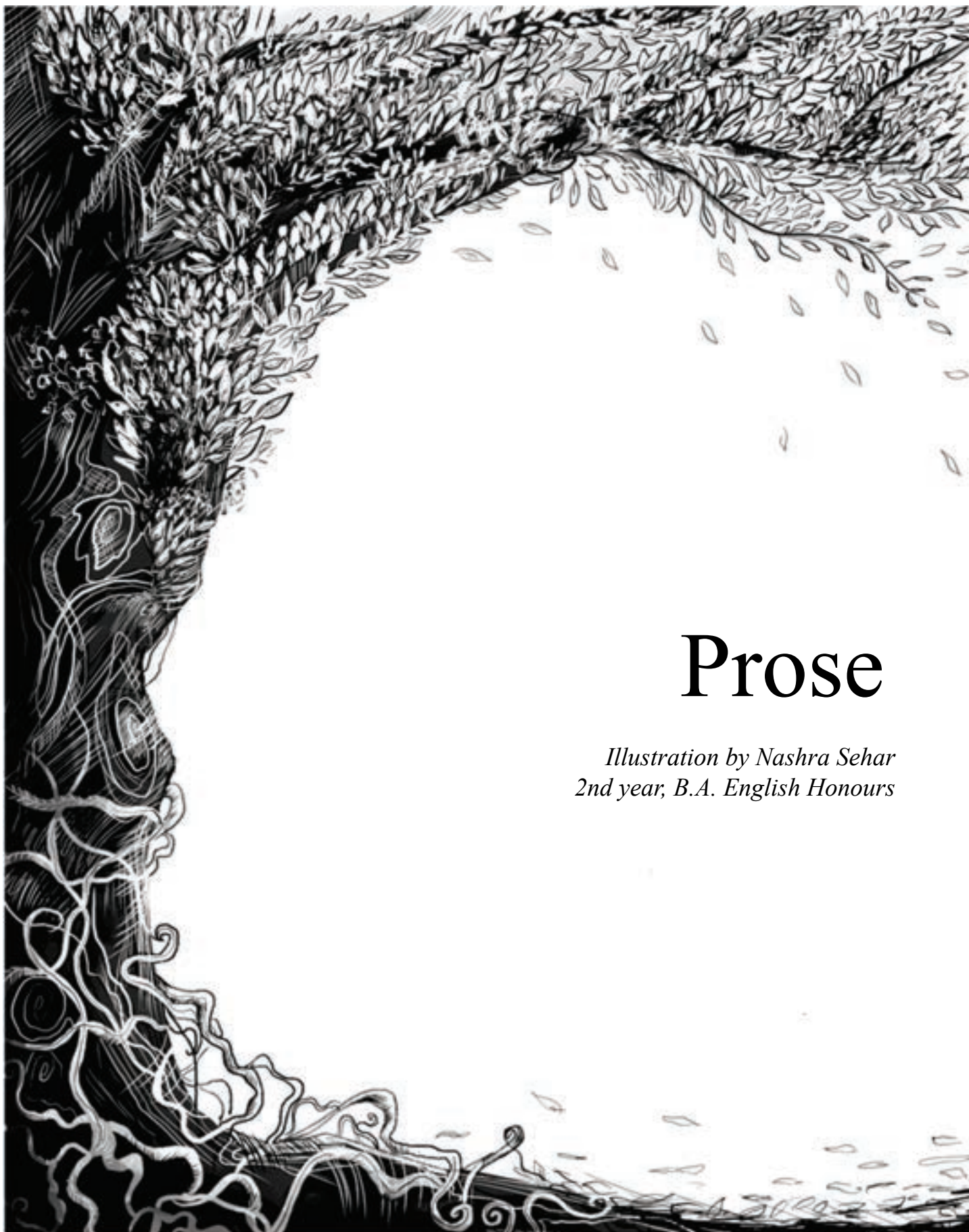
“Oh,” he looks back at Keira, then at me, “Okay. Goodbye.” Then he, once again, disappears into a puff of mist.

I turn to Keira when she swears, and she looks at me, looking a little sheepish. “Ah, it’s just. You were the last. He finished everything he wanted to do and left. I’d been looking forward to his lava cake recipe.” I look around the kitchen, to the strewn about ingredients, and turn back to Keira.

“Well,” I start, smiling, “I’ve heard I can make a mean lava cake myself.”

By Deepika Garg
1st year, B.A. English Honours





Prose

*Illustration by Nashra Sehar
2nd year, B.A. English Honours*

Mayakoth

Damp mist crept through the air, like the arms of some deep-dwelling cephalopod. The tendrils packed together densely, nothing but white for what could have been miles. Here on the outskirts of Mayakoth, reality was a fickle man and illusion, the eternal monarch. Here, celebrated were both vices and virtues. A land for the tricksters, and thinkers, and truth-tellers. A city of tales, a mountain once tall now quarried, a forest burnt to sandy dunes, a language eroded by the passing current of time.

But as tales live on, so does the once grand city of immortals, where mortal lives come to an end. Around its outskirts lies fog, hiding under its clammy clutches, still water. Between long intervals, the sound of wading oars appears, announcing the lanky cloaked figure of a boatman, upright on his ride. He may invite you to join him in his travels, and if you do, he will be most grateful. He's silent; the remains of long, lonely voyages. He's powerful, but he doesn't know about power. To him, the storms on an open sea are but showers, the blinding white heat on a clear day, a warm embrace and the darkening depths of lung-crushing waters, a dive into his hollow nest. But where he doesn't understand his own immortality, he does loneliness. So eager to please that he'll befriend the weakest of souls, the wickedest of minds, and you'll find yourself enjoying an easy journey past Dhoodra, the Eternal Sea. When the mist begins to disperse, the world will have changed, and you will find yourself banking on the shores of an algae infested lake.

The water here is littered with frilled green saucers, above them cups of pink, red and white, a rug of woven stems hiding slithering scales and whipping tails. It is an ark of wood and pollen, a trove for all life. On a cluster of rocks by the banks, sits a woman, a cloud of dragonflies circling her. Her feet, soaking in the shallow

waters, brush the shells of terrapins. The roots of an old banyan fall upon her shoulders, entwined with the ends of her thick tresses, as though life starts and ends with her. She watches the boatman with disinterest, but if her eyes meet yours, you will know then how the wild comes alive at the smallest shift of her lips. Everything in the world beholds your approach, from reeds to rocks. When the boat nestles into the boulders, you are but a creation of hers, stood before her throne. You may be surprised to find acceptance here. A oneness with the wild, because while you may have forgotten it, she hasn't. Your journey with the boatman has come to an end, and he watches sadly as you disembark, a lone surfer once again. Both beings nod at a mud path long overgrown, and you know you've been dismissed. You march ahead, leaving behind the untamed life of Nalintal, The Garden of Wilderness.

You follow the path, toes stamping into soft soil, descending down from an oasis to a desert of stones. Hard rock replaces the cool mud, as you stand at the mouth of a cave, calling you to find looted gold in its crevices. As you pass through tunnels blown open by the wind, their walls cut smooth and ceilings high, you understand how mere air becomes a sculptor of mineral blocks. And with that same strength, it tugs you forward by your feet, pulls your arms ahead of yourself, and carries your hair on its back. You follow vascular paths guided by the viscous wind, straight to the heart of the mountains. There lives a man, sat by the edge of a chasm, whose hands flutter over a flute; the wind soaring and stilling with his movements. He looks young, with big eyes and smooth dark skin, his figure lean and straight-backed. But you are to him what the earth is to the universe, and you know it, because the years the wind spent sanding out this system of nerves tell you so that when you age and wither, and

become ash, he'll still command the winds that scatter your remains.

Maybe he'll still have the same mischief in his eyes then, for, with a puff of air against the wooden instrument, he has the wind flying you upwards in swirling circles. You hurtle towards an opening of light and warmth, and with a particularly strong gust, you're spat out of Pravah, the Carver's Room.

You lie between long grass, and above you are miles of indigo silk, dyed by the chained hands of some forgotten captive. You sit up to see nothing around but skies and grass. You make your way through the dry yellow plains, going where your feet go, for there are no paths here. No decisions to make, about where to go, what to see, or what to do. Like an empty room with nothing to offer, this land exists for no one, and serves no purpose. It exists because there is a bit of everything in the vast world, and here is a bit of empty calm. But if you get too comfortable not watching your feet, you may stumble over the legs of a sleeping child god.

He is still, lying on bent grass, long hair fanned out behind his little head. Dressed in a long white tunic, arms crossed across his stomach, he breathes long and deep, chest rising and falling. He rules this land, but in his land, there is nothing to rule. There is only him. When you reach Uyil, your journey ends. It is not that there is nothing left to see in Mayakoth, but that there is no reason to. Uyil is contentment. It is hunger satisfied and thirst quenched. It is the sliver between sleep and consciousness. In Uyil, you find relief from mortality. There is nothing to do here but stop. Uyil is a welcome end.

By Devaki S.

1st year, B.A. Programme



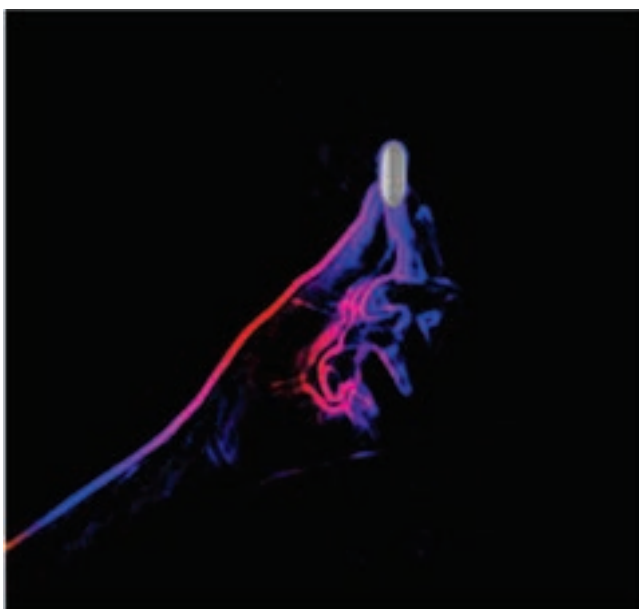
Blue

The first time I went there was the day after the product launch. Mother had alerted me about the place, her Company supplied VIDA directly there. The bookshop stood on the edge of a cobblestone street; red-walled with an open sign that hung on its yellowing front window. I walked in and a woman came hurrying over, addressing me by name and title. I tried to smile but was congested by the fact that now everyone in the store knew a Blue was here. She led me to the counter, a young person stood behind it with pink earphones in. The music was loud enough for me to catch a few notes. The woman rapped on the surface, and they straightened out from the symphonies they were lost in. I tap my ear, "Lyrica?" I ask, they smile nodding.

The woman interrupts quickly enough, "I'm sorry, he's a new employee and very inexperienced. Do excuse the distraction."

"No, that's alright, not bothered by it at all," I say, waving my hands in front of me.

"So, how may I help you?" he asks, a professional smile spread across his face.



"VIDA." I say, and I almost thought I saw him flinch. But the smile was back again and all he asked was, "Emotion?"

"Sympathy." I speak.

He nods, bending down and picking through assorted coloured tablets until he finds a deep grey one. He places it on my palm, and it thrums, like a beating heart. Would this help? Would I finally know how it felt to ache on the inside for another? Would this really cure the Blues?

"Why do you need it?" the boy asks.

I look at him, a little confused. "I'm a Blue, extraneous apathy, remember?" I joke, but it did not taste funny in my mouth.

"Oh! No! No, that's not what I meant. Why Sympathy?" he asks, raising one of his dark eyebrows. I ponder for a second, before deciding to speak. I had nothing to lose anyway.

"My friend's pet passed away. I thought I loved that dog to pieces, but I didn't feel anything."

There was a deafening silence, and he leaned away, putting the boxes back. I caught him glancing at me, I could not read much, but I knew what I was afraid of finding.

"Pathetic?" I felt indignant, how dare his kind think he was able?

He sighs, "Sad. You have everything, you Blues. Status, power, privilege, but is it worth it?"

He looked hesitant but did not say anything. There was a sick feeling that I could not place. But I could not bring myself to answer. I looked at the VIDA in my hand, this had to make it better. The tablet worked

slowly; the discovery was new. It spreads from the centre, emotion – when I feel hurt for myself, happy about my achievements. However, all that was at the centre, when I tried to feel for a crying child, was numbness. My heart had nothing to give to another.

VIDA made me feel something.

As I stood at the grave, I felt sad, a kind that spreads from the tips of my fingers, inward. It grew like a moroseness I could hold, but then stopped. At the centre, like a lake frozen over at the edges, the frost not icy enough to stun the core. My mind wondered briefly, which Other had sympathy to lose that now was transferred to me? For that is how VIDA worked, when an Other had emotions they were willing to donate, the Company fused them into the tablet.

The second time I went to the store, he was still there. This time there was recognition in his shadowed eyes, and a warmth. I wondered how easily it came to him, the ability to appreciate the presence of someone.

“The song is still too loud.” I say.

He laughs. Then, as though exhausted by it, stops.

“They are the best.” He adds. I shrug, I could not disagree, Lyrica was incredible.

“So, what are you here for today?” he asks, wary. I felt afraid to almost say what I wanted.

“More VIDA?” He sighs, and I nod.

“I see you are not in favour of the tablet?” I ask.

He gives me an awful look, “Do you not realise its issues?” he glanced at me.

I did.

“That my feelings are borrowed and unreal. Like they are coloured outlines to a black emptiness.” I felt it rising, my pity.

“Is that all you see? Yourself?” He looked shocked, and then resigned. I was confused.

“What do you want today?” he decided to go on, I think.

“I do not know exactly. It is my cousin’s third birthday. I want to feel what childhood tastes like.” I say. His face was unreadable.

“Each childhood feels different.” He said.

“Then what do you feel when you think of your childhood?” I ask.

He considered the question for a moment, before looking up at me. “I don’t remember a lot of it. But the first time I listened to Lyrica was as a child.” He spoke.

“I did too.” I replied.

He smiles, “Then you’ll know what that feels like.”

“Yes, But I want to feel that way towards the world, not just for myself.”

“Well, there’s joy.” he smiles at me, and I think I feel good.

“Will Joy help?” I ask.

“As much as VIDA can help.” He says, and there was some sort of wistfulness on his face.

I had it three days later, and this time I felt a warmth on the outside. Like I could simply sit on a park bench and smile. Like I would still be able to laugh at the joke my Other friends cracked. The joy I had chosen to borrow. I felt it all wane, even though the smile formed, it did not fill me up. But as my cousin blew out her birthday candles, in the iciness of a Blue filled room, I could give her a smile. I hope it made her happy for herself. And for that, I have him to thank.

The third time was a blur of red hot regret. All I remember of that day is wanting to scream my heart

out, at myself. His face did not warm the room. It looked tired, while I was raging a storm.

“Which one?” his tone was dry, face, cold slate.

“Rage.”

He simply took out a white tablet and placed it in my hand, still refusing to speak.

“Will you not ask why?” I finally cracked. There was the glint of a smirk on his face before it fell back into iciness.

“You take and take and take.” He sighed. It snapped. I heard myself crack on the insides.

“We are the reason you live today.” My teeth gritted. He was silent.

“I WANT TO REALISE HOW IT FEELS.” My scream was louder than I had ever intended it to be.

“I, I, I.” He says and the mocking was obvious.

The whiteness came all over me. I remember a crash of colourful tablets of glass shattering, breaking as hope does. I went to the red-walled tablet shop one more time – with an apology gift. This time though, the boy was not at the counter. The lady came up to me instead. She smiled warmly.

“How can I help you?” She asked, with a fixed smile.

“Ah, where is the other boy?”

She looked perplexed, “Who?”

I hunted through my head for his name. I did not know it. I did not know where he lived, his siblings, his status. The Lyrica C.D. in my hand grew cold, I wished to crush it.

“Pink earphones,” I remembered with a jolt.

“The boy with pink earphones.”

“Oh!! Him. He was x23. One of the donors.” She said with a smile. My brain frazzled to a stop.

“What?” I demanded. She looked uncomfortable but was bound to answer. My mother’s ownership demanded it.

“I- I am not allowed to share this. But he has been relocated to a facility by the Company. He served you right? So, he donated whatever tablets you picked.” She finished.

“Facility?” I was not processing anything anymore.

“He has nothing more to offer. His family was paid for all his donations, and he has nothing else to give.”

She smiled, appealingly. There was a freeze in my brain. I heard the woman say, “How can I help you?” to another. Standing on the cobblestones, my thoughts reeled. I knew I was taking it from somebody, didn’t I? I knew my feelings were stolen, he had told me, that I was snatching the soul away from another. It hit me then, why it mattered from another. It mattered, only because it was him. Because I thought he was important to me. I could snatch all the emotions I wanted; take every tablet they could offer. But my blood ran Blue.

Only I mattered.

*Written by Niveditha Ajay
1st Year, B.A. English Honours*

*Illustrated by Astha Mary Varghese
1st Year, B.A. English Honours*

The Passengers Always Come Back

The bus route had become a tenant of my mind's room. It wasn't so long ago that I had moved here, but it had been long enough that my everyday commute to the university had become monotonous. I liked the monotony of this bus ride, it was comforting. I loathed change. My parents, though ardent worshippers of it, were swifter than the chameleons of Madagascar when it came to change. Their recent accomplishment included switching from overprotective and nurturing parents to aloof and haranguing ones when I came out to them as bisexual. My home changed too; it was now a bus, a tiny dorm, and four friends.

As is the way of life, memories of my bygone life did seep into my mind every now and then. And today the resurgence of these wretched memories was at its zenith on account of my mother's birthday. When those you love move on from you, you still search for them in every place, face and thing. That's what I was doing—looking for my mother, subconsciously, and that's when I saw a woman walking toward me.

I had never seen her on this particular bus before. Most of us were regulars except for a few new additions every now and then. She looked to be around the same age as my mother, mid-forties, though she was freakishly pale in contrast to my mother's tamed olive appearance. Coincidentally, she sat beside me, filling the air around us with the fleeting smell of roses and morning dew.

"Are you cold, honey?" She asked eagerly, her lisp slipping in between her words. I hadn't realized how, within a few seconds, the air had become so brisk.

"No, I'm not. Thanks for asking though." I lied.

She unwrapped her white crocheted muffler and kept it in my lap, and admiringly smiled at me, "In case you

do get cold."

I knew returning the muffler would hurt her feelings, so I kept my silence and the muffler. She didn't know how comforting her presence was for someone like me who'd been deprived of familial love for a long time now.

"You take this bus every day. Right, honey? I have seen you often but never got to introduce myself. I'm Edith Albert."

"Yes, but how is this the first time I'm seeing you on this bus?"

"Oh, I usually sit far back. People generally don't notice me, that's why you didn't too."

For all my faith in speculation, I still took her word for it.

The words escaped my lips before I could catch them. "So where are you headed to, Edith?"

Her vanishing smile began to take shape again, and without looking at me she told me that she was going to the Woodville Cemetery near the Bell Flowers Garden. So, she would get off at the stop after mine, I calculated. She wasn't dressed for a funeral so I assumed she was visiting someone's grave.

My presumptuousness gave way to a question that surprised me. "If I may ask, whose grave are you visiting?"

Her surprise shone through her smirk and an arched brow. "Madeline's; my friend from years ago. I visit her grave every day."

My mind started running its creative engine and conjured up an image of a woman, close to Edith's age, the white streaking her hair lightly, her smile mirroring

the one the woman next to me wore.

“How long has she been—I mean, since when have you been visiting her grave?”

“A decade, now. In fact, I don’t like buses as much as I like cars but Madeline loved buses so, I take this route in honour of her memory. For the longest time, she and I would spend hours at the Bell Flowers Garden, occasionally roaming around the cemetery too. She hated her marriage, and I loved her. If the flagstone path at the entrance of that garden could talk, it’d tell you about the countless days we spent there. Anyhow, I apologize for launching into a reminiscent episode of my life.” Her tone betrayed her, her sorrow seeped through her words and her sniffs.

“If you don’t mind me asking how, how did she die?”

“Cardiac arrest. She pulled through the first time, but the second one took her.”

I was so lost in Edith’s retelling of her life that I almost missed my stop.

“It was nice meeting you Edith, but before I go, how close were you and Madeline?”

“As close as forbidden lovers can be. Have a good day.”

Her smile had contagiously spread across my own face.

The next few days saw me in tandem with that same monotonous routine, except this time around there was no Edith to sit beside me. Her absence on the bus felt out of place. I figured maybe she had been going to the cemetery by car for some reason. So skipping my usual stop one day, I got off at Edith’s stop: North Village, which was where the Bell Flowers garden and the Woodville Cemetery were.

I meandered through the garden first, Edith’s voice reverberating in my mind like a church bell. It was breathtaking. It wasn’t short of a wonderland, and one could see why it was called the Bell Flowers garden; the bell flowers populated every nook of it, almost overshadowing the other flower inhabitants.

Edith’s voice hadn’t stopped following me around, so I made my way to the cemetery. Amongst the plethora of graves, I was searching eagerly for just one: Madeline’s. The labyrinth of graves felt almost never-ending until I finally found hers. It was a granite marble gravestone which read: “Madeline Romero, 1963-2008, Daughter, Sister, Wife and Friend”. And, below it, a quote; “I hope in the next life I’m reunited with the one I love.” All of Edith’s stories of Madeline floated around in my mind.

A bird’s incessant chirping snapped me out of my reverie. It sat on the grave behind Madeline’s. The gravestone was similar to hers, and to my absolute incredulity the name on the grave resonated with that of the woman I had met only a few days ago: “Edith Albert”, it read, “1962-2008, Daughter, Sister and Friend”. And, below it, a quote; “I hope to be with my beloved in the next life.”

Perplexity rained on me. The white muffler wrapped around my neck was proof enough to account for the meeting on the bus. I sat there with unanswered questions wrapped in the smell of white roses and morning dew.

*By Samriddhi Narayan
1st year, B.A. English Honours*

A Tour Through the Indian Household

An Indian household has the capability to metamorphose according to what is expected of it. You, my guest of 3 hours, can see the beautiful, serene, tidy facade as you enter the house. I need not welcome you, as the bright doormat at your feet already does, in beautiful, bold letters. While walking you through, I will tell you some of the secrets of my home: the secrets that the lady who just so happens to be your relative/work acquaintance/friend/neighbour will very conveniently miss. Enjoy the tour!

Let's start with the classic features of the Indian home, which, if you look a bit more closely, can be seen here too. An Indian household of the present times, inhabiting two adults and children, typically consists of a living - cum dining room arranged according to the tastes of the heads of the family with souvenirs from trips to *Dilli Haat*, a television set that sometimes blares Cartoon Network, sometimes Colours TV and in the evening either NatGeo or horror-thriller movies; a kitchen, and the two vastly different bedrooms. The most fascinating thing about the TV and its remote is that they symbolise the hierarchy of power within the Indian household. When the father is not present, the person who manages to gain access to the remote first, has authority over the television. However, as soon as the father enters the house, slips off his shoes and drinks his regular glass of lemonade, it is his choice that prevails—until he decides to fall asleep on the couch.

A few steps further lies the kitchen, which proclaims its presence through the cacophonous whistle of the cooker on the stove (which has to be turned off after four seetis), the cling-clang of the vessels in the sink, the sizzling of oil and spices on the pan and the rushing of smoke through the exhaust. With the windows open, this sound of cooking coming from each flat in the

building mingles harmoniously at 9 PM, the designated Indian dinner time.

Around 9:30 PM, the mother enters the kids' room to tell them to lay the table for dinner. The children's room has a different aura altogether: while being guided through their humble abode, there's not a moment's doubt about the location of the children's room. While the whole house is carefully adorned with colour-coordinated furniture, curtains, showpiece tables and whatnot, in the children's room it is clear that the whole work of decorating and maintenance has been left to the tiny humans. A volley of colours will greet you, with bold-coloured walls supporting posters of unrecognizable artists, toys from early childhood arranged on the bed, a neat table with likely overflowing drawers and an almirah standing stoically with deep secrets and horrors you do not want to unearth. As a guest, it is your duty to appreciate how tidy the children's room is, and audibly compare it with the horror house that is your offspring's home. You should know, however, that this room has acquired its present shape merely two minutes before your arrival. Bless the Gods for fashionably late guests.

The parents' room a.k.a. the master bedroom consists of a wooden bed with a filigree headboard, expensive according to the middle-class standards and bought from a place that you will ask about out of politeness, but likely forget within the next few hours spent over chai, biscuits and namkeen. Above the bed, on the wall, hangs a painting, the sort which you are comfortable having around to add to the aesthetic beauty of the house, but do not really know the relevance of.

If, after the house tour, you need to take a leak, stay assured that your host has done everything to ensure that that too, is a comfortable experience. Yes, this bathroom has Odonil.

The tour is followed by a chat between you and your hosts around the table laden with teacups, glasses of juice (for the kids!), namkeen and biscuit bowls, all of them brought in by the little ones on trays while their mother tells you about how they paint/dance/sing. Now, at this point, take note of the following: while you may ask the painter-prodigy to show you their paintings, please don't ask the performing-arts children to sing/dance in front of you. This will inevitably lead to an awkward prodding of the children by the mother to "show aunty that dance", which will have no outcome, because the child is shy. So, let them be.

After you have had your long chat, you can take a trip to the terrace or garden, whatever suits your interest. The terrace has a tree rooted in the gated courtyard and growing above the wall, which has been there long enough to know everything about the household: the good and the bad, the happy and the sad. Sometimes, it brings fruits and flowers, and other times it brings kites or balloons of the neighbours' kids caught in its branches. The terrace is adorned with pots of plants and flowers watered and nurtured lovingly by the father: they deserve a few words of your appreciation. Enjoy the serene atmosphere as long as you want, because

your kids, whom you sent to play with the host's children, have actually started enjoying themselves.

As you plan to leave, the hostess will encourage you to stay back and have dinner. You will say no (some work back home), and after having spotted the 500 rupees note in your children's hands, ask laughingly of the host, "*Iski kya zaroorat thi?*" ("What was the need?"), but take it, if not out of appreciation of your host's gift, out of the fact that your host is stubborn and this conversation will never end. Accept the gift-wrapped box, and take your leave with an invitation to the host family to your own place.

Once across the threshold, you know that the children are going to feast on the treats and sweets they laid out for you, the father is going to pick up the TV remote and fall back upon the couch, and the mother will be attending to the phone calls she missed while attending to her revered guest. Have a good drive, and oh, your gift-wrapped box has teacups in it.

By Urja Kaushik
1st year, B.A. History Honours



My Heart is in Sync with the Rain

I never seemed to understand why even on the good days when I saw you, travelling alongside me on the bus back home, I longed for rain. It wasn't the smell of petrichor.

It wasn't the respite from heat, the chilly weather or the rainbows that follow. It wasn't the pitter-patter on window panes and I hated getting soaked so it wasn't that either.

So, what was it that amused me so much about just water heavily pouring from the sky?

I have never been a fan of chaos. I have always wanted solitude. The calmness I get as I hear you shyly hum songs...it's the only sound I desire.

Maybe that is what works in my favor on rainy days, it makes me live through the same feeling of sitting next to you. My heart beats fast, but I like it. I feel calm within.

Similarly, when it rains, despite the sounds of the continuous drizzle on rooftops, a serene silence spreads inside my home. It's mysterious and sets the mood right for fiction reading and hot tea.

I find the moment overwhelming and fragile, almost glasslike- a moment of raw happiness that makes me afraid of it ending as soon as the rain halts. Just the way I'm afraid of the halt of the bus as your stop approaches every evening. I try my best to carve it deep into the depths of my memory, to absorb the essence of it.

As a child I used to wonder if the raindrops are chasing after each other, falling in perfect sync, like music. I can't help but think of the way I crave to chase you until I match your pace, until our hands intertwine.

The rain is loyal and innocent, bringing back the same good old comfort every year, sometimes a little late, but there still. Just the way you've been constant, there

on every bus ride home, a present from the heavens.

Did I tell you that I reserve rainy nights for letter writing? There is a comfort in penning down your heart on a rusty page, letting the ink flow without restrictions. These letters contain secrets of love and remorse. But they remain undelivered, unopened. And that's the beauty of it. Write and seal. And keep.

The rain gives me the time to stop, halt and relive hidden sorrows and desires. Suddenly the tons of assignments piled up on my desk don't matter anymore and all I want to do before going to bed is think of you, and hum along to the rhythm of rain. Rain doesn't mind my silence. It accepts me for who I am, gives me time to bloom in my own element. Just the way you make me see myself in a new light.

It's strange but sometimes, heavy rain also helps me sleep. It gives me the comfort that I can rest without fighting my own thoughts because it's nature's turn to take the burden and live through the chaos and mine to lay still and rest. I think of rain and my heart says comfort. I'm thankful for the serene weather it leaves behind. The chill in the winds make me reminisce its beauty over and over again, and I'm reassured that soon it will return and give me bliss again.

So, when I fought my mind and heart rigorously being so indecisive, but finally settling on writing to you, I waited for it to rain. Because the rains bring out the rawest form of me, the one without the duties, without the worldly filters. I wanted to be honest, kind, truthfully me as I wrote to you. Love makes you want to do things...though I don't know, maybe it's too soon to call it love. I should first know the tale of your heart and should hold the reins of mine until then.

But regardless of the beautiful drizzle, I'm tongue-tied when it comes to you. So I'll try to put into words the

spell in my heart that ties me to you.

Infatuations taste like a tinge of cinnamon in tea, like a sparkle in the monotony of the daily. But in no time I came to realize that my silly admiration took the course of something more- it was no more just the added sweetness to my sullen life.

You became the cliffhanger of my nights. Because to feel for someone is to sleep with their thoughts in their head, to wake up and think of them before setting eyes on the daylight. It becomes a habit, inevitable. You became a habit.

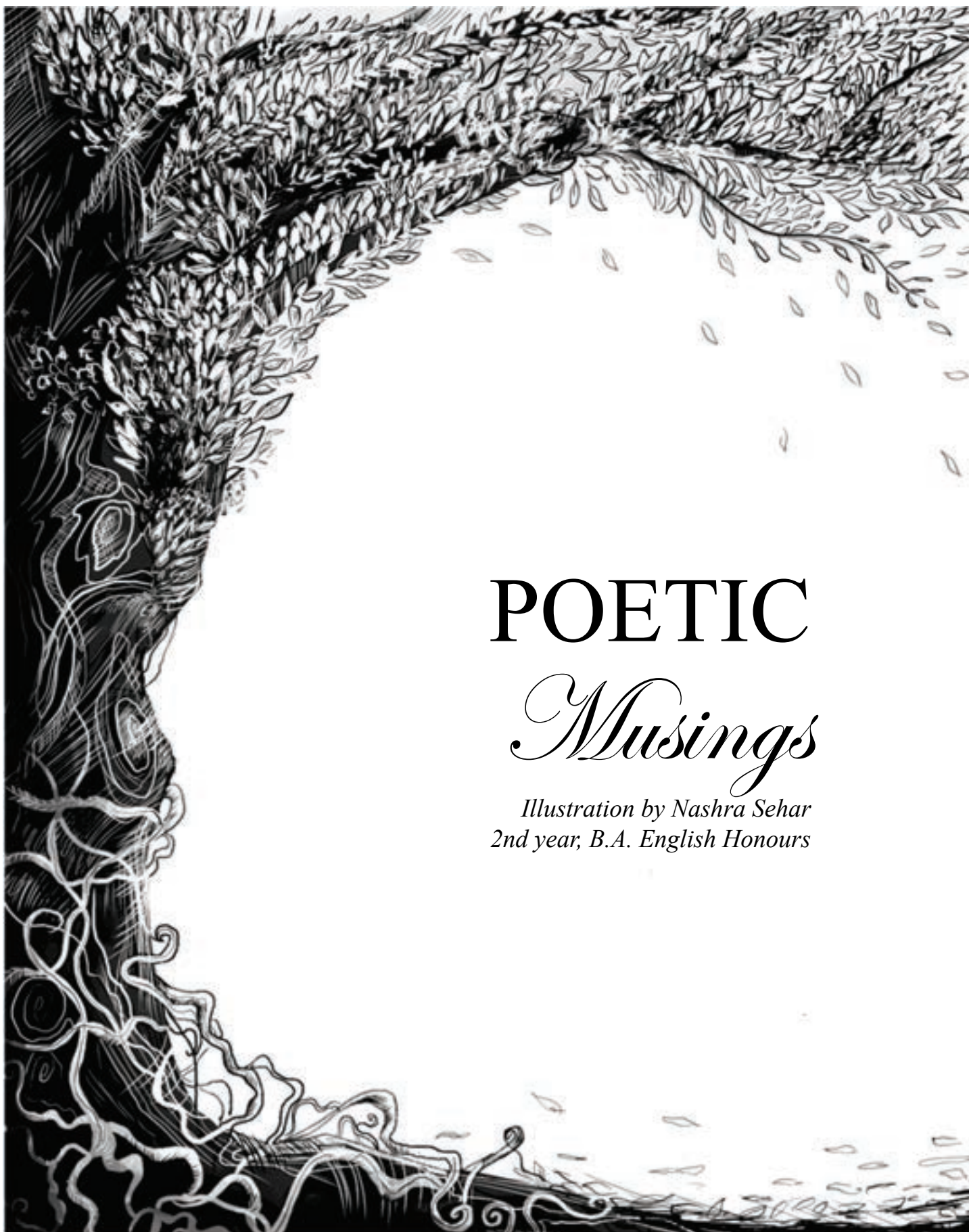
And to say the least, it drives me crazy. The colours look brighter, the rhythm of the rain louder. You have set fire to chaos.

Strangely, I can no longer meet your eyes like I used to, I feel the need to hide- a deer caught in headlights or like a little girl embarrassed to have scraped her knee with an awkward fall. I listen to songs of unrequited admirations to recklessly fuel my heartache.

It's a game- whether you'll love me, or you'll love me not? Nevertheless, I had to let you know, because love makes me want to do things I shouldn't. I'll be praying to cupid again tonight.

*By Nishita Singh
1st year, B.A. Sociology Honours*





POETIC *Musings*

*Illustration by Nashra Sehar
2nd year, B.A. English Honours*

Intergalactic Dreams

Dawn, a rosy sky, and I get out of bed,
 May it finally be the Monday I don't dread,
 Affairs of the day queue up in my head,
 I usually have coffee, but step out empty instead,
 Tis' the day the countdown led up to,
 For which we worked through and through,
 The fruit of our toils will be a breakthrough,
 If only the prophecy doesn't come true.

Made of a thousand shiny mirrors,
 I enter the building, brushing aside my fears,
 Everyone gives me a hopeful smile,
 The one which stays with me awhile,
 Mission Control, says the door on the right,
 I push it open with apprehensive delight,
 If we initiate successfully in an hour or two,
 I promise my crew a space barbecue.

But what if we fail, says a voice inside,
 Then everything in me will have died,
 If this model doesn't succeed,
 I'll just remain a girl with intergalactic dreams.

Breathe in, breathe out,
 I give my go-ahead with a soft shout,
 And one by one the gamma rings power up,
 The sound is of a mellifluous chirrup.

The darkroom suddenly ignites with glitter,
 And a pirouetting portal seems to appear,
 This is it, the solution to our curse,
 This is it, the door to the Multiverse.

Behold, the gateway to the world beyond,
 A conundrum of esoterica going round and round,
 Beauty, once known, very difficult to unsee,
 Universes once revealed, 'a brought to life fantasy'
 Fractals and fractals of gargantuan matter lie before us,
 Repertoires of black holes, galaxies, whole planets, on

the canvas,
 A million us, a million you, millions saying how do
 you do,
 The past is in the past, after this stellar view.

A loud whisper, a deafening silence engulfs the room,
 First slowly, and then all at once, we feel gloom,
 As if dementors had sucked out all hope,
 Our breath quickens as if walking on a tightrope,
 A misty shadow materialises above us,
 Like a bad omen for all things precious,
 Mutating into a dark, ghast, unearthly freak,
 With evil, troubled eyes, alas it speaks.

"Terrans, you bumbling baffling baboons,
 You just subscribed to a life of misfortunes,
 The Pandora's box you unleashed on your Earth,
 The evils of which already had no dearth,
 There was never any triumph for this plan,
 Only spam, and a shortened lifespan,
 Impending doom foretold the prophecy,
 You should have listened to it, you idiot prodigy."

The Madman now glides towards me,
 With a mad look, he retells the prophecy,
 'She who shall unveil the vast mirror Galactica,
 Shall unknowingly brew a viscous formula,
 Trapping her people into time,
 An existence where nothing seems to rhyme,
 For there will be no silver lining,
 But only a flaw in the plan.'

"What more did you want to add?
 For this is not like taking up a fad,
 Your food appears with a click under your cloche,
 A thousand combinations shower to do splishsplosh,
 A tablet that makes your outfits switcheroo,

A door to take you anywhere you want to peekaboo,
You can fly without wings,
Get an Amazon delivery in less than a ping.

You maniac, stop this tomfoolery,
Stop imagining more than is your capacity,
You are a lowly creature, not supreme,
You're no match for your intergalactic dreams."

Insulted, I reply, "My Lord, thou art in space,
For the words that follow, you should brace,
Inflicted by the Curse of the Cosmos,
Terra is home to a virus by Supremos,
To survive, we are instructed to pass it on,
To universes far and beyond,
Who are you to obstruct our prosperity?
Hairy warlock, reveal your identity."

He replies, "I have the eye of insight,
And know if you might,
I come from Universe 365,
Where my daughter is stuck in time,
Dusk from Dawn, she lives the day on loop,
Impossible to pull her out, says the robot coup,
Spare yourself this life numbing misery,
Can't see another Earth fall to its destiny."

"Nothing you say, old man,
Will deter me from my plan,
My sceptre will touch the centre of the multiverse,
To the heart of the realms, I'll plunge the curse,
We shall not die alone, but together, as one,
To see the result, there should be none,
Early destiny is but a mercy,
Saving the cosmos a controversy."

The room falls silent at my words,
Fools, they believed me like nerds,
What's the fun of living a cursed life?
When you can go extinct like wildlife?

The betterment of humanity, I aspire,
Will come back in the new life, full of fire.

The portal is gaping open for me,
The sceptre angled at the right degree,
Here and now, I will end suffering for thee,
In death, you and I will be we,
NO, I hear a scream, a hand on my wrist,
And I am pulled back with a fist,
"Don't make me do this," says he,
I struggle, and a mist falls over me.

Dawn, a rosy sky, and I get out of bed,
May it finally be the Monday I don't dread,
Affairs of the day queue up in my head,
I usually have coffee, but step out empty instead,
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*By Aditi Banerji
1st year, B.A. English Honours*

Beginner's Guide to Moving Out of One's Hometown

One.

Gathering your luggage as if
It was that one candy you love to hoard
And keep by your side, at all times.
After that,
Gather all your courage,
(and shed all your tears),
Because you won't be coming back,
(unless college magically turns back to online mode),
And walk out the threshold.

Two.

To that train that will bid you farewell, go.
Leave the hustle and bustle of your city behind.
Maybe sit in an auto, and grab a bite of that kebab that
you love more than anything,
Because who knows when you will have that next.
Get that attar that hides the secrets of your city,
And have a cup of tea in that ever-so-crowded shop.

Three.

Close your eyes.
Let the tears fall.
This is the moment you have waited for;
For longer than you'd like to admit.

Four.

Pretend that it doesn't hurt.
The city that made you who you are,
is now saying goodbye to you.
But who is to say that the 'bye' is good, indeed?
Maybe, the fare isn't doing so well.
Maybe, the city doesn't want to leave you behind.
Maybe, you don't want to leave your city behind.
Maybe, you don't want to leave your past behind.

Five.

Survive.
Survive,
Though you had nothing helping you survive till now.
Survive,
for there is nothing left to do anymore.
Survive,
for the world won't even pretend to be kind anymore.

*By Prashasti Raj
1st year, B.A. English Honours*



An Ode to My Home: A Ride Through the Lanes of Punjab

George Moore writes,

“A man travels the world over
in search of what he needs,
and returns home to find it.”

You are home to me,
You are the land of five rivers, panj-aab.

You are the stacked rooftops, soaring vultures,
Twirling kites and children playing with old tyres,
In the bazaars of Amritsar,
You are the sanctity of the Golden Temple,
The lanes filled with faith and truth,
Where even the hushed voices can be heard loud,
Where no one fears taking risks,
and the head is held high.

You are the girl adorned in *phulkari dupatta*,
Wearing heavy rusty *jhumkas* her lover had sneakily
put in her side bag,
dancing to the beats of dhol and Jagjit Singh.
You are the summers from golden mustard fields,
The winters from hand-woven sweaters by an eighty-
year-old grandma,
And the monsoons from Shiv Kumar Batalavi's poems,
Sobbed off with a cup of garam masala chai,
You smell of '*makki di roti*' and '*sarson da saag*',
Cooked with love, seasoned with compassion in every
home.

You are like a protest, with streams of dried blood,
And parched soil of the Bagh,
You wear bravery to hide the secret of colonial bullet
marks,
And send chills down the spine of humanity,
You are a remnant of the partition, a memoir of distant
trails,
A documentary of longings and separations.

You are the birth soil of poets,
Where mehfils are filled,
With Punjabi folk and sufi music,
The vibrant fragrance of culture,
You are the handwritten letters,
Dripping with unconditional love,
The '*Heer Ranjha*' of Waris Shah,
The preserver of Bulleh Shah's *ruhaniyat*,
You are the ecstasy woven in *Gurmukhi*,
The empowerment, feminism and peace,
In the words of Amrita Pritam.

On a scorching summer afternoon,
You lie on your couch and look at the young protestors,
Crossing the lanes with hoardings of - '*Inquilab
Zindabad*',
You are the genesis of a revolution, evolved out of
immortal history,
You are the heartland of India,
You are the dream of every poet.

Written by Aarushi Sharma
2nd year, B.A. Psychology Honours

The Train Case/ A Suitcase Case/ Precious Cargo

Suitcase in hand, I head to the station,
Tired of life and troubled by taunts,
Dragged down at every point,
As if it's the most natural thing to do,
Left everything behind,
Except my suitcase, my companion to the station.

With just enough money to buy a ticket,
And a dime and dollar more for emergencies,
I look at the big map, spread out in colourful confusing
strips,
Hoping and beseeching it to tell me my destination,
And as my eyes trace the different lines,
I spot it in a moment of clarity.
Determined I board the train, leaving the station behind
But not my suitcase, now my companion to the next
station.

The best vantage point is the window seat,
Or so they say, to be able to look at the passing scenes
But thinking I must see what I'm taking with me,
On this journey that leads me to where I must be,
I choose the aisle one, nearest to the walking space,
Where hordes of people traverse through,
To find their fates and fit in it,
In this case, empty seats and enough legroom.
Not to forget a temporary gap, to fix their suitcases and
bags.

Do trains feel happy?
As they rumble away through coarse tracks
As it jitters and whistles and screeches to a halt
When the vendors rush in to sell their wares quickly
And the occupants rush out to the station
For a temporary stop or their final destination.
Trains must be happy, I decide, with all this attention.

The train is slowing now, a din of sounds echoing as a
family disembarks,
The children jumping and pattering away gleefully,
While the elders heave the big trunks in team effort,
The porters line outside in their signature red colour,
Vying to get to the luggage first,
The suitcases, big and small alike.

Through the hubbub I alight too, holding on to my
precious cargo,
Even as a porter tried to hold it for me, looking at me
in confusion,
And more so when he picked up my case.
I hurriedly took it from him,
shaking my head and smiling,
His confusion amused me,
even as he clearly thought me mad,
In my moment of delight, I waved to the kids,
Of the family which had got down with me,
I smiled and thanked them internally.
And as a cheers for being a part of my journey,
Clinked my suitcase to theirs discreetly.

On route to my destination
I board the next train
Now with a sigh but resigned all the same,
The journey has to end and it must end there,
But the ride feels melancholic and I wallow in self-
despair,
The seat's at the same place but the story's different,
Now the people are more familiar and yet, still
strangers,
As the train begins to slow again, the change is
instantaneous.
Suddenly I'm afraid, the fear almost crippling,
What was I thinking!

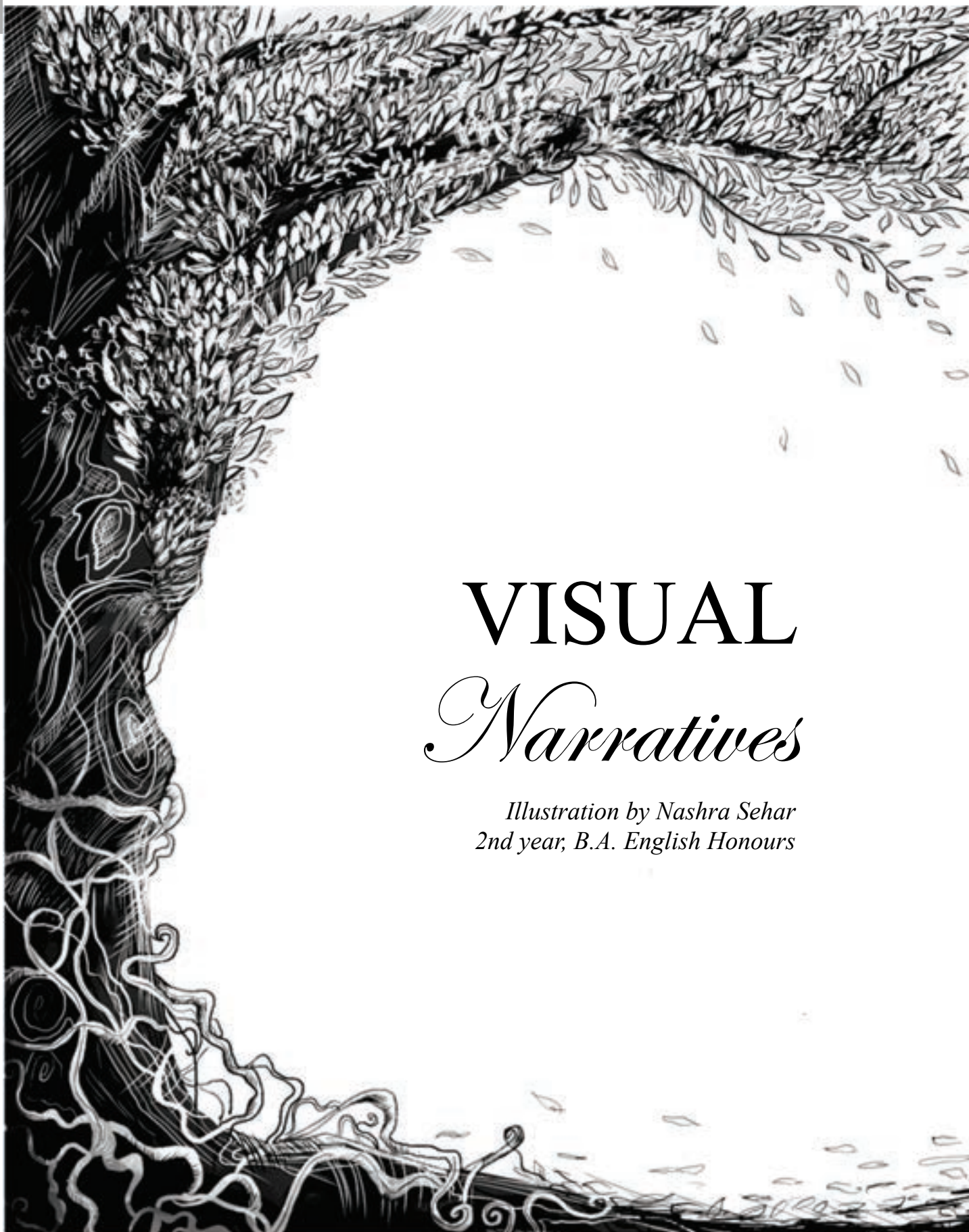
Failed a test, I just picked up my suitcase and ran?

Left home hastily, still in my drabby uniform,
 Too ashamed to face the friends who saw me cry,
 Too nervous about telling my parents,
 My mess seems bigger now than just a failed grade,
 And a few stupid tears (It's just salt water!)
 The train screeches to a stop again,
 Trembling, I get down and look around,
 A few deep breaths and now, a hardened resolve,
 I set off to walk the last but not the least of my path,
 Towards home, my journey's end for now.

Walking with a purpose, my only friend trailed behind,
 Its wheels clanking noisily against the pavement,
 The sound, a comfort among the loud cacophony,
 As another porter approached,
 His hands extending naturally towards it,
 I shook my head and thanked him with a smile,
 Picking up the case easily and shaking it for him to see.

Did I tell you my suitcase is empty?

