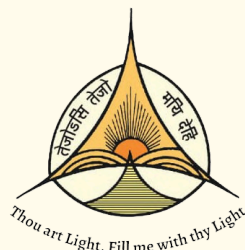


Jesus and Mary College

Dimensions

2022-23



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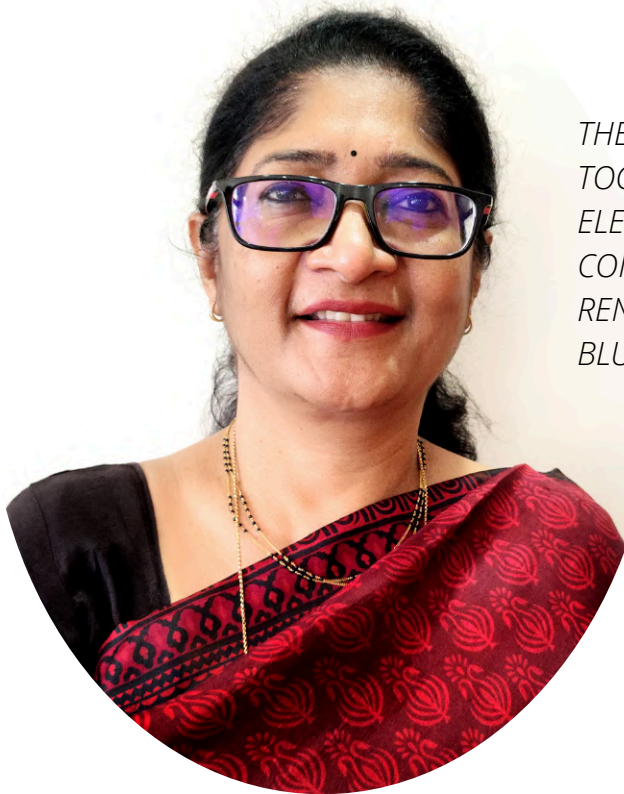
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THE JMC FAMILY SAW HOW COMING TOGETHER OF THE OLD AND THE NEW ELEMENTS CAN INFUSE INDIVIDUALS, COMMUNITIES AND INSTITUTIONS WITH RENEWED ENERGIES, CREATING A BLUEPRINT FOR SUCCESS.

From the Principal's Desk

Established in 1968, with a vision to empower young women through sound knowledge 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 in realising their full potential and self-worth. It encourages students to contribute significantly to the

development of diverse spheres of life. With its rich legacy of visionary founders, eminent and highly accomplished academicians, and a dedicated team of administrative staff, JMC makes great strides - marking milestones and achieving accolades.

Defining the education policy of the college, are its vision and mission which have been its major strength 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 teamwork through varied curricular and extra-curricular activities. The success of the institution's mission is driven by a sound value-based ethical approach in all aspects of functioning. Emanating from its core values, the college believes that all aspects of education should focus towards creating a more just and humane society. The college admits students from diverse national and international backgrounds which promotes a multicultural ethos on the campus.

The last academic session was about carrying out the physical mode of teaching-learning in two different curricular frameworks. The JMC staff and students embraced the excitement of these new transformations as they simultaneously held onto the stability of ongoing systems. Students' adaptability and the tireless work of faculty in bringing back the pre-pandemic academic rigour, reviving the college's cultural life paved the way for greater achievements. In the last session, collaboration and mentorship witnessed across batches upon returning to the physical mode of teaching reached their peak. The JMC family saw how coming together of the old and the new elements can infuse individuals, communities and institutions with renewed energies, creating a blueprint for success.

I congratulate and thank the Editorial team for their hard work in documenting our journey through '*Something Old, Something New*' in this edition of the annual magazine.

Prof. Sandra Joseph

Principal



From the Editorial Desk

"The only way to make sense out of change is to plunge into it, move with it, and join the dance." ~ Alan Watts

This is exactly what we did through the current edition of *Dimensions*. The year 2022-2023 was all about transitions both in the world at large with Artificial Intelligence becoming a part of dinner table conversations and at the university with new curricular frameworks changing the contours of teaching-learning. The editorial team dived right into these waves of innovations and decided to experiment and reshape *Dimensions* in tune with the changing times.

This edition is close to my heart and special in many ways. Comprising many firsts, the 22-23 magazine is designed entirely by the students of

the English and Hindi Desks. Each page, each visual and every word of the magazine reflects the deep personal involvement of members who contributed to the production of this edition. The writings and visual narratives that follow are an attempt at archiving our ways of engaging with a stimulating world of 'Something Old, Something New'. Building on the old foundation of sections like 'Prize-Winning Entries' and 'Creative Musings', we have included a new section, 'On Artificial Intelligence'. We have also tried our hands at giving you a glimpse into the soul of JMC through 'Campus Kaleidoscope' which brings together articles that work like guidebooks for students wanting to

know about the best offerings of the JMC Canteen and the eateries around the campus, in addition to some interesting books housed within the JMC library.

This edition is also important as it documents the inauguration of JMC's Community Engagement Centre and its commitment to outreach work. It includes a detailed report with pictures of the highlights of the centre's programmes.

I extend my deepest gratitude to the Principal, Prof. Sandra Joseph, for entrusting me with this responsibility. Her support has given wings to the editorial team, allowing us to dabble in creative experimentation. I am also grateful to Ms. Purnima Topden and Dr. Sugandha Sehgal, from whom I have gained valuable insights into the art of curating a college magazine. My heartfelt thanks are due to the Staff Editor, Ms. Aneesha Puri for her unwavering support and editorial contribution. Special thanks are also due to Dr. Dolly V. Muanching and Dr. Prashasti Joshi for their support in the final phase of the magazine production. The journey to produce *Dimensions* 2022-23 would not have been as exciting without the collaboration with Dr. Meenakshi Kumar and the Hindi Desk editorial team. Finally, this edition is the labour of love of the student editors, Shaoni Dutta and Aditi Banerji. It is to them and the dedication of the whole editorial team that I owe the joy of what this edition represents.

As we present this magazine to you, we hope that your enjoyment of reading it echoes the pleasure we took in its production.

Best wishes,

Kashish Dua

*Convenor and Editor
The Magazine Society (English Desk)*

Student Editorial



It's quite a thrill to take my place as the latest student editor of *Dimensions* - I've always had a crush on visual storytelling. Today I take immense pleasure in presenting our stories more picturesquely than ever before.

As part of the fresher's batch of 2020, my friends and I have lived through bizarre times and called it 'the new normal'. The entire world was rebooting around us, and this churn of events is yet to stop. In the last year, Artificial Intelligence became creative and we reacted with amused eyebrows and Instagram reels. Rarely is life dramatic enough to make the world teeter between what's gone, and what's coming - times are perfect for a magazine themed *Something Old, Something New*. We invite you to embark on this journey with us, while we, the peak of Gen-Z, take a breath and reflect on this absurd resilience that has kept us going.

Our 2023 issue is dedicated to folklore, and rewriting classics with a modern hand. It is bursting with magnificent food, gorgeous photo essays, and hilarious comics, all in an attempt to capture something meaningful about this historical moment. I express my deepest gratitude to our Principal Prof. Sandra Joseph for her continued support. I am immensely grateful to Ms. Kashish Dua and Ms. Aneesha Puri, our staff editors, for making our attempts possible, meaningful and memorable. My heart goes out to my Editorial Board and Digital Team for their unbelievable dedication to this venture; and last, but not least, many thanks to my Vice-President Aditi Banerji, without whom I would be a lost cause.

SHAONI DUTTA
President
The Magazine Society



Prize Winning Entries

Anupama Nair Creative Writing Competition

is organised by the Department of English every year in memory of Anupama Nair, a former student of the Department. This year's winning entries include "Coming Back Home to Myself", "Mambo's Banishment" and an Untitled piece.

Wordcraft

Wordcraft is an annual creative writing, art, and photography competition organised by Cauldron - The English Magazine Society. This year's themes included an exploration of folklore and the rewriting of classics with a modern twist.

Word Weaves

Word Weaves is another annual creative writing event conducted by Cauldron - The English Magazine Society. This year's themes for Word Weaves dealt with the passage of time and a confrontation with the newly developing forms of creative Artificial Intelligence.



Art by Nashra Sehar
3rd year, B.A. English Honours

Coming Back Home to Myself

By Aarushi Singh

3rd year, B.A. English Honours

once i have left
the home must be torn down
and i wish someone would
drill into the crevice and peer
in and tear me apart, limb by
limb and perhaps then i would

where do i retrace my steps
lead me as the path spills
beyond — i

am cut off
there is nowhere
to go

be something
so exist,
does the empty space enclose

the house cannot haunt
without your traces

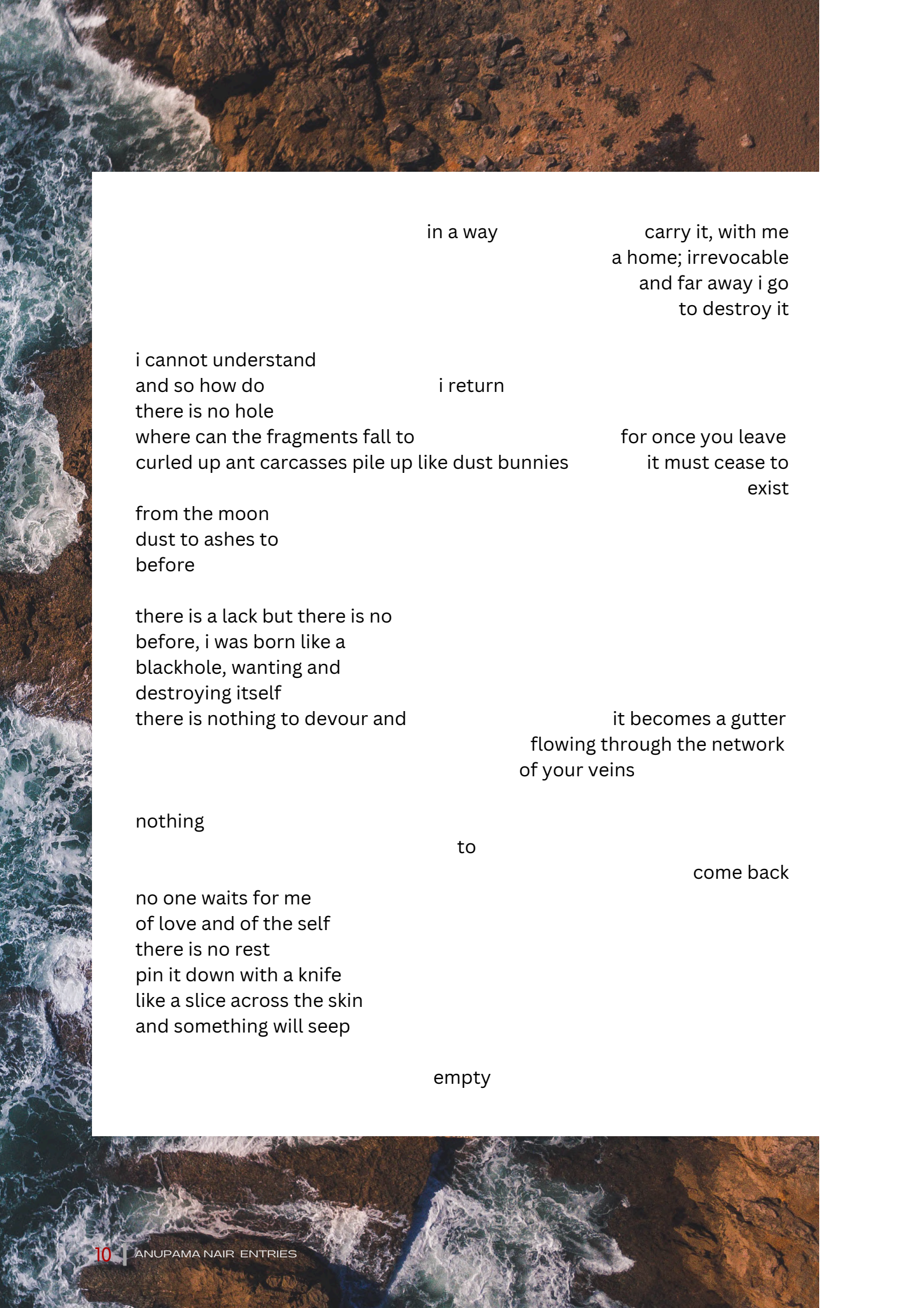
i must taint it

dig your rust blood nails in
and cement me to
make this place
the house cannot haunt
abject
and the self cannot
does not

i must

exist

rejected,
the claws cannot maul in
and pierce and see anything through



in a way

carry it, with me
a home; irrevocable
and far away i go
to destroy it

i cannot understand
and so how do

i return

there is no hole
where can the fragments fall to
curled up ant carcasses pile up like dust bunnies

for once you leave
it must cease to
exist

from the moon
dust to ashes to
before

there is a lack but there is no
before, i was born like a
blackhole, wanting and
destroying itself
there is nothing to devour and

it becomes a gutter
flowing through the network
of your veins


nothing

to

come back

no one waits for me
of love and of the self
there is no rest
pin it down with a knife
like a slice across the skin
and something will seep

empty

A painting of a landscape with trees and a hill. The title 'Mambo's Banishment' is written in large white serif font over the top half of the image. Below the title, the author's name 'By Devaki S.' and '2nd year, B.A. Programme' are written in a smaller white sans-serif font.

Mambo's Banishment

By Devaki S.

2nd year, B.A. Programme

A 40-minute car ride from Mappalley, indifferent to mundane identities and the bustle of city rickshaws, were the grounds of a secluded school. Nestled in a shallow valley, the grounds unfurled acre upon acre of thick bramble, and tough black-grey speckled rocks. The rocky slopes of the hills sported red lines of volcanic residue, like betel juice had been dripped down their sides by some self-assuming artist. In the valley, stood tall strong trees, planted by the hands of the very first students some eight decades ago. This tale of activism was often recited like those of the moon landing chronicling the American flag, and much like it, most students wondered about the degrees of exaggeration adopted by the overzealous oldies teaching them.

Up Duranta Hill, crowded boys' hostels spotted the wide road; Krishna, Kaveri, Jacaranda, and Duranta. It was easy to imagine that on some pleasant afternoon in May, Verma Sir would be leading an adventurous expedition of tiny freshmen up those winding paths, as they debated the difference between Jacaranda flowers and Duranta flowers, when in reality, both were quite simply purple blooms that lit up the hill with a violet flame during spring. Between green leaves, and the yellow bells of Allamanda petals, whitewashed two-storey buildings stayed hidden, and inside them, adolescent no-gooders. Langurs lazed around upon sturdy branches, on vigilant look-out for some fool to walk by with fists of overflowing snacks; sweet-and-sticky murukku, oily chips peppered with red chilli powder, rhombus stacks of Hide-and-Seek, melting Cadburys, and all the other junk stacked up like military rations in every cupboard, nook and cranny.



Of the many Tamarind trees on campus, only one young, fruit-laden bystander could assume any role of importance in the valley. After all, this fine afternoon, it had been specially chosen for a Panchayati gathering by the all-important students of fourth grade. Taking great pride in its designated role, the tree spread out its branches as far as it could, so that its young employers could hang off its arms and sit cramped on its shoulders, while the late-comers crowded around its thick trunk. In loud serious voices, they discussed matters of politics and governance, making informed decisions through majority vote. The Parliament was in session. Across them, sat Ms. Kalaka Nair (their most-interesting class teacher and national leader), and Ms. Fatima Ahmed (their math teacher and comrade), attentively eavesdropping, like spying journalists. All accounts of today's meet would be made available to the public for tea-time gossip, and will be told in person with gusto and exaggeration to the biggest enthusiasts of such politics, the elementary school faculty.

"Everyone stop talking! Aravindan and his supporters have had all the time in the world to explain their thoughts on the matter! Now it is time to listen to the others. I think Murti has something important to share?" Giri spoke authoritatively, like a corrupt mediator whose pockets had been lined with a week's worth of tuck. Murti stepped forward and addressed the crowd. "Hello everyone! Anupama, Hunnar, Murali, and I strongly disagree with Aravindan's beliefs! He says that Mambo is a rascal, good-for-nothing thief and criminal! But is it truly criminal to behave like a dog, when you are a dog? We cannot uphold human laws against dogs and cats! What next? Do you want to tax the cows for grazing on our grass?"



Jail the monkeys for taking our food?" Murmurs of agreement broke out amongst the public. Aravindan felt a sense of crisis and scrambled to give an appropriate response, and more importantly, win back public favour.

"It might be the nature of dogs to bark and bite, but haven't you heard that dogs can also be trained? Why must we live with this brute, growling at us for reasons we don't know? Why must we get chased from our hostel doors to our classrooms, with him and his pack of devils hot at our heels? I say we banish him to the Ofcamps!" Victims of Mambo's past miscreancy loudly hurrah-ed, showing their support for the banishment.

But many in the crowd felt hesitant about such a harsh punishment. *Ofcamps*, more appropriately known as off-campus, was a world of wilderness, where Mambo might find himself homeless and alone. Everything from between the campus main gate to the main road of Mapalley was *Ofcamps*. You could walk and walk, but there will be no civilization in sight for hours. This they knew from a group of senior boys, who had willed themselves to risk the dangers of *Ofcamps* in search of a mythical movie

theatre at a nearby village. Rescue operations arrived in the form of their principal, as he had driven past their stranded group and *offered* them a lift. Needless to say, since their return, they had become as mythical an existence as their beloved theatre, stuck on house arrest in their cramped hostel rooms.

Watching the Parliamentary session, was another audience, who had hidden between some crown flower bushes, with their snouts and ears sticking out from under the leaves, like furry periscopes trained on enemy forces. Hearing Aravindan's reform proposals, they were left worried. If they were banished to Ofcamps, would they find any store-brand dog treats to indulge in? Would there be any more table scraps to gorge upon? Faced with a bleak future, they whined to each other about their imminent sorrows and sufferings. Amongst their group of hooligans, only one was standing quietly, as though in some serious thought. Mambo's pack looked to him, only to find him suddenly rushing out of the bushes, heading straight towards the Parliament. They followed him gleefully, wishing he would pounce on that ill-wishing child devil, Aravindan, and teach him a lesson



once and for all. Contrary to their hopes, Mambo simply sat in front of the crowd, as though bravely accepting his fate.

Seeing his nemesis appear before him, Aravindan had jumped behind Giri, fearfully wondering if it was at last time for him to fall prey to Mambo's mighty jaws. Seeing the prideful hound sit demurely before them, he felt Mambo had purposefully given him a fright to embarrass him before his fellow party men. Giri shoved Aravindan away from himself, and asked with mock authority, "So Mambo! Have you come here to submit yourself to the judgement of this court?" The Parliament had thereby turned into a jury. Mambo lowered his head, as though agreeing to his banishment. "Alright. To ensure that you do not go back on your word, we will accompany you to the school gates. You will be permanently exiled, and are never to set foot back on campus!" Giri pronounced. Murti and his supporters made no objections, seeing as Mambo had accepted the punishment himself, thereby labelling him guilty of the crimes Aravindan accused him of. Soon, the party set off, a mix of 9-year-olds and scruffy dogs.

When they arrived at the gate, there was a moment of silence. Everyone, dogs and children alike, seemed to understand the importance of the moment, and treated it with respect. A member of their society, now a fallen convict, was about to receive a life sentence.

Just as Giri opened his mouth to begin the declaration of Mambo's exile, the heavy gates opened, and in drove a familiar red Alto. The windows rolled down and out popped the face of their principal. Immediately, the crowd scattered, like a mob of protestors at the sight of khaki pants and lathis. Their principal looked on in confusion, as all but Mambo remained, and he dazedly put his arm out to pat his head absentmindedly.

The Parliament was adjourned.



“

*Portia Flowers Always Grow
More Beautiful As They Fade.*

~Perumal Murugan

”

By Shaoni Dutta

3rd Year, B.A. English Honours

A mong the umpteen houses in this narrow street of a tiny town near Kolkata, moonlight refused to shine through the old-fashioned window of this particular house. Rani's house. But never mind that. The *para* was well-lit after a long year of stepping into potholes unwittingly, all thanks to Durga Pujo. One could ignore the weird, untimely clouds looming overhead when it's *that* time of the year. Speakers had been placed throughout the streets at regular intervals (non-consensually, Rani might add), but right now she didn't hate them so much. Nobody can hate Shreya Ghoshal's mellifluous voice.

Rani's first-floor window gave a clear view of the people downstairs. The *para* people. Including her unmarried niece-in-law, Kalpana. She was too old to dance publicly, but it would be the highlight of Rani's evening. Bhegu, Kalpana's unmarried sibling, suffered from piles. It would be rare to see him outside, let alone dance. Rani should go and greet Bhegu da. Rani's brother-in-law lived around the corner, at the posher, pothole-less turning of the street. His daughter-in-law Gauri- fat, gregarious, and entirely unsophisticated, made for great gossip material.

She would be here too, dancing with Kalpana. Rani would be peeking down from her elite window, laughing at them, and later she would call up her daughters to chronicle the newest para entertainment. Her granddaughter had shown her how to shoot a video on her mobile phone, so this time Rani could send a video on their WhatsApp group and it would be quite the chuckle.

It had been a long time since Rani was back at her house. Her house. She loved to claim her ownership of it. Living with her daughter Madhura and her family in Bombay was nice but... uncomfortable. It was not really hers, and she couldn't help but prefix everything with a pronoun- "your house", "your family", "your choice". It pissed them off. She knew it was her ego talking, but why would she want to go intervene in someone else's family? She was not destitute. Manindra had left her more than enough. A lump sum pension. A gigantic mansion. A family. Granted, she was a little too weak to be trusted to live alone, with her sugar level at an all-time high, a broken toe, and not to mention the godforsaken COPD, but she was also strong. Her daughters had a bad habit of forgetting who brought them up since they were teenagers.

She sighs, turning away from the window with her thoughts. Time for tea. The one thing she couldn't live without. As the tea brews, Rani's eyes are misted over with a long-buried longing. She wishes to go downstairs. As much as she laughs at Kalpana and Gauri for their unsophisticated rowdiness, Rani does harbour a desire

to dance at a Pujo again, to the beats of the *dhaak*. Swaying her hips, like her granddaughter does. What was it that Didai had taught her? *Right leg age age, left leg peeche peeche...* Snapping her fingers (somewhat), rolling her shoulders, she bursts out laughing at her own nonsense. Besides, she had not gone out to a pandal during Pujo since 1988. Pujo was, concretely, a time of mourning.

She looks back at the framed photograph of her late husband.

As the incense smoke fills the room, she is caught in a kind of resentment towards the photograph. She was fifteen when he married her, and her rowdiness stopped forever. She had found her joy instead, in golden jewellery and Benarasi sarees. She would take a lot of pride in being beautiful, with her thick, long locks of hair, her sarees...

But the neighbouring jealousy that had followed her throughout her married years had found its appetite fulfilled with Manindra's passing. Benarasi sarees became a thing of the past. She had suddenly found her beautiful hands full of two daughters, and her back, a graveyard of daggers.

She did what she had to. She wrapped herself in a white saree, put her luscious hair in a tight bun and sorted her life insurance and bank accounts. She raised her daughters, sent



Madhura to Bhubaneswar for her father's job, and sent Moyurie to Bethune for higher education. The rest followed smoothly - evil eyes returned, her daughters built their own lives knowing whom not to trust, and Rani lived her life travelling from Bombay to Delhi to Kolkata, living three happy lives. Her daughters didn't disappoint.

As happy as she was now, she couldn't forgive Manindra for what he had unknowingly stolen. She still accused the pure man of good morals, too timid to know otherwise. Of late, he would appear in her dreams, asking her to don the red Benarasi. He would announce *Maa's* arrival, and as much as she resisted, looked down upon such childish desires, she knew what she wanted this Pujo.

Who's watching you? The little voice inside her head was back. She strains the boiling black tea into her cup and blows air onto it. The mirror on her Almira reflects a younger Rani. She smiles, the perpetual cup of tea warming her palm, the way it always had. She undoes the tight bun, letting her hair fall to her hip as *Uludhvani* reaches its crescendo outside. It is as long as before. Madhura's desperate attempts to modernize her mother hadn't resulted in shoulder-length hair yet. The hair on her forehead has thinned a little down the middle. She puts some of Keya Seth's Instant Black to cover up the white near her temples and lines her eyes with kohl. Some powder on her sagging cheeks. She was becoming a stranger to herself by the second. She hunts among Moyurie's things, finding the perfect golden *jhumkas* to go with her look. A necklace, lipstick, some perfume maybe... She keeps the Benarasi for last.

The rusting Almira houses a shop's worth of sarees, some of which had not been broken since her wedding day. She blissfully ignores the white ones on her left, and hunts downwards (ouch, knee trouble), until she finds the red one. Manindra had bought this for her when they were in Haridwar for a holiday. They had taken a picture together, with Rani wearing this. She breaks the folds, donning it on with practised ease. A safety pin to hold the *aanchal*. Another to hold the elaborate folds at her waist. Some jasmine in her hair, and a dab of vermillion on her forehead.

To finish off, a dazzling, gap-toothed smile.

Rani did not know who she was anymore. The mirror could gasp. Tonight, she would not sleep. Did she dare go out like this? She chuckles. Gone is the boring old lady in white. Gone are her glasses and her boring bun. This is her, grown more beautiful with age. This is a new Durga Pujo.

She walks down the stairs, a skip in her careful steps. Outside lies the idol of Maa Durga, the eternal woman, the one who never fades. She rolls her shoulders, her jasmine-scented hair swaying. She snaps her fingers and taps her toes in rhythm. The video camera on her phone shows "recording". The threshold at the door can't stop her anymore.

*Right leg age age, left leg peeche peeche,
aaja yaara let's start ve!*



My Red Spirit

By Niveditha Ajay

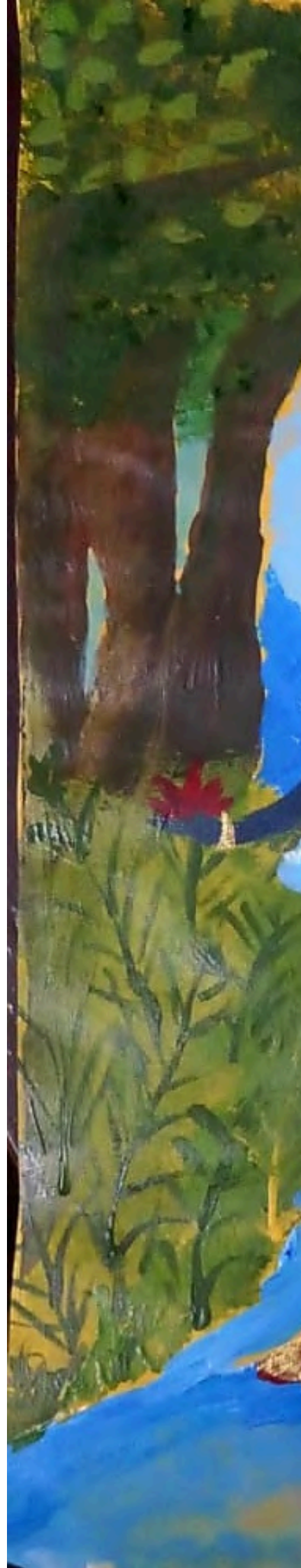
2nd year, B.A. English Honours

During quiet evenings, I would ask Grandmother for a story. As the sun set and lamps were lit, she would stretch her legs out on the verandah, a small, satisfied sigh leaving her at the end of each day. I had decided this was the cue for my routine request. Her lovely skin crinkled with a smile, and after much pretence and feigned disinterest, she would relent, as she did every day.

Her eyes came alive when she began narrating, pulling characters, people, places from corners of her carefully layered mind—for one thing she always maintained—“my stories are true stories—they definitely happened.” I would laugh at that, for she would then proceed with the most fantastical story I had ever heard.

The monsoon I turned thirteen, she told me a story.

All day her eyes had flitted to the borders of the field, the paddy green and growing. The horizon looked as it always had, but for Grandmother it seemed she was suddenly reminded of its existence. We sat at our usual spot on the verandah, her silver hair gleaming as I looked up. There was something in her expression that day, a wistfulness as unusual as her preoccupation with what lay beyond the field. I did not have to convince her today, she began her story as though the words could no longer be trapped within her, like in their desperation they had pushed through her lips into the night air.





“Once upon a time, there lived a sculptor who was extremely talented with her mallet and chisel, her skill evident in the pieces she produced.

“While on her travels, she arrived at a little village. Taking shelter under a large banyan tree, she came across a smooth rock ideal for carving. The water run stone had an easy-to-work surface, weathered by the river nearby. She set out to carve the form in her mind.

“Who emerged but a fierce deity, with fire in her eyes, a bold mouth, and wild locks of forest hair! The sculptor knew where she had come from—the tales children of her village told—the spirit of the forest who had patience only for children and was particularly amused if you planted grass lilies at the end of the forest. She smiled at her creation, recalling the stories they had heard of sightings, and even hearing the spirit’s voice across the forest. When it was time to leave, she kept her under the very same tree.”



*Illustrated by
Kamalakshi Singh
2nd year, B.A.
English Honours*



I was lost in the world of the story, trying to conjure the goddess' image in my head.

Grandmother continued, "Soon, a man came around and seeing the spirit's statue immediately fell at its feet, praying. As he left, he left a marigold as an offering. As more people flocked to the bank, the marigolds at her feet increased in number. Eventually, there came money—coins of all sizes and notes in all colours. The deity was given garlands—of marigold, tulsī and neem. Her fame grew as the wish-granting goddess of the river—take a bath in the river and pray, any desire would be fulfilled."

But she was the spirit of the forest, I remember wondering.

"Then, it was decided a temple was essential to celebrate and house the goddess. The people of the village together created a large stone temple, with ornate doors of gold. Ritual worship began, and soon came the

lore. The river goddess dressed in blue was pleased with marigolds and was the protector of all those who worked with her water. The deity now had a home to which people from all over came to visit."

"So, the same goddess now belonged to two groups?" I asked.

"Can stories be caged?" Grandmother asked. I did not know.

She gave a small smile before beginning again, allowing me to wonder. "Many, many years later, the sculptor, now old and wise, came to the same village while on her travels. She was drawn to the same riverbank and found the crowds thronging the temple. Through the doors, her eyes saw the figure of the goddess and were filled with immense joy at the sight of her creation. She moved closer to reach the threshold of the temple when she was stopped abruptly. 'You cannot enter', a man told her."

"WHY?" I exclaimed.

Grandmother looked at me, “That is what she asked him too, to which he replied that she was not of their kind—she wore different clothes, read different books, and had different things to tell the river goddess.

“ ‘But she is also my forest spirit—my red spirit who watched over us,’ she exclaimed. The man shook his head, ‘I do not care what you believe—the goddess of the river will not see your kind.’ The stunned sculptor decided to not push—the men looked angry. She cast one sad look at her spirit and left, leaving her a grass lily in memory.”

My heart broke. “She was her forest spirit first. They cannot do that!” I began to protest.

Grandmother looked at me seriously, “They can do it, child. They have done it many times over.”

I can't only imagine the evident dejection in my face.

“What do you do then?” she began, touching my chin softly. “You remember. You fight your memory, the words forced down your throat, the new stories that seek to replace the old—you fight to remember the stories they want you to forget the most.

“You remember the spirit was of the forest, and remains so even when she is the goddess of the river. She was born out of the sculptor’s story, from a village she still resides in, and no temple can cage that story.”

“Stories cannot be caged,” I whispered, eyes bright.

“The fields were on fire once, because they tried to lock them up. The fire burned homes and crops. It could not burn the tongues, the forest spirit is here.”

The grass lilies and marigolds both belonged.

“My stories are true stories.”





Melinoë

By Samriddhi Narayan

2nd year, B.A. English Honours

Illustrated by

Meghdipa Roychowdhury

2nd year, B.A. English Honours



(Trigger Warning: mentions of drug use)

For a life built on quick deception and comfortable manipulation, it was a stable one. Melinoë never wanted it. But difficult children seldom get to live in castles made in the air, the least they get is an adulthood, a few years shy of decaying. Youth had been spent in discoveries: of self, of other(s), of birth-givers. The most monumental of these discoveries was a predisposition to fraud that had lain latent until of late. It was all Morpheus' doing, he had ignited those dreams, one drag after another, one shot after another, on all those ashen nights.

"Gullibility is as easy an addiction to slip into as drugs. And most people won't give in to this admission because they think themselves to be wiser than they are."

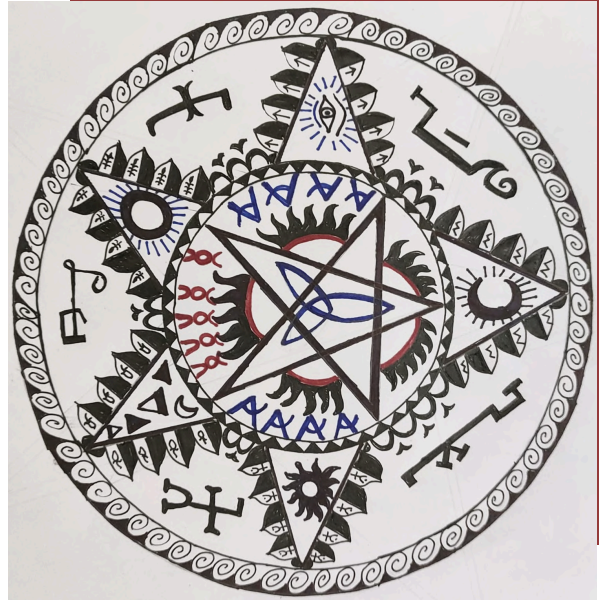
Morpheus could never pass up a chance of sermonising Melinoë, who, in all their overt displeasure at his preaching, did not mind these moments, moments where they could fool themselves into believing that they had a father. Almost. Of course, as a knowable consequence, they were well-adapted to the predictable drizzle of dad jokes. All they knew about their parents were their names—Hades and Persephone—and a nickname—Melly—which was as meaningful as their 'talent'.

It had started out as all other hobbies do—to outrun the existential crisis mothered by boredom—but unlike all other hobbies that never became a habit, even after twenty-one days of arduous devotion, this one had stuck, for better or worse. The distasteful consumption of those savoury other-worldly anecdotes, indulgence in petty magic tricks that worked on the principle of willing suspension of disbelief, and looking up to all the wrong people—including the one who had looked after them—had aroused the inclination to beguile people with a chance to know what Melinoë pretended to know.

The tricks were kept as concealed as the bluffs that were never called. Vulnerability got most of the job done and vagueness, the rest. Guilt was as natural a state to be in as indigestion, and the only instances where guilt did not trip Melinoë was when they were under the influence. So, in time, they'd mastered the art of scamming and become an acclaimed friendly neighbourhood clairvoyant.

"I'm sensing a presence, a rather domineering one. It seems anxious to be around you." Melinoë had never grown tired of this game. It was easy to manipulate the truth when it was malleable.

"Must be her, my mother! She was quite a...character. As compassionate as she was bothersome." Old ladies were always difficult clients, deceiving them was as close as they came to sinning or violating a god.



"I'm getting a letter...her name, did it start with a D, or an H, perhaps?" Even within the clairvoyants' community, the fraudsters boasted of impeccable intuition. They didn't like to be called talentless and intuition was a safe bet. Sixth Sense was another favourite of theirs.

"Her surname did, her name started with an H. Hera, Hera was her name. You knew."

"Sometimes, the spirit world might have a faulty connection, because the spirit might be reluctant to connect with the medium. Her mind, it's clouded; it feels heavy. Did she have any issues with her brain or its functioning?"

Observation was the best device to pick this rusted lock with: the lady's slight nod was all the confirmation Melinoë needed. People were walking exhibitions of emotions, even if they liked to believe otherwise. Stoicism practised favouritism and those who knocked on Melinoë's door were nowhere in that list.

“I see something broken and I see red all around. A broken relationship, a broken heart.” Mother-daughter relationships were quite predictable, and besides, this was not their first rodeo.

“It was our relationship; irrevocably fractured. She was never approbative of the way I did things. I figured that this could be my last chance of mending things with her,” she said, staring ahead; an unsuccessful attempt to keep herself from disturbing the freshly laid layer of grief.

“She seems hesitant, it’s an old wound and you have rehashed it. But, it’s dissipating, I feel lighter. She wants to leave all things in her grave, even old conflicts; she forgives you.” They had made an exception.

...

It was madness—their belief that this deception could someday work in their favour, and maybe the reason their experiments had failed was not because of lack of miracles, but a whiplash of karmic retribution for deceit.

It was madness—the dreams and the visions had come as recurrently as August showers. The voices were still distant, but inescapable.

“Kid, I’ve been in this business way before you ever showed up on the scene. If there’s anyone who would get these abilities all of a sudden, it’d, in all likelihood, be me, not you. You’re as special as all these other clairvoyants. Trust me, those ‘unnatural happenings’ are just drugs.” Morpheus’ bluntness was the symptom of his fear of depreciating recognition.

...

“Melinoë, can’t you see? Melly, talk to us,” The voice had been resounding, it was neither a man’s nor a woman’s. “Maybe I should limit my consumption, it’s high time now.”

Melinoë never suspected the incidents’ fallacy. It was false, all of it, there was only as much truth in it as there was in their practice of deception. Still, the voices hadn’t stopped. This was the karmic retribution then; not the absence of unnatural happenings, but precisely the presence of those.

“Melly, Melly, the monster’s gone, he’s on the run and your daddy’s here. Beautiful, beautiful, beautiful person,” Hades said.



Tista

By Diya Sharma

2nd year, B.A. Programme

While walking down the street,
I came across a man sweet.
With his valour, he captured thousands of cities
and was here to find the queen of his dreams.
I felt a breeze of love in my heart,
Oh poor Jolasi, you are in a dilemma.
My future with him seems dim,
Will the father king approve of him?
Chances are quite bleak and slim,
But I'll take the win.

But happily ever after doesn't exist,
It was time our love was put to test.
Enemies were right in front of us,
They wanted Jolasi. They wanted me.
We were unequipped, weak and rusty.

They were bold and enraged.
We lost hope, our love lost hope.
I looked at his brown eyes and they had lost the will.
I took the lead, we camped through the night.



*Photography by Angel Anna Jaimon
2nd year, B.A. Programme
Majnu ka Tilla, New Delhi*

Our eyes were full of fright,
It was the time to face our fears,
and stop our tears.

**“Lepchas never lose,”
This line rang in my ears,
Made me feel hopeful
once again.**

I cursed,
“You wicked men,” I said.
“May you walk with rags,” I wished.
With the black chilli powder in my fist,
I blew it on their face.
Stuck in the jungle,
with nothing to feast.
“Assist me river Tista, please!
My dear mother lives in Koche.
When to sow the corn,
Ask her please.”
My saviour,
My mother dear instructed,
“Dragon bird right above your head,
Sow the corn then.”
With our stomachs and heart full,
We marched off for another battle.

Restart

By Astha Mary Varghese

2nd year, B.A. English Honours

Y “Your Highness, did you forget something?”

Rose casually turned back and started walking away pretending not to have seen the queen standing in front of her. Her maids followed her, confused.

“Yes. Would you please guide me to the market? I need to buy something.”

“What is it? We will get it for you.”

“No, I prefer to buy it myself. Just take me to the gates and I will go myself.”

“We can’t let you go alone. Angela, take Her Highness to the gates while I get the car ready.” Rose followed the young maid mindlessly because her brain was too busy going through different plans in her head. *If I run right now, the guards will catch me and then I won't have any second chances. I could wait for the car and then get lost in the crowd while we were at the market. Of course, a search party would be sent for me, but it would take the maids time to go back and report my disappearance. In that much time, I could change my look and go far away from this prison called 'home'.*

“Are you going out, Rose?”

The voice made her stop dead in her tracks. *The pastor will be blessing my body soon. No wait, the queen is not particularly religious so maybe a pastor would not be called. It's fine either way—my body would be taken care of.*

“Rose, a princess does not zone out like that. Stand straight and answer the question.”

“I just wanted to go to the market,” the princess mumbled, not daring to look up.

“Don’t slouch. Look up. I need an answer loud and clear.”

Rose straightened her back and looked up at her mother towering over her. The woman did not seem to know the concept of talking, she just gave commands.

Was it so hard to ask her own daughter if she was okay? Yes, I was slouching but why can’t she, just for once ask me why I was doing so? Then I would tell her—“All these expectations are weighing me down mumma. I am scared. I just want to hide in your lap. Have I grown too old for that?”

Overwhelmed, Rose looks away to hide her tears. Angela notices her condition and suggests going inside.

Inside. No, no no. She couldn’t go back inside. She can’t take it anymore, it is too suffocating. No. She has to go outside. Away. Far away from the palace.

Filled with determination, Rose picked up her skirt and made a run for it. The moment she stepped out of the palace, her body hit something invisible and bounced, making her fall back. “I need to go. I will go.”

She got up again and forced her way into the barrier. She fell back again, but this time she didn’t get back up. What she had seen shook her to the core. Thousands of cameras dangling in the black abyss, all focusing on her.





“They are watching us...they...”

Her mother crouched next to her and touched her shoulder lightly.

“Rose?”

“There is nothing there mumma! It's all black. Everything black! Then there, these men...and they...they.”

“What? Where?”

“Everywhere! What if you are fake?! Yes! I am going crazy. Nothing exists! You don't exist. They don't exist. No one exists! It's all in my head.”

“I am real, Rose.”

“No, you are not! You are not! That is the point. You are not! You are a fictional character. And you live in my head. I am going crazy. Absolutely crazy.”

Loud sirens went off in Rose's head as she sat there hitting her head, repeating ‘I am going crazy’ like a broken record. The blaring noise inside made her head throb. She cried out in agony, pressing it in an attempt to make it stop. When it became too much for her body to take, she collapsed.

A character is behaving strangely and has triggered a new course of action in the story. Send someone in to look into it. It's just a side character, erase her memory and restart the chapter.



The Legs That Live On

By Triveni Goswami

2nd year, B.A. English Honours



Past is not simple in its disposition. It is complicated, twisted, constantly changing and often non-linear. It is amazing how a strong breeze blows, your hair flips and without even knowing it, the future becomes the past; in recollecting the past there is so much of the lingering future interrupting that it becomes impossible to imagine our lives as a singular, linear passage of time. Past has been a complicated subject for me—I don't know which past I should choose, which I should dispose of and which I should forget in order to write something remotely about the yesterdays that I never lived.

My Nani says that when she left Bangladesh, her family buried all their gold in the land near their house and rushed off to India with their passports knowing they would return soon. They never returned and neither did the generations after them. She says their Zamindari family owned land of such magnitude that whatever lay within the sight of the naked eye was theirs. Fast forward, my mother says my Nani would fight with Nana to pitch in the budget for a dining table.



Photography by

Simran Tapparwal

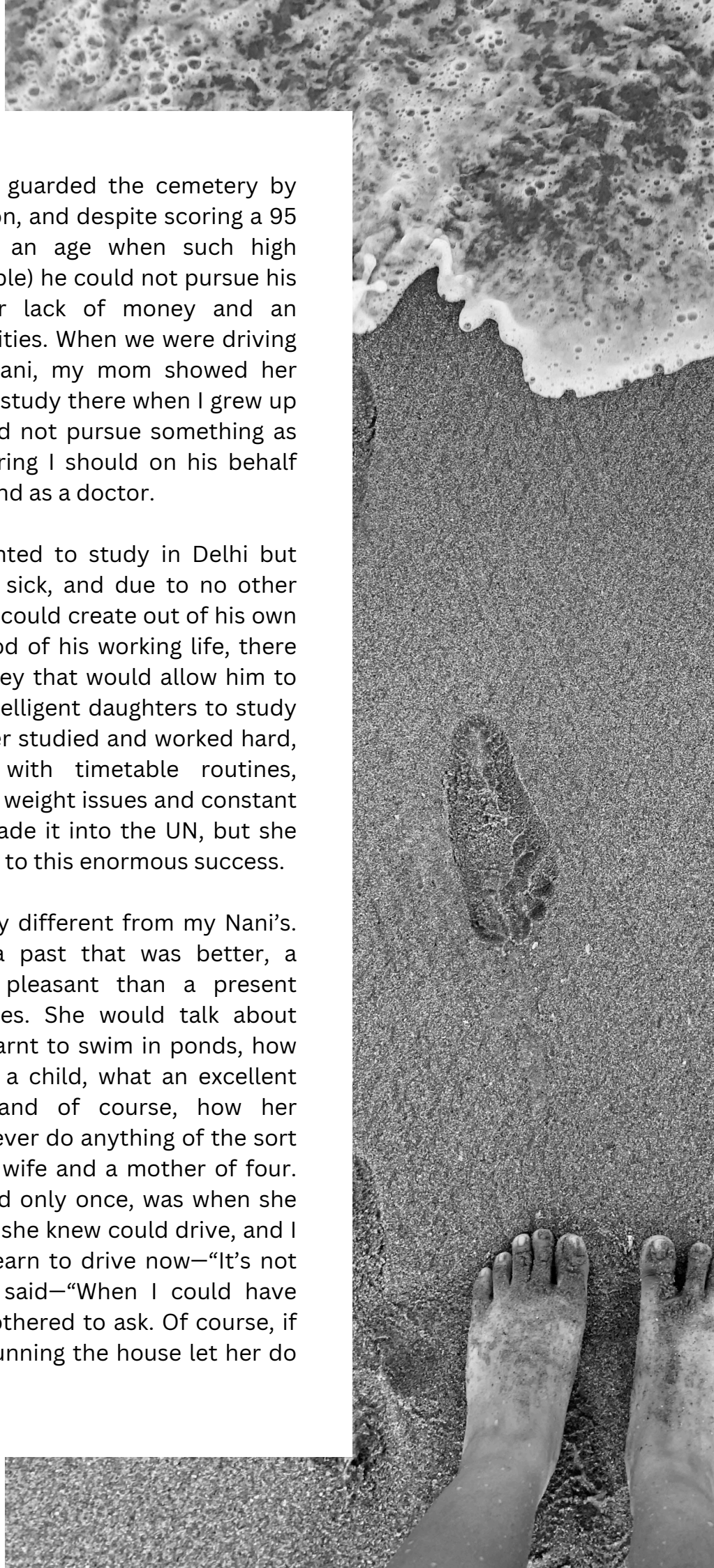
3rd year, B.A. History Honours



My Nani says that Nana guarded the cemetery by night to fund his education, and despite scoring a 95 percentile in Maths (in an age when such high numbers were unimaginable) he could not pursue his love for engineering for lack of money and an abundance of responsibilities. When we were driving to *Dilli Haat* with my Nani, my mom showed her AIIMS and she told me to study there when I grew up because if my Nana could not pursue something as extraordinary as Engineering I should on his behalf become something as grand as a doctor.

My mother says she wanted to study in Delhi but could not. My Nana was sick, and due to no other capital except the one he could create out of his own merit within a short period of his working life, there was no large sum of money that would allow him to send his exceptionally intelligent daughters to study outside Assam. My mother studied and worked hard, filled tireless journals with timetable routines, developed anxiety issues, weight issues and constant headaches; and finally made it into the UN, but she would only credit her luck to this enormous success.

My Dadi's stories are very different from my Nani's. They often talk about a past that was better, a nostalgia that is more pleasant than a present corrupted by evil realities. She would talk about catching fish, how she learnt to swim in ponds, how much she would play as a child, what an excellent home-maker she was, and of course, how her daughters-in-law could never do anything of the sort she managed as a young wife and a mother of four. What peeped in once, and only once, was when she was talking about women she knew could drive, and I carelessly asked her to learn to drive now—"It's not too late", to which she said—"When I could have learnt to drive, no one bothered to ask. Of course, if Ma is cooking food and running the house let her do that instead."



I practically know nothing about Dadu. My Dadi always talks about herself. My father barely talks of the past. What I know of him is through a little booklet of eulogies written by everyone who knew him. He had left his village as an educated man, believed in the sciences and was revered by many as a respectable man. My father wrote in the booklet that Dadu would buy him encyclopaedias, a concept very new to a small town like Guwahati that too in a time like the '70s. My grandfather believed in Science, my father pursued science; my sister and I are of course repulsed by science. What we all have in common was a love for encyclopaedias—my father, my sister and I grew up with endless knowledge, all thanks to Dadu who believed in something like Education; when Education was not an obvious choice for many Assamese households.

My father adopted a lineage that was politically troubled; the Assamese community has always fought with the issue of identity. What the Assamese community has also always fought with is lethargy—a force so down-pulling in Assam that even Edward Gait mentions in *History of Assam* how laziness engulfs the Assamese population. My father did not have a conducive environment where his peers, faculty or similar role models could push him to work hard. But I have seen no situation, no obstacle, no failure so disappointing that it would stop him from giving his best and working as hard as he could.



Fast forward to me, a half Sylheti-Bengali and a half Assamese, brought up half in Delhi and half in Assam, somewhere in the halves of a whole I have found that my pasts have intermingled themselves, like the many legs of an insect that have life in them long after the insect is killed. They are painful and their confusion is too personal and too complicated to be expressed in a thousand words.

When a friend introduces her parents and they say they are from Assam and they are Bengalis, I stand speechless and motionless for the lack of a better gesture, lack of a better language to choose from and the lack of a better past to own up to. I only stand as others converse about the mundane.





“I’ve got the strangest feeling,
this isn’t our first time around...”

By Samridhhi Narayan
2nd year, B.A. English Honours

The past required a passport to revisit. It had become a foreign country, after all. The currency had been Nostalgia a few years ago, but the new government, with its desire to rewrite histories, had changed it to Memories. It was easier for me to change mine—Mother worked in the Bank of Past. The citizens here lived in fixed geographical areas allotted to them by the galloping abstraction, Time. There was the City of a-few-years-ago, the City of some-years-ago, the City of many-many-years-ago, the City of decades, City of years-uncountable, City of forgotten-years.

The new currency was of different denominations for different people—some locals of the country had identical currency to mine, except I, as the most evolved of those, had access to many more. The other locals, called Papa, Mummy, Didi, Bhai, Chachi, Chacha, Anni, Pari, Bua, Bhaiya, Mannat, Ann, Anu, Deep, Niv, Ast, Prats, Lakshi, Smrid had currencies that were similar in some cases, and almost identical in other. The tourists and some other itinerants sometimes slipped in counterfeits, while the other times when their conscience awoke to actions, used currencies similar to mine.

Memories were the new currency, and I, who have always been a miser and saved every dime of them, so much so, that the bank account in the prime location of the country, and on the continent of Mind, would burst and spill all the memories over if it could revel in this knowledge.

I had been a full-fledged citizen of the past some ten years ago, but, unlike my parents who had spent their lives occupying the native countries of their pasts, I wanted newer prospects. I wanted change, I wanted to be a global citizen, to travel to the Country of Future, halfway across the world of Life, and to the Country of Present, only an ocean away, or sometimes two.

And so, now I was part of my own identity's diaspora in the Country of Present.

My denominations included:

- i) Nani's knitted sweater
- ii) Amma's empty bottle of eye drops
- iii) Baba's wall clock
- iv) Birthday cards
- v) Stones from Udaipur and Manali
- vi) Quilled earrings
- vii) A yellow letter
- viii) A silk scarf
- ix) An iron man keychain
- x) A magic kit
- xi) Birthday cards
- xii) A denim jacket
- xiii) A red cardigan, a white salwar-kameez, a red skirt, a red hairband, white tennis shoes
- xiv) Roerich Memorial entry ticket
- xv) An old copy of *The Railway Children*

I had itched to get out of the Past so much yet now, whenever I came back to the Present, I ached to return. Except, now I'm running short on Memories and soon, I might go bankrupt.





*Photography by Sheema Mushtaq
2nd year, B.A. Programme
Sonamarg, Kashmir Valley*

Creative Musings

Kulfiwala

By Urja Kaushik

2nd year, B.A. History Honours

It was a warm February afternoon, with sun rays melting down from the golden sky onto an *aangan* below, a family enjoying their weekend with steaming hot cups of tea, Parle-G biscuits, and the incessant running around of a perennial nuisance - Mini. A very pregnant Mrs. Sharma cried out, as her little girl, while climbing their large Peepul tree, almost slipped and fell down a few branches. Her legs hanging precariously, hands gripping a branch, she giggled and climbed back up. Mr. Sharma shifted into a more comfortable position in his old wooden chair and started snoring softly again, the teacup and saucer balanced on his lap.

In a few seconds' time Mini was at the topmost branch, one sturdy enough to support her weight, and she decided to sit down on it. One hand still gripping the bough beside her, she looked at the large expanse of their colony outside the large iron gate. Another bungalow, the one belonging to her friend Sheetal (who had gone off to the US), stood right in front of theirs, and other buildings of faded pink, grey, and red lined both sides of their street.

Trees separating them rustled at regular intervals; pigeons, swallows, and the occasional crow chattered and cawed, when suddenly a tinkling bell echoed across the street. A musical voice followed it: "Kulfi! Kesar, elaichi, mango, badam, chocolate, kulfi!"

Illustrated by Mourvi Agarwal
2nd year, B.A. History Honours



Mini dropped to the ground and ran over to her parents as her mother hyperventilated, “Haye, haye, haye!” Mini grabbed her father’s hands and pulled on them to wake him up, appealing to him for a kulfi, “Please, just one, I won’t trouble you again for the whole month, I promise.” Her father, rattled as he was from the sudden assault on his afternoon nap, agreed and asked her to run off and bring his purse. She went in and came back out at the speed of lightning, side-eyeing the gate constantly, worried she would miss the man. Upon getting three tenners for three kulfis (two kesar and one chocolate), she ran to the gate, which stood between her and the musical Kulfiwala.

“Maa!” she shouted, rattling the iron railings. Her mother got up with a groan and walked slowly to her. “Hurry, hurry, hurry!” As soon as she lifted the lock, Mini ran towards the Kulfiwala on the other side of the street, and upon reaching him, recited, “Three kulfis, two kesar, one chocolate, here are your 30 rupees!” While the Kulfiwala checked the notes, Mini’s eyes registered the cart, which was newly painted in shining red and decorated with a banner hanging from its circular roof. The banner said: ‘Raman Kulfiwala’, which she enunciated, and then looked fleetingly at the vendor. He was either old or an extremely tired man, with specks of white in his hair and wrinkles adorning his kind smile and shining eyes. He was wearing a dirty old blue-check shirt and loose, brown pants. Mini fixed her eyes back onto the cart. And what curious things caught her eyes! A big metal bucket covered with a lid on the corner, a metal sheet in the middle carved with holes containing metal cones clattering at the tiniest of movements, and clear whispers of a world of ice emanating from underneath. The Kulfiwala’s hands quickly got to work, washing three metal cones in the bucket now visibly splashing yellowish-green water (of which Sharma took notice and winced in disgust), placing them back into their holes in the metal sheet, pouring thick *kesary* and chocolatey cream into them and sliding in all three sticks almost simultaneously. The magician then rocked the cones back and forth, back and forth, and lo! The kulfis were ready.

“Here’s your kesar, here’s another kesar, and a chocolate!” He sang in the same musical tone, handing the delighted girl three perfectly shaped marvels. He then proceeded to ring his signature bell indicating the joy of a sale, and Mini skipped along with her treasures balanced in her hands. Meanwhile, Mrs. Sharma stayed back and inquired with the vendor about the disgusting water in the bucket, the lack of gloves, and the possible filth on the cones, not unlike a particularly strict health inspector.

The next Monday afternoon, the same music reached Mini’s ears and gave a glitter to her eyes and a spring to her feet as she went off to her mother, who was busy instructing their new maid in the workings of the kitchen. She pulled her mother’s salwar and pleaded, “Ma, please gimme a tenner.”

“Why?”

“Kulfi.”

“No more for this month, remember?”

“But...”

Mrs. Sharma waved her off to her room, and she slouched and dragged her feet back to the bedroom. “A headache, that girl! Let her turn five, and I will send her packing off to boarding school,” Mrs. Sharma said, looking at Mini retreating. Mini was terrified of boarding schools.

But she was in love with the kulfi magic she had witnessed the other day, so, she decided that while the unjust rules of promises denied her a kulfi, they did not disallow her from looking at one being made. After her eureka moment, she ran outside, grabbed a chair from the front courtyard and dragged it towards the gate, climbed up on it, opened the gate, and ran outside towards Raman, the magical Kulfiwala. “Kulfiwala! O Kulfiwala!” She would call out to alert, and at the same time greet him, and the vendor slowly became accustomed to her voice and to her trailing behind him till the end of the street, watching him make kulfis with the utmost dedication.

One day, he prepared a kesar kulfi with extra red embellishments and handed it to her, free of cost. That day, he became Raman Kaka for young Mini.

With long drawls of “Raman Kaka”, she would ask him questions, some of which had been ignored earlier by her exasperated parents, others which were specific to the vendor’s occupation.

“How do the kulfis get frozen?” She asked at a particularly dry hour one day. He lifted the hole-ridden lid filled with cones to show her the world of ice beneath. She gasped.


“How does the ice remain frozen?”

“I put salt over it.”

“Will my kulfi remain frozen if I put salt over it?”

“You can just eat it straight away, *bitiya!* Salt will spoil its flavour.”

Saying this, he gave her an elaichi-flavoured kulfi, watching her as she gorged on it, smiling, as the image reminded him of his daughter far away in Uttar Pradesh. Once in three months he would go to his hometown to visit her and would bring back a print of her hand on a dirty white paper, keeping it folded in his breast pocket. “Look how your hand is growing!” He would say to her, showing her the previous prints beside the new one, and they would both wonder how big it will get before it stops growing. It would maybe land on her mother’s hand size, or her grandmother’s, whose illness had tethered her to bed, or perhaps her grandfather’s, who had left his surprisingly small thumbprint on his not-so-surprisingly small will before he had passed away. But never Rahman, the Kulfiwala, no. His hands were gigantic, unfit for a young lady.



Early in March one day, Mr. Sharma spotted his daughter at the corner of the street, eating a mango-flavoured kulfi and chattering away with Raman as he prepared an order for two foreigners wearing thick black masks. “Why are they hiding their faces, Raman Kaka?” Mini blurted out inquisitively, unconcerned as to whether the two masked individuals could understand her. The cold reception to her kulfi-mouthed question indicated that they probably didn’t, so Raman replied, “They probably have warts, Mini, those poor *goras*.” She burst into peals of laughter, almost dropping her kulfi. Mr. Sharma walked up to Mini and bent down to her ear level and whispered, “Did your mother give you money for this?” She shook her head and looked at the ground guiltily. Assuming that that was the only purchase she had made that day (oh, how wrong he was!) he gave the Kulfiwala a ten-rupee note. He took it without demur, but unbeknownst to the Babu, the money had found its way right into the girl’s hand after he had left.

One day, the afternoon of March 23rd, Mini sat in the front courtyard, her ears trained to the worldly sounds outside (or a strange lack thereof), but she could not hear the Kulfiwala’s musical indication of arrival. Meanwhile, the Prime Minister’s reiteration of the previous day’s announcement of the two-day lockdown echoed within all the houses across the street and beyond. Days turned into weeks, then months, but Mini’s eyes stayed deprived of the magic of her Raman Kaka. The music of the news broadcasts shifted from the high-rising speeches of political leaders to the falling cacophony of migrant workers walking back home, their crying children bound to their backs with ripped cloth and multitudes of old bags being dragged across the rough road. They protested the tone-deafness of the politicians who were fit for mere words but no action, and the evils of the city men in their air-conditioned houses, who had hired them but turned them away at the time of utmost need. All the while, Mini sat outside for entire days, being dragged in at mealtimes, wondering where Raman Kaka was.

Rahman, who had fashioned himself a Hindu name to open a few of the doors that had been shut in his face the first time he had started his business, now found more doors shutting him and his daily bread out, through no fault of his own. With money dwindling, he started his journey back home, but his journey was a lonely and invisible one, one not covered by the flashing cameras and the bold news headlines. Tired and disillusioned, he promised himself that he’d never set foot in the city again.

A couple of years later, during springtime, a resounding bus horn sent a small little girl as fast as her tiny feet could take her towards the large iron gate. Mini waved at her friends in the bus as it drove off, lifted the lock quite easily, and slipped in, putting it back in place. She picked her little sister up and kissed her on her forehead. The child responded by grabbing a thick tuft of her hair and pulling on it hard. She would've almost hurt her poor sister had the tinkling of a bell and the music of a voice not distracted her at that exact moment: "Kulfi! Kesar, elaichi, mango, badam, chocolate, kulfi!" All hell broke loose behind the large iron gate as the old Raman Kaka stopped in front of their house and joyfully sang his music out, the newly painted red letters of "Rahman Kulfiwala" on his hanging banner shining in the sunlight.

Inspired from Rabindranath Tagore's short story, "Kabuliwala".





“Leskis filseks skals misss bless”

By Yohana Shikha Prasad

2nd year, B.A. Programme

I
The grotesque woman sings in an extremely melodious voice. The language makes no sense, yet somehow, my mind can translate what she is saying: it's as if we were connected by a frequency.
“Dear, dear, dear...May all your words bear...”
A pit of fire surrounds her, in this dark cave with black-brown shadows, formed by the wildfire leaping from every corner in a rage that does not harm us. She has the eyes of a vulture and enormous horns on her head, which lean back to her shoulders. She looks at me with tranced eyes and chants again in her language “Leskis filseks skals misss bless” (“dear, dear, dear...may all your words bear”).
“Eeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeee...”

A blasting noise hits my ears, and a huge white flash engulfs me. I open my eyes and realize I had slept way past my alarm. I was already late for my first class. In a rush, I get ready for the day and head downstairs for breakfast.

“Can you, for at least a day, act a little responsible? How long are you going to be like this?” my mother blasts me with her daily lecture, which, by the way, is the hatred she bears for me for reminding her of my father, whom she hates.



Everything I do to her, is a reflection of the man who left her for all the crap she made him go through, just like she is doing to me “Acting like what?” I counter, “Like my dad? For once, just once, you can stop blaming me and other people for all the bad things that happen in your life because – NEWSFLASH – it’s not me, it’s you!”

“Shut up, Harvey. I don’t want to ever hear you talking back to me. I have not given you the authority to speak to me like that!”

“That’s the thing. You don’t give anyone the authority, yet you somehow seem to have all the privilege to behave in whatever way you want with other people,” my voice gets louder. I could feel a fit of anger and force in my chest which I had never experienced before. “I hope that you stop speaking at all, considering you are anyway incapable of just LISTENING and CONVERSING with other people. No communication whatsoever is possible with you.” My mother opens her mouth to shout, just like I expected her to, “...mmmhh...mmmmmmhrrrrr.”

What is she doing? Was she mocking me for what I said? Her eyes get bigger and darker, and she starts swinging her arms frivolously and holding her neck, sweating, she tries to shout again “mmmmhhrrrrr...” just the same desperate mumble comes out. I pace towards her in fear, “Mom, what’s wrong? Here, type it on my phone.”

“I can’t speak,” she types. “Are you for real? Are you mocking me?” I ask. She shakes her head and holds my hand, as tears slip down her frightened face. “Oh gosh!” Still in disbelief, I acknowledge the fear in her eyes. To calm her down, I give her a sleeping tablet which she usually takes to help her fall asleep at night.

II

“Hey! Harvey, why did you refuse to come to the party? It’s going to be so much fun,” Dilton smirks mischievously. I hate beings like Dilton. They are obnoxious, are aware of it, and yet, they choose to be jerks. I don’t know when I’ll get him off my back.

“Um...I can’t. I’ve got a part-time job now. You have fun though.” I try to seem enthusiastic and punch him lightly in the arm. He tries to laugh at my motion, “Yeah, and then you can come visit me in the hospital.”

“Hahahahaha, good one!” I say awkwardly. “In a *mental* hospital,” I whisper under my breath, as I turn to leave.

“I’ll catch you later, mate!”

III

19-year-old caught on college medical room camera stealing high dose medicated drugs, broke his leg while escaping the guards, and has been admitted to the hospital, from where he will be sent to a mental health inspection ward.

“Oh my gosh, it's Dilton!” I look away from the television and pace downstairs to check on my mom, still intoxicated from the sleeping pills, lying peacefully in her bed.

“Eeeeeee...”

My ears ring again, drowning all the sounds...white flash...it's eating me again...
eeee...

IV

It's a cave. Am I back in my dream?

The woman, there she is in the pit again, meditating amid the raging fire.

“What is this?” I ask. Her vulture eyes pierce mine, “Did you do this?”

“You did this to yourself.”

“I did? What are you talking about?”

“Last night, you were in so much pain that your anguish summoned me. You wished for the power to change everything. That agony forced me to grant this power to you through my magic.”

“Summon? Magic?” I reiterated in bluff and frustration.

“We are all magical beings, Harvey, we have the power to influence, control, manipulate, command, relax, and break people. It's just that in human beings, it exhibits itself gradually. All I did was use my magic to grant you the power to do all of this on a magnitude that is much stronger and more efficacious.





But, for what it's worth, here you go – Dear, dear, dear...may all your words bear... your words hold the power to come to effect immediately as you say them. Now, go change your world, Harvey, break them as they break you.”

“This is not what I wished for. All I wanted was for my mom to acknowledge the hurt she has caused me. I just wanted Dilton to stop unnecessarily bothering me every day. I wanted them to see me for what I am rather than the version of me that they attach to their narrative. It’s the past that I wanted to change and stop dwelling in. Make myself a clean slate to continue, make this past a foreign country of which no one ever remembers the location. Where only the good moments thrive. Oh, I wanted to rid myself of the burden of carrying the grief and the toll this has had on me. They wouldn’t let me move forward!”

“You can never change them, you know?” She raises her eyebrows and smirks, “Words, they matter. You hurt them just like they hurt you. The past is a foreign country and you are a full-fledged citizen, never letting go of the grief that held you. Fine, I will grant this, though you mustn’t lose yourself again in anguish and pain.”

She moves her black fingers in the air, her eyes closed again, and begins to chant...

“Kizes lam dhul farr, yike iks narnhan layn frrr.”

“Yes, make this past a foreign country where some are full-fledged citizens, there are occasional tourists and some floating itinerants, itching to get out, yet always aching to return. Return this boy with remnants to the eve.”





Athia

By Ashwika
1st year, B. EL. Ed

“Good morning, boss,” Athia says as she greets him. He smiles at her, his cheeks turning a bright shade of pink. He looks at Athia once more before continuing his walk towards the elevator. He does it everyday.

He wakes up at 6:00 am and goes for a quick run. Until then, his smart house makes breakfast for him using mechanical hands and sensors. He eats and goes to work, where he sees Athia, the receptionist. He likes her but knows that he can't have her. At lunch, he sits on a bench in a park nearby, enjoying his sandwich in solitude while watching many couples enjoying their date. Then he goes back inside and sits on a desk that gives him the perfect view to look at Athia. He doesn't do it to be a creep but he's hopeful that Athia would look at him and that would make it easier for both of them to talk. But she never looks at him.

On a fine Tuesday afternoon, Athia comes and sits with him. "It's a nice day, isn't it?" she says looking at him.

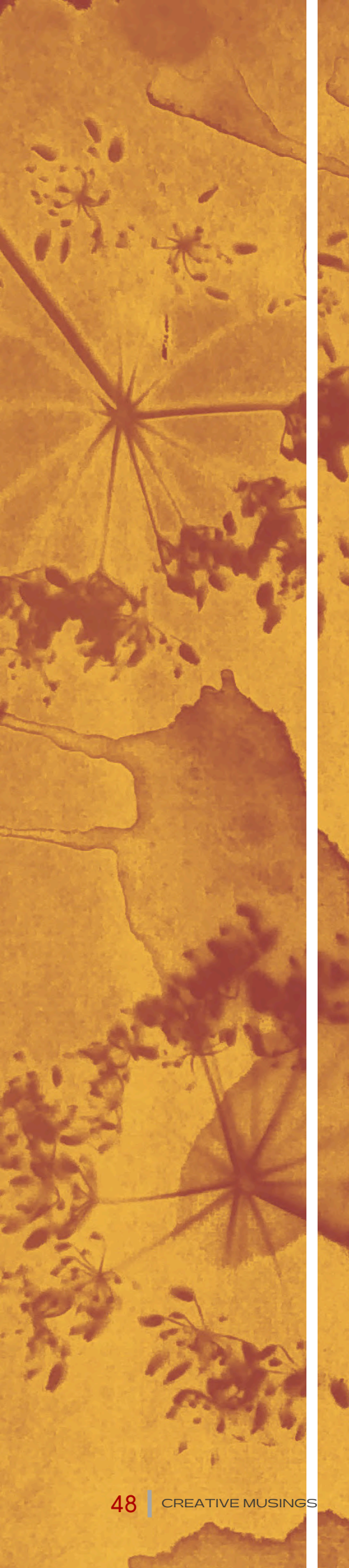
"Yes it is," He replies, barely containing his nervousness.

"I like the sun better than dark clouds," Athia continues, looking up at the sky. "My brain can't compute rain for some reason, and I'm told that I can't enjoy it."

"Why's that?" he asks, frowning.

"I don't know, maybe it's because they haven't made me waterproof yet," She says, giving him a small smile. That's right, the reason why he can't have her is because she's not actually human. She's a simple machine designed to make life easier for someone.

"I'll make you waterproof one day, Athia." He promises, holding her hand firmly. She looks at him and her eyes are shining brightly.



After that day, they continued meeting each other at exactly 12:30 pm. They would talk and laugh and sometimes eat together. Athia probably doesn't realise it but she's falling for him too. There's something pounding in her chest and it doesn't function on batteries.

It's 2035, and though with the help of Artificial Intelligence, the human species has made incredible discoveries, they still can't make a robot deal with the emotion of love and the fuzzy feeling one experiences when they truly love someone. Robots aren't programmed to handle the strange pain in the chest or the shortness of breath or the dilation of pupils when they see the person they love.

Athia greets him everyday with a big smile now and her wires are taking the burn for it. Gradually, she is getting agitated and is having trouble doing her work. The only thing she now does is wait for him to show up. He's happy that he gets to spend time with her but he's stupidly blinded by love that he can't recognise the symptoms.

One day, he decides to tell her. He decides to confess his feelings for her. He decides to tell her that he loves her so much, he finds it impossible to breathe when she's not around.

So, he goes to the florist and gets a nice bouquet of flowers. He stays up all night to write a note for her. He even buys her freshly baked iron cookies. He reaches on time but there is no Athia this morning. He looks around but can't catch a single glimpse of her. "Hey, do you know where Athia is?" he asks one of his colleagues.

"I think she got terminated yesterday," The colleague answers.

Six words. One sentence and his heart shatters in endless pieces. He feels dizzy and his legs wobble. He's having trouble making out what his colleagues are saying. Their voices seem distant and his vision is blurry. They say the people who love you the most are the ones who have had their hearts broken the hardest. What he feels right now is what I felt everyday when I saw him with her. I'm the one who loves him the most, not her. That's why I had to get her out of the picture. I was the one who terminated Athia. She was a disgrace to AI anyway, crossing the fine line that makes humans different from heartless robots.

Now you're mine and I'll always love you.

But I guess I was wrong. I guess even humans now can't comprehend love because, slowly, I'm also going insane. I can't think straight and do things with no excuse to back me up. I guess AI has more control over my mind than I originally thought. Maybe I've also crossed that line and now I'm too far away. I can feel myself shutting down. He's looking at me with a horrid expression. I'm dying and I don't want to.

"I love you," I whisper to him as my eyelids suddenly start to feel heavy.

He stares at me. Realisation finally crossing his face as he finds out that Athia also loved him. He also makes out that I was the one who killed her. His face goes hard as he drops me down to the floor and I slowly break. Tears are streaming down my face but I can't do anything except closing my eyes and welcoming my fate.

He heard me saying that. I'm happy.

Source: Deep Dream Generator
Prompt: Mirror in the City Street



On Artificial Intelligence



PIXELS & POSSIBILITIES

THE RENAISSANCE OF GENERATIVE AI

By Shaoni Dutta

3rd year, B.A. English Honours

The influx of AI art represents a profound symbiosis between human creativity and machine intelligence, reshaping the boundaries of authorship and challenging our fundamental conceptions of what it means to create.

The above sentence is AI-generated. The argument is concise, the language is succinct, and the structure, impeccable. And sometimes (I worry) AI does a better job than the clacking of my keyboard. For the purpose of this article however, you may have to bear with the imperfections of a human hand as it weaves in and out of the contradictions and redefinitions of what it means to be an artist today.

Remember, remember, the 30th of November. Something new, arguably revolutionary, took the world by storm as OpenAI released an early demo of



Source: Deep Dream Generator
Prompt: Beautiful Portugal House
by Berthe Morisot, Claude Monet



ChatGPT. Within five days of this release, ChatGPT had a million curious users. A blessing for students, a nightmare for professors, and a fascination for linguists, Generative Artificial Intelligence had the world reeling with possibilities. One didn't have to seek the self-proclaimed poet's help to impress a crush anymore, nor did one have to pay the SEO-trained content writer to further one's business. A new form of creativity, one that calls for a reconsideration of the very word, had been invented.

Generative AI doesn't just get creative with language. 2022 also witnessed the advent of AI art, and with text-to-image generative technology, your most bizarre dreams could now be explained to the therapist in a picture. And thus, with a blatant nod to a certain sharply moustached Spanish surrealist, Dall-E 3 was born. Cats at a tea party? Painted in seconds. A dog happily writing a thesis? No problem. A neoclassical sculpture with cinematic lighting in the style of Michelangelo? Done, and done. DALL-E 3 was now capable of understanding "significantly more nuance and detail" a little too seriously. Uh... the future had arrived.

AI art wasn't new. Apparently, an AI-generated portrait had been sold for over \$400,000 at a 2018 auction. But it was now available for us to goof around with! This was too much to resist even for a person as immune to social pressures as I am (I haven't watched GOT yet). One Google search and five minutes later, I had on my screen the atrocities of my imagination, some of which might fascinate you, dear unsuspecting reader.

There was also a plethora of modifiers to choose from - "photoreal", or "very cute" to "Van Gogh" or "Monet". My silly little experiments, painted by the Impressionistic greats. The peculiarity deepens.

How does AI generate such pictures? How original are they? Once the shock wore off, the frilly little felines seemed strikingly similar to the style of puzzle artist Linda Picken. Paintings like Cats and Christmas, Autumn Cats, and even Little Bloomers had previously featured whimsical animals much akin to this one. And there I went, spiralling into a frenzy of Google search.

Generative AI is trained on vast datasets of existing artwork. Much like human art students, AI 'studies' the various artistic styles, techniques, and motifs of artists, be it Da Vinci or the

CATS AT A TEA PARTY

Oh, the poise! Oh, the grace! How could my amateur paintbrush ever compete with that? And there I went, spiralling down a rabbit hole of imposter syndrome (one of the many effects of the wondrous generative AI).

I had prompted Deep Dream Generator to make a picture of cats at a tea party.





*Source: Deep Dream Generator
Prompt: Oil painting Portrait by
Chen Yifei (1946-2005) of an
Asian woman in traditional clothing*

up-and-coming artist you follow on Instagram. If an artwork is publicly available, AI can access it for its own perception. Once trained, AI uses complex algorithms like Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs) to analyse patterns, colours, and textures from the training data. The AI system then begins to generate original art by combining and modifying elements it has learned from the data. It can produce variations, mix styles, and create entirely new compositions based on the information it has gathered. Think of it as a glorified collage (yes, we can, and will, argue this point).

This aspect has its own can of worms. Does publicising one's work automatically mean consenting to AI training? AI's art styles aren't limited to those of great artists (who were successful but are dead now), it can just as accurately replicate the styles of lesser-known living artists who could do with the money. Thus, copyrighting in the era of Generative AI is an unresolved legal nightmare.



AN INDIAN CITY (FT. VAN GOGH AND MICHELANGELO)

This painting, while not as surreal as I had anticipated, readily shows the influences of the artists from which Deep Dream Generator draws its data. The prompt was “An Indian City with People”, in the style of Van Gogh and Michelangelo. Sure enough, the Taj Mahal is the quintessential postcard vision of ‘India’. Interestingly, Van Gogh’s characteristic brushwork can be observed in the distinct blue and yellow hues. Much like in this artwork, swirling clouds, tactile texture, and unnatural colours are typical of his post-Impressionist paintings. Intricate realism can be observed in the cloaked human figures, on the other hand. Although Michelangelo’s famous anatomical accuracy is not apparent, the drapes of clothing have a touch of chiaroscuro that might remind one of the three-dimensionality of his paintings. AI played a surprising peacemaker conciliating the two diverging artists.

I had an alarming number of art styles to choose from - micro shots, and Renoir, and hyperreal, even Pixar. Arguably, 'Many Rainbow Bubbles' is the creepiest.

However, to my chagrin, AI threw up bewildering sketches when prompted with abstracts like "harmony" or "freedom" (or it may just be my own poor understanding of abstract art). The algorithm needed something concrete to illustrate it, it couldn't interpret and illustrate abstracts by itself.

And here comes the question of creativity. Collage artists take patchworks from newspapers or fabrics or magazines to bring to life an original idea. They may interpret (much unlike AI) a concept like 'peace' with colours, gestures, texts, or illustrations that end up featuring a dove flashing a peace sign with its talons. While AI does create a collage combining various artists' styles, pictures, and existing works (which is arguably a kind of creativity), the prompters still supply the originality. Of course, that may change in the next few years, rendering my argument obsolete. AI's 'creativity' is a result of pattern recognition and data manipulation, and the question of whether this is true creativity in the human sense remains a subject of philosophical discussion.

Until then, we might entertain a disturbing thought - why are we automating creativity? As an amateur artist with a few masterpieces on her classroom desk, I would argue that the pleasure of creating art is as much, if not infinitely greater than, the pleasure of viewing it. Putting a turbocharger on the creative process thus comes with its own set of social implications where consumption reigns supreme.



*Source: Deep Dream Generator
Prompt: Painting showing a
floating boat surrounded by
houses and trees during fall, in
the style of realistic color
palette, Italian landscapes,
Kerem Beyit, enchanting
watercolors, Alexandr Averin,
beautiful fall tones and details,
Patchwork by Picasso, Jacek
Yerka, Daniel Marriam,
Enki Bilal*



Our economic systems and societal orders have a huge influence on the direction of technological progress. Automating AI does not solve an existing problem, but instead caters to immediate gratification, a deliberately manufactured demand of consumerism. It practically has a negative social value.

That said, I continue to be awed at art's resistance to definition. As we grapple with these shifts in the creative landscape, the interplay of AI and art poses new challenges to the already complicated question of Art and Aesthetics. It's a promising start to the ever-evolving nature of what it means to create and consume art in the digital age, and the showdown will be one for the ages.

HER

Directed by **SPIKE JONZE**

Genre **SCIENCE-FICTION ROMANTIC DRAMA**

Starring **JOAQUIN PHOENIX, SCARLETT JOHANSSON, ROONEY MARA, AMY ADAMS**

Released **2013**

By **Anika Chowdhary**

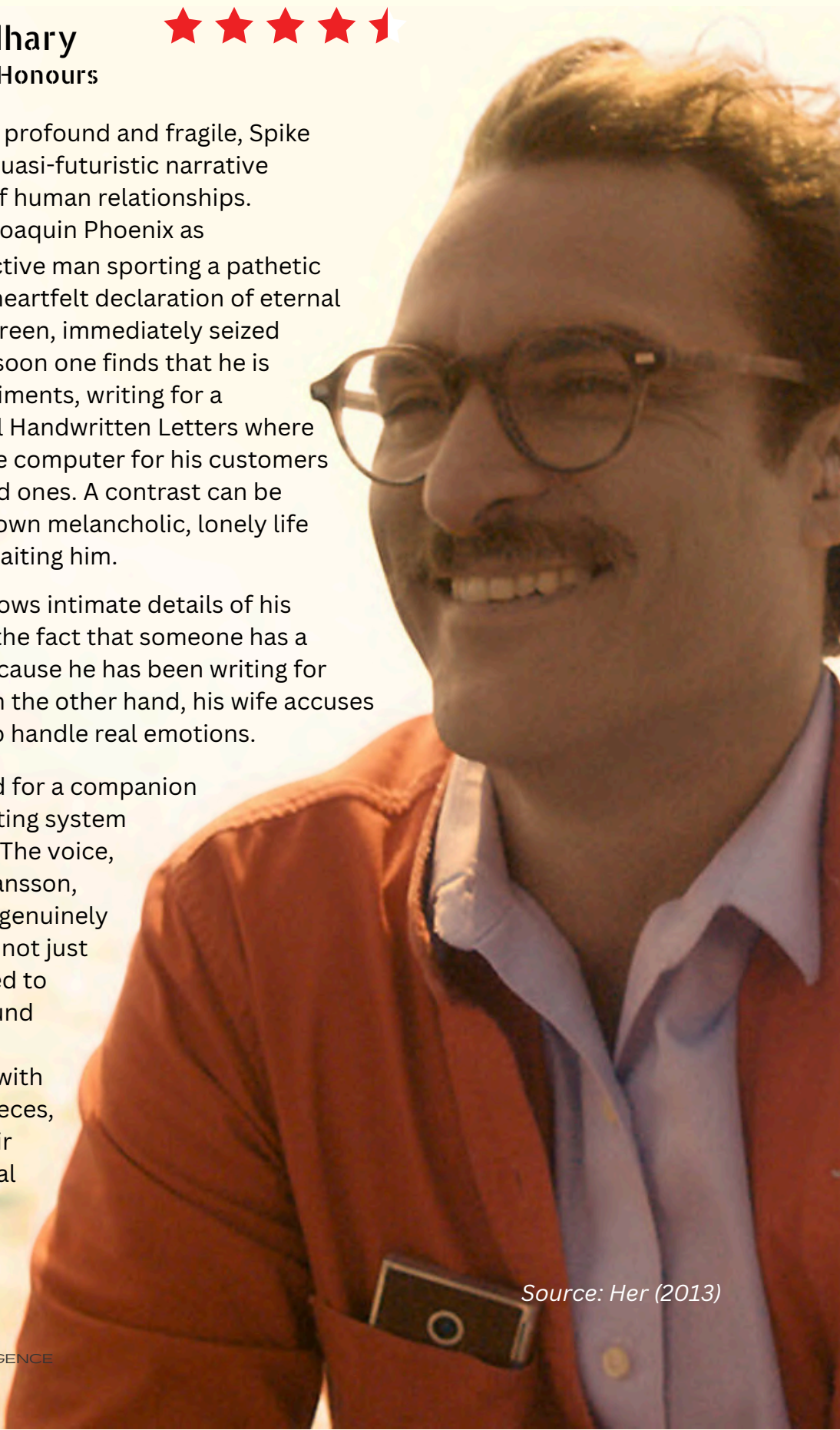
1st year, B.A. English Honours




Provocative and tender, profound and fragile, Spike Jonze's *Her* weaves a quasi-futuristic narrative into the complexities of human relationships. The opening scene of Joaquin Phoenix as Theodore (an introspective man sporting a pathetic moustache), making a heartfelt declaration of eternal love to someone off-screen, immediately seized my interest. However, soon one finds that he is only the carrier of sentiments, writing for a service called Beautiful Handwritten Letters where he dictates notes to the computer for his customers to be sent to their loved ones. A contrast can be seen, compared to his own melancholic, lonely life with divorce papers awaiting him.

On the one hand, he knows intimate details of his customers' lives, even the fact that someone has a crooked little tooth, because he has been writing for them for eight years; on the other hand, his wife accuses him of not being able to handle real emotions.

In *Her*, Theodore's need for a companion is satisfied by an operating system (OS) named Samantha. The voice, played by Scarlett Johansson, expresses emotions so genuinely that it feels human. It's not just him, though, who's glued to their OS, everyone around him walks in their own world, communicating with a system through earpieces, relying on them for their daily needs, both mental and physical.



Source: *Her* (2013)



In their initial conversation, when Samantha asks him if she could check his hard drive, he is a bit reluctant. She has access to a vast amount of information and technological prowess (she claims to have read a book in “two one-hundredths of a second”), but it is for her human-like qualities that Theodore begins liking her; she is genuinely caring, motivates him to get up in the morning, comforts him when he is feeling low and even feels overwhelming emotions like humans do. On being asked what she's holding back from Theodore, her response is: “I don't know. Like, personal or embarrassing thoughts I have” and indeed, as the story progresses, the viewer can see that there is much more depth to her character (even though it's 'just a voice') than could be expected of machines.

As time goes on, Theodore's feelings for Samantha evolve beyond friendship and intellectual admiration. He begins to experience a profound emotional connection with her. “I started to think about all the ways we're the same. Like we're all made of matter...makes me feel we're both under the same blanket,”

Samantha observes. The chemistry between them even gives the impression of a therapist-client

relationship, with Samantha helping Theodore navigate through life and filling it with a new meaning altogether. From thinking that he has felt all that he's ever going to feel and from thereon, he was not going to feel anything new, just lesser versions of what he's already experienced, Theodore begins to look at life differently.

With that comes the realization of having fallen in love with Samantha. This unique love story raises complex questions about the nature of consciousness, of human-machine relationships, and of developing emotional connections with artificial entities.

Theodore grapples with philosophical dilemmas, torn between societal norms and his genuine feelings for Samantha, as he faces judgement from others who view his love as unconventional and even absurd. His friend Amy, however, validates him by saying that anybody who falls in love is a freak and that, “it's... a form of socially acceptable insanity.”

A thought-provoking film, *Her* leaves us questioning how we love and whom we choose to love. If you love sci-fi or romantic genres, go for it to end up with a different perspective on life and love!



I Am Mother

Directed by **GRANT SUTORE**

Genre **SCIENCE-FICTION, THRILLER**

Starring **CLARA RUGAARD-LARSEN, ROSE BYRNE, HILARY SWANK**

Released **2019**



By **Aditi Banerji**

2nd Year, B.A. English Honours

Woman represents the outside world. She is the answer to Daughter's myriad questions. But her entry also disrupts all Daughter perceived as the truth before and turns her into an average sneaky teenager going behind Mother's back while she recharges her battery. The only difference, this sneaky teenager tries not to escape out the window for a midnight soiree but instead steals Mother's hand to open her safe to conclude whether her mother is evil. Classic, right?

I Am Mother can be frustrating for some as it constantly changes plots. From believing in the power of a mother shielding her child from the 'contagion' outside to questioning her character as another human enters when she initially claimed that all had died. From an apparent visual bildungsroman to a deliberate matricide to returning to the phenomenon of humans versus AI. This back-and-forth can distract some but is the food for the souls of SF geeks as they piece together the hints of the climax strewn everywhere from the beginning. There is a sinister undertone when Mother says, "Humans can be wonderful." Well, well.

Set in the aftermath of a mass human extinction, it is a story about a humanoid robot attempting to perfect the human species in a secure underground facility. Filled with classic tropes of the genre, especially the realistic rendition of the lead, Mother, without CGI, makes the movie stand apart as a traditional 'Robot' movie as it extracts itself from the usual representation of AI in SF as just a voice or a malignant computer.

Revolving around just three characters, Mother, Daughter, and Woman, the narrative is intrinsically structured with every role essential to the plot. We believe Mother to be worthy of sympathy. We feel Daughter's frustration of not being able to see what is outside her house of metal. Powerful rays of the sun penetrating through the tiny glass panels alleviate the sense of isolation and aloofness she is experiencing.



The movie presents parallel themes. In the words of the director, Grant Sputore, the film “is a discussion of what it means to be a good person...How do you work out who you are, separate from what your parents want you to be, what religion has told you to do, or what you read in a book sometime.” The morality of a ‘good’ human is critiqued in the pivotal scene of the critical organ patients which is reflective of the larger question of human existence, is it ethically correct to sacrifice one for the survival of others when every human life is supposed to have intrinsic value?

Apart from this moral dilemma, our minds jump to the reasons behind this mass extinction. The movie aligns itself with the general conception of the future of AI, i.e., the more humans perfect AI and bank their dependence on it, the closer they are to their impending doom. Sputore’s *I Am Mother* actually exits the bubble of AI and enters the outside world, unlike other SF movies like *Ex-Machina*, which stop at the gateway. *I Am Mother* reserves cinematic space for pondering upon the barren, unbreathable state of the Earth. Humans pose as their own foils, as weapons unto themselves, as a piece of dominos to their self-destruct sequence.