By Civia Mary
2nd year, B.A. Economic Honours



VISUAL *Narratives*

*Illustration by Nashra Sehar
2nd year, B.A. English Honours*

Winning Entries of Collage Art Competition

The competition was organised by Cauldron and judged by a prominent Indian collage-artist, Gaurvi Sharma. The results were as follows.



"A Girl Having Many Hobbies"

By Rapunzel Singh

2nd year, B.A. Programme



"Trippy New York"
By Reshma A.R.
3rd year, B.A. Programme



*By Nashra Sehar
2nd year, B.A. English Honours*



"Van Gogh"
By Ananya
2nd year, B.A. Hindi Honours

Artworks



Title of the painting: 'The Ethereal Companion'

Medium: Oil on Canvas

The idea behind the artwork:

Most people tend to naturally feel forlorn when they don't have fellow human beings as companions in life. However, they forget about the other forms of living things that exist around us, always keeping us company and above all our own heart that we carry with us until our last breath. My motive through this art piece, which has been inspired by works of artists like Albrecht Dürer and Charles Amable Lenoir, is to portray to the viewer that in my opinion loneliness is a choice. One doesn't necessarily need solely a human company to sway from loneliness; if an individual is determined to find love and fulfilment in life, they'll find it in the smallest of things around them. The beauty of such a fulfilment lies in being grateful for all the things that we have at the present moment instead of constantly striving and yearning for the ones that we don't - for only after opening ourselves to the gateway of love, we allow more of it to follow behind.

*By Nashra Sehar
2nd year, B.A. English Honours*



*By Anuriti Bahl
2nd year, B.A. Sociology Honours*



*By Jermiline Joseph
1st year, B.A. English Honours*



*By Aayushi Talreja
1st year, B.A. Programme*



*By Jasleen Bakshi
2nd year, B.A. Programme*



*By Jermiline Joseph
1st year, B.A. English Honours*



*By Sarah Vaniya Haqq
3rd year, B.A. Programme*



*By Srishti
1st year, B.Voc Retail Management & IT*



*By Meghdipa Roychowdhury
1st year, B.A. English Honours*



*By Himanshi Nebhnani
2nd year, B.A. Political Science Honours*



*By Anoushka Sinha
2nd year, B.A. Programme*



*By Khushi Khanna
1st year, B.A. Psychology Honours*



*By Triveni Goswami
1st year, B.A. English Honours*



*By Annapurna Kumari
2nd year, B.A. Sociology Honours*



*By Khushi Khanna
1st year, B.A. Psychology Honours*



*By Avani Sawhney
2nd year, B.A. Programme*

Serendipity: A Photo Essay



“I don’t want to survive. I want to live.” The Captain, Wall-E.

Mother Nature is truly a master of creation. Through her flora and fauna, the earth drips out life, one of her favourites being the ocean. I perceive the ocean as the ethereal “antagonist”, luring people to it until they become trapped and realize just how dangerous but exhilarating it can be. Do not be alarmed, if you have a calm demeanour and are familiar with its body language, then you will be in good hands. In spite of the fact that the ocean is an extremely dangerous environment where one is left absolutely vulnerable, I would never hesitate to jump into it with open hands as through surfing, my life in the real world disappears into the shadows and my persona is that of one who does not take part in the monotonous mortal cycle. To be more specific, if your comfort space were to be redefined as a place or being, it would be the ocean.

This is a small snippet of my experience and it’s quite universal. As if you were to close your eyes and imagine you’re high in the air, riding a beautiful wave. You start noticing things you’ve never thought to look at before with salty water spraying onto your face to remind you that this isn’t a dream, the cold wind blowing against your hair the after-effects of which you are willing to spare, and then... crash, you fall into the ocean, laughter erupting from you as you let the waves cascade you around. The fall you experience while surfing is the cherry on top of the whole thing as it motivates you to keep searching for that right wave which widens the spectrum of adventure.

The joy of surfing is its unparalleled simplicity and freedom. Surfing has a special knack for letting yourself immerse into a bubble where all that matters is the feeling of hearing the waves while the water temporarily washes away your burdens. But it’s a hell

of heaven, a trade of sorts where in return for peace and freedom, the ocean asks for your endurance, patience, strength and more. Surfing unearths fear that was unheard of within yourself. As you wait for the right waves to ride on as the salty water pays no heed to you as it roughly washes you over and in some cases, having had waves strike you so harsh that you sink under the blue surface trying to grasp onto anything that can promise you safety. But knowing that many waves cannot last longer than I can hold my breath makes the tight grip that fear has on me loosen since everything would either happen sooner or later than you expect, so for once, why expect anything at all. In a perfect balance, humans and nature are able to rely on each other. It seems as if there are an infinite number of possible combinations of boards and waves, a unique combination that puts humans in touch with the immense ocean. This connection has been captivated by people for generations. But it's all worth it when a wave does come my way inviting me to turn around to paddle against the water. At that moment

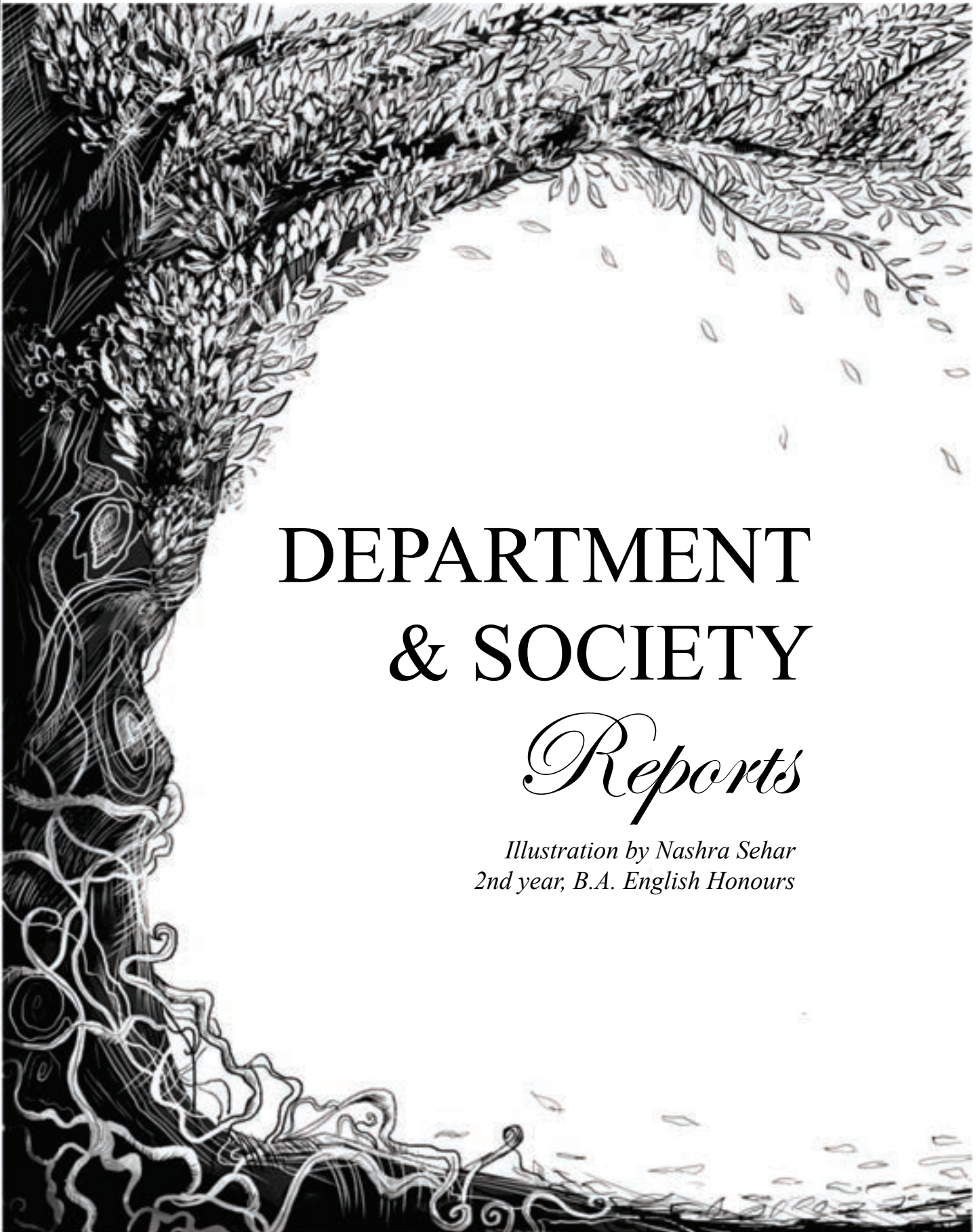
when everything else in the world seems to disappear and I hear the cheers and screams of fellow surfers, my body moves spontaneously. I quickly leap from my lying position onto the nose of the board and disappear into that magical moment. Nothing, except catching another wave.

Thus, surfing is an art in itself. It “disperses its own figurative curtain” and “withdraws the veil of life,” leaving the victims unable to find the words to describe a single moment in time, shared by board, mind, body, wind, tide and sand, that binds all of the beauty and suffering that exists in the universe. Surfing keeps us searching for that perfect wave so we can experience that moment again and again and again.

Photo Essay
By Esther Thomas
1st year, B.Com Honours



Photo Essay
By Anoushka Sinha
2nd year, B.A. Programme



DEPARTMENT & SOCIETY *Reports*

*Illustration by Nashra Sehar
2nd year, B.A. English Honours*

Department of B.A. Programme

The department of B.A. Programme is one of the largest departments with an integrated array of courses available for students.

The technical team for the session 2021-22 was headed by Raisa Katyal and co-headed by Riddhi Vinayak. The cultural team was led by Nikhita Soni and co-headed by Sameera Chawla. Niharika Moudgil and Sukhali Kaur Oberoi headed and co-headed the marketing team, while Shennelle Maria Quintal led the editorial team. The creative team was headed by Nimisha Setia and co-headed by Lubna Mujeeb and the organising team was headed by Sarah Vaniya Haqq and co-headed by Hanima. A photography team was headed by Riya Willson along with an anchoring team headed by Srishti Bahl and co-headed by Alisha Das.

The year began with an online Fresher's Week, held from November 7th to 11th, 2021 on the theme, '2000s aesthetics'. The event kickstarted with a live YouTube session with the newly elected Ms. B.A. Programme, Priyanshi Saxena, and concluded with the declaration of the results of Ms. Best Dressed, which was bagged by Manya Sabharwal.

An online field visit to the Aravalli Biodiversity Park was held, followed by another online field trip to Yamuna Biodiversity Park. An online workshop was organised for students wherein the speaker, Mr. Dhaval Pandya, discussed the advantages of rainwater harvesting.

The Department of Philosophy conducted various inter-college events. The first event was a Creative Art Competition wherein the first place was bagged by Bhavya Sharma, the first runner-up was Kokila Priya Prasad, and the second runner-up was Adishi Nanda. This event was followed by a Creative Writing Competition in which Jahanvi Ranjan secured the

first place along with Muhammed Kugman as the first runner-up and Kavya Singh as the second runner-up.

Raina Kathuria secured the first position in the Essay Writing competition while Rose Mary N. Jose and Saumia Shalini Bilung secured the first runner-up and second runner-up positions respectively. Another event, 'What If..?' was conducted in which the first place was secured by Prishita Tahilramani, the first runner-up was Ishita Kiran, and the second runner-up was Anusha Chauhan. The next event held within the department was a poster-making and singing competition for students pursuing French. The French department also held an online poetry competition. A series of webinars were organised which provided an insight into the available career options in French.

To bid adieu to the third-year batch, the department organised a farewell programme on 28th April 2022. The Thevenet Hall was infused with emotions as the department revisited the memories of the last three years. Dance and music performances by students made the farewell memorable.

The department would like to extend their heartfelt gratitude to the Principal, Prof. Sandra Joseph for her guidance. This year wouldn't have been a success without the Head of the Department, Dr. Dinesh Adlakha, whose help and patience guided us through all the activities conducted within the department so far.

Department of Commerce

As time passes and seasons change, we gain knowledge little by little and realise our true worth. A year gone is a year gained. For the Department of Commerce, the academic year 2021-2022 proved to be a year filled with experiences and delightful memories.

The year started with the flagship event of the most awaited Business Quiz of all time, Com'Quest 2021,

held in association with JIMS, Kalkaji. The event was hosted online on 1st October 2021 via Zoom and was graced by the presence of Mr. Vikrant Achanta, founder and CEO of Tulleeho. Com'Quest was conducted for the sixth year in a row, with 1000+ registrations from students all over India. Furthermore, a webinar on 'Careers in Finance' was hosted on 28th October 2021 on Zoom by Mr. Arun Rishi who has worked at MGC Global Advisory.

Carrying forward the events through online mode, a Webinar on 'The Ultimate Guide to get into the Top Business Schools in the World' was hosted on 27th November 2021 in collaboration with MentR-Me which is a peer-to-peer mentorship marketplace where one can connect with alumni and industry experts. The session was addressed by Mr. Sumit Saraswat who has an experience of 12 years in the technology industry and is an MBA graduate from NYU Stern School of Business and a product leader.

At the beginning of the new session, the department gave a warm welcome to the freshers and hosted the Orientation for the batch of 2024 on 12th January 2022 in which the whole team participated and welcomed the first years.

The Department of Commerce hosts several informative sessions for the holistic development of the students. Another such session hosted by the Department was in collaboration with Vedica Scholars, 'A Management Programme with Liberal Arts—the need of the hour'. The webinar was conducted on 17th December 2021 on the online platform Zoom. The session was addressed by Ms. Neerja Preeti Raheja, a graduate from LSR with a Bachelor's and Master's in Literature, who has over 5 years of work experience in outreach, training, and mentorship. Additionally, an 'Interview Preparation' webinar was organised in collaboration with IMS Ghaziabad on 10th January 2022. The session was addressed by Prof. Sangeeta

Gadhok Magan. She is a trainer, mentor, author and professor, who has over 3 decades of experience in training, development, and administration, in the corporate sector and the academic sector at different levels.

The International Conference 2022 on "Evolving Business Strategies in a Transforming Global Environment" witnessed the participation of delegates from over ten countries. The conference commenced with the inaugural session. The event was a huge success. It included ten technical sessions and two plenary sessions hosted by many esteemed and experienced speakers who shared their valuable knowledge with the participants. Over 1200 participants attended the event that was held on the Zoom platform from 20-21st January 2022.

One of the most engaging events organised by the Department of Commerce was the 'Bollywood Met Gala' themed Fresher's party for the batch of 2024. It was held on February 2, 2022, over the Zoom platform. Next, we hosted a webinar on 'VOS viewer: A Tool for Bibliometric Analysis in Research' on 25th March 2022 via Zoom. Another webinar was held on Creating and Sustaining an I brand in April by Dr. Vaishali Agarwal which was attended by around 120 students. This year came to a close as we held the first offline event but the session's last event by bidding farewell to the third-year batch. With this event the very productive academic year 2021-22 came to a conclusion.

Department of Economics

The Department of Economics at Jesus and Mary College, with its highly skilled faculty and diverse student body, encourages students to constantly learn and grow. To promote holistic development, the Department organised seminars, webinars, and workshops hosted by eminent personalities in the academic year 2021-22 such as:

- Webinar on ‘Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the Indian Economy and the Road to Recovery’ by Professor Arun Kumar (Malcolm Adiseshiah Chair Professor at the Institute of Social Sciences).
- Webinar on ‘Challenges Faced By Women and Girls During the COVID Pandemic’ by Dr. Aruna Broota (Clinical Psychologist and retired Professor, University of Delhi).
- Series on Academic Research Writing Workshop by Dr. Dweepobotee Brahma (Assistant Professor, Centre for Mathematical and Computational Economics)
- Ms. Annapurna Mitra (Economist at the Strategy, Policy and Review Department of the International Monetary Fund)
- Mr. Sridha Halali (Evolutionary Ecologist and Postdoc Researcher at the University of Delhi)
- An interactive session on ‘Civil Services as a Career’ by Ms. Vasumana Pant (Chief Executive officer in Zila Parishad of Washim).

The Contrarian Economics Magazine, the annual magazine publication of the Department, with its 26-member team from a multitude of departments, covers a range of discourses. This year’s annual issue was based on ‘Digital Discrimination’ and featured 15+ research articles by members, alumnae, guest authors, and faculty. The team organised a series of Academic Research Writing workshops comprising 3 sessions, reading circles to deliberate on texts related to ‘Gender and Capitalism’ and ‘The Cyborg Manifesto’, a panel interview on ‘Socioeconomic Inequality in India’, and a film screening and discussion on ‘War Economy’ with Afghanistan in focus. The Annual Newsletter was released by the team, covering the events held all year round. The objective has always been to bolster Amartya Sen’s proverbial argumentative Indian in each one and spark conversations.

Ecognition, the Department’s Research Cell, provided an enriching research experience to students under which 27 students collaborated with five Research Cell faculty members. In groups, students worked on research projects on a wide array of topics including education, health, finance, virtual currencies, etc. The students submitted five research projects which included primary data collection, methodology, data analysis, and policy implications. The rigorous training involved in the process of working on the papers exposed students to how to think about research problems and connect theory with the implementation of data using different software.

The department also launched ‘Chanakya: The Economics Cell’, a cell that provides a platform for anyone in the college who is interested in exploring socioeconomic disciplines. The cell conducted a webinar with Prof. Nandan Nawn (Associate Professor, Department of Policy Studies), an orientation programme, and discussions. “ARTHVED: An Economic Thought Circle,” was also launched which focuses on the study of major philosophers’ and economists’ works. Imparting knowledge about the history and basics of economics is the main objective of this circle. The circle works upon enriching the classical knowledge about economics.

In September 2021, the Department of Economics hosted its third Alumni meet, which was graced by the presence of 36 alumni and the active participation of 60+ attendees. Moreover, events such as Teacher’s Day, Freshers’ Week, and other sessions were organised. The department also implemented the buddy project, under which senior students mentor and advise freshmen on their careers, help in easing the transition from online to offline, extracurricular activities, and so on throughout the year.

“Ecovantage”, the annual Department fest was held on April 22nd, 2022, and provided an immersive

platform for students to showcase and host events. Ecovantage 2021-22 was a one-day event that included the inaugural talk by guest speaker Mr. Anil Swarup (Author and retired IAS officer) as well as competitions such as Policy Shashtra, Casenomics, Puzzle Pint, Research Symposium, Strat Wars, and Stock Talk. The department concluded its activities for the academic year by bidding farewell to the graduating class of 2022.

The department expresses its heartfelt gratitude to our principal, Prof. Sandra Joseph, for her guidance. Furthermore, we thank the teacher-in-charge, Ms. Smita Gupta, for her unwavering support and all of the department teachers for their advice and encouragement.

Department of Elementary Education

The academic session started with the election for council members, wherein Shawna Shaji (3rd year) and Jenit A. John (2nd year) were elected President and Vice-President, respectively, Jasreet Oberoi was elected the Treasurer (2nd year), Vidhi Arora as the Editor (2nd year) along with two class representatives for each year.

The first event of the academic year for the Department of Elementary Education was an interactive webinar with Dr. Ishita Bharadwaj, Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, University of Delhi. The webinar was conducted on the 5th of October 2021 on 'Restoring Normalcy'. The webinar confronted issues concerning the mental health of students due to online classes during the pandemic. She shared her thoughts on the online mode of education, the challenge of understanding students' emotions, and mapping their educational progress. The talk focused on students and their changing social life. She concluded her talk by

emphasising the need to form meaningful relationships and give each other a patient hearing. The next event was conducted on 22nd November 2021, for the first-year students. The department organized an Orientation session to discuss the scope of B.El.Ed programme, their schedule and to gain familiarity with the faculty. Apart from this, an online interactive session was also conducted for the first year batch to allow the students to meet their fellow department students and get acquainted with their seniors in an informal setting.

Welcoming the next year and providing an interpersonal bonding opportunity for students, the department organised a movie screening for the whole department on 19th January 2022, Wednesday, during the activity period and around 80 people joined the movie screening. The movie selected for screening was Pursuit of Happyness, starring Will Smith and Jaden Smith. Later, in February, a talk on multilingualism was organized by Ms. Asha Sundram for the 2nd year students on 9th February, 2022. For the purpose of this session, Dr. Chhaya Sawhney, faculty of Linguistics, Department of Elementary Education, Gargi College was invited as a resource person. The talk, titled 'Being Multilingual: Its (in)significance in school education' involved a discussion about embracing multilingualism in school education.

The keynote speech of this year's Gijubhai Memorial Lecture, on 'Politics, Critical Pedagogy, and Hope in the Present Times' was delivered by one of the founding theorists of critical pedagogy in the United States, Prof. Henry Giroux, on 24th March 2022. He addressed the hierarchical arrangement, politics of fascism, and the rise of neoliberalism. He shared his belief that critical pedagogy is about developing social and collective resistance to subvert the forces of capitalism and preserving democracy. The talk was well attended by people from different colleges and universities.

The annual department event ‘Aagaaz 2022’ was held on 5th April, 2022, under which 3 events were conducted viz. the talent hunt –‘JMC Hunarbaaz’, storytelling –‘A tale from a box’, and creative expression –‘Andaz Apna Apna’. With a total participation of 57 students from within and outside the department, the event was a great success.

In the same month, the department wrapped up its academic session as we bid farewell to the batch of 2022, on 21st April 2022. The day turned out to be one of the most memorable for not only the seniors but for everyone who witnessed us saying “Hasta la vista” to the batch. The department prepared a farewell ceremony in the Thevenet Hall where our department facilitators presented the seniors with a certificate, a graduation cap, and a present. With that, the graduating batch had their valediction and shared their memories, experiences, and reflections. Junior batches performed group dances and songs for the purpose of entertainment and at the end, the graduating batch came up on the stage to dance and celebrate. This was followed by lunch.

It was an exhilarating experience for the faculty, council and the students as events and talks were held both offline and online mode, helping us to move ahead of the pandemic while keeping our safety and health on priority. Though the times were difficult for in both teachers and students, the department managed to organise many academic and cultural events with the constant cooperation of all the students and faculty members. All these events would not have been possible without the generous support of the Principal, Prof. Sandra Joseph, and all the support staff of the college to whom we are deeply indebted.

Department of English

The academic year 2021-2022 was extremely fruitful for the Department of English, Jesus and Mary College.

After a major part of the year was spent in the online mode, the reopening of colleges in February demanded that a swift adjustment be made concerning events for the remainder of the academic year. Consequently, a plethora of online as well as offline events were conducted successfully throughout 2021-22.

The academic year commenced with the English Literary Association (ELA) conducting the student body elections for the year on 8th September 2021. Srishti Tyagi (3rd year) and Femiya Varghese (2nd year) were elected to the post of President and Vice-President, respectively. Following this, the new ELA core team for the year was selected from the current second and third years on 5th October 2021. Due to the staggering semesters, the General Secretary elections were held on 16th February 2022, in which Raina Kathuria was elected to the position by the newly inducted First Year batch.

ELA’s first event of the year was a Poetry Reading Session with Dr. Monica Mody, in collaboration with Prakriti Foundation, on 18th September 2021. The event was hosted on Zoom, was open to all, and saw enthusiastic engagement from the attendees. Subsequently, the ELA collaborated with Prakriti Foundation on three more creative events—a Poetry Reading Session with Annie Zaidi (9th October 2021), a Retrospective of Plays by Manjula Padmanabhan (30th October 2021), and a Poetry Reading Session with The Quarantine Train (26th February 2022). The sessions were highly interactive with many insightful questions from the English Department’s student attendees. The students were able to explore newer aspects of writing poetry as well as analysing theatre.

The next big event for the department students was the announcement of the prompts for the Anupama Nair Creative Writing Competition, and simultaneously, the preparation for the impending NAAC Peer Team visit to the college in the months of October-November

2021. Putting their best foot forward, the department students redesigned the department board, merging a dark academia aesthetic with the theme of “Gender: Inside and Outside the Classroom”. Across a week in October, groups of students, overseen by teachers from the Department, revamped the Department Room, setting up creative installations around the department’s pedagogy. The NAAC Peer Team visit took place in Jesus and Mary College on 11th and 12th November 2021.

Due to the staggering semesters, the Department Freshers’, Trouvaille’ 21 was held online on 12th January 2022 through Google Meet. The freshers were welcomed with good wishes for their unique academic journey. The theme for the event was “Bring Your Own Aesthetic”. Diversely dressed students graced our screens, wearing outfits inspired from retro to loungewear to dark academia. Following the formal initiation of the freshers, the Anupama Nair Creative Writing Competition Prize Distribution Ceremony was held soon after on 2nd February 2022; the winners of the same were, Roshni Reji (1st Prize), Tenzin Pema (2nd Prize), and Ananyaa Saha (Honourable Mention). Recipients of the 2020-21 Perry Bannerjee Award, and the 2020-21 Anupama Nair Memorial Award were also announced on this occasion. The winners were Roshni Reji (Batch of 2023) and Anusha Batra (Batch of 2021), respectively.

Training its sights on the academic side of things, the ELA next organised a Career Counselling Session, Career Day with Alumnae, on 16th February 2022. JMC’s alumnae, Vagisha Joshi, Sanya Taneja, and Suvidha Jani were invited to share their professional insights with the students. The students were enlightened about the possibility of a diverse range of career options after their undergraduate degrees in Humanities and Social Sciences. The event was conducted online, was open to all students of JMC,

and saw widespread attendance. It was a resounding success!

March 2022 was a month of intense planning and execution for many upcoming events in the Department. Facilitated by our Principal Professor Sandra Joseph, and coordinated by our Teacher-in-Charge Ms. Dolly Kapoor, the ELA organised its ‘Meet the Author Series 2022’ on 7th March 2022 with Paul Waters as the guest speaker for the event. The event was held online as Mr. Waters, the reputed journalist, author, and radio producer for the BBC was speaking from an international location.

Acknowledging the impact of the pandemic and the inherent possibilities of the hybrid mode, it was determined to designate April 2022 as the month where the annual English department fest, Literati, would incorporate multiple events and activities across the month, instead of the traditional one-day offline affair. ‘Graphic Narratives and Visuality’, uniquely lending itself to both offline and online activities, was selected as the broad theme of the fest. Starting things off, Literati’s ‘Keynote Lecture’ was scheduled for 7th April 2022. Renowned graphic artist, Sarnath Banerjee, was invited to be the guest speaker. Sarnath Banerjee resides in Berlin, Germany, and therefore the Keynote was conducted online through Google Meet. To keep things interesting and staying firmly within the graphic framework, next was a talk in the offline mode by A.P. Payal on the topic, “Reading the Cards: Exploring the Feminist Possibilities of the Tarot” on 13th April 2022. Ms. Payal, a PhD scholar at the Department of English, University of Delhi, and an Assistant Professor at Kamala Nehru College, is also a published author who has designed her own tarot deck around the theme of female menstruation. The talk provided an interesting intertwining of gender and the graphic mode, and was hugely popular among the students of the English and other departments of JMC.

Always desirous of encouraging student research, the Annual Student Seminar 2022 on the topic, “The ‘Gutter’ of Literature: Graphic Narratives and Visuality”, was held on 20th April 2022 in the online mode. The CFP for the seminar was a huge success, seeing submissions and presentations from students belonging to different universities across India. The seminar was divided into four sessions, with three papers presented per session, and each session was chaired by a teacher from the Department of English. Dr. Susan George, Mr. Jobin Thomas, Ms. Kashish Dua and Ms. Ishita Singh were the invited Departmental Chairs. The seminar witnessed discussions around different facets of the graphic medium, from environmental ethics to disability studies, it was a fitting testament to the budding quality of research among graduate and postgraduate students in India.

A mini-fundraiser, under the banner of Literati, was held on 21st April 2022. It was open only to students of Jesus and Mary College. The stalls were conceptualized and hosted by students of the Department of English. The event aimed to encourage student leadership and organization. The day brought happiness and excitement for students who had been deprived of the offline college experience for the past two years. Bringing the academic year to an end on a bittersweet note, ELA organised the official Departmental Farewell for the Batch of 2022 on 28th April 2022. The theme for the Farewell was decided as “Under the Stars”. The event was deftly managed by the juniors, with performances, games, and collegiate nostalgia marking the meet.

We would like to end by extending our gratitude to Principal ma’am for her constant encouragement in these endeavours, our TIC Ms. Dolly Kapoor for her guidance, our ELA Staff Convenor Ms. Sameera Mehta and Staff Advisor Ms. Aneesha Puri for helping us execute these events perfectly. We would also like

to thank all the teachers of the Department of English for their support during the past year.

Department of History

The Department of History, Jesus and Mary College is one of the most distinctive spaces of the college that attempts to develop as an inclusive and representative platform. The department holds academic sessions, hosting professors and scholars of immense repute. The ambience of the department is marked by enthusiastic academic rigour among students and professors. The academic year of 2021-22 eventuated as a remarkable session for the department owing to both online as well as offline sessions.

The session began with the elections of the office bearers in April 2021, wherein Diya Das (3rd year) and Srushti Sharma (2nd year) were elected as the President and Vice-President respectively under the guidance of Dr. Amita Paliwal (Teacher-in-Charge) and Dr. Sanghamitra Rai Verman (Co-convenor).

The first event of the History Department held on 18th August 2021 was in a collaboration with Dastaan—Art and Architecture Society in the form of a webinar with Dr. Akbar Joseph A. Syed, Assistant Professor in the Department of English of Aligarh Muslim University wherein he spoke on the case study of John Masters’ novels as a part of De-historicizing 19th century literary works. This event was followed by an interactive session on 27th August 2021 in collaboration with Women Studies Centre with Dr. Meera Velayudhan, a Policy Analyst with a Ph.D. in Modern India involved in Gender Studies. She spoke on her mother Dakshani Velayudhan’s extremely inspiring journey, who was one of the 15 women members of the Indian Constituent Assembly and the only Dalit woman member who made key interventions on untouchability, forced labour, slavery and other concerns. In another collaboration

with Dastaan, the Department held a webinar on 4th September 2021 with Dr. Professor Harbans Mukhia, a renowned Historian in the study of Medieval India. The webinar focused on the evolving contours of History as a discipline highlighting both the past and the present. On 11th September 2021, in collaboration with Dastaan, the department held a webinar with Dr. Arthur Needham, a researcher at Inumismatics and Co-author of *The Coins of India* where the webinar focused on discussion of acceptance of coins in the marketplace. The History Department held another webinar on 15th September 2021 with Ritu Menon who is a noted feminist writer and a publisher and also the co-founder of 'Kali for Women', India's first feminist press. This webinar focused on the state of women during armed conflicts and experiences of the instances of violence being sharply gendered and laid out the cruelty faced by women in normal times and seemingly modern times.

On October 28th, 2021, the History Department held its annual fest in online mode where it conducted 'Sansad' – the mock Parliament, 'Alfaaz' – an open mic competition, a research paper presentation by Maazinama, and a special session. The events covered topics such as 'Legislation on Marital Rape' and 'Women Emancipation'. The special session as well as the research paper presentation on 'Oral History: a turn to memory and its Historicization' in discussion with Professor Alessandro Portelli and Professor Sucheta Mahajan were also conducted. On 30th April 2022, the department held a seminar (offline mode) with Dr. Nilima Chitgopekar, a well-received author, personality and professor in both India and abroad. The seminar focused on the exploration of the plurality of the goddess tradition as Shakti with a special segment in the form of an interview by team Maazinama. The Department has also thrived towards launching its Oral History Archive (OHA) under the guidance of Dr. Richa Raj (Convenor: Oral History Archive), Dr. Amita

Paliwal (Teacher-in-charge) and Dr. Sanghamitra Rai Verman (Co-convenor). To support this initiative, the department also held its fundraiser on 1st April 2022. The OHA initiative started with its first visit on 26th March 2022 to Dargah Hazrat Nizamuddin Auliya for interviewing its chairman Syed Afsar Ali Nizami, followed by a visit to Aligarh on 3rd April 2022 for interviewing Prof. Irfan Habib and Prof. (Retd.) Shireen Moosvi, Aligarh Muslim University under the theme of 'Public History of Heritage in India' and 'Life Stories of Public Intellectuals in India' respectively. The teams that paid their visits included Dr. Amita Paliwal, Dr. Richa Raj, Diya Das, Srushti Sharma, Jessica Shrotri, Shaivie Sharma, Tanisha Kaushik, Ardra Goodwin, Sarah Grace Yadav and Noor Sandhu. Following this, on April 27th, 2022, the Department of History formally launched the Oral History Archive and Maazinama—the annual academic journal featuring the screening of Taangh/Longing—a documentary by Bani Singh, and a presentation by Anachal Singh, a story scholar on the 1947 Partition Archive.

The department owes its heartfelt gratitude to Principal Prof. Sandra Joseph for her constant support. The session of the Department of History has been remarkable under the guidance and encouragement of our professors Dr. Amita Paliwal (Teacher-in-charge), Dr. Sanghamitra Rai Verman (Co-convenor), Dr. Nilima Chitgopekar, Dr. Richa Raj (Convenor: OHA), Dr. Christhu Doss, Dr. Maya John, Dr. Tanu Parashar, and Dr. Sonu Vincent.

Department of Mathematics

The Department of Mathematics focuses on helping students become intellectually sound and disciplined. The aim of the department is to create a student-supportive learning environment at all levels of teaching and learning. It believes in holistic development that cannot be achieved solely with classroom teaching.

The session began with the elections for the new office bearers for the academic year 2021-22. The election process was conducted in July and Vanshika Arora (3rd-year B.Sc.(H) Mathematics) was elected as the President, Vashima (2nd-year, B.Sc.(H) Mathematics) was elected as the Vice President, and Vanshika Sehgal (3rd-year B.Sc.(H) Mathematics) was elected as the Treasurer. In August, the department organised a talk on “Some Recent Issues in Cryptology” by Prof. Bimal Kumar Roy, Applied Statistics Unit, Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata. He is also a recipient of the Padma Shri Award, from the Government of India. Through real-life experiences, he explained the bank locker security system, digital function locks, commonly used in modern hotels, and its solution to strengthen the locker security to cope with its loopholes. The talk was enlightening, inspirational, and a huge success.

On 8th September 2021, the department organised a Teachers’ Day celebration which included several performances as a token of gratitude for all the teachers. Later, a two-day interactive session, ‘Mann ki Baat ft. NRI Seniors’ was conducted where the ex-students were invited to talk about their first-hand experiences abroad and how they entered the top universities like London School of Economics, Imperial College, London, etc. A 5-day Virtual Workshop on “Data Analysis using Python” was organised in January. It helped students in getting a hands-on experience in Python under the mentorship of Mr. Ravi Kant, Data Scientist and Co-founder of Brain Mentors Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.

Under the Alumnae Talks Series, Ms. Sana Goel, Counterparty Risk Manager at Morgan Stanley, London was invited to interact with the students. It was an informative session where students were advised to identify their innate abilities, skill, and interests. This would not only help them choose the right academic options but excel in the field of their choice. All in all, the students gained valuable insights.

This year the college was also visited by the NAAC team, in November. Although the college was still operational in online mode, many students visited the college to work on the presentations and decoration of the department boards for inspection.

With the beginning of a new session for the batch of 2024, the Department conducted an orientation session for the freshers and later, threw an online Freshers’ Party on the theme ‘Cosplay’. A talent hunt competition followed by a series of competitive rounds was conducted to crown this year’s Miss Mathematics and Miss Personality. The bi-annual newsletter of the Department, Algorithm, released its 5th edition in December. This edition was based on the theme of ‘Odyssey in Time’, which included a plethora of writings, handpicked to showcase the passage of time.

In the first week of February, the long-awaited annual fest of the department, ‘Matharena’ was organised, which was a huge success despite the restraints due to the pandemic. It commenced with an informative session on ‘Discovery of Exoplanets and the Search for Habitable Worlds’ by Prof. Anand Narayan, Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. This was followed by a paper presentation competition on “Applications of Mathematics” and a quiz competition that had participants from different colleges across the country.

The year ended on a positive note with a farewell to the batch of 2022 on 28th April 2022. The theme of the party was ‘Math Gala’ where the department bid adieu to the final year students as they were about to step into a new realm of their life.

Department of Physical Education

With the beginning of another session during the pandemic, the Department of Physical Education

geared up for a gamut of activities to support the growth of its students and provide them with the best possible resources. From webinars to Freshers '22, and to finally hosting the Annual Sports Fest 2022, this session saw some successful events both online and offline.

The year started with the recruitment of core team members of the department. Out of the many applicants, a total of 60 members were selected to be a part of the team. All these members worked tirelessly for every event that took place during this session. After building a strong core team, it was time to select the office bearers of the department. The elections were held on 29th September 2021 in which Divya Chaturvedi was elected as the President, Laavanya Ray as the Vice President and Shagun Kumari as the Special Coordinator for the session 2021-22. Due to the delay in the admissions of a fresh batch, the interview for the post of Secretary took place on 23rd February 2022 wherein Mahika Dixit was appointed as the Secretary of the Department of Physical Education.

The department has always emphasised the importance of mental strength and well-being. To work in this direction, the department in collaboration with IQAC, Jesus and Mary College organised an international webinar on 'Mind and Mindfulness in Amrit Bindu Upanishads' by Dr. Girish Jha on 29th October, 2021. The interactive session helped students gain a better perspective on mindfulness.

The Department of Physical Education, Jesus and Mary College and Maitreyi College, University of Delhi collaborated with Delhi Masters Athletic Association (DMAA) and Masters Athletics Federation of India (MAFI) to organise the 1st All Delhi Masters Cross Country Race 2021 on 7th November 2021, at Vinay Marg Sports Ground. The winners were selected for the National Cross-country Championships held in Goa in December 2021.

During the month of November, the department geared up for the NAAC visit to Jesus and Mary College. Various arrangements were made with the perfect display of our diversity and inclusivity. The Yoga team gave the most graceful performance along with a powerful display by the Taekwondo team of the college.

Keeping in mind the mental well-being of our students, the Department of Physical Education collaborated with the Peace Society of the college for a webinar on the 'Mental Health of Professional Athletes' on 19th January 2022. It allowed our athletes to understand the importance of mental health and positive mindsets for the game.

On the occasion of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav celebration, the 75th anniversary of Independence Day, the National Yogasana Sports Federation (NYSP) decided to run a project of 750 million Surya Namaskar in 30 states, involving 30,000 institutes and over 3 lakh students to practise 13 Surya Namaskars each day over the course of 21 days. This also included the performance of a musical Surya Namaskar in front of tricolour on 26th January 2022. The Department of Physical Education supported this initiative by the Ministry of Youth Affairs, Government of India. With an aim to initiate everyone into a healthy lifestyle in order to cope up better in these trying times, our programme commenced on 17th January 2022 with more than 120 participants.. The event was conducted online, with a 45-minute session each day in which all the participating students and faculty performed yogasana with full enthusiasm. The closing ceremony of this event was held on 7th February 2022. Dr. Navdeep Joshi, Founder Navyoga, International Nada Yoga Guru and Prof. (Dr.) Sandeep Tiwari, Principal IGIPES, Delhi graced the occasion as the chief guests.

The department then wholeheartedly welcomed the new batch of 2024 through a virtual freshers' on 12th

January 2022 with a variety of games, songs and dance performances.

The Department of Physical Education, JMC in collaboration with the Department of Physical Education, Maitreyi College organised a seminar for increasing awareness of cyber crimes on 8th March 2022. The seminar welcomed two speakers, Inspector Monica Kaushal, Delhi Police, and Inspector Manoj Kumar, Delhi Police who shared vital information to spread awareness on cyber security and privacy.

After a long wait of two years, the department finally organised the Annual Sports Fest ‘HOBNOB 2022’ from 11th to 13th of April, 2022. The best sporting performances blended with all the fun and frolic, and made it the best experience ever. It also allowed the students to showcase their talent and win laurels. More than 130 colleges and institutions pan-India took part in the fest and competed in the men’s and women’s basketball, football, tennis, and table tennis tournaments. The three days witnessed a lot of enthusiasm, sporting spirit, and joys of togetherness.

As the session came to an end, the Annual Sports Meet was organised on 27th April 2022. The department came together to felicitate the efforts of our outstanding athletes and members who have been working tirelessly to support and represent our college at various levels. The Chief Guest for the event was Ms. Kiran Sindhu, the former head of Physical Education, Delhi University, MD of Elevated Training, Australia. The event was also graced by Indian Olympic medalist, Mr. Sharad, as the Honourable Guest. Along with the felicitation ceremony, the meet also witnessed performances by Tarannum, Mudra and Kahkasha. With just as much enthusiasm, the department also bid farewell to its outgoing batch of 2022 by organising the graduation party on 27th April, 2022. Students were asked to dress up in “street-style” themes with creative ideas for a backpack.

Upholding the tradition, the department nurtured various inter-college and inter-university sportspersons in sports like taekwondo, volleyball and chess, who represented the college and brought laurels to the institution. Some of these include Bulbul and Shreya (third position, softball at the inter-university), Harshita Tomar (first position, taekwondo, inter-university), Laxmi Kumari (first position, judo, inter-university), Palkin (participation in chess at the inter-university level), Barkha Tyagi (participation in netball at the inter-university level). Some of the inter-college achievers include, Tritiksha Kapil and Diksha (third position, taekwondo).

Our athletes continue to shine, and the department stays on its mission to provide the best opportunities for the students. We are pleased as we complete another successful session of great achievements, productive meetings, collaborations, and the most memorable of times. We hope to continue to strive and bring laurels to our esteemed institution.

Department of Political Science

The Political Science Association, Jesus and Mary College, in its academic year 2021-22, went on different remarkable journeys—both academic and extracurricular, seeking knowledge and excellence.

The academic year commenced online, with a fun-filled event—‘Frolicsome Fiesta’, organised by the second-year students of the department in August. In the second event of the month, the department screened the documentary *Class Dismissed: Malala’s Story* for its students. The documentary presented the courageous life and works of Malala Yousafzai. The students presented a vibrant online programme for their teachers on the occasion of Teachers’ day. Dance performances Dance performances, games,

games that ended with guffaws and tears of laughter, and a beautiful singing performance made the day memorable. The department then held elections for the new council wherein, Ms. Gorvi Sajnani from the third year and Ms. Anjaly Clare Sebastian from the second year were elected President and Vice President of the department, respectively.

The department conducted a short assembly on 1st October 2021 on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti and International Day of Non-Violence. An open mic session was also conducted on the occasion of Mental Health Awareness Day. The session was a beautiful gathering of young poets, singers, and stand-up comedians who expressed their thoughts and emotions through their art. The United Nations Day was observed with a webinar titled “UN in the Age of Disruption” by Mr. Pravin Sawhney, a former Army officer and co-founder and editor of FORCE. Marking the World Philosophy Day, an essay writing competition was organised, which saw overwhelming responses from students across the country.

Moving forward on its voyage, the department welcomed the freshers with a virtual orientation of the college and its functioning, along with a zestful ‘Sitcoms and Movies’ themed Freshers event. The first-year students organised a short assembly on 10th December to commemorate Human Rights Day, with an in-depth study of human rights and their significance. An ice-breaking session was organised by the final year students for their juniors in December, which resulted in the strengthening of bonds amongst them. In the same month, Ms. Shagun Tomar from the first year was elected as the Treasurer of the department for the academic year of 2021-22.

To enhance awareness of electoral processes, a short assembly was organised by the department on the occasion of the 12th National Voters’ Day, on 25th January 2022. To further mark the day, the department

also held an intercollege Debate Competition on the topic, “Should voting be made mandatory in India?”. Celebrating Republic Day with enthusiasm, the department assembled online, sharing and gaining more knowledge about the Constitution of the country.

Under the theme of ‘75 Years of Independence’, ‘Politologue 2022’—the annual academic day of the department, tried to encapsulate everything from independence and freedom to democracy. The event started with an Inaugural Lecture by Prof. Ujjwal Kumar Singh, on the topic, ‘Nationalism and Democracy in India’. The department held seven competitions under ‘Politologue 2022’, which saw overwhelming responses from students across the country.

As the first offline event, the department collaborated with Panorama-the Film Appreciation and Movie Making Society of JMC, to organise a screening of the short film, Black Soul in March. Later that month, all the students and teachers of the department met for an interactive session to understand each other better as we began our on-campus journey. The department celebrated Women’s Day with an energetic flash mob in the amphitheatre of the college, followed by recitation of poems, showcasing the strength and resilience of women. The department also bid a graceful adieu and wished all the success to the Batch of 2022, with a vivacious farewell event on 28th April 2022.

The Department of Political Science expresses its heartfelt gratitude to Prof. Sandra Joseph, Principal, Jesus and Mary College, for her constant support, along with Ms. Disha Narula who dedicatedly served as the Teacher-In-Charge of the department for the last two years. A special thanks to all the teachers of the department for their continued inspiration, and all the students for their unwavering commitment to the department. The academic year 2021-22 was, in short, another feather in the cap of the department.

Department of Psychology

The Department of Psychology organized the many events in the year 2021-22 aligning with the emerging trends of the discipline and the evolving needs of the students. Under the leadership of student President Ms. Aastha Sarin, Vice President Ms. Sandra John and association-in-charges Dr. Priya Bhatnagar and Dr. Annie Baxi, the academic year hosted multiple research training sessions, webinars, and cultural events.

In September, an online celebration on the occasion of Teacher's Day was held by the office bearers of the department to extend their heartfelt gratitude to all the teachers for being a constant source of support to them during tough times. On 8th September 2021, a webinar on 'Affective Registers of Cinematic Deshbhakti' was organized by the department to celebrate "Aazadi ka Amrit Mahotsav", an initiative of the Government of India to celebrate and commemorate 75 years of India's independence. The speaker for the session was Dr. Ravi Kant, an Associate Professor at the Center for the Study of Developing Societies. The webinar aimed to address the interaction between emotion and cinematic expression as seen in Indian films from the 1930s to the 1950s. Using the concept of affect, Dr Ravi Kant specifically articulated that Deshbhakti was separate from contemporary nationalism. The event saw over 100 participants, including students and faculty members from various departments.

A webinar was organized later in September on the topic "Qualitative Approaches in Psychology"—revisiting the foundations with undergraduates. It was attended by more than 130 Psychology students. The talk was given by Prof. Kumar Ravi Priya, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Kanpur. Prof. Kumar Ravi Priya shed light on the basic tenets of qualitative research, the criteria of rigour, and the various kinds of qualitative approaches. He also gave the attendees a personal insight into the study

he conducted in Nandigram in 2009. This was a challenging ethnographic study owing to the political climate and violence.

In further acknowledgement of "Aazadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav", the department in collaboration with DIPR and DRDO organised a webinar on the contribution of military psychology to the armed forces on 20th October on Webex. The speaker Dr. Devesh Nath Tripathi, scientist, DIPR highlighted how military psychologists study the unique capabilities of candidates and officers, and through rigorous psychologically intensive selection processes, researchers use their understanding of social psychology and organizational behaviour to contribute to the development of the armed forces.

The department also held a memorial lecture in the living memory of Dr. Meenakshi Mehta on 29th October 2021. The topic for the event was "The Estrangement of Social Psychology from 'Social': Sociological Imagination as an Antidote" by Dr. Arvind Kumar Mishra, Jawaharlal Nehru University. The lecture navigated the areas of social and organizational psychology. Dr. Mishra articulated that the language of science is not enough to capture the entire psyche and social life, highlighting the inadequacies of the scientific method and reiterating the role of modern psychologists in the creation of fruitful theories. The insightful lecture concluded, stimulating the young minds to question psychological constructions in the social realm.

On November 18th, the department officially welcomed the batch of 2024 with an orientation to ensure that the first years find themselves prepared for their new college life, how to navigate course demands, and the larger ethos and best practices of the institution and department. It also gave insight into how the department functions and emphasised the department's policy of maintaining a safe and inclusive environment for everyone.

On the 12th of January 2022, a webinar was organized on the topic “Navigating the Qualitative Interview: Refugee Voices in Focus” by Ms. Pallavi Ramanathan, a research scholar at IIT Delhi. Ms. Pallavi is a former student of the department who has recently published a journal article based on the experiences of Tibetan Refugees in the *Journal of Psychology in Developing Societies*. She explained the various dynamics of a qualitative interview, especially when researching with/on vulnerable populations. After conducting numerous online webinars, the session ended with an offline farewell. The second years and first years organised the programme, which included a live jamming session. The seniors shared their favourite memories and their insights from the three years of being a student at JMC. The farewell was filled with moments reminiscing the journey of the batch of '22 and ended with a wholesome goodbye, wishing the best to the outgoing batch.

The Psychology Association book club in the year 2021-22 under the guidance of various faculty members picked the often unheard of and marginalized authors within the realm of the discipline. It helped in giving insights to the students into the varied nature of the subject and its intersection with feminist and socio-political backdrops. The book club recommendations covered different genres, from dystopia to satire, with recommendations like *We Have Always Lived in the Castle* by Shirley Jackson and *Complaints and Disorders* by Barbara English. The book club discussed themes such as ‘Mental Health—Past and Present’ and ‘Graphic novels and comics’.