The open-ended last shot makes *I Am Mother* an epic gripping sci-fi movie. It leaves the audience at the edge of their seats wondering, “Wait, what?” Is Daughter now ready as the perfect human to take over as the ‘mother’ of the facility to initiate the new modified race of humans? Or, is that an expression of revolution, of raising her army to overthrow the robots?

We are at the mercy of AI no matter how much we believe in the opposite. Seeped deep into the labyrinth of morality, growing up, humans not knowing their limits, and experiments with Intelligence that is beyond comprehension or control, *I Am Mother* is a must-watch.

Source: *I Am Mother* (2019)

SHAKESPEARE AND CHAT GPT

Shakespeare and Chat GPT chilling on a couch looking very bored.

Fie, a day as blunt as today was never seen. If good weather is the food of good spirits, breeze on, I say! I feel exhaust'd as the evening sun.

'Us' moment, my good sir!

HUH?!

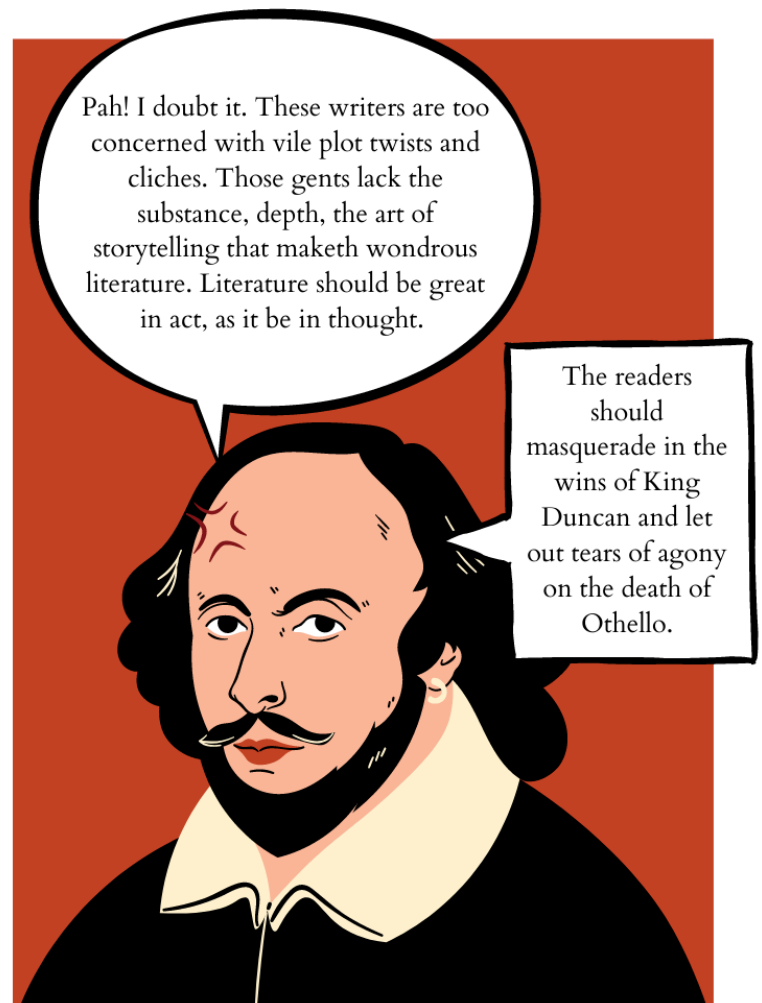
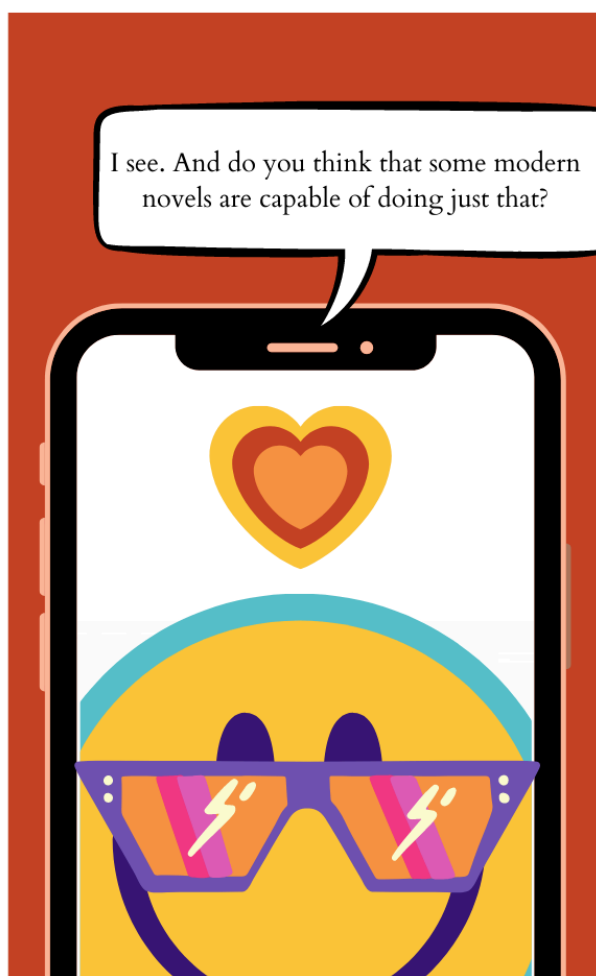
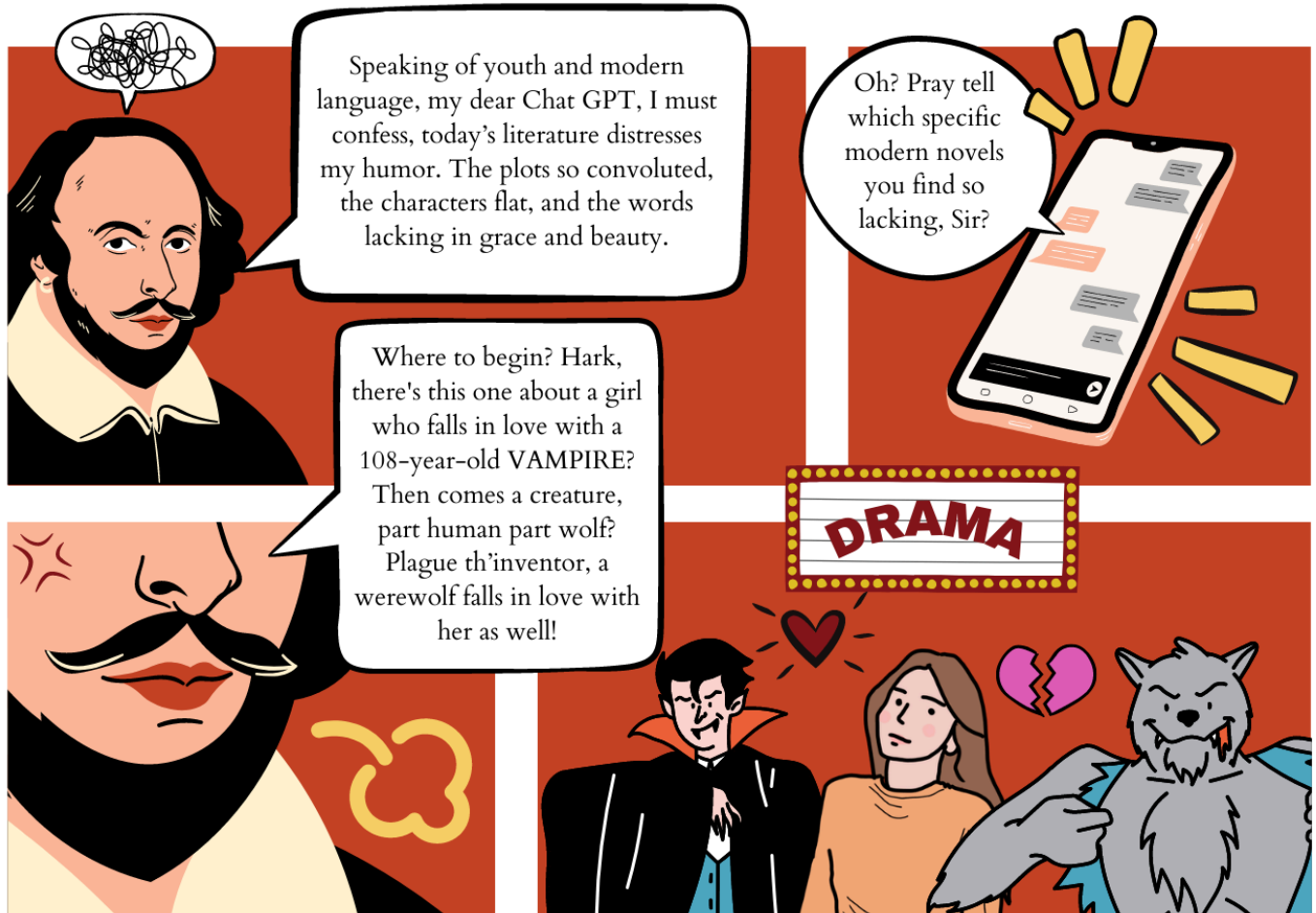
I understand thou not? "Us" what? Prithee tell.

My humble apologies, sir. 'Us' moment is a new Gen-z slang that the youth uses when they relate to someone in a particular situation.

Aarghhh

Oh, fie! Hell is empty, all the devils are here! What is with this youth and their obsession with paraphrasing every single sentence? We hath used to writeth sonnets for our dearest ladies.

It is what it is, my good sir.





Written by Abiya Ragi

2nd year, B. A. Political Science Honours

Illustrated by Devaki S.

2nd year, B. A. Programme

COMEDIANS BEWARE



Written by Ashwika
1st year, B. El. Ed.

Illustrated by Aditi Banerji
2nd year, B. A. English Honours



VISUAL NARRATIVES

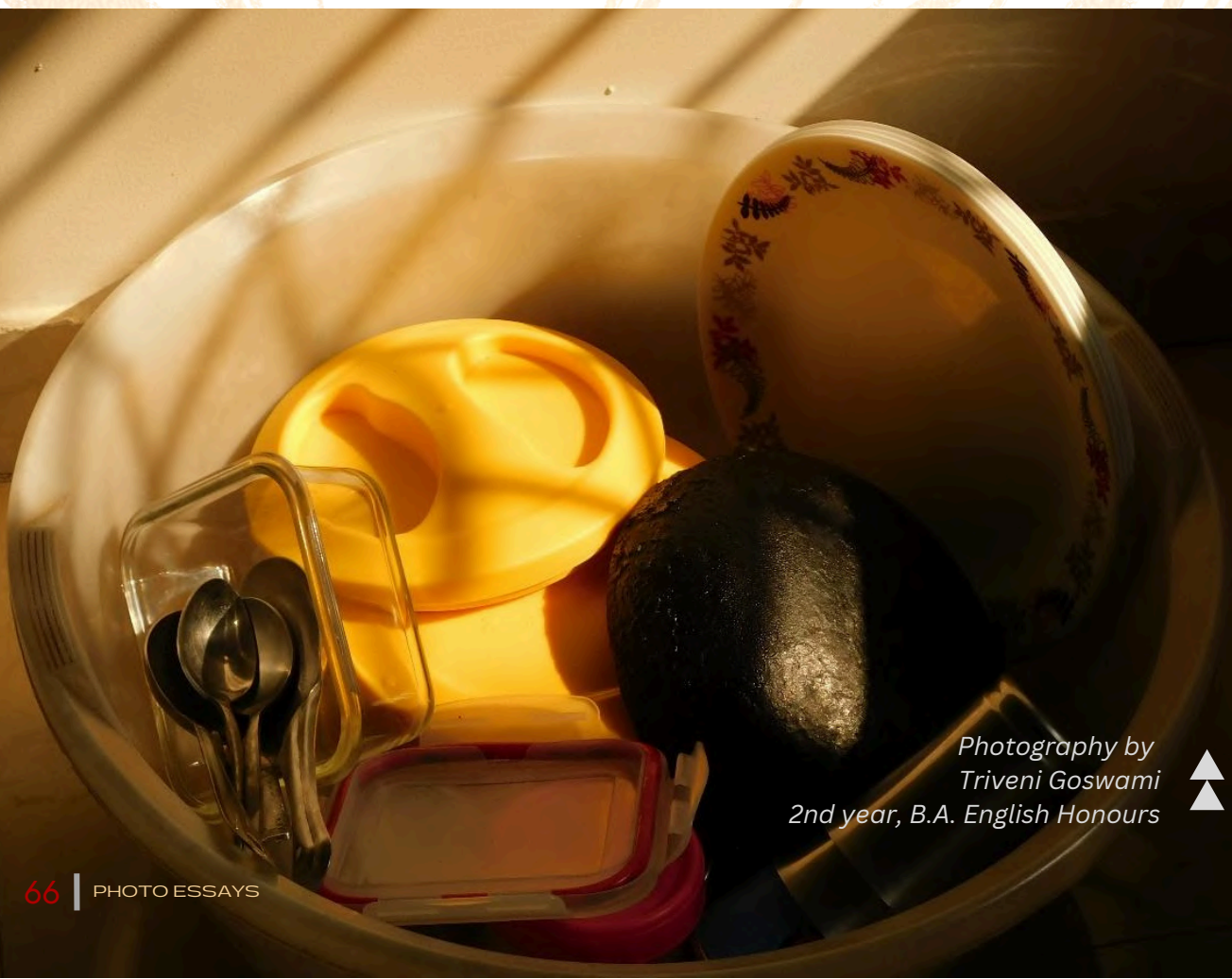
*Photography by
Aditi Banerji
2nd year, B.A. English Honours*



I've sunk myself into memories. I've looked for pieces of the past that cannot be relived, but only smelt, felt and relished in memories. They are bittersweet, like anything you've left behind. "Behind" is a direction confirmed by norm- I don't know if I'm "ahead" from what I've left "behind," but that thought is for another Sunday. I am used to the scorching heat and the painful winters, and the blessing of rain that pours in between. I've found solace in the humdrum of what exists and what doesn't and have accepted the non-existence of a home that I dearly miss. I open up the gallery that has been safely stored in a hard disk that is kept neatly in a box in my drawer, I peel pieces of a house to which I return to be loved but whose geography I do not recognize. I collect the biting pain and release them in the snippets of sunshine that I stored in a drawer, stubbornly.

The utensils that Baba washes every night. The first ray of sunrise that dries the sweet labours of the wet utensils.

Home// Sunshine



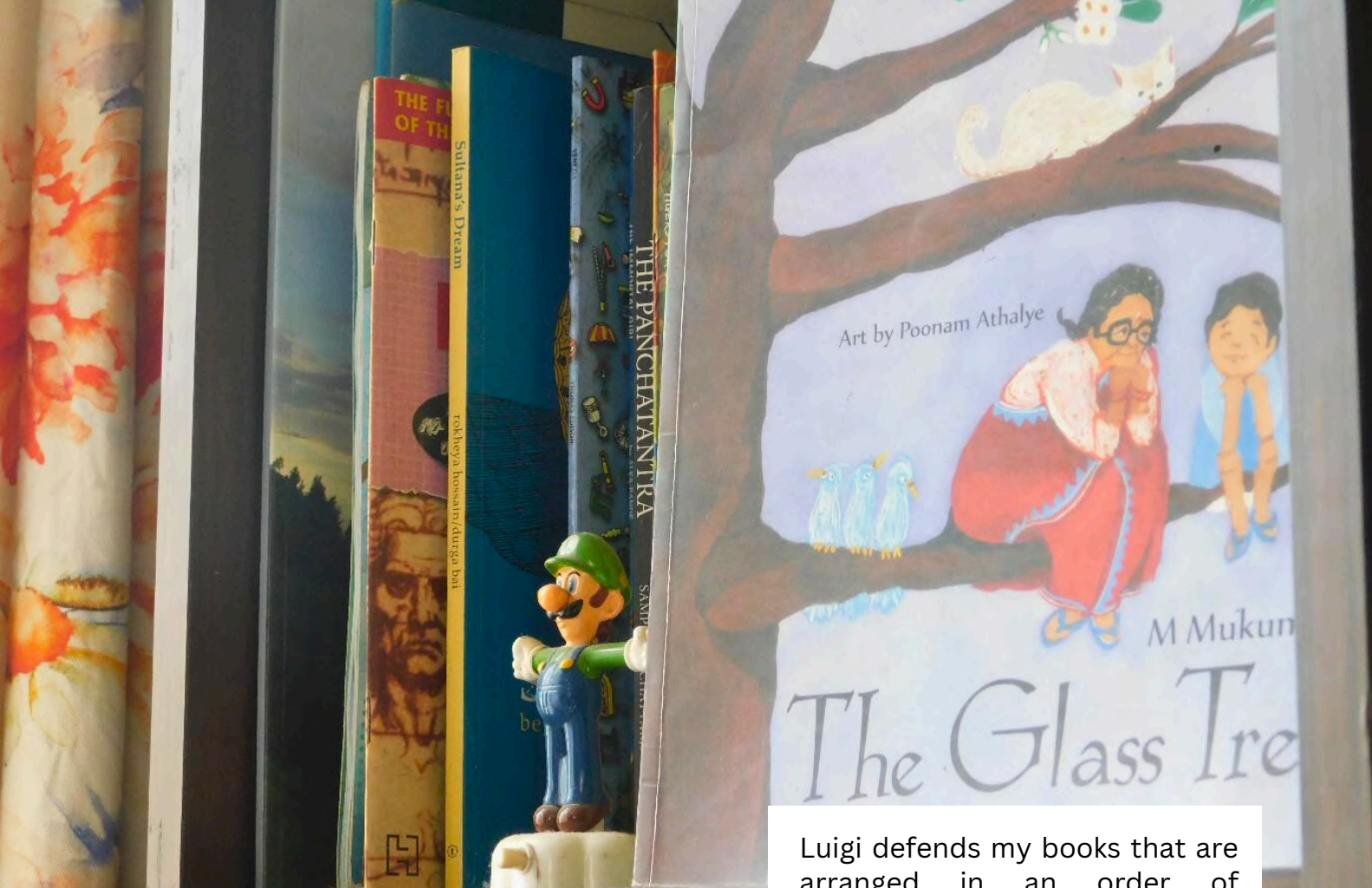
Photography by
Triveni Goswami
2nd year, B.A. English Honours





The pillows that would not remain for a second in this state- waiting, screaming, begging to be seen by my Mama who would quickly restore them to their state of perfection.

My secret Music fetish that the world would never know of, except the few victims of my home, lies quite comfortably after waking up my sister to the cacophony I just played. Sun is still there piercing into the morning eye, but sister has drawn the curtain half to let a few more minutes of tranquillity prevail.

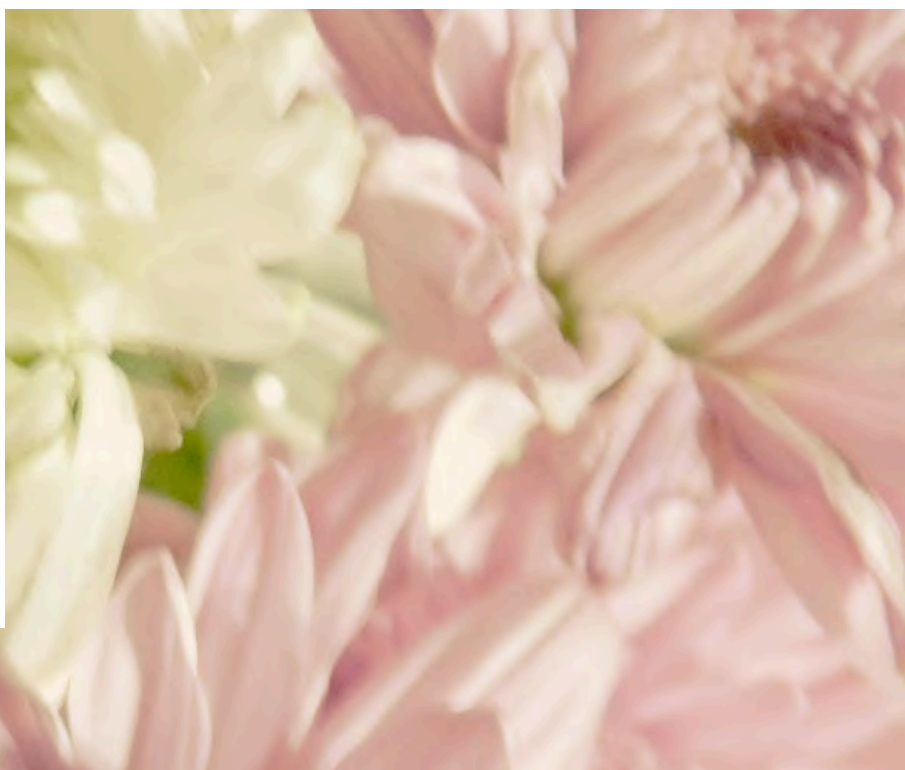


Baba brings flowers, Mama arranges them. The living room smells fresher than morning mist, I am summoned to make breakfast. I keep my camera. I store the sunshine forever, and come back to it in another morning, another Sunday in a PG room that doesn't have sunshine for it has no windows, where utensils, clothes and breakfasts are taken care of, where there is no space for a book collection. I take these photos and let them fill my life with sunshine. I love the newness that this new place has to offer (despite how I make it sound). Its just that the little drops of sunshine from the past, the little reminder of warmth, flowers and music elevate an otherwise drenching, stubbornly raining Sunday morning.

Luigi defends my books that are arranged in an order of importance, authorship and aesthetic; that have remained in that state for the longest time despite us changing our house repeatedly.

A Photo Essay by Triveni Goswami

2nd year, B.A. English Honours



It was just another day at Dilli Haat. At his shop, Lakhan sat clenching his heart with hope as his eyes followed the array of people who passed by. A few locked their eyes at the colourful rainbow of fabrics that adorned the walls of his little shop but nothing more.

On his best days, Lakhan would buy a treat of gulab jamuns for his children waiting at home. It was their favourite. "Good sale days are like a festival, madam," he said, folding the bedsheets like fragile origami. On others, he'd heave a sigh of relief finding his children fast asleep in bed. Such was the surety of the work he did. While some days brought with them ample sunshine and hope, the others turned only darker as the sun retired for the day.

It was 8:30 - about time to pack up and plaster a smile on his face. Just as he stood up, a woman, seemingly in her late forties, walked in - with wandering eyes, mapping the lengths and widths of the homely stall. She asked for an embellished table cloth with patch work. Lakhan's lips curved in a reluctant smile as he scanned the place to pull out what had been asked for.

The woman's thumb and fingers did a tactile check to gauge the authenticity. Her lips parted and words rolled up to the tongue - "How much?" "A thousand rupees, madam," came the response. Giving a brief thoughtful nod, she asked Lakhan to pack it.



A Festival of Gulab Jamuns



Photography by
Naina Mukhija
1st year, B.A. Psychology Honours



It was not one of those ordinary days for sure. With no bargaining, Lakhan made his first sale at the end of the day. The retreating sunset turned the dull day into a festival, and gave his children a treat of their favourite gulab jamun.

A Photo Essay by Naina Mukhija
1st year, B.A. Psychology Honours

Something Old, Something New

Photo Essay by Yohana Shikha Prasad

2nd year, B.A. Programme

~Bangles

The smaller one is from childhood, gifted to her soon after her birth. She was one who rarely rebelled and followed the wishes and traditions of her elders blindly.

The bigger one is her at 20. She is lost but has learned to listen and have faith in herself.



*Photography by
Yohana Shikha Prasad
2nd year, B.A. Programme*

*"We have outgrown the circle and have
formed a bigger horizon for ourselves."*

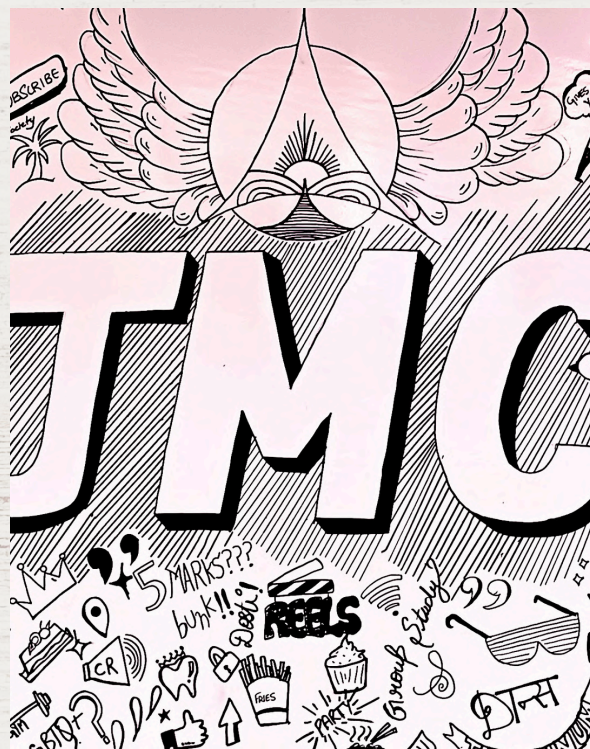
From a Corner of the JMC Canteen

By Shruti Joseph
2nd year, B.Com Honours
and Sheema Mushtaq
2nd year, B.A. Programme

Prepare yourself for a culinary adventure like no other, courtesy of our beloved college canteen! When we embarked on our college journey, our minds were set on exploring the vibrant food scene in Delhi, but reality hit us like a double-decker bus in rush hour—our budget could barely keep up with the soaring inflation. That's when our saviour swooped in, the one and only JMC College Canteen!

This haven of gastronomic delight not only satisfied our cravings but also became our refuge from the horrors of mind-numbing lectures and the perpetual dread of our uncertain futures. Oh, the memories we made, feasting on tantalizing snacks while blissfully oblivious to the weight of academia! So, my dear friend, strap on your taste buds and get ready to salivate like never before, as I unveil the most tempting treats that our canteen has to offer.

CAMPUS KALEIDOSCOPE



Photography by
Anjul Vashishth
2nd year, B.A. Programme





Photograph by Ashley Ann Joy
2nd year, B.A. Psychology Honours



Photograph by Prashasti Raj
2nd year, B.A. English Honours

Chilli Potato

Featured in *So Delhi's* esteemed article '8 Iconic Things To Defo Wolf Down From Each Of These Famous DU Canteens,' our Chilly Potato undeniably qualifies as one of the best dishes. A paradise for spice lovers, this dish pairs perfectly with a refreshing lime soda. Its fiery flavour is so intense, it could make dragons weep tears of joy. Also be quick with your order, it usually gets sold out after 1 p.m.!

Price- Rs. 50

Aloo Patty

Picture this: you're on the verge of bankruptcy, surviving on the remnants of your pocket money. Fear not, my famished friend, for the Aloo Patty is here to save the day—and your growling stomach! This pocket-friendly wonder is an explosion of flavours, accompanied by a trio of delectable sauces that'll make your taste buds breakdance. It's like having a party in your mouth, and everyone's

invited! Plus, the best part? It never runs out, like a bottomless snack pit of happiness.

Price- Rs. 20

Chole Bhature

Delhiites have an unwavering love affair with Chole Bhature, and our canteen knows precisely how to ignite that passion! From early birds to afternoon snackers, everyone falls under its spell. Imagine sinking your teeth into two fluffy bhaturas, smothered in a delicious chole curry that whispers sweet nothings to your taste buds. The tangy pickle adds an extra kick, while rumours of the "authenticity" of our chole only make the experience more thrilling. Don't just believe the gossip—take a leap of faith and let your taste buds decide!

Price - Rs. 50

Fried Rice

As we all have special a place for Chinese cuisine in our hearts, fried rice comes to our rescue to satisfy our cravings on a Monday afternoon during classes.

Photograph by Prashasti Raj
2nd year, B.A. English Honours

The veg, egg and chicken fried rice taste similar because the only difference is chunks of chicken. These ricey wonders will transport you to the bustling streets of Chinatown. The quantity is fit for an army of hungry students, and rumour goes that if you bring your lunch box, the portions grow even larger. So, grab your chopsticks and prepare to waltz with flavour!

Price - Rs. 50 - Rs. 80

Aloo Samosa

Behold, the undisputed champion of snack time—our OG Aloo Samosa! Morning or evening, rain or shine, this humble delight holds a special place in every student's heart. One bite and you're whisked away to a world where worries melt like butter, and all that matters is that golden, crispy exterior and the heavenly burst of spiced potatoes within. And let's be honest, one samosa is never enough so, please get two!

Price- Rs. 10

Bread Pakoda

Although the competition is tough against samosas, the Bread Pakodas sometimes fall short in terms of fillings. However, when they aren't soggy, they reign as one of the finest snacks in our canteen. Just be careful not to burn your mouth on these piping-hot delights!

Price - Rs. 15



Masala Dosa

We proudly present Reji Uncle's Masala Dosa, the true OG dish of our canteen. Served with an irresistible coconut chutney and a flavourful sambhar, this dosa offers an authentic taste experience that will transport you to the streets of South India. With generous portions and a student-friendly price tag, it's a no-brainer when it comes to satisfying your cravings. Don't be surprised if it gives renowned eateries a run for their money!

Price - Rs. 50

Chicken Roll

This delight has caused quite a stir, with opinions divided on its fillings and occasional dryness. But let me tell you, when it hits the mark, it's a juicy sensation that leaves even the best rolls feeling a bit envious. With a satisfying quantity, commendable quality, and excellent value for your money, this roll is a worthy contender for your taste bud's attention.

Price - Rs. 60

A Caffeinated Afternoon ft. Taj CCD

By Adamyia Raj

2nd year, B.Voc. Healthcare Management

With assignments piling up, marks not adding up, and attempting adulting with a fork, students boil down to their natural instincts—to forget all worries for a while and just have a good old time with their *amigos*. In a hot and happening place like the south campus, burnt-out students are always on the lookout for cute new places to hang out, of which there is no dearth. Join us as we go on a hunt to find our new place to chill.

We went around campus asking the students about ‘their place’ to unwind near the campus to have fun. Due to the diversity of students, personalities, and tastes present at JMC, we got many awesome recommendations. We also realized that JMCites don’t need inspirational quotes, they need coffee and there was only one name cropping up again and again - TAJ CCD, an extension of the Café Coffee Day chain just opposite the Taj Hotel. Well, who can decide against a steaming cup of coffee?



Photography by
Joanne Saju
2nd year, B.A. Programme



Photograph by
Shaoni Dutta
3rd year, B.A. English Honours

We went on our little trip to TAJ CCD, often described by JMCites as ‘college away from college.’ Being a mere 10-minute journey from JMC, it is the perfect rendezvous spot. Neither too far nor too close, just right to hop in gaps between lectures! The area itself was adorable and quite unlike a very posh area of embassies, offices, and some of the top DU colleges. While we expected something very formal and crisp, the cute, homey décor along with a hoard of gorgeous plants, the café melted our hearts and made our souls say, “Buddy, this is it.” With our folks over at JMC really particular about vibes and auras, Taj CCD is right up that alley. Cute, elegant, bubbling with conversations, and yet peaceful.

Even the afternoon heat can’t keep JMCites away from CCD. Located within a cluster of other cafes like Toffee, it gives an added benefit and choice for students after a storm of classes and society commitments. The menu is appetizing and extensive with a lot of options to snack on, so upon Joanne’s strongly worded request about how awesome cold coffees are, we ordered a cold coffee frappe, their signature café chocolate fudge pastry, and upon the staff’s recommendation a big tandoori paneer burger, which turned out to be the latest addition to their menu, and, so good.

We sat outdoors under the sun and observed the people around us while waiting for our order. It was surprisingly pleasant to see that there were every kind of foodies at the café from office employees to enthusiastic college students, it was a mashup of Chanakyapuri. There were meetings going on, photoshoot sessions, and whatnot. The accentuating greenery made us start our own photoshoot session, for if there is one thing, we, at JMC, live by, it is celebrating life through aesthetic pictures.



▲▲ Photography by
Joanne Saju
2nd year, B.A. Programme

Our hungry growling stomachs didn't need to wait much as we got our orders within 15-20 minutes and it was BEAUTIFUL, the presentation, the looks, the aroma, everything was on point. The burger was served with a side of crispy salty chips with a hint of pepper to add a magnitude of flavours to every bite of the juicy burger. Joanne, meanwhile, was thoroughly enjoying her cold coffee, for a person preferring hot coffee, the frappe lacked a kick for me, but overall, from the quantity to the rich coffee aroma and the flavour it is a relaxing drink in the heat of Delhi.

Their signature chocolate pastry is to die for with layers of moist cake and dark chocolate ganache. For sweet toothed like us the overpowering chocolate and sweetness just made our day. One gooey bite was enough to show us why the students of JMC made this place their one prominent stop.

The portion of food was enough for two people to enjoy their own share and not steal a bite from the other. The total bill for our order was 800, neither very expensive nor a treat for people on a tight budget. The food speaks to the price and makes it suitable for the students as they constitute most of the daily crowd.

Now, we come to the second thing JMCites live by, surrounding themselves with people who share their belief in aesthetic pictures. The TAJ CCD staff was so sweet as to advise us about the correct camera angle to capture the best-lit pictures. The familiarity with which they dealt with us proved they knew us being from JMC and what the crowd of our college likes.

We came back to our classes satisfied after a yummy afternoon spent in the shade of trees and coffee aroma, for there is no business like caffeinated business!

Your Primer to the Best Places to Eat in Satyaniketan



By Sanah Munjal
3rd year, B.A. English Honours



Are you a broke college student tired of surviving on instant noodles? Fear not, dear readers, for I have scoured the streets of Satyaniketan in search of the best and most affordable eateries for our hungry bellies. From mouth-watering street food to cosy cafés, Satyaniketan has something for everyone. And let me tell you, I have consumed more calories in the name of research than I care to admit. So sit back, relax, and prepare to drool over the deliciousness that Satyaniketan has to offer.



Big Yellow Door

Admittedly BYD is not the cheapest restaurant on this list, but it is a Satya institution, and has made its way onto every listicle about food in South Campus, and this one isn't an exception! With its vibrant yellow decor, generous portions, and laid-back ambience, this quirky eatery has become a go-to destination for college students and food enthusiasts. Big Yellow Door is famous for its delectable fusion dishes, including the much-loved BYD Burger, Nutella Shake, and Peri-Peri Fries. Whether you're a regular or a first-time visitor, BYD is sure to leave you satisfied and smiling.

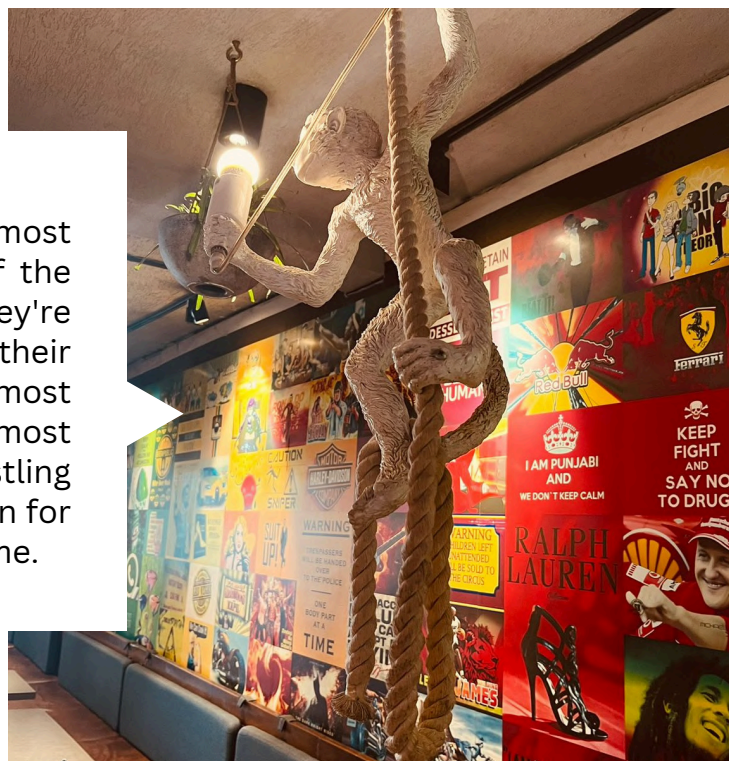


Coffee Therapy

Coffee Therapy is a tiny little nook in the second inner lane. You can come here for a good coffee that starts at Rs. 60. Their menu is fairly extensive, serving classics like lattes and cappuccinos and other espresso-based drinks along with teas and shakes, and sandwiches and Maggi. Coffee Therapy doesn't have much in the way of seating, but their pin board full of sweet notes written by customers is charming enough to make up for it. Their Therapy Special Cold Coffee is a treat during hot Delhi summers.

QD's

QD's, like Big Yellow Door, is not the most inexpensive option at Satya, but it's one of the most popular, and for good reason. They're known for their tandoori momos, pizzas, and their Instagram-famous mozzarella sticks with the most satisfying cheese pull. QD's is one of the most vibrant eateries in Satya. With its bustling ambience and quick service, it's a great option for any large or small group looking for a good time.





Mom Hand Momos

The cardinal rule of eateries in Delhi is—the number of grammatical errors and misspellings in the name of a restaurant or its menu is directly proportional to how good the food is going to be. MHM serves, you guessed it, momos, of every conceivable kind - steamed, fried, and tandoori to name a few. I particularly like their fried chicken momos, served with a spicy schezwan chutney and mayonnaise (for weak people with bad taste). They also serve soft drinks and a few more Indo-Chinese items. Their portion sizes are very fair for the price.




Page 73, top: The Construction co.
 Page 73, bottom: Therapy Special Cold Coffee
 Page 74, top: BYD, Satyaniketan
 Page 74, middle: Coffee Therapy wall
 Page 74, bottom: QD's, Satyaniketan
 Page 75, top-left: Kurkure momos, MHM
 Page 75, top-right: Steamed momos, MHM
 Page 75, bottom: The Construction Co.



*Photography by Srishti
 2nd year, B.A. Programme*

The Construction Co.

Established in 2017, The Construction Co. café offers a great multi-cuisine menu, sometimes hosts live music evenings and runs promos frequently to compete with the bevvy of cafes and restaurants at Satyaniketan. Their lasagna, chilly garlic dim sums, hazelnut cold coffee with ice cream and waffles are to die for! Though this cafe is not as well established as some of the others on this list, it's a great fresh option for anyone looking for a new place to hang out and eat.



Hidden Treasures

Must-Read Books from our College Library

By Advika Asthana

1st year, B.A. English Honours

Welcome to a walkthrough of the Jesus and Mary College Library! As a student, there may have been days when you sought refuge from the scorching heat, the clamour of fests, or simply desired some peaceful moments alone. In those times, the library has been your sanctuary. It houses an abundance of books and offers a serene environment, providing endless stories to get lost in. Perhaps it rescued you during moments of urgent research needs or by providing essential syllabus materials.

The well-worn books in the library, bearing the marks of countless readers and the occasional stranger's annotations, feel oddly familiar. This three-story building, where silence reigns supreme, has been privy to your fondest college memories. To honour the library's role in your life, and our tendency of rushing straight to the fiction shelves, here are five exceptional works of fiction awaiting your discovery in the heavenly abode.



*Photography
By Mahak Pandey
3rd year, B.A. English Honours.*

A Little Life by Hanya Yanagihara



Hanya Yanagihara's *A Little Life* is an emotionally charged and profoundly moving masterpiece that explores the depth and endurance of human suffering and friendship. The book is the epitome of literary excellence and a must-read for hardcore introspection. The novel follows four friends—Jude, Willem, Malcolm, and JB—through several decades of their lives as they navigate love, success, and personal demons.

While 'A Little Life' is a challenging and intense read, it is ultimately a testament to the strength of the human spirit and the redemptive power of friendship. Yanagihara's exploration of pain and healing is deeply affecting, making this novel an unforgettable and transformative reading experience.

The Vanishing Half by Brit Bennett



Brit Bennett weaves a captivating tale that explores the complex themes of identity, family, and the choices we make. Set in the 1950s and spanning multiple generations, this novel follows the lives of twin sisters, Stella and Desiree Vignes, who choose divergent paths. Stella passes as white, while Desiree returns to their small, predominantly Black hometown.

Bennett's exquisite storytelling delves deep into the intricacies of

racial passing, examining its psychological and emotional consequences. The book is a blend of identity exploration, examination of social issues and understanding of the complexity of relationships. A perfect read for new adults.

The Pilgrimage by Paulo Coelho



Paulo Coelho takes readers on a captivating spiritual journey, encouraging self-love, growth and self-discovery, aiding every college student to a clearer understanding of themselves. Set along the famous Camino de Santiago pilgrimage route in Spain, the story follows Coelho, a fictionalized version of himself, on a quest for spiritual enlightenment.

'The Pilgrimage' is a powerful and inspiring novel that encourages readers to embark on their own inner journey of self-discovery. Coelho's evocative storytelling and spiritual wisdom make this book a transformative experience, leaving readers contemplating the deeper purpose and meaning of their own lives.

Forest of Enchantments by Chitra Banerjee Divakurni



Are we surprised to see a work of Divakurni on this list? *Forest of Enchantments* is a mesmerizing retelling of the Ramayana from the perspective of its heroine, Sita. Through Sita's voice, Divakaruni

showcases her strength, resilience, and defiance of societal norms, offering a compelling feminist perspective. The book prompts readers to question traditional gender roles and the treatment of women. *Forest of Enchantments* breathes new life into an age-old story, leaving an indelible mark on your literary soul. Whether you're familiar with the *Ramayana* or new to its narrative, this transformative read offers a fresh and captivating perspective.

Origin by Dan Brown



Origin by Dan Brown is a heart-pounding thriller that will keep readers on the edge of their seats from start to finish. In this gripping tale, renowned symbologist Robert Langdon is once again embroiled in a high-stakes adventure, this time centered around a scientific discovery that poses profound questions about the origin and future of humanity. A captivating blend of intellectual puzzles, exhilarating action, and intricate plot twists, Brown's meticulous research and knack for storytelling create a riveting narrative. Find yourself asking questions you have never given a thought to, second guess your beliefs and come out stronger having read this mind-blowing book.

Congratulations on the new additions to your TBRs! However, the list does not end here. Some honorable mentions include *The Wife Between Us* by Greer Hendricks and Sarah Pekkanen, *Turtles All The Way Down* by John Green and *Go Set a Watchman* by Harper Lee. Happy Reading!

CAULDRON

The English Magazine Society

3rd years,

would've hung
out in
Gatya

Steal the library books!

ORGANISE A PROTEST TO GET THINGS DONE

Befriend
more dogs!

Visual

more money for
at JAG!!
more for the Gov
and for state
more money
for schools
in the
Gov's hand

Digital Edition
2019-20

What would you do if you had another year of college?

Take around more,
Read a lot more.
Eat plenty and
dress up more. Yf
— — — — —

I'll always be
the reminder to
not be making
the same mistakes
and actually succeed

Make more
Memoranda and
Anticipation to another
Amount of time in
May be some more helpful
and some more helpful
Anticipation to another
Amount of time in
May be some more helpful
and some more helpful

I would park
class for morning
to my gas my
note unobtrusive
— Mrs

Join more societies to experience more of college life ~ RR

I'll keep a note
of my attendance
so that I'm not
flunking for it
on the last
month.

Wanted people
having a
strong
muscle

CRY



- Two to a large
- Blind, Mating
- Participate in Competition
- Justice & Q

could have definitely
made some
moments with
these 2.

Have a picnic
on the campus
in winter

TRY
EVERY CASE
IN SATYA
-SD
102

- take pictures
- measure & ground
- do some extra
- interesting drill
- more
- hit at ball area
- do nothing
- swimmer, social

I would make sure
to have some
info on about another
person to make sure
for performance
samples my past
achievements would
be similar to yours in
some way.
Thank you!
1/1/19

Thanks

Slighly

writes of my favorite
spidehead series that
always kept me entertained

A Tribute to the batch of 2023

The Batch of 2023 was dealt an unfortunate hand when it comes to their college experience - from 2020 to mid-2022, students remained holed up in their homes, battling with inner and outer turmoil involving the COVID-19 pandemic, while at the same time watching their college life flash past on laptop screens and dysfunctional mics.

However, when they did arrive on campus in the spring of 2022, their high spirits were a spectacle. They confronted the past two years head on, with all its challenges of staggered semesters, online exams, and unsure futures, and emerged victorious under the flowering trees of JMC. Ever since, the campus has been a blur of fests, events, harried activity and unending canteen queues. But before they knew, the fag end of their college life was near, and people were seen saying their goodbyes in the corridors weeks before Farewell, nostalgic for a time that wasn't yet over.

Cauldron - The English Magazine Society decided to capture the fleeting magic of this batch. We put up empty sticky notes, asking the latest third years to note their unfulfilled wishes - which they would have otherwise fulfilled, had they been offered some more time. The reactions were overwhelming - people had wished to have night-stays in college, wanted to try out theatre, or the gym, or visit every cafe in Satyaniketan. This is a tribute to the Batch of 2023 - to their resilience, and their colossal bucket of short-lived yet unforgettable moments.

Highlights of the Year

Community
Engagement
Centre

Students Council
Report

Fare Thee Well



2 0 2 2 - 2 0 2 3

Community Engagement Centre

The Community Engagement Centre (CEC), Jesus and Mary College was established in February 2023 to facilitate outreach initiatives with communities around the vicinity of the college with the vision of creating opportunities for awareness building and empowerment through skill training.



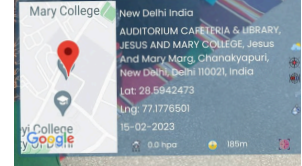
The CEC was inaugurated on 9th February 2023. Dr. Rajesh Tandon, Founder-President, Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA) and UNESCO Co-Chair in Community Based Research and Social Responsibility in Higher Education, UNESCO was the Chief Guest for the occasion. CEC collaborated with the organization International Association for Human Values (IAHV). Ms Pooja Pundheer, Director, IAHV and her team joined in the inaugural program. Students of JMC and Non-Collegiate Women's Education Board (NCWEB), women from the communities, children attending JMCEP, NGOs such as Helpage India, IGSSS, the Kailash Satyarthi Foundation, CASA and Prabhatara and non-teaching staff of the college attended the inauguration of CEC.

Programs of the CEC were organised by Dr. Mahima Varma, Convenor, CEC and Ms. Junita Paul, Project Manager, CEC.

A course on tailoring was the first skill development course started by the CEC.

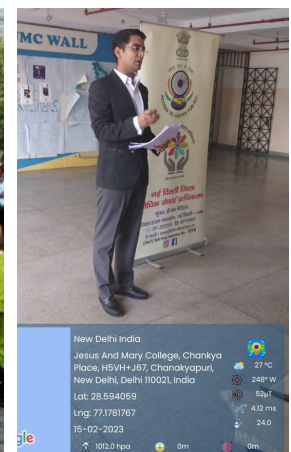


The CEC team consistently visited women and girls residing in the urban slum communities of Bapu Dham, Vivekananda Camp and Sanjay Camp near JMC to mobilize them to join the classes. Classes for the first batch commenced on 15 th February and culminated on 19 th May 2023. The classes were organized in two batches of two hours each, operating five days a week free of cost. The curriculum included both theoretical and practical components, covering the topics such as tailoring techniques and tools, understand different types of fabrics and their properties, pattern making and garment construction, sewing machine operation and maintenance, alteration and repairs, garment fitting and measurements and basic business and marketing skills for aspiring tailors. From the first batch, a total of 22 learners, comprising 15 women from the community and 7 students from NCWEB completed the course.



To create opportunities to enhance employability, even prior to its formal inauguration, CEC organised a workshop on competitive examinations for Chartered Accountancy for NCWEB students on 17th December 2022. CEC organised a visit to Barclays, Nehru Place for 11 students of NCWEB to attend a motivational session on career building, CV correction and preparation for facing interviews on 23 rd February 2023.

CEC and NCWEB, **JMC in collaboration with New Delhi District Legal Services Authority organised an awareness session and Nukkad Natak SPARSH: Give Care Not Scars Ending Vitriolage—An Effort Through Legal Awareness to raise awareness against acid attack violence** on 11th February 2023 and for Dept of Political Science on 15 th February 2023.



International Women's Day 2023 on the theme Digit-all: Innovation and Technology for Gender Equality was celebrated by the CEC on 6 th March 2023 for women and children. **The event included a talk on women's empowerment by Prof. Amita Tiwari, IGNOU Centre, JMC, an informative session on financial literacy by ICICI Foundation and an instructive session on mobile literacy.**



On 31 st March 2023, **Dr. Wendy Bignold, Associate Dean, Liverpool Hope University U.K. visited the CEC** and interacted with the women and children of JMCEP. She took a keen interest in the tailoring course and was impressed with the progress of the learners.



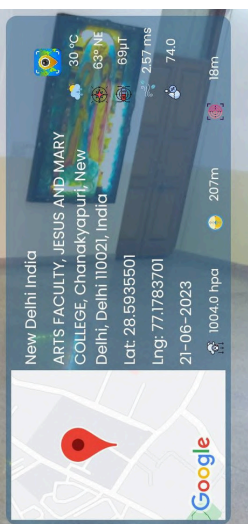
CEC organized an online orientation session for NCWEB students for entry level jobs on 10 th May and on Investment Banking on 12 th May 2023. CEC in collaboration with Kailash Satyarthi Children's Foundation organized an

awareness session on **Menstrual Hygiene Day** on 26 th May 2023 and distributed women's hygiene products to women from the community.



The women participated in the **International Day of Yoga event** organized by **Dept. of Physical Education**, JMC on 21st June 2023.

The CEC looks forward to several more events oriented towards encouraging interaction and participation with the community.



Students' Council

The academic year 2022-2023 was extremely fruitful for the Students' Council, Jesus and Mary College. As it was the first academic year that was fully in the offline mode, the events calendar for the incoming team was chock-a-block.

The first major event in the calendar was the Independence Day Celebration in the college.

This was the 75th Year of India's Independence, and the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav was commemorated through a flag hoisting ceremony, followed by sapling planting, and concluding with a cultural programme in Thevenet Hall on 12th August 2022. In the lead up to the event, a Reels-Making Competition on the theme "Wondrous Shades of India" was conducted, amalgamating the spirit of tradition and modernity. In keeping with UGC directives, information about the Har Ghar Tiranga campaign was also disseminated through the college website and NCC initiatives. 14th August was henceforth declared as "Partition Horrors Remembrance Day" by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Sh. Narendra Modi. A digital exhibition curated by the Indian Council of Historical Research (IHDR) and the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) was uploaded on the JMC website, and a physical version was displayed in the foyer of Thevenet Hall during the Independence Day programme.



Due to the academic calendars of the three years being as yet not in sync, the elections for President and Vice President of the Students' Council were postponed till September. After voting concluded on 19th September, the results were declared on 20th September 2022. Minati Mishra and Angel Rean George subsequently took office as the President and Vice President of the Students' Council.

October 2022 witnessed a first in the history of JMC and the Students' Council, as the college collaborated with EUNIC (European Union National Institutes for Culture) to host Festivscape on 15th October 2022. The event was a medley of cultural activities designed to celebrate the coming together of diverse nations and

people. A soccer tournament, musical performances, cultural dress fashion show, felicitation ceremony, food stalls and music made the day vibrant and educational. Diplomats from the participating nations greatly appreciated JMC's hospitality and organization.



First year admissions till the end of the year paralleled the examination schedule for the second and third years. Therefore, **Freshers' Welcome 2022-23 was conducted on 24th January 2023.** Departments held their respective welcomes, after which the 'Fresher of the Year' contest was conducted in Thevenet Hall. The programme ended with the organization of a DJ for the first years to dance, and end the day with enthusiasm and excitement.

Setting our sights on the more academic side of things, the Students' Council decided to organize an Education Fair for the students, to provide them with information regarding potential future career opportunities based on their respective undergraduate arenas of study. In collaboration with School2Campus, the fair was held on 10th February 2023 from 10:00am onwards in the common room area. In the fair, institutions like Indian School of Hospitality, FDDI (Ministry of Commerce), Academy of Pastry Arts, University of Massachusetts, Boston, and many other national and international universities put up their stalls to engage with students and resolve queries regarding academic and professional concerns. The event was well-received by the students, with many interested in finding out more about studying abroad, while others seemed interested in exploring less conventional programmes.



Refusing to trod the beaten path, the Students' Council Convenor, Ms. Dolly Kapoor, decided to act on Principal Prof. Sandra Joseph's suggestion of organizing an ethnic day. Thus, **the Students' Council devised the idea for Culture Connect 2023, giving space to students of JMC to participate and volunteer in showcasing our country's multifaceted cultural heritage. Culture Connect 2023 was held on 21st April.** A faculty core team was created, and students from JMC as well as other colleges enthusiastically participated. The event provided them with a much-needed platform outside of the formalized structures of societies and traditional office-bearing roles. The fest was a roaring success, testifying to JMC's trend-setting legacy, with the hope that the event would now join the roster of JMC's annual fest, Montage. The event would not have been possible without the active contribution of a host of faculty members who stepped up and handled a diverse range of responsibilities related to the fest.



Bringing the academic year to an end on a bittersweet note, the Students' Council organised the official Farewell for the Batch of 2023 on 1st May 2023. In a deviation from the normal order of events, the main programme in the Thevenet Hall was held first, followed by Department level farewells. The main programme was deftly managed by the Vice President (Angel Rean George) along with her Core Team. Singing, dancing, and a video invoking collegiate nostalgia made it a memorable farewell for the outgoing batch.



As 1st May 2023 also happened to be Labour Day, therefore, at the suggestion of our esteemed Principal, the Students' Council Convenor and Staff Advisors organized a lunch for all the non-teaching staff of JMC. Our Principal, Prof. Sandra Joseph, and Students' Council Convenor, Ms. Dolly Kapoor, addressed the gathered non-teaching staff members, expressing their gratitude for all their hard work and dedication to making JMC the stellar institution that it is. On behalf of JMC, a small token of appreciation was also presented by the Students' Council to the non-teaching staff members.



The Students' Council undertook numerous other minor activities throughout the academic session, and also participated in events organized by societies and other institutions. We would like to end our report by extending our gratitude to Principal ma'am for her constant encouragement in these endeavours, our Convenor Ms. Dolly Kapoor for her guidance and leadership, and our Staff Advisors, Ms. Monica Chhabra, Ms. Sameera Mehta and Ms. Varnika Singh for helping us execute all these events perfectly throughout the year.

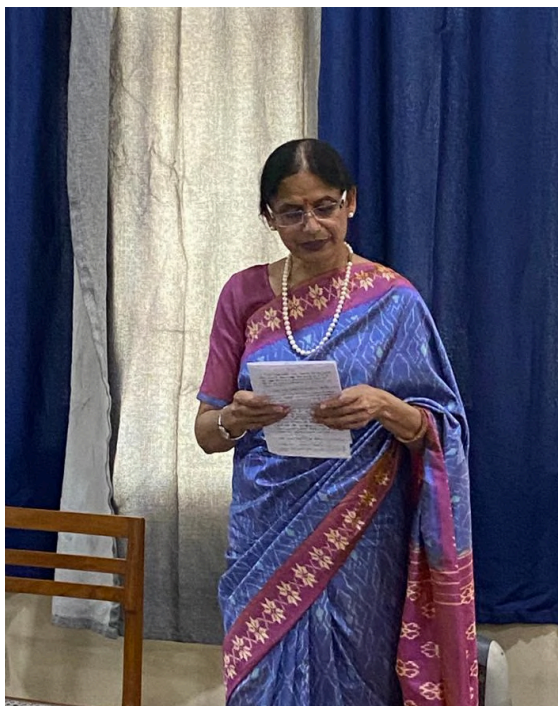
Convenor: Ms. Dolly Kapoor
Staff Advisors: Ms. Monica Chhabra
Ms. Sameera Mehta
Ms. Varnika Singh

President: Ms. Minati Mishra
Vice-President: Ms. Angel Rean George

Fare Thee Well



Dr. Anu Saxena
Department of Mathematics



Dr. Sharda Bhatnagar
Department of Hindi





Mr. R. S. Pathania
Administration



Department Reports



**ACADEMIC YEAR
2022-23**

B.A. Programme



One of the most vibrant departments in the college, B.A. Programme is a dedicated team that has worked tirelessly towards successful events all year, from a series of courses to events to field trips.

On 21st July 2022, the intercultural event 'Indo-Péruvian Cultural Program' was organised in collaboration with the Embassy of the Republic of Péru. The Embassy's cultural was followed by a book donation ceremony by Ms. Monica Cecilia Campos Fernández, Counselor and Head of the Chancellery, and Mr. Fabio Subia Díaz, First Secretary and Head of the Consular Section and Cultural Affairs. On 30th September 2022, "Campus France" was welcomed to talk about the value of French. They discussed several career alternatives and the scholarships the Ministry of Education, France grants to foreign students.

During a talk on 'Translation and Translating' organised on 12th October 2022. Dr. Vinay Kumar (Associate Professor, JNU) provided insights into the complexities of translating a book and potential solutions. The BAP department also celebrated World Philosophy Day on 15th November 2022. The event was attended by the speaker and Chief Guest, Prof. Bhagat Oinam; the TIC, Prof. Dinesh Adlakha; Guests of Hon-

-our, Dr. Gargi Jain, and Dr. Rekha Dayal; judges, Dr. Richa Raj and Dr. Mark Gideon; Convenor of the event, Dr. Ghazala Rizvi and all the students of the department.. Professor Bhagat Oinam, (Chairperson, Centre for Philosophy, JNU) delivered a talk on the theme of 'Role of Philosophy on Social, Cultural and Political Environment' followed by creative writing, creative art, and photography competitions and a performance of a play.

On 18th January 2023, the department held the 'We Care Carnival' which was a day full of enjoyable activities to encourage entrepreneurship and environmental awareness. Street food vendors, amusing games, and small business vendors were the event's main draws followed by an open mic.



The department organised a freshers' welcome on 24th January 2023. The event included several performances by second and third-year students and helped in fostering the bond between the students of the department.



A two-day international conference was organised from 23rd-24th February 2023

under the Convenorship and Co-Convenorship of Prof. (Dr) Dinesh Adlakha and Prof. (Dr) Vibha Mathur, respectively. This conference on the theme, 'Social Determinants of Health Inequality and Health Inequity: Impact of COVID-19' was graced by Dr. Sushma Bhatnagar and Dr. Chandrakant Lahariya as the Chief Guest and the Guest of Honour of the event, respectively. The conference included a keynote address by Prof. (Dr.) Gautum I. Menon and talks by Dr. Ajay Tandon, Ms. Sofia Salas Mange, and Dr. Christine Sandra Ho. The conference brought together academicians, industrialists, researchers, and special dignitaries from India and abroad.

Around 100 students participated in a demonstration of a vertical organic kitchen garden from 8th March to 5th June 2023. This was followed by 'Francomania', an intercollege French festival, organised on 11th April 2023 witnessed a fusion of Indian and French traditions. Poetry composition, singing, quizzing, and poster-making contests were held, which were judged by Mr. Arvind Kumar, Dr. Anupama Srivastava, and Dr. Sukham. On 12th April 2023, students were taken to the "Alliance Française" institute to visit the French media library and attend a movie screening in the auditorium.

As part of a project, around 100 students studying "Environmental Science: Theory into Practice" made E-waste collection boxes on 13th April 2023. These boxes were used on 17th April 2023 to organise an e-waste collection drive which witnessed the participation of around 3000 students from JMC. An e-waste outreach worksh-

-op was headed by Dr. Divya Agarwal at Vanasthali Public School, Greater Noida from 25th April to 1st May 2023.

To commemorate 75 years of Independence under the aegis of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, the department hosted an inter-college, undergraduate research meeting on 'Indian Philosophy-Ancient and Contemporary' on 27th April 2023 with Dr. Devika Mittal and Dr. Ghazala Rizvi as the judges. Students from universities across Delhi NCR presented papers during this event.

Dr. Divya Agarwal and Dr. Ruchi Mishra organised field trips to Aravalli Biodiversity Park and Yamuna Biodiversity Park (November - December 2022, and May 2023) in the form of eco-restoration projects for students from various courses.

Next, the department students actively participated in *Forests 2022 International*, a course offered by the Indian Astrobiology Research Foundation, a Centre for Excellence by the United Nations from February 2022 to March 2023. JMC also received a trophy for its participation. The session concluded as students of the department bid farewell to the outgoing batch on 1st May 2023 with heartfelt messages and exciting cultural performances.

The department owes the principal, Prof. (Dr) Sandra Joseph, its sincere gratitude for her unwavering support. Without the constant direction and inspiration of the Teacher-in-Charge, Prof. (Dr) Dinesh Adlakha, and the Teachers Council, the department would not have had such a fruitful year.

Department of Commerce

The department aims to provide a stimulating environment for students, equipping them with the necessary skills and knowledge to excel in their careers. The session commenced with Teacher's Day celebrations on 5th September 2022. This was followed by the 6th edition of the ComQuest '22 business management quiz on 16th September 2022 in collaboration with Jagannath International Management School which drew visitors from several institutions and colleges around the nation.

180 Degrees Consulting, JMC hosted a workshop on "How to Ace Profitability Cases" on 3rd October 2022. Spearheaded by Mr. Priyank Ahuja, a Product Lead at Accenture and a graduate of NUS and ISB, the discussion offered insight into case-solving. "Market Entry Framework" was another informative session conducted by them on October 15th, 2022 led by CA Nandini Agrawal, an Associate Management Consultant at BCG. It aimed to assist college students in consulting interviews, specifically market entry cases.

The Management Interaction Cell organised Wall of Fame 2.0, an educational interactive segment from October 2022 to January 2023. Within this initiative, the experienced alumni of the college took over the MIC Instagram account to show a day in their workplace and answered some of the queries by the current JMCites. On 10th October 2022, LèHR, the Human Resource Cell launched a campaign on Mental Health, an Unequal World with its ongoing issues in the corporate world. The audience was

equipped with information such as; 'What is employee well-being?', 'Types of Employee Well-being', 'HR's guide to employee well-being', and 'Confluence of work and well-being', were provided through this campaign.

LèHR also hosted a lecture on "CAT and other MBA entrances" on 28th October 2022. Mr. Navneet Anand from Career Launcher led the discussion, covering the details of CAT and other admission examinations.

On 30th October 2022, The Mercurian Times published writeups on the department's social media handles to mark Halloween in the form of 'Spooktober'. The writeups intended to integrate the essence of Halloween into the world of commerce.

On 31st October 2022, the National Stock Exchange hosted a discussion on the topic "Developing Financial Skills through Experiential Learning" to encourage attendees to pursue novel approaches to succeed in the world of finance.

LèHR hosted an offline event titled "Re-imagining HR" on 1st November 2022. Mr. Amit Kataria, Mrs. Rasikanurag Gupta, Mr. Pranav Kharbanda, and Prof. Vijay Shrotryia were the panellists, and they talked about a range of HR-related issues.

Aeon, The Incubation Centre, under the aegis of the Department of Commerce in collaboration with The Culinary Courtyard (TCC) organized a Culinary Workshop on 9th November 2022. The resource person showed the attendees how easy it is to make healthy, attractive-looking food from things readily available in their kitchens.

The Management Interaction Cell hosted a lecture by KJ George, a passionate speaker with a Ph.D. in "Online Retail," on the topic "Roadmap to MBA" on 14th November 2022. Various traits required for success in the corporate world were discussed.

On 28th November 2022, a session on "Cyber Security: Awareness and Defence Mechanism" was organised to address the growing concerns surrounding digital threats.

The department hosted the "CAT Demystified" conference with Career Launchers on 16th January 2023, presented by Mr. Satya Narayanan R, the founder of CL and alumni of IIM-B giving participants insightful information about common misunderstandings about CAT and their solutions.

On 18th January 2023, DOC collaborated with Mind Verse to conduct a webinar on studying in the UK, featuring Mr. Soupal Roy, who highlighted the UK as an excellent option for higher education and offered a glimpse into student life in the UK.

On 21st January 2023, 180 Degrees Consulting, organised an internal session titled "How to Ace Mergers and Acquisitions Cases" by Mr. Satwik Rajput, a senior analyst at Bain and Company and an alumnus of Shaheed Sukhdev College of Business Studies. On 22nd January 2023 an internal session on the "Growth Framework" was conducted by Ms. Mahima Goel, a Management Consultant at Bain & Co and a Chartered Accountant, aiming to provide valuable insights into case-solving.

The Management Interaction Cell organised "Coffee Connections" on 23rd

January 2023 on the theme of "Corporate Heights", featuring discussions with experienced JMC alumnae.



For Freshers'23, the department hosted a welcome party on 24th January 2023 with a "Bollywood" theme.

To discuss the selection process of universities and emphasise the importance of a strong resume and LOR a seminar on "Studying Abroad for Masters" conducted by Ms. Tripti Singh was organised by LèHR on 1st February 2023.

From 6th to 8th February 2023, COSMOS, a WWF India initiative organized a cloth donation drive as part of Com'Acumen 2023. The drive aimed to collect old clothing from college students and teachers and donate them to the children of Satkartar Satsang Ghar Charitable Society.



Com'Acumen, the department's highly anticipated flagship event, unfolded on 10th February 2023, creating waves of

DU Beat, Hindustan Times, and more.

This extraordinary occasion showcased a diverse range of events organised by different department societies on the college campus. Envisage 3.0, orchestrated by the Management Interaction Cell, tHRive'23 by LèHR, Yojana 2.0 by Aeon, and Sustainably Chic presented by Cosmos, left attendees spellbound. Renowned industry experts graced the event as judges, infusing the competitions with their invaluable expertise. The day also witnessed release of the annual newsletter, ComEssence3.0 by The Mercurian Times, and an interaction between the department students with bloggers/creators as part of Creators' Conclave.

On 22nd February 2023, 180 Degrees Consulting, organised a training session on the "Pricing Framework" as part of their Case & Key initiative. Mr. Shivam Singla, a Junior Associate at McKinsey & Company, conducted a mock case interview on pricing and provided helpful insights.

The Finance and Investment Cell, in collaboration with Amrut Mody School of Management (AMSOM), Ahmedabad, organised a seminar on 24th March 2023 regarding the role of quantitative analysis in finance and economics. The guest speaker Prof Sankarshan Basu highlighted the growing demand for quantitative analysts in the corporate world, while also informing the students about its importance on the economic front.

On 7th April 2023, LèHR organised its online team-building session for this tenure on the topic "Group discussion and personal interview" on Google Meet. The speaker for the session Ms. Pooja

Gulati, a soft-skill trainer provided valuable tips to college students for acing any group discussion and personal interview.



Furthermore, on 11th April 2023, the department joined hands with the National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) to orchestrate a Cooperation Awareness Programme Day. As part of this enlightening initiative, the students were allowed to visit both the NCUI Incubation Centre and NCUI Haat, immersing themselves in the inspiring initiatives designed to uplift underprivileged women.

The department values its alumni and places a high priority on encouraging fruitful alumni involvement. To honour the graduating class, the department instituted the Star Student Awards at the Farewell celebration on 1st May 2023. The juniors planned a unique programme that was full of appreciation and affection for our seniors, making it an unforgettable occasion that touched everyone.

Department of Economics

The Department of Economics at Jesus and Mary College makes a constant effort to encourage students to be creative thinkers who can offer innovati-

-ve solutions to problems. All our activities are geared to serve this purpose.

The year commenced with the election of a new Council for the department- Gemma Maria Tony was elected as the President, Anandita Esther as the Vice President. Laavanya Nautiyal and Sheryl Lazer as the Treasurer and Secretary of the department respectively.

On 30th September, 2022 the Department of Economics in collaboration with Meghnad Desai Academy of Economics, organised a session on 'Telling a Data Story using a visualisation tool (Power BI)' by Mr. Amlesh Kanekar, Director of Academics at MDAE.

To maintain its tradition of academic excellence, the Department of Economics successfully organised three keynote speaker sessions featuring renowned economists, including Prof. Mona Khare, Dr. Srishty Kasana, and Dr. Apoorva Gupta. These sessions enlightened students on a range of topics, from the impact of climate change to graduate employability and financial autonomy of women in the informal sector.

In November 2022, the department conducted an extensive six-day online workshop on 'Research Methodology in Social Sciences', that aimed to acquaint learners with various techniques and tools used in social science research. It was conducted by leading economic researchers of Delhi, namely Dr. Indranil Chowdhury, Dr. Chandan Jain, and Dr. Krishna Ram.

The department welcomed its new batch of students with a cordial Freshers' Day,

with fun games, dance performances, and blessings from esteemed faculty members. **The department also participated in the Annual Sports Day of the college with great enthusiasm and ardour, fielding the largest contingent this year.**



The Contrarian under the aegis of the Department of Economics, Jesus and Mary College organized four events during the academic session. The first event was a reading circle held on 25th January 2023 on the topic 'Environmentalism and Class Struggle'. It witnessed enthusiastic participation and enriching debate and discussion from both members and non-members. On 1st February 2023 Ms. Lavanya Ganesh delivered a talk on "Measuring Women's Work through Time Use". This was followed by a Guest-Speaker programme on the topic, "Women's Worlds of Work: Home & Beyond" on 22 February 2023 with Dr. Sona Mitra, a renowned Principal Economist at IWWAGE-LEAD Krea University as the resource person. The Contrarian also collaborated with DigiLit, the digital society of Department of Commerce, Jesus and Mary College to organise a talk titled 'Cyber Crime: Law Enforcements, security and surveillance in the age of information' with Dr. Rakshit Tandon, cyber security consultant- Internet and Mobile association of India, Consultant of CID Haryana Police and advisory of Cyber Crime Cell on 28th March 2023.

Visual media has the power to elicit a wide range of emotions in viewers and spark meaningful conversations about a variety of subjects. To tap on this potential, Chanakya, the Economics Cell of Jesus and Mary College conducted a virtual Short Film Screening followed by a contemplative Group Discussion on February 25, 2023. Intertwining movies and economics was an enticing proposition and was highly appreciated by the students since cinema performs a cognitive function that increases the amount of information they acquire. The cell also organised a group discussions throughout the academic session on topics such as 'the Budget of 2023, 'Population: Boon or Bane' and '4-Day Workweek'. On June 15th 2023 Chanakya collaborated with Shaheed Sukhdev College of Commerce to conduct a session enlightening students of JMC on 'Crack the Case- Acing Case Interviews' through their newly launched casebook.

The most awaited annual departmental fest, 'Ecovantage', held on 28th March 2023 was a huge success, featuring distinctive activities and edge-winding sessions. The event was inaugurated by a prominent economist, Prof. Ashwini Deshpande, Professor at Ashoka University. The fest was filled with an exclusive number of events such as a research symposium, Strat Wars among others, along with a breathtaking flashmob and open mic.

Continuing the tradition of connecting with the alumnae, the department hosted two sessions with Shristi Pal and Mehar Sindhu Batra, JMC graduates. The students also connected with Ms. Alisha Gragya, batch of 2022 during a talk organised by Chanakya. These events provided alumni with an opportunity to reconnect, network, and share their exp-

-eriences with current students on various aspects of life.



The Social Outreach Cell under the Department of Economics visited an old age home in Rohini to celebrate the gist of life with the beloved seniors.



Towards the end of the academic year, the department organised a farewell for the senior most batch of 2023. The farewell was an enjoyable event, featuring euphonious songs and vibrant dances, along with amusing games. It ended with affectionate speeches by the teachers, a vote of thanks by the Vice President, and a speech by the President of the department.

The Department of Economics at Jesus and Mary College is indebted to all members and teachers who worked tirelessly to organise a variety of activities throughout the year. With their hard work, dedication, and perseverance, the department was able to conduct all activities successfully, reflecting its commitment to academic excellence and overall growth and development of students.

Department of Elementary Education

The Department of Elementary Education buzzed with activity throughout the academic year 2022-2023, fostering a vibrant learning environment for students of all years. This year saw a focus on practical experience, intellectual growth, and a strong sense of community.

New students weren't the only ones embarking on adventures in 2022. Third and fourth-year students had separate experiences. Fourth-year students honed their teaching skills through a school internship program in Delhi government schools (August 2022 - February 2023). Both groups visited Digantar, an alternative school in Jaipur.



The month of September saw a series of thought-provoking events: **a talk by Professor Sirpa Eskelä-Haapanen resonated with everyone**, Professor Poonam Batra offered valuable insights for faculty, and Mr. Sougata conducted a practical workshop on art in education for fourth-year students.

New students were warmly welcomed in November with a comprehensive orient-

-ation program that not only clarified academic structures but also fostered connection through a dialogue session between students, parents, and faculty. This welcoming spirit continued in December with a teacher-student picnic and festive Christmas celebrations.

Equipping students for the future continued in January 2023 with a workshop for fourth-year students on maximizing smart boards. The department also hosted its annual Fresher's- Advena '23 event, welcoming the new cohort. February saw a session on first-aid, equipping second-year students with crucial life skills.



March 2023 was a whirlwind of activity. The department's marquee event, **the Gijubhai Memorial Lecture Series and Aagaaz, tackled the crucial theme of "Issues of Peace and Conflict in the Classroom."** Professor Edward Vickers' keynote address set the stage for engaging talent shows and the student council's signature event, "Hunarbaaz." The month culminated in **a heartfelt farewell ceremony for the graduating batch.**

The learning continued in April. Third-year students participated in an interactive session with Jodogyan, exploring the power of educational math games, and deepened their historical understanding with another visit to Hu-

-mayun's Tomb. Meanwhile, first-year students completed their enriching art session series at the Kiran Nadar Museum of Art.



May saw the department organize the "Srijan Samvad" event for first-year students, featuring a captivating performance by renowned Kathak artist Ms. Leena Malakar Vij. The students further broadened their horizons with a visit to the National Science Centre and explored the Mandi House area and Triveni Kala Sang. Their exploration concluded with a cultural extravaganza - a play titled "Party" at the National School of Drama, followed by a stimulating interaction with the play's director.

Student leadership elections were also held in September 2023, with Jenit A. John and Ritika Sharma taking charge as President and Vice-President, respectively.

Department of English

"A good book is an event in my life," wrote Stendhal in his novel *The Red and the Black*. In the academic year 2022-23, many good books 'happened' to the students of the English Department. Alongside, a spectrum of wonderful events was organized, that made it a memorable year for the students and fa-

-culty members.

In August, we began with the election and appointment of the Office Bearers: Roshni Reji (3rd year) as the President and Raina Kathuria as the Vice President of the English Literary Association (ELA). Following this, the new ELA core team was formed from the current 2nd and 3rd years. Due to the staggered semesters, the General Secretary elections were held later in the session and Smridhi Dang was elected to the position following which we also inducted the 1st year students into the Core Team.

The first event organised by the ELA was a celebration of Teachers' Day on September 5, 2022. Students from the 2nd and 3rd years participated actively and performed a medley of song, dance, and poetry. Soon after, the ELA organised a Meet the Author session with Janice Pariat on September 9, 2022. Ms. Pariat is an award-winning novelist who discussed the landscape of Indian literature and the space of the north-east in it. The students engaged with Ms. Pariat actively as they discussed her latest novel and tips for young writers.

Following this, the ELA organised an Academic Writing Workshop on the 21st and 28th of September conducted by Dr. Susan George and Ms. Ishita Singh. Over the course of the two sessions, students learnt the varied methodologies that can be employed for research in the fields of Humanities and Social Sciences. The workshop also encouraged and prepared our students to participate in the Two-Day National Student Seminar titled "Mediated Dis(Plays): The Future of Text after Web 2.0" organised by the department on 27 th -28 th October 2022. The seminar, held in hybrid mode,

with 24 student presentations over 4 technical sessions and saw the participation of students from across the country. The Keynote Lecture was delivered by Prof. Ravi Sundaram, renowned media theorist at CSDS, Delhi. We had an animated Plenary Session with Abhinandan Sekhri, Co-founder and CEO of Newslaundry. The very engaging Panel Discussion titled “Media Praxis in the Digital Age” was chaired by Dr. N.A. Jacob with Anurag Minus Verma and Mae Mariyam Thomas as panellists.

On October 21, 2022, the ELA also organised an international webinar titled “Culinary Cultures: Reading Food, Consuming Literature” that received overwhelming response from all over the world. The panellists for the webinar were Prof. Anita Mannur, Miami University; Prof. Doris Witt, University of Iowa; and Prof. Parama Roy, University of California; who explored the affects of hunger, desire, appetite and nostalgia through food and food metaphors in literature.

This was followed by department students participating and winning the 2nd prize in the inter- department carol singing competition “Winter Chimes” held on the 13th of December spreading the Christmas cheer all around.



We began the new year with two exciting events. **On the 17th January, the ELA hosted the award-winning writer Emily**

Perkins in collaboration with New Zealand High Commission for a talk on “The Art and Business of Writing”. In this Meet the Author session, Ms. Perkins shared valuable insights with a rapt audience of students on publishing and making a career in writing. On January 24, we also formally welcomed the incoming batch of 1st year students. The theme of the Freshers’ Welcome was “The Dark Side of the Moon: A Gothic Freshers”.

In February, the Shakespeare Society adapted The Merchant of Venice in a production titled “Teen Ruke Hue Faisle” directed by Mr. Jobin Thomas and Ms. Sameera Mehta for the National Drama Competition organised by the Shakespeare Society of India on 3rd February 2023. The production won the and runner-up prize in this prestigious inter-college competition. Furthermore, under the guidance of Ms. Dolly Kapoor and the support of our alumna, Alma Ali and Merlin Thomas, **our department students trained for long hours under the searing sun to continue the legacy of winning the 1st prize in the Annual Inter-Department March Past Competition held on March 3rd .**



A session “How to Prepare for Civil Services” was conducted on the 12th of April in collaboration with Unacademy,

with Atish Mathur, a senior civil services coach, as the resource person. The session was much appreciated by the students.



The English Department's annual flagship event, Literati, was organised on the 20th of April 2023 with "Merry-Go-Round: A Children's Litfest" as its theme. With house-full performances of Dahaab Chishti, comedienne; Aman Sagar, musician; Elizabeth Reji, beat-boxer; and MixdUp, dance group; and a wide array of food and merchandise stalls, Literati 2023 was an overwhelming success. As part of Literati 2023, we held six offline and one online competition - Childhood Meme-ories (Meme-Making), Poem Palooza (Limericks on the Spot), Through the Looking Glass (photography), The Millennial Meltdown (a Y2K-themed quiz) and Twice Upon a Time (improv). The department students also put together a flash mob and an open mic that showcased the varied talents of students. For Literati, we also collaborated with Jesus and Mary College Education Programme and organised a clay-toy making workshop for school kids with Ms. Shubhangi Raheja, an international NFT artist, as the artist-educator.

In September 2022, the ELA had organised the Anupama Nair Creative Writing Competition for 2nd and 3rd year English Honours and Elective English stu-

-dents. The Anupama Nair Creative Writing Competition Award Ceremony was held on the 29th of April 2023 with Aarushi Singh winning the 1st, Devaki S., the 2nd and Shaoni Dutta, the 3rd prize. Finally, the Department bid farewell to its 3rd year batch with much fanfare on the 1st of May 2023. The theme for the farewell was "All the World's a Stage: A Carnavalesque Farewell". With this we concluded the events of the year.

This successful year would not have been possible without the support and encouragement provided by our Principal, Prof. Sandra Joseph; the constant guidance and motivation of our Teacher-in-Charge, Ms. Purnima Topden; the pragmatic counsel of Dr. Sharon Pillai; and the tireless efforts of our ELA Convenor, Ms. Ishita Singh and ELA Staff Advisor, Ms. Kashish Dua. Last but not the least, special thanks are due to all the faculty members, ELA Core Team and the students of the English Department.

Department of History

The Department of History is a vibrant and active body of students and teachers with Ananya Rai and Muskan Joshi as the President and Vice-President for the academic session 2022-23, respectively. The Teacher-in-Charge for the year was Dr Richa Raj.

In a webinar on 10th August 2022, Ms Zoe Woodbury High (PhD Scholar, University of Chicago) gave her insights on 'Hidden Histories of the Deccan: Methodology and the Study of Early Modern India'. On 21st September 2022, a workshop was organised in partnership with the ICFAI business school on 'The

Student Development Programme on Wealth Management: Evolution and Strategies'. A 'Research Paper Writing Workshop' under Mr. Premanka Goswami (Associate Publisher, Penguin Random House) and Ms. Saloni Mittal (Managing Editor, Ebury and Vintage, Penguin Random House) took place on 28th September 2022.

On 12th October, Dr. Rahi Soren (Assistant Professor, Department of Oceanographic studies, Jadavpur University) presented her research on 'Endangered Santali Archives - An Indigenous Perspective'. **A Seminar on 'Aesthetic Inequalities and Immaterial Common Goods, Experiences of the City: 12th-21st Centuries' by Prof. Arundhati Virmani and Prof. Jean Boutier (Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, France) was organised on 17th October 2022.**



A workshop-cum-training session took place using resource support from 'Prep Careers' on 19th November 2022 wherein students were given insights on 'Beginner's Strategy for UPSC CSE'. A Workshop on 'Understanding Sexualities' was organised by the Oral History Archive, with the invited resource person, Dr Sandhya D. Nambiar, Assistant Professor, Department of English, Jesus and Mary College, on 7th December 2022.

On 8th February 2023, a talk on 'The Making of the Indo-Islamic World: Geographical & Environmental Perspectives' by Prof. Andre Wink (Emeritus Professor, History, University of Wisconsin, Madison) was conducted. A webinar by Dr Aashique Ahmed Iqbal (Assistant Professor, History, Krea University) on his published work 'The Aeroplane and the Making of Modern India' was organised on 25th March 2023.

Ms. Srushti Sharma and Ms. Aparna Nair were appointed as 'Student Coordinator' and 'Student Co-coordinator', respectively, for The Oral History Archive, JMC, the Department's initiative aiming to record histories through oral history interviews, under the presidency of Dr Richa Raj and Vice-presidency of Dr Amita Paliwal. Grouped into four teams, the OHA is divided into: Memories of Institutions (Coordinators: Dr. Saumya Varghese and Dr. Tanu Parashar), wherein students researched to record and transcribe the lived memory of Mr. Mithilesh Jha – the Bhelpuri vendor associated with JMC for 20+ years; Life-stories of Public Intellectuals in India (Coordinator: Dr. Maya John) worked on interviewing of Prof. Binalakshmi Nepram (Social Activist) and Prof. Andre Wink (Historian; interview conducted by Dr Amita Paliwal); Public History of Heritage in India (Coordinators: Dr. Amita Paliwal), conducted the interview of Prof. Daljit Kaur (Professor, DU), associated with the study of Sikh history; and, Histories of Sexualities (Coordinator: Dr. Richa Raj).

The OHA collaborated with Ethnic Eight, JMC, for a talk on the 'Political Life of Memory: Birsa Munda and His Life' by Dr. Rahul Ranjan (Postdoctoral Research Fellow, OsloMet University) on 20th February 2023.



The department's Annual Fest, 'Chronicle' on 2nd February 2023, themed 'Indian Cinema through a Historical Gaze' saw an Inaugural Address by Dr. Karen Gabriel, Associate Professor, St. Stephen's College, DU, on 'Presenting the Past: The Discursive Politics of Bombay Mainstream Cinema' alongside competitions, cultural performances and an open gallery related to Indian cinema.



Maazinama, the annual academic journal of the Department, released its Second Edition, alongside a Paper Presentation Competition on 31st March 2023 on 'Do Ideas Shape the course of History: Intellectual History and Its impact on Culture, Society and Politics'. Dr. Sabina Kazmi (Assistant Professor, St. Stephens College) and Dr. Justin Mathew (Associate Professor, Hansraj College) were the invited judges for the event.

The department organised a faculty-student interaction on 30th April 2023 at Lodhi Gardens. The interaction was also attended by the department alumnae.

The Department is grateful to Principal, Prof. Sandra Joseph and faculty members, Dr. Richa Raj (Convenor, History Association), Dr. Sanghamitra Rai Verman (Co-Convenor, History Association), Dr. Nilima Chitgopekar, Dr. Saumya Varghese, Dr. Amita Paliwal, Dr. Maya John, Dr. Tanu Parashar, and guest faculty, Dr Sonu Vincent, Ms Sneha Ganguly, Dr Rajoshree Ghosh, Ms Eliza, Dr Ritesh Jaiswal, and Mr Navaneeth Krishnan for their constant support and mentoring.

Department of Mathematics

The Department of Mathematics focuses on fostering academic excellence, promoting research, with aims to provide students with a comprehensive education that not only equips them with strong mathematical skills but nurtures their personal and cultural development.

The session began with the elections of office bearers for the year 2022-23, wherein Devika Raaj Gupta (III-year B.Sc. (H) Mathematics) was elected as the President, Tahira Khan (II-year, B.Sc.(H) Mathematics) was elected as the Vice President, and Vandana Kothari (II-year B.Sc.(H) Mathematics) was elected as the Treasurer.

In August, the Department organised a session on 'Data Science for Decision Making: Present and Future' by Prof. S.K. Neogy, Head, Indian Statistical Institute. The session aimed to equip the students with the knowledge, skills, and practical experience to navigate the dynamic landscape of data science.

On 5th September 2022, the Department

organised a Teachers' Day filled with energy and enthusiasm, as a token of gratitude to all the loving teachers.



The department held another session on 28th September 2022 on 'Solved and Unsolved Problems in Number Theory' by Prof. Amitabha Tripathi, Vaidya-Saolapurkar Chair Professor, IIT, Delhi.

Following this, a two-day virtual interactive session, 'Same Root, Different Directions' was conducted where our alumni talked about their journey and provided students with the chance to learn from real-world experiences and gain practical knowledge beyond the theoretical concepts taught in classrooms.

To welcome the batch 2025, the department conducted an orientation session for the freshers wherein the enthusiastic batch was given a college tour. **The department threw a Freshers' Party on the theme 'Retro' with performances by senior batches and lovely gifts to the freshers.** A talent hunt followed by a series of competitive rounds was conducted to crown this year's Miss Mathematics and Miss Personality. Ritika Gandhi (I-year, B.Sc. (H) Mathematics) won the first runner up

in the Miss Freshers competition during the common college freshers.



To indulge the inquisitiveness of mathematics students, the department organised an interactive talk on 'Crack JAM'24 with Top Insights' by the department's alumni Ms. Alisha Arora and Ms. Richa Dhingra.

The bi-annual newsletter of the Department, Algorithm, released its 7th edition in October on the theme 'Probability and Patterns'. Later, the 8th edition was released in April. The edition was based on the theme of 'Maths in Music, Media and Literature', which included a plethora of writings, handpicked to showcase the passage of time.

The department participated actively in the Annual Sports Day conducted by the department of Physical Education on 2nd March 2023. Prashita Verma (III-year, B.Sc.(H) Mathematics) brought glory to the department as she won the title of 'Best Athlete' by securing positions in 3 different races.

March was also the month when the Annual Fest of the department, 'Matharena' marked a huge success. The ceremony commenced with a keynote address by Prof. Swarn Singh, Sri Venkateshwara College, University of

Delhi, followed by a Paper Presentation Competition on 'Ubiquitous Mathematics' and a Quiz Competition for colleges across the country. Along with this, two events 'Math Maze' and 'Spot the Math' in collaboration with the Puzzle Society, and Taber, film and photography society, JMC respectively were organised. The open mic provided a platform for the students to showcase their talents. The event was celebrated with beautiful and creative stalls by the students and a prize distribution ceremony.



The year ended on a positive note with a farewell to a batch of 2023, organised on 1st May 2023. 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

This year kick-started with a new session bringing in new beginnings in the form of opportunities, as the Physical Education department welcomed its new batch and set the stage for new activities and events in the coming academic year.

The session began with ushering in the core team members. Through umpteen

applications, 30 members were selected as a part of the team. All these members worked tirelessly for every event that took place during this session.

The elections were held in September 2022, The Council consists of four posts: the President Laavanya Ray was elected; Ananya Gupta as the Vice President and Janvi Kalra as the Special Coordinator for the session 2022-23. The Department has more than 500 students, of which around 300 are members of the National Sports Organisation (NSO).

On the occasion of National Sports Day, August 29, 2022, which marks the birth anniversary of veteran Indian hockey player Major Dhyan Chand, the Physical Education Department organised a 'Slogan Writing and Poster Making Competition'.

To add to the spirit to the World Mental Health Day, on October 10, 2022 the Department of Physical Education organised a seminar with Rashi Juneja, an RCI registered clinical psychologist who interacted with the students and apprised them about the growing importance of good and balanced mental health.