The social media handles of the Psychology Department aimed to create awareness as well as a platform for the students to express their creativity. It included various campaigns on topics such as Psychological Disorders—Autism Spectrum Disorder, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, Obsessive Compulsive Disorder; important days and months—Worth

Mental Health Week and Suicide Prevention Month; Reflections from the pandemic—an initiative to help students express their thoughts and learnings during a pandemic. The social media handle has established a space to harbour knowledge and channel the students’ creative spirit.

The activities of this session were conducted under the guidance and supervision of the Teacher-in-Charge Dr. Shefali Mishra and teacher Association-in-Charges, Dr. Annie Baxi and Dr. Priya Bhatnagar. The department looks forward to enriching evolving efforts in the holistic development of the student.

Department of Sociology

The Department of Sociology, Jesus and Mary College began its session in July 2021 with the departmental election for office bearers. Vaani Bhatnagar (third year) and Anoushka Puri (second year) were elected for the posts of President and Vice President respectively.

The first event of the academic year was the screening and discussion of the film *Shershaah* on the 18th of August 2021 as a part of celebrating Aazadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, commemorating the 75th year of Independence.

This was followed by a guest lecture on the theme “Conflict Zones and the Role of Women Human Rights Defenders in India” on 27th August 2021 by Dr. Shewli Kumar, a Social Work Educator and Associate Professor at the School of Social Work, TISS Mumbai. The lecture invited insightful questions regarding gendered violence in conflict situations and the horrid realities faced by women in conflict zones. With the beginning of a fresh session for the first years, the department conducted an orientation program for the newly admitted students on the 18th of November 2021. Following the orientation program, the annual Freshers’ Debate, which has been a unique tradition

of the department, was held on the 17th of December 2021.

Furthermore, the Inaugural Lecture was delivered by Prof. Savyasaachi from Jamia Millia Islamia on the theme of ‘What do we understand by ‘Social?’ on 12th January 2022. The lecture probed into what exactly constitutes ‘reasonable thinking’ and how, in approaching the ‘social’, one needs to learn the skills of the discipline as a theoretical/practical tool.

Along the lines of the Inaugural lecture, a special lecture was held on 24th January 2022. Dr. Kamei Aphun from the Delhi School of Economics spoke on the theme “From Social Thought to Sociological Thought”. The students were introduced to the ideas of ‘sociological thought’ and were sensitized to the difference between sociological thought and common-sensical perspective.

The department also organized a workshop on Ethnographic Film-making: ‘Documenting the Field’ on the 8th and 10th of March 2022. The guest for the event was Dr. Krishnan and, founder and director of “The Geoecologist” and an accomplished researcher, photographer and documentary filmmaker. He introduced the students to the basics of filmmaking in research. As a part of this workshop, the students were divided into five groups and assigned the tasks of planning, shooting and editing their own ethnographic films within a given time. The workshop allowed the students to learn ethnographic film-making through practice.

The annual fest ‘Carpe Diem’ was conducted on 8th April 2022 and the event was marked by a panel discussion on the theme “Education, Identity and Inclusion”. The panellists for the discussion were eminent scholars like Prof. Poonam Batra, Dr. Vikas Baniwal and Dr. Ravi Kumar. The winners of three inter-college competitions for the annual fest—On-the-Spot Writing, Collage Art and Photojournalism—

were felicitated after the panel discussion as well.

As a part of their research training, the third-year students had undertaken sociological studies on topics of their interest. On the 25th of April 2022 they presented their projects followed by detailed discussions and comments on methodology and sociological perspectives from the faculty members of the department as well as our honourable Principal Prof. Sandra Joseph.

As the final departmental activity of the year, research films made by second year students were screened in the Ethnographic Film Screening on 26th of April 2022. These films were based on students’ learning the practical elements of ethnographic research and the skills of filming the research field.

The academic year of 2021-22 saw enthusiastic and patient participation of students in every department event although a larger part of the academic year was carried out via the virtual mode. It is with the zeal for learning, growing and creative expression that we look forward to the upcoming academic year with positivity and determination.

Department of Vocational Studies

With the commencement of the new academic session (2021-22), all the students of the B.Voc-Retail Management and IT (RM & IT) and B.Voc-Healthcare Management (HM) courses looked forward to making it a huge success. B.Voc is a combination of classroom learning with practical training to attain hands-on experience that enhances a student’s existing skills and helps develop new ones. Students participate in internships for hands-on learning to have a better understanding of the industry’s practical aspects, making the curriculum very engaging and unique.

The session started with 'Office Bearer Elections' for each of the 2 courses. The B.Voc Department hosted a blog writing competition with the theme of 'Patriotism vs. Nationalism' to mark "Aazadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav", India's 75th year of independence, followed by the Rangoli Competition to encourage students to explore their creative sides. Students also organized Teacher's Day virtually to express their heartfelt gratitude.

A two-day workshop series was conducted on September 25th 2022 for the department students. The first one was organized on the topic "How to write Resume and Cover letter" by Vaishali Jain, co-founder of getmyresumes.in and the topic for the second was "How to Prepare and Ace in Interviews" by Gowri Ram, a career coach.

B.Voc-HM students organized a Mental Health week in the first week of October 2021. Various events like meditation and mindfulness sessions and a webinar on "Personal and Professional Life Integration" with Harshita Sharma and Ishita Gogia, Co-Founders of Zariyaa: A Mental Health Organizations were conducted for students. This was followed by a screening of a documentary on 'Mental Health Awareness'.

A webinar on 'Product Management' was conducted for Retail Management students by Mr. Priyank Ahuja on 15th October 2021. The students learned about the objective, user persona, user journey, prioritization, market/KPIs, and product design that goes on behind the scenes. Another webinar on 'How to Launch Your Own Business' by Mr. Chandrashekar, CEO of the Jain Group of Institutions was organized. The department also organized a workshop on "LinkedIn Optimization" on 26th October 2021 with Vaishali Jain-Founder of getmyresumes.in to facilitate the use of LinkedIn.

B.Voc-RM & IT students organized the first-ever international webinar on the 'Future of Retail Post Pandemic,' with Mr. Timothy Liew as the speaker.

Students were able to relate to the road map of complete transformation from offline to online operations with the help of experiences and the path the speaker took in his firm throughout the pandemic.

On 19th November 2021, department orientation was conducted for the first year by Ms. Sunita Narain—the Nodal Officer of the two B.Voc courses along with the faculty members Dr. Anupreet Vig and Dr. Shalu Solanki.

A 'Customer Relationship Management' webinar with Mr. Vinod Kumar, was organized on 24th November 2022, wherein students were made aware of various CRM software packages available for retailers, such as HubSpot CRM, Freshworks, and their significance. Students also collaborated with @fantasy.blinks for the Christmas Tree Decoration Competition.

Another webinar was organised on 'Impact of COVID-19 on Retail' with Mr. Himanshu Sarpalas the speaker on 8th January 2022. A webinar on "Resume Building" with Ms. Shweta Mittal, who advised on how to write a successful CV and how to avoid basic mistakes was held on 27th January 2022.

To get hands-on experience, B.Voc-HM students went for their internships in December 2021 and January 2022. Second-year students went for 30 days internship in Venkateshwar Hospital (Dwarka), Max Hospital (Shalimar Bagh and Saket), ACME, Pantaloons, Marketeers Hub, Ashman Foundation, Younity, FrontRow, Hanleys, ITV Network, Zaphire. Third-year students went for their internship at Artemis Hospital (Gurugram) and Apollo Hospital (Noida), ACME, FrontRow, Zaphire for 30 days.

On 29th January 2022, the department wholeheartedly welcomed its freshers. Various interesting online activities were organized for them.

B.Voc-RM & IT Students were given in-depth knowledge on the role of planning, strategy,

technology, marketing and great user experience in making small businesses succeed with the help of a two-day panel discussion on ‘Small businesses and their journey’. The panellists, Muskan Sheron, Everbling Accessories, Jaanshi, Chanaya, the founder of the clothing brand LAZO, and KushiNurala, the owner of Runway Talkies shared their experiences and perspectives. To help students get a deeper knowledge of business and its planning, the department conducted an online webinar on ‘Enterprise Resource Planning’ with Mr. Vinay Pareek on 5th March 2022.

An extension activity was carried out with ‘Project Adhyayan’ which combines practical learning with deeper engagement and participation by school children. Our students made video lessons in Mathematics, English, Interpersonal Skills, etc. from 4th February 2022 to 11th March 2022. A webinar on ‘Health and Personal Hygiene’ was conducted by Dr. Ruchika R. Jha, a Public healthcare consultant and a Harvard (HPAIR) scholar on 1st February 2022. Cancer awareness week was held online, where different infographics were created and posted for different sorts of cancers.

An offline orientation was held on February 17, 2022, after the reopening of colleges for 1st and 2nd year students. On 10th March, an offline workshop was organized on “Resume & Interview Building” by Anshu Changra, the HR business partner at Nagarro. C.V screening of 3rd year students was also facilitated.

An awareness program on obesity and PCOS was conducted on 29th March 2022 by Dr. Arushi Sethi, Dr. Daksh Sethi and Dr. Sharan Sodhi from Sir Ganga Ram Hospital. The doctors also provided free consultations to our students. From March to June 2022, a placement drive was organized for 3rd year students. GIST, PSRI, QCI, CK Birla, and Decathlon visited campus.

The department also arranged for internships

programmes under which the B.Voc-HM 1st-year students went for 45 days of internship at Venkateshwar Hospital (Dwarka), Fortis Hospital (Vasant Kunj), Apollo Hospital (Noida) and CK Birla Hospital (Punjabi Bagh), Ashman Foundation, ACME, FrontRow, Pantaloons, Marketeers Hub in April 2022. On April 19, 2022, the B.Voc Department held its first National Conference on “Sustainability in Retail and Healthcare Management” with the objective of meeting the goal of a new education policy to promote research at the undergraduate level. Professor Preeti Singh, JMC; Dr. Sanjeev Sharma, Professor Vice-Chancellor and Registrar at Sushant University; Dr. Kousar Shah, Senior Vice President at Max Healthcare; and Dr. Naveen Nishchal, Co-Founder of Cyprus Hospital, were the distinguished panellists. Prof. S.C. Sharma, Director of IBS Gurgaon, was the honoured guest. The conference commenced with a welcome address by Associate Professor Ms. Sunita Narain, the Nodal Officer of the B.Voc Department, who gave a brief overview of the conference. Prof. Sandra Joseph, Principal of Jesus and Mary College, graced the occasion and delivered the inaugural speech. Out of 85 entries, 6 papers were selected to be presented at the conference. After the presentation, our Guest of Honor and the panellists gave an insightful speech and the winners were announced.

The session concluded with a farewell for 3rd-year students organised by the 1st and 2nd year students of the department. The farewell included different activities to make their day very special.

AICUF – All India Catholic University Federation

The All India Catholic University Federation is a compulsory college society that tries to bridge the gap in through its action-oriented work. This past year the

society has inculcated values of service and support in their activities and programs.

The year began with the elections and the formation of the core team. Joanna Mary Santhosh was elected President and Dona Theres Raju was elected Vice President. The core team consisted of 11 students and 5 teachers. The first half of the year was spent focusing on helping students cope with the effects of the pandemic, the importance of education, mental health, and preparing students to be resilient and cope with changing times.

The society organised several webinars on topics like “Let’s Talk About Mental Health” conducted by Prof. Roy Abraham Kallivayalil, “Mental Health & Wellbeing: Peer Interventions & Strategy” by Dr. Manoj Kumar and “Resilience for New Beginning and Well-Being” by Dr. M. Mary Jayanthi. The society also formed peer support groups enabling core team members to be available to students for any help that they required.

“Know your Saints” is a series that was started on the Instagram page of AICUF which was regularly updated and was also used to share posters for the events that were being conducted.

In the offline mode, the core team conducted Mass every Friday, and Catechism was held for all three years on different days. The society conducted a treasure hunt for all the first years of the society as an ice breaker event. Additionally, two events were held in the offline mode. The first was a day retreat on the 5th of March 2022, facilitated by the Commission for Evangelization. The second event was a day trip to the Morning Star Church for the members of AICUF.

AICUF also worked in collaboration with the NSS on educating the less fortunate on proper hygiene, especially concerning the need for proper hygiene during the pandemic. Students and the teachers visited

them and screened the prepared video, which also included a story-telling session.

The academic year ended with a farewell mass. Throughout the year, the society grew considerably, students were encouraged to take an active part in the weekly mass, and the choir was always on the lookout for new faces and talent.

As the session comes to an end, one hopes that the years to come will be full of growth, happiness, and success. The organising committee is grateful to the Principal and other faculty members for the opportunities, and their encouragement and support. The society aimed at giving each member the prospect to develop holistically. In a nutshell, the year was filled with enthusiasm, successful events, and a bucket full of memories.

Cauldron – English Magazine Society

Cauldron:the Magazine Society has been working towards editing and compiling Dimensions, the annual English magazine of Jesus and Mary College as well as providing a platform for creative writers, artists, and photographers.

The staff editors and the student editorial board organised several intra- and inter-college events throughout the academic year of 2021-2022. The year started with the election for office bearers, wherein Muskaan Punj (3rd year, B.A. Programme) and Shaoni Dutta (2nd year, B.A. English Honours) were elected President and Vice-President, respectively. The elections were followed by a recruitment drive of the second and third-year students.

Another round of selection for the society members took place after the commencement of the academic session for first-year students. Screening of eligible candidates from the society for the formation of the Editorial Board took place thereafter. The students

selected for the year were Aditi Banerji, Anushka Somvanshi, Areen Akmal, Bhavika Soneja, Khili Gupta, Khushbu Aggarwal, Katayun Negahban, Khyati Nagpal, Pratishtha Jindal, Prisha Revar, Sanah Munjal, Sarah Vaniya Haqq, Shruti Joseph, Sophia Shongzan, Susanna Julia, Tanishka Talwar and Vamika Aggarwal.

Cauldron's first event of the academic year was an interactive webinar with Ms. Gaurvi Sharma, one of the leading artists in India, with a unique speciality in collage art, embroidery, and visual art. Spurred by self-expression, she was selected for the prestigious Punjab Lalit Kala Akademi award. She also illustrated Katrina Kaif's make-up line, Kay Beauty. During the webinar, Ms. Sharma shared her creative journey with the participants. She detailed each artwork with a careful explanation of how her emotions and the phases in her life impacted her art. This webinar was held during the month of September '21 followed by a Collage Art Competition conducted for our members. The winners of the competition were Rapunzel (1st Position), Reshma A.R. (2nd Position), and Nashra Sehar and Ananya (3rd Position) with an Honourable Mention given to Lubna Mujeeb.

For World Mental Health Day, Cauldron collaborated with Snapshots: the Photography Society for an activity on "Chronicling Kindness". While members of Cauldron sent heart-warming anecdotes about little acts of kindness they've witnessed around them, members of Snapshots supplied perfect pictures to capture these anecdotes. The collaboration not only brought forth the strengths of cooperation but also showcased how good and kind this world can be.

The next event Cauldron organised was a collaborative competition involving writing, art and photography called 'Word Craft'. It invited creative writing entries accompanied by at least one appropriate illustration. The prompts for this competition, ideated by members of the Editorial Board, included 'A Trip to Memory

Palace', 'Down in Wonderland' and 'God Complex'. Its winners were Sohagni Roy and Sohini Dey (1st Position), Sophia Shongzan and Nashra Sehar (2nd Position), Shaoni Dutta (3rd Position) with Honourable Mention given to Aditi Banerji, Nivedita Ajay and Astha Mary Varghese.

Another major event that was conducted during this session was 'Word Weaves'. It was organised in collaboration with Scholastic India, the world's largest publisher and distributor of children and young-adult books. This event received some of the most brilliant creative writing entries from students of JMC. All the prizes for the winners were sponsored by Scholastic. The winners of this event were Ashley Ann Joy (1st Position), Sophia Shongzan (2nd Position), Deepika Garg (3rd Position) with Honourable Mentions given to Sohagni Roy and Devaki S.

The society decided to wrap up the year with a creative writing workshop "Pen to Print" in collaboration with Scholastic India, to promote its Writer's Programme, with a chance to get mentored by experts and published by Scholastic. Held on the 23rd of April '22 and graced by Mr. Rahul Saini, renowned and best-selling author, architect and teacher, this event witnessed great participation from the students.

The society owes its heartfelt gratitude to the Principal, Prof. Sandra Joseph for her constant support. This year would not have been a successful one without the unrelenting guidance and encouragement of Ms. Sugandha Sehgal (Convenor), Ms. Kashish Dua (Staff Editor) and Ms. Aneesha Puri (Staff Editor).

Curiosus – English Quiz Society

Curiosus, the English Quiz Society, aims to build a quizzing culture in JMC such that more women quizzers are encouraged to participate in college-level

quizzes in the Delhi circuit, as well as in other cities. In the academic session 2021-22, the society organised various intra- and inter-college quizzes along with other interesting events. Avanthika Nambiar (3rd year, B.A. English Honours), Vishnu Priya (2nd year, B.A. Programme) and Yashpriha Rai (2nd year, B.A. Programme), served as President, Vice President and General Secretary respectively for this academic year.

The first event of the year was an intra-college Independence Day Quiz, conducted on 15th August as a part of JMC's celebration of "Aazadi ka Amrut Mahotsav". The questions were based on India as a nation and its history, and JMC students eagerly participated in the online quiz. Curiosus was invited by Pink Legal Panache in collaboration with DBQC, the Quiz Club of VIT, to attend Stree Via, a quiz competition conducted on the occasion of Women's Equality Day, on 26th August.

Next, an intra-society quiz named 'Know-It-All' was organised by Curiosus in September to boost healthy competition within the team, with questions coming from a wide range of topics including pop culture, arts, business, and current affairs. A MELA Quiz at the inter-college level was held on the 13th of October, with the popular theme of Music, Entertainment, Art and Literature bringing in participants from all across the country, on the online platforms of D2C and Google Meet. In November, teams from Curiosus participated in the Business Quiz organised by the Shiv Nadar University School of Management and Entrepreneurship.

One of the most exciting things for Curiosus in this academic session was the release of the first-ever edition of the Curiosus Newsletter, which was curated by the team with the guidance of the society Convenor, Ms. Richa Krishna Sharma, and the faculty members, Dr. Jasmin and Dr. Aakanksha Natani. An Instagram quiz called 'Spine to Screen', on book-to-screen adaptations

was organised on 29th and 30th January. A webinar on the Civil Services Exam was held in collaboration with Ensure IAS, in the month of February to resolve the doubts of many civil services aspirants. Curiosus was delighted to have Mr. Sachin Jain (AIR 286, 2016) lead the session with his knowledge and experience.

The biggest event of the academic year was the fourth edition of the annual fest of Curiosus – 'Quiztopia'. This year it was held online on D2C and Google Meet. It comprised 3 separate quizzes: 'Step Up Your Fandom', 'India Quiz', and 'Food & Travel Quiz'. The preliminary rounds were held on D2C, after which the top 5 teams in each category qualified for the final rounds held on Google Meet. The winning teams of all three quizzes were college students from various institutions in the country and they were awarded cash prizes and certificates. Another one of Curiosus' annual events, the 'St. Claudine Thévenet Quiz', was conducted on 6th April to honour the founder of the Congregation of the Religious of Jesus and Mary, and subsequently our college. It was also the first offline event held by the society in this session.

In the same month, a webinar was organised on the topic 'Women and Quizzing', with leading quizmasters Ami Goradia and Anuradha Dharwadkar as speakers. Members of Curiosus found the session very useful and were able to take away a lot of good advice from the experienced speakers. This was a good note for the society to end the academic year on, as the session closed with a lot of encouragement for a promising year of quizzing in the upcoming session. Curiosus would like to extend its gratitude to the core team of 2021-22, who worked relentlessly on all the programs, to the convenor and faculty members, who constantly advised us, and to the principal Prof. Sandra Joseph, who facilitated all the activities. Lastly, the society also expresses gratitude to all the members and all the students in JMC for their year-round support, which greatly contributed to the success of our events.

Dastaan – Art and Architecture Society

Dastaan: The Art and Architecture Society provides a learning platform for all those interested in Delhi's rich, tangible and intangible legacy, which is a synthesis of many cultures that together form our beloved 'Dilli'. In Delhi's vibrant heritage, all individuals can find their homes and in the folds of its history, answers for the present. Dastaan attempts to instill a passion to discover the past among pupils from all walks of life within and beyond Jesus and Mary College. In doing so, it is able to provide a safe channel for healthy discussions engaging diverse viewpoints through its academic talks, heritage walks, competitions, and social media platforms.

Dastaan's academic session 2021-22 started with the election of office bearers, wherein Shaivie Sharma (3rd Year, B.A. History Honours) and Jeseentha Anne Joji (2nd Year, B.A. History Honours) were announced President and Vice President, respectively. Following a two-fold registration process, Dastaan was joined by a spirited team of 300 students.

The events conducted by Dastaan during the first half of this academic session were online in nature due to the restrictions brought about by the pandemic. Dastaan organised three informative academic talks in collaboration with the Department of History, Jesus and Mary College. Dastaan's first talk was delivered by Dr. Akbar Joseph A. Syed on 'De-Historicizing 19th Century Literary Works: A Case Study of John Masters' Novels' on 18th August 2021. Following this, Dastaan conducted a talk by Dr. Harbans Mukhia, a retired professor from Jawaharlal Nehru University with expertise in the field of Medieval History. Based on the genealogy and interpretations of the discipline of history, it was titled 'Evolving Contours of the Discipline: The Past and Present of History' and was

delivered on 4th September 2021. Dastaan's final talk of the academic session was delivered by Dr. Arthur Needham, an expert in the study of Protohistory, Prehistoric Rock Art and Coinage of India. Titled 'The Acceptance of Coinage in the Marketplace', it was conducted on 11th September 2021 and covered a brief history of numismatics and coinage in the silk road trade.

In the second half of the academic session, Dastaan, in collaboration with Cauldron, the Hindi Magazine Society, Jesus and Mary College organised a Slam Poetry Competition titled 'Ishq Aur Inquilab' (Love and Revolution) on 12th February 2022. The theme was befitting the social climate of love and revolution becoming the driving forces of each other. The event was bilingual in nature with poetry presented by a wide array of participants from various colleges and backgrounds, in English and Hindi. Following the recommencement of classes in offline mode, Dastaan conducted two heritage walks which were enthusiastically attended by a myriad of people. In the first walk, we traversed through the Mughal Mausoleums, looking closely at the extravagant architecture of Rahim's Tomb and Humayun's Tomb on 12th March 2022 from 9:00 to 11:30 AM. The walk was led by Dr. Amita Paliwal who brought to life the Mughal personalities with her intriguing tales. The second walk consisted of us travelling across age and time in the Northern Ridge, distinct with natural biodiversity and charming architecture. It was led by Dr. Maya John on 26th March 2022 from 9:00 AM onwards.

The society owes its heartfelt gratitude to the Principal Prof. Sandra Joseph for her constant encouragement. Dastaan's success is fuelled by the unrelenting guidance and support of Dr. Amita Paliwal, our convenor as well as other staff members and the constant hard work put in by the Core Team.

E-CELL – Entrepreneurship Cell

With the vision of seeding the spirit of entrepreneurship among aspiring entrepreneurs, the aim of E-Cell is to inculcate in them, core competencies and a network to connect with like-minded individuals. The society provides a platform for budding entrepreneurs to turn their business ideas into reality by providing them with mentorship by conducting speaker sessions where experts from various fields give useful insights to the members.

The academic year of 2021-22 started off with the appointment of the office bearers, wherein Kajal Kaur Kapoor (3rd year, B.Com. Programme) and Ashna Sethi (3rd year, B.A. Programme) were appointed as the President and the Vice-President respectively. This was followed by a recruitment drive of the second and third-year students.

E-Cell's first event of the academic year was an e-version of its annual start-up event, 'Start-O-Sphere' that aims to spotlight start-ups and their journeys. It was held on 21st and 22nd October, 2021. With the theme being "The Era of Innovation", the first day of the event comprised one-of-a-kind Panel Discussion graced by revolutionary entrepreneurs listed in the prestigious Forbes 30 under 30 of 2020; Ms. Ahva Sadeghi, Co-Founder and CEO of a social impact tech start-up called Symbaand, Ms. Nikita Baliarsingh, Co-founder and CIO or CEO of Nexus Power. The second day of the event consisted of various competitions with the participation of over 250 students from colleges all across India. Other competitions included 'Catch Me If You Can': A virtual mystery room competition with clues testing participants' entrepreneurial acumen; 'How Would You Do It?' in which participants had to innovate daily-use products to make them suited for the decade to come; and 'BizzAct' which was a movie character-based business-pitching competition.

E-Cell also frequently updated its social media handles with Case studies on start-up unicorns, decoding First Movers in the market and evaluating journeys. On recognising the growing importance of financial awareness among the young generation, E-Cell, in collaboration with Herody, organised a YouTube live on "Stock Market 101: Why You Should Get Started Young and Early?" on 29th October 2021, moderated by Mr. Shashank Udupa, a renowned Stock Market investor and Founder of Avalon Scenes. E-Cell also organised its Annual Orientation on 20th December 2021 followed by its second round of recruitments for onboarding the first-year students.

On 27th January 2022, E-Cell organised an online workshop on "Perfecting the Art of Business Communication" hosted by Ms. Suneeta Sodhi Kanga, a renowned trainer and coach for corporate grooming and international etiquette, spotlighting the importance of effective communication and how one can put their best foot forward in a corporate setting. The event was earmarked by the participation of over 250 students.

Throughout the month of February, extensive articles on "A Competitive Comparison between Ola and Meru Cabs" and "How the Reality show Shark Tank has inspired a generation of young entrepreneurs" were written on E-Cell's blog, aiming at imparting business knowledge to its readers.

As a sense of normalcy came back and colleges reopened post-pandemic, E-Cell took to bringing the college fete experience back to campus as a part of its annual event "Egnite". The pre-event was held on 7th April 2022. Its aim was to provide student-owned businesses with a platform to exhibit ventures. The event was marked with a wonderful showcase of stalls set up by student-businesses of JMC, delicious food stalls and exciting games. The event witnessed a musical performance by Kiran Narula, Vice-President of the Music Society of JMC. E-Cell as an organisation

is supportive and aware of the social evils prevailing in society. As a part of E-Cell's contribution to creating awareness about child protection all over the world, the theme for the event was 'Child Rights'. A significant percentage of the proceeds generated from the event was donated to Shubhakshika Educational Society, an NGO supporting the cause alike.

E-Cell's Flagship Event "Egnite" was organised on 9th and 10th April 2022. The theme of this year's event was 'Stepping Towards A Leap', and the event spanned two days. The first day of the event was earmarked by a Panel Discussion on "Building Innovative Ways around Existing Structures". The online Panel Discussion was carried out by revolutionary leaders who carved their way to success by adopting unconventional ideas and innovative breakthroughs. It included Ms. Priti Srivastava, Sr. Vice-President, Public Affairs, Reliance Industries Ltd. and Daya Rani, Mr. Mrinal Kashyap, Vice-President of Sales, White Hat Jr., Mr. Shubham Maheshwari, Founder, Being Chef and Ms. Kanika Tekriwal, CEO, JetSetGo Aviation Services Pvt. Ltd.

The event was a success with a footfall of over 500 participants. The games saw a huge turnout of participants with exciting cash prizes for grabs. The B-Plan Competition was graced by notable investors like Mr. Jatin Tehri, Partner at Innerwave and Ms. Sanah Trehan, Associate at Eagle10. Other games included Ace the Case: a Case Study Competition and Corporate Warfare. These games were business centred and gave an overview of the business world to the participants.

The academic year of 2021-2022 transpired to be a remarkable year for E-Cell as well as its members. The society made a conscious effort to impart knowledge about the business world to aspiring young entrepreneurs. The society owes its heartfelt gratitude to the Principal, Prof. Sandra Joseph for her constant support. This year for E-Cell would not have been a successful one without the unrelenting

guidance and encouragement of Prof. Vibha Mathur (Convenor), Ms. Charu Sarin (Co-Convenor), Ms. Priyanka Marwah (Faculty Member), Ms. Gurpreet Kaur (Faculty Member) and Ms. Aakanksha Agarwal (Faculty Member).

Echo – Western Music Society

ECHO, the western music society of Jesus and Mary College, aims to provide an inclusive and safe space for students to express their musical talent and creativity. It is a community of individuals from diverse backgrounds that share a common love for and dedication to music. The 2021–22 session witnessed the society carry forward its musical legacy in the online mode, to begin with, and make the much-awaited transition into the offline mode in the final months. The office bearers for the session were Esther Christine Pottakkal (President), Nishka Bhushan (Vice President), Sara Bhasin (Treasurer/Conductor), and Adriana Carr (General Secretary).

The session kicked off with performances for the 75th Independence Day celebrations, JMCEP's online orientation, and the annual Teacher's Day celebrations. ECHO members also participated in an Open Mic organised by Groove Studios and also worked on group reel covers for the Instagram page to boost their social media presence. Auditions for the 2nd and 3rd years were carried out online and new members were inducted in the month of September 2021.

ECHO members participated in the online DU WMS showcase fundraiser event organised by Grassroots, the WMS of Ram Lal Anand College. We were also fortunate enough to perform in person at the cultural evening organised to facilitate the NAAC Peer Team's visit to the college in November 2021. The second round of auditions was held for the newly admitted first years, with new members inducted in the month of January 2022.

With the reinstatement of offline classes in February 2022, the society began meeting for practice in person at the end of the month. The annual piece for the year 2021–22, a soul-stirring medley of Mozart’s “Lacrimosa” and the contemporary “All For Us” by Labrinth and Zendaya, was rehearsed through March and first performed at the PTSA Cultural Programme in April. ECHO was also invited to perform at the Commons, DLF Avenue for International Women’s Day celebrations on 8th March. The society also participated in the Jansunvai/Open-mic organised on 9th March 2022 by the WSC, JMC. ECHO was again invited to perform at an open mic organised by Groove Studios, which was live-streamed on their Instagram page.

The society successfully hosted its annual competition, Madrigal, on the 20th April 2022. The one-day inter-college event comprising the western acapella competition, “Rhapsody”, and the western solo competition, “Vibrato”, witnessed the enthusiastic participation of various DU WMS groups. The society also zealously participated in various inter-collegiate acapella competitions this fest season, bagging the first position at Lady Irwin College and thereafter at subsequent colleges including Swami Shraddhanand College, College of Vocational Studies, Deen Dayal Upadhyaya College, and Kamala Nehru College. In the solo category, Khushi Ahluwalia stood third in the online western solo singing competition organised by Gargi College.

The year’s successful run wouldn’t have been possible without the constant support of the principal, Prof. Sandra Joseph, the society convenor, Dr. Susan George; and last but not least, the unwavering dedication of the members of ECHO, who worked hard to add their unique hue to the rainbow ensemble.

Enactus – Entrepreneurial Action in Us

The main objective of Enactus Jesus and Mary College is to empower people from marginalized sections of society by creating livelihood opportunities and transforming them into financially independent and self-reliant entrepreneurs. We strive to contribute to the betterment of our society and our environment by conceptualizing innovative solutions. The academic year of 2021-22 transpired to be an incredible year for the society. This year we participated in the Race to Rethink Plastic, one of the four races of the Enactus World Cup, and Project Sugam won the prestigious ‘People’s Choice Award for Most Passion in Early-Stage Projects’.

The year 2021–22 began with a mask donation drive and a field visit to Sangam Vihar, wherein Enactus JMC donated 200 masks to Sangam Vihar on July 22, 2021. Enactus JMC’s Project Sugam was awarded the first runner-up position in the C2PSES’21 competition organised by Sri Ram College of Commerce, Delhi University, and won a cash prize of 30,000.

Sahaay Consultancy, one of the projects under Enactus JMC, hosted five training sessions in the year. The first session was based on ‘Social Media Marketing and Personal Branding’ with Ms. Sharanbir Kaur on June 25, 2021. This was followed by an interactive session with Ms. Payal Abhichandani from Toronto on 10th July, who taught the members about the brand and social media strategy. Sahaay Consultancy invited Ms. Diksha Sinha in the months of July and August to gain valuable insights about SEO, SEM, and content marketing, as well as SMO, influencer marketing, and email marketing. Finally, on 21st August, Mr. Puneet led a session to help participants understand the current digital landscape.

On 18-19 September, Enactus JMC organised its

very first virtual conclave. The two-day summit—‘Vartalaap: An Eco Summit’ celebrated the ‘power of conversing’ with like-minded individuals who wish to bring a change. The objective was to spread awareness about the concept of sustainability and how we can incorporate it into our daily lives. Thirty distinguished speakers from professional backgrounds and renowned organisations such as WWF, UNDP, KPMG, the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change, among others, were invited to speak on topics such as sustainable living, circular economy, climate change, and plastic pollution.

On 18th November, 2021, Ms. Ibadat from Enactus India interacted with the team and discussed future plans for each project and their scalability, growth, and potential. She also visited the Dhara pits on the college campus and met our beneficiaries. Project Sugam, in collaboration with Social Development for Communities Foundation (SDC), organised an Eco-Brick Training workshop on 30th November, 2021, with Mrs. Kanchana Weerakoon.

Following the reopening of Delhi University on 17th February, 2022, Enactus JMC organised its first offline campaign – “Stash the Trash” from 25th February to 4th March. The aim of this campaign was to collect plastic bottles for Project Sugam. For this purpose, four hotspots were created on the college campus: the amphitheatre, the tree near the college entrance, field, and canteen. The inaugural ceremony was held at the amphitheatre on 25th February. A total of 1378 plastic bottles were collected through the campaign. Moreover, an Open MIC event, GOT TALENT, was organised for the students on 2nd March. The campaign concluded on 4th March with a closing ceremony. Furthermore, Enactus JMC also organised a sanitary napkin donation and awareness drive in collaboration with Pratisandhi, a sex-education NGO, on 19th and 20th March.

While transitioning back to offline college, Project

Dhara undertook the task of taking its operations offline after functioning in an online mode for nearly two years. This involved contacting the vendors and beneficiaries to begin the manufacturing process of the organic manure to get our site in JMC up and running.

Enactus JMC is grateful to their convenor, Dr. Savita Rastogi, and faculty advisors, Ms. Ishita Singh, Dr. Roshan Praveen Xalxo, and Ms. Ruchi Bhalla, for their guidance. We are also thankful to Prof. Sandra Joseph, the Principal, for her unwavering support.

English Debating Society

The English Debating Society of JMC aims to inculcate a culture of debate and discussion among its members, making them question the apparent, and also has a vision of extending these qualities beyond its society members. In the academic year of 2021-22, the society comprised 46 members across all the departments of JMC. Its faculty members include Ms. Megha Jacob, Ms. Najia Zeb, and Ms. Varnika Singh, while the students office bearers were Mehar Kaur Chahal (President), Arzoo Saini (Vice-President), Garima Agarwal (Treasurer), Himanshi Pande (Secretary), and other heads of various departments. The members participate in various tournaments happening over the year. Beyond just debates, the society also conducts regular information sessions on various topics. These sessions are open to all students of JMC.

This year, the society’s recruitment process was conducted in three phases, namely: circulation of the registration forms; group discussion round; and personal interview round. After a rigorous process of GDs, 48 students were selected for the personal interview round and were divided into the teams of Documentation, Logistics, Technical and Organizing. As soon as the new office bearers and core team were formed, a meeting was held to set the agenda for the society for the academic year 2021-22.

Through the session, society moved from the online mode of functioning to an offline mode of functioning. In collaboration with the Student Council of JMC, the society organised the Presidential Debate on 3rd September, 2021. The society made its best efforts for the NAAC visit and presentation in the months of September, October, and November. Several meetings were held for the same, in which the council presented the presentation they had worked on and made some changes under the guidance of the faculty members. Two display boards, along with a PPT and a video, were created by the members. Representatives of EDS were present in college for the NAAC visit and they actively represented the society during the same. The society also collaborated with the Hindi Debating Society and the Student Council of JMC and conducted auditions for comperes for the NAAC visit. A declamation competition was held in the month of October for the second, third, and fourth-year students of JMC. This was organised to celebrate 75 years of India's Independence, 'Aazadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'. The topic was 'Ever Evolving Definition of Freedom'. The judges' panel included Dr. Tanu Parashar and Ms. Alisha George, faculty members of JMC. Each year, the English Debating Society collaborates with the Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) to conduct a conventional debate under the leadership of Ms. Sunita Narain. The motion for the debate for the year 2021 was "Integrity is the key to building a self-reliant India". The society modified the process of organising mocks in debate throughout the year as we moved from the online to the offline mode of teaching. The session ended with a review meeting in which all the members and faculty representatives reflected on the entire year and their suggestions for the forthcoming academic session.

Equal Opportunity Cell

The Equal Opportunity Cell, Jesus and Mary College stands as a pillar of social justice and works towards its commitment to creating avenues for students with disabilities and underrepresented sections of society. The society aims to ensure awareness, equity and equal opportunity amongst students. It brings about social inclusion, diversity, and cohesion in the institution.

EOC's new session started with interactive games as we organized an Ice Breaker session, to enable interaction amongst our members. The office bearers walked the members through the vision of the society.

EOC celebrated 'Disability Pride Month' by sharing its significance and history on our social media handles in July. Every year, July is a time for disabled individuals to express not only their disabilities but who they are in their entirety, their disabled identity.

The society organised the first campaign of the session on "Technology Awareness" in August. Under this campaign, we brought some of the most reliable and advanced forms of technologies that will assist people with disabilities. We celebrated the victories of the Indian Para-athletes who won 19 medals for the country. We showed our support to all the winners by taking to our social media handles and detailing their respective wins and emphasizing the successful growth of the Paralympics.

To make our college a more inclusive space, EOC organized a two-day online workshop in September on "Indian Sign Language" in collaboration with the esteemed 'Noida Deaf Society' by adhering to the current need for awareness and a step toward inclusion. The workshop was conducted by an instructor and his interpreter from the Noida Deaf Society. They taught us the basics of ISL for daily communication including numbers, alphabets, dates, and months. The Principal addressed the audience at the beginning of the workshop

and emphasized the importance of inclusivity. The workshop had over 250 enthusiastic participants from all over the country making it a massive success and a great learning opportunity for all attendees.

“The World of Magical Creatives” was yet another informative campaign of EOC which was launched in November. We highlighted the journey of several disabled content creators who are working towards breaking stereotypes and paving the way for many more. We urged our followers to engage with their content and support them on their journey to shatter stereotypes and follow their passion.

“International Day of Persons Disability” is celebrated on the 3rd of December every year. EOC came up with innovative and informative posts intending to increase public awareness, recognising and celebrating the accomplishments of disabled individuals.

EOC launched its campaign called ‘Hooked on the Book’ in February which gave an informative synopsis of various books to encourage our followers to educate themselves on reading and know more about disabilities. The listed books were about people with disabilities or written by them to highlight their contribution to literature.

In February, EOC hosted its annual event ‘Unnati.’ This event was an interactive session on the topic ‘New Education Policy and its impact on persons with benchmark disabilities.’ The honourable speaker for the event was Ms. Himani Bundela, KBC 13’s First Crorepati. Ms. Bundela is a visually impaired mathematics teacher based in Agra. She is a philanthropist and an enthusiastic individual; her life is full of zest and motivation. The session raised awareness about PwBD and its importance in finding solutions and incentives to help people with disabilities recognise themselves. The audience also actively participated in this event through a Q&A session and a round of sharing personal stories.

The annual inter-college competition of EOC ‘Prayas’ which is exclusive for students with disability was held in April with the theme, “The World of Cinema”. The judges highly appreciated the energetic and creative performances of the participants. The highlight of the event was a live interactive session with Dr. Dipendra Manocha, National Association for the Blind (NAB) Vice President, and Director and a member of the executive committee of the World Blind Union on the topic ‘Job Opportunities for Persons with Benchmark Disabilities.’ During this session, he charted the difficulties faced by disabled people in the employment sector and emphasized the importance of inclusive job creation in society.

The team of EOC is a team of 73 individuals who strive to make a change in society for the better. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the convenor and faculty members for their support and guidance throughout this incredible journey. We thank the team for their instant involvement and immense hard work in making this journey extremely cherishing.

Ethnic Eight – North East Students’ Society

The Ethnic Eight North East Society is one of the compulsory societies of Jesus and Mary College which is solely formed to empower the North East young students of the college. This society focuses on promoting the socio-cultural diversity of northeast India and its population to promote integration and inclusion. The society enrolls student members only from North-Eastern states, and in the last two years, the society has also started taking students from Ladakh and Nepal as members.

In order to make the members of the society comfortable in a different culture and enable them to mix freely, concerted efforts were initiated. The society started in 2010 and has been organizing North-

East-specific socio-cultural events and festivals. When the society organised its first Inter-College North-East Cultural Festival in 2017, it received an overwhelming response and there has been no looking back for its members since then.

The society had started a new initiative of holding interactive events and presentations on northeastern states among their members in August 2019. It facilitates knowledge sharing about the cultures of each of the sister states.

Despite the limitations caused by the pandemic, the society screened documentaries online on the histories of Meghalaya, Nagaland and Mizoram from January to March 2021-22. These were well received amongst the members both from an informative and from a cultural perspective. For the new members of the society, an online Freshers' session was held. The society also collaborated with the Women's Studies Centre, JMC and held a movie session on "Axone".

The society held a webinar on the topic "Tribes and tribal studies in the Northeast" by speaker Dr. R.R. Ziipao, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, IIT Mumbai. The members also raised funds by organising a sale of craft, jewellery and food specific to the northeast. The members also participated in the Satyawati College North East Fest ENAJORI' 22 and secured the first position in the group dance category. Sophia Shongzan, a member of the society also secured the first position in the poetry competition at Satyawati College, Northeast fest Enajori'22.

As its last event for the academic year 2021-22, the society organised an intra-college festival "OCTET '22" on the theme 'Empowering the women of North east India'. The event was graced by Dr. Achinglui Kamei, Associate Professor, Department of English, Delhi University. She motivated the students to go beyond their curriculum and to work hard towards a bright future. The festival ended with a cultural

performance by the society members.

In the session 2021-2022 there were 70 students with Ruth J Lalrempuii and Megeeney N. Simteserving as the President and Vice President, respectively. Dr. Gurmeet Bakshi and Ms. Bipasha Rosy Lakrawere the Convenor and Faculty Advisor for this session.

Finance and Investment Cell

Finance and Investment Cell works toward creating a platform for the exchange of knowledge related to theoretical and practical aspects of finance and investment scenarios in the world. The aim of the cell is to help women become financially proficient and independent with capabilities of being the innovators, pacesetters and visionaries of tomorrow's corporate world. It also emphasises on cultivating an ethical and socially responsible attitude. We strive to develop a better understanding of financial affairs and ignite the curiosity of finance enthusiasts by organising talks and competitive events at intra- as well as inter-college levels throughout the year. FIC looks beyond the theoretical concepts to develop an understanding of the real world of finance and therefore research is a major activity of FIC.

The session began with the election of office bearers, wherein Ms. Sakshi Nayyar (3rd year, B.Com Hons.) was elected as President, Ms. Tushita Gupta (2nd year, B.Com Hons.) as Vice President and Ms. Ananya Sekhri (2nd year, Economics Hons.) as General Secretary. Following the election, a recruitment drive for second and third-year students was held for 7 departments. With the start of the academic year for first-year students, another round of elections for society members took place.

The first event of the academic year was an interactive webinar in collaboration with Krisha Foundation, which is a charitable organisation aimed at empowering

individuals by organising and delivering investor education awareness initiatives. The webinar was held on 23rd July, 2021, for imparting knowledge about financial wellness and tips on how to maintain financial wellness.

On 29th July, 2021, a webinar in collaboration with HDFC Credila on the topic 'Future Forward'—Students should plan to study abroad during COVID-19 pandemic', which aimed at discussing the right degree and university for individual students, calculating ROI and planning ahead. 4th September, 2021 saw the release of our weekly newsletter, "Finance and Investment Compendium" which included why loss-making startups have high valuations as a topic.

On 8th September, 2021, another webinar was conducted on stock market in collaboration with Shine Projects, addressed by Sri Venkata Harsha—MD and CEO of Shine Projects who is also an international motivational speaker, coach and trainer.

Following that, the Finance and Investment Cell organised a week-long Real-time Bitcoin trading competition, in collaboration with Fin Street, India's 1st Crypto Education Platform on 12th September, 2021. Each participant was given an initial amount as their capital, which they had to use to buy cryptocurrency. The participants had to invest according to the prevailing situations since the simulation was based on real-time. It was followed by the release of the weekly newsletter on the same day. The newsletter also covered the topic "Regularising Cryptocurrency".

On 20th September, 2021, Finance and Investment Cell, conducted a webinar in collaboration with Metvy—an intuitive need-based networking platform on the topic, 'Fundraising and Startups'. The resource person for the webinar was Mr. Rajan, Co-Founder of Metvy. He discussed the right time to raise funds, potential investors and the effect of the current environment on fundraising.

Further, on 29th October, 2021 a webinar in collaboration with Mesha—India's largest investing company was conducted on the topic of "Crypto Investing", followed by a Stock Picking Competition in collaboration with Mesha from 2nd November, 2021 to 3rd November, 2021.

FIC conducted a webinar in collaboration with Amico Wealth on 21 January, 2022 on the topic "Glimpse of equity research—Selecting the right stock". Following this, a webinar in collaboration with Rishihood University was conducted on 26th January, 2022 on the topic, "Choosing the right MBA for you."

One of the highlights of the session 2021-22 remains the Annual Event, 'FINTELLECT 2022', which attracted close to 300 registrations from prestigious colleges from across the country. The three competitions organised were Counterfeit Countries, an event which provided practical lessons and experience about the intricacies of the investment world; Karyaneeti, an event planned with the objective of giving individuals a chance to decide the various aspects related to a product developed from the scratch; and Financial Maze, a virtual maze which challenged the financial intelligence and presence of the individuals involved. The maze entailed a complicated, yet interesting, network of paths through which one had to find their way, taking hints which were based on the domain of finance and investment. The winners of the event were Gunjan Ahuja, Hitesh Kishore, Prateek Gupta and Mohit Goyal.

On 6th March 2022, the weekly newsletter 'Finance and Investment Compendium' was released on 'Outbreak of Omicron'. The academic session concluded with the release of the Compendium on the topic 'Stablecoins' on 25th April 2022.

FIC JMC is indebted to the Principal, Prof. Sandra Joseph for her unstinted support and encouragement. The year would not have been a successful one without

the constant guidance and motivation of Dr. Renu Gupta (Officiating Convenor) and Dr. Anshi Goel (Teacher-in-Charge).

Green Society

The Green Society works toward creating environmental awareness and sensitivity among the students of Jesus and Mary College. The academic year of 2021-22 commenced with the election of the office bearers, Manishika Pawaia (3rd year, B.A. Programme) and Akriti Kalikotay (2nd year, B.A. Programme), as the President and the Vice-President, respectively. Furthermore, the council members appointed Simran Swaika (2nd year, Psychology Hons.) as the General Secretary of the society. The core team was formed through a thorough selection process with over 50 members divided into six teams—Research and Development, Marketing, Illustration, Content, Organising and Technical.

The society organised its first series of events in the month of August. These included: an online documentary screening organized on the 18th of August to highlight the issue of noise pollution in various areas of Delhi and its effects on animals and people alike. This was followed by an insightful webinar on 25th August, titled- “Tangled Roots and Changing Tides: Mangrove Conservation and Public Policy in India” with guest speakers Professor Saudamini Das (NABARD Chair Professor, Institute of Economic Growth) and Professor P.K. Joshi (School of Environmental Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University).

Subsequently, an interactive workshop titled “Planting for Beginners” was also conducted on 25th September 2021 with Brig. JS Rajpurohit, who talked about the basics of planting at home. To observe the International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer on the

27th of September, the society had the honour of hosting Mr. Avikal Somvanshi (Programme Manager, Sustainable Cities Programme, Centres for Science and Environment) for a webinar titled “Understanding Dangers of Ground-Level Ozone Pollution: An Insight from Delhi”.

The society also held its first discussion group session on “the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change” on 1st October 2021, which was concluded with suggestions for sustainable lifestyle changes, education on the prevention of global warming, campaigns to create awareness, waste minimization, active political awareness and participation to choose the right leaders with visions to contribute to restoring the environment, etc., to prevent global warming.

On 20th October 2021, the Green Society organized a tree identification walk in which 12 members took a two-hour walk around the campus identifying, naming, and numbering the trees of Jesus and Mary College.