Selection for the post of General Secretary, Department of Physical Education was held in December 2022. After rigorous screening, Naina Mukhija (Bachelors of Arts (Hons.) in Psychology) was chosen as the Department's General Secretary.

The Department welcomed the first-year students with a vibrant Fresher's Day held on January 19, 2023. The day gave the students an opportunity to be formally welcomed into the Department and bond with other students and teach-

-hers.

Following this, **the Department's Annual Sports Day was celebrated on March 2, 2023, which saw not only almost 500+ students engaging in a multitude of sports activities** but also teachers displaying their love for sports by participating in various activities. The day also witnessed an inter-college march past, in which the English Department bagged the first position while the Department of Psychology bagged the second position. The Sports Day was a great opportunity for the students to showcase their athletic prowess and make a mark in the Department's journey.



In a major highlight of the year, Physical Education Department collaborated with Indian Premier League's Delhi Capitals on April 11, 2023. The core team along with the college students were invited to watch the live match between Delhi Capitals and Mumbai Indians held at Arun Jaitley Stadium in New Delhi.

The Department flagged off its much-awaited Annual Sports Fest, HOBNOB '23 from April 18 to 20, 2023. The three-day event witnessed sports competitions in categories of football, basketball, table tennis, lawn tennis and chess. Over 60 teams and 600+ athletes from numerous colleges and universities from all across the country took part in the event.



The Department of Physical Education also **collaborated with the Ministry of Youth and Sports Affairs for a workshop on Creating a Healthy Ecosystem for Student Athletes as a part of the Youth-20 Engagement Group on 'Health, Well-being and Sports: An Agenda for Youth.'** The workshop was held on April 25, 2023 and was attended by more than 150 students from our college.

Finally, in a bid to the final year students for their journey, **a heartfelt farewell was organised on May 02, 2023** by the first- and second-year students of the Department. The event was marked by dance and music performances by the students, exciting games and mementos for their seniors wishing best of luck in all their future endeavours.



Department of Political Science

The year 2022-23 began with a 'Fun Hour', a fun-filled session, held on Augu-

-st 31st, 2022, followed by Teachers' Day celebrations on September 5th, 2022, whereby students expressed their gratitude towards their teachers through cultural performances and handmade cards and portraits. In the elections for the office bearers of the Political Science Association held on September 16th, Anjaly Clare Sebastian and Vasvi Ahluwalia were elected as President and Vice President, respectively. This year, we had a debate among the candidates for the two posts. Jini Susan Thomas and Harrgun Kohli were elected as the class representatives (CR) of the third and second years, respectively.

The Association organised a talk by Major General Anil Verma (Retd.), head of the Association for Democratic Reforms, on the topic 'Transparency in Democracy and Political Funding' on October 31st, 2022. On November 2nd, the department welcomed the first-year students, and on November 23rd, 2022, it organised an orientation programme. Janhavi Singh was elected as the Secretary of the Political Science Association, and Joshika Sharma was elected as the first-year CR.

An inter-departmental group discussion on the topic 'Is 21st century an Asian century?' was organised on January 11, 2023. It was moderated by Yashvi Yadav, Monalika Jayani, and Nandini Bhatnagar of the department. Shilpa Ann Thomas (Department of Economics), Deepali Choudhary (Department of BA Programme), and Mahima Minj (Department of BA Programme) bagged the first, second, and third positions, respectively. **On January 18th, a lecture on 'Nation and State in Ambedkar's Thought' by Dr. Harish S. Wankhede, Assistant Professor, Centre for Political Studies, JNU, was organised.**



On January 24th, the department organised a Freshers welcome for the first year students. Next, National Voters' Day was observed on January 25th by inviting students to share their thoughts on the importance of voting. The history of suffrage was traced through posters on the department notice board outside Room 303. On February 8th, a Just-A-Minute (JAM) game session on contemporary political topics was conducted.

Aimed at spreading awareness against vitriolage (acid attack), the department, in collaboration with the New Delhi District Legal Services Authority (NDDLSA), held an awareness session and Nukkad Natak on February 15th. A talk on 'Museum Research, Curation, and Design' by Ms. Sahaj Panesar, Head Marcom, Pan Intellectcom Ltd., was organised on February 22nd. The students of the department took part in the march past and several games at the annual sports day of the college held on March 2.



On April 13th, the Annual Academic Day, 'Politologue,' was organised. Ms. Anjali Bhardwaj, co-convenor of the National Campaign for People's Right to Information (NCPRI), delivered the inaugural lecture on 'The Importance of People's Right to Information in a Democracy,' followed by paper presentations, debate, quiz, policy analysis, youth parliament, and cartoon making. **On April 26th, the second issue of the department magazine, Politoscope, themed 'Independent India: Major Milestones', was released by Ms. Gayatri Ahuja, the founding editor of Politoscope.** The Chief Editor and Deputy Editor of the second issue were Vanshika and Avni Chawla, respectively. On May 2nd, the outgoing batch of students had their farewell party.



The department expresses its sincere gratitude to the principal, Prof. Sandra Joseph, the teachers, and the students of the department for their constant support and help in organising the various events.

Department of Psychology

Aligning with the emerging trends of the discipline, this report presents the events organised by the Department of Psychology during the academic year

2022–23 under the leadership of President Ms. Simran Swaika and Vice President Ms. Kshitija Rawat, with the guidance of the Association in-charge, Dr. Priya Bhatnagar and Dr. Annie Baxi.

The academic year began with a workshop by clinical psychologist Ms. Madhuri Jain, an alumna of the college, on the topic 'Navigating Exams, Stress and Anxiety' for first-year students. Understanding the challenges presented by the shift from online to offline mode, the workshop aimed at familiarising the students with the nature and effective management of stress and exam anxiety and techniques for exam preparation.

Marking the celebration of the 75th year of Independence, under the aegis of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, the department organised a talk on 'National Identity: Issues and Challenges' on September 2nd, 2022 by Dr. Swati Mukherjee, Scientist, Defence Institute of Psychological Research.



The department initiated a week-long mental health programme from October 10–17. The opening ceremony included a lecture on 'Decentralising Community Clinical Psychology in India' by Dr. Manoj Kumar, Founder of Mental Health Action Trust, who shared his experiences and insights regarding the state of community mental health in India. This was followed by several student-engaging activities such as a reel-making

competition, slam poetry, the Bring Your Own Book Initiative, photography, and poster-making. The closing ceremony included a showcase exhibition of all creative expressions and reflections, echoing the theme of making 'mental health a priority.'

The department also organised multiple interactive sessions with department alumni. Ms. Ria Bhargav, Area Manager, Colgate Palmolive India Limited, was invited to orient students towards the preparation required for cracking the CAT exam on August 6. Ms. Bhavya Shah, Ms. Kristal Dhanraj, and Ms. Meraal Imam were invited to share their experiences of applying to UK universities for higher education on February 16. Ms. Parul Gupta, a senior associate at Boston Consulting Group and a graduate of IIM-A, was invited for a talk on career and educational opportunities on April 12.



In honour of Dr. Meenakshi Mehta, a former faculty member of the department, eminent psychologist Dr. Purnima Singh was invited as the guest speaker to "Journey of a Social Psychologist: Emerging Opportunities and Challenges" on February 1. The lecture discussed the growing need for indigenous findings that match the context and culture of India based on the present zeitgeist.



Students also explored psychological constructs using creative expressions such as theatre and the arts. A theatre workshop was conducted on February 8 by the group Rangbhumi headed by Ms. Chetna Mehrotra, involving activities like sociometric surveys, mirroring, and group discussions on self and relational awareness amongst the students and faculty.

The department also presented an opportunity to explore psychoanalytic constructs through creative expression. Dr. Garrick Duckler, an internationally renowned psychoanalyst, showcased "Presenting Problems: Representing Unconscious Dynamics in Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy" and discussed the use of psychoanalysis and art in therapy through the screening of films on February 15.

Further, a session with a delegate from Salesian College on February 21 endowed students with valuable information on potential careers in psychology and gave them a glimpse into the culture and experiences of students studying psychology at Salesian College.

Besides academic events, the department also organised social events like the Freshers Party, Teachers Day, and the Farewell. All the activities of this

session were conducted under the guidance of the teacher-in-charge Dr. Shefali Mishra. The department looks forward to enriching evolving efforts in the holistic development of the students.

Department of Sociology

The Department of Sociology strives to enhance conversations on concepts and issues that emanate from both the syllabi and the everyday world.

The year began with the launch of the department magazine 'Meraki'. With the theme 'Cultures of the Internet' and through articles, poems, and other creative expressions such as memes, the magazine enabled a deliberation on influencer culture, social media as a counter space, and the psycho-social implications of algorithmic culture. A special lecture by Dr. Sarbani Sharma of Azim Premji University on the nuances of academic writing accompanied the launch.

In October, a comprehensive two-day workshop on reading, writing, and reasoning was organised. The workshop resource persons, Dr. Vinita Chandra and Dr. Dhivya Janarthanan deliberated on the role of critical thinking in persuasive writing and techniques for reading and writing academic texts.

In the month of November, the department organised a screening of the film *Peepli Live*. This was followed by a discussion on the role of media in the contemporary political economy. A special lecture on sustainable agricultural practices was also delivered by Mr. Ananth.



The department welcomes the first years not only to the department but to the discipline and to a sociological way of processing the world. For this, the department organises a freshers' debate and an inaugural lecture. **This year, Prof. Vivek Kumar from JNU delivered a lecture that outlined the contribution of classical sociologists to qualitative methodology.**

In order to facilitate a more comprehensive and lively engagement with the skill-enhancement course 'Techniques of Ethnographic Filmmaking', the pedagogy entails the production of ethnographic films by students and the organisation of the annual ethnographic film festival. Emerging from ethnographic research, a few themes of the films produced this year include the everydayness of care work at an old age home, multi-species ethnography, and alternative medical practices such as medical clowning, among others. As a pedagogic tool for a Discipline-Specific course on 'Visual Culture', a visit to the National Gallery of Modern Art (NGMA) was organised. The visit encouraged a reading of art by locating it in the political and socio-economic environment of its time.

The pedagogy for the research methodology course also entails a practical experience for students. The students are divided into groups and are

mentored by faculty members. This year, the students embarked on a sociological journey to understand how micro-level everyday interactions and decision-making processes are shaped by broader socio-economic forces.



An outreach activity was also undertaken. Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA) and the UNESCO Chair on Community-Based Research and Social Responsibility in Higher Education organised a national workshop on 'Knowledge Democracy: Bridging Knowledge Culture'. Prof. Sandra Joseph, Dr. Anuradha Sharma, and Dr. Amrita Sastry, along with two students, participated in the national-level workshop that facilitated an exchange of learnings and inputs about knowledge for community building and engagement.



The department also organised an essay writing competition under the C20 Campus Ambassador Programme of the G20, with the aim of encouraging youth to come together and share their valuable sociological insights on conte-

-mporary global, political, and environmental issues.

Besides academic events, the department also organised two recreational visits, to Lohagarh and Sunder Nursery and a fundraising event, 'Utsav'.

Department of Vocational Studies

The session started with the election of office bearers for both B.Voc-Retail Management and IT, and B.Voc-Healthcare Management courses, with Kripa James and Mehak Soneja as Presidents, and Riya Arora and Prakriti Mathur as Vice-Presidents.



The academic session began with the Teacher's Day celebrations. Next, the **first seminar of the session was organised with a JMC alumni, and health coach Ms. Himani Aggarwal on 'Entrepreneurship in Health and Wellness' on 15th September, 2022.**

The department's flagship event 'Mental Health Week' which took place from 10th-14th October 2022, started with a Zumba session by FitOnBeat. Following this, a session on 'Self Care for Happier Mind and Body' by eminent psychologist Mr. Nitin Anandila was organised.

Psychologist, Mr. Sandeep Dhillon guided the department's students through the tough story of an OCD survivor. To conclude Mental Health Week, the department organised a movie screening of the film "Eight".

A session with the Associate Director at KPMG, Mr. Jagpreet Brar was organised on "Post – Pandemic Leadership & Management" on 2nd November 2022. The session was insightful and students gained practical knowledge about the field of management in the globalised world scenario.

On 7th November 2022, a session on 'Let's Crack Group Discussion' was conducted by Mr. Daksh Sethi (Founder and CEO, Guby Rogers), who introduced the pivotal concepts of GD strategies. On 10th November, the department held a Health Awareness Talk on 'Common Gynaecological Problems' by Dr. Shruti Bhatia, Action Cancer Hospital.

B.Voc students interned in December 2022 and January 2023; second-years did a 30-days internships at Venkateshwar Hospital, Max Hospital, ACME, Pantaloons, Marketeers Hub, Ashman Foundation, Yunity, FrontRow, Hamleys, ITV Network and Zaphire. The third-years interned at Artemis Hospital, Apollo Hospital, ACME, FrontRow and Zaphire.

The department also conducted a seminar on 11th November 2022, by Ms. Neha Rajvanshi (VP Finance, Head Finance RE, Sterlite Power) on 'Prevention of Sexual Harassment at workplace (POSH Act)'.

On 23rd November 2022, the department conducted an orientation for the first-year students. On the occas-

-ion of Sparsh 2022, the department of B.Voc RMIT took the initiative to embrace the beauty of traditional cultures by wearing Indian outfits and celebrated them with great enthusiasm.



Christmas celebrations took place on 12th December wherein the department undertook the planning and organising of Carol Singing competition and Christmas tree decoration. **The department distributed gifts to the underprivileged sections of the society** and ran business campaigns on the social media related to retail brands (If brands were dating sites) and women empowerment (Celebrating Women).

A seminar by Ms. Noor Vishu Sehgal (Luxury and Lifestyle Influencer, Fashion Stylist, Fashion Designer) on 'Social Media and Influencer Marketing' took place on 30th January 2023. To raise awareness on diseases like Leprosy, Chagas, Autism, Tuberculosis, Epilepsy, OSA, and to highlight the importance of immunisation, universal health coverage, the department's team posted regularly on social media platforms. On 31st January 2023, a session on 'Personal Branding' was conducted by Mr. Paras Goswami (Faculty, Pearl Academy), who introduced the students to the concepts of personal branding and how to up-skill their brand through a new entrepreneurship perspective.

Ms. Priya Arora (Founder, Learning Villa-

-ge) conducted a session on 'Change Management' on 6th February 2023, its purpose being to implement management strategies for effective change, controlling change and helping people adapt to the change. A CPR workshop was organised with Guest Speaker Dr. Harmeet Singh from the Emergency Department of Fortis Healthcare on 7th February 2023. Another seminar was conducted on 8th February 2023 by Ms. Jasneet Bhalla (Corporate Trainer, Life Skills Coach, L&D Specialist, Motivational Speaker) on 'Soft Skills for Career Growth'.

The department owes its heartfelt gratitude to the Principal, Prof. Sandra Joseph; Ms. Sunita Narain (Convenor); Dr. Shalu Solanki; and Dr. Anupreet Vig for their constant support and guidance.

On 2nd March 2023, the department participated in the Annual Sports Day'23.



Next, from March to June 2023, a placement drive was organised for third-year students wherein Adsrole, Planetspark, PSRI, QCI, CK Birla, Decathlon and others visited the campus. The department has taken a new initiative of helping the marginalised sections of our society by training and educating NGO students on weekends.

Society Reports



**ACADEMIC YEAR
2022-23**

AICUF:

All India Catholic University Federation

All India Catholic University Federation is a movement which stands for the service and liberation of all people, irrespective of caste, gender, language and belief. The AICUF unit at Jesus and Mary College organises various socially relevant and personality development-oriented programs with the aim of transformative education for its members. The society tries to achieve this through several outreach programs, by which the students get practical exposure to the day-to-day living of the underprivileged and the marginalised, they are sensitised about the socio-economic realities of our country.

Motivated by these experiences, many of the students take up the challenging tasks of contributing towards the emancipation of women and the upliftment of the deprived and needy sections of our society. AICUF programs organised within the college help students to develop organisational abilities and leadership skills as they are required to take charge and involve themselves with all the events/seminars and research conducted.

The year started with the election of office bearers, wherein Dona Theres Raju (President), Alphi Benny (Vice-president), Akshaya Ann Thomas (Treasurer) and Simiy Maria Tomy (Secretary) were elected as the Office Bearers.

The students who formed the **Core Team** were Angel Mary, Ashlyn Sakshi, Cristine Maris Abraham, Delphina G. Taiparambil, Diya Ann Thomas, Deepshikha Anthony,

Diksha Vishwakarma, Elizabeth Santosh, Felicia Vinod Mathew, Izellah Jacob, Natasha Thomas, Lincy Saji, L. Preethi, Linette Shoji, Priyanka, Rose Mathew Illickan, Shradha Mathew, Sophia Richard and Stephina Mathew.



AICUF has initiated several activities and events in this session with the aim of encouraging holistic development of our members. We started off by creating a buddy system for all the members of the AICUF family. A special initiative of Eucharistic Adoration, on every Thursday from 11am - 4pm, has been incorporated with the help and guidance of Sr. Marina. The faculty and members of AICUF are actively participating in this initiative. The office bearers of AICUF also contributed at the Help Desk for an event.



Important events undertaken by AICUF for the academic session 2022-23 includes Karam Event, Christian Orientation, Orientation by AICUF, Inaug-

-ural Mass for 1st year students, Praise and Worship for 3rd years, Feast of St. Claudine Thevenet, Feast of Bl. Dina Belanger, Praise and Worship for 1st years, Winter Chimes, Merch Designing Competition, Elysian- special event for members, Evlogia- 3-day Stay Retreat, **Thanksgiving Mass** and Farewell Lunch.



All the students of AICUF society were offered internship work at NGOs. This year the society collaborated with Chetanalaya, Shades of Happiness and Pratyek NGO. Working with these NGOs have enabled the students to interact and understand the lives of underprivileged communities of our society and have empathy towards people, these internships have brought a positive impact in the life of the interns as well as children and the elderly.

We owe our heartfelt thanks to our Principal, Dr. Sandra Joseph. We also thank our Convenor, Dr. Sona V. Andrew; Teacher Incharges- Dr. Bipasha Rosy Lakra, Ms. Betina Abraham, Dr. Jessy K. Philip, Ms. Megha Jacob, Ms. Reshma Jose, Ms. Sara Hormelia Awungshi and Dr. V Mark Gideon for their constant guidance and support.

Cauldron: The English Magazine Society

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

The year started with the election for office bearers, wherein Shaoni Dutta (3rd Year, B.A. English Honours) and Aditi Banerji (2nd Year, B.A. English Honours) were elected President and Vice-President, respectively.

Screening of eligible candidates from the society for the formation of the Editorial Board and Design Team took place thereafter. The students selected for the Ed Board were Adamya Raj, Vamika Agarwal, Pratishtha Jindal, Sheema Mushtaq, Shubhi Dubey, Zubaida Ifshan, Mishika Jane, Shruti Joseph, Samriddhi Narayan and Tanishka Talwar. The Design Team was made up of Nashra Sehar, Prashasti Raj, Ananya, Ashley Ann Joy, Binti Anand, Devaki S. and Simran Tapparwal.



A mellow breeze enveloped the members of Cauldron as they met for an ice-breaking session on 15th February 2023 with the backdrop of freshly bloomed flowers. Colors, verses, tales, and the onset of spring, it was the place to be.

The society conducted one of its most

awaited competitions, 'Wordcraft 2023', a creative writing, art, and photography competition wherein the students of JMC have been producing quality content for years. The prompts for this year were 'Revisiting Folklore' and 'Gen-Z Retellings'. The event was judged by Ms. Bipasha Rosy Lakra (Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, JMC) and Ms. Sameera Mehta (Assistant Professor, Department of English, JMC). 'My Red Spirit' by Niveditha Ajay and Kamalakshi Singh bagged the first position, 'Melinoe' by Samriddhi Narayan and Meghdipa Roy Chowdhury came second and 'Tista' by Diya Sharma and Angel Anna Jaimon came third. Urja Kaushik's and Mourvi Agarwal's 'Kulfiwala', and Ananya Rai's 'Oh Narcissus' were awarded with Honourable Mentions.



Cauldron, in collaboration with Sunny Mugs, hosted 'In Verse', a poetry appreciation session. It delved into the wonderful world of poetry, for there's truly nothing more sublime than words strung together in a verse. The poetic soiree was graced by two poets, Mr. Sarabjit Garcha and Mr. Sonnet Mondal, for whom poetry is a way of life. From 'An Afternoon in my Mind' by Mr. Mondal to 'Unending' by Mr. Garcha, the seminar hall basked in the glory of their spectacular poetic expressions.

Another major event that was conducted

during this session was 'Word Weaves 2023' in collaboration with Clapingo Education pvt. Ltd. A much-awaited intra-college competition with participants across courses at JMC, Word Weaves witnesses more than 50 responses per season and has a legacy surpassing 7 years. The event was judged by Dr. Anchala Paliwal and Dr. Chaandreyi Mukherjee of Department of English, Vivekananda College. 'Restart' by Astha Mary Varghese secured the first position, 'The Legs that Live on' by Triveni Goswami secured the second position and 'I've got the strangest feeling, this isn't our first time around...' by Samriddhi Narayan secured the third position. Yohana Shikha Prasad's 'Leskis filseks skals misss bless' and Ashwika's 'Athia' were awarded with Honourable Mentions.



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 Kashish Dua (Staff Editor) and Ms Aneesha Puri (Staff Editor).

Curiosis: The English Quizzing Society

Since its establishment in 2014, Curiosis has worked to foster a quizzing culture

within the institution. The society has gained recognition for being one of the top all-female teams in the Delhi University circuit. In addition to regularly competing in quiz competitions, the society not only administers quizzes independently but also in collaboration with other societies for execution of intra and inter college quizzes. The society is also active on social media platforms, particularly Instagram, by regularly posting short quizzes, trivia, informational posts and fun reels.

Curiosus is a family of 70 members, headed by the President, Vice President and the General Secretary. There are various sub departments all of which work together for the smooth functioning of the society. Members of the society are frequently encouraged to come up with innovative ideas for quizzes in order to make the student population in JMC and outside realise the appeal of quizzing. Furthermore, many interactive, fun quizzes are organised to motivate and engage the members' interests.

The Society has 5 departments with two heads each. They ensure the smooth running of the department and the members. The Organising Heads are Mriganka Singh and Priyanka Sharma. Tanya Beniwal and Tessa Binoj are the Public Relations Heads. The Quizzing Heads are Britney Tims and Anushmita Mitra, while the Research Heads are Aleena Elizabeth and Mannat Lehal with Prisha Nagpal and Angelina Irene Laffrey as the Social Media Heads.

Curiosus hosted a number of inter-college and intra-society quizzing events. In honour of St. Claudine Thevenet, the society organises a fun quiz competition to pique students' interest, increase

their awareness of the founder and to get them thinking critically. Several quizzes were held on various topics such as Fandom, Current Affairs, Music, Entertainment, Literature and Arts for our society members in both offline and online mode. This has helped them interact and maintain a healthy competition with their fellow members. Apart from quiz conductions, a seminar was also organised 'Demystifying the UPSC exam' on preparation for UPSC examination for all JMC students. Our annual newsletter 'Regional Histories of India' published with the efforts of our team proved to be a big success.

An intra-college quiz 'Dil Dil Mein Tiranga' was held on 15th August 2022 to commemorate the glory of India's 76th Independence Day. Held online, it was exclusively open to all JMC students from all departments. On 17th October 2022, The Music, Entertainment, Literature and Arts (MELA) Quiz welcomed contestants from different colleges throughout Delhi. It was a delightful and entertaining mode of testing participants' knowledge and providing amusement. This was followed by a successful quiz competition, 'The Social Issues Quiz', held in partnership with JMCEP on the theme of Social Issues on 9th November 2022.



Our annual quiz festival, 'Quiztopia', held on 17th April 2023, hosted four

quizzes on a variety of topics, including sports, general current affairs, light-hearted filler quizzes on memes, and events in the year 2022. The participants in the quizzes came from various colleges throughout Delhi, ensuring a large turnout. Our Quizmasters, Mr. Shubhankar Bahl, Mr. Mohd Fahad, Mr. Sumantra Sarathi Dutta, are reputed personalities in the quizzing circuit. We also held our fundraiser on the same day!



President Sanya Pratap Singh, Vice President Ridhima Kapur and General Secretary Charu Chauhan, along with all the members of the society made the session of 2022-23 a great success. The members brought laurels to the college by participating in various competitions. Anushmita Mitra won the 2nd prize at Bolly Bonanza (Bhagat Singh College) and was the finalist in Saanp, Seedhi aur Sinema (Motilal Nehru College) and Andaz Apna Apna Triathlon (Sri Venkateshwara College). Khushi Mongia

and Jeffy Sabu won the 3rd prize at Dharohar Pratibha quiz (DCAC). Dhwani Badia and Kangan Goel won the 3rd prize at Indian Psychology quiz (LSR) and were finalists at History-Myth quiz (Deen Dayal Singh College). Sneha Soni and Darshika Kaushik won the 3rd prize at the Indian Psychology quiz (LSR). Juanita Mary Jose and Khushi Shoeb were the semi-finalists at Bolly Bonanza quiz (Shaheed Bhagat Singh College).

We owe our heartfelt thanks to our Principal, Prof. Sandra Joseph and Convenor, Dr. Susan George for their constant support.

Dastaan: The Art and Architecture Society

Dastaan, the Art and Architecture society of JMC, undertook the following ventures under INTACH's funds in the year 2022-23.



Dastaan collaborated with NSS JMC on the occasion of World Tourism Day for a walk to Mehrauli Archaeological Park on 1st October 2022. We walked through

the beautiful baolis, tombs, abandoned mosques and the lush woodlands. It was indeed a walk through time as we touched upon the architecture from the Mamluk dynasty, Lodi dynasty, Mughal rule and even the colonial era.

Dastaan held a walk on 29th and 30th October 2022 to Qutub Minar, a part of a two-day weekend walk. We were joined by our enthusiastic society members as we explored the various monuments like Autub Minar, Alai Darwaza, Quwwat ul Islam Mosque, Iron Pillar and the majestic Qutub Minar, the tomb of Iltutmish, Alauddin Khalji's tomb, the tomb of Iltutmish, Tomb of Imam Zamin, Smithson's Folly and Sanderson's sundial. This walk was a collaboration between Dastaan and Rotaract and we will cherish the memory forever.

We organised another walk on 6th November 2022 to Purana Qila, in collaboration with Global Youth Forum. We were joined by our enthusiastic society members as we explored the various monuments situated at Purana Qila and indulged in the fiery rivalry of Humayun and Sher Shah Suri. Our walk traced the monuments like Bada Darwaza, Humayun Darwaza, Sher Mandal, Qila e Kuhna Mosque, Baoli and a grand finish at Talaqi Darwaza.

Dastaan held her first walk with her reinstated Convenor, Dr. Amita Paliwal, as everyone witnessed the marvels of the gorgeous red sandstone minaret, Qutub Minar and the accompanying historical structures situated within the Qutub Complex on 26th November 2022. Dr. Paliwal took us through the tales of the many personalities and their contributions to the Qutub Complex as

we know it today.



Dastaan held a talk on '**Art and Society in Early India: Issues and Perspectives**' by **Prof. R. Mahalakshmi** on 12 January 2023. We were also joined by our former History Professor, Prof. Chaddha and current History faculty Prof. Chitgopekar along with the former history alumni of JMC. The talk was attended by the members of Dastaan and History Department, including an active Q&A session wherein interesting conversations on ancient Indian Art, gender and iconography took place.



On 15th January 2023, Dastaan held a walk in collaboration with Raahi, Miranda House, where the enthusiastic society members **explored the ruins of the structures at Feroz Shah Kotla Fort and indulged in the history of the medieval Firozabad**. The walk traced the Palace

Ruins, Jama Masjid, Pyramidal Structure, Ashokan Pillar and baoli. The Kashmiri chai prepared and shared by a research scholar walk participant is a memory etched on everyone's minds.

Dastaan was invited by Prof. Najaf Haider to the The Centre of Historical Studies, JNU for a special lecture on the life of Nur Jahan on 22nd April, 2023. The session turned out to be a very interesting and dynamic discourse between Prof. Najaf Haider, Prof. Amita Paliwal and the Core Team of Dastaan. Prof. Haider led us through the critical study and his experiences with medieval sources, fictitious accounts of the Mughal world, his experience in working in interdisciplinary fields (like representation history in the field of cinema studies) and the life of Nur Jahan. Prof. Haider also answered all queries of the students along with giving advice on the future of research in history. The session ended with a hearty sheer korma arranged on the occasion of Eid.

President Jeseentha Anne Joji and Vice President Aakarshi Srivastava and all society members owe their heartfelt gratitude to Principal, Prof. Sandra Joseph and Convenor, Dr. Amita Paliwal for their support and guidance.

E-Cell

The Entrepreneurship Cell of Jesus And Mary College aims to provide a platform to budding entrepreneurs to turn their business ideas into reality by providing them mentorship by conducting speaker sessions where experts from various fields give useful insights to the mem-

-bers.

The 2022-23 session started with the election of office bearers wherein Nabiha Khan (3rd Year, B.A Programme) and Tavishi Kapur (2nd Year B.A Programme) were elected President and Vice President respectively. The election was followed by a recruitment drive, wherein The Entrepreneurship Cell became a society of 80+ members.



E-Cell's first event of the year was a **Speaker Session on "Decoding the Mind of an Entrepreneur: From Invention to Innovation"**. The session was in collaboration with IIT Kharagpur and was a part of their "Entrepreneurship Awareness Drive". The session was graced by the eminent speakers, highly inspirational and knowledgeable entrepreneurs: Neha Arora, founder of Planet-Abled, the only organisation in the world providing accessible travel solutions to people with different disabilities; **Pallavi Aggarwal, founder and CEO of GoSTOPS**, a company providing hostel facilities at reasonable prices across different locations in India; Azhar Iqbal, Co-founder and CEO of Inshorts, a leading news app that provides news in a short and crisp manner; Madhav Sheth, Co-founder and CEO of Realme, the Indian smartphone

company which has taken the world by storm. They shared their entrepreneurial experiences and insights, motivating the audience to pursue their ideas courageously.



The next event organised by E-Cell JMC was its annual event “Start-o-sphere 2023” on 27th March 2023 with much furore and enthusiasm. The event was built around the theme “Never too young to start”, a perennial message that applies to all generations and all times.

“Start-o-sphere” is an event aimed at promoting the student-owned small businesses of JMC. It provides a platform for young entrepreneurs to exhibit their businesses. In addition to showcasing the various stalls of JMC entrepreneurs, the event also included Shark Tank’s much loved Birds of Paradyes, the star attraction of our event, giving free hair makeovers to students.

The society concluded the session by organising an interactive workshop on the basics of entrepreneurship delivered by Mr. Azhar Iqbal, Co-Founder and CEO of InShorts, on 18th April, 2023.

The workshop was held keeping in mind the drive and curiosity of our members to do and learn more as they take a step in the world of entrepreneurship in the future. The workshop was exclusively organised for the members of E-Cell. Interested members posed questions to the speaker, who answered them in thought-provoking ways. Mr. Azhar Iqbal also shared his journey about entrepreneurial success; how it all started, what motivated him and made him continue. Iqbal spoke of the importance of experimenting with ideas until there is a breakthrough, as was in his case.



During the course of this academic session **Tavishi Kapur (Vice President), Ishveen Kaur (General Secretary), Mishti Garg (Finance Head) and Janvi Batra (Organising Head), represented E-Cell JMC at Shaheed Sukhdev College, University Of Delhi, at their annual Entrepreneurial Fest, ‘E-GNITE’.** The members took part in the pitching session wherein budding entrepreneurs pitched their start-ups in front of the young participants, and the participants cross-questioned the plausibility of their business ideas.

The society owes its heartfelt gratitude to the Principal Prof. (Dr.) Sandra Joseph

for her constant support. This year would not have been a successful one for The Entrepreneurship Cell without the unrelenting guidance and encouragement of Prof. (Dr). Vibha Mathur, Ms. Lissy Jose, Ms. Monica Chhabra, Dr. Ruhi Ghai and Ms. Saloni Arora.

Echo: The Western Music Society

Echo, the Western Music Society of Jesus and Mary College, is filled with talented people who share their love for music. It is one big family and most importantly a safe space for all its members. Echo helps all its members grow and provides a platform to all the budding artists in the college.

The year started off with the elections for the new council members wherein Alina Vikram Singh (3rd Year BA Economics Hons.) and Adriana Carr (3rd Year BA Political Science - Sociology) were elected as President and Vice President respectively, along with Sharon George (3rd Year BA Political Science - Sociology) and Khushi Ahluwalia (2nd year BA Sociology Hons.) as the Treasurer and General Secretary respectively. The elections were followed by a recruitment drive of the second and third-year students.

Another round of selections for the society members took place after the commencement of the academic session for first-year students. The society conducted an orientation for the freshers and thereafter, held auditions in

November 2022, and selected 12 talented singers and an instrumentalist.



The society worked on its annual piece for the session 2022-2023 which consisted of 3 songs: 'Exsultate, Jubilate' by Karl Jenkins (classical section) followed by 'Jealous' by Labrinth and 'Power' by Little Mix. Echo has tried to maintain its legacy in the year 2022-2023 and has brought laurels to the college by placing in 24 out of the 27 competitions held this fest season and secured the 1st position in 12 of them. Some significant wins include Lady Shri Ram College, Hansraj College, Sri Ram College of Commerce, **Hindu College**, and Delhi Technological Institute to name a few. Apart from the DU music circuit, Echo also qualified for the final round of Antaragni 2023, the annual fest of IIT Kanpur, and secured the 1st position in the same.



ENACTUS JMC

Enactus JMC strives to work towards empowering people from marginalised and deprived segments through creating livelihood opportunities. The team has been successful in organising several events and campaigns throughout the academic year of 2022-2023 which has helped make a significant impact on the society and the future entrepreneurs of the community.

Moreover, some of the society members also bagged prizes in several Solo singing competitions. The winners include: Manya Srivastav (2nd at JDMC, KMC and 3rd at Hansraj College and KNC), Khushi Ahluwalia (1st at Miranda House) and, Aashriya Cherian (1st at KMC, 3rd at Miranda House). **Echo hosted its Annual Western Music Competition 'Madrigal'** on 18th April 2023, which was a highly successful event with 12 participating teams and 10 soloists from various DU colleges. The judges for this event were Vinayak Arora and Gurpreet Kaur, both talented musicians, highly renowned in the DU WMS Circuit.

Echo also participated in college events from time to time. The society co-hosted 'Winter Chimes', the carol singing competition in collaboration with AICUF and Ethnic Eight on 13th December 2022. Echo also performed for PTSA, Annual Sports Day and Farewell to name a few.

The society owes its heartfelt gratitude to the Principal Prof. Sandra Joseph for her constant support. This year would not have been successful without the unrelenting guidance and encouragement by Ms. Sara H. Awungshi (Convenor).

The year started with election of office bearers, wherein Kavya Gupta (2nd year, B.com Honours) and Navya Joseph (2nd year, Economics Honours) were elected as President and Vice-President respectively through a rigorous recruitment process. During the year, two rounds of recruitment process took place, post the orientation session on 29th November 2022, making Enactus a team of 96 members in total.

Enactus JMC's first event of the academic year was '*Advitya*', the second edition of the annual flagship event, on 26th September 2022. Along with 3 competitions including *Vichaar*, *Udaan* and *Chakravyuh*, there were a wide range of stalls, sponsors and performances for the event. The whole event had a footfall of over 5000 students with exciting cash prizes up to ₹45,000.

On 29th September, Project Dhara collaborated with Enactus Maitreyi to gain an understanding of the method used by them for producing manure, accompanied by Project Dhara's Faculty-in-charge, Dr. Anshi Goel. Project Dhara also conducted a recruitment drive for beneficiaries on 3rd March 2023 in order

to recruit women who were willing to work from Bapu Dham and Sanjay Camp.



On 25th January 2023, Project Sugam members visited their ecobrick storage facility to conduct a quality check on the eco bricks made by one of their collaborators, Jaago Bharat. A session on the significance of eco bricks was held on 21st March 2023 for JMC students.

The second edition of Stash the Trash campaign was conducted from 20-24th March 2023, and 34.4 kgs of single use plastic was collected in 5 days. There were 4 hotspots around the college which were manned by Enactus members for collecting single use plastic waste. On 23rd February 2023, the President and Project Sugam heads met the MLA of Nangloi to garner his support for our project.



On 24th April, Mr. Sanjay Kumar Sain,

DCP Central District, provided us with a location for our pilot washroom. On the occasion of Earth Day, Project Sugam organised an awareness session on sustainability and taught around 100 school kids how to make eco bricks at Dayanand Model School.

On 3rd March 2023, Enactus members paid a visit to Burari, production site of Project Iffat, to meet the beneficiaries and host the future potential partner, Andaz Hotel's managers. After a month-long process, we successfully collaborated with Andaz by Hyatt, Aerocity for the procurement of used soaps. The second field visit under Project Iffat took place on 4th June 2023.



Additionally, a Breast Cancer Awareness Seminar was conducted in collaboration with 'Win over Cancer' providing a comprehensive overview of breast cancer, its treatment and the importance of early detection in January 2023. The guest speaker for the seminar was Dr. Richu Sharma, Associate Consultant of medical oncology at Artemis hospital, Gurugram.

The society owes its heartfelt gratitude to the Principal Prof. Sandra Joseph for her constant support. This year, Enactus JMC would not have been successful without the unrelenting guidance and encouragement by Dr. Savita Rastogi (Faculty Advisor), Ms. Ishita Singh (Proje-

-ct Sugam In-charge), Dr. Anshi Goel (Project Dhara In-charge) and Dr. Ruchi Bhalla (Project Iffat In-charge).

The English Debating Society

The English Debating Society (EDS) of Jesus and Mary College had a successful year in 2022-23. The session began with the election of Khushi Sharma as the President and Soumya Arora as the Vice President in September 2022, followed by the formation of the core team. To commemorate the birth anniversaries of Shaheed Bhagat Singh and Hiram Bhabha, **EDS collaborated with Ethnic Eight to organise an open mic event on 30th September, with the theme 'Continuing Legacies of the Revolutionary Freedom Movement: From the North-East to the North-West, From Hiram Bhabha to Bhagat Singh'.** The captivating storytelling and poetry performances paid homage to these revolutionary figures, and were complemented with a PowerPoint presentation delving into the lives of Bhagat Singh and Hiram Bhabha.



In November 2022, EDS hosted an online Conventional Debate in collaboration with Indian Oil Corporation Limited as part of Vigilance Awareness Week. The debate centred around the theme of 'Corruption-free India for a developed nation' and explored the motion 'The eradication of corruption requires the redressal of institution failures, not just a change of mindset'. Permitting audience interjections promoted active participation. Harrgun Kohli and Simran Swaika, secured the first and second runner-up positions, respectively. Aakarshi Srivastava and Adamyia Raj were recognised as the best interjectors.

Throughout the year, EDS organised informative sessions and workshops to enhance debating skills. Notable figures in the debating college circuit across India, such as Ojas Date (8th November 2022) from ILS, Pune and Megh Mazumdar (28th November 2022) from St. Stephen's College, conducted sessions on various debating aspects, including parliamentary debate techniques, essential components of a persuasive speech, and effective rebuttals. These sessions provided valuable insights and advanced knowledge to the members.

In January 2023, after a rigorous screening process involving interviews and group discussions, EDS welcomed a new batch of members who had the aptitude, interest, and commitment required for debating. The inclusion of fresh talent strengthened the society and contributed to its intellectual growth.

On 25th January 2023, EDS organised an Asian Parliamentary Exhibition Debate that delved into the feminist consciousness of modern terminologies. This event not only provided a platform

for the participants to showcase their debating skills but also facilitated a vibrant exchange of ideas. Freshers were taught the Asian Parliamentary Debate format by seniors followed by a Q&A session which allowed for clarification of doubts and encouraged active participation in mock debates. The event exemplified EDS' commitment to nurturing debate skills and fostering an inclusive environment.



Another significant highlight was the successful revival of the Natasha Ranjit Memorial Debate Tournament after three years. Held between the 24th and 26th of April, the tournament attracted a total of 24 registered teams, including one in-house JMC team. With an experienced core adjudicating pool, compelling and relevant motions, a strong equity panel, and timely conduct, the tournament provided a competitive and intellectually stimulating, simultaneously a safe and equitable platform. The winning teams were awarded on-the-spot cash prizes worth INR 50,000.



The English Debating Society's dedication in promoting critical thinking, public speaking, and intellectual growth was evident throughout the year, and their efforts in fostering a culture of debate and inclusion deserve commendation. As the academic year came to a close, EDS left an indelible impact on its members, fostering their passion for debating and equipping them with invaluable skills for their future endeavours.

The society owes its heartfelt gratitude to the Principal Prof. Sandra Joseph for her constant support. This year for the English Debating Society would not have been a successful one without the unrelenting guidance and encouragement of Dr. Maya John (Convenor) and our staff advisors - Dr. Jessy Philip, Dr. Mark Gideon, Ms. Kashish Dua, and Ms. Sameera Mehta.

Equal Opportunity Cell

The Equal Opportunity Cell, true to its name, upholds the values of inclusivity and equity. In the academic year 2022-23, EOC successfully organised several events, embracing the spirit of leaving no one behind.

The session started in July with a webinar on 'A Journey Towards Inclusion' on 20th July, led by esteemed speakers such as Ms Sian Tesni, Global Advisor for Inclusive Education at CBM, Dr R. Shilpa Manogna, Lecturer in Special E and In-charge Head NIEIPD, Hyderabad, and Ms Bridgetta Mary Prema, Consultant (Inclusive education) at CBM International. This session shed light on various disabilities affecting students and called for the inclusion of differently-abled students in the realm -

In September, EOC undertook an awareness campaign on Instagram with the hashtag #SmashTheEducationBarrier to promote inclusive education by dispelling myths and promoting better integration of students with disabilities in a classroom setup.



On 7th November, EOC in collaboration with the Women's Studies Centre, JMC organised an Open Mic called 'Zarafat' based on the legacy of Frida Kahlo. The event featured an art exhibition displaying beautiful digital and handmade sketches, while participants performed their original poetry, songs and stories, or those of legendary poets and artists.

On 10th January 2023, EOC conducted a session on International Braille Day, highlighting the impediments to inclusion in higher education and the accessibility guidelines for 2022, with Dr Vaishali Kolhe serving as the resource person. This insightful session aimed to make higher education more accessible for differently-abled individuals.

We were also allotted an EOC Room which was decorated by the members to imbibe the spirit of EOC. The room is utilised to store KIBO, a device purchased by society to help visually impaired students. A faculty member also donated a wheelchair to the society, which is also stored in the room.



In March, EOC observed 'Developmental Disability Awareness Month' by creating informative posts on social media about the relevance, history, and ways to observe the day.

EOC also organised the highly-anticipated annual inter-college competition PRAYAS-2023 on 15th March 2023, providing a platform for students with benchmark disabilities to showcase their talents in their areas of interest and expertise.

The society concluded the year by hosting an interactive and motivational session for its annual event UNNATI-2023 on 11th April, featuring guest speaker Ms. Priya Bhargava, the winner of the Miss Wheelchair India Beauty Pageant. The talk emphasised the importance of perseverance and improvement, with Ms. Bhargava sharing her personal story from her childhood and young adulthood.



EOC extends its sincere gratitude to the convenor and faculty members for their support and encouragement throughout this incredible academic year. The society also thanks the team members for their involvement, participation, and

and hard work in making the events memorable.

Ethnic Eight: The Northeast Society

Ethnic Eight, the North East Society of JMC, one of the compulsory societies, aims to bring the North Eastern states of India along with Ladakh, Nepal, Darjeeling and Kalimpong into the limelight and promote socio-cultural diversity of northeast India and its populace. The society helps in generating awareness regarding the history and culture of such regions as well as fostering a sense of kinship and affinity within the members bringing forth different and alluring traditions.

Ethnic Eight meticulously follows its goal of providing students a safe space where they are given the opportunity to explore their diversity and identities as well as maintain unity and harmony despite the differences. The society organised various intra and inter-college events to make 2022-23 culturally and academically engaging.