The first cycle of the Anti-Plastic Campaign, Bag-it, JMC, was conducted from 15th to 30th December and 26th December to 5th January (for the freshers), focused on the importance of segregation and proper disposal of plastic waste. Members were encouraged to be conscious of their plastic usage and minimize it.

An online air pollution awareness campaign was set in motion on 21st January 2022, under which a debate and a poster-making competition were organised. The campaign culminated with an online rally on 28th January 2022, organised in collaboration with NSS, Department of Physical Education, Troubadours, and Parthenon—B.A. Programme Magazine Society. A group discussion revolving around the COP 26 report was organized in which the members analyzed the report and presented their views on the same.

In February 2022, the society organized an online screening of the documentary ‘Seaspiracy’ which

was followed by an interactive session in which the members discussed what the documentary showcased and the impact of fishing industries on oceans and ocean life.

On 9th April 2022, the society, in association with the Youth Alliance, organized an interactive session via zoom titled “Blood in the Mobile” in which the attendees learned about the environmental and social cost of our electronics and the alternatives that exist.

On the occasion of Earth Day, 22nd April 2022, the society organized its very first offline event—Flea Bazar, a fundraising event for the society, which was a massive success as the members came together and worked for the betterment of Green Society, pushing it further towards its goals.

The society is highly grateful to Professor Sandra Joseph for her unwavering support. The academic year 2021-22 would not have been a successful one for Green Society without Ms. Ishita Singh (Convenor) who has been our pillar of strength and the constant guidance of our faculty advisors, Ms. Trisha Choudhary, Dr. Prabhjot Kaur, Dr. Divya Agarwal, Dr. Ruchi Verma and Ms. Priya Dahiya throughout the year.

Iris – Fine Arts Society

Iris, the Fine Arts Society works toward inspiring and providing a platform for the creative young minds of Jesus and Mary College. We have been an essential part of this prestigious institution since the 1970s. Previously, the society was known as the ‘Paint and Brush Society’ but now it has been renamed ‘IRIS, the Fine Arts Society’.

The society presently has more than 50 core team and over 40 non-core team members with four office bearers: Kritika Dhawan (President), Khushboo Nagpal (President), Palkin (Vice President), and Vani Bajaj (Vice President), accompanied by two heads: Drishya

Taneja (Marketing Head) and Isha Arora (Organising Head). The society aims at the holistic development of students by giving them a platform to nurture their artistic talent and encouraging them to participate in various art activities inside and outside the college. We, as the fine arts society, provide an opportunity to redefine and reshape the concepts and experiences of individuals into some or other form of art.

To start-off the academic session of 2021-22, an enthralling brush calligraphy workshop was organised. It was conducted by Ms. Devanshi Juneja, a self-taught social media personality. This session was held online for JMC and non-JMC students. Students participated in this event with immense enthusiasm.

Iris is especially known for its social media campaigns. ‘Promptober’ is one such campaign. Picking from the name, we take a different theme for every week in the month of October and support artists both from and outside of JMC, by posting all of those entries on our social media page. This year, the themes were: Neon Art, Halloween, Mood-Board Making and Dessert Decoration.

Followed by this, we hosted a simple yet elegant Diwali Competition. Again, as a tradition, the competition had two facets, Diya decoration and Rangoli making. We received the most beautiful entries for this competition that resonated with Indian culture. Unfortunately, due to COVID restrictions, we had to host this competition in an online setting.

Following our tradition to conduct a talent hunt competition for all freshers of JMC, we organized a series of two versions of the talent hunt to cater to all students keeping in mind the effects of the pandemic. The first version included Galaxy Art, Illusion Art, and Poetry Illustration. The second version included sketching, calligraphy, watercolour, and cartooning. This competition was extremely successful with over 50 entries in total.

Keeping in mind the current trends and the needs of college students, we saw that there is a growing requirement of using Canva as a skill. We collaborated with Mr. Vikas Roy for an online Canva workshop with 87+ participants. It was a huge success and especially beneficial for our team members.

Ending the year with a bang, we organised our annual festival BEAUX ARTS 2022, which included a fundraiser that was held offline in college for JMC students and the main competition for which the entries were collected in an online mode. The fundraiser supported small business owners and included a range of things from thrifting, candles, accessories, sunglasses, brownies, corn chaat, makeup, and bodypaint stalls to spill the paint stalls. The paint stall was especially loved by the students of JMC. The main competition had three sub-themes, viz., Tape Art, Comic Reels, and Spill Art.

As the Fine Arts society, we are also given the responsibility of decoration for all college events. We are recognized for our contributions towards the decoration for events such as the NAAC visit, PTSA, Independence Day, Farewell, amongst others. Our contributions primarily include Rangoli making and MPH décor for various college-level programmes.

The society owes its heartfelt gratitude to the Principal Prof. Sandra Joseph for her constant support. This year for the Fine Arts Society would not have been a successful one without the unrelenting guidance and encouragement of Dr. Nishwan Bhatia (Convenor), Ms. Charu Sarin Arora (Co-convenor), Ms. Vrinda Moda, and Ms. Isha Mishra, Ms. Bhumika Kapoor (Staff Advisors).

JMCEP – Jesus and Mary College Education Program

Jesus and Mary College Educational Program

(JMCEP) is an initiative aimed at empowering young minds with education and values that go beyond the boundaries of the textbook. It involves reaching out to the members of the lower economic groups, who strive for a background of meaningful education for their families and children. Under the guidance of the Principal, society Convenor, Staff Advisors, and the student council, JMCEP has been a torchbearer of commitment and perseverance in its pursuit of spreading education and awareness about important issues pertaining to health, hygiene, education rights, and public wellbeing.

The annual activities of JMCEP for the academic year 2021-2022 began with the election of Arushi Jain and Aazima Basharat, as the President and Vice President, respectively. Following this, a recruitment drive took place.

On 20th August 2021, in association with Aspirant India Initiative, JMCEP organized an Open Forum Discussion on the theme “Nayak 2.0: If I were the Education Minister of India for a day” for all the students of Jesus and Mary College.

Orientation Day was organized on 3rd September 2021 for welcoming the volunteers. They were given an insight into the functioning of the society and the online mode of conducting classes. The orientation commenced with an exemplary performance by Echo—the western music society of JMC. Another orientation was kept for the first-year students after the commencement of their academic session.

To help the volunteers enhance their mentoring skills and gain some insights, JMCEP in collaboration with Project Adhyayan organized various workshops. On 11th September 2021, a workshop on ‘Demystifying Teaching Young Minds’ was conducted. Similar webinars were conducted to increase the depth of knowledge of the volunteers on topics like Online Volunteering and Social Service: A career and more on

9th October 2021 and 27th October 2021, respectively. An event based on the happiness curriculum was also conducted for the school students to explore various ways of learning and understanding.

A short movie screening, named ‘10.30 Chalein School’ was conducted on 22nd October 2021 in collaboration with Panorama, the film appreciation and movie-making society of JMC. An engaging discussion followed to allow the volunteers to share their opinions.

To widen its horizons of online teaching and further its objective of spreading quality education, JMCEP collaborated with NGO Vidya and Child in addition to previous teaching collaborations—World Youth Council, SMCT, Childrenwise, Social Vision, and Project Aashray. JMCEP was also involved in the biggest Government initiated mentoring program in India, *Deshke mentors*. The aim of ‘Deshke Mentors’ is to create a community of youth who are a part of the volunteering culture, hence developing creative spaces.

With the lifting of COVID restrictions and re-opening of colleges, JMCEP resumed its offline classes that continued from 12th- 27th April 2022, and children from all the nearby slums and colonies came to attend. Two donation drives were conducted where a range of items, from notebooks to chips, were distributed to the children.

To break the monotony of teaching academic subjects and make learning interesting, a range of fun activities were conducted for the children. A drawing activity was hosted for the kids where they were given sheets and loads of colours to let their hearts out on the paper. This was followed by a Paper Bag Activity, where the volunteers taught the children to make bags out of newspapers and magazine sheets, thereby spreading awareness about the 3R’s ‘Reduce. Reuse, Recycle.’

The JMCEP society takes a lot of pride in its work and is deeply humbled by the affection shown to them by the children. JMCEP is committed to continuing to expand its work in reaching out to the children of the lower economic strata of society and contributing to enabling them to become better humans.

JMCMUN – Jesus and Mary College Model United Nations

JMCMUN or Model United Nations Society of Jesus and Mary College, Delhi University is for debate enthusiasts who have a knack for world diplomacy. We have over the years brought together young minds who are passionate about international relations and whose interests lie in grappling with the dynamics of global politics. Our members are trained and exposed to workshops and events that hone their public speaking, research and analytical skills. We pride ourselves on being updated on the latest trends in international relations and many global concerns such as Human Rights, Environmentalism, Neo-Imperialism, etc.

During the year 2021-22 the society had Ms. Saloni Srivastava (Economics Department) as the President and Ms. Sanjana Agarwal (Commerce Department) as its Vice-President. Our recruitment drive was done in a systematic and democratic manner. We started this year with a freshers’ welcome for our new members. The welcome was online due to the pandemic. Given the online nature of the event, it was ensured that every fresher was inducted into the society through an introduction of the position holders and the vision of the society. Each fresher also gave their own introduction and, in this way, it was ensured that the session was based on active interaction.

This year due to the pandemic restrictions, our conference on the 12th and 13th February, 2022 was held online. The conference turned out to be successful

despite some of the challenges of online mode. The entire team coordinated and worked hard. We secured sponsors who directly gave the prize to the winners. The society ensured that as always, we had the best judges like Ms. Maheen Faisal and Mr. Rahul Menon to name a few. The delegate affairs department reached out to the best institutions for delegations to make the conference a knowledgeable one. The conference hosted around 100 delegates across various institutions. Overall, the conference was acknowledged as a success by the participating students across universities and is a feather in the cap for the society.

Also, the society had sent delegations to various conferences, to name a few like NSUT MUN, JaipuriaMUN, Amity MUN, LSRMUN, CONFERRO MUN, etc and has brought back several awards like the best speeches award, special mentions and honourable mentions showing the worth of the society. These include Vidhi Srivastava, B.A. Programme Eco-Math, 2nd-semester (Special Mention, Amity University, Noida), Smriti Gupta, History Honours, 2nd-semester (Honourable Mention, Jaipuria MUN and Honourable Mention, NSUT MUN), Zuha Ahmed, B.A. Programme 2nd-Semester (Honourable Mention, JSS MUN), Khyati Sharma, Mathematics Honours, 2nd-Semester (Special Mention, Jaipuria MUN), Shilpa Ann Thomas, Economics Honours, 2nd-Semester (Special Mention, Conferro MUN, SGTB Khalsa and Special Mention, Thapar MUN), Khushi Gupta, History Honours, 2nd-semester (Honourable Mention, NSUT MUN), Kushmita Sharma, Mathematics Honours, 2nd-Semester (Best Caricaturist, JMCMUN), Jennifer John, B.A. Programme, 2nd-semester (Special Mention, Jaipuria MUN and High Commendation, SYMUNC, Symbiosis College), Aruni Saxena, Mathematics Honours, 2nd-Semester (High Commendation, LSRMUN), Aazima Basharat, B.A. Programme, History+Political Science, 5th-semester (Best Delegate, PECMUN) and

Sara Haider, Sociology Honours, 5th-Semester (High Commendation, ISBFMUN).

In order to improve the skills and sharpen debating and diplomacy skills, the society also renders training sessions by most prominent academicians, where the members can learn and testify their abilities. This year we had training sessions on debating skills by Mr Rahul Menon who trained forty students of the society across 20 sessions.

The society was also the recipient of a very prestigious award named 'Best Speeches' given out by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees as a part of their UN Refugee Challenge. This was an honour of the highest order for the society since we were picked among a sea of worthy opponents. Last but not the least, the election for the new council 2022-2023 took place. It is said the end of a journey marks the beginning of another. This year a new post of "Treasurer" was introduced to help with the efficient and smooth working of the society. The election process encompassed a campaigning period by aspiring members followed by a questionnaire round in which they were questioned about their vision for the new session. The successful conduct of the election had the brightest results as Ms. Sanjana Agarwal was elected as the President, Ms. Khushi, the Vice-President, and Ms. Sejuti as the Treasurer for the JMCMUN society 2022-2023.

The society owes its heartfelt gratitude to the Principal Prof. Sandra Joseph for her constant support. The accomplishments of the society were only possible because of our best council, unrelenting guidance and encouragement of Ms. Amrita Bhalla and Dr. Saumya Varghese.

Kahkasha – Hindi Dramatics Society

Kahkasha is the Dramatics Society of Jesus and Mary College which works towards the conceptualisation, production, and direction of street plays on various social issues to spread awareness as well as harness the voices of the youth. It also conducts street-theatre-related workshops, seminars, and collaborative sessions with experienced artists from the field and other theatre societies of the Delhi Collegiate Theatre Circuit (DCTC). Keeping up the momentum of its previous years, Kahkasha reaped the most out of the academic session of 2021-22 too.

The beginning of the session was marked by a theatre workshop “Breath and Emotion” with Mr Vinay Kumar, the Artistic Director of Adishakti Theatre Group on 18 September 2021. This was followed by the release of Take My Hand, a short film on Emotional Abuse (the topic for the session of 2020-21) on 29th September, 2021. A thorough research process led to the selection of “Censorship of Media” as the topic for the session 2021-22. The team performed an earlier version of the play at the Mood Indigo Prelims, the fest of IIT Bombay. Kahkasha also performed Daawat (a previous production) at the cultural programme presented for NAAC in the college.

Auditions for new team members from 1st year were conducted at the end of December, beginning the new year with new faces joining the periphery. The first collaborative session of the year was with Kshitij, the Dramatics Society of Gargi College wherein all team members from both teams got together online on 8th February, 2022 to do a myriad of theatre activities together. Apart from the annual production, Kahkasha also produced and performed a play on Sustainable

Menstrual Hygiene upon the invitation by PeeSafe to perform at Jaipuria Institute of Management, Noida.

All the efforts to produce the Annual Street Play came to fruition when Kahkasha had its final play titled “Censored” ready to present in the DCTC fest season (April 2022). Kahkasha performed at 16 fests of various colleges including IIT Delhi, Sri Aurobindo College, Maharaja Agrasen College, College of Vocational Studies, Delhi College of Arts and Commerce, Satyawati College, Shyamlal College, Keshav Mahavidyalaya and many others. Apart from this, the team also performed at the Shelf Ebook Festival at Pacific Mall Pitampura, Hobnob’22 the annual Sports event of NSO, JMC, and the college amphitheatre for the students.

The annual production “Censored” also received several commendations such as Jury Award at Baithak, the street-play event of Shades, the Dramatics Society of Keshav Mahavidyalaya, Second Position at Alfaaz, the street-play event of Aakrosh, the Dramatics Society of Shyam Lal College (M), third position at Parvaaz, the street-play event of The Third Act, the Dramatics Society of Satyawati College (Day), Special Mention at Thespian, the street-play event of the College of Vocational Studies and Special Mention at Jashn-E-Junoon, the street-play event of Junoon, the Dramatics Society of Dyal Singh Evening College.

This was the remarkable finale to an exuberant and successful session of 2021-22. The society extends its gratitude to the Principal Prof. Sandra Joseph for her constant support. This year for Kahkasha-the Dramatics Society would not have been a successful one without the guidance of our convenors Ms. Kashnie Singh, Ms. Annie Baxi, and Ms. Reshma R. Jose.

Mercatus – Marketing Society

Mercatus, the Marketing Society of Jesus and Mary College aims to ignite and refine the marketing skills of the students. In this effort, the society works to organise engaging events, as well as workshops and speaker sessions.

The year 2021-22 kicked off with the appointment of Radhika Goyal (3rd year, B.Com Honours) as President and Kavya Tandon (2nd year, B.A. Programme), after comprehensive interviews. Following this, the Secretariat was appointed, in addition to the Department Heads for all six departments of the society, namely Organising, Sponsorship, Public Relations, Technical, Creativity and Research and Development. Finally, Mercatus recruited its members from a vast pool of capable candidates to take the society forward.

Activities for the session began with a Jewellery Making Workshop with the owner of Tarobaar, Ms. Neymat Chadda. Another crafting workshop was conducted with Ms. Swati Aggarwal, an alumna of JMC. The purpose of these workshops was to promote the launch of the Thrift Store Initiative of the society, as well as promote the art of self-expression and creativity amongst attendees.

These innovative sessions set the stage for Mercatus' first annual event of the session, 'Amusement Day 6.0', a day which many DU students look forward to. Amusement Day brims with fun and frolic, with its running theme of Back to Childhood. All six competitions this year revolved around the sub-theme for 2021: Disney. Treasure hunts, quizzes and meme-making matches made the event a success. The icing on the cake was a captivating live singing performance by Ms. Kashish Soni. Mercatus also took this opportunity to officially launch its Thrift Store Initiative, through which the society sells handmade products made by the Creativity Department. The proceeds are donated

to a charitable organisation in furthering their cause.

After the second round of recruitment of the incoming freshers, Mercatus kicked off its Annual Marketing Convention—Zion 2022. Zion is a platform for aspiring marketers as well as established dignitaries to come together and engage in intellectual competitions and interactive sessions. Pitching challenges, Simulations and Escape Rooms constituted the four challenging events that fell under Zion. The Finale for 2022 was graced by Ms. Nitibha Kaul, ace influencer and TedX speaker, who motivated the attendees to reach their full potential.

To end the session with a bang, Mercatus restarted offline events with the Zion Pop-Up—a day of celebration and cheer. Food and gaming stalls, as well as products sold by student entrepreneurs, brought a fresh breath of life to the glorious Amphitheatre. Tunes tinkled all across the space as team Mercatus, in addition to all the attendees rose to their feet to dance the afternoon away. Efforts of the society were lauded by everyone present.

Mercatus owes its heartfelt gratitude to the Principal of Jesus and Mary College, Prof. Sandra Joseph for her unrelenting support. The society could not have accomplished all that it did in this session without the constant encouragement extended by the Convenor of the society, Dr. Savita Rastogi, in addition to the Staff Advisors, Ms. Vrinda Moda and Dr. Priya Bhatnagar.

Mudra – Western Dance Society

Mudra—the western dance society of Jesus and Mary College is a place for every heart that beats to the rhythm of music. It represents a collective of individuals who believe in self-expression through the channel of western dance, a form which allows one to express emotion without inhibitions and removes

all limitations on what one can do. One of the aims of Mudra is to create a sense of belongingness among its members to enable each individual to forget about themselves and become part of the team in every sense of the word. This allows for Mudra to function as a cohesive unit which ensures that each individual's life is enriched by exceptional experiences. Each shared experience brings the team closer, forging bonds that last a lifetime. Every time Mudra takes the stage, we represent not just individuals but rather all the previous members who have been a part of Mudra's rich and vibrant history. The confidence and the attitude that Mudra imparts to each member allows them to not only become better dancers but carries over into other parts of their life. Mudra inculcates in its members a spirit of teamwork and synergy; it depends on its members to share the burden of responsibilities to ensure efficient functioning. The collective efforts of society members are best represented by the various activities that Mudra was able to participate in this year.

Mudra opened this year by participating in the offline Capital Chills intercollegiate fest wherein teams from different colleges participated. During the course of this fest season, Mudra participated in many college fests in the online mode including the ones organised College of Vocational Studies, Swami Shraddhan and College, Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, Maitreyi College, Rajdhani College, PGDAV College (Evening) and Shri Ram College of Commerce. We also prepared and presented our performances during our own college events for example the Fresher's Day, Farewell, Teacher's Day, Parents Teacher Student Association meeting etc.

Apart from these inter-collegiate festivals Mudra also collaborated with BoAt, an electronics brand, to market their Women's Day campaign wherein we were asked to perform a flash mob at Connaught Place, Delhi, which was shot and uploaded to their Instagram page.

Overall, it was an eventful year for Mudra, we were able to meet and collaborate with a lot of interesting and exciting people, hone our skills and learn a lot of important lessons in our pursuit of excellence.

NCC – National Cadet Corps

NCC was incorporated at JMC in 1974 and has been operational since then. Currently, there are 150 cadets enrolled in the JMC NCC. NCC conducts numerous activities every year in which cadets participate enthusiastically. There have been various camps and events organised throughout this year. Various social awareness campaigns, drives, rallies etc. have been conducted by NCC as well.

This year, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, cadets participated in a number of online activities. The camps in which our cadets participated throughout the year were Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat Camp – VII (26th April – 30th April 2021) (SGT Ritika Sharma, SGT Tannu, CPL Irin Anna Rajesh and Cadet Josme Jaimon); Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat Camp – VIII (19th July -24th July 2021) (JUO Reshma Mary Kuriakose and LCPL Priyanshi); Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat Camp – X (20th Sep. – 25th Sep. 2021) (Cadet Meghna Mathew, LCPL Mahak Pandey and Cadet Alisha Victor), Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat Camp – XI (25th Oct – 31st Oct 2021) (LCPL Jenit A. John and LCPL Angelina Maria Moni), Sikkim Trekking Camp (16th Nov. – 22nd Nov. 2021) (JUO Rinki Bala, JUO Priya Pal, CPL Nandini Verma, CPL Rochelle Prakash and LCPL Priyanshi), Ajmer Trekking Camp (17th Nov. – 24th Nov. 2021) (Sgt. Monika Singh, LCPL Netal Singh and Cdt. Eliza Maxwell); National War Memorial Camp (28th Nov. 2021) (SUO Megha Anil); Swarnim Vijay Parv (12th- 13th Dec 2021) (LCPL Gaivina Dhillon, Cdt. Ambily Sabu, Cdt. Anjali James, Cdt. Ekta Dahiya and Cdt. Meghna

Mathew); Republic Day Camp (18th Dec 2021 – 29th Jan 2022) (SGT Amrita Malhotra, LCPL Elizabeth Mohan); Prime Minister's Rally (11th Jan – 29th Jan 2022) (LCPL Namya Jain, LCPL Britney Tims, LCPL Hrishita Sharma, LCPL Jenit A John, LCPL Sanya Nayyar and Cdt. Alisha Victor); Annual Training Camp (2021-2022) (21st Sept to 27th Sep 2021, 26th Oct to 2nd Nov 2021, 24th Nov to 4th Dec 2021 and 2nd Feb to 8th Feb 2022).

The year was also marked by other highlights. CPL Valeri Saurabh secured the 1st position in Quiz Competition and 2nd in Solo Singing, Cdt. Ambily Sabu secured 3rd position in Solo Singing at the Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat camp VII. For the first time, JMC NCC held an online Rank Ceremony for the Rank Panel 2021-22 on 28th April 2021. Subsequently, all cadets enthusiastically took part in the COVID-19 initiative Humane Corps undertaken in the month of April – May. Collaborating with Icrewsystems, the cadets verified various leads of COVID-19 resources and passed them on to the people in need.

Cadets along with their families took an active part in the International Yoga Day celebrations on 21st June 2022. Additionally, cadets took part in various intercollegiate competitions on account of Kargil Vijay Diwas in the month of July. Cdt. Britney Tims won 3rd prize in singing (KIT NCC), Cdt. Elizabeth Mohan won 2nd prize in classical dance (KIT NCC) and Cpl Irin won 2nd prize in an essay competition at St. Stephens College.

All the cadets energetically took part in the Fit India and Fit India Run 2.0 campaign, and shared their inspiring photographs from 13th August – 2nd Oct 2021 on social media handles.

Later, JMC-NCC conducted Intercompany Online Competition, Azad-e-Hind, on the occasion of the 75th Independence Day (Aazadi ka Amrit Mahotsav) in which 2 events were organised. In the Poster Making

Competition 1st, 2nd and 3rd positions were bagged by Cdt. Stephy Misquith, Cdt. Silvi Misquith and Cdt. Gaivina Dhillon, respectively. In Poem Recitation, Cdt. Khushi Dahiya and Cdt. Vicky bagged the 1st and 2nd position (in Hindi Category), respectively and Cdt. Namya Jain and Cdt. Charlotte bagged the 1st and 2nd position (in English Category), respectively.

NCC JMC in collaboration with Raunakein conducted a virtual interactive session with Maj. Gen. (Dr.) Yash Mor. A webinar was also conducted by our ANO, Lt. (Dr.) Richa Raj on national integration along with Intercompany Poster and Poem Competitions to mark the 75th Independence Day in which our cadets took a keen interest.

SUO Megha Anil, SGT. Amrita Malhotra, LCPL Elizabeth Mohan and LCPL Gaivina Dhillon participated in Intergroup Competition Camp as part of the Republic Day camp from 21st Sept – 27th Sep 2021. Subsequently, Sgt. Amrita Malhotra and LCPL Elizabeth Mohan made it to the finals. At Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat Camp XI, LCPL Jenit A. John bagged 2nd position in the poster-making competition.

Cadets of JMC NCC had an opportunity to be the face of the college during the NAAC Accreditation and present Guard of Honour to the NAAC Team on 11th November 2021. Our ANO, Dr. (Lt.) Richa Raj, was also a part of the Ajmer Trekking Camp along with SGT Monika Singh, LCPL Netal Singh and Cadet Eliza Maxwell.

JMC NCC successfully conducted its 2nd online Orientation Programme on 29th Nov 2021, in which new enthusiasts got to know about various camps, awards and achievements of JMC NCC.

Four of our cadets even took part in the Swarnim Vijay Parv on 12th and 13th December 2021. This event was held to commemorate the completion of 50 years since the 1971 War in 2021.

SUO Megha Anil got an opportunity to meet the DGNCC, Lt. Gen. Gurbirpal Singh and to learn the Guard of Honour drill (Shok Shastra) and Wreath Drill during the National War Memorial Camp (20th Nov - 27th Nov'21). She also got the opportunity to be part of the Finale of SNIC, December Sanskritiyon Ka Sangram on 17th December 2021. The event showcased different cultures of India and was held in NCC Auditorium, DGNCC, Delhi Cantt. Hon'ble Minister of Defence Sri Rajnath Singh and DGNCC, Lt. General Gurbirpal Singh were the guests of honour.

JMC-NCC celebrated National Voters Day on 25th Jan and took a pledge to participate in free, fair and peaceful elections and an Online Republic Day was celebrated for the first time on 26th January 2022 through the online event Jashn-e-Tiranga. During Republic Day Camp 2022, SGT Amrita Malhotra got a chance to participate in the flag area event and got selected for PM Rally's Marching Contingent as well. LCPL Elizabeth Mohan took part in Cultural Group Dance where the Delhi directorate received the All India Cultural Runners Up trophy as well as the All India Runners Up trophy.

LCPL Namya Jain, LCPL Britney Tims, LCPL Hrishita Sharma, LCPL Jenit A. John, LCPL Sanya Nayyar and Cdt. Alisha Victor got selected for the prestigious PM Rally Camp, which gave them the opportunity to perform in front of Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi. This once-in-a-lifetime opportunity was aired on DD National TV on 28th January, 2022.

On 29th Jan 2022, LCPL Britney Tims was awarded the ADG Appreciation Award for her sincerity towards NCC and her contribution during camp. JMC NCC Cultural Team, Guard of Honour team, Quiz team, Tug of war team and Relay team took part in various intercollegiate competitions held in the month of March and April 2022 and won cash prizes and trophies at Rajdhani College, Miranda House, Motilal

Nehru College, Shaheed Bhagat Singh College, Aditi Mahavidyalaya College, Shyamlal College.

On 27th Feb 2022, 7 cadets of JMC along with other colleges' cadets actively volunteered for a Polio Drop Vaccination Drive held at National War Memorial, where doctors from Lady Harding joined them. The drive covered over 50 children. The academic session 2021-2022 proved to be very productive and successful.

NSS – National Service Scheme

The National Service Scheme, Jesus and Mary College aims to develop students' personalities by instilling in them a sense of social justice and welfare through community service. NSS JMC strictly abides by the NSS motto, 'Not Me, but You'.

The session 2021-22 commenced with the Freedom Run on 28 Aug 2021 which was a part of the Aazadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. Several other events, like Quiz Competition, Essay Writing Competition, and Webinar on "Sports and Fitness: Changes and Challenges in India Since Freedom" with Prachi Tehlan were part of this program.

In September, NSS volunteers participated in various activities to commemorate National Nutrition Week, like the Detox Challenge and a webinar by the International Humane Society on "Fighting Climate Change with Diet". Youth Voters Festival was celebrated in collaboration with SVEEP India with activities like a webinar on "Your Vote is Your Voice: Importance of Voting", an awareness drive and a registration drive.

NSS Day was observed on the 24th of September 2021. NSS-JMC volunteers showed how they had adopted the Gandhian values by making videos on made in India products and promoting self-reliance.

The month of October being Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the NSS unit of Jesus and Mary College organised a few online webinars in collaboration with organisations such as Sanjeevani Group of Hospitals and Canfem.

A series of events were organised to observe the Vigilance Awareness week based on the theme of 'Independent India @75: Self Reliance with Integrity' to raise public awareness regarding the existence of and the threat posed by corruption.

On the festivals of Diwali and Lohri, NSS JMC volunteers spread joy by sharing food items, stationery, clothes, candles, diyas, sweets, books, masks, sanitisers, etc. with the underprivileged.

To observe the International Women's Day, NSS JMC organised a Campus Rally and a Self Defence Session. Volunteers also donated sanitary napkins to the needy.

NSS JMC also worked with inhabitants of their adopted slum, Ambedkar Basti, in R.K. Puram. The volunteers carried out awareness sessions with the inhabitants on topics like mobile literacy, women's empowerment, the importance of Ration and Aadhar Card and ways to acquire these documents, menstrual hygiene and domestic violence, etc.

The NSS unit of Jesus and Mary College worked throughout the year to maintain a zeal among the volunteers to create a difference in society. The society worked to spread awareness regarding important relevant topics on various occasions including World Mental Health Day, Rashtriya Ekta Diwas, National Education Day, International Men's Day, World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims, Constitution Day, World AIDS Day, International Day of Persons with Disabilities, International Anti-Corruption Day, Safer Internet Day, International Day of Yoga and many others.

Through these activities and opportunities, NSS

promotes the holistic development of its volunteers, transforming them into responsible citizens committed to the welfare of society.

Nrityanjali – Indian Dance Society

Nrityanjali, rooted in Indian ethos, is the Indian Dance Society of Jesus and Mary College. The members of the society specialise in various dance forms like Bharatnatyam, Kathak, Mohiniyattam, Bollywood, Tollywood and Folk. Over the years, Nrityanjali has put up enchanting performances for renowned personalities. The academic year of 2021 – 22 transpired to be a remarkable year for Nrityanjali as well as its members.

The session started off with the election for the office bearers, wherein Ann Mary James (3rd year, B.A. Programme) and Deepshikha Upreti (2nd year, B.A. Programme) were elected President and Vice – President, respectively. The election was followed by the selection of the core team members where Sana Mariyam Shibu was chosen as the Social Media Head, Tvishi Duggal and Sarohi Sharma as Sponsorship Head and Sub-Head, respectively, and Theresa Siby as Classical Co-ordinator. A round of auditions was conducted after the commencement of the academic session for the first-year students.

Nrityanjali's first event of the academic year was a Fundraiser Reels Dance Competition, M.A.D.: Make A Difference, in collaboration with Vishalakshi Foundation. The winner of the competition was Ann Susan Eldho. A total of Rs. 5000 was collected through the Fundraiser and was donated to the foundation. This competition was held in the month of July '21 which was followed by a Fundraiser in collaboration with TWC: Together We Can in the month of October '21. The fundraiser was a Bollywood Dance Workout

and all the proceedings were donated to CML Blood Cancer Patients.

Nrityanjali got the opportunity to perform for the NAAC Visitation of the college in the month of November '21, where Nrityanjali performed its Annual Classical Production "Four Seasons" which depicted the four seasons of nature. Soon after this, in the month of January '22, Nrityanjali in collaboration with the Women's Studies Centre, JMC conducted a session on "Sufi: The Way of the Heart" with Bharat Bharti, a teacher of Sufi Zikr and meditation, and Mohit Sardana, a practitioner of Sufi Tasawwuf and meditation.

In the month of March '22, as part of the Inaugural Event of the Annual Fest of Women's Studies Centre (WSC) Jagriti, Nrityanjali performed on the first day of the event expressing the theme Women in everyday life. Subsequently, Nrityanjali got the opportunity to perform on Sports Day '22 conducted by the Sports Department of JMC.

One of the major events that was conducted during this session was ADAA '22, The Annual Cultural Fest of Nrityanjali. This event consisted of two competitions – Solo Classical Competition and Group Folk Competition and was open to students outside of JMC only. The winners of the Solo Classical Dance Competition were Swarnali Nag (1st Position), Arsha T.S. (2nd Position), and Sanskriti Chaudhary (3rd Position). The winners of the Group folk Dance Competition were Sri Guru Gobind Singh College of Commerce (1st Position), Sri Guru Teg Bahadur Khalsa College (2nd position), and Swami Shraddhanand College (3rd Position).

As part of the in-house events of the college, Nrityanjali got the opportunity to perform for Independence Day, Teacher's Day, PTSA and Farewell '22.

For Nrityanjali the fest season is as important as any

other event. This year's annual folk production was Dolu Kunitha, which is a traditional drum dance form of Karnataka. Nrityanjali secured the 3rd position in Ruhaniyat, organised by Deshbandhu College; 1st Position in Leiothrixx, Kalaangan, organised by Acharya Narendra Dev college; 2nd Position in Darohar, organised by Maharaja Agrasen College; 2nd Position in Virsa, organised by Swami Shraddhanand College; 2nd Position in Nrityanand, organised by Kamala Nehru College; with a Special Mention in Satrang, organised by Kalindi College. Our members secured several laurels in the Solo dance Competition category as well. Theresa Siby secured the 2nd Position in the Solo Classical Dance Competition organized by Christ University. Another member of our society, Deepshikha Upreti, secured the 1st Position in VERVE '2021 organised by JSSA Bangalore; 2nd Position in RAAS'21, organised by Daulat Ram College; 2nd Position in TARANGINI '21, organised by Miranda House; 2nd Position in AARADHI '21, organised by Janki Devi Memorial College and 2nd Position in SAMPRAVAH '21, organised by Kamala Nehru College.

The society owes its heartfelt gratitude to the Principal Prof. Sandra Joseph for her constant support. This year for Nrityanjali would not have been a successful one without the unrelenting guidance and encouragement of Dr. Anupama Srivastava (Convenor) and Dr. Pratima Kaushik (Co-Convenor).

Panorama- Film Appreciation Society

Panorama, the Film Appreciation and Movie-Making Society of JMC, like every year, despite the mid-semester study mode switch, orchestrated myriads of events and activities bringing together a community of cinephiles. The society aims to create a platform

where students can express and partake in their interest and love for cinema. In the academic year 2021-2022, Panorama went above and beyond achieving this goal.

Prior to the beginning of the session, Panorama held its elections for the society council heads wherein Mehak Pasricha (B.A. Sociology Honours, III Year), Jolynne John (B.A. English Honours, III Year), and Siddhi Ajmani (B.A. Programme Psychology and Philosophy, II Year) acceded to the position of the President, Vice-President and General Secretary, respectively.

With the commencement of the academic year, the society conducted the selection process for its Core Team, where the following students were designated as team heads: Aysha Saleem as the Organizing Head, Rhea D'Souza and Ashlyn Joy as the Film- Making Heads, Yamini Issar, Vanshika Luthra and Khushi Arora as the Content Heads, and Nandini Kohli and Brinda Mathur as the Social Media Heads. This was followed by two rounds of recruitment of new members, in August for second and third years, and in January for the newly inducted first years.

Panorama began its year by collaborating with Pink Legal Panache for a film screening and engaging discussion of the short film 'Suno'. The two teams joined hands to discuss the issue of domestic violence as portrayed in the short film over Google Meet and several important points were made. This was followed by, the screening of the short film 'Chalien School' by Ashish Naidu as part of a collaboration with Jesus and Mary Education Programme. Both the screenings were extremely successful and fruitful conversations followed them, wherein several important points and issues were raised and deliberated upon.

The team sore to new heights by working with the well-known nationwide organisation SPIC MACAY, garnering a large audience of nearly 500 people for an online screening of the classic Bengali film 'Ajantrik' (1958) directed by Ritvik Ghatak followed by a

discussion and quiz with Prof. Gayatri Chatterjee, film academician and author.

Panorama brought back 'Panorama Talkies', a series of lectures that dissected the various elements of cinema in an intricate yet engaging manner. In our second edition of Panorama Talkies titled 'The Lives of Things in Kubo and the Two Strings', our speaker Ms. Anna Dasgupta, through a wonderful presentation and movie clippings helped us deconstruct stop motion cinema. On World Suicide Prevention Day held in September, Panorama joined hands with Rotaract DUSC to discuss the 2019 feature film 'Chhichhore' with its key theme of suicide among the youth.

In November, we had a Film Editing Workshop/ Lecture. "The Editor's Room" with Mr Gourav Gopal Jha, the editor of the hit Netflix series Kota Factory. The workshop focused on the basics of editing and the creation of Kota Factory. Our society gained a great deal of insight from the workshop, and it really benefited our filmmaking department. Rounding off our online events was the collaboration with Women Studies Centre, JMC which took place in the form of a Discussion Circle on the topic 'Portrayal of Gender in Indian Cinema'. The two teams offered their voices as part of the feminist agenda and discussed several films- some for their shallow portrayal while some for their refreshing and open-minded ones.

With college reopening in February, Panorama managed to sneak in one last collaboration with the Political Science Association before its much-awaited annual fest. Observing Black History Month, the team held a screening of the short film 'Black Soul' directed by Martine Chartrand; the first event in an offline mode after almost 2 years of online meets. Prior to the fest, we organised a Fundraiser where our members set up fun activities, games, a bake sale and food stall, and even sold clothing, jewellery and books. The fundraiser was not only a huge success, but was overall an enthralling

experience. Most importantly we were able to generate a significant amount of fund for the society.

The highlight of the year was Panorama's annual fest revolving around the theme 'Indian Cinema: The North and the South'. From mainstream Bollywood, to gems from the South, the team delved into India's rich film culture in a hybrid mode of online and offline through a series of exciting competitions, games and activities. A key event of the fest was the screening of the short film 'Pema', directed by notable filmmaker Mr. Sonam Tseten. Post the screening, a discussion and interview with Mr. Tseten was moderated by fellow film enthusiast Mr. Gokul K.S. The members were left in awe after the film and engaged in a lively discussion with the director. Apart from that, the society hosted various online competitions, namely, Izhaar: The Monologue Competition, Literati: A Content writing competition, a short filmmaking competition, Un-Mask-It: The Desi Treasure Hunt, and a cinematic parallels writing competition. The offline leg of the Fest, was called Funkytown: The Quintessential 2005 Birthday Party, for which we put up various food and game stalls.

Our social media team, content team, and filmmaking team worked tirelessly in producing engaging material in the form of quizzes, games, recommendations, and polls on Instagram, articles on our blog (www.panoramajmclmsoc.wordpress.com), with over 30+ film reviews and short clips, and reels displaying our team's exemplary acting, editing and directing skills respectively. Our filmmaking team also worked tirelessly for our annual production, 'Murphy', which was set in a post-pandemic time, and the movie revolves around an agoraphobic germaphobe who takes measures to avoid any contact with germs. As Murphy's law would have it, a twist in the plot leads to the germaphobe battling against what might hint at the repeat of the pandemic.

The year 2021- 2022 proved to be extremely successful for the society despite the change in the mode of the functioning of the college, mid-semester. The society owes this favourable outcome to the continued support that it received from its convenor, Dr. Sandhya D Nambiar, the Principal and the college.

Peace Society

Peace Society is one of the largest compulsory societies in Jesus and Mary College, comprising a core team of 44 students including the office bearers, core team heads of various departments, core team members of each department, and a membership of 521 in total.

Peace is not just an absence of conflict, it involves people interacting with one another pro-socially. At Peace Society, we encourage a positive way of life. The society has a multipronged approach to inculcate inner peace and cohesion through a variety of events ranging from musical performances, competitions, and team games to concerted efforts on initiatives such as anti-plastic campaigns, mental health webinars, etc. The society has a broad vision that deals with individuals and multiple facets of their personality, environment, spirituality and faith.

In the academic session 2021-22, the society conducted a plethora of events in the form of interactive webinars and interesting competitions ranging from personality development to mental health. Peace society welcomed the new academic session with 'International Peace Day' on 21st September, 2021 in which a meditation session was held by Ms. Manka Bajaj, a life coach and a mindfulness expert. Along with this, the society organized a collage-making competition and the theme was "Your Idea of Peace". On October 8th, a webinar on 'Minding our Minds' was conducted by Jagriti Sharma, a counselling psychologist at Fortis Healthcare wherein she answered anonymously

asked questions by students. The society observed the Gratitude week in the form of a series of three events. The first was ‘Importance Of Gratitude In One’s Life’ by Deepika Dahima, founder of Yellow Turquoise and a counselling psychologist, followed by ‘Transforming Lives Through Gratitude’ by Keshav Sharma, a psycho-oncologist at Fortis Healthcare, and a session on ‘Relationship Between Gratitude And Law Of Attraction’ by Shradha Neeraj, a life coach on living and teaching gratitude.

The society ended the Gratitude Week with a “Gratitude Bingo” on Instagram, as its marketing campaign in addition to “Gratitude Mail Man” where the society gave a unique opportunity to people to express their gratitude to their loved ones. On 30th November, the society presented a webinar on ‘Transitioning In and Out of Online Classrooms’ by Tarini Khurana, co-founder of Kaksha Learning where she gave her valuable insights and helpful advice regarding online classes. On 19th January, sports psychologist Dr. Shivjot Gill led a webinar which focused on ‘Mental Health Of Professional Athletes’. Thereafter, Dr. Raji Arabi, a consultant, homoeopathic physician, executive and wellness coach presented a webinar on ‘How Self-Awareness Helps in Reducing Anger’.

A webinar was also held on 29th January with Nishtha Narula, a counselling psychologist in the Department of Mental Health and Behavioural Sciences at Fortis Healthcare wherein she conducted a workshop and training session on ‘Mental Health and Anger Management’. The next webinar was led by Anubhav Dubey, a highly successful entrepreneur and co-founder of Chai Sutta Bar, on ‘Unconventional Career Paths’ on 2nd February.

The society observed the World Cancer Day on 4th February with a special panel discussion including cancer conquerors Ms. Neerja Malik, founder of Apollo Cancer Support Group and a phenomenal public

speaker along with Teena Kaur, National Film Award-winning Documentary filmmaker and a screenwriter. It was followed by a webinar, mentored by Mahima Bhalotia, founder of The Social Paathshala on ‘Establishing Relationships with Grandparents in the Era of Technology’ on 9th February with the motive that love is the greatest gift that one generation can leave to another.

On 12th February the Peace society organised a webinar on ‘Self Love: Manage Relationship with Oneself’ with Gazal Hai Na, a self-love coach explaining how one deserves their own love and affection. A webinar was also conducted by Mr. Aswini Bajaj, founder of Leveraged Growth, on the topic ‘Mind Management Is Time Management’ on 12th February explaining that the key is not spending time but investing it. The society concluded its tenure by organising a Declamation Competition marking 75 years of the country’s independence on 30th March, 2022 on the topic “Can the Youth of India make India a Superpower?”

With the onset of COVID-19 pandemic, the holistic experience of college life for students came to a standstill. However, the Peace Society was determined to have a tenure full of enriching experiences for its members. Therefore, with this zeal and passion, Peace Society conducted interactive and engaging webinars along with thrilling and insightful events which proved to be a fruitful experience for its members.

Placement Cell

The Central Placement Cell, Jesus and Mary College is a professional body incorporated for facilitating the recruitment of the country’s best minds by global corporations. The Central Placement Cell serves as a liaison between the companies and the students and works tirelessly to match the repute and eminence that

the college is renowned for. The Cell has witnessed a smooth shift toward virtual placements to provide its recruiters with a hassle-free hiring experience.

With the COVID-Impacted Recruitment Season 2021-22, we noticed a fall in the number of companies visiting our campus, due to the effect of downsizing. The Cell conducted Virtual Placement Drives from July, 2021 to February, 2022 and companies of the likes of Ernst & Young, KPMG, Accenture, Deloitte, BCG, Bain and Company, PwC, Nation with NaMo, ICICI Bank, Paytm, Nestle, etc. Overall, 91 students got successfully placed to set their career trajectory to a whole new level. The Central Placement Cell facilitated the recruitment drives of premier recruiters across domains like finance, consulting, marketing, product management, operations, and many more over the course of its functioning, providing various opportunities like placements, internships, articleships, seminars, webinars, and workshops to the students.

In the academic year 2021-22, 155 companies of the likes of Ernst & Young, KPMG, Seekho, Great Learning, Bain and Company, Deloitte, etc. came to provide virtual internships to the Pre-Final and Final year students, all year round. The Cell truly believes that internships provide exposure to the real world and give students a platform to establish critical networking connections.

Driven by an indefatigable spirit to ensure the overall welfare of the batch, the Cell organized 18 webinars and workshops to encourage passionate dialogue and active engagement, enhancing students' skills and knowledge. On the 22nd of October 2021, Studyin.UK.in organized a "UK University Counselling Day". Following this, on the 23rd of November, 2021, an insightful webinar was conducted with Ms. Smriti Gupta, Mentor at Leverage Edu, on the "Scope for Commerce Students Abroad". The Cell also organized a webinar on the 10th of February 2022, via Google

Meet, on "3 Aces to Succeed at Interviews" with Mr. Gagan Singh. In association with T.I.M.E Institute, the Cell organized a live webinar on, "How to Deal with Personal Interviews" with Ms. Tarannum Raja on the 23rd of February, 2022.

Puzzle Society

With the aim of solving every puzzle in the vicinity in our hearts and determination to make a mark for ourselves, The Puzzle Society of Jesus and Mary College is a unique, one-of-a-kind group of like-minded intellectuals aimed at honing much more than puzzle-solving abilities and are the first ones to have a society dedicated to puzzles in the University of Delhi.

The society ensures that each member is provided with ample opportunities to develop their minds in tandem with their personalities. At the Puzzle Society, we push you to think outside the box with just the right amount of guidance and support to mould you into capable humans and leaders. Our weekly puzzle meets to keep the members' creative juices flowing with demanding mental workouts coupled with the cyclic task of coming up with innovative puzzles. Our maiden Puzzle Fest—Eureka—with a footfall of 300+ registrations from across the country, was an absolute pleasure for both the participants and organisers, leaving us eager to come back with a bigger, grander and even more stimulating fest this year. Our perpetual collaborations with various other societies and departments keep us on our toes and provide us with year-round opportunities to develop our personalities.

The COVID-19 pandemic may have taken us by surprise, much like the rest of the world, but it has not dampened our spirits for we continue to persevere and deliver high performance. We divide our responsibilities into four departments, namely, the Research Department: responsible for exploring and

creating authentic puzzles; the Marketing Department: curating events and social outreach, also ensures quality social media presence; Sponsorship Department: for onboarding good sponsors for societal events; Technical Department: handling design and technical aspects of the society.

Over the past year, we have discussed a multitude of puzzles like a battleship, masyu, futoshiki, calcudoku, cryptogram, hitori, nonogram, nurikabe, tridoku, anagram, and interview puzzles. We also corroborate our members by hosting constructive webinars by reputed speakers to provide good exposure in the field of puzzles.

The Puzzle Society is a perfect place for anyone who harbours a love for solving puzzles, wishes to sharpen their skill sets or yearns to try an otherwise daunting activity.

RCC – Research and Collaboration Committee

The Research and Collaboration Committee is a part of the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) JMC. The importance of research for an institution of higher education cannot be overemphasised. The committee organises Conferences, Workshops and Faculty Development programmes with the objective of encouraging research activities among the faculty and students of JMC. It is also the nodal agency for developing academic collaborations between JMC and other Institutes of Higher Education both Indian and Foreign.

RCC organised two workshops (in collaboration with IQAC) on Quality in Higher Education: Insights and Initiatives for JMC@2025, on October 22 and 23, 2021. Several resource persons spoke on the importance of a supportive learning environment, accessibility, improved communications skills, teaching and research outputs, and the availability

of information as vital and reliable ingredients for quality in higher education. The key resource persons included Dr. Ann Mary Fernandez, Former Registrar, University of Madras, Chennai, Prof. L.S. Ganesh, IIT Madras, Mr. V. A. George, Management Trainer and Industrialist and Prof. Suman Kundu, Director, South Campus, University of Delhi.

On behalf of the college, RCC signed MoUs for Students and Faculty Exchange and academic cooperation with the Institute for Indian and Southwest Asian Studies, Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences, Vietnam in December 2021 and Ecopark (ECOUNI) University, Vietnam in May 2022. An outcome of the MOUs was the participation of Prof. Reena Marwah in an International Conference in Hanoi, Vietnam on the theme: India Vietnam 50 years of Diplomatic relations: Retrospect and Prospects on June 15, 2022. Prof. Reena Marwah also visited the Campus of Eco Park University on June 13, 2022, where the handing over of the MOU took place between her and Prof. Ngo Xuan Binh.

A survey to understand the research needs of JMC faculty had been conducted under the aegis of RCC in January 2022. The results of the survey, received from 101 respondents, were shared by Dr. Alka Sehgal. Faculty members had several research requirements, comprising more computers in the library, access to databases and opportunities for funding. There has been a renewed focus on capacity building for faculty in research and publications. In this context, the RCC in collaboration with IQAC invited abstracts for a special volume on the Impact of COVID-19 on specific thematic areas. 19 abstracts from the JMC faculty have been received.

Snapshots – Photography Society

Snapshots: The Photography Society of Jesus and Mary College tries to make a contribution in every possible way, from covering all college events to organising photo walks and inter-college and intra-college competitions, in turn boosting the aesthetic and creative gear overall. Not only does it provide a platform for students who are passionate about photography to showcase their talent, but is also focused on the mutual exchange of learning and techniques as far as the art of photography is concerned. The academic year of 2021-22 was an exceptional year for Snapshots.

The year started off with the election for office bearers, wherein Khyati (3rd year, B.A. English Honours) and Khyati Dubey (2nd year, B.A. Programme Psychology-Philosophy) were elected as the President and Vice-President, respectively. Prisha Revkar and Anoushka Sharma were in-charge of the Organisation and Collaboration department, and Visheshta Sharma and Mahak Pandey supervised the Social Media and Design department. A two-round drive took place thereafter for the recruitment of new members, after the commencement of the academic session for first-year and second-year students. A team of 16 talented photographers were welcomed into the society, making it to a total of 44 enthusiasts.

For World Mental Health Day, that is, 10th October, Snapshots collaborated with Cauldron: the Magazine Society for an activity on “Chronicling Kindness”, wherein members of Snapshots supplied perfect captures to suit the empathetic anecdotes, quoted by the team of the English Magazine Society. This not only created awareness around consideration and well-being but also strengthened cooperation between the two creative societies, unique in their own ways.

Snapshots, on the occasion of Constitution Day, November 23, organised an online photography competition, based on the very celebrated—Aazadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, themed SaddaHaqk (Our Rights). The theme was open to interpretation and the society received various interesting submissions, across various colleges in the country. The winners of the competition were Shreya, Janki Devi Memorial College (1st position); Mohit, Kirori Mal College (2nd position) and Vedant, Sri Guru Gobind Singh College (3rd position).

The most awaited and major event organised by the society was Camaraderie, the annual event of Snapshots. It consisted of four competitions. The first competition, Photostory, was an event where the participants were given a theme on the basis of which they had to click a series of pictures followed by a small story and a title describing the pictures. The winners were Mugdha Choudhary, Motilal Nehru College (1st position); Mahima Dharnia, SRCASW (2nd position); and Govardhan A B, Motilal Nehru College (3rd position).

In the second competition, Memography, participants were shown a clip which had pictures of ten objects. They were supposed to include as many objects as possible in their submissions. The winners were Priyanka Sharma, Motilal Nehru College (1st position); Kunal Tanwar, Shivaji College (2nd position); and Lawanya Dhamija, Bhim Rao Ambedkar College (3rd position).

In the third competition, Cutback JPEG, participants were asked to capture a photograph, refraining from capturing a specific element. This year the theme was landscape without the sky. The winners were Raghavi, Indraprastha College for Women (1st position); Vinayak, BPIT (2nd position); and Anupriya, Gargi College (3rd position).

Doppelgänger, was the fourth competition in which

participants were required to recreate pictures and come up with a shot that is not only original but artistic too. The winners were Anima Shri, Janki Devi Memorial College (1st position); and Mahima Dharnia, SRCASW (2nd position).

The festival was concluded by a young and evolving photographer, Mr. Sarthak Ahuja in the form of an informative webinar. In addition, Snapshots covered many events: Jagriti (Annual Event of Women's Studies Center), E-Cell fest, Amusement Day (Mercatus fest), Hobnob (Sports Department Fest), Theater Society Event, Maths Department Fest, Stash The Trash Campaign (Enactus), B.Voc Department National conference, NCC event, Manthan Mahotsav (Shaheed Sukhdev College), the inauguration of the healthcare room and the teachers' annual conference. Some of the significantly notable coverages include—PTSA, College Farewell, NAAC Visit, IQAC talk and working on some of the staged events, conducted by other colleges and other such collaborative work, for Delhi University.

With the resumption of offline college, while maintaining careful measures, Snapshots also organised photo walks for its members to the India Gate on the occasion of Republic Day, and to Sunder Nursery, as an activity for binding members to Nature Photography. Our photographers also zealously participated in other external and internal Webinars and Photography Contests, winning laurels and enhancing their technical skills in this dynamic field.

The society owes its heartfelt gratitude to the Principal Prof. Sandra Joseph for her unconditional support. Also, this year for the ever-emerging society would not have been a successful one without the unrelenting guidance and encouragement of our faculty advisors Mr. Jobin Thomas and Ms. Tanuja Sachdeva.

Students Council

The year 2021 was a mix of online college life and then getting back on campus. The academic year 2021-22 began with the student council elections which were held in the first week of September with two presidential candidates- Priyanshi Arora and Elizabeth Reji. The elections were held on 7th September 2021 through an online voting process and Elizabeth Reji was elected as the President. Subsequently, the students council held a meeting for the year 2021-22 on 14th September 2021.

The first event that the student council organised in the academic session was a cultural programme for the NAAC peer team visit. The participation of Ethnic Eight, Kahaksha, Nirtryanjali, Tarannum, and Echo was deeply appreciated by the NAAC peer team.

The Students Council participated in the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav initiative to celebrate and commemorate 75 years of independence wherein it organised an essay writing competition from 16th - 30th September 2021. The Council also held a Poster Making competition for Rashtriya Ekta Diwas.

On 17th February 2022, campuses across DU reopened for physical mode of teaching-learning and we warmly welcomed our students back to the college. The Council set up a helpdesk for 4 days to assist the students. We also led campus tours and distributed JMC guides amongst the students to help them settle in the physical mode of education. The JMC E-guides were especially designed for the first and second-year students who were experiencing offline college for the first time. The guide included a travel guide, health guide, and a college map.

The next event that witnessed the coming together of the Council was the PTSA which was held on 2nd April 2022. The PTSA saw an active participation from parents, teachers, and students. On this day, the

new student council members had their oath-taking ceremony, followed by prize distribution, and the programme ended with cultural performances by the four cultural societies.

The student council also held a farewell party for the outgoing batch of 2022 on 28th April 2022. We enabled a platform for the first and second-year students where one talent was represented from every department followed by an extravagant cultural program. The Council organised lunch for the outgoing batch and the event ended with the students spending some quality time together, dancing to the beats of the DJ in the common room.

We would like to thank the advisory committee for working with the student council in making this academic year, a year of a smooth transition from google meet to on-campus. We wish to thank our Principal Prof. Sandra Joseph, and our Staff Advisors, Prof. Sushila Ramaswamy, Dr. Alka Marwaha, Dr. Renu Gupta, and Ms. Megha Jacob, the non-teaching staff, and all the students for their unstinted assistance and cooperation. We are grateful for their support.

Sunny Mugs – Poetry Society

Sunny Mugs, the Poetry Society of Jesus and Mary College, is a safe and creative space for all budding writers who find their solace in words. Students from all disciplines, backgrounds, and identities are welcome at Sunny Mugs to come to share their art with us. Sunny Mugs has extended its borders beyond poetry to explore other forms of creative expression through words this academic year.

The year started off in an online mode with the election for office bearers, wherein Jemima Koothur (3rd Year, B.A. English Honours), Pratishtha Jindal (2nd Year, B.A. Programme), Hiteshi Gangwani (3rd Year, B.A. English Honours) were elected President, Vice-

President, and General Secretary, respectively. Two rounds of recruitment took place for selecting members for this academic session, leading to the highest society strength since its conception in '81. Following this, the screening process for the core team commenced. This year, in an attempt to ensure holistic distribution of work and better efficiency, two new departments were added to the core team. The departments under the core team include the Editorial Board headed by Anika Sharma (English Desk) and Aditi Singh (Hindi Desk), the Organizing and Marketing team headed by Khyati and Anushka Somvanshi, the Research and Development team headed by Ishita Sharma, the Sponsorship and Collaboration team by Aadrika Siddhi, and the Design and Technical team headed by Shivangi Sharma and Mishika Kapoor.

The first event of the academic session was a COVID-19 fundraiser, conducted in the month of May. It was conducted in collaboration with BlueQuill (The Creative Writing Club of Miranda House) Blue Quill and Adwitiya (The Fine Arts Society of Miranda House). The theme for the first day of the fundraiser event was 'Creative Unwind—An Evening to Rediscover Creative Well-Being', and two sessions were conducted for the same—River of Life and an Expressive Arts-Based Workshop by Ms. Charvi Budheo. The theme for the second day was 'Refresh & Reload.' Renowned artists like Rutwick Deshpande, Muskaan Sethi, and Anuj Kumbat performed for the same. The funds collected were donated to URJA Trust and the PAIGAM network.

The society regularly conducted Open Mics both within the society and in collaboration with several other societies across the DU Circuit. This includes an open mic organised with PROJECT CLAP on the occasion of Pride Month. The society also conducted various internal sessions on topics like freewriting, blackout poetry, use of prompts, poetry concerning historic events, etc. Furthermore, cognizant of the

stress and isolation as the result of the pandemic, the society introduced the concept of informal sessions, 'Candid Conversations'. These included fun games, movie nights, etc.

On the occasion of World Mental Health Day, Sunny Mugs conducted a therapeutic writing session, in collaboration with Sadaf Vidha, Founder of Guftagu Therapy. Part of this session was a writing activity that involved group work and was conducted on Zoom. The theme for the activity was "Nevertheless they persisted".

In November, Sunny Mugs conducted a session on, 'Deconstructing and Interpreting Nursery Rhymes and Fairy Tales through a Socio-Psychological, Gendered Lens' with Dr. Jennifer Monteiro (Assistant Professor in the Department of English, Jesus and Mary College). This was followed by a creative writing competition - 'Rethink & Rewrite' with the theme, 'Rewriting popular Fairy Tales and Nursery Rhymes as you would want to narrate it to the next generation'. The winners of the competition were Eishita (1st Position), Shaoni Dutta (2nd Position), and Ankita Bora (3rd Position).

With the commencement of regular classes on campus, our society organized a fundraiser in the Amphitheatre during the second week of April. We had several stalls including nail art, thrift store, games, food & beverage, etc. all at minimal prices. Members enthusiastically contributed to generating funds for our upcoming events and for compensation to the winners of various writing competitions held by the society. The day concluded with the aroma of baked goods in the air and a lot of team hugs. For this, we are grateful for the cooperation of the college administration and for making the event a success.

Ever since the conception of the society, our other two annual events have been the most loved and participated-in events of the poetry circuit. Our fourth annual Hindi-Urdu slam poetry competition, Lafzon Ki

Numaish was conducted in the second week of March. Our jury for this year consisted of Dr. Birendra Singh, one of our esteemed college faculty members from the Hindi Department, and Gaurav Saxena, an educator and artist known for his works in written and spoken word Urdu poetry. After an extensive evening filled with beautiful words, we were pleased to announce Shivani Gupta as the winner, along with Harshita Goyal and Rizul Makkar as the first and second runner-ups respectively. Our fourth annual English Slam Poetry competition, Tailored Verses was conducted in the third week of April. With dark academia-themed decor all set to welcome our participants, MPH II was lit up with words, snaps, and a lot of fairy lights. Our jury for this year consisted of Ms. Kashish Dua, one of our esteemed college faculty members from the English Department, and Vishnu Jha, the founder of Delhi Dais Club and a renowned spoken word artist. After thorough consideration, our judges were pleased to award Vidisha Narula as the winner of Tailored Verses 2022, followed by Tanya Salwan and Trisha Pandey as the first and second runners-up respectively.

This year, we made an addition to the list of our annual events. This new addition was a creative writing competition, 'Words and Muses'. The themes of the bilingual competition were 'The Swan Song' and 'Big History and Belonging'. Over 50 students sent in their entries from across the country and we were pleased to have Parinita Malhotra as the winner, and Sohagni Roy and Devaki S. as the first and second runners-up respectively.

The society is immensely indebted to our Principal, Prof. Sandra Joseph, and the administrative staff for their constant support. The Poetry Society would not have been able to make the strides and expand its borders without the constant guidance and support of Dr. Susan George (Convenor) and Dr. Archana Tripathi (Staff Advisor), and Dr. Sudha Shashwati (Staff Advisor).

Tarannum – Indian Music Society

Tarannum, the Indian Music Society of Jesus and Mary College, aims to promote and celebrate Indian music culture. It provides a platform for passionate musicians to express and advance their inner selves. The society specializes in Hindustani and Carnatic classical music genres; nevertheless, it espouses and encourages all types of Indian music. Tarannum conducts and performs for various in-house and external events. Indeed, the Academic Year 2021-22 turned out to be extremely fruitful for the society.

The first event of the year was the online Farewell programme in which the society members bade goodbye to their seniors through a musical evening. This led to the a round of fresh elections for the Office Bearers, wherein Ishita Singh [B.A. (Hons) Psychology, III Year] and Kiran Narula [B.A. (Hons) Psychology, II Year] were elected President and Vice-President, respectively for the session, 2021-22. The members of the society also finalised their Annual Composition; a musical piece was prepared, based on ‘Raag Khamaj’ and ‘Raag Khamas’ of Hindustani and Carnatic genres, respectively. Thereafter, it was rigorously practised, both in online and offline modes.

The society collaborated with Raindrops Foundation and organised a successful two-week-long fundraiser that included a digital concert and open mic. Tarannum collaborated with various other college music societies as well. The members contributed exceedingly to major college events like Teachers’ Day and ‘Aazadi ka Amrit Mahotsav’ through submissions of digitally curated performances. Social media presence was also enhanced through frequent uploading of reels and interactive posts, ergo, the society remained active throughout the session.

The society soon began the process of recruiting new

members and expanding its arenas. Members of the new session were recruited in two phases executed online in view of the pandemic.

Tarannum was also invited to perform for The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India on 8th March 2022 in association with UNICEF, India to felicitate the women vaccinators who worked selflessly and tirelessly during the pandemic. The members of the society delivered a self-written and self-composed semi-classical piece based on ‘Raag Khamaj’ on this occasion.

There were performances at various flagship college events like the NAAC (National Assessment and Accreditation Council) Visit and PTSA (Parents Teachers Students Association of JMC) in which the society participated. The society members also performed their Annual Composition at various fests of different colleges in April 2022 and showcased their talent in classical music. Towards the end of the session, Tarannum organised its Annual inter-college fest, ‘RAAG 2022’ on 25th April 2022. The fest included two events—Afreem (Bollywood Solo Singing) and Swarangan (Classical Choir).

The society is appreciative of all the opportunities that came its way which helped it grow and learn even more. Tarannum owes its heartfelt gratitude to the Principal, Prof. Sandra Joseph for her constant support and guidance, and is indebted to its convenors, Dr. Anupama Srivastava and Ms. Pratima Kaushik who supported the society through thick and thin.

Troubadours – Theatre Society

In the midst of the continuing pandemic, Troubadours began 2021-22 with a focus on improving the society’s social media presence on Instagram. The society invested some time in making reels on theatre using

relevant trends on Instagram in September and October 2021. To streamline this, society members were divided into three teams, with at least one scriptwriter in each group. These teams were tasked with ideating content based on three primary themes: (a) 'Theatre Related Q&A Series', to address commonly asked questions about theatre; (b) 'College POV (Point of View) Reels' which enacted situations that college students experience; and (c) 'Emotions Reels', which had members display a range of emotions according to an assigned story-line. The 'Reels' format amalgamates popularity and performance within a short time frame, allowing for greater engagement and interest. Troubadours saw a similar consequence to our initiative, as our reels were well-received by our followers on social media.

The society also collaborated with the college's Green Society on their online social media campaign "Your Toxic Neighbour" against air pollution. The campaign consisted of a photo series as well as a movie screening organised by the Green Society. Members of Troubadours actively participated in both and joined hands with the Green Society to say "no" to air pollution.

Due to the staggering semesters, Troubadours held auditions for new members in January 2022 to ensure maximum participation from all interested students. Through this recruitment process, the society welcomed 3 new scriptwriters and 9 new actors, from various years, into the society. This was followed by a welcome meet for the freshers, which was hosted on Google Meet. Once college resumed offline classes at the end of February, Troubadours too switched to weekly offline meetings on the college campus. Members used these gatherings to regularly practise vocal and performance-related exercises, not only to prepare for upcoming events but also to hone

their techniques after two years in the online mode. The transition was slow but steady, and the members managed to establish a rhythm within a few weeks.

A major event in the society's calendar was the April 2022 collaboration with the ICC (Internal Complaints Committee). The partnership between Troubadours and the ICC was aimed at raising awareness regarding harassment in different spaces. Team Troubadours prepared a 30-minute skit showcasing and spotlighting the various forms of harassment that can be meted out to an individual in the college and workplace settings. Through this play, hoped to participate in consciousness-raising regarding an important concern, and simultaneously give more information regarding the functioning and scope of the ICC to the students and teachers of Jesus and Mary College.

Following the conclusion of this event, the scriptwriters began conceptualising a script for the annual production. With members expressing a preference for detective stories, the scriptwriting team worked accordingly and is likely to continue this work in the first quarter of the upcoming academic session as our members settle into the shifting demands of the physical theatrical mode. The society also hopes to take advantage of the return to offline teaching by organising some workshops to broaden our members' dramatic repertoire.

Towards the end of the 2021-22 session, Troubadours prepared a Farewell for its graduating members. This was successfully organised by the younger members of the society, each undertaking a unique role to contribute to making the final meet a success.

Having learnt to manage a theatre society both online and offline, the society is happy to have experienced a productive year and looks forward to returning to the stage and actively competing in the various events in the Delhi University theatre circuit.

WSC – Women’s Studies Centre

The session 2021-22 started off with a fresh membership drive and film screenings of *Counterfeit Kunkoo* and *The Great Indian Kitchen*. In August 2021, a discussion circle was organised for the members to deliberate on the contemporaneous position of women. On the occasion of India’s 75th Independence Day, WSC initiated a webinar series titled “Towards 75 Years of Freedom: Contemplations and Reflections on the Women’s Question”. This series ran all through the academic year with eminent women scholars addressing our students and on women’s issues that have played out since the colonial period.

On 14th August 2021, WSC-JMC, in collaboration with WDC-SVC, organised a declamation competition to commemorate the timeless speeches given by women revolutionaries. An important webinar was organised on 27th August in collaboration with the Department of History, JMC, titled “In conversation with Dr. Meera Velayudhan on her mother, Dakshayani Velayudhan: the only female Dalit member of the Constituent Assembly”.

Dr. Maya John, the Convenor of WSC, conducted a certificate course module comprising two sessions on “Mainstream Feminist Approaches and Theories: Problems and Prospects” on 18th and 25th September 2021. In October 2021, a workshop was organised on “New Education Policy 2020 and its Gendered Impact in terms of Access, Equity, and Quality.” The workshop was conducted by Dr. Jyoti Raina and Professor Mary E. John. Another Certificate Course Module was organised from 6th-9th October titled “The Fundamentals of Feminist Economics and its Renewed Relevance in Current Times”. The resource people for this course were noted economists like Dr. Chirashree Dasgupta (JNU), Prof. Ishita Mukhopadhyay (IAWS),

Dr. Sona Mitra (IWWAGE KREA) and Dr. Neetha N. (CWDS).

In collaboration with NSS-JMC, WSC-JMC conducted a webinar on Breast Cancer Awareness on 20th October 2021. The screening of the documentary *The Death of Us* was organised on 27th November 2021. It was followed by a discussion with the director of the documentary, Ms. Vani Subramanian. In December 2021, a certificate course module was organised on “India’s Laws from a Gender and Human Rights Perspective”. Moreover, a Meet the Poet session was organised with the poet Hansika Jethnani on 18th December 2021.

On 3rd January 2021, a programme was conducted to commemorate the 191st birth anniversary of Krantijyoti Savitribai Phule. The programme consisted of a short film screening made by our members, followed by a session with Dr. Sadhna Arya (SAHELI) on the relevance of Savitribai Phule to the contemporary women’s movement. A discussion circle on the portrayal of gender roles in Indian cinema was organised on 22nd January 2022 in collaboration with Panorama. Another discussion circle was organised in collaboration with the Rotaract Club of Delhi University South Campus on Menstrual Taboos on 27th January 2022. The Indian Music Society and the Indian Dance Society, in collaboration with WSC-JMC, organised a session on “Sufi: The Way of the Heart” on 28th January 2022. In the month of February, WSC organised a certificate course module on “Interrogating Science from the Lens of Feminist Science Studies”. Sayantan Datta and Dr. Chayanika Shah were the resource people for the two sessions.

In commemoration of International Women’s Day, WSC-JMC hosted its annual student seminar on 5th March where more than 15 papers from across Indian universities were presented. WSC also organised its annual fest, Jagriti from 7th to 9th March. Jagriti 2022

was among the first few college events organised in the physical mode since DU reopened in February. It comprised the Savitribai Phule-Fatima Sheikh Memorial Debate Competition, a Poetry Competition, a Photography Competition, the screening of Suffragette, and a Jansunvai (open mic). Members of WSC also hosted a fundraiser on 9th March 2022.

In April 2022, WSC JMC organised a workshop titled “Writing Sharp: An Online Academic Writing Workshop” which was very well received by students. It was conducted by the Faculty of the Centre of Writing and Pedagogy (CWP), Krea University. A certificate course module on “Conflict Zones and Women’s Experiences: A Quest for Justice” was conducted via two sessions, i.e., on the 8th and 16th

of April. An Online Workshop on Madhubani Painting by Ms. Aparna Shankaram was organised on 9th April 2022 with students enjoying the hands-on experience. We closed the session 2021-22 with a prestigious collaboration with the V.V. Giri National Labour Institute (Government of India) that hosted an online workshop for our first-year members on “Women Workers in MSMEs and Home-based Work.” WSC’s Research Cell has also been working diligently on three different research projects and a new edition of its magazine, *Jigyasa*.

Throughout the year, WSC extended solidarity through timely public statements on troubling socio-political developments reported from India and other parts of the world.



Sophia Shengran



Prisha Revur



Tanishka Talwar



Susanna Julia



Pratishtha Jindal



Khushi Aggarwal



Bhavika Sonje



Aditi Banerji



Aron Akmal



Shruti Joseph



Katayun Negahban



Vanika Aggarwal



Anushka Somwanchi



Sarah Munjal



Khili Gupta



Khyati



Sarah Vaniya Haqq

EDITORIAL TEAM

NAAC Peer Team Visit

Jesus and Mary College hosted the NAAC Peer Team on 11th and 12th November 2021 for assessment in the second cycle of accreditation.

The impending visit was delayed by a year due to the pandemic but there was no waning of enthusiasm on the part of faculty, students, and the administrative staff. All the stakeholders of the college starting from the management/Governing Body to the parents, alumni, students, and staff were geared toward making the event a fortuitous success. The Peer Team comprised of three members, namely, Prof. Hemixa Rao, Prof. Anjana Garg and Prof. Madhu Raka.



*The NAAC Peer Team with the NCC,
JMC Guard of Honour*

The Peer Team members arrived on the morning of November 11 and were greeted by the Principal and staff of the college at the gates. They were escorted inside the premises with the guard of honour given by our NCC cadets. The visit began with interactions with the Principal and the IQAC.



Interaction with the Principal

This was followed by presentations by the Teachers-in-Charge of all departments and the Convenors of various societies. The presentations showcased the incremental growth of the college since 2015 in all aspects of teaching, learning, academics, administration, research, collaborations, student progression, placements, and environmental sustainability. The team visited each department where the academic and curricular activities spanning over a period of five years were kept on display. This was followed by meetings with the Student Council, alumni, and parents.



Department and Society Presentations

The team also held an interactive session with the administrative staff and visited the college library. The first day ended with spirited performances by the students of various cultural societies.



Session with the Administrative Staff

The following day, the NAAC Peer Team presented their report to the Principal at the Exit Meet which was attended by the entire staff of the college in the Thevenet Hall (Multipurpose Hall). The college was subsequently awarded A+ grade with 3.35 CGPA.



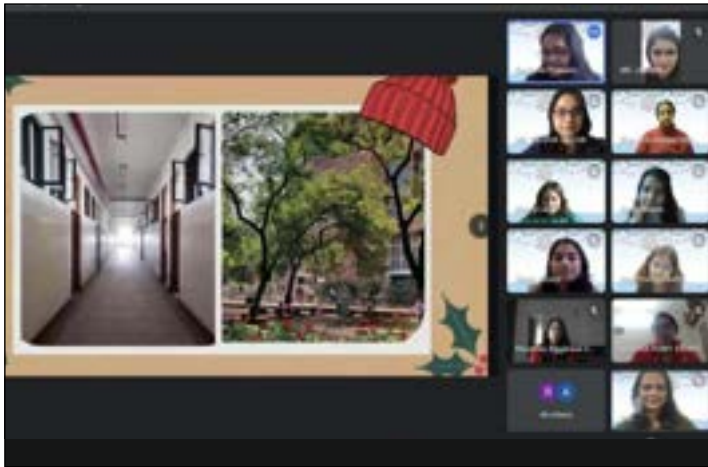
NAAC Peer Team with Students of Cultural Societies



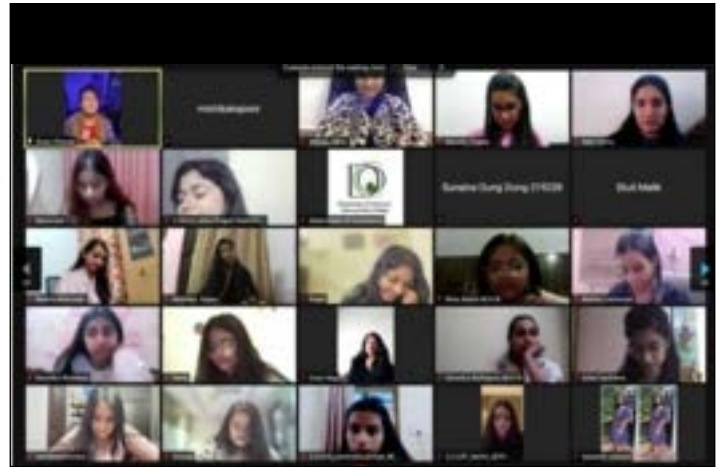
Exit Meet

With Input from Dr. Alka Marwah

Fresher's Welcome



Virtual Fresher's Welcome



Department Fresher's

Orientation



Presentation on the History of JMC



Principal's address during the Virtual Orientation Programme

PTSA



A Rangoli representing JMC's focus on Extra-Curriculars



PTSA Organising Team with the Chief Guests



Prize Distribution Ceremony



Prize Distribution Ceremony

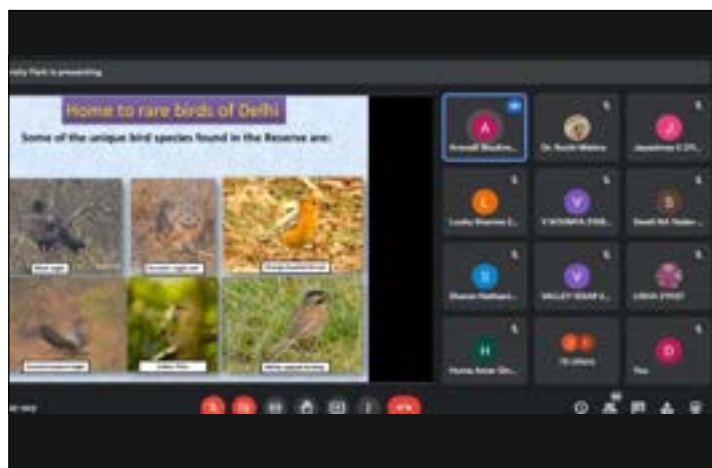


Oath Taking Ceremony



Student Council 2021-2022

Department of B.A. Programme



Field visit to Yamuna Biodiversity Park, Online Mode

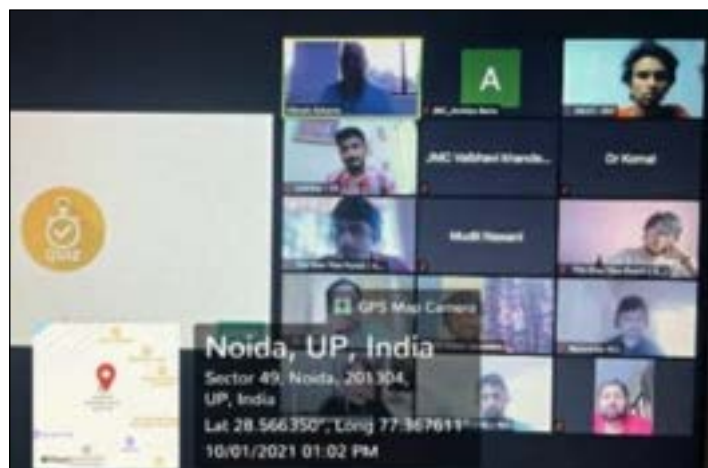


Speaker, Organisers and Participants during the Rainwater Harvesting Workshop

Department of Commerce



Batch of 2022

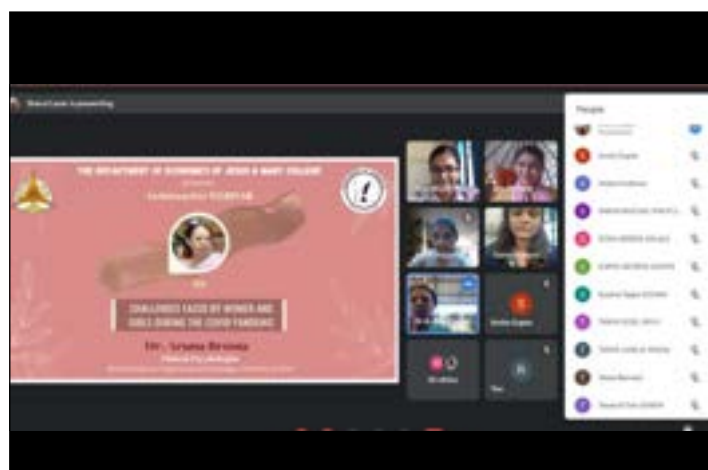


Com'quest 2022

Department of Economics



Economics students during Ecovantage



Webinar by Dr. Aruna Broota

Department of Elementary Education



AAGAAZ 2022 (Annual Event) - 5th April 2022



Gijubhai Memorial Lecture - 24th March 2022



A Retrospective of Plays by Manjula Padmanabhan

Department of English

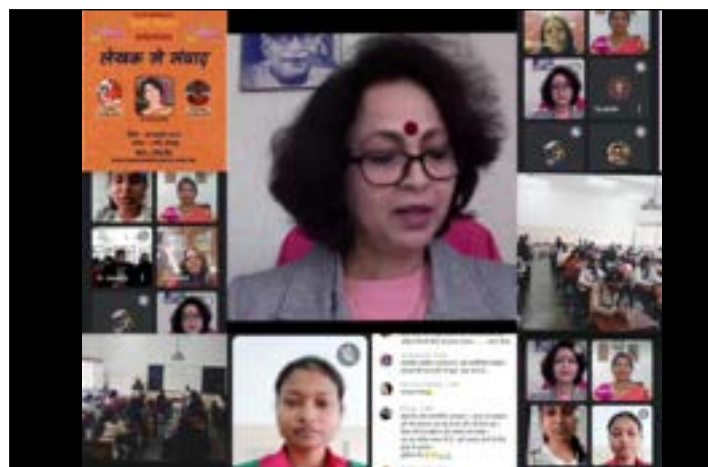


Literati 2022 Keynote, Sarnath Banerjee

Department of Hindi



Department Students



Lekhak se Samvaad

Department Of History



Visit to Prof Irfan Habib

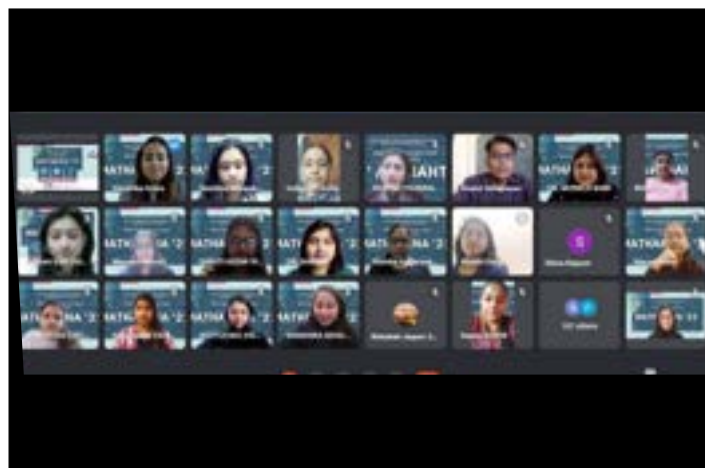


Fundraiser for OHA

Department Of Mathematics



Vanshika Arora, President, and Vashima, Vice-president, 2022
with Dr. Indrakshi Dutta, Associate Professor,
Department of Mathematics at the PTSA ceremony.



The Annual Fest of The Department
of Mathematics: Matharena

Department Of Political Science



Teacher's Day Celebrations



Interactive Session for Inter-Personal
Bonding among Students and Teachers

Department of Psychology



Poster for Webinar by Prof. Kumar Ravi Priya - Qualitative approaches in Psychology



Farewell

Department Of Sociology



Prof. Savyasachi Delivering the Inaugural Lecture 2022



Prof. Poonam Batra during the Panel Discussion on 'Education and Inclusion'

Department Of Vocational Studies



Two-day workshop on 'How to write a resume' by Ms. Vaishali Jain



National conference on 'Sustainability in Retail and Healthcare Management'

AICUF



NGO visit at Prabhat Tara in collaboration with NSS

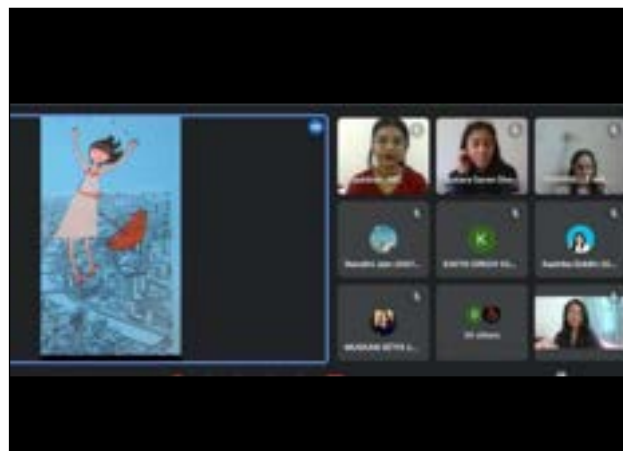


First offline trip of AICUF members to Morning Star Church



Cauldron members with the display board for NAAC Peer Team Visit

Cauldron



Webinar on collage art with Gaurvi Sharma

Curiosus



The Know-It-All Quiz

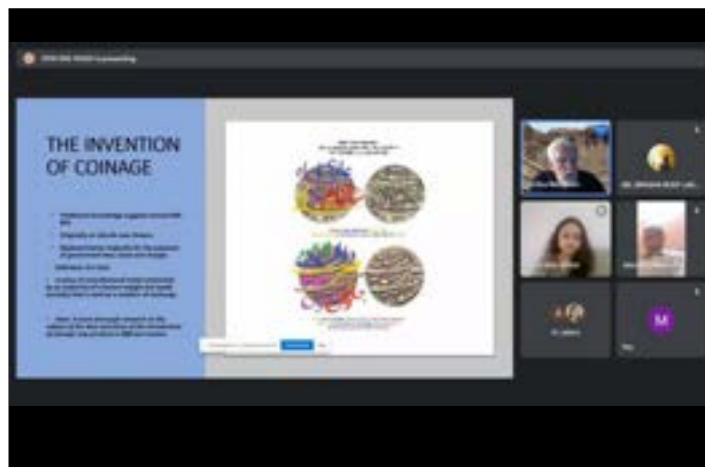


St. Claudine Thévenet Quiz '22

Dastaan



Opening heritage walk of 2022 to Humayun's Tomb and Rahim's Tomb conducted on 12th March 2022



Talk titled 'The Acceptance of Coinage in the Marketplace' by Dr. Arthur Needham delivered on 11th September 2021

E-Cell



Team E-Cell 2021-22



Egnite 2022 Pre-Event- Spellbinding performance by Kiran Narula

ECHO



ECHO Group Picture after WSC the Open Mic Performance



NAAC Performance Rehearsal

Enactus



Mask Donation Drive and Sangam Vihar Field Visit



Offline Team Meeting

English Debating Society

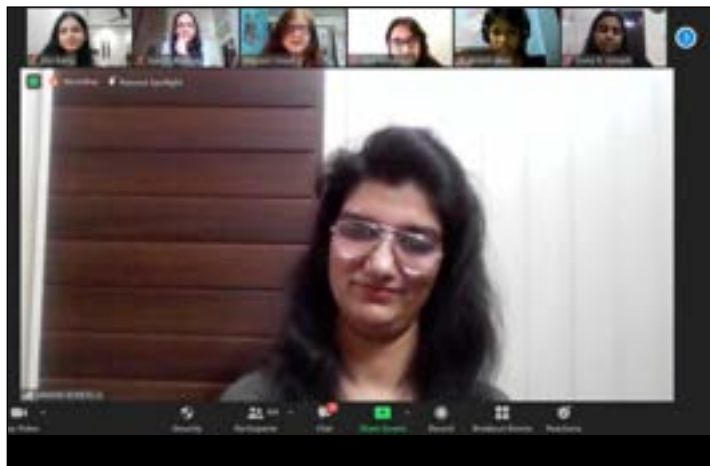


Society students who made preparations for the NAAC visit



Declamation competition with the entire team

Equal Opportunity Cell



Annual Event - Unnati



Team Meeting

Ethnic Eight



Farewell for the batch of 2020-21



Ethnic Eight Annual Festival "OCTET'22"

Finance and Investment Cell



The Core Team of Finance and Investment Cell along with the Council



Conduction of Counterfeit Countries, an Event under FINTELLECT 2022

Green Society



Green Society members worked hard to organise a Flea Bazar to commemorate Earth Day 2022



Your Toxic Neighbour - An online rally as a culmination of the air pollution awareness campaign held on 28th January 2022

JMCMUN



JMCMUN members



JMCMUN members

IRIS



Beaux Arts Pre-event 'spill the paint' stall



IRIS board for NAAC visit

JMCEP



JMCEP members conducting offline classes for kids from the Bapu Dham campsite



Donation Visit

Kahkasha



Performance for NAAC at the Thevenet Hall



Jury Award-winning performance at Baithak, the street play event of Shades, Keshav Mahavidyalay

Mercatus



Enthusiastic Participation during Zion Pop Up



Team Mercatus for the session 2021-22

Mudra



Performance for PTSA



Video submission for various online inter-collegiate festivals

NCC



Ajmer Trekking Camp



Intercollegiate NCC Fest Competitions

Nrityanjali



"ADAA" - The Annual Cultural Event



Annual Classical Production –“4 seasons”
on the occasion of the NAAC Peer Team Visit

NSS

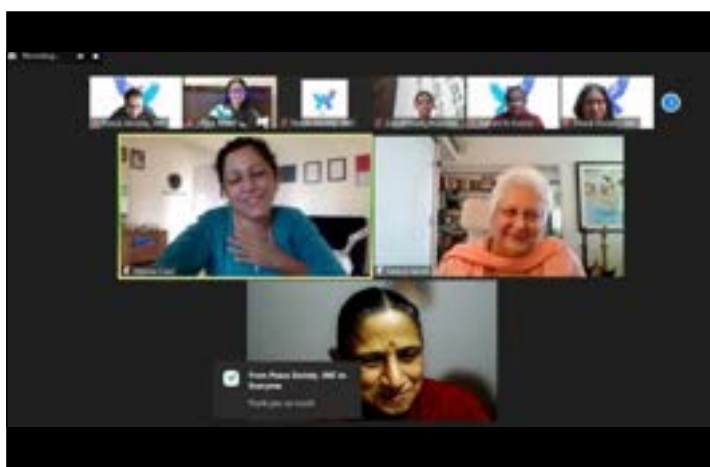


Talk on Blood Donation by Blood Connect



Rally on JMC Campus with posters for awareness
on International Women's Day

Peace Society



A webinar on “World Cancer Day” with panelists Neerja Malik and Teena Kaur Pasricha



A Declamation Competition on “Can the Youth of India make India a Superpower?”

Placement Cell

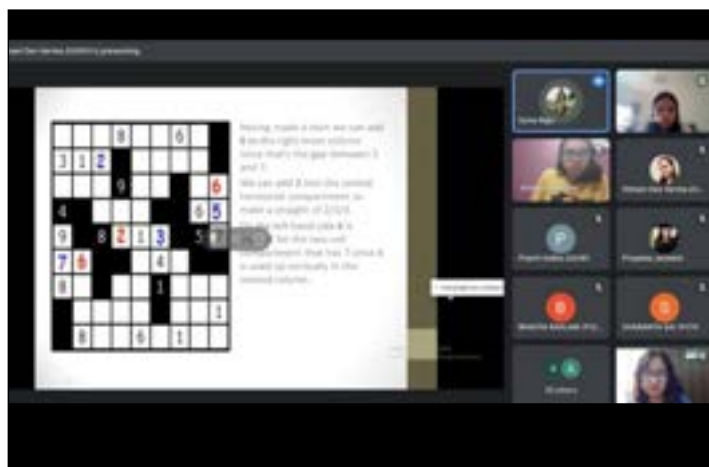


Session on “How to Deal with Personal Interviews” With Ms. Tarannum Raja

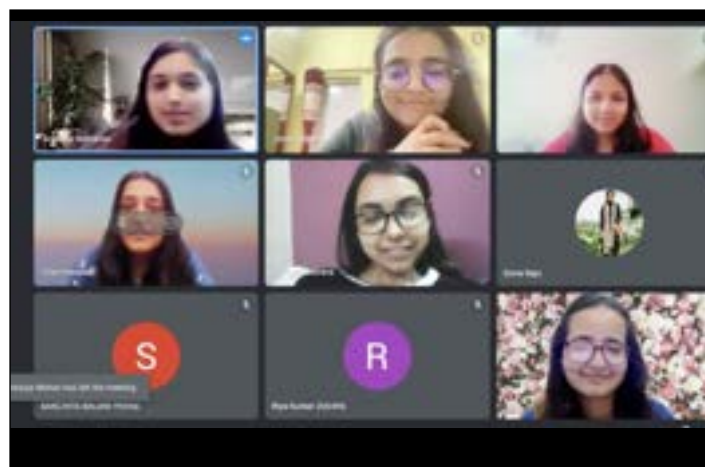


UK University Counselling Day With Studyin.uk.in

Puzzle Society



Puzzle meet on Tridoku



Social evenings

Snapshots



Team 2021-2022



Snapshots- The Cast

Sunny Mugs



Tailored Verses'22



Lafzon ki Numaash'22

Tarannum

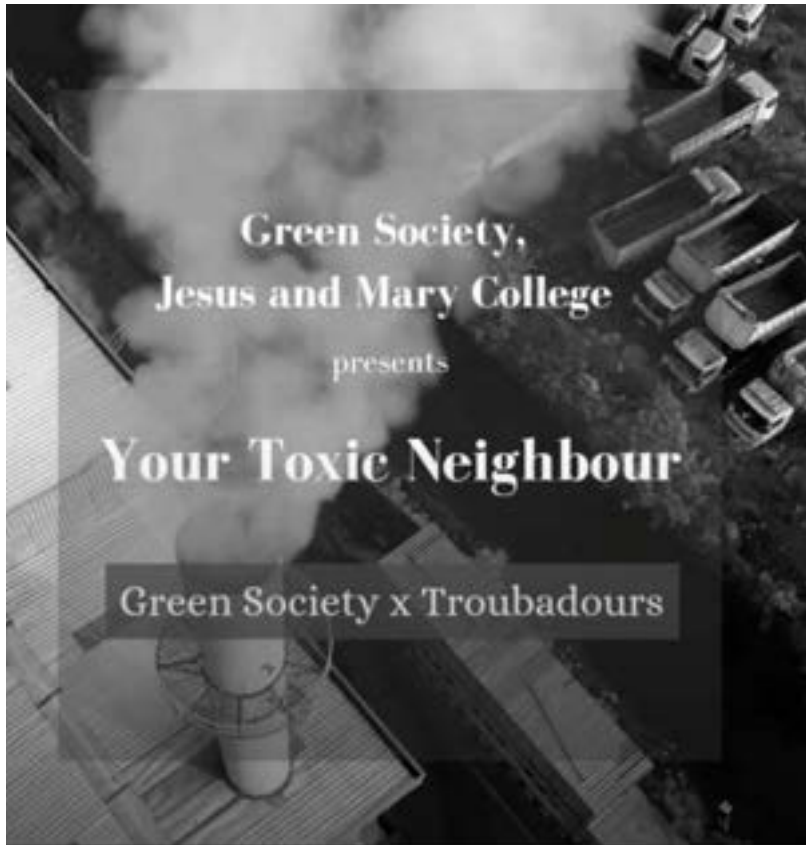


Team after the performance for the NAAC visit



Performance in collaboration with UNICEF India at an event by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

Troubadours



Troubadours X Green Society Collaboration
Against Air Pollution



Troubadours Trivia Reels, Social Media Campaign

WSC



Inaugural ceremony of Jagriti 2022



Members showcasing their solidarity in the
Women's Day March at Jantar Mantar

Sports



Inauguration Ceremony Hobnob 2022



Football Tournament Hobnob 2022



Basketball Tournament Hobnob 2022

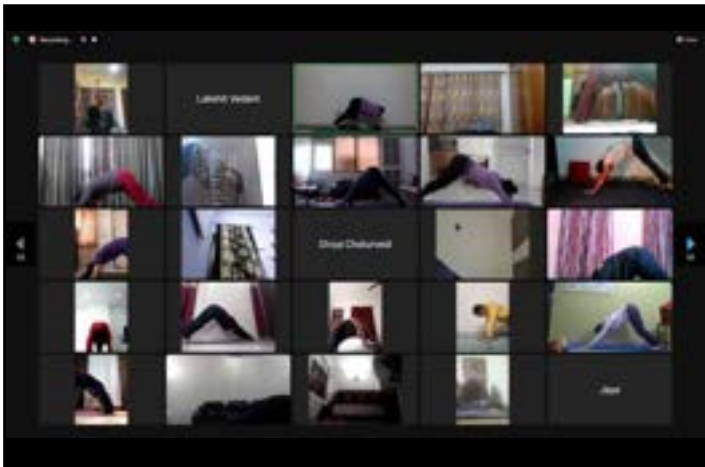


Closing Ceremony Of The Annual Sports Fest Hobnob 2022



Prize Distribution Ceremony

Sports



75 Crore Amrit Mahotsav Yoga Celebration



Farewell for the Batch of 2022



Farewell for the Batch of 2022



Farewell for the Batch of 2022

Fare thee Well

Students' Farewell



Western Dance Performance



Indian Dance Performance

Teachers' Farewell



Ms. Kiran Sachdeva (Department of Commerce)



Dr. Manmohan Chawla (Department of Physical Education)

Fare thee Well

Teachers' Farewell



Dr. Rekha Dayal (Department of Commerce)



Sr. (Dr.) Rosily T.L. (Department of Elementary Education)



Dr. Sunita Kayastha (Department of Commerce)



Dr. Preeti R. Ghosh (Department of B.A. Program)



प्राचार्या की डेस्क से

उच्च शिक्षा के प्रवेश द्वार में दाखिल होने वाली युवतियों को अच्छा ज्ञान, कौशल और समाज सेवा करने की प्रतिबद्धता के माध्यम से सशक्त बनाने की दृष्टि से 1968 में जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज को स्थापना हुई। यह कॉलेज ऐसे मानवीय मूल्यों, सिद्धांतों और आदर्शों को स्थापित करने वाले शैक्षणिक दृष्टिकोण पर ध्यान केंद्रित करता है जो समाज में परिवर्तन लाने के लिए महिलाओं को सक्षम बनाता है। एक अग्रणी महिला मानविकी महाविद्यालय के रूप में जेएमसी की विशिष्ट विशेषता है जेंडर संवेदनशील शिक्षा प्रदान करना, जो छात्राओं को उनकी पूरी क्षमता और आत्म मूल्य का एहसास कराने में सहायता करता है। यह छात्राओं को सामाजिक, सांस्कृतिक, आर्थिक और राजनीतिक आदि जीवन के विभिन्न क्षेत्रों के विकास में महत्वपूर्ण योगदान देने के लिए प्रोत्साहित करता है। अनुभवी शिक्षाविदों और प्रशासकों का एक प्रतिष्ठित समूह कॉलेज के प्रबंधन और प्रगति में महत्वपूर्ण योगदान देता है।