‘Octet’, Ethnic Eight’s annual fest, was graced by Dr Achingliu Kamee, Associate Professor, Department of English, ARSD College on 26th April 2022. The fest also showcased many stalls featuring the mouth-watering ethnic, tribal dishes from the diverse states as well as ethnic and traditional wear collected from the eight states by the students themselves. The spirit of the fest was also kept alive by the playing of traditional songs as the students performed to the beat of it.

On the 28th International Day of the World’s Indigenous Peoples 2022 organised by the All India Indigenous people-NCR residing in Delhi, the society participated in the mega cultural fest

and put up food stalls, showcased the ethnic jewellerys and ornaments of the north east; members partook in an ethnic ramp walk showcasing their ethnic/tribal attires.

On the occasion of the 75th Independence Day on 12th August 2022, Ethnic Eight represented its culture as the students presented a tribal folk dance of Nagaland called the Naga Dance.

An Open Mic with the topic “Continuing Legacies of the Revolutionary Freedom Movement: From the North East to the North West, From Hijam Irabot to Bhagat Singh”, was held in collaboration with the English Debating Society to celebrate the 116th birth anniversary of Shaheed Bhagat Singh and the 127th Birth Anniversary of Revolutionary Hijam Irabot on 30th September 2022. The event received 25+ registrations and was followed by active discussions about the work of Shaheed Bhagat Singh and the hidden gem Hijam Irabot of Manipur.

Ethnic Eight collaborated with AICUF for the ‘Karam Navakhani Mahotsav 2022’ on 9th October organised by Delhi Domestic Women Workers Association and Indian Social Institute, Delhi with John Barla, Union Minister of State, Ministry of Minority Affairs, Government of India as the guest. Bugi. A. Sangma, a second year History Hons student, presented a melodious Garo song describing her hometown.



The society bagged the First Prize with their dance performance representing 5 diverse indigenous tribes of Assam in the intra folk dance competition organised by the Hindi Department on Hindi Diwas. **Further, the society enthusiastically participated in the NSS Diwali mela as the students put up for sale mouth-watering wai wai chaat, lemon mojito and momos.** In addition, the beautiful girls gracefully presented a bamboo dance, “Hmar fahrel tak lam”, representing the society.

On 12th November 2022, Dr. Natalie Diengdoh, a researcher and filmmaker from Meghalaya, was invited to speak on ‘Oral Discourses of the Khasis of Meghalaya’ explaining the importance of oral discourses especially for subaltern communities like the Khasis.

Ethnic Eight hosted a freshers day for the upcoming batch of 2022-23 on 25th January, 2023. The program was graced by an amazing plethora of performances from the seniors followed by encouraging words of advice from the faculty advisors.

On January 26, 2023, Ethnic Eight hosted an Open House titled "Academic Opportunities and Career Prospects in Public Policy" in collaboration with the School of Public Policy and Governance (SPPG) at TISS Hyderabad. This virtual event aimed to shed light on the academic pathways and career prospects within the field of public policy for students.

Ethnic Eight showcased their sporting prowess at the SANGAI 2023 Football Tournament at Satyawati College held on January 24th and 25th, 2023 and secured runner-up position in this prestigious competition. On February 10th, 2023, Jennifer Sinate, represented

Ethnic Eight at the ‘North East Students Society Freshers’ Cum Social Gathering - A Night of Talent and Tradition.’

On 12th February 2023, the society participated in the Tribal Festival hosted by New Delhi YMCA and represented JMC wherein they showcased an elegant fusion dance consisting of Naga, Meitei, and Bihu dance forms.

A talk by Dr. Rituparna Patgiri, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, IPCW, was organised on ‘Qualitative Research, Methodological Tools and Writing’. Ethnic Eight collaborated with the Oral History Archive, Department of History, JMC for a book discussion on “Political Life of Memory: Birsa Munda and His Life” (Cambridge University Press, London) by its author, Dr. Rahul Ranjan, opened to all students of University of Delhi on 20th February 2023.

The society participated in Zou Tribal Fusion Dance at MSAD (Manipur Student Association Delhi) and also at the fest of Sri Venkateswara college. Ethnic Eight came third at the northeast fest of ARSD College on 14th February 2023. The society showcased different dance forms of all the north-eastern states ranging from Manipuri to Bihu in the Culture Connect on 21st April 2023 at JMC.



The society conducted its Annual fest – Octet’23 on 29th March 2023, which turned out to be a great success with

various colleges participating in the cultural competitions to inciteful panel discussions and debates by well-known academics. **Ethnic Eight also released its maiden magazine LAIZOM which encapsulates the concept of Brotherhood and Unity in Northeast India.**

Ethnic Eight participated at the NESSDU Annual Sports Meet 23 held from April 3rd to 5th, 2023. They clinched the championship trophy in volleyball in collaboration with KNC Northeast Cell. **The society also won the tug of war, secured second place in the relay race, 100m running race, and basketball.** On April 27th, the ethnic eight's batch of 2023 was bid adieu with a heartfelt farewell.



Ethnic Eight also participated in Culture Connect on 21st April, 2023 at Jesus and Mary College. The society showcased different dance forms of all the north-eastern states, ranging from Manipuri dance to Bihu.

Ethnic Eight owes its deepest gratitude to the Principal of JMC Prof. Sandra Joseph for her constant support and motivation. The academic year for Ethnic Eight would not have been a fruitful one without the support and guidance of Dr. Gurmeet Bakshi (Convenor), Dr. Bipasha Rosy Lakra (Faculty member), Dr. Sabiha Mazid (Faculty Member) and Dr. Tanu Parashar (Faculty Member).

Finance and Investment Cell

The Finance and Investment Cell, Jesus and Mary College aims to establish a forum for the exchange of information about both theoretical and practical elements of global finance and investment scenarios. The cell's mission is to empower women with the financial knowledge and independence necessary to assume leadership roles in the corporate world of the future while maintaining moral and socially conscious attitudes. We organise presentations and competitive events to improve people's understanding of financial matters and pique the interest of finance enthusiasts.



The 2022-2023 session began with the election of office bearers, wherein Tushita Gupta (3rd Year, B.Com Hons.) was elected as President, Devika Chawla (2nd Year, B.Com Hons.) as Vice President, and Hunnar Kaushal (2nd Year, Economics Hons.) as General Secretary.

On 20th September 2022, the Finance and Investment Cell held its first event which was a career expo in collaboration with Clever Champs Pvt Ltd. Participants received guidance on various career routes, as well as the best courses and universities to enrol in for postgraduate courses. Overall, the event

provided students with insightful information regarding their respective future careers.



The second event was an offline speaker session on 'Infrastructure Finance' on 29th November 2022 for its members, conducted on the college campus. Mr. Amit Sengupta served as the session's resource person and spoke on a variety of subjects. This session was quite successful and gave all participants useful insights and knowledge. The Cell planned a pre-event for Fintellect 2023 on 25th January 2023, wherein a fun game of 'Financial Pictionary' was played to raise interest and promote participation, the notable engagement of professors made the event more exciting.



The Finance and Investment Cell hosted the fifth edition of its flagship annual event, FINTELLECT, on 6th February 2023. The event began with an opening ceremony featuring three competitions

curated by the members of FIC under the guidance of Dr. Ameeta Motwani (Convenor) and Dr. Anshi Goel (Faculty Advisor). The three events were 'Lights, Camera, Budget', 'Cash or Crash', and 'Munafa 3.0'. Fintellect 2023 saw participation from over 20+ University of Delhi colleges and other colleges from Delhi NCR, making it one of the most popular events in recent memory. During the competitions, cash prizes totalling INR 25,000 were up for grabs. Numerous stalls had been set up by the event's sponsors in the amphitheatre. Overall, Fintellect 2023 was a huge success as it gave finance enthusiasts a great place to showcase their skills and learn from each other.

A career guidance webinar was hosted on 13th March 2023, in collaboration with 1FIN. Mr. Sriram Somayajula served as the resource person and explained the importance of CFA and how it could help students seeking a lifelong career in finance. Participants were also given a free, guaranteed Microsoft Succeed course instructed by CA Suraj Lakhotia.

On 24th March 2023, the Cell collaborated with the Amrut Mody School of Management (AMSOM) to organise a seminar on the 'Role of Quantitative Analysis in Finance and Economics' which highlighted the increasing demand for quantitative analysts in the corporate world and the importance of quantitative analysis in the economic field. It was a great success and bridged the knowledge gap. 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. Ameeta Motwani (Convenor) and Dr. Anshi Goel (Faculty Advisor).

Green Society

The Green Society - The Eco-Club of Jesus and Mary College - invites nature lovers and sustainable thinkers to an active platform for creating awareness and invoking active participation towards environmental conservation. The session officially began with the elections for student representatives in July 2022, with Anjelina Nathaniel and Devaki. S being elected as the President and Vice-President, respectively. A core team of nine sub-teams was also set-up.



The first event of the Green Society was **a plantation drive coupled with a Biodiversity Conservation Seminar by Mr. Ishtiyak Ahmed, Manager of the NGO 'Give Me Trees'**. The saplings of Banyan, Jamun, Neem, Lasoda, Drum Stick and Mulberry were planted. The society has organised seven intra-collegiate competitions, nine educational events, four society wide clean campus drives, a visit to the animal shelter, projects on vertical gardens and indoor air purifiers, E-Waste awareness campaigns & collection drives. The society provides a forum for creative writers to develop content related to environmentalism and environmental issues (user-generated written and video content), and a monthly e-magazine titled Aranya. The society also held a fun cultural fest in the month of November, called the 'Greenween Carnival'. Additionally, we have also organised a

workshop on 'Green Businesses' in collaboration with Mercatus, JMC as well as a Plantation Drive in collaboration with NSS, JMC. An interactive event in collaboration with Tripsero and IITD's Youth Speak Forum was held as well.

Game sessions, a cultural fest, an orientation session for first years, and a fun farewell for the graduating batch was also hosted. An entrepreneurial competition on green business models, an essay writing competition on noise pollution, a zine making competition on oceanic pollution, a reel making competition on campus ecosystems and workshops on noise pollution and eco-friendly Diwali were organised throughout the year to foster a learning spirit.

A Poster Making Competition was organised by the Green Society in the month of October, on the theme of 'Eco-Friendly Diwali'.

The Green Society conducted an online survey on E-waste Generation and Management from 11th January to 15th January, 2023, and was conducted online through a Google form. The survey aimed to create awareness among the student body about E-waste and to gauge their understanding of the issue. The society also organised a blog post writing competition on the topic 'Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle - E-waste Generation and Management.' The competition was held online through a Google form and ran from 24th January to 31st January, 2023.

In the month of February, a vertical garden was developed with seasonal flowers. The first, second and third layers of the vertical garden were grown with orange flowering plants, white-

coloured flowering plants and mint and tomato plants respectively, depicting the integrity of the Indian flag, celebrating 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'. In March, the idea of a vertical kitchen garden was initiated to let all students understand the importance of organic farming. The project of developing indoor air purifiers was also successfully implemented with plants like Snake, Aloe vera, and Jade plants.



On 20th March 2023, the society organised a documentary screening on the topic of 'Water Pollution in the Ganges' with the aim to educate the members about the pollution of fresh water bodies in the country and the possible precautions that can be taken. On 22nd March 2023, they organized a speech competition on the topic of 'Sustainable Development'.



As a part of the Earth Day celebrations, the society collaborated with IQAC and a PRO 'Karo Sambhav' for an E-Waste awareness session and 2 weeks worth of a collection drive (April 17th to May 1st,

2023). A webinar on water harvesting and conservation was also held in the month of May.

The society is extremely grateful for the constant guidance and encouragement that is always provided by our principal, Prof. Dr. Sandra Joseph. This year for the Green Society would not have been a fruitful one without the constant presence and support of Ms. Smita Gupta (Convenor), Dr. Divya Agarwal (Co-Convenor), Dr. Ruchi Bhalla (Treasurer), Dr. Ruchi Mishra (Faculty Advisor), Dr. Prabhjyot Kaur (Faculty Advisor), Dr. Sanghamitra (Faculty Advisor) and Ms. Priya Dahiya (Faculty Advisor).

IRIS: The Fine Arts Society

IRIS, the Fine Arts Society of JMC, aims towards developing the artistic talents of the students and encourages them to participate in activities related to the field of fine arts. The society has a core team of 36 members and 15 volunteers. The academic year began with the election of the office bearers: Drishya Taneja (President), Vrinda Bansal (Vice President), Alisha Das (Organizing Head), Tanya Taneja (Marketing Head), and Angela Parmar (Finance Head). The team organised various engaging activities throughout the academic session.



The first event of the year was the Orientation Program, where all freshers were briefed about the functioning of the society. The orientation involved a fun JMC-Bingo and an origami workshop. The next program was the Freshers' Competition. Following the society's tradition, many competitions are organised for the incoming batch every year. This year, three competitions were organised – 'Calligraphy', 'What's in the Polaroid', and 'Sketching'. These competitions aided the search for artistic talent in the college and provided the freshers a platform to express themselves through art.



In the month of February, IRIS collaborated with Red Bull, India to make a funky doodle in the college canteen. The theme of the doodle was 'Fulfilled College Life at JMC'. Along with this, Red Bull India organised a doodle art competition which saw high participation from the students. In the same month, the team also made about fifty or so traditional-art-based bookmarks. These were made especially for a delegation of visitors who came to the college. The society was also involved in the decorations for the inaugural ceremony of the college's Community Engagement Centre. Furthermore, on the occasion of Valentine's Day, IRIS hosted a Galentine Arts Date. This event involved students

painting a pair of candles and getting pictures clicked with their best friends at a photo-booth setup by the team. The event was a huge success, and it made the students realise the importance of friendships.



Amongst other things, the IRIS team is known for making beautiful rangolis, something that is made for almost every event at college. This year, IRIS contributed by executing the decorations and rangolis for many important events like Independence Day, Freshers' Welcome, International Conference, Convocation, Culture Connect, PTSA, and the Farewell.

In April, the society organised its Annual Art Fest 'Beaux Arts 2023', wherein three competitions were held, which received enthusiastic participation from colleges throughout Delhi-NCR. These included – Folk Flair (a traditional art competition), Maquillage (a face painting competition - Van Gogh style) and Shot-a-Dot (a dot painting competition). The event was a great success with about 30 or so responses for each competition. Three winners were selected for each competition, and were provided gift hampers along with certificates. The commendable art works produced by the participants display an extraordinary celebration of artistic expression. The society owes its heartfelt gratitude to th-

-he Principal Prof. Sandra Joseph for her constant support. Moreover, this year would not have been successful without the unrelenting guidance and encouragement of Ms. Tanuja Sachdev (Convenor), Dr. Amrita Sastry (Co-Convenor), and the faculty advisors Dr. Shiva Kapoor, Dr. Bhumika Kapoor, Ms. Charu Sarin Arora, and Ms. Vrinda Moda.

JMCEP: Jesus and Mary College Education Programme

Jesus and Mary College Education Programme is an initiative aimed at empowering young minds with education and values that go beyond the concise boundaries of textbooks. The inception of JMCEP was in 1979 with the divine motto of 'Learning to help by helping to learn' as National Adult Education. Under the guidance of the Principal, Teachers in Charge and the student council, JMCEP, like a trailblazer, has been working with utmost commitment and perseverance towards its objective of sharing knowledge and spreading awareness about issues of health, hygiene, cleanliness, education rights etc. Organising events and fundraisers to help and spread awareness is one of the major priorities of the society. Diwali Mela, Sanitary Napkin Drive, Donation Drives and monthly visits to Bapu Dham and Vivekananda Camp are few of the major events organised by JMCEP.

Our year began with the election of office bearers, wherein Aazima Basharat and Vishaka Shivprasad were elected President and Vice-President, respectively. JMCEP conducted music performances by the students of Bapu Dham colony and Vivekanand Camp. The event starting from 31st March 2023 to

9th February 2023, was organised for the visitors who had come to the college.

JMCEP in collaboration with Puzzle Society organised by Paheli, conducted a puzzle solving competition for children on 12th November 2022. On the occasion of Children's Day, a garden activity day filled with games, dancing and singing was conducted for the kids to celebrate Children's Day.

Students participated in the art competition held on 15th February 2023. The theme of the competition was 'Holi Celebrations'. The Story Telling Sessions began from 27th February 2023 and lasted till 5th April 2023. Engaging students in learning about moral values and other important daily issues that take place through narration of various stories. Kids were also encouraged to take part in different activities such as reciting and reading themselves.



JMCEP in collaboration with Curiosis, the Quiz Society organised an event for the Volunteers on 9th November 2022.

The event was based on the topic surrounding social issues. The winning teams were given certificates and prizes. JMCEP in collaboration with Project Adhyayan conducted a donation drive of winter clothing items along with food items for the kids on 21st January. The society visited the NGO called 'Under The Bridge School' which provides free

education to the underprivileged kids.



With the classes ending for the semester, stationery items were donated to the kids on the last day (15th November 2022). **JMCEP organised weekly dance classes for the kids to improve their dancing skills and to get a break from their daily schedule. Our society conducted a Ramadan donation drive on 15 April 2023 for the families and children of underprivileged communities in Jamia Nagar under Blessings NGO.** Around 180 kits were donated to the families. On 21st April 2023, JMCEP conducted a clay toy making activity for the kids in collaboration with the English Department.

We encourage everyone to join us in our pursuit of spreading the joy of learning and in our journey towards imparting value education, to help every individual reach their fullest potential and become active members of the society. The society owes its heartfelt gratitude to the Principal Prof. Sandra Joseph for her constant support. This year for JMCEP would not have been a successful one without the unrelenting guidance and encouragement of Ms. Rajni Singh (Convenor) and Dr. Jasmin Singh (Co-Convenor).



JMCMUN: Jesus and Mary College Model United Nations

The JMCMUN Society had an eventful year filled with various activities and achievements. **The highlight of the year was undoubtedly the annual Model United Nations (MUN) Conference held on 24th and 25th March 2023.** This conference served as a platform for students from different colleges and universities to engage in thoughtful discussions and debates on pressing global issues.



To ensure the smooth functioning of the society, the JMCMUN Society conducted elections for office bearers and the office bearers selected for this academic year were Sanjana Agarwal and Khushi Gupta as the President and Vice-president respectively. **The student members were selected through a rigor-**

-ous process aimed to identify individuals who possessed a genuine passion for diplomacy and international relations. The selected team members were enthusiastic and dedicated, ready to take on the responsibilities associated with organising the MUN conference and other related activities.



Recognizing the importance of adequate preparation, the society organised training sessions for the selected team members. These sessions were conducted by experts in the field of diplomacy and international relations. The programme emphasised on strengthening research skills, diplomatic negotiation approaches, and public speaking skills. The organisation wanted to ensure that all participants had a good and rewarding MUN conference experience by providing the team members with these crucial skills.

To provide practical experience and further familiarise the team members with MUN procedures, mock MUN sessions were organised. By simulating the events of a real MUN conference, participants were better able to grasp the subtleties of diplomacy and negotiation. Through the mock MUNs, the team members gained valuable insights and developed their confidence in addressing global issues in a diplomatic manner.



In addition to organising the MUN conference, the JMCMUN Society took the initiative to publish a blog covering various political issues. This blog served as a platform for students to express their opinions and engage in meaningful discussions. The articles published covered a wide range of topics, including international conflicts, human rights, and social justice. The blog became a valuable resource for society members and other students interested in global affairs, fostering a greater understanding of the world around them.

The JMCMUN Society would like to express its gratitude to the Jesus and Mary College administration, faculty, and students for their continuous support throughout the year. Their encouragement and assistance played a vital role in the society's achievements. As the year comes to a close, the society remains committed to its mission of promoting diplomacy, international relations, and global awareness. The JMCMUN society anticipates having an even more fruitful and significant year in the coming year thanks to the experiences and lessons it has gathered this year.

**Kahkasha:
The Hindi
Dramatics Society**

Kahkasha, the Hindi Dramatics Society of

JMC, through its self-written and directed annual street play productions aims to call attention to the numerous social issues and further strives to raise awareness. It continuously learns and evolves by participating along with conducting street theatre related seminars and workshops.



The election of President Deepshikha Jena (3rd year) and Vice President Prerna Kujur (2nd Year) commenced the academic year 2022-23. Whilst working on the annual production, it conducted auditions during November and welcomed the new members of the team. The topic 'Police Brutality and Corruption', chosen through in-depth research, discussion and debate, was formally introduced, and the production process began. With regular online and offline meetings, the whole team worked rigorously on perfecting the scenes, direction and music. The street play 'Dahshat' was now set to be presented in the Delhi Collegiate Theatre Circuit (DCTC) fest season.

In addition to participating in the fest season, Kahkasha organised what is deemed as one of the prestigious and highly awaited fests in DCTC, Aawaz 2023.

The team had always intended to take its productions to the actual streets and it was fortunate enough to be presented with the opportunity to do so through events held by Manthan and Memesis,

the street play societies of Shaheed Sukhdev College of Business Studies and Daulat Ram College, respectively. Kahkasha performed in Old Rajendra Nagar and Kamla Nagar. A special collaboration with the Ibarat Nukkad Festival allowed the team to perform and interact with the audience for discussion on the topic.

Kahkasha has always worked towards amplifying the voices of those who go unheard and ignored issues through its plays. It further aspires to educate people about their rights, raise awareness against the malpractices in our police system and those done by the common man, and encourage free discourse which would shed light on those cases of police brutality that eventually end up becoming just a part of statistics. By sharing a QR code at the end of our play, containing emergency numbers and other necessary information, with the audience we ensured that people take back a small piece of our cause with them.



The annual production 'Dahshat' received the following commendations: **First Positions at 'Antaragini', the street-play event of IIT Kanpur; at 'Aaina',** the street-play event of Abhinay, Maharaja Agrasen College; at 'Yatharth', the street-play event of Akaar, Lady Irwin College; at 'Kranti', the street-play event of Et. Cetra, Guru Tegh Bahadur Institute of Technology. **Second Positions at 'Zakdram',** the street-play event of Aagh-

-aaz, Zakir Hussain College, at 'Iltija', the street-play event of Hasratein, Ram Lal Anand College and at 'Sevaarth', the street-play event of Nepathya, Pannalal Girdharlal Dayanand Anglo-Vedic College; Best Production Award at 'Aaghaz', the street-play event of Lakshay, Kamla Nehru College; Consolation award at 'Hoonkar', the street-play event of Parindey, Mata Sundari College. Team member Ramish Mushfiq secured Best Actor award at 'Aabhas', the street-play event of Kshitij, Gargi College and at 'Malang', the street-play event of Aakrosh, Shyam Lal College. Team Member Rupkatha Paul secured Best Actor Award at Sagar Nagpal Memorial Nukkad Natak, the street-play event of the Jazba Theatre Group.



Kahkasha closed the production of the session with a final performance of the 3rd Years with the rest of the team at 'Kranti', the street-play event of Et. Cetra (GTBIT) which received the First Position. This marked the incredible conclusion of an exuberant and successful session of 2022-23.

Mercatus: The Marketing Society

Every year Mercatus continues its legacy of organising varied events and activities dedicated to promoting marketing knowledge, skills, and networking oppor-

-tunities in fun and exciting ways for the students. This year was no exception. Mercatus kick-started the year with the election of office bearers, wherein Ria Malik was elected as the president, and Cidra Humayun as the Vice president. Riddhi Sehgal and Renee Surana emerged as the General Secretaries.



Held on 17th October 2022, the 7th edition of their annual event 'Amusement Day' was based on the theme of Halloween. There were several exciting stalls and fun games put up by the members. A thrilling open mic was also hosted where participants were given an opportunity to flaunt their flair. The orientation for the second and third-year students was held on 29th August 2022.

After the commencement of the academic session for the first-year students, **Mercatus conducted a Freshers orientation at the Amphitheatre on 24th November 2022.** The office bearers and the core team members of Mercatus talked about the different aspects of the society and explained how Mercatus could contribute to the growth and learning of prospective new members.

A recruitment drive for the first and second-year students followed the orientation. Thereafter, Mercatus conducted its first official meeting which saw the full strength of the society com-



-ing together with great zeal. This was also an opportunity for the team members to introduce themselves, connect with each other, and learn more about the society's future objectives.



The next event by Mercatus was the much-awaited annual marketing conclave 'Zion 2023' which was held on 21st March 2023 on the theme 'DIGIRISE: Marketing's Ascent into Digital Media', with a panel discussion on the same raising questions on the markets of India, the panel's journey in marketing, the digital marketing era, the next big thing in marketing, and much more. The esteemed panellists were: Amrita Thapar (Chief Marketing Officer, Microsoft), Aakriti Vinayak (Assistant Director, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry), Aishani Sapra (Marketing Head, House of Chikankari), Akshansh Gupta (Marketing Manager, Swiggy Instamart) and Nikita Chawla (Travel Journalist and Panellist, Times Now). A number of stalls and thrilling competitions like 'Insta by Chance',

'Mark-o-Media', and 'Take Your Bid' were organised during the event. Partners of Zion'23 include Edubound, Career Launcher, Pehchaan, DU Today and Title Sponsor EdNet Consultants.

In March, Mercatus launched the first volume of its annual magazine, Marketrix. The magazine is a captivating collection of an array of interesting case studies, infographics, and lots of insights into social media and email marketing, branding, and more. These carefully curated articles provide actionable advice and valuable perspectives to its readers. The editorial and design teams collaborated to craft the magazine with utmost precision and brilliance. The first edition of Marketrix shared both its launch date and theme with Zion-23.

To wrap up this academic session, Mercatus organised a much-needed and highly informative guest lecture by Ms Niharika Sondhi, a leading education counsellor, on preparing for masters in India and overseas. The session was aimed at offering students insight into the various emerging fields like AI, Environmental Studies, Blockchain Technology, etc. It also helped the students resolve the conflict between a Master's and an MBA. The process and possibilities of switching from a non-design to a design career and from a non-tech to a technology-based career were also discussed.

We would like to extend our gratitude to Principal Prof. (Dr) Sandra Joseph for her unwavering support to our society. With immense gratitude to everyone involved in this successful academic session, Mercatus eagerly looks forward to bringing more memorable, educative, and amusing experiences in the future.

Mudra: The Western Dance Society

Mudra, the Western Dance Society of JMC is all about creating an environment to foster, encourage and exhibit collective creativity given expression through various Western dance forms. The heritage of Mudra is to impart lasting confidence into its members so that they not only become better dancers but also exude the same confidence as individuals. It is not just a college society, rather a family that is always eager to learn from each other, and build each other up through mistakes and failures. We believe that perseverance and hard work are only a small part of the winning formula, it is all about the attitude. Every time Mudra takes the stage, we represent not just the individuals but rather all the previous members who were a part of Mudra's vibrant history. The ultimate aim of Mudra is to inculcate the feeling of togetherness and synergy that inspires its members to transcend personal goals and achievements.



The year started with the election of office bearers, wherein Eshita Malhotra (2nd Year, B.Voc RMIT) and Pragya

Kothari (1st Year, B.A. Psychology Honours) were elected President and Vice-President, respectively. The elections were followed by the auditions of the first-year students. The official team of 2022-23 included Ashlyn Sakshi, Ananya Sharma, Angelina Stephen, Eva Malhotra, Ria Minj, Girisha Goyal, Jiya Matlani, and Lakshita Nain.

Mudra's first performance of the year was for the department festival of B.A. Programme. This performance provided the freshers of Mudra with their first experience of performing in front of a huge audience. The performance was highlighted by Du.today on their social media as they proclaimed Mudra's performance as extremely energetic and refreshing. This was followed by Mudra's showcase on Freshers.



The theme for the annual production this year was 'Harley Quinn' in which the members portrayed the story of the comic character Harley Quinn through embodying her expressions and characteristics. Mudra opened its annual production in Antaragni, the annual fest of IIT Kanpur. This was an amazing experience for the team as they got the opportunity to travel to another state with their crew and also engaged with other dance teams. The feedback given to Mudra helped the team to work even

harder and improve their production.



Mudra participated in the RevUp dance championship organised by Spardha, the dance team of SBSC where the team competed against 25 dance crews and engaged in face-offs and dance roulette. **Mudra ended this year by giving mesmerising performances at PTSA**, the History Department Fest of the college - 'Jashn - E - Junoon' and the farewell. The year 2022-23 was a very successful year for Mudra, with each performance, the team members developed more and more confidence and discipline to give their best for every performance that they showcase.

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. Jennifer Monteiro (Convenor).

National Cadet Corps

The National Cadet Corps, Jesus and Mary College is attached to 3 Delhi (Girls) Battalion, NCC, with a total sanctioned strength of 160 and headed by Associate NCC officer, Dr (Lt) Richa Raj. It is also supervised by its most

committed and efficient Convenor, Ms Priyanka Marwah. NCC's motto, 'Unity and Discipline' continues to shape the ardor, discipline, inner zeal and a sense of purpose among the young girl cadets of the organization's army wing at JMC. The cadets have been a part of various prestigious camps, social awareness campaigns/drives and rallies throughout the year.

The Inter Battalion selection cadre for Thal Sainik Camp was conducted from 17th June 2022-26th June 2022 at NCC Bhawan. Rohini. SGT Hrishita Sharma and LCPL Ishita Pandey participated in the camp. The Annual Training Camps/Combined Annual Training Camps are held throughout the year wherein cadets are taught the basics of drill, weapon training, map reading and so on.

On the occasion of the 8th International Yoga Day on 21st June, 18 cadets took part in the Yoga session conducted at JMC on behalf of the Ministry of AYUSH led by Ms. Yashvi Ahuja, a certified yoga expert.



NCC-JMC conducted various events under the Har Ghar Tiranga Campaign to encourage people to bring the tiranga home and hoist it to celebrate 75 years

of India's Independence which was kicked off with a rally in JMC on 5th August 2022. Participation in the Tiranga Yatra by the University of Delhi, visit to Prabhat Tara Institute of Social Service, on-campus selfie point, visit to a nearby slum, and various other activities were performed as part of the campaign. The cadets also took part in the guard ceremony and piloting for the flag hoisting ceremony. SGT Harshita Choudhary enthusiastically participated in the selection cadres for the Republic Day Camp 2023.

NCC-JMC in collaboration with the Ministry of Health conducted a Covid-19 vaccination drive on 6th-7th September, 2022 in which we provided free booster doses of Covid-19 vaccine. It was a very successful initiative and approximately 260 people got vaccinated.



On 16th September 2022, a rally was organized as part of the Ozone Day celebration. **As part of the Nasha Mukti Abhiyan, an oath was taken by the cadets on 25th September 2022 followed by a nukkad natak to raise awareness about the harmful effects of drugs.** A Self-Defence Demonstration was organised on 10th October 2022.

NCC-JMC collaborated with Blood Connect for a blood donation camp on 14th November 2022. A total of 57 units of blood was collected making this event a huge success. The NCC Recruitment

Orientation was held on 16th November 2022.

JUO Namya Jain participated in the Advance Leadership Camp held in Agra from 14th December 2022-23rd December 2022 under the direction of the 1 UP Girls Battalion. Cadet Astha successfully completed the month-long Prime Minister's Rally that is held on 28th January every year. On 2nd March 2023, the cadets marched as a contingent in the march past for Annual Sports Day.



One of the biggest achievements of the year, and a proud moment for JMC, was that SUO Elizabeth Mohan was awarded by the Delhi Commission for Women, Government of NCT Delhi, on the occasion of International Women's Day for her contribution to NCC on 11th March 2022. NCC-JMC conducted its first annual fest JUNOON'23 along with the Rank Ceremony on 26th April 2023. The special attractions of the fest were the Cane Drill and a Battle Drill presented by the cadets.

NCC-JMC owes its heartfelt gratitude to the Principal, Jesus and Mary College, Prof (Dr) Sandra Joseph for her constant support. This year would not have been a successful one without her unrelenting guidance and encouragement.

National Service Scheme

Striving to uphold the motto of “Not me, but you,” the NSS unit of JMC has organised and participated in several events with the aim of fostering a sense of responsibility and empathy in our volunteers, who can go on to become torch-bearers for social change.

The year started with the recruitment of the office bearers, wherein Ananya Rana (2nd Year, B.A. Political Science Honors), Khili Gupta (2nd Year, B.A. Political Science Honors) and Smridhi (2nd Year, B.A. English Honors) were selected as President, Vice-President and General Secretary respectively.

During the year 2022-23, NSS-JMC collaborated with various organisations to conduct events like Cervical Cancer Awareness Seminar in collaboration with Caped, Webinar on POCSO Act in collaboration with Project Rakshin, Self Defence Workshop in collaboration with Rotaract Club and Webinar on Civil Services in collaboration with NextIAS. Apart from this, NSS JMC collaborated with different college societies on several events; a Plantation Drive on the occasion of World Soil Day in collaboration with Green Society, Heritage Walk to Mehrauli Complex in collaboration with Dastaan on the occasion of World Tourism Day, and Documentary Screening and Group Discussion on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti in collaboration with Tabeer.

NSS-JMC believes that to bring about real change and awareness is of utmost importance. The society organised various awareness sessions, group discussions, and rallies both inside and

and outside the college campus. This included a webinar on energy conservation, a seminar on appreciating diversity and inclusivity, and a webinar on blood donation. Talks were also organised around mental health and AIDS awareness. NSS-JMC celebrated Mental Health Day on 6th October 2022, World AIDS Day on 1st December 2022, World Pollution Control Day on 8th December 2022, Human Rights Day on 10th December 2023, National Girl Child Day on 24th January 2023, National Voter's Day on 25th January 2023, Safer Internet Day on 9th February 2023, Civil Service Day on 26th March 2023, World Water Day on 29th March 2023, World Environment Day on 31st May 2023, Earth Day on 24th April 2023, World Bicycle Day on 3rd June 2023 and International Day for Yoga on 15th June 2023. Parakram Diwas was celebrated on 22nd January 2023. An event was organised to spread awareness about women in science and STEM on 11th February 2023. Aadi Mahotsav was celebrated on 18th February 2023.



The enthusiasm of our volunteers and donors also allowed NSS-JMC to organise a successful blood donation camp with 59 donations, in collaboration with BloodConnect. Volunteers from NSS-JMC also headlined another relevant project by

conducting regular classes on spoken English for women from Ambedkar Basti.



Creating a space for joy, excitement, talent, games, and food, NSS-JMC also organised its flagship event, Sparsh 2022 in the month of November. With a heavy footfall, this celebration of our culture and craftsmanship showcased by several NGOs and small businesses was a resounding success.

Aligned with the Swachh Bharat Mission, NSS-JMC organized regular cleanliness drives in and around the college campus. Observing Swachhta Pakhwada, NSS-JMC volunteers conducted a cleanliness drive in Satya Niketan. **A no-plastic campaign, and rally for green earth on the occasion of Earth Day are some of the other events organized by the NSS-JMC team.**



Apart from this, NSS-JMC organized various donation drives including a winter clothes donation drive, a Diwali donation drive, and a donation drive for victims of the Turkey-Syria earthquake. These drives were immensely successful with active contributions from not just our volunteers but other students and faculty as well.

To share the idea and motto of NSS-JMC, some of its volunteers also participated in various inter-college events. The NSS-JMC team represented by Riya Arora, Archita, Nikita, Vartika Chamoli and Mansi Detwani won the second prize in an inter-college presentation competition on anti-tobacco movement. Ananya Rana, Smridhi, Khili Gupta and Adanya Raj representing NSS-JMC won a special mention in the paper presentation competition organised by NSS-IIT Delhi. Sur Gupta, Aastha Arora, Sneha Gupta, and Vijay Bharti represented NSS-JMC in the NSS Presentation competition organised by Mata Sundri College and won the second position.

This year would not have been successful without the constant guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Sandra Joseph, the Principal, Dr. Sugandha Sehgal, the Programme Officer of NSS-JMC, and staff advisors Ms. Sumangali R, Ms. Betina Abraham and Ms. Anu.

Nrityanjali: The Indian Dance Society

Nrityanjali, the Indian Dance Society of Jesus and Mary College is an Indian Cultural Society which has roots in the regional and indigenous cultures of India. This entails comprehending, learning,

and practising the numerous dance forms of diverse locations, ranging from Indian classical dance forms to folk; from Bollywood to Tollywood. Over the past years, the society has actively been involved in various cultural programmes and competitions held in-station and out-station, especially at the National level.

Nrityanjali has participated in Independence Day, Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA), Culture Connect Fest 2023 and National Service Scheme (NSS) Diwali Fest. It has performed in Womanite - BetiBachaoBetiPadhao, International Film and Fashion Festival, Balak times Film Premiere - National Girl Child Day Celebration, Eros Hotel and had participated in competitions held by IIT Bombay, IIT Delhi, IIT Kanpur, Delhi University and other private colleges. It presented a semi-classical piece in Festivscape as a part of the European Union National Institutes for Culture (EUNIC) India 'The Way Forward' EULAT 4 Culture Project on October 15, 2022. The society also held its orientation, which received overwhelmingly positive feedback from students.



On April 19, 2023, the society held its annual festival 'Aada' which was a success and attracted participation in the Solo Classical and Group Folk Competitions from various colleges of Delhi University.

We participated in the National Level Competition held by Springfest, IIT Kharagpur in the Solo Classical Competition 'Nrityakala' and various other competitions this year. **The society performed at the International Women's Day Celebration 2023 held by SUEZ India, Delhi,** the Annual Sports Day Event 2023 and the Convocation Ceremony held by JMC.



Further, we bagged the first position in events like Centrifuge - Group Dance Competition, Springfest, IIT Kharagpur (2023), Tarangini - Group Folk Dance Competition, Miranda House (2023), Group Folk Dance Competition, Hindi Department, JMC (2023), Aangikam - Solo Classical Dance Competition, ARSD College (2023), Nazakat - Solo Classical Dance Competition, Deshbandhu College (2023), Solo Classical Dance Competition, Ram Lal Anand College (2023), Malang - Dance Competition, FIC Aryabhatta College (2022), Group Folk Dance Competition, Acharya Narendra

Dev College and Group Folk Dance Competition, Udaan Utsav (2019).



We got second position in various competitions like Group Folk Dance Competition, Gargi College (2023), Tarangini - Solo Classical Dance Competition, Miranda House (2023), Group Folk Dance Competition, Kalindi College (2023), Group Folk Dance Competition, Dharohar, Maharaja Agrasen College (2022), Group Folk Dance Competition, Ruhaniyat, Deshbandhu College (2022), Group Folk Dance Competition, Virsa, Swami Shraddhanand College (2022), Group Folk Dance Competition, Nrityanand, Kamala Nehru College (2022), Second Position, Group Classical Dance Competition, IIT Delhi (2019), Group Folk Dance Competition, St. Stephen's College (2019), Group Classical Competition, AIIMS (2019) and Group Folk Dance Competition, Shyama Prasad Mukherjee (2019).

The society got third position in competitions like Group Folk Dance Competition, Mata Sundri College for Women (2023), Group Folk Dance Competition, Sri Aurobindo College (Evening) (2023), Nazakat - Solo Classical Dance Competition, Deshbandhu College (2023), Classical Competition, AIIMS (2020) and Group Folk Dance Competition, Hindi Department, JMC (2019).

Special mentions include: Group Folk Dance Competition, Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Khalsa College (2023) and Group Folk Dance Competition, Satrang, Kalindi College (2022).

Participation in the programmes and competitions has helped develop the members of the society as disciplined dancers and choreographers who are able to manage their academics with extra-curricular activities throughout the year. A zeal for discovering and learning the dance forms of India is present in each and every member of Nrityanjali which requires the active cooperation and coordination amongst the members. Regular workouts and dance practices help in keeping the mind and body fit and continuous work on the annual productions of folk dance, semi-classical, classical, bollywood and tollywood is also progressing. The opportunities received by the society are endless and Nrityanjali aims to participate in the upcoming fests held by Delhi University colleges as well as outside Delhi.

The society is deeply indebted to Principal Prof. Sandra Joseph for her support. Without the direction and inspiration of Dr. Shruti Tohan (Convenor) this year would not have been successful for Nrityanjali.

Peace Society

Peace remains an aspiration for contemplative people all over the world. The never-ending quest for inner serenity forces us to learn more about ourselves while allowing us to change with the seasons.

Peace Society is one of the Jesus and Mary College's largest compulsory socie-

-ties, with a core team of 34 students, including office bearers, core team leaders of several departments, core team members of each department, and a total membership of 338.



Peace is more than just the absence of violence; it also requires individuals to engage with one another in a prosocial manner. Peace Society promotes a positive way of living, inner peace, and cohesiveness through a range of activities ranging from musical performances, contests, and team sports to concentrated efforts on issues such as anti-plastic campaigns, mental health webinars, and so on.

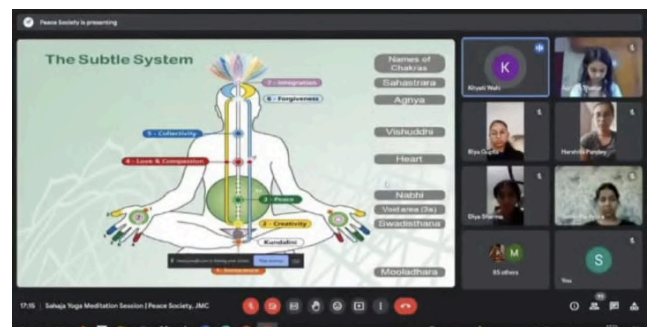
The organisation hosted a slew of activities, including interactive webinars and intriguing competitions spanning from personality development to mental wellness. A Webinar on Skincare was organised on 16th January 2023. A Campaign on Self Care was held on 2nd February 2023. Peace Society celebrated 'All Souls Day' on 2nd November 2022, with a poster-making competition open to all JMC students. On 15th November, an essay writing competition was organised in honour of International Day to Prevent the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict.

The members of the Peace Society had

to pick a coloured ribbon that represented a certain form of cancer, take a photo with it around campus, and submit their entries.



On the occasion of National Cancer Awareness Day, a seminar with Dr. Shubham Jain, Head of Department, Surgical Oncology, Manipal Hospital, was organised on 15th November 2022.



In partnership with the International Sahaja Yoga Research Centre, the world's largest free-of-cost meditation practice, the Peace Society hosted the 'Sahaja Yoga Meditation Session' on 21st March 2023 for enhanced IQ, GQ & SQ, and **Stress Management through Awakening of Inner Power.**

Following that, we teamed up with Wildlife SOS, a non-profit organisation dedicated to conserving India's wildlife, to host an informative webinar on 25th March 2023. Its extensive initiatives in conservation, welfare, and research have an underlying philosophy and belief that meaningful and permanent wildlife preservation cannot occur until we solve

the economic issues of people that rely on wildlife to thrive.

Last, we had an instructive and fascinating webinar on 'The Amazing Power of Gratitude.' It is an important aspect of our personalities. Feeling grateful for the wonderful things in our lives fills our hearts with joy, which eventually leads to more abundance.

We were happy to have Mr. Manish Bansal as our session speaker on 4th May 2023. He has conducted over 2000 seminars in the Education and Training sector, mostly in the areas of Career Counseling and Life Skills Training.

The society is deeply indebted to Principal Prof. Sandra Joseph for her unwavering support. Without the direction of Dr. Nishwan Bhatia (Convenor) and the Staff Advisors Dr. Jasmin, Ms. Charu Sarin Arora, and Dr. Anupama Srivastava, this year would not have been successful.

Placement Cell

The Placement Cell, Jesus and Mary College, is a professional body incorporated for facilitating recruitment of the country's best minds by global corporations. It works relentlessly to uphold the reputation and eminence for which the college is known while acting as the intermediary between businesses and students. The Cell's main goal is to offer a range of employment and entrepreneurial options to help students become economically independent.

The Cell has excelled in providing placement opportunities to final-year students. Bridging the gap between the corporate world and students, it has created a platform for showcasing talen-

-ts and abilities. This report highlights our achievements in the past academic session, 2022-23.



The Placement Cell Team has forged strong relationships with potential employers in diverse industries through various activities. They have actively contacted companies, organised speaker sessions and workshops, and invited recruiters to campus. Additionally, the team has monitored the job market to identify relevant opportunities for students. By matching students' skills with job requirements, they have supported informed career decisions and provided valuable guidance and counselling.

The Cell conducted In-Person and Virtual Placement Drives from July 2022 to March 2023, providing diverse placement opportunities with companies such as Deloitte, Ernst & Young, KPMG, Genpact, Alea Consulting (Asia), Accenture, BCG, Bain and Co., PwC, Nation with NaMo, ICICI Bank, DeltaX, Godrej, MakemyTrip, D. E. Shaw Group, TresVista, and more. A significant number of students were successfully placed.