जेएमसी का 'विजन और मिशन' इसकी शैक्षिक नीति को परिभाषित करता है। इसकी स्थापना के समय से लेकर वर्तमान तक यह इसकी प्रमुख ताकतों में से एक रहा है। वह कॉलेज एक देखभाल और पोषण करने वाला वातावरण प्रदान करता है जहाँ छात्राएँ अपने आप को पाती हैं तथा आत्मविश्वास से भरते हुए दुनियाँ का सामना करने के लिए तैयार होती हैं। यहाँ विभिन्न पाठ्यचर्या और पाठ्येतर गतिविधियों के माध्यम से आपसी विश्वास और टीम-वर्क के मूल्यों को स्थापित करने का प्रयास किया जाता है। संस्था के कार्य की सफलता प्रतिबद्ध संकाय सदस्यों, कर्मचारियों और छात्राओं के मूल्यों पर आधारित नैतिक व्यवहार से प्रेरित है। कॉलेज का मानना है कि शिक्षा के सभी पक्षों का ध्यान राष्ट्रीय विकास में योगदान के मूल्यों पर केंद्रित है। कॉलेज यह स्वीकार करता है की विविध राष्ट्रीय और अंतरराष्ट्रीय पृष्ठभूमि के छात्राओं द्वारा परिसर में एक बहुसांस्कृतिक लोकाचार को बढ़ावा मिलता है।

पिछले शैक्षणिक सत्र में हमें चुनौतियाँ और उसके साथ फिजिकल मोड में लौटकर पढ़ने-पढ़ाने की खुशी दोनों मिली है। शिक्षा के ऑनलाइन से ऑफलाइन मोड में बदलने की कठिनाइयों को दूर करने में जे.एम.सी. के कर्मचारियों और छात्राओं ने अनुकरणीय प्रयासों का प्रदर्शन किया है। जिस प्रकार से वरिष्ठ छात्राओं ने अपने जूनियर्स को परामर्श देने की जिम्मेदारी ली और उसका निर्वहन किया है, कैम्पस में वापसी ने हमें सहयोगात्मक कार्य की अपार क्षमता का एहसास कराया है। फिजिकल मोड में कार्यक्रमों के आयोजन और प्रबंधन में उनका मार्गदर्शन और शिक्षाविदों के साथ सहयोग ने जेएमसी में शामिल होने वाले छात्राओं के लिए संक्रमण के समय को आसान बना दिया। पिछले सत्र की सफलता और ऊर्जा कर्मचारियों और छात्राओं की प्रतिबद्धता की गवाही देती है।

मैं कॉलेज के इस वार्षिक पत्रिका को प्रकाशित करने में की गई कड़ी मेहनत के लिए संपादकीय टीम को धन्यवाद देती हूँ।

प्रोफेसर सैज़ा जोसेफ
प्राचार्या



वार्षिक पत्रिका 2021–2022, जीसस एण्ड मेरी कॉलेज
संपादक मंडल

हिन्दी

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अंग्रेजी

सुगंधा सेहगल
कशिश दुआ
अनीशा पुरी

छात्र संपादक

हिन्दी

अदिति, महिमा सिंह
संपादकीय समिति –
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आकांक्षा झा

इस अंक में

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सम्पादकीय
छात्र सम्पादकीय

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तानि विदुर्ब्राह्मणा ये मनीषिणः
गुहा णि निहिता नेत
तुरीयं वाचो मनुष्या वदन्ति”

जीवन की गति, प्रगति और विकास में भाव, विचार और अभिव्यक्ति के उचित संयोजन और संकलन का बड़ा महत्त्व है। सोचें जरा, यदि इनमें से यदि एक भी अपने सुर-ताल से छूटता है तो क्या से क्या हो सकता है? सामान्यतः ‘वाणी’ को भाव और विचार के मूर्त स्वरूप में ही समझा जाता है परन्तु ‘वाणी’ की उत्पत्ति की व्याख्या मनीषियों के द्वारा बहुत ही विस्तारपूर्वक और गहराई में जाकर की गई है। उन्होंने अनुभूति के आधार पर इसके विभिन्न स्तरों के विषय में बताया है। पाणिनि के अनुसार हमारी अंतरात्मा (जिस तक पहुंचना या जिसे महसूस करना आज के विषम समय में सबसे बड़ी चुनौती है) इस वाणी का मूल आधार है जहाँ से ध्वनि वास्तव में उत्पन्न होती है। यह हमारी ‘वाणी’ का पहला रूप है और यह विशुद्ध रूप से अनुभूति का विषय है, अर्थात् जिसकी संवेदनशीलता जितनी सूक्ष्म और गहरी होगी, वह उतनी ही मात्रा में इसका अनुभव कर सकता है। ध्वनि का यह रूप ‘परा’ कहलाता है। इसके बाद जब यही आत्मा बुद्धि की सहायता से वाणी के परा स्वरूप का विश्लेषण करके मानस पटल पर अभिव्यक्ति के क्रियान्वयन के लिए कर्ता, कर्म या क्रिया के संश्लिष्ट स्वरूप को देखता है, यह पश्यन्ती कहलाता है। सरल शब्दों में, हम जो कुछ बोलते हैं, पहले उसका चित्र हमारे मन में उपस्थित होता है, तो इसे पश्यन्ती कहा गया है। इसके आगे हमारे मन व शरीर की ऊर्जा तो प्रेरित हो जाती है। कुछ न कुछ अभिव्यक्त करने के लिए, पर वह अभी भी सभी को सुनाई नहीं देती। वह केवल निःश्वास की सहायता से कंठ तक ही पहुँचता है। ये ‘वाणी’ का तीसरा रूप ‘मध्यमा’ है। अंत में जब यह स्वरों और व्यंजनों आदि के माध्यम से भिन्न-भिन्न रूप में प्रकट होकर सुनाई ‘देने लगे तब यही ‘वाणी’ वैखरी कहलाती है और इस वैखरी वाणी से ही सम्पूर्ण ज्ञान, विज्ञान, जीवन-व्यवहार और नानाविध अभिव्यक्ति संभव है। वाणी के इन चार रूपों को जानने-समझने के बाद एक बात सपष्ट रूप से सामने आती है कि जब तक हमारी वाणी मुखरित होकर सुनाई न दे, हमारे पास उसे समझने और विश्लेषित करने का पूरा अवसर होता है, यदि हम पर्याप्त संवेदनशील हैं। अभिव्यक्ति चाहे सामान्य हो, विशिष्ट हो या रचनात्मक, हमारा यह मानना है कि जब तक वह मुखर हो मौखिक या लिखित रूप में प्रकट नहीं होती, तब तक उसमें रचनात्मकता शेष रहती है। अनुभव तो महत्पूर्ण है ही लेकिन किसी परिस्थिति के मद्देनजर उनका ‘वाणी’ के रूप में प्रकटीकरण कैसे हो, किसी भी सामान्य अभिव्यक्ति या रचना या कला के लिए बहुत अहम् है।

अकादमिक रूप से यदि हम रचनात्मक सरोकारों से युक्त होकर कार्य करने या करवाने के लिए प्रतिबद्ध है तो हम सभी के लिए अभिव्यक्ति के इस महत्वपूर्ण पक्ष को समझना बहुत जरूरी है। कॉलेज की पत्रिका हेतु सबसे अधिक महत्वपूर्ण अभिव्यक्ति अभिव्यंजना ही है जो विद्यार्थियों के द्वारा प्रकट होती है। इस दिशा में कहीं-न-कहीं उनका संज्ञानात्मक विकास और स्वरूप, का ही परिष्कार होता है। इस वर्ष की पत्रिका के लिए संकलित की गई सामग्री में न केवल दोनों प्रवर्धित और अनुभवजन्य अभिव्यक्तियों का पता चलता है बल्कि निरंतर संवर्धित रचनात्मकता का भी अनुभव होता है। चाहे लेखन की विविध विधाओं के माध्यम से या फिर चित्रांकन और रूपांकन के माध्यम से, इन विद्यार्थियों की परिपक्व सोच के अनेक खूबसूरत चित्र हमसे रूबरू होते हैं। एक और ‘निरंतर सृजन के बढ़ते कदम के अंतर्गत आप उन रचनाओं को पढ़ेंगे जिन्हें इस पूरे सत्र के प्रत्येक माह सम्पन्न होने वाले आयोजन ‘ऑयर ऑफ द मंथ में चुना गया है तो दूसरी और ‘आजादी का अमृत महोत्सव’ के अंतर्गत इसी भाव और विचार वाली रचनाएँ संयोजित हुई हैं। अभिव्यक्ति की स्वतंत्रता का पूरा ख्याल रखते हुए समय-समय पर आयोजित प्रतियोगिताओं में लेखन के साथ-साथ उनकी मौलिक अभिव्यक्ति को विशाल फलक प्रदान करने के उद्देश्य से पोस्टर और चित्रकला प्रतियोगिताएँ और उनमें प्राप्त हुए कलात्मक प्रविष्टियों को ‘आइना-ए-तहरीर के अंतर्गत रखा गया है। यह अत्यंत सराहनीय है कि एक लम्बे समय से चलने वाली विचित्र परिस्थितियों के बावजूद इन विद्यार्थियों का न तो उत्साह कम हुआ

और न ही उनकी प्रतिभा के संवर्धन में कहीं कोई कमी आई। हमें पूर्ण विश्वास है कि इन प्रिय विद्यार्थियों के 'हृदय' और 'मस्तिष्क' के उत्कृष्ट उदाहरण इस वर्ष की "आयाम" के माध्यम से पाठकों के मानस को अवश्य स्पर्श करेंगे।

प्रेम और शक्ति,

डॉ. अनुपमा श्रीवास्तव
डॉ. बीरेंद्र सिंह

छात्र संपादकीय

“रचनात्मकता नयी खोज करना है, नया प्रयोग करना है, रिस्क लेना है, नियमों को तोड़ना है, गलतियाँ करना है, और मजा करना है” – मेरी लोउ कुक। पत्रिका के माध्यम से छात्राओं की रचनात्मक कला को, उनकी उभरती हुई प्रतिभाओं को उजागर करना और मार्ग-प्रदर्शन करना है। पत्रिका का उद्देश्य छात्राओं की लेखन कला का अधिक से अधिक विकास करना है। सृजनात्मक लेखन की सहायता से उनकी नई उमंगों को एक अवसर एवं उड़ान मिलती है।

साल 2021–22 हम सभी के लिए चुनौतीपूर्ण एवं संघर्षपूर्ण रहा। विश्वभर में आई कोरोना महामारी ने हमारी परीक्षा लेनी चाही मगर हम सब ने भी एक जुट होकर इस दौरान

हर कार्य उतने ही उमंग और उत्साह के साथ किया। मगर इसके बावजूद भी हम इस सत्र की पत्रिका हार्ड कॉपी में प्रकाशित कर रहे हैं। यही हमारे लिए गर्व की बात है।

प्रस्तुत पत्रिका में जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज की छात्राओं की रचनात्मक अभिव्यक्ति को एक मंच प्रदान किया गया है। पत्रिका में प्रकाशित हुई हर कृति मूलरूप है। प्रस्तुत अभिव्यक्तियों में हर छात्रा का अपनापन दिखाई पड़ रहा है।

छात्राओं द्वारा लिखी गई हर रचना को इस पत्रिका में शामिल किया गया है जिससे कि हम उनके भावों एवं विचारों से अवगत हो सकें।

अंत में हम हमारी प्राचार्या डॉ. सैंड्रा जोसेफ और हमारे संयोजक डॉ. अनुपमा श्रीवास्तव एवं डॉ. बीरेंद्र सिंह के सहयोग, प्रोत्साहन एवं मार्गदर्शन के लिए उनके प्रति आभार व्यक्त करते हैं। साथ ही हम अपने सहयोगियों को भी धन्यवाद देना चाहेंगे, जिनके सहयोग से हर कार्य संपन्न हो पाया।

अदिति
एवं
महिमा सिंह

आज़ादी का अमृत महोत्सव



भारत-एक ख्वाब

वर्षों पूर्व शुरु हुई कहानी,
आज पुनः चिन्हित रूप से प्रख्यात हुई,
समूचे भारत की उम्र बढ़कर 75 साल हुई।
16वीं सदी में जो सुरंग खुदी,
17वीं सदी में वो गुफा बनी,
18वीं सदी में साम्प्रदायिक हिंसा की राह तनी।
तभी अराजकता व अत्याचारों से पीड़ित धरती जागी,
पश्चिम तक पहुँची आवाज,
जब सत्तावन में बिगुल घन-घन बाजी।
जब तलवार की सार्थकता पर सबने चितां व्यक्त की,
तब एक असहाय छाती लाठी ले तन खड़ी हुई।
प्रेरणा की इस मूर्ति ने जाने क्या जादू किया,
हर तबके का स्वर स्वाधीनता सरगम में जा मिला।
सुखदेव, भगत, तिलक, जाने कितनों ने शहादत दी,
तब कहीं जाके 47 की खट्टी मीठी शुरुआत हुई।
आसमान में हो रही यह बातचीत एक कदम आगे बढ़ी,
नेहरू जी के प्रस्ताव—“चलो! 50 तक गड़ा जो रूपांतर,
आज कहाँ तक पहुँचा अवलोकन कर आते हैं। हमारे प्रयासों
का संपूर्ण जायजा लेने वापिस स्वर्ण धरती पर जाते हैं।” को
सबकी सहमति मिली।
धरती पहुँच सब चितित हुऐ, एक ही नाद में बोल उठे—
“अरे भारतियों! यह क्या, आज भी अराजकता जगमग है।
जातिवाद भी चरम पर, स्थिति बेहद डगमग है।
भ्रष्टाचार से निहित समाज, कन्याओं पर अत्याचार,
गरीब आज भी लाचार, नैतिकता पर इतना प्रहार।
कुछ समय बाद लोगों ने चुप्पी तोड़ी और अपनी बात बोली,
“गलती हमारी नहीं, किसी और की ही है
ऐसे मुल्क की सुरक्षा कैसे करें,
जिसे कोई परिभाषित तक न कर सके।
जातिवाद कब न था, धार्मिक मतभेद कब न था,
महिलाओं को कब पुर्ण अधिकार मिला,
गरीब तो सदियों से लाचार रहा।
शांत पुरा माहौल हुआ।
पुनः वह प्रेरणादायी लाठी जागी,
धीरे धीरे बोलन लागी,
“माना तुम्हारा कहना, विविधता की परिभाषा कहाँ!

पर एक बात तुम्हें भी माननी पड़ेगी मेरी,
रंगों के अतिरिक्त सुन्दरता कहाँ?
भारत एक दरबार है,
जिसमें कई भाषाओं का प्रवाह है,
इस पर अनेक विचारों का प्रभाव है,
भिन्न धर्मों को स्थान है,
हर वर्ग यहाँ विद्यमान हैं,
ऐसा हमारा हिन्दुस्तान है।
भारत एक ख्वाब है,
जिसे हर भारतीय को करना आत्मसात है।
परिभाषा नहीं हमें बनानी एक मिसाल है।”
अंत में वह बोले,
“माना अनेक प्रायस हुए,
कई सपने भी साकार हुए,
परन्तु सफर अभी भी बाकी हैं।
देशवासियों, अभी तो एक पड़ाव है,
जिसकी सभी को हार्दिक शुभकामनाएँ,
अभी भी कर्तव्यनिष्ठता की ही कामना है।
धन्यवाद।”
पुनः सबने आसमान की ओर रुख मोड़ लिया।
मैं आज भी सोचती हूँ,
कितने फौलादी थे वो लोग,
जिन्होंने तिरंगे की आन में तिरंगा ओढ़ लिया।

हिमांगी मिश्रा
बी.ए. प्रोग्राम (पॉलिटिकल साइंस सोशियोलजी)
द्वितीय वर्ष

फौजी हूँ मैं

बस यू ही मिल गई,
एक मस्ताने से, दीवाने से
पागल था वो, आवारा था वो,
बस यू ही मिल गई,

सबका रक्षक था वो
आतंक का भक्षक था वो
मौत से अनजान था वो
देश का अभिमान था वो।

न थी कोई जाति उसकी
न था कोई धर्म उसका
वीर था वो
शूरवीर था वो
देश का गौरव है वो।
देखा पागलपन उसका जब
कहा उससे मैंने तब
क्या मृत्यु का तुम्हें भय नहीं?
क्या मृत्यु से तुम वाकिफ नहीं?

दृढ़ता से उत्तर दिया उसने
मेरे मर्म को छू दिया उसके उत्तर ने
मौत से क्या डरूँ मैं,
मौत के साये में रहता हूँ मैं,
मौत ही मेरी रोज का अतिथि है।
मृत्यु से वो है डरता,

जो नश्वर है होता
मैं तो अमर हूँ
मैं तो शहीद हूँ
भारत माँ का सपूत हूँ मैं

अल्बर्ट एक्का हूँ मैं,
हरभजन हूँ मैं,
हाँ, मैं ही हूँ वो हेमराज
अरे, मैं तो फौजी हूँ
देश का रक्षक हूँ मैं,
आतंकियों का विनाशक हूँ मैं,
अरे, फौजी हूँ मैं।

भारतीय वीर सपूतों पर गर्व

आओ मिलकर श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित करें
मेजर जनरल विपिन लक्ष्मण सिंह रावत जी को
जिन्होंने अपना सर्वस्व न्यौछावर कर दिया अपने तिरंगे की
आन पे

आज दिल उदास है, दिल में एक उलझन सी है
मेजर विपिन रावत जी पर हमें गर्व है
उनके शौर्य को देखकर हमें खुद पर अभिमान है
वह भारत माता का कोहिनूर था, त्रि-सेनाओं का चाँद था।

चला गया अपनी भारत माता की गोद सूनी कर
अपने परिवार को रोता विलखता छोड़कर
हमें गर्व है ऐसे महान सपूतों एवं देश की सेनाओं पर
जो किसी भी परिस्थितियों में हमारी रक्षा करते हैं।

आज ऐसे वीरों के जीवन पर बलिदान के बाद
प्रत्येक भारतवासी का दिल कहता है

काश मेरी जिंदगी में, शरहद की कोई शाम आए
काश मेरी जिंदगी, मेरे वतन के काम आए
खौफ है ना मौत का, ना आरजू है जन्नत की
कभी जिक्र हो शहीदों का, तो काश मेरा भी नाम आए।
जब कोई पूछे मेरे बारे में, तो मेरी एक पहचान लिख देना
कह देना भारत माँ का लाडला और छाती पर
हिंदुस्तान लिख देना

जो बचा हो जिस्म में लहू, तो उससे जमीन पर
माँ तूझे सलाम लिख देना

चलेगी साँस जब तक, दुश्मनों को ये मंजर दिखाना है
अब तिरंगा लहराना है, या उससे लिपटकर ही घर आना है।

रोशनी

हिंदी ऑनर्स, प्रथम वर्ष

नेहा मिश्रा

बी. ए. प्रोग्राम, द्वितीय वर्ष

हमारा अतुल्य भारत

कुछ तो बात खास है ना इस
तिरंगे में, जहाँ सब अलग होकर
भी एक हो जाते हैं और एक होकर
भी अनेक हो जाते हैं....हमारा अतुल्य भारत।
कितना विचित्र है यह चित्र
जहाँ सिर्फ तीन रंगों में
समा जाता है पूरा भारत
अलग होते हुए भी एक कहलाता है भारत
और एक होते हुए भी अनेक कहलाता है
हमारा भारत....
कुछ तो बात होगी ना इस
तिरंगे में जिसमें समाया है पूरा भारत
कुछ बात है इसलिए विख्यात है हमारा भारत....
जितना मेरा है उतना तुम्हारा है
यह हमारा अतुल्य भारत है।

आरोही अंतरा
हिन्दी ऑनर्स, द्वितीय वर्ष

पन्द्रह अगस्त

हमारा अपना संविधान
हमारा प्यारा राष्ट्रगान
देश हमारा स्वतंत्र है
यही देश की शान है।
जात-पात का भेद नहीं
सब कोई एक समान
सर्वधर्म समभाव यहाँ
गीता और कुरान।
तीन रंगों का अपना झंडा
देता संदेश महान
15 अगस्त राष्ट्रीय पर्व
हमारी है यह जान।

अंकिता आनन्द
हिन्दी ऑनर्स, प्रथम वर्ष

कुर्बानी

कुर्बानी तो सभी ने दी थी।
कुछ वो भी थे जो देश प्रेम में
मर मिटने को तत्पर थे।
वो भी थे जो जी रहे थे
पल पल मौत के खौफ में
कुर्बानी तो सभी ने दी थी।

कुछ को ना सुध थी,
ना होश था, आजादी के सम्मुख।
कुछ आजादी पाने को अपना सर
धड़ से अलग करवा खुश हुए
कुर्बानी तो सभी ने दी थी।

एक वो भी थी जो
झाँसी वाली रानी थी
रणभूमि में अकेली उत्तरी
लड़ते-लड़ते बलिदान हो चली
कुर्बानी तो सभी ने दी थी

एक वो भी थे जो
हंसते-हंसते फाँसी पर चढ़ गये
इंकलाब जिंदाबाद का नारा
देश को दे गये
कुर्बानी तो सभी ने दी थी।

प्रशंसा

हिन्दी ऑनर्स, तृतीय वर्ष

रक्त

इस मिट्टी में मिला है वीरों का रक्त,
पड़े उन्हें कोड़े व लाठी, लेकिन रहे वे सख्त।

अपनी माँ को वचन दिए उतरते हैं वे मैदान में,
निडर होकर लड़ते हैं वे हर तूफान से।

अंग्रेजों से बचाया अपनी माटी को,
गर्व से चौड़ा कर देते हैं यह हर हिंदुस्तानी की छाती को।

एक सवाल करती हूँ मैं सबसे, हैं यह योद्धा शूरवीर,
फिर क्यों याद करते हैं हम उन्हें साल में दो बार ही?

सदा रहे यह तिरंगा ऊंचा,
सदा रहे ये ऊंचाइयों को छूता।

देश है मेरा निराला,
जो कोई न कर पाए, वो कर दिखाए,
ऐसा इकलौता देश है हमारा।

कभी बनती हैं सेवइयां, कभी बनती हैं गुंजियां,
हर त्यौहार मनता है इस देश में बढ़िया।

है हर फौजी को मेरा सलाम,
अमर हो जाता है वो सिर्फ बचाने अपने देश की शान।

लौटता है वह अपनी माँ को मिलने,
और न लौटे तो सो जाता है वो
इस कोमल तिरंगे की छाया में।

तो आप खुशियों से मनायें इस 75वीं स्वतंत्र दिवस को,
और याद करें उन वीरों को।

आदीशी नंदा
सोशियोलॉजी ऑनर्स, द्वितीय वर्ष

मिट्टी

आओ चलो याद करें उन वीर जवानों को,
जिन्होंने अपने लहू बहाया इस देश को बचाने को

सलाम करती हूँ मैं मेरे उन भाइयों को,
जो तैनात खड़े हैं मेरे देश की हिफाजत को।

लाल किले पर प्रधानमंत्री खड़े हैं झंडा फहराने को,
'सेवा परमो धर्मः' कह रहे हैं मेरे देश को जगाने को।

ना जाने कितने सिपाहियों ने जान गवायीं इस देश को बचाने को,
ताकि हम आगे चलते चलें इस देश को ऊँचा उठाने को।

जो उन्होंने सोचा था उस सपने को साकार करने को,
हमारे युवा बढ़े हैं आगे हर मुकाम हासिल करने को।

वादा करते हैं आँच नहीं आने देंगे इस देश की मिट्टी को,
इसी मिट्टी की सौगंध खाकर जीते हैं उनके सपनों को सच करने को।

अदिति
हिन्दी ऑनर्स, तृतीय वर्ष

अमृत महोत्सव

आजादी का अमृत महोत्सव आया है
फिर से एक नया उमंग लाया है।

हुए पचहत्तर साल पूरे हमारी आजादी को
हुए पचहत्तर साल पूरे हमारी संप्रभुता को

इस आजादी की राह नहीं थी इतनी आसान
त्याग, आन्दोलन और हुए हैं बहुत घमासान

किमत बड़ी चुकाई है हमने इस आजादी की
लाज रखनी है हमें उन बलिदानों की

भारत की स्वाधीनता को सम्भालना है
इसको जात-पात नफरत का द्वेष नहीं लगाना है।

हुए पचहत्तर साल पूरे हमारी आजादी को
हुए पचहत्तर साल पूरे हमारी संप्रभुता को

आजादी का अमृत महोत्सव आया है
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आर्कॉशा झा
बी. ए. प्रोग्राम, द्वितीय वर्ष

युगों युगों का संघर्ष

साँस साँस पर जब बेड़िया थी यूँ कलरव शोर न होता था,
 पक्षी तब भी आसमानों को चूमते थे।
 पर उन्मुक्त गगन न होता था।
 भारत माता कई वर्षों जकड़ी पड़ी थी बेड़ियों में,
 यूँ सोने की चिड़िया का शिकार कर लिया था
 विदेशी विद्रोहियों ने।
 कभी अपनों से कभी परायों से कभी सौदागरों से
 छल झेला है इस भारत भूमि ने वर्षों से।
 छल झेल-झेला फिर निर्बल हुआ, जन रक्त-रक्त फिर जल हुआ।
 संघर्ष रक्त से अटी पड़ी यह भूमि संघर्ष शील बनी।
 धरती माँ के लाडलों ने जब अपने प्राणों को त्यागा है,
 तब जाकर इस भूमि पर स्वराष्ट्र तिरंगा लहराया है
 नदियों के जितना यूँ रक्त इस धरती पर बहाया है,
 तन मन न्यौछावर कर तब इस धरती पर आजादी का बिगुल बज पाया है ।
 यूँ तो आसान नहीं आजादी पाना था,
 सर्वप्रथम नमकहरामों से ही इस भू को बचाना था।
 कई कपूतों की साजिश ने भारत माँ को बेहाल किया,
 पहले पहल जयचन्द द्वारा भारत का बंटाधार हुआ,
 मोहम्मद गोरी का साथ दे जयचन्द नमक हराम बना,
 और इस तरह भारत में विदेशी सत्ता का शासन हुआ
 भारत भू की किसमत फिर यूँ बदल गयी,
 कई आक्रमणकारियों के लिए यह भूमि सफल बन गयी,
 सोने की चिड़िया अब सोने की न रह मिट्टी में बदल गयी ।
 भारत फिर गरीबी के कई सोपानों को पार करता गया,
 नए-नए बदले भारत का इतिहास भी अब तंगहाल परिस्थितियों से युक्त गढ़ता गया।
 पुराकाल में अफगान और म्यांमार तक फैला हिंद
 अब संकुचित होने लगा, नए-नए साम्राज्यों का
 उदय अब होने लगा,
 कई खण्डों में हिन्द फिर बाँटा गया।
 लूट-मार कर इसके अंग-अंग को काटा गया।
 अंग्रेजी राज द्वारा फिर एक बार बेड़ियों में जकड़े जाने की भी अलग कहानी है,
 मीर जाफर का धोखा और नवाब सिराजुद्दौला की हार,

अंग्रेजी शासन के हिन्द में आने की यही कहानी है।
 ऐसे सत्ता लोभियों से फिर माँ भारती न बची रह सकी,
 होश संभालने की अब हालात न रही।
 और फिर एक बार माँ भारती मर्मभेदी विलाप कर अंग्रेजों के कदमों में सिमट गयी।
 अन्यत्र सत्ता फिर काबिज हुई,
 भारत की फिर अलग सिरे से शुरु बर्बादी हुई।
 लगान, कर, गरीबी, भुखमरी बीमारियों से जनता की कमर तोड़ डाली गई।
 भारत की स्थिति बद से बदत्तर और भारी बदहाल हुई।
 भारत की धन संपदा से अंग्रेजों ने खूब भरा अपना देश,
 बिना रुके, बिना चुके खूब लूट-खसोट की,
 इस देश को बना दिया अंतिम सांस लेते
 किसी जानवर की देह।
 1857 का विद्रोह फिर प्रथम स्वतंत्रता संग्राम
 के रूप में सामने आया,
 रानी लक्ष्मीबाई, तात्या टोपे, नानासाहिब और मंगल पांडे
 जैसे वीरों ने जब,
 भारत को आज़ाद कराने का बेड़ा उठाया।
 अनियंत्रित सैनिकों ने अंग्रेजी नींव को हिला डाला,
 कई अंग्रेजी अग्रदूतों को मृत्यु की नींद सुला डाला।
 तब भी अंततः नाकामी ही विद्रोहियों के हाथ आई,
 कइयो की जान गयी इसी के साथ,
 आजादी की संभावनाएं भी धूमिल हो गयी।
 लगभग वर्षों तक फिर देश गुलाम रहा,
 अंग्रेजों की शक्ति और दबदबा इन वर्षों में और बढ़ गया।
 अंग्रेजों की मनमानी और क्रूरता का एक और रूप फिर सामने आया,
 जलियांवाला बाग में निहत्थों, बालको, औरतों तथा बुजुर्गों पर,
 अंधाधुंध गोलियाँ को जब जनरल डायर ने बरसाया।
 भगत सिंह, सुखदेव व राजगुरु जैसे फिर हिंसा का प्रतिनिधित्व करने वाले क्रांतिवीर आये
 जीवन आहुति दे दी इस यज्ञ में,
 और झूल गए हँसते हँसते फाँसी की रस्सी को गले लगाए।
 महात्मा गाँधी, नेहरू, पटेल इनके मत भिन्न थे,
 ये अहिंसा के मार्ग द्वारा भारत को आजादी दिलाने के प्रवर्तक थे।
 गाँधी जी के नेतृत्व में अहिंसा के पाठ के साथ,
 फिर आजादी की माँग जोर पकड़ने लगी,
 कई आंदोलन चलाये गए,

सामाजिक जनचेतना बढ़ने लगी
 अंग्रेजों की “फुट डालो राज करो” की कूटनीति अब रंग लायी,
 हिंदू मुस्लिम समुदाय अब लड़ पड़ा सदियों से चला आ रहा
 भाईचारे का भाव,
 अब अपनी मरण शैया पर अंतिम सांसे गिन अंततः मर गया
 बीमार भारत अब फिर उठ खड़ा हो विद्रोह करने को तैयार था,
 बच्चा-बच्चा अब आज़ादी के लिए लड़ने को तैयार था
 अनेक आंदोलनों में लोगो ने हिस्सा लिया,
 मौत को भी कईयों ने गले लगा लिया।
 जन आक्रोश अब अंग्रेजी सत्ता की छाती पर सवार हुआ
 और फिर अंततः वर्षों के संघर्ष के बाद,
 भारत देश विभाजन की त्रासदी झेल, आजाद हुआ।
 हिंदू-मुस्लिम के नाम पर भाई-भाई के गले काटे गए,
 औरत को न औरत समझा गया,
 अस्मिताओं को लूटकर
 कई बच्चे अनाथ कर दिए गए।
 आजादी की बड़ी कीमत हमने चुकायी है,
 तब जाकर ये स्वछंदता हमने पायी है।
 बड़ी बेशकीमती बन गयी आजादी,
 क्योंकि इसकी कीमत कईयों ने अपने रक्त से चुकायी है।
 इस आजादी की रखवाली में लगे निरंतर,
 हमारे सैनिक आज भी अपनी जान गवांते हैं,
 कई-कई महीनो कभी-कभी तो सालों तक
 अपने परिवार हितैषियों से मिल नहीं पाते हैं।
 इनका सम्मान, आजादी का सम्मान है।
 अपने कर्तव्यों के प्रति सजग रहे सभी धर्म, जाति, लिंग का सम्मान जब हम कर पाएंगे
 तब ही सही अर्थों में हम आज़ादी तत्व को पा जाएंगे।

दीपा कुमारी
 हिन्दी ऑनर्स, तृतीय वर्ष

आईना-ए-तहरीर



आरोही अंतरा
हिन्दी ऑनर्स, द्वितीय वर्ष



आरोही अंतरा
हिन्दी ऑनर्स, द्वितीय वर्ष

चॉक का खौफ

अक्सर पूछा जाता है
 आँखें मसलते सुबह सुबह जब हम स्कूल आते हैं
 धूप हो या सर्दी प्रेयर जरूर कराते हैं
 फिर इसमें तड़का लगाके यूनिफार्म के लिए भी फटकारते हैं
 पहली घंटी से भी पहले जाने कहाँ से आ जाते हैं
 पीरियड खत्म होने के बाद भी पढ़ाते ही जाते हैं
 जरा गर्दन मोड़ लो तो चॉक मुँह पर मारते हैं
 खड़ा करके फिर तो बस इनके सवाल शुरू हो जाते हैं
 अगल-बगल मेरे मित्र मुझे देख खिलखिलाते हैं
 जब अचानक किसी एक का नाम आए तो सब चुप हो जाते हैं
 जब एग्जाम में पेपर को देख आँखों में आँसू आ जाते हैं
 तब जाने कहाँ से क्लास में बर्बाद किये
 वो पल याद आ जाते हैं
 जब एक-एक मार्क के लिए हम रोते और गिड़गिड़ाते हैं
 केवल एक बार देख फिर अनदेखा कर चले जाते हैं
 हर दिन ये देखते-देखते हम यही मान जाते हैं
 गुरु हमें और कुछ नहीं बस परेशान करने आते हैं
 आज कई नए सवाल मन में उठे हैं
 गुरु क्या सिखाते हैं
 सुबह जल्दी उठना उन्हीं ने सिखाया है
 मुश्किलों का सामना करना उन अस्सेम्बलीज ने बताया है
 कपड़े ढंग से पहनना नहीं भूल पाते हैं
 समय का आदर करना उस पहली घंटी की आदत है
 काम करते हुए खुद को भूल जाना
 उस एक्स्ट्रा टाइम का कमाल है
 पूरे ध्यान से काम करना उस चॉक का खौफ है
 अचानक पूछे सवाल का उत्तर बस जुबान पर बैठा है
 हर किसी को ध्यान से सुनना
 उस अनजान प्रश्न की याद है
 आज एक-एक मार्क्स से हम पड़ाव पार कर पाते हैं
 फिर उस दिन वो अनदेखा होना खूब खुशी दिलाता है
 हर दिन यह देखते-देखते अब यह समझ आता है
 जिन्दगी का सार और उसे जीने का तरीका
 गुरु हमें सिखाता है।

रिया जोशी

बी.ए. प्रोग्राम इकोनॉमिक्स-मैथमेटिक्स
 प्रथम वर्ष

बोल

बोल
 कि लब तेरे हैं,
 उस जुल्म की कहानी
 उन बातों का प्रहार
 इन नजरों की बेशर्मी,
 उस छुअन का बेअराम दर्द
 उम्मीदों का बंधन
 खुद से दूरी का कारण।
 संघर्ष, जीत, हार
 इस दुनिया का सत्य
 अपनी कहानी,
 अपना सच।
 कर यारी खुद से
 अपने आप को समझ
 बेपरवाह, आजाद,
 टेढ़ी-मेढ़ी बचपन की याद सी
 मीठी बात सी, खुद सी आस ही
 बोल की यह रिश्ता तेरा है
 इसे निभाना पूरा है।
 बोल
 तू आजाद है
 अपने आपका विश्वास है
 यह जमाना तेरा है
 इसे दिखाना जरूर है
 हार थोड़ी करीब सी है,
 पर रास्ता अभी बाकी है।
 तू निडर होकर चल
 अपना संघर्ष जारी रख
 बोल की लब तेरे हैं।

निष्ठा

बी. ए. प्रोग्राम, द्वितीय वर्ष

कलयुग में नारी

जिस मातृभूमि पर पूजा जाता है उसे
हर तीज त्यौहार, शादी पर सबसे पहले भोजन कराया जाता है उसे
जिस मातृभूमि पर कन्या को देवी का रूप माना जाता है
जिसके बिना संसार की रचना संभव नहीं है
उस देवी का इतना बुरा हाल किया जा रहा है
कि सुनने वाले के भी रोंगटे खड़े हो जाएं
उसके साथ हैवानियत, अमानवता का व्यवहार किया जा रहा है
वो चिल्लाती, चिखती, भीख माँगती रही अपनी आखिरी सांस तक
पर उन दरिदों ने एक भी ना सुनी
किसी ने हाथ पकड़ा, किसी ने मुँह दबाया,
किसी ने दुपट्टा खिंचा
वो गुहार लगाती रही अपनी आखिरी सांस तक
उन राक्षसों के लिए इतना काफी न हुआ तो
बेरहमी से उसका कत्ल कर दिया
उसके शरीर में से शरीरे घोंपे गये, चाकू मारे गए,
रीड की हड्डी तोड़ दी गई, जीभ काट दी गई
ताकि वो कुछ बोल ना सके उन गुनहगारों के खिलाफ
2012 में निर्भया हुआ था जब लोग सड़कों पर उतर आए थे
कैंडल मार्च निकाला गया था
2020 में हाथरस हुआ और अब 2021 में 27 अगस्त को साईबा
के साथ बलात्कार जैसा दुष्कर्म हुआ।
निर्भया के गुनहगार को तो सजा मिल गई पर हाथरस के
दोषियों को अब तक सजा नहीं मिली
आज का आधुनिक समाज कहाँ है क्यों चुप्पी साधे हुए हैं कब
जागेगा यह समाज आखिर कब?

उस माँ से पूछो जिसे उसकी ही बेटी का अंतिम संस्कार नहीं
करने दिया गया
आखरी बार उसका चेहरा नहीं देखने दिया गया
क्या बीती होगी उस माँ पर जिसे बेटी की घर से विदाई करने
की जगह दुनिया से विदाई करनी पड़ी
जिसने अपनी बेटी को नग्न अवस्था में खून से लथपथ देखा

होगा

क्या बीती होगी उस माँ पर जिसने अपनी बेटी के शरीर और
चेहरे पर निशान देखे होंगे
उस बाप पर क्या गुजरी होगी जिसे बेटी के कन्यादान की
बजाएँ अंतिम दाह करना पड़ा
जिस कन्या को देवी का रूप माना जाता है उस कन्या के
साथ ऐसा दुष्कर्म।
आएगी वो आएगी काली, दुर्गा, चंडी का रूप धारण कर इस
समाज के गुनहगारों का वध करने वह फिर जन्म लेगी
इस कलयुग का अंत करने वह आयेगी।

प्रशंसा
हिन्दी ऑनर्स, तृतीय वर्ष

क्या लिखूँ

कॉलेज की मैगजीन छप रही है
मिला मुझे यह समाचार
सोचा मैं भी लिख डालूँ लेख दो-चार
कविता लिखूँ, कहानी लिखूँ या फिर कोई लेख
पूछा भैया विषय बताओ या कोई प्रसंग
जिसे पढ़े मजे से सब और हो न कोई तंग
इन्हीं विचारों में खोकर
जब दिमाग होने लगी खाली
तब टूटे-टूटे शब्दों से
मैंने यह कविता लिख डाली।

अलेकता टोपनो
बी. ए. हिन्दी ऑनर्स, प्रथम वर्ष

मुलाकात

एक चेहरे से मुलाकात हुई
 एक चेहरे से मुलाकात हुई
 एक खास सी बात हुई।
 विवश थी, कशिश थी,
 शालीनता से ललित थी।
 आस था, प्रकाश था,
 गरीबी का लाज था।
 उम्मीद भरे पैरों से,
 आँखों ने कदम लिए।
 खुशी हुई,
 कंधो पर,
 उसके पुस्तकों का बोझ था,
 अंगुलियों में,
 बेचने को,
 फंसे खिलौने,
 फिर बेहद अफसोस था।
 जेब मेरी खाली थी,
 दिल ने दुख्खारी की।
 दिमाग बेचारा कह पड़ा
 समय की ही साजिश थी।
 सुस्त उस चेहरे के पीछे,
 जगमग इमारत थी।
 मेरा दुख डरा हुआ,
 नवरात्रे की सजावट थी।
 पुनः इंसानियत मजबूर हुई,
 रुख मोड़ा, स्थिति अनुकूल हुई।
 रास्ते में वापिस कई दीवारें दिखाई पड़ी,
 हर का आसमान से अलग रिश्ता था।
 आज आँखों का ख्वाब बिखरा,
 और सच्चाई का महत्व निखरा था।
 धूल थी, भूल थी,
 उस चेहरे पर सुंदरता भरपूर थी।
 तर्क है, फर्क था।
 फिर भी अमीर समाज को अपनी गिरानी पर गर्व था।

हिमांगी मिश्रा

बी.ए.(प्रोग्राम) पोलिटिकल साइंस, सोशियोलोजी
 द्वितीय वर्ष 2022

खुद का रंग

खुद को रंग लगा,
 खुद को मनाना है,
 इन गिले शिकवों को मिटा,
 खुद की ओर हाथ बढ़ाना है,
 उस अधूरेपन से छूट
 खुद के रंग में रंग,
 मुझे पूर्ण हो जाना है,
 उम्मीदों पर पूर्णविराम लगा,
 खुद से रिश्ता निभाना है।
 दुनिया के इस शोर में,
 खुद को सुनते जाना है,
 खुद का हाथ थाम,
 मुझे चलते चले जाना है
 आज खुद को रंग लगा,
 मुझे खुद को गले लगाना है।

बेखुद रिश्ता

कि क्या जोड़े हुए है,
 मुझे तुमसे,
 ये बातें,
 ये रातें
 या दर्द,
 क्या है जो,
 तोड़कर भी नहीं टूटता,
 छोड़कर भी नहीं छूटता
 ये मन हार कर भी,
 तुम्हारी बातों से क्यों जीतता है
 ये जानकर भी,
 खुद से अंजान सा क्यों रहता है
 क्या हैं,
 जो तुम्हें सबसे अलग बनाता हैं,
 सब कुछ छोड़ मन तुम्ही को क्यों चाहता है
 तुम पर गुस्सा हो,
 क्यों तुम्हारी ओर बार बार आता है
 ये मन हर बार जीत,
 क्यों तुमसे हार जाता है

निष्ठा

बी. ए. प्रोग्राम, प्रथम वर्ष

सफलता की राह

जो करते हैं मेहनत भाई,
 उन्हीं की किस्मत है खुल पाई।
 बिना परिश्रम के तो किसी ने,
 सफलता की है राह न पाई।
 नन्हीं सी चिड़िया को देखो,
 बना रही है जो घर अपना।
 बिना परिश्रम के तो भाई,
 सपना रह जाता है सपना।
 एक नन्हीं चींटी से सीखो,
 जो न कभी भी हार मानती,
 अपने से दस गुना बोज़ को,
 मुख थामे दीवार लांघती।
 आलस की चादर उतार दो,
 जीवन का बस यही धर्म है,
 मेहनत करते चलते रहो,
 जीवन का बस यही कर्म है।

प्रीति देवी

बी. ए. हिन्दी ऑर्न्स, द्वितीय वर्ष

हालात (सन्दर्भ:लॉकडाउन)

घर में खुशियों का माहौल तो बना था, जब रानी बुआ सुमन दीदी के खातिर, बड़े घराने का रिश्ता लेकर आई थी, लेकिन जब माँ ने अपनी बिसात पर नजर डाली, तो चेहरे की चहचकाहट क्षण भर में फीकी पड़ती दिखी, वहाँ श्याम का इंटर कालेज खत्म होने में कुछ माह का समय बाकी था, घर में एक पड़िया, और सात बिसुआ जमीन के आगे कमाई का एक भी विकल्प मीलों तक नहीं था, बाबु जी के पैर सलामत नहीं हैं की कुछ धंधा टहल में हाथ ही बटा सके, वहीं माँ और दीदी खेत के बीसों चक्कर लगाने के बाद भी चैन की साँस नहीं ले पाती हैं।

यहाँ श्याम सोचे बैठा है की अब वह पैसे कमाने शहर जायेगा ताकि घर के हालात में कुछ सुधार कर सके और फिर दीदी का ब्याह भी तो करना है। लो अगले गाँव का सोनू परसों ही दिल्ली के लिए रवाना हो रहा है। श्याम ने सामान बांध लिया और वहाँ माँ किराये के लिए पैसे इकट्ठा करने में जुट गयी, भरी दोपहरी में दो घोनि गेहूँ बेचकर कुछ पैसे बटोरे की बेटे को शहर भेज सके, आज भैया शहर जा रहा है, मैं तो पायल मंगवाउंगी, और मैं एक अच्छी सी मोटर गाड़ी, दोनो छोटे भाई बहन मुन्नी और राजू अपनी ख्वाइशों के पुल बांध रहे हैं। श्याम तैयार हैं। आज उसके मुख पर एक तेज और गर्व से भरी मुस्कुराहट की चमक है, सब से विदा लेकर श्याम और सोनू

रवाना हो गए।

सुबह भोर में भी सड़को पर चिलचिलाती धूप और प्रदूषण के पहरे थे। श्याम के लिए सब कुछ नया था। वह नेक नीयत वाला एक साधारण सा किशोर था। कमरे पर पहुँच कर दोनो

ने कुछ देर आराम किया और तुरंत बाद काम की तलाश में निकल पड़े। रास्ते में जा ही रहे थे की बस में श्याम का फोन किसी जेबकतरे ने साफ कर दिया, थक हार कर वापस कमरे पर लौटे, काम तो मिला नहीं साथ में फोन से हाथ धो बैठा। दिन बीत रहे थे। ना काम मिल रहा था, और ना ही घरवालों के हाल चाल, आखिर में काम की तलाश खत्म हुई। अब एक महीना बीता तो श्याम के हाथ उसकी पहली कमाई आई, लेकिन आने के साथ ही साथ उसके वापस जाने के रास्ते तय थे, कमरे का किराया, खाने का खर्चा, बिजली, पानी और ना जाने क्या क्या।

सब कुछ वैसा चल ही रहा था लेकिन रात 8 बजे एक ऐसी आंधी आई जिसने सब कुछ उथल पुथल कर दिया। वो आंधी थी लॉकडाउन की, जिसने ऐसे थपेड़े मारे जिसका अनुमान कभी लगाया ही नहीं जा सकता था, अब केवल श्याम ही नहीं देश के सारे जन खाली हाथ घरों में कैद थे। कुछ दिन तो श्याम और उसके साथियों ने गुजर बसर किया, लेकिन अब स्थिति किसी के काबू में आने को नहीं थी, चाहे जीतने ही हाथ पैर क्यों ना पसारे जाये। सभी ने गाँव की वापसी का तय किया और निकल पड़े अपने पैरों से रास्ता नापने, जैसे तैसे दस दिनों के लम्बे और मुश्किल सफर के बाद श्याम घर पहुँचा। श्याम अंजान था की उस के ऊपर से पिता का हाथ

सरक गया है। सुमन दीदी, मुन्नी और राजू तीनों की आँखों में आँसुओं के घने बादल छाये हुए थे ना जाने कब तेजी से बरस पड़े। तीनों श्याम को पकड़ कर फूट फूट कर रोने लगे। वो तीनों को शांत कराता, अपने आँसुओं को पी गया। छोटा होकर भी वह उन तीनों के आगे बड़ा हो गया।

सोनी
सोशियोलॉजी, प्रथम वर्ष

लेखन का प्रारंभ

जब कुछ इच्छायें रह गयी होंगी दबी हुई
जब लोग अपनी जगह छोड़ रहे होंगे
या जब दो प्रेमी
ना बोल पाते हों
अपने दिल की बात
या जब सहजकर रखना होगा
उन्हें किसी का नाम
सालों साल
जब दो लोग मिलते तो हो
पर बात ना करते हो
माँगते ना हो माफी
या जब एक माँ
सरहद पार गए
बेटे का इंतजार करते करते
बूढ़ी हो गयी हो
और पूछ ना पाई हो
उसका हाल
भेज ना पायी हो
कोई खत
लिख ना पायी
हो उसका नाम
तब मानव ने लिखना
प्रारंभ किया होगा।

सौंदर्या द्विवेदी
हिन्दी ऑनर्स, तृतीय वर्ष

एक अच्छा शिक्षक और समाज

शिक्षक प्रशिक्षक या कार्य स्वामी नहीं है, वह एक सहायक और एक मार्गदर्शक है। शिक्षक एक कम्पास है जो विद्यार्थियों में जिज्ञासा, ज्ञान और बुद्धि के चुम्बकों को सक्रिय करता है। उसका काम सुझाव देना है थोपना नहीं। वह वास्तव में शिष्य के मन को प्रशिक्षित करने के लिए नहीं है, वह केवल उसे दिखाता है कि अपने लिए ज्ञान कैसे प्राप्त किया जाए। वह केवल उसे दिखाता है कि यह कहाँ है और इसे सतह पर उठाने की आदत कैसे हो सकती है। औसत दर्जे का शिक्षक बताता है, अच्छा शिक्षक समझाता है, श्रेष्ठ शिक्षक प्रदर्शन करता है और महान शिक्षक प्रेरित करता है।

शिक्षक उस मोमबत्ती या दीये की तरह है जो कभी दूसरा दीया तब तक नहीं जला सकता जब तक वह अपनी लौ को जलाता न रहे। शिक्षक न केवल राष्ट्र निर्माता होते हैं बल्कि समाज में उनका बहुत बड़ा स्थान होता है। प्राचीनकाल में शिक्षण को न तो पेशा माना जाता था न ही एक व्यवसाय। वे अपने सामाजिक दायित्वों का पालन करते हैं और उनका निर्वाहन करते हैं। उस समय शिक्षकों को समाज में सम्मानजनक स्थान प्राप्त था। शिक्षक और शिष्य का रिश्ता बेहद सौहार्दपूर्ण था। सुकरात, प्लेटो, या अरस्तू और कई अन्य महान प्रेरणा थे जिन्होंने समाज को आगे बढ़ने के तरीकों को निर्देशित किया। आज के समय में समाज में कई परिवर्तन होते हैं लेकिन शिक्षक की स्थिति जस की तस बनी रहती है। शिक्षक की स्थिति समाज की सामाजिक संस्कृति को दर्शाती है। शिक्षक की भूमिका केवल कक्षा शिक्षण तक ही सीमित नहीं है। बल्कि उसे उस समाज में बहुत महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभानी होती है। जिसे उसने अर्जित किया है। तो मेरी राय में एक अच्छा शिक्षक वह है जो छात्र के योग्यता में विश्वास करता है, जो उसे महान ऊँचाईयों पर पर ले जाता है। मेरी राय में एक वास्तविक शिक्षक वह है जो प्रेम, ज्ञान, समझ, व्यापकता, दया और धैर्य का प्रतीक है।

भारती
बी. ए., हिन्दी ऑनर्स, तृतीय वर्ष

नारी

तुम श्रेष्ठ थी, हो, रहोगी।
 इस बात का मान रखो।
 अपने उठते कदमों से
 अपने होने का सम्मान करो।
 कोई ऐसा क्षेत्र नहीं,
 जहाँ तुम्हारा हस्तक्षेप नहीं।
 संगीत हो या हो खेल,
 राजनीति हो या फिर एवरेस्ट।
 अपना परचम लहरा आई हो।
 नारी हो, नारी का मान बढ़ाई हो।
 कोमलता गर गहना है
 वीरता को तुमने पहना है।
 कभी अहिल्याबाई,
 तो कभी मैरीकॉम
 बन जाती हो।
 कभी अरुणिमा बन,
 एवरेस्ट चढ़ जाती हो।
 नभ से दूरी भी कम कर आई हो।
 कल्पना, सुनीता बन,
 देश का मान बढ़ाई हो।
 नारी हो हर किरदार,
 खूब निभाई हो।
 हाशिए से मुख्य पृष्ठ पर आई हो।
 पतझड़ भी बसंत बनाई हो।
 बावजूद इसके कि,
 गम का पर्याय कहलाई हो।
 हर रोल बखूबी निभाई हो।
 तुम्हारा व्यक्तित्व ही,
 तुम्हारी पहचान है।
 तुम हो विश्व का गौरव,
 तुम्हें शत-शत प्रणाम है।

नारी के हक से जीती हो।
 मर्यादा खूब समझती हो।
 परिस्थिति विकट बने,
 पहले ही हल ढूँढ लाती हो।
 आत्मविश्वास की प्रतिमूर्ति बन,
 सबकी मनरुस्थिति मजबूत बनाती हो।

तेजस्वी
 हिन्दी ऑनर्स, तृतीय वर्ष



हिमानी देव वर्मा
 द्वितीय वर्ष, बी. कॉम. प्रोग्राम

एक चेहरे से मुलाकात हुई

एक चेहरे से मुलाकात हुई
 एक चेहरे से मुलाकात हुई
 एक खास सी बात हुई।
 विवश थी, कशिश थी,
 शालीनता से ललित थी।
 आस था, प्रकाश था,
 गरीबी का लाज था।
 उम्मीद भरे पैरों से,
 आंखों ने कदम लिए।
 खुशी हुई,
 कंधो पर,
 उसके पुस्तकों का बोझ था,
 अंगुलियों में,
 बेचने को,
 फंसे खिलौने,
 फिर बेहद अफसोस था।
 जेब मेरी खाली थी,
 दिल ने दुख्तारी की।
 दिमाग बेचारा कह पड़ा —
 समय की ही साजिश थी।
 सुस्त उस चेहरे के पीछे,
 जगमग इमारत थी।
 मेरा दुख डर हुआ,
 नवरात्रे की सजावट थी।
 पुनः इंसानियत मजबूर हुई,
 रुख मोड़ा, स्थिति अनुकूल हुई।

रास्ते में वापिस कई दीवारें दिखाई पड़ी,
 हर का आसमान से अलग रिश्ता था।
 आज आंखों का ख्वाब बिखरा,
 और सच्चाई का महत्व निखरा था।
 धूल थी, भूल थी,
 उस चेहरे पर सुंदरता भरपूर थी।
 तर्क है, फर्क था।
 फिर भी अमीर समाज को अपनी गिरानी पर गर्व था।

—हिमांगी मिश्रा
 बी.ए.(प्रोग्राम) पोलिटिकल साइंस सोशियोलोजी
 द्वितीय वर्ष



हिमानी देव वर्मा
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नई शिक्षा नीति और भारतीय भाषाएँ

शिक्षा किसी समाज और राष्ट्र की जागृति का मूल आधार होती है। अतः शिक्षा का उद्देश्य साक्षरता के साथ-साथ जीवनोपयोगिता भी होना चाहिए। शिक्षा-नीति से अभिप्राय शिक्षा में सुधारों से होता है। इसका अधिक सम्बन्ध भावी पीढ़ी से होता है। शिक्षा-नीति के द्वारा हम अपने समय के समाज और राष्ट्र की आवश्यकताओं को पूर्ण रूप से सार्थक सिद्ध करने की कोशिश करते हैं। नई शिक्षा-नीति का एक विशेष अर्थ है, जो हमारी सोच-समझ में हर प्रकार से एक नयापन को ही लाने से तात्पर्य प्रकट करती है।

भाषा केवल अभिव्यक्ति का माध्यम ही नहीं, बल्कि किसी भी राष्ट्र के स्वाभिमान तथा उसकी प्राचीन संस्कृति की संवाहिका भी होती है। गुलाम देशों की अपनी कोई भाषा नहीं होती। वे अपने शासकों की बोली बोलने को मजबूर होते हैं। भाषा के बिना देश गूंगा होता है। कला, संस्कृति, विज्ञान, अर्थशास्त्र, समाजशास्त्र, चिकित्सा, विज्ञान, सबका अधिगम भाषा ही है।

विश्व के इतिहास पर दृष्टि डालें तो गुलामी से आजादी के बाद दुनिया के सभी देशों ने अपनी भाषा में अपनी प्रगति का मार्ग चुना। इजराइल ने हिब्रू भाषा को अपनी राष्ट्रभाषा बनाया और आज वह भाषा पूरी दुनिया में तकनीक की प्रमुख भाषाओं में शामिल है। आज हिब्रू का अनुवाद अन्य भाषाओं में लोग करने को मजबूर होते हैं। रूस ने रशियन, चीन ने चीनी और जापान ने जापानी भाषा को अपनी शिक्षा-दीक्षा तथा राजकाज की भाषा बनाया। हमारे छोटे से पड़ोसी देश नेपाल ने भी अपनी भाषा नेपाली ही बनाई।

परंतु भारत में ऐसा नहीं हुआ। दासता से मुक्ति के बाद एक प्राचीन राष्ट्र होते हुए भी अंग्रेजी यहां राजकाज एवं संपर्क की भाषा बनी हुई है। शिक्षा की दशा एवं दिशा सुधारने के लिए अब तक गठित लगभग सभी आयोगों ने अंग्रेजी के वर्चस्व को समाप्त करने की कोशिश की परंतु अंग्रेजों के जाने के बाद भी सिक्का अंग्रेजी का ही कायम है। भारत की स्वतन्त्रता के पश्चात् शिक्षा-सम्बन्धित यहाँ विविध प्रकार के आयोगों और समितियों का गठन हुआ। इस सन्दर्भ में महात्मा गाँधी की 'बुनियादी शिक्षा' की दृष्टि बहुत अधिक कारगर और सफल साबित हुई। इसी के अन्तर्गत 'बेसिक विद्यालयों' की शुरुआत की गई थी।

'सन् 1953-54 ई. में भारत सरकार ने शिक्षा-पद्धति पर गम्भीरतापूर्वक विचार करके विशेष प्रकार के आयोग का गठन किया था। इसके अनुसार प्राथमिक (बेसिक) शिक्षा चौथी से बढ़ाकर पाँचवी तक कर दी गयी।

'इसी तरह सन् 1964, सन् 1966, सन् 1968 सन् 1975 में शिक्षा सम्बन्धी आयोग गठित होते रहे। सन् 1986 में 1023 की शिक्षा-पद्धति शुरू की गई थी।

नयी शिक्षा-नीति के द्वारा हमारी बुनियादी शिक्षा में परिवर्तन तो हुआ परंतु भारतीय भाषाओं की हिफाजत न हो पाई। पिछले पांच दशकों में देश ने 220 भाषाओं को खो दिया है। यूनेस्को ने 197 भारतीय भाषाओं को लुप्त घोषित कर दिया है। आठवीं अनुसूची की 22 भाषाएं भी कई प्रकार की कठिनाइयों का सामना कर रही हैं।

राष्ट्रीय शिक्षा नीति 2020 में बड़ी शिद्दत के साथ इस कमी को महसूस किया गया और पहली बार भाषा की ताकत की पहचान करते हुए हिंदुस्तान को अपनी वाणी दी गई है। इस शिक्षा नीति में पहली बार शिक्षा में हिंदी भाषा तथा अन्य भारतीय भाषाओं में शिक्षण पर पूरा जोर दिया गया। इतना ही नहीं, भाषा को शिक्षा में मूल्य बोध, दृष्टिकोण और सृजनात्मक कल्पना के साधन को भी माना गया है। नई शिक्षा नीति में किशोरावस्था तक मातृभाषा में शिक्षा की व्यवस्था की गई है। इसमें इस बात पर जोर दिया गया है कि मौलिक विचार अपनी मातृभाषा में ही आते हैं, इसलिए उच्च शिक्षा और अनुसंधान के लिए भी मातृभाषा का ही प्रयोग होना चाहिए। विदेशी भाषा सीखने के चक्कर में मौलिक विचार समाप्त हो जाता है। हमारे देश में प्लेटो, अरस्तू, मैक्समूलर आदि तो पढ़ाए जा रहे थे, किंतु भारत के कपिल, गौतम, भास्कराचार्य, चाणक्य, कात्यायन, पतंजलि, सुब्रमण्यम भारती और अगस्त्य जैसे दार्शनिकों, शिक्षाविदों को महत्त्व नहीं दिया गया।

इसी कारण इस शिक्षा नीति में भारतीय भाषाओं के शिक्षण और अधिगम को स्कूल और उच्चतर शिक्षा के प्रत्येक स्तर के साथ एकीकृत करने की आवश्यकता प्रतिपादित की गई है। नई शिक्षा नीति में सभी भारतीय भाषाओं के संवर्धन को ध्यान में रखते हुए सुझाव दिया गया है कि भाषाओं के शब्द भंडार

लगातार अपडेट होते रहें। कविता, उपन्यास, पत्र-पत्रिकाओं का प्रवाह बना रहे। भारतीय भाषाओं में चर्चा हो, तभी भाषाओं का संरक्षण हो सकता है। विदेशी भाषा अंग्रेजी, फ्रेंच, जर्मन कोरियाई में यह क्रम चल रहा है, किंतु भारतीय भाषाओं को जीवित बनाए रखने के मामले में अभी तक भारत की गति काफी धीमी रही है।

इसके लिए भाषा शिक्षकों की कमी दूर करने के साथ ही भाषाओं को अधिक व्यापक रूप में बातचीत और शिक्षण के लिए प्रयोग में लाए जाने की आवश्यकता है। स्कूली बच्चों के भीतर भाषा, कला और संस्कृति को बढ़ावा देने के लिए उपाय सुझाए गए हैं। इसके लिए मातृभाषा, स्थानीय भाषा में शिक्षण, अधिक अनुभव आधारित भाषा शिक्षण, कलाकारों व लेखकों को स्थानीय विशेषज्ञता के विभिन्न विषयों में विशिष्ट प्रशिक्षक के रूप में स्कूलों से जोड़ने पर बल दिया गया है। उच्चतर शिक्षा संस्थानों में भाषाविदों को अतिथि शिक्षक के रूप में नियुक्त करने, भाषाओं की मजबूती, उपयोग एवं जीवंतता को प्रोत्साहन देने का सुझाव दिया गया है। भारतीय भाषाओं में उच्चतर गुणवत्ता की अधिगम सामग्री उपलब्ध कराने के लिए अनुवाद को बढ़ावा देने पर भी बल दिया गया है। इसके लिए एक “इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ ट्रांसलेशन एंड इंटरप्रिटेशन” की स्थापना का भी प्रस्ताव है।

देश की प्राचीन ‘संस्कृति’ भाषा की प्रगति के लिए इसे मुख्यधारा में लाने हेतु इस भाषा के महत्वपूर्ण योगदान तथा विभिन्न विधाओं एवं विषयों के साहित्यिक, सांस्कृतिक महत्व

और वैज्ञानिक प्रगति के चलते इस भाषा को उच्च शिक्षा संस्थानों में ज्ञान-विज्ञान की भाषा के रूप में प्रयोग करने का सुझाव दिया गया है। संस्कृत विश्व की सबसे समृद्ध भाषा है। उसमें शब्द संख्या 10 करोड़ है। अंग्रेजी के मूल शब्द केवल 35 हजार हैं। हिंदी के मूल शब्द नौ लाख हैं। विश्व में हिंदी करीब 85 करोड़ लोगों द्वारा बोली और समझी जाती है, जबकि अंग्रेजी मात्र 32 करोड़ लोगों द्वारा बोली और समझी जाती है। संस्कृत के इस महत्व को ध्यान में रखते हुए इस भाषा को पाठशाला एवं विश्वविद्यालयों तक सीमित न रख कर इसे मुख्यधारा में लाने का संकल्प किया गया है।

नई शिक्षा नीति की सबसे बड़ी विशेषता यह है कि इसमें कला, संस्कृति और भाषा के माध्यम से मनुष्य की सृजनात्मक क्षमता को जागृत करने पर बल दिया गया है। पहले ज्ञान और कौशल को अलग करके देखा जाता था परंतु उसका यह शिक्षा नीति विरोध करती है। शिक्षा नीति के मसौदे के 22वें स्तंभ में भारतीय भाषाओं, कला और संस्कृति के संवर्धन के संबंध में पूरा खाका पेश किया गया है। इसके अध्ययन से यह साफ हो जाता है कि भारतीयता को आगे रखकर यह शिक्षा नीति बनी है, जिसमें भाषा की शिक्षा पर बल दिया गया है।

पूजा चौधरी
हिंदी ऑनर्स, तृतीय वर्ष

फिल्मों की हिन्दी

हिन्दी फिल्में देश के साथ-साथ विदेशों में भी लोकप्रियता प्राप्त कर चुकी हैं। इस प्रकार इन फिल्मों ने देश ही नहीं अपितु विदेशों में भी हिन्दी को प्रोत्साहित किया है।

आज देश में मनोरंजन का सर्वाधिक प्रचलित साधन निःसंदेह भारतीय फिल्में हैं। देश के हर कोने में हिन्दी फिल्म देखी-दिखाई जाती है। अतः हम कह सकते हैं कि हिन्दी फिल्मों ने हिन्दी भाषा के प्रचार-प्रसार में काफी योगदान दिया है।

भारत की सर्वप्रथम सवाक फिल्म 'आलमआरा' थी, जिसे सन् 1931 में आर्देशिर ईरानी ने बनाया था। यह फिल्म हिन्दी में बनी थी। कहते गर्व होगा कि प्रथम भारतीय सवाक फिल्म हिन्दी में थी। अब हम यह तो आर्देशिर ईरानी से पूछने से रहे कि उन्होंने अपनी प्रथम फिल्म हिन्दी में क्यों बनाई? अगर यह पूछना संभव भी होता तो ईरानीजी निश्चित रूप से यह कहते कि 'कैसे मूर्ख हो? अरे! हिन्दी तो हिन्दुस्तान की भाषा है। यह तो जन-जन की भाषा है। मुझे अपनी फिल्म देश की 21 करोड़ आबादी तक पहुँचाना है।'

खैर, आज हिन्दी फिल्में जितनी लोकप्रिय हैं शायद ही किसी अन्य भाषा की फिल्में होंगी। विश्व में बनने वाली हर चौथी फिल्म हिन्दी होती है। भारत में निर्मित होने वाली 60 प्रतिशत फिल्में हिन्दी भाषा में बनती हैं और वे ही सर्वाधिक लोकप्रिय हैं, वे ही सर्वाधिक बिकाऊ हैं।

ऐसा नहीं है कि क्षेत्रीय भाषा की फिल्में चलती ही नहीं हैं। लेकिन असमी फिल्म असम में, तेलुगु फिल्म आंध्र में ही लोकप्रिय होती हैं। इसके विपरीत हिन्दी फिल्म सारे भारत में चलती है। जिस उत्साह से वह उत्तरी भारत में दिखाई जाती है उसी उत्साह से दक्षिण भारत में भी दिखाई जाती है। इसका एक कारण यह भी है कि हिन्दी हमारी संपर्क भाषा है। कश्मीर से कन्याकुमारी तक हिन्दी लिखने, पढ़ने, बोलने वाले मिल जाएँगे।

इसी प्रकार हिन्दी फिल्मों के दर्शक और प्रशंसक भी आपको पूरे देश में मिल जाएँगे। अनेकता में एकता का जीवंत उदाहरण भारतीय फिल्मों के अतिरिक्त दूसरा हो ही नहीं सकता। कुछ सीमा तक दक्षिण में हिन्दी का विरोध है, लेकिन हिन्दी

फिल्में लोकप्रिय हैं। खासकर तमिलनाडु में हिन्दी का विरोध किया जाता है, लेकिन इसी तमिलनाडु के तीन शहरों मदुरै, चेन्नाई और कोयंबटूर में हिन्दी फिल्म 'शोले' ने स्वर्ण जयंती मनाई थी! 'शोले' के अलावा 'हम आपके हैं कौन', 'दिलवाले दुल्हनिया ले जाएँगे', 'बॉर्डर', 'दिल तो पागल है' भी पूरे देश में सफल रहीं। 'गदर' और 'लगान' जैसी कितनी ही फिल्में आई हैं जिन्होंने पूरे देश में सफलता के झंडे गाड़ दिए।

हिन्दी फिल्मों में अहिन्दी भाषी कलाकारों के योगदान के कारण भी हिन्दी को अहिन्दी भाषी प्रांतों में हमेशा बढ़ावा मिला है। सुब्बालक्ष्मी, बालसुब्रह्मण्यम, पद्मिनी, वैजयंती माला, रेखा, श्रीदेवी, हेमामालिनी, कमल हासन, चिरंजीवी, ए.आर. रहमान, रजनीकांत आदि प्रमुख सितारे हिन्दी में भी लोकप्रिय हैं। बंगाल की कई हस्तियाँ हिन्दी सिनेमा की महत्वपूर्ण हस्ताक्षर रही हैं।

मसलन मन्ना डे, पंकज मलिक, हेमंत कुमार, सत्यजीत रे (शतरंज के खिलाड़ी), आर.सी. बोराल, बिमल रॉय, शर्मिला टैगोर, उत्त कुमार आदि। प्रसिद्ध अभिनेता डैनी डेंगजोग्पा अहिन्दी राज्य सिक्किम से हैं, तो हिन्दी फिल्मों के प्रसिद्ध संगीतकार सचिन देवबर्मन तथा राहुल देव बर्मन मणिपुर के राजघराने से संबंधित थे।

इसी प्रकार हिन्दी फिल्मों के लोकप्रिय कलाकार जितेंद्र पंजाबी होने के बावजूद दक्षिण में लोकप्रिय हैं। हिन्दी फिल्मों की प्रसिद्ध हस्तियाँ स्व. पृथ्वीराज कपूर एवं उनका समस्त खानदान, दारासिंह, धर्मेन्द्र आदि पंजाब से हैं। इस प्रकार के और भी कई उदाहरण दिए जा सकते हैं।

हिन्दी फिल्में देश के साथ-साथ विदेशों में भी लोकप्रियता प्राप्त कर चुकी हैं। इस प्रकार इन फिल्मों ने देश ही नहीं अपितु विदेशों में भी हिन्दी को प्रोत्साहित किया है। राजकपूर की 'आवारा' और 'श्री 420' ने रूस में लोकप्रियता के झंडे गाड़ दिए थे। अमिताभ बच्चन, माधुरी दीक्षित, लता मंगेशकर एवं हिन्दी फिल्मों के अन्य कई कलाकार सारी दुनिया के बड़े-बड़े शहरों में अपने रंगमंचीय प्रदर्शन सफलतापूर्वक कर चुके हैं।

सिर्फ भारत के ही कलाकार विदेशों में लोकप्रिय नहीं, बल्कि

कई विदेशी कलाकार हिन्दी फिल्मों की वजह से लोकप्रिय हो गए हैं। मेहँदी हसन व गुलाम अली (दोनों पाकिस्तानी गजल गायक) के हिन्दी गीत आज भारत में लोकप्रिय हैं। रुना लैला बांग्लादेश से आकर हिन्दी फिल्मों की वजह से लोकप्रिय बनीं,

वहीं पाकिस्तानी अदाकारा जेबा को 'हिना' से लोकप्रियता मिली। इन सब तथ्यों से हम कह सकते हैं कि हिन्दी फिल्मों ने हिन्दी को सौ प्रतिशत प्रोत्साहन दिया है।

नंदिनी रॉय
हिन्दी ऑनर्स, तृतीय वर्ष

मैं एक नारीवादी क्यों हूँ?

आपने अक्सर यह सुना होगा, देखा होगा, या स्वयं कहा भी होगा कि 'स्त्री और पुरुष में कोई अंतर नहीं होता।' अरे! मगर आपने ही तो कहा था कि घर के मर्द ही नौकरी करते हैं औरत नहीं। लड़कियां पढ़ लिख कर क्या करेंगी, बेटी की शादी करना मां बाप का फैसला होगा। मगर बेटा अपनी मर्जी से विवाह करने का अधिकार रखता है और हाँ यह भी कि इज्जत औरत का गहना होता है, उसे बचा कर रखना चाहिए। मगर पुरुष कहीं भी कैसे भी अपनी मर्जी से जीवन व्यतीत कर सकता है। फेमिनिज्म, हिंदी में कहें तो नारीवाद, ऐसे ही विषयों पर विचार विमर्श करने का प्रयास करता है जिससे आपके ही दिए गए इन कथनों को गलत साबित किया जाए और यह स्पष्ट किया जाए कि हाँ स्त्री और पुरुष में वाकई कोई अंतर नहीं है।

मैं एक फेमिनिस्ट हूँ, एक स्त्री अधिकारवादी। सुनने में कितना अटपटा लगता है ना कि किसीको अपने ही सामान्य अधिकारों के लिए भी संघर्ष करना पड़ सकता है, अचंभित ना हों यहाँ ऐसा अक्सर होता है। खुद इस समाज का सामना कर जो स्त्री आज उस मुकाम पर है वह जानती है कि एक

छोटी सी ख्वाहिश को पूरा करने के लिए भी कितना संघर्ष करना पड़ता है और आज वह भी यही सपना औरों के लिए देखती है कि उस जैसी तमाम स्त्रियों को वह अधिकार मिले, वह मुकाम मिले, वह अवसर मिले जिस कारण समाज में नारी का उद्धार हो।

वह कहते हैं ना कि दुख बांटने से कम होता है, मगर जब हम और आप जैसी महिलाएं अपना दुख बांटेंगी तो वह आक्रोश का स्थान लेगा और फिर यही आक्रोश इस समाज में एक बदलाव लाने का कारण बनेगा।

अदिति
हिंदी ऑनर्स, द्वितीय वर्ष

कहानी का शीर्षक: रुढ़िबद्धता और सुनीता

उस रोज ऑफिस में चहल पहल थी। कुछ लोगों के काम से प्रसन्न था मोहन तिवारी। मोहन तिवारी ऑफिस का बड़ा अधिकारी था। कई आदमियों के साथ — साथ एक औरत को भी प्रमोशन मिलने की खबर तेजी से फैल रही थी। सुनीता, दिमाग से अत्यंत बुद्धिमान महिला। सुनीता को बचपन से काम करने की इच्छा रही थी, वह सोचती थी कि मर्द ही क्यों, औरत नहीं काम कर सकती? एक सशक्त महिला, जो प्रतिदिन ऐसे वाक्यों से जूझती थी जहाँ उसे अपनी बुद्धि मानी का परिचय देना पड़ता था क्योंकि औरत तो दिमाग से क्षीण होती है ना। प्रमोशन के सिलसिले में सुनीता को मोहन तिवारी अपने केबिन में बुलाता है। वह कुछ खुश नहीं दिखाई दे रहा, शायद उसके मन का द्वंद्व उसके चहरे पर उभरे बिना नहीं रह पा रहा है। वह सुनीता से कहना बहुत कुछ चाहता है मगर शायद कह नहीं पाएगा।

सुनीता : “मे आई कम इन सर?”

मोहन तिवारी : “हां हां सुनीता आओ आओ, बैठो। और बताओ ठीक हो?”

सुनीता : “जी सर, आप कैसे हैं?”

मोहन तिवारी : “बस ठीक ही हैं हम भी, हा हा हा, और बताओ घर में सब कैसे हैं?”

यह सवाल सुनने के पश्चात सुनीता को कुछ खटका।

सुनीता : “बिल्कुल ठीक सर। अच्छा सर आपने केबिन में बुलाया मुझे शायद आप को प्रमोशन ३”

मोहन तिवारी ने उसकी बात को बीच में ही काट कर कोई और बात रखनी चाही मगर सुनीता सब समझ चुकी थी कि वह उसके प्रमोशन की बात क्यों नहीं करना चाहते हैं।

सुनीता : “सर, मुझे पता है कि आप मेरे काम से बेहद खुश हैं। आप जानते हैं कि इस ऑफिस में कौन मेहनत से आगे बढ़ना जानता है और कौन केवल अपने लिंग का लाभ उठाकर। मैं जानती हूँ आपको कई बातें सुनने को मिली होंगी मगर आप ही देखिए क्या मुझे केवल इस बात पर प्रमोशन कभी नहीं मिल पाएगा कि मैं एक औरत हूँ?”

यह सब बातें सुनकर मोहन तिवारी थोड़ा सपकपा सा रह गया। हाँ उसके कानों तक बात पहुंची थी कि सुनीता एक औरत है, उसको प्रमोशन देना यानी प्रतिभाएं नष्ट करना।

उसको सुनीता से काफी उम्मीदें थीं, वह जानता है कि सुनीता बिना कोई अन्य रास्ता अपनाए यहाँ तक पहुंची है मगर लोगों की बातों को भी वह नहीं टाल सकता है। बेशक वह खुद लिंग रुढ़िबद्धता में विश्वास नहीं करता मगर अगर उसे समाज में रहना है तो उसे इसी का पालन करना होगा।

सुनीता के कहे शब्द सुनने के बाद मोहन तिवारी एक गहरी सांस लेकर कहता है — “देखो सुनीता, मैं यह नहीं कह रहा हूँ कि तुम इस प्रमोशन के काबिल नहीं हो, लेकिन अगर मैंने तुमको यह प्रमोशन दे दी तो लोगों के मन में तुम्हारे ही लिए गलत ख्याल पैदा हो जाएंगे और यहीं नहीं मिलने पर तुम सुरक्षित रहोगी। देखो, सब यही मानते हैं कि आदमी को ही तरक्की मिले क्योंकि वह मेहनत करता है, बुद्धिमान है, अगर एक औरत को तरक्की मिलती है तो यह समाज बिल्कुल इसके विपरीत ही सोचेगा। औरत कमजोर होती है, यह नौकरी चाकरी करना उसके बस की बात नहीं होती, ऐसा मैं नहीं समाज सोचता है। सुनीता यह सब सुनकर थोड़ी अचंभित हुई और उसने तुरंत पूछा : “सर समाज अगर यह मानता है तो आप क्यों इसको बढ़ावा दे रहे हैं, आप तो समझदार व्यक्ति हैं।” जिसके उत्तर में मोहन तिवारी केवल एक वाक्य बोलता है जिससे सुनीता के दिमाग में सब कुछ स्पष्ट हो जाता है।

मोहन तिवारी सुनीता के प्रश्न करने पर कहता है : “समझदार मैं हूँ सुनीता मगर हूँ तो इसी समाज का हिस्सा ही।

सुनीता उतरा हुआ चेहरा लेकर बिना कुछ कहे मोहन तिवारी के केबिन से बाहर निकलती है। सबकी नजरें उसकी ओर हैं, होनी भी चाहिए, इन्हीं लोगों ने तो प्रमोशन रुकवाया है सुनीता का मगर हमेशा की तरह सुनीता अब चुप नहीं रहेगी। वह अपना इस्तीफा दे चुकी है। उसके मन की आवाज ने जैसे उसे झंझोड़ कर रख दिया हो कि देख सुनीता समाज में आज भी यह रुढ़िवादी धारणाएं बनी हुई हैं, इसी को तुझे मिटाना है ताकि कल को कोई औरत यह ना सुने : “माफ कीजियेगा, औरतें जितनी भी समझदार हो जाएं मगर समाज मर्दों को ही बुद्धिमान मानेगा और यह बात आप भी मान लीजिए।

अदिति
हिंदी ऑनर्स, द्वितीय वर्ष

मिथिला की संस्कृति

भारत के विभिन्न क्षेत्र में भिन्न भिन्न संस्कृति और परंपरा की छटा दिखती है मिथिला की संस्कृति उत्तर भारत की एक विशिष्ट संस्कृति के रूप में जानी जाती है।

मिथिला में हर जाति, धर्म, वर्ग, समुदाय के लोग रहते हैं, पर सबके बीच सौहार्द और स्नेह का अटूट संबंध है। राजा जनक और उनकी सुपुत्री जानकी इस क्षेत्र की विशिष्टता के प्रतीक हैं यहां के निवासी सरल और शांतिप्रिय हैं। मिथिलांचल क्षेत्र में मुख्यतः मधुबनी, दरभंगा, समस्तीपुर, जयनगर, एवं सीतामढ़ी जिले आते हैं मिथिला का मुख्य केंद्र दरभंगा है, जिसे भावी मिथिलांचल की राजधानी भी कहा जाता है। यहां की मुख्य भाषा मैथिली है, जो कर्णप्रिय एवं मधुर है। मछली पान और मखाना यहां की संस्कृति के प्रमुख अंग हैं यहां शुभ अवसरों पर इनके प्रयोग की सुदीर्घ परंपरा रही है।

यहां आज भी ग्राम्य संस्कृति की झलक देखी जा सकती है अब भी यहा धोती कुर्ता और साड़ियों को पहनावे के रूप में देखा जा सकता है।

यहां धार्मिक सद्भाव का अनुपम रूप लक्षित होता है हर धर्म के लोग मिल कर सभी त्योहारों को मनाते हैं यह क्षेत्र त्याग, दर्शन, नीति और सदाचार के लिए प्रसिद्ध रहता है।

यहां की चित्रकला 'मिथिला पेंटिंग' के नाम से विश्व विख्यात है यहां के कलाकार केवल देश में ही नहीं बल्कि विदेशों में भी सम्मान प्राप्त कर चुके हैं इसी पावन धरती पर विद्यापति, आयाची मिश्र, नागार्जुन, मंडन मिश्र, चंदा झा एवं दरभंगा महाराज जैसे महापुरुषों ने जन्म लिया, जिनके यश सौरभ से आज भी यहा का वातावरण सुगंधित है। साहित्य, कला एवं संस्कृति की दृष्टि से मिथिला संस्कृति भारत की संस्कृतियों में विशिष्ट स्थान रखती है इस कारण कहा गया है की मिथिला संस्कृति में संपूर्ण भारतीय संस्कृति का प्रतिबिंब झलकता है।

सच कहे तो मैथिल, मिथिला और मैथिली अतिविशिष्ट है प्रतिभा, मिलनसारिता, नम्रता व आचरण की शुद्धता का संगम है मिथिला।

विद्या, तप, त्याग, दही, मछली, पान और मखाना की अनमोल भूमि है मिथिला । विश्व की समस्त भाषाओं का मिठास की दृष्टि से, भूषण है मैथिली।

“स्वर्ग से सुंदर मिथिला धाम,
मांदान आयाची राजा जनक के गाम,
स्वर्ग से सुंदर मिथिला धाम”

अंकिता आनंद
हिंदी ऑनर्स, द्वितीय वर्ष

निरन्तर सृजन के बढ़ते कदम

(ऑथर ऑफ द मन्थ)



मिशेल स्कारिया
बी. ए. प्रोग्राम, द्वितीय वर्ष

अल्फाज़

दिल के अल्फाज़ लिखती हूँ मैं अपने ही अंदाज़ लिखती हूँ
कल भी ऐसा ही लिखती थी जैसा मैं आज लिखती हूँ।
करते हैं जो पुकार सदियों से मौन रहकर
मैं उनकी दबी हुई आवाज़ लिखती हूँ।
क्या व्यापारी, क्या कृषक, क्या श्रमिक, क्या सेठ
मैं एक कलम से पूरा समाज लिखती हूँ।
यूँ चुप बैठ शांति से कुछ ना बदलेगा
मैं बदलाव के लिए क्रांति का आगाज़ लिखती हूँ।
जलती रहे इंसानियत की लौ सबके भीतर
इसीलिए इंसानों को इंसान बनाने के राज़ लिखती हूँ।

फरहा खातून
बी. ए. हिन्दी ऑनर्स, द्वितीय वर्ष
जुलाई 2022

डर

डर है मुझे उस चुप्पी से जो हँसने के बाद
मेरे मन को झकझोर देती है ।।
डर है मुझे उस हँसी से जो बेवजह
न चाह कर भी होठों पर झूठा दिखावा करती है
नही चाहती डरना इन सब से
अब चाहूँगी इन सब से छुटकारा मैं, बेवजह हसूँगी भी और
मन में न रख बोलूँगी भी साथ ही डर कर नहीं, खुल कर
जीऊँगी मैं।

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उसकी परतें

स्त्रियाँ निकलती थी
रात में घरों से बाहर
फिर उन्हें बताया गया
कि स्त्रियाँ रात में सुरक्षित नहीं है
स्त्रियों को सुरक्षित रहना था।

वो कई दिनों तक नहीं निकली रात में
घरों से बाहर
फिर स्त्रियों को बताया गया।
कि वो दिन में भी सुरक्षित नहीं है।
स्त्रियाँ फिर नही निकली दिन में भी
घर से बाहर
स्त्रियों ने फिर घर पर रहना चुना।
फिर उन्हें बताया गया की स्त्रियाँ घर
पर भी सुरक्षित नहीं है
उन्हे पर्दे में रहना चाहिए
स्त्रियों ने स्वीकार्य किया पर्दे को भी
फिर उन्हें बताया गया कि
स्त्री होना ही सुरक्षित नहीं है।
स्त्रियों ने फिर बन्द कर दिया।
जन्म लेना गाँव में, नगर में, कस्बों में
जिसके लिये एक स्त्री को जिम्मेदार ठहराया गया।
और नहीं विद्रोह जरूरी नहीं है?

सौंदर्या
हिन्दी ऑनर्स, तृतीय वर्ष
नवम्बर 2021

जो कुछ हुआ अच्छा हुआ

माँ हमेशा एक बात कहा करती थी
जो होता है अच्छे के लिए होता है
तुमने वह चीज चाहे न चाही हो
मगर परिणाम हमेशा सुखद होता है।

मैं सालों तक यही मानती रही
कि जो होता है अच्छे के लिए होता है
मगर छोटी उम्र में मेरी शादी की बात करना
यह कहाँ तक वाजिब होता है?

मैं मन ही मन अब सोचने लगी
क्या हर बात का कुछ महत्व होता है?
इस उलझन में मैं थी ही कि माँ ने कहा
उनका आज आना मालूम होता है।

मुझे तैयार करने में सब जुट गए
क्या औरत के लिए शादी करना महत्वपूर्ण होता है?
चाय की ट्रे ढंग से पकड़ना
एक स्त्री बनने के लिए क्या यही सही सलीका होता है?

वे आए और बैठे कि सबने कहा अमीर खानदान है
क्या उस पुरुष को उसकी माँ ने चाय की ट्रे पकड़ना सिखाया
होता है?
सब आपस में लगे बात करने और मुझे करा दिया गया चुप
क्या मेरी बात का इनके लिए कोई महत्व नहीं होता है?

लड़के के आचार विचार में कमी थी मगर सब उसका पैसा
देखते रहे
क्या पैसा कमाना ही सबकुछ होता है?
मैंने हिम्मत करके अपनी बात रखी
कि क्या पति के पैसों पर ही औरत को बिक जाना होता है?

कुछ वाद विवाद के पश्चात माता पिता ने बात समझी
और कहा, हमारी बेटी का सम्मान भी कुछ होता है
केवल पैसों के बल पर ही नहीं
रिश्तों को प्यार और सम्मान से जोड़ना होता है

माँ की वह बात आज भी याद आती है
कि जो कुछ होता है अच्छे के लिए होता है
जब माँ ने लड़के वालों के जाने के पश्चात कहा था
“चलो, जो कुछ हुआ अच्छा हुआ
हमें हमारी बेटी के सपनों को उड़ान देना मालूम हुआ।”

अदिति
बी. ए. हिन्दी ऑनर्स, तृतीय वर्ष
सितम्बर 2021

यह क्या हुआ हमारे आदर्शों को?

हमारे आदर्शों की नदियाँ कुछ सूख-सी गई हैं।
 उन प्रतिमाओं की आत्मा कुछ मर-सी गई हैं
 वह भी एक समय था जब सत्य ही आदर्श था।
 हर आदर्श में एक वीरता का स्पर्श था।
 हर आदर्श में शौर्य गूँजता था।
 दूर —दृष्टि रखने वाला, भविष्य में सदैव प्रसिद्धि नहीं ढूँढता था।
 वे आदर्श अब डर से गए हैं।
 वह आदर्श अब कहीं मर से गए हैं।
 वर्तमान में कायरता भी आदर्श बन चुकी है।
 उनकी गरिमा ना चाहते हुए भी सड़ चुकी है।
 पहले मनुष्य स्वयं को आदर्शों में ढालता था।
 अब मनुष्य आदर्शों को ही स्वानुसार ढालता है।
 धनुर्धारी कर्ण की शौर्य गाथा गाना उचित है।
 परंतु उसके प्रत्येक निर्णय को सही बताने वाली सोच संकुचित है।
 अब वीरता के उदाहरणों में देशद्रोही भी उपस्थित होने लगे हैं।
 अब आतंकवादी भी 'मजबूर' होने लगे हैं।
 अकबर को वीर बताने वाली सोच यह कहाँ से आ गई?
 नर मे राम और नारी में सीता होने की सत्यता कहाँ समा गई?
 आदर्शों का स्थान फिल्मी सितारों ने कैसे ले लिया?
 भौमिक सत्यता से परे फिल्मी जगत में जीवन कैसे बस गया?
 आदर्शों में कलाम, लक्ष्मीबाई और विवेकानंद को हम क्यों भूल गए हैं?
 सिनेमा के स्वप्नजगत के झूलों में हम क्यों झूल रहे हैं?
 अब युवा का लक्ष्य श्रेष्ठता से परे प्रसिद्धि हो चुका है।
 अब हर कार्य के पीछे उसका एक स्वार्थ छिपा है।
 वापस लाओ उन श्रेष्ठ आदर्शों को।
 जीवंत करो मेरी कविता के परामर्शों को।

अनुष्का कौशिक

बी. ए. प्रोग्राम, प्रथम वर्ष अक्टूबर 2021

स्कूल

मुझे याद है स्कूल न जाने के लिए रोया करती थी मैं
 और अब वह दौर है स्कूल वापस जाने का मन करता है
 याद आता है वह पल मुझे
 जो छूट गया कुछ साल पहले
 स्कूल जाने का मन तो बहुत करता है
 स्कूल जहाँ हम कई साल रहे हैं
 जब थे वहाँ तो बाहर जाने का मन करता था
 और आ गए हैं बाहर तो वापस जाने का मन करता है
 यूँ तो जिंदगी में आगे बढ़ना है
 पर वो दौर भी भुलाया नहीं जा सकता
 के यूँ तो बहुत से किस्से याद है मुझे
 उन्हीं यादों में जिया जा सकता है
 क्योंकि वो वक्त हम वापस नहीं ला सकते
 वो दौर भुलाया नहीं जा सकता
 याद है मुझे स्कूल न जाने के लिए रोया करती थी मैं
 पर अब वहीं जाने के लिए जो दिया करती हूँ मैं
 कि काश कोई तो हो जो मुझे वह दिन लौटा दे क्या हर
 किसी का स्कूल एक जैसा होता है?
 यादें एक जैसी होती होंगी?
 बस इतना ही कहूँगी
 अगर हो तुम स्कूल में तो यह वक्त जियो क्योंकि
 पैसों से भी वापस नहीं आता
 बस याद किया जा सकता है
 स्कूल याद आता है मुझे।

हिमानी चौधरी
 बी. ए. प्रोग्राम,
 दिसम्बर 2021

वक्त

हर खुशी है लोगों के दामन में
पर एक हँसी के लिए वक्त नहीं
दिन रात दौड़ती दुनिया में
जिदंगी के लिए वक्त नहीं ।।
सारे नाम मोबाइल में है
पर दोस्ती के लिए वक्त नहीं
गैरों की क्या बात करें
अब अपनों के लिए वक्त नहीं ।।
आँखों में है नींद बड़ी,
पर सोने का वक्त नहीं ।
दिल है गमों से भरा हुआ
पर रोने का भी वक्त नहीं ।।
तू ही बता ऐ जिदंगी
इस जिंदगी का क्या होगा।
कि हर पल मरने वालों को
जीने के लिए भी वक्त नहीं ।

अलेकता टोपनो
हिन्दी ऑनर्स, प्रथम वर्ष
जनवरी 2022

मुझ जैसी लड़की

खुद में खोई खोई सी,
एक सुलझी सी लड़की,
मस्त, मनमौजी, अल्हड़ सी लड़की ।
हवाओ से बातें करती
पतंग सी आजाद लड़की ।
बड़ी मासूम, जिद्दी, बेपरवाह, हिरनी सी लड़की ।
नई दुनिया बसाई, नए ढंग में ढलने लगी
वो पानी सी निश्छल लड़की ।
नापतोल कर हंसने लगी,
ताने, मार, अपमान सहन करती गई ।
माँ से दुख थोड़ा कम साझा करने लगी,
पिता से नजरें चुराने लगी
संस्कार, मर्यादा, इज्जत के लिए,
जख्म अपने छुपाने लगी वो पागल सी लड़की ।
घर से पराई होकर, दुखों में अपनी खो गई
वो हम जैसी लड़की ।
आत्मसम्मान भूल चुकी थी
वह पिंजरे में कैद सी लड़की ।
एक दिन हाथ खुद का थामेगी,
पुर्जा-पुर्जा कर खुद को जोड़ेगी,
खुद से दिल लगाएगी वो दिलेर लड़की,
अपनी कहानी खुद लिखेगी,
दुनिया से नजरे मिलाएगी ,
खुद को आजाद करेगी
वो मुझ जैसी लड़की ।

निष्ठा
बी. ए. प्रोग्राम, द्वितीय वर्ष
फरवरी 2022

वक्त ही तो है...बीत जाएगा

आज ही तो है... कल चला जाएगा।
 किसको पता था की एक दिन कुछ ऐसा हो जाएगा,
 जब आदमी आदमी से दूर हो जाएगा।
 किसको पता था कि इस वक्त में भी कुछ अच्छा हो जाएगा,
 जब सब कुछ अलग होकर भी एक हो जाएगा, वक्त ही तो है...बीत जाएगा।
 सुना है बेमतलब में आपका कोई होता नहीं, अगर हो भी जाए तो कोई भरोसा नहीं,
 पर इस दौर में तो कुछ और ही नज़ारा नज़र आया, जब अनजान ने अनजान को समझाया, वक्त ही तो है....बीत जाएगा।
 यह वक्त भी क्या वक्त है,
 वो वक्त भी क्या वक्त था,
 जब सुनाने को कुछ ऐसा होगा, वक्त ही तो है...बीत जाएगा...
 आज ही तो है....कल चला जाएगा।

आरोही अंतरा
 हिन्दी ऑनर्स, द्वितीय वर्ष
 मार्च 2022

अकेलापन

अकेलापन इंसान को अंदर ही अंदर खा जाता है। इस स्थिति में एक व्यक्ति की मानसिक दशा बहुत ज्यादा खराब हो जाती है। कुछ लोग इस कदर आगे बढ़ जाते हैं कि वे अपने आप को शारीरिक नुकसान पहुँचाने लगते हैं। जब आपके पास जीवन में कोई नहीं होता जिससे आप अपने दिल की बात कर पाएँ, तब यह अकेलापन कहीं न कहीं आपके दिमाग के साथ खेलने लगता है। बुरे ख्याल और बहुत सी बुरी बातें आपके जेहन में आने लगती हैं।

अकेलेपन से होने वाले मानसिक रोगों को लोग अक्सर नकार देते हैं। कुछ लोग तो इन्हें समझ ही नहीं पाते हैं क्योंकि इन रोगों के कोई शारीरिक लक्षण नहीं होते हैं। अगर लोग समझ भी जाते हैं तो वे इसे स्वीकार नहीं करते क्योंकि उन्हें लगता है कि लोग उन्हें 'पागल' या कमजोर समझेंगे।

लेकिन मैं इस भ्रम को तोड़ना चाहती हूँ। अगर कोई व्यक्ति अकेला है तो उसे अपने आप को कमजोर नहीं समझना चाहिए। उसे पहले अपना खुद का खास दोस्त बनना चाहिए। जब तक वह अपने आप को अपना मित्र नहीं समझेगा तब तक वह अकेला ही रहेगा। जहाँ तक मानसिक रोगों की बात है, यह कोई शर्मिंदा होने वाली बात नहीं है। बहुत से डॉक्टर मानसिक रोगों के इलाज के लिए 24/7 उपलब्ध रहते हैं। वे आपकी मदद करते हैं बुरे ख्यालों से दूर होने में।

इसलिए जिंदगी से निराश न होकर बल्कि आगे बढ़ने के लिए प्रोत्साहित हो। जिंदगी बहुत खूबसूरत होती है। उसे अकेलापन के कारण बदसूरत न बना दे। खुद के दोस्त बने और एक सकारात्मक सोच रखें।

अदीशी नंदा
 बी.ए. सोशियोलोजी ऑनर्स, द्वितीय वर्ष
 अप्रैल 2022

लड़की की बेबसी

क्यों ऐसी जिंदगी मिली, जहाँ हमें रुलाया जाता है,
लड़की होने का अहसास जहाँ हरदम कराया जाता है।

हम लड़की हैं तो क्या हमने पाप किया है?
हमें भी तो जन्म माँ-बाप ने दिया है।

लड़की कम बोलती है, हमें ये बताया जाता है,
क्यों मर्दों के अहसान तले हमें दबाया जाता है?

क्यों संसार में हमारी कोई कदर नहीं?
इंसान हैं हम भी तो, कोई जानवर नहीं।

लड़की गाय की तरह होती है, माँ हमें बताती है,
जिस खूँटे से बाँधों, वही बँध जाती है।
तो क्या हम जानवर हैं? हमारा कोई सपना नहीं?
किससे मन की बात कहें? क्या हमारा कोई अपना नहीं?

लड़की पराया धन है, माँ हमें बताती है,
ससुराल के दुःखों को चुपचाप सहती जाती है।

ससुराल के नाम पर क्यों हमें डराया जाता है?
क्यों ऐसी जिंदगी मिली जहाँ हमें सताया जाता है?

क्या करे लड़की जब ससुराल वालों ने भी उसे सताया?
कहाँ जाए लड़की जब जन्मदाताओं ने भी कहा पराया?

लड़की के जन्म पर भी मातम मनाया जाता है,
कोई ऐसी जगह है क्या जहाँ हमें अपनाया जाता है?