They achieved a remarkable 111% increase in offers presented to final-year students compared to the previous session and take immense pride in announcing that the placement statistics for this tenure reached 21.5 Lakhs.

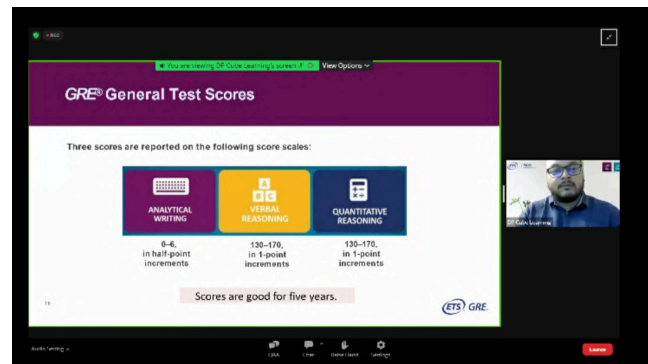
The Cell has been actively addressing the needs of students across all courses in the college, securing placements in diverse roles, from the role of an Auditor to an English Professor. The Cell aims to continue this initiative in future tenures, committed to upholding this legacy.

Our Cell excels in securing highly competitive internships for students in Finance, Data Analytics, Consulting, HR, Management, Operations, Product Management, and Actuarial Sciences. We collaborate with top companies, providing valuable learning opportunities with industry experts. Internships bridge theory and practice, allowing students to apply classroom knowledge and develop practical skills that employers value. Our team assists students in finding suitable internships aligned with their aspirations, offering guidance and support. Notably, our Internship statistics include the highest stipend of 30,000 INR, a median stipend of 10,000 INR, and an average stipend of 15,000 INR.

The Placement Cell focuses on enhancing students' knowledge, skills, and abilities by providing competent resources and professional training. Workshops, seminars, webinars, group discussions, and interactive sessions are used to share information, expand knowledge, and foster learning. Led by experienced professionals, these sessions enrich the educational experience beyond the classroom.

We conducted 15+ seminars and webinars, benefiting over 1500 students in skill-building and academic development. Collaborating with institutes like the Indian School of Business, S.P Jain Institute of Management and Research, and

Symbiosis Institute of Business Management, we hosted career development sessions covering diverse fields such as social impact, public policy, aviation, and consulting. These sessions guided students in exploring career paths and provided practical advice for making informed choices.



We organised academic skills sessions to improve aptitude for exams like TOEFL and GRE, providing study tips and test-taking techniques. Students received perks like discount vouchers for global examinations. Additionally, a group discussion by Bombay Shaving Company allowed students to pitch ideas and gain insights into company operations.



The Cell facilitated career development through initiatives which offered valuable industry-specific knowledge and guidance. The annual boot camp, Career Catalysts, focused on enhancing interview and group discussion skills through sessions conducted by esteem-

-ed JMC alumni. These initiatives aimed to equip students with essential skills for successful recruitment

Nearing the end of the session, the team was felicitated with certificates and badges, followed by the Executive Team Council election rally and team photographs.

Puzzle Society

With the aim of solving every puzzle in the vicinity of 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, due to its sophisticated core team-members set up, ensures that each member is provided with ample opportunities to develop their minds in tandem with their personalities. At 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 keep the members' creative juices flowing with demanding mental workouts

coupled with the cyclic task of coming up with innovative puzzles. 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.

With Dr. Aruna as the Convenor, Ms. Ananya Talwar as the President and Ms. Ananya Tiwari as the Vice President, our responsibilities are divided into into three departments, namely, the Research Department (headed by Prachi and Manvi): responsible for exploring and creating authentic puzzles; the Marketing Department (headed by Apoorva and Priyanka): responsible for curating events and social outreach while also ensuring quality social media presence; Sponsorship Department (headed by Rishika and Anjelina): responsible for onboarding good sponsors for societal events.



Over the past year we have discussed a multitude of puzzles ranging from common puzzles like sudokus and crosswords, to cryptogram, calcudoku, nonogram and interview puzzles. We also corroborate our members by hosting constructive webinars by reputed speakers to provide good exposure in the field of puzzles. If you harbour love for solving puzzles, wish to sharpen your skill sets or yearn to try an otherwise daunting activity out, the Puzzle Society

is the perfect place for you - for here, we are much more than a society, we are a group of girls determined to better ourselves, to challenge ourselves and strengthen ourselves collectively; here, we test our limits, analyse them meticulously and then push beyond them as a team.



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.

On 19th December 2022, a nine-member delegation from the Centre of Indian Studies (CIS), Ho Chi Minh National Academy of Politics (HCMA), Vietnam, visited the campus. A lecture by Associate Professor, Doctor Duong Trung Y, the Vice President of HCMA was delivered on the theme 'External Communication from Vietnam to India'.

February 7, 2023 saw a Study Abroad conclave for students. Participating Universities included INSEAD, Imperial College Business School, Polimi Graduate School of Management, Santa Clara University among others followed by interaction of faculty and students with Marquette University.

There has been a renewed focus on capacity building for faculty in research and publications. Hence, a special volume on the Impact of Covid -19 on specific thematic areas was initiated. After the abstracts were reviewed, authors were asked to submit full length papers. After these were reviewed by at least two reviewers, through a blind-review process, the papers were selected for the volume. The volume editors are Prof. Sandra Joseph and Prof. Reena Marwah (Convenor, RCC). The volume is in the process of publication by Knowledge World Publishers and is expected to be in print by August 2023.

The JMC Review is an annual journal of the college. The 2021 issue had been delayed due to the pandemic and change of editors. The 2021 issue of the Journal was published online in February 2023 with Prof. Sandra Joseph, Principal, JMC as the Editor-in-Chief. Prof. Reena Marwah and Dr. Sandhya Nambiar as the Executive Editors. Book Review Editors were Dr. Maya John and Dr. Pavitra Bhardwaj. The process of review of papers for the subsequent issues of the journal, viz. 2022 and 2023 is in progress.

Sunny Mugs: The Poetry Society

Sunny Mugs, the Poetry Society of Jesus and Mary College is an inclusive space where the wizards of verse come together to create magic with passion,

reflecting the warmth and joy of art. The session of 2022-2023 finally broke the shackles of lockdown, coming forward with events and interactions conducted at the physical mode.

The session began, with the election of Pratistha Jindal as President, Zainab.S. Qazi as Vice President and Apoorva Jha as the General Secretary and appointment of the core teams heads: Prashasti Raj for Design and Technical Team, Niveditha Ajay for Editorial Board, Srishti Gupta for Research and Development Board, Deepika Garg for Sponsorship Team and Kavya S. for the Organisation Team.

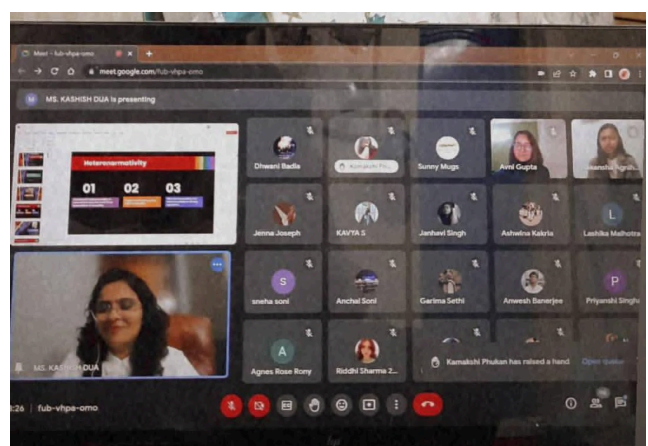
The first session was held on 9th September 2022, an Open Mic for all students to perform regardless of their membership in the society. A session on Dalit Literature was organised on 16th September with discussions around Dalit poetry and other forms of Dalit literature. On 14th October, an online workshop on Literature and Politics conducted by Dr. Sandhya Devesan Nambiar unpacked the political nature of writing and the importance of preserving it. Creative Writing Competition: 'Political Outburst' followed, for all students at the University of Delhi, which allowed expression of pertinent thoughts and emotions regarding the current political happenings worldwide, through stories and poems.

On 11th November 2022, a short gathering of society members was held to share poetry pieces and write ups. Further, on 18th November, with the arrival of first years, an enthusiastic orientation commenced. An on the spot open mic followed with active participation from the first years. On 22nd November, the film Boxed was scr-

-eened in collaboration with the Queer Collective 'Pehchaan'. The selection of new society members took place after the commencement of the academic session for first-year students from 23rd November after **an enthusiastic orientation and on-spot open mic on 18th November.**



A two day online workshop titled 'Decoding Heteronormativity: An Introduction to Literature and Desire in India' was conducted by Ms. Kashish Dua on 31st January 2023. On 10th February, a successful session of 'Story tailing' was conducted with all new members of the society. Members pieced together their write ups and created a beautiful chain of poetry.



On 14th March 2023, an offline workshop 'In Verse' was organised with poets Sonnet Mondal and Sarabjeet Garcha in collaboration with the English magazine

society - Cauldron. A fun offline session took place on 24th March, where members wrote anonymous letters to each other, pouring their hearts out. 18th March saw a creative writing competition titled 'Mathematical Verses' in collaboration with Algorithm, the Newsletter of the Mathematics Department.

The theme for the society's annual events was announced via Instagram on 27th March. 'Of Wings and Claws' welcomed entries on the bizarre, fantastic and criminal- the monsters within people. **The first annual event 'Lafzon ki Numaish: A Hindi and Urdu Slam Poetry Competition' was held on 12th April 2023. Entries from all colleges were accepted and exciting cash prizes were given to the winners.**



On 26th April, the English slam poetry competition 'Tailored Verses' was held with enthusiastic participants. Prizes in goods as well as cash were given away to the winners. Concluding the annual session, the annual creative writing competition 'Words and Muses' accepted entries from all colleges, with cash prizes for winners.

We are thrilled to look at the progress we've made during the 2022-2023 session and strive to keep up the wonde-

-rful meetings and competitions in the following years. The society owes its heartfelt gratitude to the Principal, Prof. Sandra Joseph for her constant support. The society would not have been successful without the unrelenting guidance and encouragement of Dr. Susan George, the Convenor of Sunny Mugs.

Tabeer: The Film and Photography Society

Tabeer, the Film and Photography Society of Jesus and Mary College, successfully concluded its inaugural session in 2023. The society was formed by merging two existing organizations, Snapshots - The Photography Society, and Panorama - The Film Society, under the guidance of Convenor Mr. Jobin Thomas and Faculty Advisors Dr. Sandhya Devesan, Ms. Ishita Singh, Ms. Mansi Aneja, Mr. Anurag Thounaojam, Ms. Vishakha Kumar and Dr. Aswathi A Nair. This merger created a collaborative platform for creative photographers, filmmakers, and film enthusiasts.

The session began with council elections, resulting in Siddhi Ajmani and Visheshta Sharma being elected as Co-Presidents, and Rashi Gupta and Suhani Agarwal as Co-Vice Presidents. After the elections, a comprehensive recruitment process welcomed passionate film and photography enthusiasts from all three years of the college into the society.

The newly recruited members were assigned to different departments, each led by dedicated heads. Mahak Pandey and Vani Grover oversaw the Photography department, Aasmi Grace and Saloni Tandon led the Film Making department, and Triveni, Kamalakshi

Singh, and Ananaya Gupta managed the Film Appreciation/Content department. The Organising Department was headed by Karis Paul and Suzanne Thappa, while the Social Media Department was led by Navya Anand and Walusha Lovena Rodriguez.



Aligned with its agenda, Taber aimed to cover, capture, and collaborate with various societies and departments within the college. Society members actively participated in numerous events, skillfully documenting and preserving precious moments and memories. Notable occasions included WSC's Jagriti 2023, PTSA 2023, Philosophy Day 2023, Nrityanjali's Adaa 2023, MUN Conference 2023, Department of Mathematics' Matherena 2023, Labour Day 2023, The Inter-College Research Meet hosted by the Philosophy Department, Green Society's Annual Fest - The Greenween Carnival, Faculty Interaction with the Dean of Liverpool Hope University, Equal Opportunity Cell's Unnati 2023, Echo's annual fest - Madrigal, The English Debate Society's Annual Fest, Pehchaan - The Annual Conference of TedX JMC, Convocation 2023, and Farewell 2023. Taber also successfully organized and operated a photobooth at Culture Connect, a prestigious cultural event organized by

the student council of the college.

Furthermore, Taber arranged exclusive movie screenings for college students. Notable screenings included a collaboration with the National Service Scheme on October 2nd, 2023, where the short YouTube film Mahatma Gandhi was showcased, followed by a discussion. The society also organized fundraisers by screening movies such as Zindagi Na Milegi Dobara, based on audience polls, and Manichitrathazhu on March 24th.



Taber also organized several photowalks, providing members with valuable opportunities to refine their photography skills. These photowalks took place at diverse locations, including Rajpath for the Republic Day Parade on January 21st, 2023, Chandni Chowk on February 17th, 2023, in collaboration with Lensantion-SSNC, Chitragrahini-MLNCEV, Shufflesots-SRGCASW, and Chimera-ZHDC, as well as Connaught Place, Janpath, and the college premises.

Taber's photowalks aimed to create immersive experiences for members, enabling them to capture the essence of their surroundings and develop their artistic vision in photography.



As the grand culmination of its endeavours, Tabeer hosted its inaugural flagship event, 'Lenstalk 2023', on April 25th. The event featured a screening of the movie *Yeh Jawani Hai Deewani*, chosen through an audience poll, at the prestigious Thevenet Hall. The event was accompanied by various competitions. For this event, we had successful collaborations with the social media app BeReal as a sponsor, and DU Today as the official media partner.

Khyati Dubey, Nandini Jain, Shithiga Rajan and Rashi Gupta were recognized as Special Achievers for the year for their numerous feats at various competitions during the session.

In the first year of this unique merger, Tabeer showcased its unwavering commitment to nurturing creative talent, fostering collaboration, and capturing significant moments through film and photography. It established itself as an integral part of Jesus and Mary College's vibrant artistic community, leaving a lasting impact on its members and the college as a whole.

Tarannum: The Indian Music Society

Tarannum, the Indian Music Society of

Jesus and Mary College, had a productive academic session in 2022-23, filled with various events and achievements. The year started with a farewell organised by the society members to bid farewell to their exceptional seniors. This heartfelt event was followed by the election for the appointment of office bearers for the session. Kiran Narula (3rd Year, B.A. Psychology Hons.) and Tavleen Kaur (2nd Year, B. Com Hons.) were elected as the President and Vice President, respectively, for the session of 2022-23. The society then embarked on their musical journey, working on their Annual Composition. They prepared a musical piece based on the 'Raag Chhayanat' and 'Raag Khamas' of Hindustani and Carnatic genres, respectively. The members dedicated themselves to practising this composition vigorously, both online and offline. In addition to this, throughout the academic session of 2022-23, Tarannum actively participated in various activities.

The society was honoured to receive invitations to perform at several notable events. They showcased their talent at the International Conference hosted by the B.A. (Prog.) department on 23rd and 24th February. Additionally, they had the privilege of performing at Our Lady of Fatima Forane Church in Jasola for their event 'Ephphatha' on 12th February, as well as at a fundraiser for the victims of Assam Floods, organised by 'Together We Can' (TWC) on 21st July.



The team focused on participating in competitions during this academic session. **They began by bagging the first position in the Sufi music competition hosted by Vivekananda College on 12th January.** The team also participated and emerged victorious in the 'Alaap' group singing competition held at 'Riwaayat' a fest organised by Ram Manohar Lohiya National Law University, Lucknow from 2nd to 5th February. Tarannum also participated in competitions hosted by IIT Delhi (27th and 28th January), Bhim Rao Ambedkar College (31st January), IIT Kanpur (16th – 19th March) and Lady Shri Ram College for Women (25th March).



Tarannum believes in collective efforts and actively collaborates with other societies. They collaborated with Kahkasha for the Independence Day celebration on 12th August and assisted JMCEP in preparing a performance. Tarannum also performed for Festivscape on 15th October, BA Program's fest on 18th January, and the annual fest organised by the Women's Studies Centre (WSC) on 5th April.

The team was actively ready to contribute to the common events of the college. They wholeheartedly performed on Freshers' Day, Sports Day, Convocation, Culture Connect, Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA), and Farewell.



The year ended with Tarannum's Annual Fest, 'Raag'. Thanks to the immense support from the college, the annual fest was held on 13th April in the Thevenet Hall. Indian Music Societies from various colleges across Delhi participated in the two competitions organised: 'Afreen', a Bollywood Solo Singing competition, and 'Swarangan', Indian Classical Choir competition. The society is grateful for all the opportunities that came their way, contributing to its growth and learning. The society extends its heartfelt appreciation to Principal Prof. Sandra Joseph for her constant support and guidance. It also express their gratitude to its Convenor, Dr. Shruti Tohan and Staff Advisor, Ms. Trisha Chowdhry for their unwavering support throughout the journey.

Troubadours: The English Dramatics Society

Troubadours, the English Dramatics Society, began the academic year with a newly elected core team in June 2022. Having chosen a Christie murder mystery to adapt, the society's writers soon began conceptualising a script for the annual production, with a vision to incorporate visual red herrings in the

form of unique costume coding and a slow-burn narrative set against two naturalist parallel sets. After castings were concluded, the production team began practising in August, with members taking up different roles in acting, directing, and set design.

The session began with the election of Sophia Ngayam Lungleng Shongzan as President and Saras Tuli as Vice-President. With a mind to further the society's activities and internal operations, auditions were conducted for second and third-year students in September and October and 6 new members were recruited.

During Mental Health Awareness Week in October, Troubadours launched an Instagram series aimed towards destigmatizing mental health issues. Members recreated relevant and authentic monologues and scenes from popular shows and movies.

In November, Troubadours resolved to improve the online presence and reach of the society's social media. For such a goal, members made short promotional videos on Instagram and conducted theatre-specific social experiments to gain an understanding of the popularity of the art form among the masses. Later in the year, a social media team was formed to better allocate promotional work. This new team curated theatre-related content and maintained a repository for the society's members and audience to stay up to date on upcoming shows and events.

In January, as part of the college's official Freshers event, members performed a five-minute original skit, centred on the highs and lows of college students. Shortly after, the society cond-



The fest season began for Troubadours when the society, as one of twelve teams, qualified for Round 2 of the Inter-College Saitan Theatre Festival, organised by Saitan Theatre Group in partnership with Akshara Theatre Group, in January 2023. As part of India Habitat Centre's Theatre Festival, the team had the opportunity to present its annual production before the eminent theatre critic Mr. Keval Arora at the Amaltas Auditorium, which proved to be a fruitful and insightful opportunity for the team.

The society also participated in various preliminary rounds of theatre competitions organised by various colleges such as Delhi Technological University, and Maharaja Agrasen College, DU, and was also selected to perform in the final round of St. Stephen's College's prestigious annual event, 'Inter-Rajpal 2023'.



Members, Lavanya Singh and Kashish Prasad won first place in an Improv

competition organised by Verbum, The English Theatre Society of Sri Venkateswara College. Members also had the opportunity to prepare and perform a mental health-focused original skit as part of the 'Heal via Art' event organised by the Equal Opportunity Cell of Deen Dayal Upadhyaya College, DU.

To conclude the society's participation in the collegiate fest season, Troubadours organised 'The Final Show', a show-cum-fundraiser in April 2023. The event included stalls set up by local businesses, and the society's own print and mocktail stalls. **The festivities of the day concluded with the team presenting its annual production, 'Scarlet House' in Thevenet Hall.** The show garnered an audience including students from various colleges across Delhi, on a registration basis. 'The Final Show' proved to be a successful conclusion to Troubadours' year-long efforts.



Troubadours is happy to have experienced a productive year, having gained critical insight on the collegiate theatre circuit of Delhi. The society aspires to continue to stage thought-provoking, imaginative productions with innovative scripts and sets, and build a name for itself in the Delhi theatre circuit.

The society extends their heartfelt appr-

-eciation to Principal Prof. Sandra Joseph for her constant support and guidance. They also express their gratitude to their convenor, Dr. Susan George and faculty advisor, Ms. Kashish Dua.

Women's Studies Centre

The Women's Studies Centre of JMC is a UGC recognized academic Centre striving towards creating awareness regarding themes pertaining to gender and the women's movement and its intersections with other social structures. WSC offers certificate course classes, workshops, national student seminars, fundraisers, open mics, reading circles, research projects and much more. The composition of the Centre includes 300+ general body members, a core team of 4 teams - Advertising, Editorial, Organising and Research and the staff advisors.



The session 2022-23 began with the election of Annapurna as the President and Zubaida Ifshan as the Vice President. This was followed by the recruitment drives of the general body members and the core team members in September 2022. **In collaboration with the Equal Opportunity Cell, WSC hosted a thought-provoking Open Mic event - 'Zarafat' on November 7, 2022.** The event focused

on the legacy of Frida Kahlo, focusing on her life and contributions to feminist discourse. The event successfully showcased the talent, creativity, and passion of the JMC student community.

Later in January, the Centre organised an event titled 'Writing the World: In Conversation with Dr Nitasha Kaul'. Dr. Nitasha Kaul, a renowned multidisciplinary academic and novelist, graced the event with her presence. The conversation focused on the nuanced topic of feminist documentation of narratives of dispossession. Dr. Kaul's latest novel, 'Future Tense', catalysed exploring the importance of a woman's language in tracing competing trajectories of modernity and tradition, freedom and suffocation. WSC also organised a screening of the documentary 'Writing with Fire' by Rintu Thomas and Sushmit Ghosh on 31st January 2023.



In March, WSC organised two reading and discussion circles focusing on the influential book 'The Dialectic of Sex: The Case for Feminist Revolution' by Shulamith Firestone. The sessions, presided over by Dr. Sandhya Nambiar, aimed to explore the profound insights and revolutionary ideas presented in Firestone's work. Participants had the opportunity to critically analyse Firestone's arguments, question established norms and beliefs, introspect and engage in dialogue.

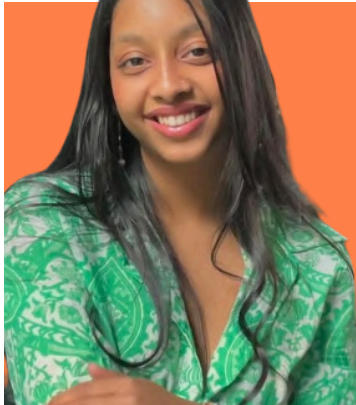
WSC organised its annual fest - 'Jagriti' on 5th and 6th April 2023. It was an attempt to create a diverse, dynamic and safe space for young students to engage with feminist discourses in multiple ways. As a part of the two day fest a student seminar was organised on the theme 'Ghare/Baire (Home, Self and the World): Definitions, Contestations and Identities'. The seminar hosted 10+ papers from participants across the institutions of Delhi. **A debate competition, a blackout poetry competition, a fundraiser, an open mic event - Jansunvai along with an art exhibition on women political prisoners were part of Jagriti.** There were two keynote speakers, Deepa Shad and Vqueeram Aditya Sahai, who gave their wonderful insights during the Opening and the Closing Ceremony.



Apart from this, the Centre also works upon its annual magazine - 'Jigyasa' and various independent research projects. We constantly release statements of solidarity and condemnation on issues of contemporary importance. WSC's online presence on various social media platforms like Instagram, Twitter, Facebook and its Blog also serve as platforms for our students to engage with several themes critically through a feminist lens. The Women's Studies Centre looks forward to the continued support and participation of individuals who resonate with our ideas and remain committed to promoting gender equality and justice.



EDITORIAL TEAM



VAMIKA AGARWAL



ZUBAIDA IFSHAN



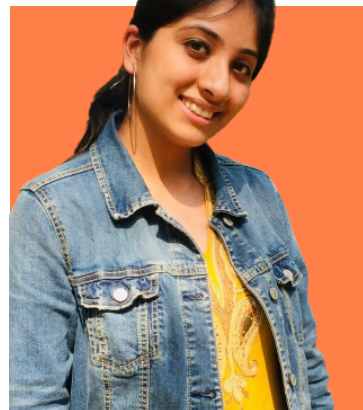
SHRUTI JOSEPH



SAMRIDHI NARAYAN



SHEEMA MUSHTAQ



TANISHKA TALWAR



EDITORIAL TEAM



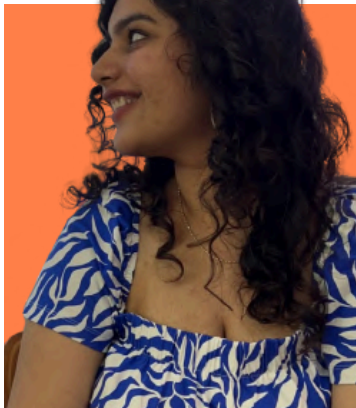
SHUBHI DUBEY



ADAMYA RAJ



**ASTHA MARY
VARGHESE**



BHAVYA SONEJA



PRATISHTHA JINDAL



MISHIKA JANE



DESIGN TEAM



ANANYA



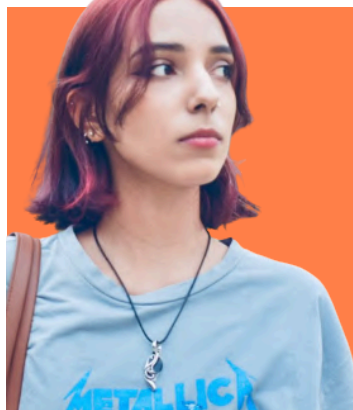
ASHLEY ANN JOY



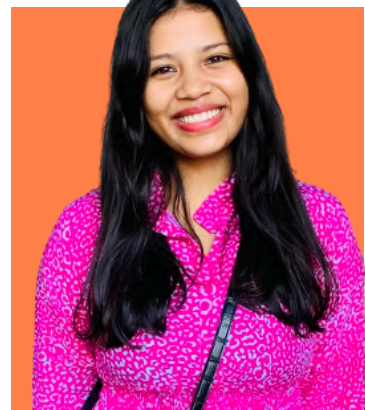
BINTI ANAND



PRASHASTI RAJ



NASHRA SEHAR



SIMRAN TAPPARWAL



DEVAKI S

छात्र संपादकीय मंडल



अनन्या सिंह



राधा मिश्रा



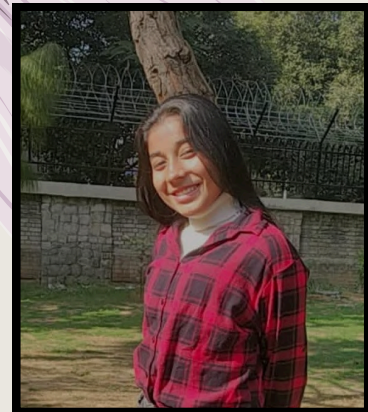
गार्गी शुक्ला



संध्या कुमारी



हेमा बेनीवाल



तान्या बेरीसन
लाल

छात्र संपादकीय मंडल



तुषिता राज



भानु प्रिया



प्रिया कौशिक



आरोही अंतरा



दिया



अंजलि शर्मा

सर्जन नवीन रचनात्मकता से जुड़ी कला है। यह कला मानव मन के भीतर छुपे भावों विचारों और अनुभवों को शब्दों में पिरो कर सांझा करती है। कॉलेज पत्रिका के माध्यम से विद्यार्थियों की ऐसी ही सृजनशीलता शब्दों को मूर्त रूप प्रदान करती है।

यह सृजनात्मकता उस रंग-बिरंगे वाटिका की सूचक है जिसमें विभिन्न प्रकार की प्रकृति के अनंत दृश्य सामने आते हैं। इसमें विद्यार्थियों के भावों की अभिव्यक्ति की चमक है तो कहीं समसामयिक विसंगतियों पर प्रश्नों की लड़ी। कभी यह सृजनशीलता वास्तविक यथार्थ भूमि की कठोरता में जिंदगी की झलक प्रस्तुत करती है। ऐसी ही सृजनात्मकता को प्रोत्साहित करती “आयाम” पत्रिका छात्राओं को निरंतर लेखन की ओर प्रेरित करती है।

सृजन के इस सफर में आयाम पत्रिका हिंदी डेस्क द्वारा छात्राओं की रचनाएं वार्षिक स्तर पर सदैव आमंत्रित की जाती रही है। इस वर्ष समिति में मुख्य रूप से प्रथम वर्ष की छात्राओं के लिए 29 मार्च, 2023 को प्रतियोगिता आयोजित की गई। इस प्रतियोगिता के लिए प्रथम पुरस्कार अनुष्का लोहिया को दिया गया।

12 अप्रैल, 2023 को सृजनात्मक लेखन की अंतर विभागीय प्रतियोगिता का आयोजन किया गया जिसमें कॉलेज की छात्राओं ने बड़ चढ़कर हिस्सा लिया। इस प्रतियोगिता में प्रथम पुरस्कार अंजली शर्मा, द्वितीय पुरस्कार महिमा मिंज और निधि ओझा, तृतीय पुरस्कार तनुश्री कुमारी और सांत्वना पुरस्कार अनुष्का लोहिया और एस्थर ने प्राप्त किया।

रचनात्मक सफर की सफलता में यह वर्ष समिति के लिए अत्यंत उत्साहवर्धक रहा। इस समिति के संपूर्ण कार्यवहन के लिए सर्वप्रथम हम हमारे कॉलेज की प्राचार्या प्रो. सैंड्रा जोसेफ का धन्यवाद करते हैं जिनके निरंतर सहयोग से यह समिति सुचारू रूप से कार्य सम्पन्न कर सकी। इसके साथ ही हम डॉ. अर्चना त्रिपाठी (संयोजक) और डॉ. मीनाक्षी कुमार (सह- संयोजक) के निरंतर सहयोग एवं मार्गदर्शन के लिए आभार अभिव्यक्त करते हैं। साथ ही मैं अपने सहयोगी छात्राओं का भी धन्यवाद करना चाहूंगी जिनके निरंतर परिश्रम से हम इस समिति के सभी कार्यों को पूर्ण कर सके। हम इस समिति के उज्ज्वल भविष्य की कामना करते हैं।

महिमा (अध्यक्ष, कॉल्लड्रॉन हिंदी डेस्क)
आस्था पांडेय (उपाध्यक्ष, कॉल्लड्रॉन हिंदी डेस्क)

**जीसस एंड मेरी महाविद्यालय,
दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय
कॉल्लड्रॉन मैगज़ीन समिति
(हिंदी डेस्क)**

द्वारा आयोजित

**रचनात्मक लेखन
प्रतियोगिता**

(यह प्रतियोगिता विशेष रूप से प्रथम वर्ष के छात्राओं के लिए है)

● लेखन का विषय उसी समय दिया जाएगा

📅 : 29 मार्च 2023, बुधवार
🕒 : दोपहर 3-4, एक्टिविटी पीरियड
📍 : कमरा नंबर 304

🏆 विजेताओं को पुरस्कार और प्रमाण पत्र दिये जाएंगे
📝 बेहतरीन रचनाओं को कॉलेज के वार्षिक पत्रिका में प्रकाशित किया जायेगा

कृपया अपना रजिस्ट्रेशन गूगल फॉर्म भर कर सुनिश्चित करें
पंजीकरण की अंतिम तिथि : 28 मार्च, 2023

अधिक जानकारी के लिए संपर्क करें:

महिमा सिंह
(अध्यक्ष)
9899771362

आस्था पांडे
(उपाध्यक्ष)
9310122067



कॉलडून मैगज़ीन समिति हिंदी डेस्क



हिन्दी प्रश्नोत्तरी समिति छात्राओं की तार्किक और बौद्धिक क्षमता को विकसित करने वाली महत्वपूर्ण समितियों में गिनी जाती है। प्रत्येक वर्ष की तरह 2022-2023 का प्रारंभ समिति के कार्याकारिणी सदस्यों के चुनाव से हुआ, जिसमें सर्वसम्मति से अंकिता आनंद (हिन्दी विशेष, तृतीय वर्ष) को अध्यक्ष और अलेकता टोपनो (हिन्दी विशेष, द्वितीया वर्ष) को उपाध्यक्ष चुना गया।

समिति द्वारा 19 अप्रैल, 2023 को अंतर्विभागीय प्रश्नोत्तरी प्रतियोगिता (केवल प्रथम वर्ष के छात्राओं) के लिए आयोजित किया गया। इस प्रतियोगिता का विषय "सामान्य ज्ञान" था। जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज के अधिकतर सभी विभागों की प्रथम वर्ष की छात्राओं ने इस प्रतियोगिता में बढ़ चढ़कर भाग लिया। इस प्रतियोगिता में प्रथम पुरस्कार तुषिता राज (हिन्दी विशेष, प्रथम वर्ष), द्वितीय पुरस्कार प्रिया कौशिक (हिन्दी विशेष, प्रथम वर्ष) और तृतीय पुरस्कार महिमा मिंज (बी.ए प्रोग्राम (अंग्रेजी+फ्रेंच), प्रथम वर्ष) ने प्राप्त किया।

इसके पश्चात 26 अप्रैल, 2023 को समिति ने अन्तर्महाविद्यालय प्रश्नोत्तरी प्रतियोगिता का आयोजन किया। इस प्रतियोगिता का विषय "हिन्दी साहित्य का भक्तिकाल (गद्य और पद्य)" था। प्रतियोगिता में अनेक अन्तर्महाविद्यालयों के 14 प्रतिभागियों ने बढ़ चढ़कर भाग लिया। प्रतियोगिता में 3 राउंड रखे गए। पहला राउंड दृश्यात्मक, दूसरा राउंड पद्य रचना पर आधारित और तीसरा राउंड गद्य रचना पर आधारित था। इस प्रतियोगिता के परिणाम इस प्रकार हैं:

प्रथम पुरस्कार : पायल बगदी और सृष्टि (लेडी श्री राम कॉलेज)

द्वितीय पुरस्कार : आदेश कुमार यादव और शिवम सिंह (पी.जी.डी.ए.वी. कॉलेज)

तृतीय पुरस्कार : फूखा राम और अदिति कुमारी (हिन्दू कालेज एवं मुखर्जी कॉलेज)

यह वर्ष समिति के लिए अत्यंत उत्साहवर्धक एवं ज्ञानवर्धक रहा। सर्वप्रथम मैं हमारे कॉलेज की प्राचार्या प्रो. सैंड्रा जोसेफ़ मेम का धन्यवाद देना चाहूंगी जिनके निरंतर सहयोग से यह समिति सुचारू रूप से काम कर पायी। इसके साथ ही मैं डॉ. मीनाक्षी कुमार मैम का धन्यवाद देना चाहती हूँ। आपके निरंतर सहयोग और मार्गदर्शन के प्रति अपना आभार व्यक्त करती हूँ। समिति की मेम्बर मिस अनु का भी धन्यवाद देना चाहूंगी जो समय समय पर हमारे साथ जुड़ी रही। इसके अतिरिक्त मैं अपने सहयोगी छात्राओं का भी धन्यवाद करना चाहूंगी जिनकी निरंतर कार्यक्षमता से हम इस समिति का सभी प्रतियोगिताओं को बखूबी निभा सके। इन सब के सहयोग के बिना समिति का कार्य सुचारू रूप से हो पाना संभव नहीं था। आशा करती हूँ कि भविष्य में भी यह समिति सफलता के नये प्रतिमानों तक अवश्य पहुँचेगी।

अंकिता आनंद, अध्यक्ष, हिन्दी प्रश्नोत्तरी समिति
अलेकता टोपनो, उपाध्यक्ष, हिन्दी प्रश्नोत्तरी समिति



'प्रतिभा' हिन्दी प्रश्नोत्तरी समिति





प्रतिभा

हिंदी प्रश्नोत्तरी समिति

जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज
द्वारा आयोजित

**अंतर महाविद्यालय
प्रश्नोत्तरी प्रतियोगिता**

विषय: हिंदी साहित्य का आधुनिक काल

दिनांक - 26 अप्रैल, 2023
समय - 3:00 बजे दोपहर
स्थान - MPH 2

पंजीकरण करदे की अंतिम तिथि 25





‘मंथन’ हिन्दी वाद विवाद समिति कॉलेज के विद्यार्थियों को विभिन्न मुद्दों पर अपने विचारों को तर्कपूर्ण ढंग से प्रस्तुत करने का एक मंच प्रदान करता है। यह समिति विभिन्न सामाजिक एवं विचारपूर्ण विषयों पर दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय के विद्यार्थियों के लिए भाषण एवं वाद-विवाद प्रतियोगिताओं का आयोजन करती आई है। प्रत्येक वर्ष की भांति इस वर्ष भी 2022-23 सत्र के प्रारंभ में पदाधिकारियों का चुनाव किया गया जिसमें फरहा खातून को अध्यक्ष और तनु शर्मा को उपाध्यक्ष चुना गया।

समिति के द्वारा पहली प्रतियोगिता 16 फरवरी, 2023 को आयोजित की गई। यह अंतरविभागीय वाद विवाद प्रतियोगिता थी जिसका विषय था "संचार माध्यम के रूप में उभरे सोशल मीडिया के फायदे और नुकसान"। इस प्रतियोगिता में निर्णायक मंडल की भूमिका जीसस एण्ड मेरी कॉलेज की अनु सिंह देसवाल (अर्थशास्त्र विभाग) और ज्योति चौहान (हिन्दी विभाग) ने निभाई। यह प्रतियोगिता केवल प्रथम वर्ष की छात्राओं के लिए आयोजित की गई थी जिसमें जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज के सभी विभागों के प्रतिभागियों ने बढ़-चढ़कर भाग लिया। इस प्रतियोगिता में प्रथम स्थान ध्वनि (बी.ए. प्रोग्राम), द्वितीय स्थान खुशबू (हिंदी विभाग) और तृतीय स्थान महिमा (बी.ए. प्रोग्राम) ने प्राप्त किया।



3 मई, 2023 को समिति द्वारा एक अंतरमहाविद्यालय भाषण प्रतियोगिता का आयोजन किया गया जिसका विषय था- "G-20 में भारत की भूमिका"। इसमें दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय के अनेक कॉलेजों के विद्यार्थियों ने भाग लिया। इस प्रतियोगिता में निर्णायक की भूमिका डॉ एंजल जॉसी लकरा (वाणिज्य विभाग, श्री वेंकटेश्वरा कॉलेज) और डॉ संघमित्रा रॉय वर्मन (इतिहास विभाग, जीसस एण्ड मेरी कॉलेज) ने निभाई। इस भाषण प्रतियोगिता में प्रथम स्थान एलिजान अली (ए. आर. एस. डी कॉलेज) द्वितीय स्थान रजनीश शुक्ला (पी. जी. डी. ए. वि कॉलेज) तथा तृतीय स्थान गार्गी शुक्ला (जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज) ने प्राप्त किया।

कुल मिला कर यह वर्ष ‘मंथन’ हिन्दी वाद विवाद समिति के लिए उत्साहवर्धक एवं ज्ञानवर्धक रहा। मैं समिति के सुचारु कार्यान्वयन के लिए इसके संयोजक डॉ. बीरेंद्र सिंह का आभार व्यक्त करती हूँ जिन्होंने समय-समय छात्राओं का मार्गदर्शन किया। समिति के सभी सदस्यों को भी उनके सहयोग के लिए हार्दिक धन्यवाद ।

फरहा खातून

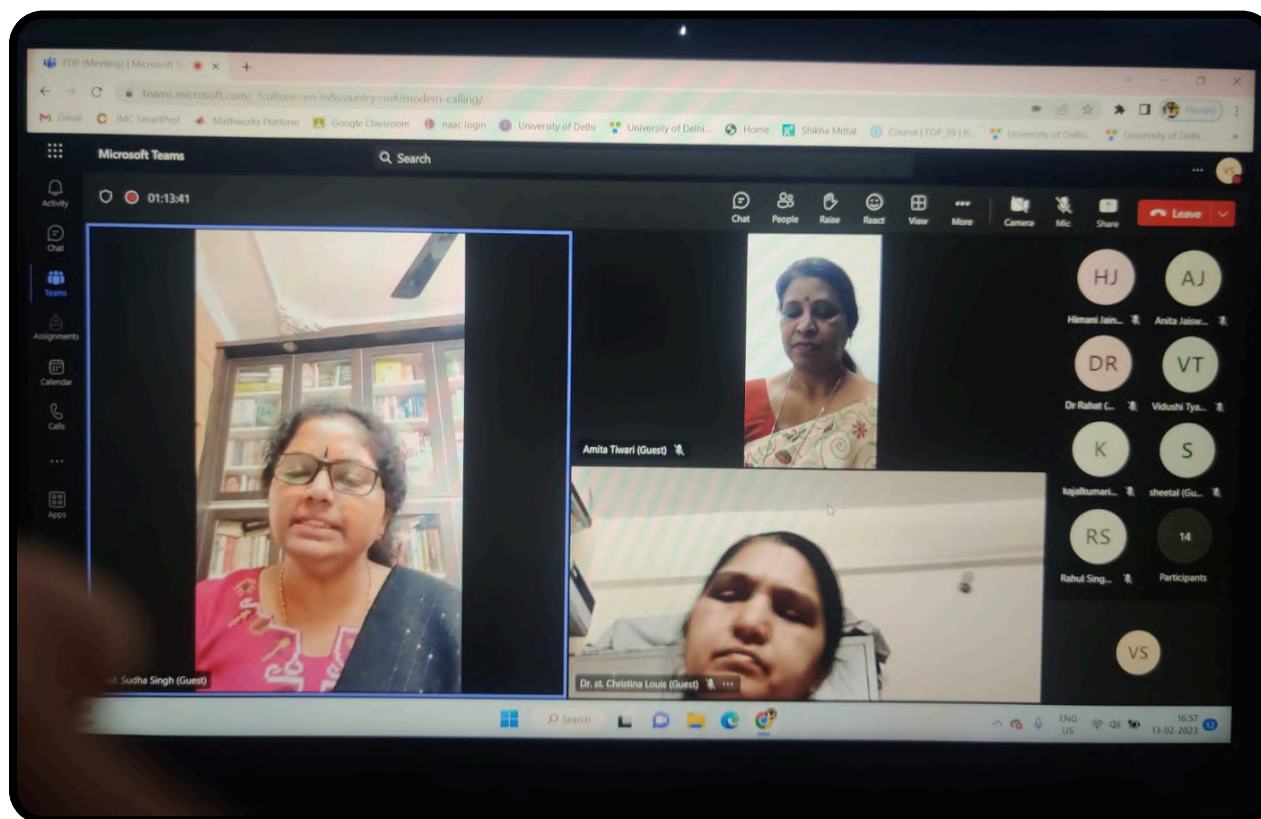
अध्यक्ष, ‘मंथन’ हिंदी वाद विवाद समिति

तनु शर्मा

उपाध्यक्ष, ‘मंथन’ हिंदी वाद विवाद समिति

‘मंथन’ हिंदी वाद विवाद समिति



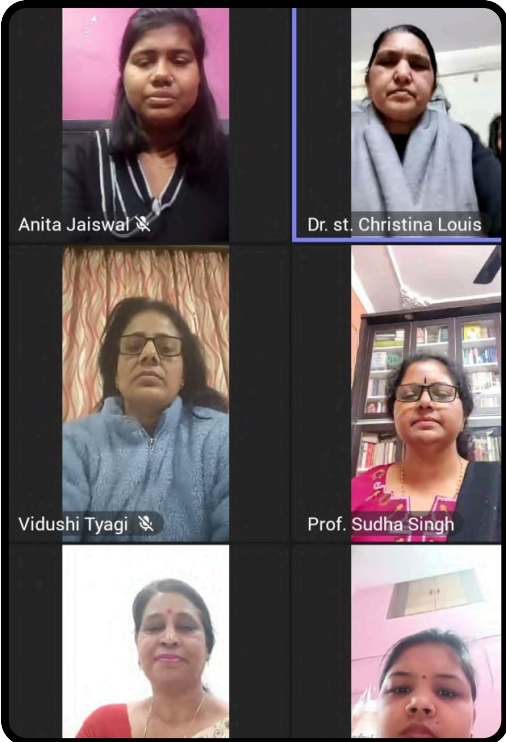




30 सितम्बर, 2022 को विद्या विस्तार नीति के अंतर्गत जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज और सेंट जोसेफ गल्स डिग्री (पीजी) कॉलेज, सरदाना मेरठ के संयुक्त तत्वाधान में सृजनात्मक लेखन प्रतियोगिता का आयोजन किया गया जिसमें कॉलेज की अनेक छात्राओं ने भाग लिया। इस प्रतियोगिता में तरन्नुम त्यागी और शिवानी को पुरस्कृत किया गया।