हिमानी देव वर्मा
बी. कॉम प्रोग्राम, द्वितीय वर्ष

अंकिता आनंद
हिन्दी ऑनर्स, द्वितीय वर्ष
मई 2022

मैं और मैं

आँखों में काजल
माथे पर बिंदी
और कानों में झुमके
खुद से खुद को संवारती मैं।

आवाज में शोर
बातों में तेजी
और हँसी की खिलखिलाहट
खुद से खुद को छुपाती मैं।

हँसने में रोना
रोने में हँसना
और पलक झपकते ही ओझल
खुद से खुद को सताती मैं।

नदियों सा बहना
बूंदों से गिरना
और नीर सी शांत
खुद से खुद को बताती मैं।

लक्ष्मी सी महान
सरस्वती सा ज्ञान
और दुर्गा सी अशांत
खुद से खुद को आजमाती मैं।



आरोही रावत
हिन्दी ऑनर्स, द्वितीय वर्ष

तनुश्री रावत
हिन्दी ऑनर्स, द्वितीय वर्ष
जून 2022

वार्षिक गतिविधियाँ

हिन्दी विभाग : रिपोर्ट 2021-22

प्रत्येक वर्ष की भांति इस वर्ष भी हिंदी विभाग द्वारा कार्यक्रमों का आयोजन किया गया। यह वर्ष अपने आप में चुनौतीपूर्ण रहा। इस वर्ष हिंदी विभाग के अध्यक्ष और उपाध्यक्ष का चुनाव 29 जून, 2021 को तथा सचिव का चुनाव 14 जुलाई, 2021 को विभागाध्यक्ष प्रो. अमिता तिवारी एवं विभाग के अन्य अध्यापिकाओं के निर्देश में हुआ। इसमें हिंदी विभाग की अध्यक्ष तेजस्वी, उपाध्यक्ष खुशी और सचिव आरोही अंतरा को बनाया गया। इसके उपरांत द्वितीय और तृतीय वर्ष से कोर टीम सदस्यों का चुनाव किया गया।

02 जुलाई, 2021 विभाग द्वारा 2020-21 सत्र के विद्यार्थियों के लिए विदाई समारोह का आयोजन किया गया। इस समारोह में द्वितीय एवं तृतीय वर्ष की छात्राओं ने अपनी सीनियर्स छात्राओं के लिए कई कार्यक्रमों का आयोजन किया था। समारोह के अंत में विभाग के सभी शिक्षकों द्वारा सभी विद्यार्थियों को उनके अग्रिम जीवन के लिए ढेर सारी शुभकामनाएं दी गई।

जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज, हिंदी विभाग द्वारा हिंदी दिवस के उपलक्ष्य में 'हिंदी सप्ताह' (7 सितंबर, 2021-14 सितंबर, 2021) का आयोजन किया गया। 7 सितंबर, 2021 को स्वरचित कविता प्रतियोगिता आयोजित किया गया। प्रतियोगिता की बागडोर डॉ. सपना गांधी द्वारा संभाली गई। निर्णायक भूमिका में डॉ. कविता भाटिया (मिरांडा हाउस) तथा डॉ. शेफाली मिश्रा (जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज, मनोविज्ञान विभाग) को आमंत्रित किया गया। प्रतियोगिता के परिणाम में दौलत राम कॉलेज महाविद्यालय की मोहिनी राय को प्रथम स्थान, वेंकटेश्वर महाविद्यालय के छात्र महबूब को द्वितीय स्थान और मोतीलाल नेहरू महाविद्यालय के छात्र राजेंद्र पटेल को तृतीय स्थान प्राप्त हुआ।

8 सितंबर, 2021 को "कहानी वाचन प्रतियोगिता" का आयोजन किया गया। डॉ. अनुपमा श्री वास्तव और डॉ. बिरेंद्र सिंह द्वारा प्रतियोगिता की बागडोर संभाली गई। निर्णायक मंडल की भूमिका में डॉ. शगुन अग्रवाल (श्यामा प्रसाद मुखर्जी कॉलेज फॉर वूमेन) और डॉ. शारदा भटनागर (जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज) को आमंत्रित किया गया। प्रतियोगिता के परिणाम में लेडी श्रीराम महाविद्यालय से साक्षी को प्रथम स्थान, कमला नेहरू कॉलेज से रितिका को द्वितीय स्थान और हिन्दू कॉलेज

से नंदिनी को तृतीय स्थान प्राप्त हुआ।

9 सितंबर, 2021 को अंतर महाविद्यालय सृजनात्मक लेखन प्रतियोगिता का आयोजन किया गया। संयोजन कर्ता के रूप में वरिष्ठ अध्यापिका डॉ. शारदा भटनागर, डॉ. मीनाक्षी कुमार एवं डॉ. बिरेंद्र सिंह ने महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई। प्रतियोगिता में लेडी श्रीराम कॉलेज से श्रुति जैन को प्रथम पुरस्कार, जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज से अदिति को द्वितीय पुरस्कार और किरोड़ीमल कॉलेज से महजबीन को तृतीय पुरस्कार प्राप्त हुआ।

10 सितंबर 2021 को लोक गीत गायन प्रतियोगिता का आयोजन किया गया। प्रतियोगिता की बागडोर डॉ. अर्चना त्रिपाठी द्वारा संभाली गई। निर्णायक मंडल की भूमिका में राजू उपाध्याय (अभिनेता, कवि, फिल्म लेखक एवं निर्देशक) और डॉ. बिरेंद्र सिंह (जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज) को आमंत्रित किया गया। प्रतियोगिता के परिणाम में दौलत राम कॉलेज से मोहिनी राय को प्रथम स्थान, जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज से अदिति को द्वितीय स्थान, लेडी श्री राम कॉलेज से विश्वकृति को तृतीय स्थान तथा मोतीलाल नेहरू कॉलेज से अक्षिता मिश्रा को सात्वना पुरस्कार प्राप्त हुआ।

11 सितंबर, 2021 को हिंदी दिवस पखवाड़े के उपलक्ष्य में अंतरराष्ट्रीय संगोष्ठी का आयोजन किया गया जिसका विषय 'भक्तिकाल की प्रासंगिकता' थी। विभिन्न वक्ताओं द्वारा भक्ति काल की प्रासंगिकता पर विचारों का आदान-प्रदान संगोष्ठी का महत्वपूर्ण उद्देश्य बना। कार्यक्रम को सुचारु रूप से संचालित करते हुए प्रभारी प्रो. अमिता तिवारी द्वारा वक्ताओं अतिथियों का हार्दिक रूप से स्वागत किया गया। इसी के साथ प्राचार्या सैद्धा जोसेफ द्वारा अतिथियों का आदर सम्मान द्वारा स्वागत किया गया। पहले वक्ता के रूप में हाइंज वार्नर वैसलर जो की उप्पसला विश्वविद्यालय स्वीडन के प्राध्यापक के रूप में कार्यरत हैं, उन्होंने अपने वक्तव्य में निर्गुण शाखा कबीर की भूमिका को व्यक्त किया। इसके बाद प्रो. अनिल जी ने हमारा मार्गदर्शन किया। प्रोफेसर अनिल के बाद डॉक्टर शैलजा सक्सेना जो हिंदी राइट्स गिल्ड कैनेडा की सह संस्थापक हैं, उन्होंने आधुनिक संदर्भों की व्याख्या करते हुए उसको भक्तिकाल से जोड़ा। कार्यक्रम का समापन प्राध्यापिका

डॉ शारदा भटनागर द्वारा धन्यवाद ज्ञापन से किया गया।

13 सितंबर 2021 को वाद – विवाद प्रतियोगिता का आयोजन किया गया। हिंदी विभाग की अध्यापिका डॉ मीनाक्षी कुमार ने संयोजकर्ता के रूप में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई। वाद-विवाद का विषय "ऑनलाइन शिक्षण ऑफलाइन शिक्षण का एक बेहतर विकल्प है" रखा गया था। निर्णायक मंडल की भूमिका में डॉ. मधु मलिक (पूर्व अध्यापिका जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज) और डॉ. बीरेंद्र सिंह (जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज) को आमंत्रित किया गया। प्रतियोगिता के परिणाम स्वरूप रामानुजन कॉलेज से हर्ष पांडे को प्रथम स्थान, आत्मा राम सनातन कॉलेज से यशस्विनी को द्वितीय पुरस्कार, जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज से साक्षी को सात्वना पुरस्कार प्राप्त हुआ।

14 सितंबर, 2021 को हिंदी दिवस सप्ताह समापन समारोह का आयोजन किया गया। इस दिन भिन्न-भिन्न प्रतियोगिताओं में स्थान प्राप्त अंतर महाविद्यालय से आए छात्रों को पुरस्कृत करने के लिए उन्हें विशेष आमंत्रण दिया गया था। कार्यक्रम में हिंदी दिवस के महत्व को सभी शिक्षकों ने मुख्य विषय बनाकर अपनी महत्वपूर्ण बातें सबके समक्ष रखीं व अग्रिम जीवन के लिए बधाई दी।

17 नवंबर, 2022 अभिविन्यास कार्यक्रम रखा गया। कार्यक्रम में उपस्थित विभाग के शिक्षकों द्वारा सभी नए छात्रों को कॉलेज से जुड़ी नियमावली से परिचित कराया गया और कक्षाएं शुरू होने की शुभकामनाएं दी गईं।

9 जनवरी, 2022 को फ्रेशर्स दिवस का आयोजन किया गया। छात्र संघ अध्यक्ष के स्वागत प्रस्ताव के साथ मिस फ्रेशर्स प्रतियोगिता का आरंभ किया गया। निर्णायक मंडल की भूमिका में डॉ. मीनाक्षी कुमार और डॉ. बिरेन्द्र सिंह थे। प्रतियोगिता के परिणाम स्वरूप प्रथम वर्ष की तनु शर्मा को मिस फ्रेशर चुना गया और अलेकता टोपनो पहली रनर अप रहीं, वहीं दूसरी रनर अप प्रियांशी रहीं।

28 जनवरी, 2022 को 'लेखक से संवाद' कार्यक्रम का आयोजन किया गया। कार्यक्रम में मुख्य वक्ता डॉ कमल कुमार को आमंत्रित किया गया था। इस कार्यक्रम का मुख्य उद्देश्य छात्रों को आज के समय के लेखकों और उनकी रचनाओं से परिचय कराना था।

18 फरवरी, 2022 प्रत्येक वर्ष की तरह इस वर्ष भी साहित्योत्सव का आयोजन किया गया था। साहित्योत्सव की मुख्य अतिथि अल्पना मिश्रजी थी। उन्होंने हिंदी साहित्य तत्कालीन प्रसिद्ध रचनाओं से विद्यार्थियों को अवगत कराया और साहित्य में श्रेष्ठ रचनाओं की दौड़ का हिस्सा बन आपत्तिजनक व साहित्य रचना की सकारात्मक विचारधारा से परे लिखे गए रचनाओं को पढ़ने से बचाने के लिए व विद्यार्थियों के पठन हेतु पुस्तकें चुनाव करने में अपने वक्तव्य के माध्यम से सुलभता प्रदान की। विभाग के सभी शिक्षक एवं प्रथम द्वितीय और तृतीय वर्ष की छात्राएं उपस्थित थे साथ ही अन्य महाविद्यालयों से भी छात्र-छात्राएं जुड़े थे।

11 अप्रैल, 2022 "एलुमनाई मीट" का आयोजन किया गया जिसमें विभाग के पूर्व छात्राएं आमंत्रित थीं। कार्यक्रम के माध्यम से प्रथम, द्वितीय और तृतीय वर्ष के छात्रों को विभाग के पूर्व छात्रों से मिलने का अवसर मिला। विभाग के पूर्व वरिष्ठ शिक्षक भी आमंत्रित थे जिनसे छात्राओं को मार्गदर्शन का सुअवसर मिला।

मैं अपने कॉलेज की प्रधानाचार्य प्रो. सैंड्रा जोसेफ, हिंदी विभाग की विभागाध्यक्ष प्रो. अमिता तिवारी, विभाग के अध्यापक-अध्यापिका का तहे दिल से धन्यवाद करना चाहूंगी कि उन्होंने हमें यह अवसर प्रदान किया, हमारा मार्गदर्शन किया और समय-समय पर हमें कार्यक्रम करने के लिए प्रोत्साहित किया।

हिंदी विभागाध्यक्ष
प्रो. अमिता तिवारी
अध्यक्ष: तेजस्वी
उपाध्यक्ष: खुशी
सचिव: आरोही अंतरा

हिन्दी वाद-विवाद समिति

‘मंथन’ वाद-विवाद समिति एक प्रकार का ऐसा प्रशिक्षण केन्द्र है, जहाँ विद्यार्थियों का भाषण कला कौशल तथा अपनी बात को तर्कपूर्ण ढंग से पेश करना सिखाया जाता है। ‘मंथन समिति’ समय-समय पर विभिन्न सामाजिक एवं विचारपूर्ण विषयों पर दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय के विद्यार्थियों के लिए भाषण एवं वाद-विवाद प्रतियोगिताओं का आयोजन करती आई है। हर वर्ष की भांति इस वर्ष भी 2021-22 सत्र के प्रारंभ में पदाधिकारियों के चुनाव के वाद विवाद का प्रारंभ किया गया, जिसमें सोनी को अध्यक्ष और फरहा को उपाध्यक्ष चुना गया।

समिति के द्वारा प्रारंभ प्रतियोगिता 13 सितंबर 2021 को हिंदी दिवस के उपलक्ष्य में अंतरमहाविद्यालय वाद विवाद प्रतियोगिता आयोजित की गई, जिसका विषय था “ऑनलाइन शिक्षण प्रशिक्षण का एक बेहतर विकल्प है।” इस प्रतियोगिता के निर्णायक मंडल की भूमिका डॉ. मधु मलिक और डॉ. बीरेन्द्र जी ने निभाई। यह प्रतियोगिता द्वितीय और तृतीय वर्ष के छात्राओं के लिए आयोजित की गई। इस प्रतियोगिता में दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय के अनेक कॉलेज के प्रतिभागियों ने बढ़-चढ़कर भाग लिया। इस प्रतियोगिता में प्रथम स्थान हर्ष पांडे (रामानुजन कॉलेज), द्वितीय स्थान यशस्विनी (आत्मा राम सनातन धर्म कॉलेज) और तृतीय स्थान सौंदर्या द्वेदी (जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज) ने ग्रहण किया।

अक्टूबर 2021 सतर्कता जागरूकता सप्ताह के उपलक्ष्य में इंडियन ऑयल द्वारा आयोजित वाद-विवाद प्रतियोगिता जिसका विषय “सत्यनिष्ठा एवं आत्मनिर्भरता ही भारत के विकास के लिए एक मात्र कुंजी है।” इस प्रतियोगिता में कॉलेज के अनेक छात्रों ने भाग लिया। इस प्रतियोगिता में हमारी समिति के छात्राओं सौंदर्या द्वेदी और भूमिका ने भाग लिया। इस प्रतियोगिता में प्रथम स्थान मेहर, द्वितीय स्थान सिमरन, तृतीय स्थान सौंदर्या द्वेदी (हिंदी विशेष) और बेस्ट इंटरजेक्टर खुशी भूमिका ने ग्रहण किया।

दिसंबर 2021 में अंतर्विभागीय वाद विवाद प्रतियोगिता केवल प्रथम वर्ष के छात्रों के लिए आयोजित की गई जिस का विषय था “दिल्ली में बढ़ते प्रदूषण के लिए केवल जनता ही जिम्मेदार है।” इस प्रतियोगिता के निर्णायक मंडल की भूमिका मिस मानसी अनेजा ने निभाई। इस प्रतियोगिता में प्रथम स्थान तान्या तनेजा (CAADV) द्वितीय स्थान मेघा संवल (बी. ए. प्रोग्राम इकॉनॉमिक्स प्लस मैथ्स), तृतीय स्थान रोशनी (बी. ए. हिंदी विशेष) और बेस्ट इंटरजेक्टर तेजस्वी (बी. ए. हिंदी विशेष) ने ग्रहण किया।

जनवरी 2022 में समिति द्वारा एक कार्यशाला का आयोजन किया गया। जिसका उद्देश्य विद्यार्थियों को वाद विवाद के क्षेत्र में अधिक कुशल बनाना था। कार्यशाला के विशेषज्ञ के रूप में पूर्व छात्रा मिस आकांक्षा पारीक और मिस मुस्कान शर्मा ने अहम भूमिका निभाई। इसमें विभाग के सभी छात्राओं ने बढ़ चढ़कर भाग लिया। सभी प्रतिभागियों को प्रमाण पत्र दिए गए।

कुल मिलाकर यह वर्ष समिति के लिए उत्साहवर्धक एवं ज्ञानवर्धक रहा। समिति के सुचारु क्रियान्वित के लिए डॉ. मीनाक्षी कुमार और मिस मानसी अनेजा का आभार व्यक्त करती हूँ, जिन्होंने समय-समय छात्राओं का मार्गदर्शन किया। समिति के सभी सदस्यों को भी उनके सहयोग के लिए हार्दिक धन्यवाद।

सोनी
अध्यक्ष, हिंदी वाद विवाद समिति
फरहा खातून
उपाध्यक्ष, हिंदी वाद विवाद समिति

हिन्दी प्रश्नोत्तरी समिति वार्षिक रिपोर्ट

हिन्दी प्रश्नोत्तरी समिति, कॉलेज की एक महत्वपूर्ण समिति है। प्रत्येक वर्ष की तरह 2021-2022 सत्र का प्रारंभ समिति के कार्यकारिणी सदस्यों के चुनाव से हुआ, जिसमें सर्वसम्मति से वी स्वाति (हिंदी विशेष, तृतीय वर्ष) को छात्राध्यक्ष और अंकिता (हिंदी विशेष, द्वितीय वर्ष) को उपाध्यक्ष चुना गया। इसके पश्चात समय-समय पर समिति की बैठकें होती रही, जिसमें कार्यक्रमों के बारे में विचार किया गया।

समिति द्वारा दिसंबर 2021 में अंतर्विभागीय प्रश्नोत्तरी प्रतियोगिता (केवल प्रथम वर्ष के छात्रों के लिए) का आयोजन किया गया। प्रत्येक विभाग की प्रथम वर्ष की छात्राओं ने इस प्रतियोगिता में बढ़ चढ़कर भाग लिया। कुल मिलाकर 7 प्रतिभागियों इसमें सम्मिलित हुए। इस प्रतियोगिता के परिणाम इस प्रकार थे—

प्रथम पुरस्कार—हिमानी (हिंदी विशेष, प्रथम वर्ष)

द्वितीय पुरस्कार—पलक (हिंदी विशेष, प्रथम वर्ष)

इसके पश्चात फरवरी 2022 में समिति ने एक अन्तर्महाविद्यालय प्रश्नोत्तरी प्रतियोगिता का आयोजन किया गया। इस प्रतियोगिता का विषय “हिन्दी साहित्य का आधुनिक काल” था। इस प्रतियोगिता में अनेक महाविद्यालयों के 14 प्रतिभागियों ने

बढ़ चढ़कर भाग लिया। प्रतियोगिता में चार राउंड रखे गए। पहला राउंड दृश्यात्मक, दूसरा राउंड पद्य रचना पर आधारित, तीसरा राउंड गद्य रचना पर आधारित और चौथा राउंड पत्र-पत्रिकाओं के नाम, समय और प्रकाशन पर आधारित था। इस प्रतियोगिता के परिणाम इस प्रकार थे—

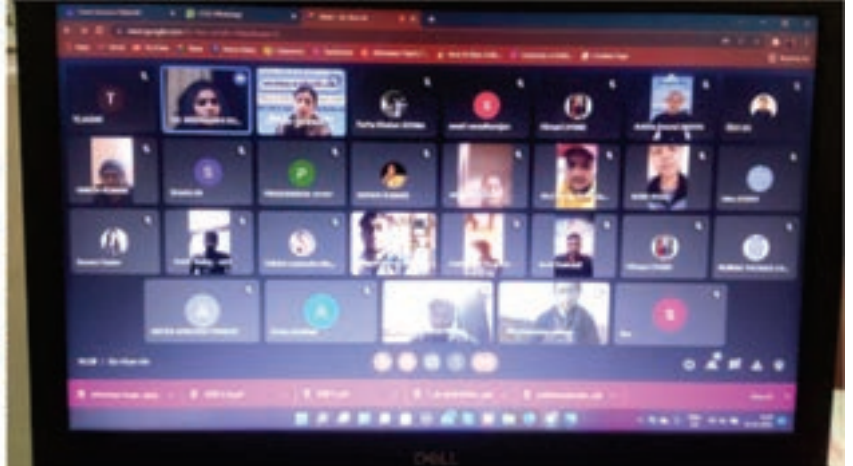
प्रथम पुरस्कार—अंकित यादव (हिंदू कॉलेज)

द्वितीय पुरस्कार—गौरव रॉय (वेंकटेश्वर कॉलेज)

तृतीय पुरस्कार—अमित द्विवेदी (एस जी एन डी खालसा कॉलेज)

यह वर्ष समिति के लिए अत्यंत उत्साहवर्धक एवं ज्ञानवर्धक रहा। समिति को सफल बनाने का श्रेय मैं डॉ. रश्मि ठुकराल मैम व डॉ मीनाक्षी कुमार मैम को देना चाहती हूँ। इन्होंने पूरे वर्ष हमारा मार्गदर्शन किया। मैं दोनों मैम के प्रति अपना आभार व्यक्त करती हूँ। इसके अतिरिक्त मैं अपनी सहयोगी छात्राओं का भी धन्यवाद करना चाहूँगी। इन सब के सहयोग के बिना समिति का कार्य सुचारु रूप से हो पाना संभव नहीं था। अंत में मैं इस समिति के उज्ज्वल भविष्य की कामना करती हूँ।

वी स्वाती
अध्यक्ष, हिंदी प्रश्नोत्तरी समिति
अंकिता आनंद
उपाध्यक्ष, हिंदी प्रश्नोत्तरी समिति



कॉलड्रन, हिंदी मैगजीन सोसायटी

इन पन्नों की महक में हमारा मन बसा हुआ है साथियों की मेहनत का फल छुपा हुआ है। पूछोगे तो जानोगे इन पन्नों की परिभाषा ज्ञान और उमंग से भरी इस सत्र की गाथा।

जीसस एंड मैरी कॉलेज की हिंदी कॉलड्रन, मैगजीन सोसायटी एक परिवारिक सोसायटी है। यह सोसाइटी सभी छात्र-छात्राओं की रचनात्मक लेखनी का स्वागत करती है। विभिन्न भावों एवं विचारों से संबंधित लेखन किसी भी विधा में हो सकते हैं।

यह सोसाइटी हर छात्र को एक ठोस मंच प्रदान करना सुनिश्चित करती है, ताकि वह अपनी रचनात्मक लेखन से अपनी बात लोगों के मध्य रख सके एवं अपनी दिनचर्या के बीच स्वयं को तलाश सके।

कॉलेज पत्रिका का उद्देश्य छात्राओं की रचनात्मक कला को, उनकी उभरती हुई प्रतिभा को उजागर करना एवं उनका पथ प्रदर्शन करना है। अपने मनोभावों को शब्दों के माध्यम से अभिव्यक्त करना मन को ठहराव देता है। पत्रिका का उद्देश्य छात्राओं के लेखन कौशल का संपूर्ण विकास करना है।

गतिविधियां:-

वर्ष 2021-22 की शुरुआत 14 जुलाई, सोसायटी के पदाधिकारी, अध्यक्ष एवं उपाध्यक्ष के चुनाव से हुई जिसमें सर्वसम्मति से अदिति (हिंदी विभाग, तृतीय वर्ष) अध्यक्ष के पद के लिए और महिमा (बी. ए. प्रोग्राम, साइकोलॉजीफिलॉस्फी, द्वितीय वर्ष) उपाध्यक्ष के पद के लिए निर्णायक मंडली द्वारा चुनी गई। जिसके बाद 19 जुलाई को सोसायटी के कोर टीम का चुनाव हुआ।

कॉलड्रन मैगजीन सोसाइटी का लक्ष्य ही यह रहा है कि छात्राओं की क्षमताओं का विकास हो और मैं लेखन के माध्यम से अपने विचार व्यक्त कर पाएं। समिति ने 2021-22 में मुख्य रूप से प्रतियोगिताओं के साथ वेबिनार्स भी आयोजित किए और अन्य सोसायटी के कैम्पेन से जुड़ने का भी सफल प्रयास किया।

समिति ने इस सत्र की शुरुआत, आजादी महोत्सव के जश्न के उल्लास के साथ एक बड़े ही रचनात्मक ढंग से की। इस सत्र में मौलिक कहानी ललेख-आजादी का अमृत महोत्सव

(5 – 14 अगस्त 2021) का आयोजन हुआ। यह प्रतियोगिता हर वर्ष की छात्राओं के लिए थी। रोडोश और निघत ने इस प्रतियोगिता का निरीक्षण किया और अपने फैसले में-

प्रथम पुरस्कार- हिमांगी मिश्रा (बी. ए. प्रोग्राम पॉलीटिकल साइंससोशियोलॉजी द्वितीय वर्ष)

द्वितीय पुरस्कार – सौंदर्य द्विवेदी (बी.ए.हिंदी ऑनर्स, तृतीय वर्ष)

तृतीय पुरस्कार –तेजस्वी (बी. ए. हिंदी ऑनर्स, तृतीय वर्ष)

अदिति (बी. ए. हिंदी ऑनर्स, तृतीय वर्ष) को दिया।

इसके बाद सोसायटी छात्राओं को सोसाइटी से जुड़ने का मौका दिया और 1 सितंबर को इच्छुक छात्राओं का सोसाइटी में स्वागत किया गया।

इस सत्र में लेखन की कला को बढ़ावा देने के लिए सोसाइटी ने एक नई पहल की- मासिक रचयिता (**Author of the month**)। जिसमें छात्र किसी भी विधा में किसी भी विषय पर अपने भाव प्रकट कर सकते थे, इस पहल के आयोजन से छात्रों को लिखने का प्रोत्साहन मिला और हर माह कई लेखन में से एक को मासिक रचयिता का खिताब मिला।

हिंदी भाषा का महत्व- वेबिनार

इसके बाद 15 सितंबर 2021 को हिंदी भाषा के महत्व पर एक वेबिनार आयोजित किया गया। मुख्य अतिथि के रूप में जवाहरलाल नेहरू विश्वविद्यालय के हिंदी विभाग की प्रो. पूनम कुमारी जी को आमंत्रित किया गया था, उन्होंने विभिन्न हिंदी भाषा के कुछ जरूरी मुद्दों को सभी के समक्ष रखा। अपने वक्तव्य के साथ उन्होंने संगोष्ठी में शामिल सदस्यों से एक प्रश्न किया। प्रश्न था की "ऐसा क्या है जो आपको हिंदी बोलने से रोकता है"? इस सवाल का उत्तर वरिष्ठ सदस्य जनों में से डॉ. बीरेंद्र सिंह सर के साथ ही साथ अन्य विद्यार्थियों ने भी दिया। विद्यार्थियों ने भी कई सवाल माननीय वक्ता के समक्ष रखें, और पूनम जी ने सभी सवालों का विस्तार पूर्वक जवाब दिया, यह संगोष्ठी अत्यंत सफल और सबके लिए ज्ञानवर्धक रही।

मौलिक कहानी प्रस्तुतीकरण प्रतियोगिता एवं हस्त कला

कौशल— मधुबनी पेंटिंग वर्कशॉप

सोसाइटी ने 9 अक्टूबर को गांधी जयंती के उपलक्ष्य में मौलिक कहानी प्रस्तुतीकरण प्रतियोगिता एवं हस्तकला कौशल – मधुबनी पेंटिंग वर्कशॉप का आयोजन किया। मौलिक कहानी प्रतियोगिता के निरीक्षण के लिए मुख्य अतिथि के रूप में मनीष शर्मा जी को आमंत्रित किया गया था, सभी प्रतिभागियों ने अपनी उमंग व उत्साह से परिपूर्ण रचनाएं बड़ी खूबसूरती से पेश की। मधुबनी पेंटिंग वर्कशॉप के लिए मुख्य अतिथि के रूप में अपर्णा शंकरम जी को आमंत्रित किया गया था। उन्होंने मधुबनी पेंटिंग की कला के जन्म से जुड़ी लोक कथाओं का संक्षिप्त में विवरण दिया, उन्होंने एक-एक करके सभी प्रतिभागियों को मधुबनी पेंटिंग बनाने से जुड़ी मूल बातों से परिचय करवाया, यह वर्कशॉप और प्रतियोगिता अत्यंत सफल और ज्ञानवर्धक रही।

पोस्टर प्रतियोगिता— कैंसर नहीं है मुश्किल

26 अक्टूबर से 6 नवंबर 2021 तक पोस्टर बनाने की प्रतियोगिता का आयोजन किया गया। यह एक अंतर विद्यालय प्रतियोगिता थी, जो राष्ट्रीय कैंसर जागरूकता दिवस के उपलक्ष्य में आयोजित की गई थी। इसका निरीक्षण सोसाइटी की रचनात्मक टीम ने किया था।

वार्षिक अभिविन्यास

सोसाइटी ने 27 नवंबर 2021 को कॉलेज में आए नए सत्र के प्रथम वर्ष के छात्राओं का स्वागत किया। प्रथम वर्ष की छात्राओं ने बड़ी मात्रा में इस कार्यक्रम में भाग लिया, अध्यक्ष अदिति ने कार्यक्रम में आए प्रथम वर्ष की छात्राओं को सोसाइटी के कार्य करने के तरीकों से अवगत कराया और पीछे हो चुके आयोजित कार्यक्रमों एवं प्रतियोगिताओं के बारे में बताया। कार्यक्रम को और भी रोचक बनाने के लिए एक

कार्यकलाप का आयोजन किया गया जिसमें सभी छात्राओं एवं सोसाइटी मेंबर ने बढ़ चढ़कर हिस्सा लिया।

इश्क और इंकलाब

फरवरी के महीने में वैलेंटाइन वीक को मद्देनजर रखते हुए स्लैम कविता प्रतियोगिता का आयोजन हुआ। यह प्रतियोगिता कॉलेज की दास्तां सोसाइटी के साथ एक संयोजात्मक प्रयास था। इस प्रतियोगिता का विषय था इश्क और इंकलाब। प्रतिभागियों के प्रोत्साहन के लिए उन्हें भाषा की छूट थी, वह अंग्रेजी में भी अपनी कविता कह सकते थे, अंग्रेजी कविता का निरीक्षण प्रो. इशिता सिंह ने किया और हिंदी कविता का प्रो. आशा ने। यह एक सफल प्रयास था जिसमें भारी मात्रा में छात्राओं ने भाग लिया।

इन रंग बिरंगे किस्सों के साथ हम आपसे विदा लेते हैं। सफर में जो साथ चले उनको अलविदा कहते हैं। फिर एक नया साल एक नया सत्र होगा। फिर चुस्कियों के साथ आपका और हमारा संग होगा।

संयोजक

डॉ. अनुपमा श्रीवास्तव

डॉ. बीरेंद्र सिंह

अध्यक्ष –अदिति

उपाध्याक्ष –महिमा सिंह

साक्षात्कार

ऑनलाइन शिक्षण पद्धति में तकनीकी चुनौतियाँ



— गत दो वर्षों से भी अधिक लम्बे समय से चलने वाले लॉकडाउन में भी अध्ययन-अध्यापन का कार्य सुचारु रूप से चलता रहा। अधिकतर गतिविधियाँ ऑनलाइन हो रही थीं। ऐसे उन लोगों की भूमिका अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण थी जिन्होंने कॉलेज या अपने घर पर ही रहते हुए सभी विद्यार्थियों और शिक्षकों की हर संभव सहायता की। इनमें से एक गौरव सर हैं, जो हमारे कॉलेज के तकनीकी सहायक के पद पर कार्य कर रहे हैं। उनके कार्य को और भी अच्छी तरह से समझने के लिए हमने उनसे बातचीत की। प्रस्तुत है इस बातचीत के कुछ अंश:—

तान्या: नमस्कार सर! एक लम्बे समय के अंतराल के बाद हम पुनः कॉलेज आकर अपनी पढ़ाई कर रहे हैं। पर जब अचानक हम सभी को कोरोना की वजह से घरों में ही कैद हो जाना पड़ा, तब भी हमारी शिक्षण-प्रक्रिया बिना रुके चलती रही। मुझे यह लगता है कि यह सब आप जैसे तकनीकी-विशेषज्ञ के कुशल कार्य के कारण संभव हुआ। कृपया आप अपने अनुभव साझा कीजिए—

गौरव सर : आई.टी. में वैसे तो 24x7 का ही काम रहता है लेकिन कॉलेज में थोड़ा स्मूथ रहता है। हमेशा तो इतना काम नहीं रहता लेकिन एग्जाम टाइम और एडमिशन के दौरान थोड़ा बिजी हो जाता हूँ। कोरोना के दौरान काम थोड़ा बढ़ गया था लेकिन फिलहाल सेकेंड और थर्ड ईयर के बच्चे नहीं आ रहे हैं फिर फर्स्ट ईयर और उन्हीं के एग्जाम है तो काम

काफी अच्छी तरह चल रहा है।

तान्या : कोरोना की शुरुआत में सब एकदम ऑनलाइन शिफ्ट हुआ था तो आपको क्या-क्या दिक्कतों का सामना करना पड़ा था?

गौरव सर : ऑनलाइन में हमारे लिए दिक्कत तो थीं क्योंकि पहले हम ऑनलाइन बिल्कुल ही नहीं थे उतना कुछ नहीं होता था मिनिमम पर ही काम चलता था लेकिन कॉलेज ने उससे पहले ही कुछ काम ऑनलाइन सेट कर रखा था जैसे कि अटेंडेंस और टीचर के लिए गूगल से प्लेटफार्म इन्ही सब पर मैंने थोड़ा और काम किया और समय तो लगा लेकिन अब सबकुछ ऑनलाइन शिफ्ट होकर भी मैनेज हो पा रहा हैं और क्योंकि यह सारा काम अकेले करना था जैसे कि टीचर की आईडी बनाना बच्चों के लिए आईडी बनाना और भी बहुत कुछ पर अंत में सब गूगल की मदद से हो गया।

तान्या : 2021, यानि कि मेरा अपना ही बैच जिसका एडमिशन तक ऑनलाइन हुआ है उन सब की दिक्कतें भी ऑनलाइन ही आ रही थी पहले तो बच्चे को ले आकर भी अपनी समस्याओं का हल ढूँढ लिया करते थे पर जब सब कुछ और सारे हैं बच्चे ऑनलाइन पूछने लगे तो उसमें क्या-क्या दिक्कतें सामने आई?

गौरव सर : हां यह भी एक बात थी जब कोरोना आया तो हमने पूरा एडमिशन प्रोसेस ही ऑनलाइन शिफ्ट कर दिया था और हमने उसके अंदर ऐसे ऐसे बदलाव लाएं ताकि किसी भी बच्चे को एक बारी भी कॉलेज ना आना पड़े इसके लिए हमने एक ऐसा प्लेटफार्म बनाया जो कि बहुत ही ज्यादा यूजर फ्रेंडली हो इस सब के अंदर पूरे स्टाफ और सभी टीचरों ने काफी मदद करी थी। हमने अलग-अलग चेकप्वाइंट बनाए और अपना ग्रीवेंस मेल भी दिया। यहाँ तक कि मैंने तो अपना पर्सनल नंबर भी दिया था कि अगर किसी बच्चे को कोई भी दिक्कत हो वह मुझे बताएं और हम उसकी मदद कर सकें।

तान्या : कोरोना के दौरान जब सब काम घर से ही कर रहे थे तब हमारा हमारी घरेलू जिंदगी और काम वाली जिंदगी बीच में टकरा रही थी, तो आप का वर्क लाइफ बैलेंस कैसे रहा था?

गौरव सर : मेरे जैसे एक आईटी के काम करने वाले इंसान के लिए थोड़ा मुश्किल था लेकिन मैंने मैनेज कर लिया था। उस समय अगर आप देखिए तो कॉलेज में शाम के बाद काम नहीं होता है और शनिवार और रविवार भी छुट्टी रहता है लेकिन तब पता ही नहीं था कैसे क्या काम करना है तो सारा दिन ही काम में निकलता था।

तान्या : आपको अपना काम ऑनलाइन करना पसंद है या फिर ऑफलाइन?

गौरव सर : देखो हम इंसान हैं और इंसान को घुल मिलकर

रहना ही पसंद है। आप आते हो तो आप चार लोगों से बात भी करते हो तो दिमाग खुला रहता है। वही घर पर जब आप अकेले पड़ जाते हो तो काम करने मन उतना नहीं लगता है इसलिए मुझे तो ऑफलाइन ही पसंद है।

तान्या: हम से बातचीत करने के लिए आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद सर।

साक्षात्कारकर्ता: तान्या
बी. ए. प्रोग्राम, प्रथम वर्ष



हिमानी देव वर्मा
द्वितीय वर्ष, बी. कॉम. प्रोग्राम

ऑनलाइन शिक्षण पद्धति में तकनीकी चुनौतियाँ



आरोही: इस वर्कफील्ड में आपका रोजाना दिन कैसा गुजरता है?

सुभाष सर: पहले के मुकाबले अभी थोड़ा बदलाव देखने को मिलता है, कोविड से पहले 9-5 जॉब होती थी पर कोविड के बाद से टाइम एक्सटेंड करना पड़ा अभी बेशक हम ऑफलाइनमोड में काम कर रहे हैं पर फिर भी हम एक टाइम टेबल के अनुसार काम नहीं कर पा रहे हैं मतलब हमें ऑफलाइन के साथ साथ ऑनलाइन काम को भी देखना पड़ता है पर फिर भी एक सकारात्मक ऊर्जा के साथ काम हो रहा है और होता रहेगा।

आरोही: कोरोना काल में सबके जीवन में बहुत से परिवर्तन आए हैं, वो परिवर्तन आपके जीवन में भी आए होंगे जैसे कोरोना काल के दौरान सब कुछ ऑफलाइन से ऑनलाइन शिफ्ट हो गया तो आपको किन परेशानियों का सामना करना पड़ा?

सुभाष सर: हां, कोरोना काल में सबके जीवन में बहुत से परिवर्तन आए, मेरे जीवन में भी आया, जब कोविड अपने पीक पर था उस टाइम मुझे नोडल ऑफिसर की पदवी मिली और जैसा कि सब वाकिफ हैं इस महामारी से नोडल ऑफिसर बनने के एक हफ्ते के अंदर ही मैं भी कोविड संक्रमित हो गया पर मुझे यह बहुत अच्छा लगा की स्टूडेंट्स मेरा हाल चाल पूछ रहे थे, कोविड के दौरान काम दोगुना हो गया था। रात के 2-2 बजे तक काम करना पड़ रहा था। क्योंकि यह ऐसा समय था जहां कोई इस से परिचित नहीं था कैसे काम

करना है नहीं करना है जिनको यह सब आता था उनके लिए ज्यादा काम हो गया था, पर अब सब धीरे धीरे सिख गए हैं, जिम्मेदारियां बढ़ गई थी। इस काल में स्टूडेंट्स के लिए वेबिनार्स अरेंज करवाए गए और हर तरह के छात्रों के लिए चाहे वो रेगुलर स्टूडेंट्स हों, SoI से हों सबके लिए वेबीनास का आयोजन किया गया, और इन सबसे प्रभावित होकर दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय के वाइस चांसलर ने मुझे एवं मेरी पूरी टीम को अप्रिप्रिशन सर्टिफिकेट से सम्मनित किया। कोविड को एक अवसर के रूप में लेकर काम किया और कर रहा हूँ।

आरोही : सर हमारा बैच जो 2023 में पास आउट होगा अगले साल और इस बैच का एडमिशन 2020 में हुआ मतलब कोविड काल का पहला बैच जिसका एडमिशन ऑनलाइन मोड में हुआ था इससे पहले तो ऑफलाइन हुआ करता था, पर यह सब कुछ नया था सबके लिए तो इस बीच अलग अलग क्वेरीज भी आती होंगी?

सुभाष सर: हालांकि मैं एडमिशन ब्रांच में तो नहीं हूँ, पर मेरे साथी हैं जो एडमिशन का काम देखते हैं उन्होंने भी बहुत लगन और मेहनत के साथ काम किया, कोविड के दौरान वर्ककल्चर चेंज हुआ, मेरे साथियों ने जो एडमिशन ब्रांच के सदस्य हैं उन्होंने छात्राओं के क्वेरीज के लिए एक ईमेल आईडी भी बनाई जिसके माध्यम से छात्राओं ने अपनी परेशानियां सांझा की और उनका निवारण हमारी एडमिशन ब्रांच के द्वारा किया गया।

आरोही: कोरोना के समय जब सब काम घर से ही कर रहे थे (वर्कफ्रॉम होम) तब हमारा हमारी घरेलू जिंदगी और काम वाली जिंदगी के बीच में टकरार हो रही थी, तो आप वर्कलाइफ बैलेंस कैसे कर रहे थे?

सुभाष सर: घर और काम के बीच एक बैलेंस बनाना पड़ा, "आवश्यकता आविष्कार की जननी है", कोविड के दौरान मुझे यह पता चला घर से काम करते हुए की प्राइमरी जरूरत क्या है किसको कहते हैं प्राइमरी जरूरत, जैसे मेरे दो बेटे हैं एक 8 साल का और एक 5 साल का तो कोविड के दौरान मुझे पता चला की वो कैसे बड़े हो रहे हैं, उनको और करीब से जाना हालांकि मैं रोज मिलता हूँ उनसे पर कोविड के दौरान

मुझे पता चला की काम और घर को बैलेंस करते हुए भी एक अच्छा माहौल बनाया जा सकता है, कोविड को महामारी के रूप में न लेकर उसको एक अवसर के रूप में लेकर काम किया है मैंने जो मुझे सबसे अच्छा लगा।

आरोही: आपको अपना काम ऑनलाइन करना पसंद है या ऑफलाइन? हालांकि अभी कॉलेज में आप काम ऑफलाइन मोड में कर रहे हैं और आपको इसमें भी दोनों तरीकों से काम करना पड़ रहा है।

सुभाष सर: मैं सिचुएशन के हिसाब से काम करना पसंद करता हूँ, हालांकि ऑफलाइन मोड में कॉलेज खुल गए हैं पर काम तो ऑनलाइन ही होता है, ट्रांसपेरेंसी के साथ काम होता है, मैं JMC में एक नोडल ऑफिसर के साथ साथ दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय की एक टीम के साथ भी काम करता

हुं और इन सब का पूरा श्रेय में हमारी कॉलेज की प्रिंसिपल डॉ. सैंड्राजोसेफ को देता हूँ की उन्होंने मुझे इस काबिल समझा और मुझे काम करने का अवसर प्रदान किया इस क्षेत्र में, JMC के अलावा भी बहुत से कॉलेज के छात्रों की मदद करने का सुअवसर मिला, कोविड काल को सकारात्मक विचारधारा के साथ लेकर काम करने में बहुत आनंद आया और परिस्थिति कोई भी हो उसको एक अवसर के रूप में लेना चाहिए। अंत में यही कहूँगा कि –

“वह पथ क्या पथिक कुशलता क्या, जिस पथ में बिखरे शूल न हों।

नाविक की धैर्य कुशलता क्या, जब धाराएं प्रतिकूल न हों।”

जयशंकर प्रसाद
साक्षात्कारकर्ता: अंतरा आरोही
हिन्दी ऑनर्स, द्वितीय वर्ष

“हस्तकला कौशल और महिलाएं” विषय पर आधारित परियोजना कार्य और मेरा अनुभव

मैं, भानु प्रिया हिंदी ऑनर्स तृतीय वर्ष की छात्रा, वूमैन स्टडी सेंटर की सदस्य हूँ। मैंने और मेरे साथियों ने मिलकर इस परियोजना कार्य को सफल बनाया है। इस परियोजना कार्य को करते समय मुझे सार्थक और महत्वपूर्ण अनुभव हुआ जो अकादमिक दृष्टि से मेरे लिए बहुत मूल्यवान है। इस अनुभव के लिए मैं डॉ. अनुपमा श्रीवास्तव को तहे दिल से धन्यवाद करती हूँ। यह परियोजना कार्य “हस्तकला कौशल और महिलाओं” पर आधारित है।

इस कार्य को करते हुए मुझे जो अनुभव प्राप्त हुए, मैं उन्हें साँझा करना चाहती हूँ मेरा यह मानना है कि हमारे देश में आज हस्तकला के क्षेत्र में काफी महिलाएं निपुण हैं, वह आज के दौर में बहुत आगे बढ़ चुकी हैं और लगातार बढ़ रही हैं। पहले के जमाने में महिलाओं को कोई भी बाहरी काम करने नहीं दिया जाता था। परंतु अब महिलाएं आत्मनिर्भर, सशक्त एवं सफल रूप से धनोपार्जन कर रही हैं और अपने परिवार का पालन पोषण भी कर रही हैं। मैं और मेरे साथियों द्वारा यह मौलिक प्रयास विभिन्न पाठ्य-सामग्रियों और व्यक्तिगत रूप से एकत्रित की गई जानकारीयों पर आधारित है। हमने अलग-अलग क्षेत्रों में फील्ड वर्क किया है और इन्हीं से हमें इस परियोजना के लिए भारतीय हस्तकला शिल्प के बारे में बहुत कुछ सीखा और कई नई बातों को सीखा और व्यक्तिगत रूप से भी हमने बहुत कुछ सीखा। जहाँ एक ओर हमने हस्तकला में कार्यरत इन महिलाओं को उनकी सशक्त होती हुई स्थिति को समझा, वहीं दूसरी ओर हमारे अंदर भी एक नए आत्मविश्वास और जिज्ञासु प्रवृत्ति का निर्माण हुआ जो हमारे जीवन के लिए अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण है।

हमारे पूर्व राष्ट्रपति ए.पी.जे. अब्दुल कलाम जी महिलाओं की सशक्तिकरण पर लिखते हैं— “महिलाओं का सशक्तिकरण एक अच्छे राष्ट्र के निर्माण के लिए पूर्वापेक्षा है, जब महिलाओं को स्थिरता के साथ समाज द्वारा सशक्त बनाया जाता है। महिलाओं का सशक्तिकरण आवश्यक है क्योंकि उनकी मूल्य

प्रणाली एक अच्छे परिवार, एक अच्छे समाज और अंततः एक अच्छे राष्ट्र के विकास की ओर ले जाती हैं।”

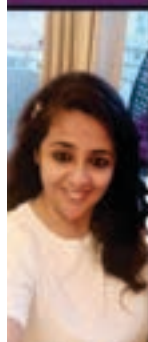
इस प्रोजेक्ट के माध्यम से “हस्तकला कौशल और महिलाएं” द्वारा विभिन्न कार्य भागों में महिलाओं की स्थिति को समझने का प्रयास किया गया है। हमने फील्ड वर्क के तहत हस्तशिल्प कला में महिलाओं के सामाजिक और आर्थिक आधार पर अध्ययन किया है।

अब अगर इस दौर की कारीगर महिलाओं पर बात कि जाए तो यह पता चलता है कि वह ज्यादातर पारंपरिक और असंगठित क्षेत्र में काम करती हैं जिसमें वह अन्याय और कम मजदूरी, यौन उत्पीड़न, अत्यधिक काम करने की स्थिति, अनियमित कार्य अनुसूची के प्रति संवेदनशील होती हैं, जिससे उनके कार्य जीवन का प्रबंधन करना बहुत मुश्किल होता है। ज्यादातर समय ऐसी स्थितियों के कारण उन्हें काम के बजाए घर का चुनाव करना पड़ता है। लेकिन समय एक बड़ा बदलाव ले रहा है और हस्तकला के क्षेत्र में कार्यरत महिलाओं के लिए स्थिति बदल रही है। गरीब व ग्रामीण महिलाओं ने अपनी क्षमता का विकास किया है और आत्मनिर्भर बन गई हैं। यह पाया गया है कि वे आसानी से काम और अपने परिवार का प्रबंधन भी कर रही हैं।

मैं बहुत शुक्रगुजार हूँ कि मैं वूमैन स्टडी सेंटर से जुड़ी और इस परियोजना कार्य का हिस्सा बनी।

भानु प्रिया
(वूमैन स्टडी सेंटर की सदस्य)
जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज
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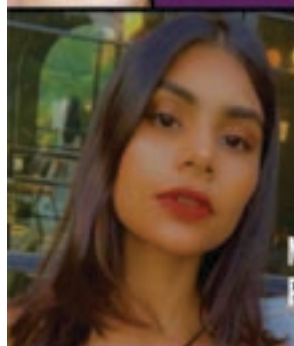
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