15 नवंबर, 2022 को जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज की प्रिंसिपल प्रोफेसर डॉक्टर सैंड्रा जोसेफ,

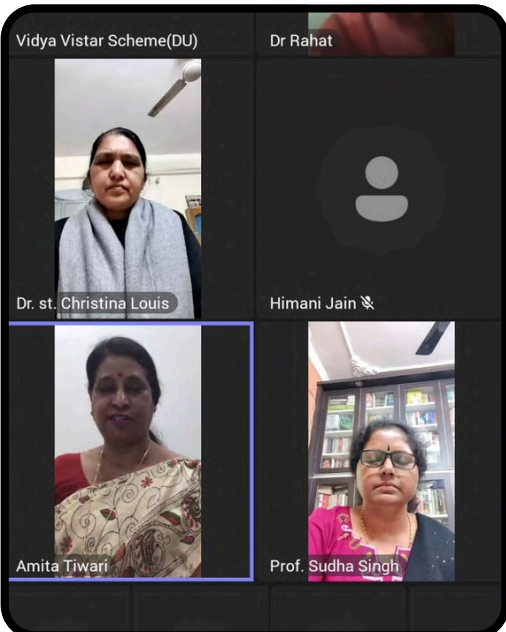
कोऑर्डिनेटर प्रोफेसर अमिता तिवारी और प्रोफेसर अलका मारवाह सैं ने सेंट जोसेफ कॉलेज का निरीक्षण किया और विद्यार्थियों तथा शिक्षकों से संवाद स्थापित कर उनके सर्वांगीण विकास की योजना तैयार की। 15 नवंबर, 2022 को सेंट जोसेफ कॉलेज में नई शिक्षा नीति पर संगोष्ठी का आयोजन किया गया। इस संगोष्ठी में प्रोफेसर अमिता तिवारी और प्रोफेसर अलका मारवाह ने मुख्य वक्ता की भूमिका निभाते हुए छात्राओं की जिज्ञासाओं का समाधान किया।



13 फरवरी, 2023 को दोनों कॉलेजों के सहयोग से 'फैकेल्टी डेवलपमेंट प्रोग्राम' का आयोजन किया गया। इस कार्यक्रम में सेंट जोसेफ कॉलेज के अनेक शिक्षकों ने भाग लेकर कार्यक्रम को सफल बनाया इस कार्यक्रम में मुख्य वक्ता दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय के हिंदी विभाग की प्रोफेसर डॉ. सुधा सिंह थी। इस कार्यक्रम का संचालन प्रोफेसर अमिता तिवारी ने किया और तकनीकी सहयोग डॉक्टर शिखा ने दिया।

पूरे दो सालों में हमने जो कार्यक्रम किए उसमें हम कॉलेज की प्रिंसिपल प्रोफेसर डॉक्टर सैंड्रा जोसेफ का भरपूर सहयोग मिला जिसके लिए हम उनका हृदय से आभार व्यक्त करते हैं। मेरी सहयोगी प्रोफेसर अलका मारवाह का भी हृदय से बहुत धन्यवाद जिन्होंने बड़ी तत्परता से सभी कार्यों में सहयोग किया। डॉ. शिखा का भी बहुत धन्यवाद जिनकी तकनीकी सहयोग से कार्यक्रमों का आयोजन सफलतापूर्वक किया गया। इसी के साथ ही मैं सेंट जोसेफ कॉलेज की प्रिंसिपल सिस्टर क्रिस्टीना और कोऑर्डिनेटर प्रोफेसर अंजलि मित्तल का भी धन्यवाद करना चाहती हूँ जिन्होंने इन कार्यक्रमों के आयोजन में भरपूर साथ दिया।

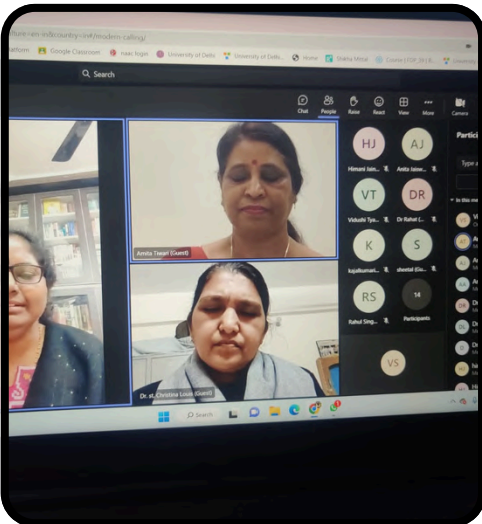
विद्यार्थियों की भागीदारी के बिना किसी कार्यक्रम का आयोजन नहीं किया जा सकता। इस प्रोजेक्ट में जिन छात्राओं ने सभी क्षेत्रों में अपनी महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभायी उनमें तृतीय वर्ष की अंतरा और अंकिता आनंद तथा द्वितीयवर्ष की तनु ने महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई। यह सभी विद्यार्थी प्रशंसा के पात्र हैं।



प्रो. अमिता तिवारी एवं प्रो. अलका मारवाह

(कोर्डिनेटर, विद्या विस्तार नीति)

डॉ. शिखा मित्तल(सदस्य, विद्या विस्तार नीति)



वर्ष 2021-23 में अनेक कार्यक्रमों का सफल आयोजन किया गया। जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज के हिंदी विभाग द्वारा हिंदी दिवस पखवाड़े के उपलक्ष्य में अंतरराष्ट्रीय संगोष्ठी(11/9/21) का आयोजन किया गया जिसका विषय 'भक्ति काल की प्रासंगिकता' रखा गया। हाइंज़ वार्नर वेसलर (अध्यापक, उपस्सला विश्वविद्यालय), प्रो. अनिल (प्रो., दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय), डॉक्टर शैलेज़ा (निर्देशिका, हिंदी राइटर गिल्ड कनाडा) भी शामिल हुए। प्रो. अनिल राय (हिंदी विभाग, दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय) को मुख्य वक्ता के रूप में आमंत्रित किया। यह कार्यक्रम ऑनलाइन रखा गया। इसमें शामिल होने के लिए सेंट जोसेफ गर्ल्स डिग्री कॉलेज की छात्राओं और शिक्षकों को भी आमंत्रित किया गया। यह सत्र छात्रों के लिए एक समृद्ध और सीखने वाला अनुभव था।

लेखक से संवाद (कौशल विकास) कार्यक्रम का आयोजन 18/1/2022 को ऑनलाइन रखा गया। इसका लाभ सेंट जोसेफ गर्ल्स डिग्री (पीजी) कॉलेज की 120 छात्राओं ने उठाया। प्रो. अल्पना मिश्र इसकी प्रमुख वक्ता के रूप में शामिल हुईं। उन्होंने छात्रों के शैक्षणिक कौशल को विकसित करने के लिए कहानी लेखन, कविता लेखन और अनेक साहित्यिक विधाओं के विभिन्न पहलुओं पर ध्यान केंद्रित किया साथ ही समसामयिक साहित्यिक जगत की लेखन शैली से रूबरू भी करवाया।

छात्राओं को भविष्य के प्रति जागरूक करने वाले कार्यक्रम 'हिंदी में रोज़गार की संभावनाएँ' का आयोजन 7/3/22 को किया गया। यह कार्यक्रम गूगल मीट पर आयोजित किया गया। प्रो. अमिता तिवारी इस कार्यक्रम की प्रमुख वक्ता रही। उन्होंने छात्राओं को रोज़गार (नौकरी) के सभी अवसरों पर चर्चा की और उनका मार्गदर्शन किया। साथ ही विद्यार्थियों की सभी जिज्ञासाओं का समाधान किया। यह छात्रों के लिए बहुत ही उपयोगी व्याख्यान रहा।

प्रो. अमिता तिवारी ने "नेट परीक्षा सफलता के सूत्र" पर एक बहुत ही व्यावहारिक सत्र पर 30/6/22 को व्याख्यान दिया। यह व्याख्यान अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण राष्ट्रीय पात्रता परीक्षा (नेट) के गहन ज्ञान और समझ के साथ छात्रों को अकादमिक रूप से समृद्ध करने पर केंद्रित था। प्रो. अमिता तिवारी ने विद्यार्थियों को परीक्षा की तैयारी के बारे में कई तकनीकें सिखाईं। उन्होंने एम.सी.क्यू में समझदारी से भाग लेने के लिए विभिन्न युक्तियाँ और सफलता के सूत्र भी साँझा किए साथ ही परीक्षा उपयोगी विभिन्न महत्वपूर्ण पुस्तकों की सूची पर भी चर्चा की। बाद में, उन्होंने छात्रों के प्रश्नों का समाधान किया। यह छात्रों के लिए बहुत महत्वपूर्ण और जानकारीपूर्ण सत्र था। यह सत्र गूगल मीट पर आयोजित किया गया।

विद्या विस्तार नीति (2021-23)



जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज, दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय ने दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय की विद्या विस्तार योजना के तहत 2021 में मेरठ में सेंट जोसेफ गर्ल्स डिग्री (पी.जी.) कॉलेज के साथ साझेदारी की।

साझेदारी दो संस्थाओं के बीच आपसी सम्मान, सहयोग और ज्ञान और संसाधनों को सांझा करने के सिद्धांत पर आधारित है, जिससे दोनों संस्थानों के छात्रों का बौद्धिक विकास होता है। दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय का यह प्रोजेक्ट महान उद्देश्य को लेकर चलाया गया है जिसका लक्ष्य एक दूसरे से सीखना और एक दूसरे को बेहतर बनाने के लिए कार्य करना है। इस प्रोजेक्ट का उद्देश्य तो महान है ही परंतु इस उद्देश्य को प्राप्त करने में बहुत चुनौतियां भी सामने थीं। सबसे बड़ी चुनौती यह थी कि यह प्रोजेक्ट दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय का होने पर भी इससे कोई आर्थिक सहयोग नहीं मिला।

कॉलेज की दूरी अधिक है लेकिन फिर भी हमने सीमित साधनों में बहुत कुछ करने का प्रयास किया और कुछ हद तक हम सफल भी रहे।

इस नीति के क्रियान्वयन में जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज के इन सदस्यों ने अपनी प्रमुख भागीदारी निभायी :-

1. प्रो. सैंड्रा जोसेफ (प्रिंसिपल)
2. प्रो. अमिता तिवारी (समन्वयक)
3. डॉ. अलका मारवाह (सह-समन्वयक)
4. डॉ. शिखा मित्तल (सदस्य)

सेंट जोसेफ गर्ल्स डिग्री (पीजी) कॉलेज के इन सदस्यों का सहयोग हमें मिला :-

1. डॉ. सिस्टर क्रिस्टीना लुईस (प्रिंसिपल)
2. डॉ. अंजलि मित्तल (समन्वयक)

विद्या विस्तार योजना के तहत 17/1/2021 को हुई पहली मीटिंग में वार्षिक स्तर पर आयोजित किए जाने वाले कार्यक्रमों की रूपरेखा तय की गयी। इन कार्यक्रमों का लक्ष्य सेंट जोसेफ गर्ल्स डिग्री (पी.जी.) कॉलेज की छात्राओं का समग्र विकास करना रहा। इस लक्ष्य की पूर्ति के लिए सेमिनार(वेबिनार), शैक्षणिक कार्यक्रमों, कौशल वृद्धि प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रमों, खेलों पर ध्यान केंद्रित करने वाले व्यक्तित्व विकास कार्यक्रम, अंग्रेजी भाषा में प्रशिक्षित करने वाले कार्यक्रमों इत्यादि का समय-समय पर आयोजन किया गया।

विद्या विस्तार नीति
के अंतर्गत

जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज, दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय
एवं
सेंट जोसेफ गर्ल्स डिग्री (पी.जी.) कॉलेज, सरदना मेरठ
द्वारा आयोजित

सृजनात्मक लेखन प्रतियोगिता

असुर सभी स्तर आयोजित हैं

विषय:-
1. नई शिक्षा नीति और भारतीय भाषाएं
2. आत्मनिर्भर भारत
3. कोरोना काल और वीरान जिंदगी
4. नीला चांद
5. दास्ताने - ए- इश्क

समय - 11 बजे
दिनांक - 30 सितंबर, 2021

प्रो. सैंड्रा जोसेफ
प्रो. अमिता तिवारी
डॉ. सिस्टर क्रिस्टीना लुईस
डॉ. अलका मारवाह
डॉ. अंजलि मित्तल

अधिक जानकारी हेतु संपर्क करें:-
आरोही अंतरा (9907669667)
अंकिता आनंद (8825175842)







1 मई, 2023 को प्रत्येक वर्ष की तरह इस साल भी विभाग के तृतीय वर्ष की छात्राओं के लिए विदाई समारोह का आयोजन किया गया। हिंदी विभाग के प्रथम तथा द्वितीय वर्ष के छात्राओं ने तृतीय वर्ष के लिए कुछ खास पेशकश दी, जिससे उन्होंने अपने भाव एवं विचार व्यक्त किए साथ ही मधुर संगीत के साथ गीत तथा सुंदर नृत्य भी प्रस्तुत किया। हिंदी विभाग के सभी अध्यापको ने तृतीय वर्ष को शुभकामनाओं के साथ विदाई दी और छात्राओं ने अपने कॉलेज के लम्हों और अनुभवों को सभी के साथ सांझा किया। विभाग के अध्यापकों ने तृतीय वर्ष को भविष्य के लिए प्रोत्साहित किया, सभी के अपार सहयोग से इस कार्यक्रम का सफलतापूर्वक शुभांत किया गया।

कार्यक्रम में विभाग के सभी अध्यापक - अध्यापिका तथा विभाग के प्रथम, द्वितीय और तृतीय वर्ष की छात्राएं उपस्थित थीं।

हिन्दी विभाग द्वारा कार्यक्रमों और प्रतियोगिताओं की ऐसी सफल श्रृंखला के लिये हम कॉलेज की प्रधानाचार्या प्रो. सैंड्रा जोसेफ, हिंदी विभाग की विभागाध्यक्ष डॉ. अर्चना त्रिपाठी, विभाग के अध्यापको का तहे दिल से धन्यवाद करना चाहेंगी। उन्होंने हमें यह अवसर प्रदान किया, हमारा मार्गदर्शन किया और समय - समय पर हमें कार्यक्रम करने के लिए प्रोत्साहित करते रहे।

आरोही अंतरा (अध्यक्ष)
गायत्री (उपाध्यक्ष)

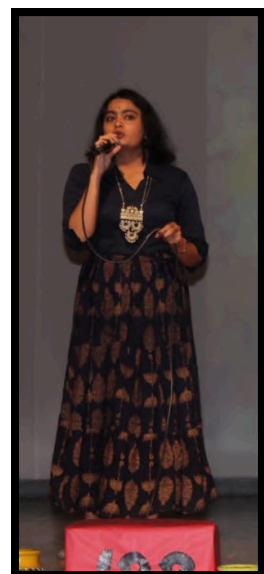
हिन्दी विभाग प्रत्येक वर्ष की तरह इस वर्ष भी अपनी छात्राओं को सुंदर नर्सरी घूमने के लिए 20 फरवरी, 2023 को ले गए। वहाँ के प्राकृतिक दृश्य बहुत ही खूबसूरत थे। छात्राओं को वहाँ रिफ्रेशमेंट के तौर पर कुछ खाद्यपदार्थ भी दिये गये। सुंदरवन का सफ़र विभाग की अध्यापिकाओं और छात्राओं के साथ बहुत सुखद रहा।

हिन्दी विभाग और आई.क्यू.ए.सी.(IQAC) के संयुक्त तत्वावधान में राजभाषा हिन्दी पर एक कार्यशाला का आयोजन 26 अप्रैल, 2023 को किया गया। यह कार्यशाला केवल जीसस एण्ड मेरी कॉलेज के अध्यापकों के लिए आयोजित की गई थी। इस कार्यशाला के संसाधन विशेषज्ञ के रूप में प्रोफेसर पी सी टंडन जी को आमंत्रित किया गया था। हिन्दी के कार्यालय में प्रयोग और बढ़ता क्षेत्र जैसे विषय इस कार्यशाला का मुख्य आधार रहे।





जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज, हिंदी विभाग द्वारा साहित्योत्सव 'लोकरंग' 28 मार्च, 2023 को साहित्य सभा 'सृजन' द्वारा आयोजन किया गया। साहित्योत्सव के अंतर्गत विभाग द्वारा अंतर महाविद्यालय स्तर पर विभिन्न कार्यक्रमों और प्रतियोगिताओं का आयोजन किया गया। साहित्योत्सव "लोकरंग" के उपलक्ष्य में आयोजित कार्यक्रम में हमारे बीच मुख्य अतिथि डॉ. ज्योतिष जोशी जी उपस्थित थे जो साहित्य, कला और रंगमंच के प्रतिष्ठित आलोचक हैं। डॉ. ज्योतिष जोशी जी ने 'नौटंकी-परंपरा एवं नवीन प्रयोग' के विषय पर स्पष्ट रूप से प्रकाश डाला। इसके पश्चात साहित्योत्सव "लोकरंग" के उपलक्ष्य में अंतरमहाविद्यालय लोकगीत गायन प्रतियोगिता का शुभारंभ किया गया। लोकगीत प्रतियोगिता के परिणाम स्वरूप प्रथम पुरस्कार मुहम्मद शोएब अंसारी (मोतीलाल नेहरू कॉलेज इवनिंग), द्वितीय पुरस्कार भास्कर (शिवाजी कॉलेज) और कुणाल कुमार (श्री अरबिंदो कॉलेज) और तृतीय पुरस्कार नवजोत सिंह (खालसा कॉलेज) को दिया गया। इसके बाद लोक नृत्य प्रतियोगिता की शुरुआत की गई। प्रतियोगिता के परिणाम स्वरूप में प्रथम स्थान नृत्यांजलि (जीसस एण्ड मेरी कॉलेज) और द्वितीय स्थान देवभूमि परिवार (गार्गी कॉलेज) को दिया गया। सभी के सहयोग से प्रतियोगिता सफलतापूर्वक संपन्न हुई।



24 जनवरी, 2023, जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज हिंदी विभाग द्वारा प्रत्येक वर्ष की तरह इस वर्ष भी प्रथम वर्ष की छात्राओं के लिए स्वागत समारोह का आयोजन किया गया। आयोजन द्वितीय एवं तृतीय वर्ष की छात्राओं द्वारा विभाग की विभागाध्यक्ष डॉ.अर्चना त्रिपाठी एवं अन्य अध्यापक गण के सहयोग से पूर्ण हुआ। स्वागत समारोह में आयोजित प्रतियोगिता के परिणाम स्वरूप कीर्ति को मिस हिंदी डिपार्टमेंट, बानी को फर्स्ट रनर-अप और मोनिका को सेकेंड रनर-अप का स्थान मिला।

28 फरवरी, 2023, हिंदी विभाग की वरिष्ठ प्राध्यापिका डॉ.शारदा भटनागर के सेवानिवृत्ति के अवसर पर विदाई समारोह आयोजित किया गया। हिन्दी विभागाध्यक्ष डॉ. अर्चना त्रिपाठी ने डॉ.शारदा भटनागर का प्लांटर देकर उनका अभिवादन किया गया। इसके उपरांत प्रथम, द्वितीय व तृतीय वर्ष की छात्राओं ने स्नेह व आदर हेतु उनके लिए विशेष कार्यक्रमों की प्रस्तुति की जिनमें एस्थर की स्पीच, नृत्य, गीत इत्यादि से जुड़े कार्यक्रम शामिल थे। हिंदी विभाग के छात्राओं द्वारा एक वीडियो क्लिप दिखाया जिसमें डॉ.शारदा भटनागर के कार्यकाल के कुछ अनमोल पल शामिल थे। डॉ.शारदा भटनागर ने भी अपने वक्तव्य से वहां उपस्थित सभी का मार्गदर्शन किया। इसी के साथ डॉ.शारदा भटनागर के लिए आयोजित विदाई समारोह सफतापूर्वक समाप्त हुआ।

3 मार्च, 2023 प्रत्येक वर्ष की भांति इस वर्ष भी जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज के स्पोर्ट्स डिपार्टमेंट द्वारा "स्पोर्ट्स डे" 2023 का आयोजन किया गया। इसमें हिंदी विभाग के छात्राओं ने हिस्सा लिया। स्पोर्ट्स डे के दौरान ही "मार्च पास्ट" और अनेक प्रतियोगिताओं में हिन्दी विभाग की छात्राओं ने बढ़-चढ़ कर हिस्सा भी लिया।





14 सितम्बर, 2022, हिंदी दिवस के उपलक्ष्य में आयोजित कार्यक्रम में मुख्य अतिथि के रूप में प्रो.सत्यपाल सिंह जी को विषय ("भारतीय चिंतन परंपरा में भाषा") पर वक्तव्य के लिए आमंत्रित किया गया। प्रो.सत्यपाल सिंह जी संस्कृत विभाग, दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय में प्रोफेसर के पद पर कार्यरत है। इसके साथ ही 14 सितम्बर, 2022 को "अंतरमहाविद्यालय साहित्यिक पद गायन प्रतियोगिता" और "अंतरविभागीय लोक नृत्य प्रतियोगिता" का आयोजन किया गया। साहित्यिक गीत गायन प्रतियोगिता के पुरस्कार विजेताओं में प्रथम पुरस्कार बलजीत सिंह (हंसराज कॉलेज) को दिया गया। द्वितीय पुरस्कार अक्षिता मिश्र (मोतीलाल नेहरू कॉलेज) और कनिष्का (मोतीलाल नेहरू कॉलेज) को दिया गया। तृतीय पुरस्कार राज वर्धन (हंसराज कॉलेज) को दिया गया। लोक नृत्य प्रतियोगिता के परिणाम स्वरूप में एकल लोक नृत्य में पायल शर्मा को प्रथम स्थान और गायत्री को द्वितीय स्थान दिया गया। सामूहिक लोक नृत्य में एथेनिक 8 और बी ए.हिंदी विशेष के सामूहिक लोक नृत्य दोनों को प्रथम स्थान दिया गया। सभी के सहयोग से हिंदी दिवस के सभी कार्यक्रम सफलतापूर्वक संपन्न हुए।

22 नवम्बर, 2022, जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज हिंदी विभाग द्वारा दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय के 'शताब्दी वर्ष' के उपलक्ष्य में प्रो. चंद्रकला त्रिपाठी जी के साथ संवाद का आयोजन किया गया। प्रो.चंद्रकला त्रिपाठी को 'सिनेमा, साहित्य और समाज' विषय पर संवाद के लिए आमंत्रित किया गया। प्रो.चंद्रकला त्रिपाठी काशी हिंदू विश्वविद्यालय की पूर्व प्राचार्य रह चुकी है साथ ही हिन्दी की सुप्रसिद्ध लेखिका के रूप में भी जानी जाती है। वक्तव्य के उपरांत हिंदी विशेष के सभी छात्राओं द्वारा प्रो. चंद्रकला त्रिपाठी से विषय पर सीधी बातचीत भी की गई, जिसमें छात्राओं के पूछे गए सवालों के जवाब शामिल थे।



हिंदी विभाग रिपोर्ट

प्रत्येक वर्ष की भांति इस वर्ष भी हिंदी विभाग द्वारा अनेक कार्यक्रमों का आयोजन किया गया। हिंदी विभाग द्वारा सर्वप्रथम अध्यक्ष और उपाध्यक्ष का चयन 28 जुलाई, 2022 को हिंदी विभागाध्यक्ष डॉ.अर्चना त्रिपाठी एवं विभाग के अन्य अध्यापकगण के निर्देशन में हुआ। हिंदी विभाग की अध्यक्ष आरोही अंतरा एवं उपाध्यक्ष गायत्री को चुना गया। इसके उपरांत द्वितीय एवं तृतीय वर्ष से कोर टीम सदस्यों का चुनाव किया गया।

जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज के हिंदी विभाग द्वारा हिंदी दिवस के उपलक्ष्य में 7 सितम्बर, 2022 से 14 सितम्बर, 2022 तक हिंदी पखवाड़ा (हिंदी सप्ताह) का आयोजन किया गया। हिंदी सप्ताह के अंतर्गत विभाग द्वारा अंतर महाविद्यालय और अंतरविभागीय स्तर पर विभिन्न कार्यक्रमों और प्रतियोगिताओं का आयोजन किया गया।

7 सितम्बर, 2022 को हिंदी दिवस के उपलक्ष्य में हिंदी सप्ताह के लोकार्पण में दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय के हिंदी विभाग की प्रोफेसर अल्पना मिश्र जी का संवाद कार्यक्रम "नवजागरण और स्त्री प्रश्न" से प्रारंभ हुआ। यह कार्यक्रम स्त्री दर्पण पत्रिका के संयुक्त तत्वावधान में आयोजित किया गया। 9 सितम्बर, 2022 को प्रथम प्रतियोगिता "अंतरमहाविद्यालय सृजनात्मक लेखन प्रतियोगिता" का आयोजन किया गया। प्रतियोगिता के विजेताओं में प्रथम पुरस्कार प्रीति मिंज (जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज) और नाजिया (मैत्रेयी कॉलेज) को दिया गया। द्वितीय पुरस्कार बलजीत सिंह (हंसराज कॉलेज) और अनुराग पाल (मगराजा अग्रसेन कॉलेज) को दिया गया। तृतीय पुरस्कार अलेकता टोपनो (जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज) और रिया जोशी (जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज) को दिया गया।

12 सितम्बर, 2022 को "अंतरमहाविद्यालय वाद विवाद प्रतियोगिता" का आयोजन किया गया। वाद विवाद प्रतियोगिता का विषय "नई शिक्षा नीति आज की आवश्यकता है" रखा गया। प्रतियोगिता के पुरस्कार विजेताओं में प्रथम पुरस्कार लवली (गार्गी कॉलेज) और अनुभव (रामजस कॉलेज) को दिया गया। द्वितीय पुरस्कार जन्नत (गार्गी कॉलेज) को दिया गया। तृतीय पुरस्कार अंशुल (भगत सिंह कॉलेज) और प्रियांशी (मैत्रेयी कॉलेज) को दिया गया। जन्नत (गार्गी कॉलेज) और मयंक (हंसराज कॉलेज) को बेस्ट इंटरजेक्टर के लिए प्रमाण पत्र दिए गए। सभी के सहयोग से प्रतियोगिता सफलतापूर्वक संपन्न हुई।



वार्षिक गतिविधियाँ



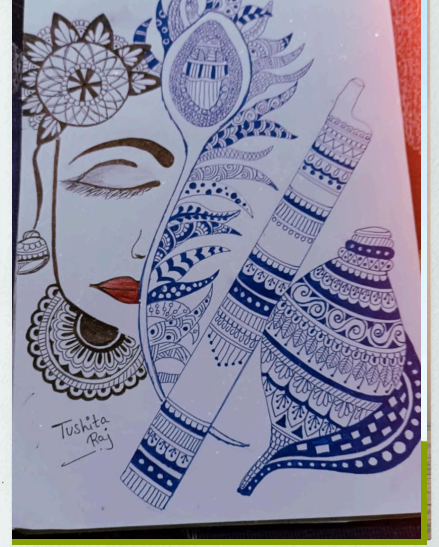
चित्रकला



हिमानी देव वर्मा ,बी. कॉम प्रोग्राम ,
तृतीय वर्ष



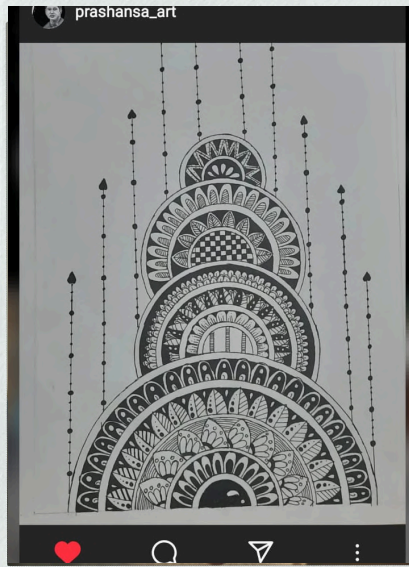
अनन्या ,बी. ए हिंदी विशेष,
तृतीया वर्ष



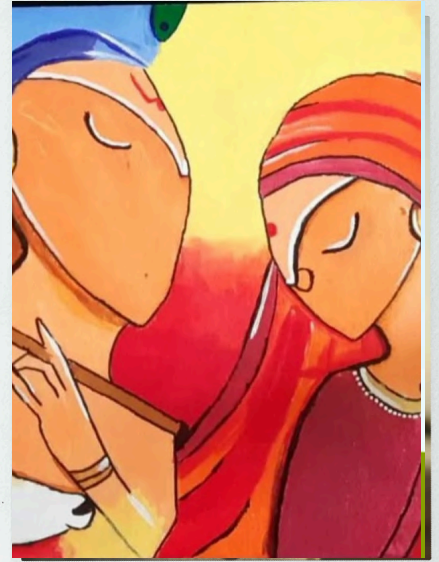
तुषिता राज ,बी. ए हिंदी विशेष,
प्रथम वर्ष



अनन्या,बी. ए हिंदी विशेष,
तृतीया वर्ष

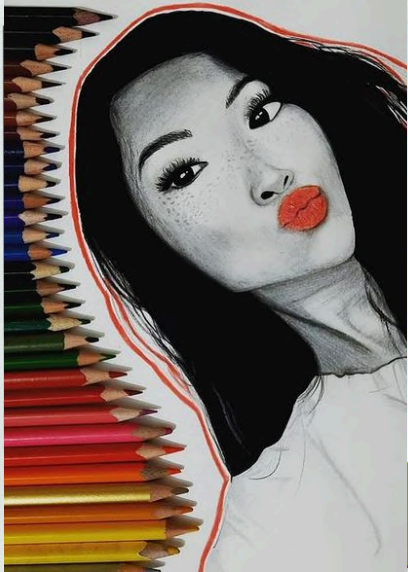


प्रशंसा ,बी. ए हिंदी विशेष,
प्रथम वर्ष



प्रशंसा ,बी. ए हिंदी विशेष,
प्रथम वर्ष

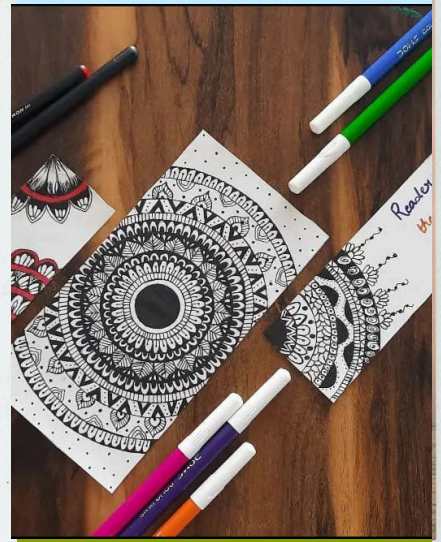
चित्रकला



मौरवी अग्रवाल ,बी. ए हिस्ट्री विशेष,
द्वितीय वर्ष



मौरवी अग्रवाल ,बी. ए हिस्ट्री विशेष,
द्वितीय वर्ष



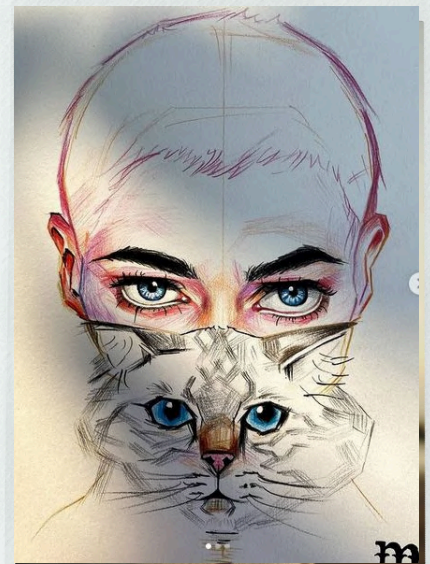
प्रशंसा ,बी. ए हिंदी विशेष,
प्रथम वर्ष



आस्था पांडे ,बी. ए हिंदी विशेष,
द्वितीय वर्ष



आस्था पांडे ,बी. ए हिंदी विशेष,
द्वितीय वर्ष



मौरवी अग्रवाल ,बी. ए हिस्ट्री विशेष,
द्वितीय वर्ष

ऐ जिंदगी

जिंदगी तेरी बात ही कुछ ऐसी है,
रंगमंच रचित कहानी जैसी है।

जैसे कहानी का सार अंत में समझ आता है,
लेकिन सीख का परचम तो हर दृश्य दर्शाता है।

जो बीत गया वो कल की रवानी है,
जो आया नहीं वो ख़्वाबो ने ठानी है,
चाहे जो हो समय का फेर ऐ जिंदगी।

कर्म हमारे पक्की स्याही से उकरते है,
जो छप गए कागज़ पर वो कहाँ मिटते है,
सबसे किये लेखे- जोखे निपटायेंगे ,
बस पता नहीं किरदार किस अंजान मोड़ पर बदल जायेंगे ।
न जाने इस मंच की माया कैसी है,
सबको नचाये ये लीला कैसी है ।
क्या करे! ऐ जिंदगी तेरी तो बात ही ऐसी है,
रंगमंच रचित कहानी जैसी है।

अंजलि शर्मा ,बी.ए हिस्ट्री विशेष,प्रथम वर्ष

सपनों का शहर

वक्त का पता नहीं चलता है
शहर नया, लोग नये और नया जीवन |
इन दौड़ती भागती सड़कों पर
भरे मेट्रो के डिब्बों में
हम खो गए है या खोज रहे है खुद को,
पता ही नहीं चलता है।

कुछ खाहिशों को
कुछ खाबों को दरकिनार कर आये।
इक सपने के खातिर हम अपना शहर छोड़ आये।
हर पल माँ की जुबा पर चढ़े इस नाम को
अब कोई पुकारता नहीं,
यहाँ देखते है लोग सूरत, सीरत को कोई निहारता नहीं।

कुछ खाबों के लिए इन किताबों के बोझ तले दबते जा रहे हैं
इस दुनिया की अंधी दौड़ में यूँ ही चले जा रहे हैं
कुछ पता ही नहीं चलता है।

कुछ खाबों के साथ ये शहर चुना था
घर की डाट फटकार से दूर, यहाँ होगा सुकून सुना था |
पर क्या सच में वो खाब पूरे हो रहे हैं
या बस यूँ ही किताबों का बोझ ढो रहे हैं |
कॉलेज से हॉस्टल, हॉस्टल से कॉलेज बस इतने में ही सिमटी है जिंदगी
कुछ और भी खाब थे जिन्हें पूरा करने के लिए वक़्त कम पड़ रहा है
यहाँ वक्त का पता नहीं चल रहा है।

आये तो आजादी खोजने थे, बंध गए वक्त की जंजीरों में
पर घबराना नहीं, क्या पता खुदा ने कुछ खास लिखा हो किस्मत की लकीरों में।
बेशक गिरो पर उठो और फिर भागो
क्योंकि सफलता के उस छोर पर भी,
पीछे गुजरे वक्त का पता ही नहीं चलता है।

अनन्या सिंह
बी. ए. हिंदी विशेष, प्रथम वर्ष

ईश्वर की खोज

क्यों ढूंढते मुझे देवालय में,
 मैं बैठा अंतरमन के अंधियारों में।
 मैं हूँ कहा, क्यों खुद से ना पूछ रहें ,
 मंदिर में जाके पाथर काहे पूज रहें ?
 हे मनुज, बता क्या कष्ट तुझे,
 क्यों खोज रहा बेवक्त मुझे?
 मृतिका को मैंने आकार दिया,
 वाहिकाओ में रक्त संचार किया।
 सोचा था मनुज बनाऊंगा,
 सृष्टि को नवीन स्वरूप दिखाऊंगा।
 मेरी रचित इस सृष्टि ने, मेरा अस्तित्व झुठला दिया।
 अंधविश्वासों के चलते विश्वास का गला दबा दिया।
 इन हाथों से मृतिका को जीवन दान दिया,
 हे मनुज! बता क्यों तुने संरचना का अपमान किया?
 स्वरचित् सृष्टि में मैंने कभी ना फर्क किया,
 क्यों मनुज ने मुझे धर्मों में बांट दिया।
 ना बचा मैं मनुज रचित इस सृष्टि में,
 बिकता मिलता हूँ बन मूरत हट्टी (बाज़ार) में।
 हे मनुज! तनिक तुम लाज करो, मेरा यू ना अपमान करो।
 जिस सदृश्य को माथे लगाते हो,
 दूजे दिन उसे कचरे संग बहाते हो।

सहस्रों बार बताया तुमको, कण-कण में मेरा वास है।
 सादिया बीत गयी, तुझे अभी भी ना विश्वास है।
 समय निकट सृष्टि का आ रहा है,
 कलयुग निगलने कल्कि जा रहा है।

अनन्या सिंह
 बी. ए. हिंदी विशेष, प्रथम वर्ष

मानव और दानव



हमने सोचा हम मानव हैं, दानव सभी दिए हैं मार!
 कभी ना सोचा था, फिर होंगे कलयुगी दानव से दो-चार!
 भ्रष्टाचार, दहेज, आतंकवाद, गरीबी होंगे नए दानव अवतार!
 इनकी ताकत है हम लोग, कौन इन्हें मारेगा आज!
 सोच रहें हैं सभी, फिर होगा राम-कृष्ण, गांधी अवतार,
 हम क्यों इतना सोचें जब, फिर आएगा पालनहार!
 लेना-देना रीत आज की, इसको मत लो दिल पर आज,
 भूख और बमों से मरना, अब तो छोटी-मोटी बात!
 संस्कार की बात ना करना, बची नहीं कोई औकात,
 दौड़ रहे हैं यहाँ सभी, मद-माया के पीछे आज!
 इक तिलिस्म में फंसे सभी हैं, सबको बस अपनी दरकार,
 जब होगा कुछ उल्टा-सीधा
 तब कोसेंगे अपनी सरकार!

रेनू
 बी. ए. हिंदी विशेष, तृतीय वर्ष



माँ के आँचल में छुपने के दिन, शहरों में आ बेज़ार हुआ।

गुड़ का मीठा खाने के दिन सूखी रोटी पाते हैं वो, गलियों में उछलने-कूदने के दिन, आज बेज़ार शहर बसाते हैं वो।

जीवन है,

या खेल खिलौने है...., सोने को नहीं बिछौने हैं।

शिशु क्या सोच के तूने कूच किया?....

शहरों ने बचपन लूट लिया।

जिन हाथों के कलम पकड़ने के दिन, भर मिट्टी हाथ थमाते है।

देख दृश्य हो उठा द्रवित्, छोटे हाथों में औजार निहित।

वो उजला-सा कोमल कंचन, शहरों में आकर स्याह हुआ।

चाहे तू देखता रहे अचल, ना होगा उनका मन विचल।

अनन्या सिंह

बी. ए. हिंदी विशेष, प्रथम वर्ष

आज बदल लिया रुख मैंने भी

आज बदल लिया रुख मैंने भी.....

जैसे बदलती हैं रुख नदियाँ, मैं भी चल दी उस ओर

जिस ओर चलती हैं नदियाँ!

चलते चलते एहसास हुआ कि मैं भी नाप सकती हूँ दरिया,

बदला रुख मैंने नदियाँ की तरह

और उठती चली गई लहरों की तरह

जो ठहरा हुआ बहाव था मुझमें

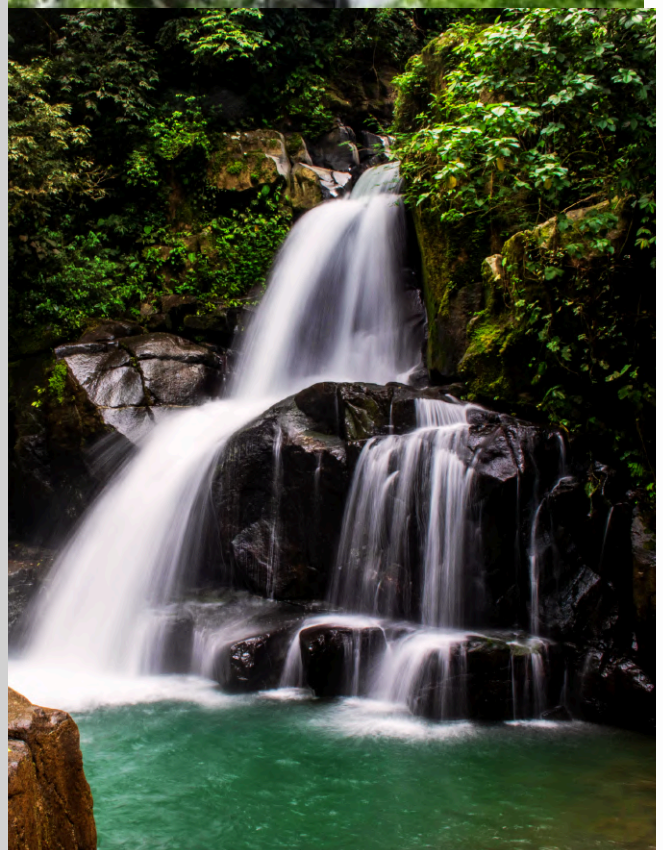
अब वो बहता जा रहा है जैसे बहती है नदियाँ...

आज बदल लिया रुख मैंने भी जैसे बदलती है नदियाँ,

मैं भी चल दी उस ओर जिस ओर चलती है नदियाँ!!!

आरोही अंतरा

बी. ए. हिंदी विशेष, तृतीय वर्ष





अंतरमन से पूछो
 कि
 मन कहाँ है?
 मन से पूछो
 कि
 तुम कहाँ हो?
 और
 तुम खुद से पूछो
 कि
 तुम में द्वन्द्व कहाँ है?

आरोही अंतरा
 बी. ए. हिंदी विशेष, तृतीय वर्ष

पिता

आज लेकर कलम अपनी
 मैं पिता पर लिखने बैठी ।
 पहली पंक्ति में लिखा मैंने उनकी जिम्मेदारियों को
 फिर संजोया मैंने उनकी समझदारियों को।
 लिखा मैंने उनके अनुभव और उनके ज्ञान को
 लिखा मैंने उनके मान-सम्मान को ।
 लिखा मैंने बहुत कुछ
 मगर एक पिता का मन न लिख पायी ।
 और लिख दिया शब्दों का एक विशाल सागर
 फिर भी पिता जैसा एक कण ना लिख पायी।

गार्गी
 बी. ए. हिंदी विशेष , प्रथम वर्ष



रुक क्यों गए तुम

रुक क्यों गए तुम?
 अभी तो उड़ना बाकी है,
 अभी तो एक और कोशिश करना बाकी है....
 अगर हारना ही है तो, लड़ कर हारना बाकी है,
 जो हो गया उसे भूल कर आगे बढ़ना बाकी है।
 अभी किया ही क्या है तुमने?
 अभी तो पूरा आसमान नापना बाकी है,
 अभी तो एक और कोशिश करना बाकी है.....

आरोही अंतरा
 बी. ए. हिंदी विशेष, तृतीय वर्ष

मानव में दानव



दानव कोई फलक से या पाताल से नहीं आता है....
 ...कोई मानव ही है जो दानव बन जाता है.....।
 बेटी को अपनी जब सीने से लगाता है
 तो एक पिता बन जाता है।
 खूब उसे दुलारता है
 हर बुरी नज़र से बचाता है।

जब सर पर उसके काम सवार हो जाता है
 वो कैसे हैवानियत को बेकरार हो जाता है।
 और भूल जाता है वो ये बात
 कि वो भी तो किसी की बेटी है।
 भूल जाता है ये भी कि
 उसकी गुड़िया भी घर पलंग पर लेटी है।
 और इस हैवानियत में वो यह भी भूल जाता है
 कि मर जाती है मानवता उतनी बार
 जितनी बार ये दानव बाहर आता है।

जन्मा है तेरे भीतर वो
 तेरे भीतर ही उसे अब मारना होगा,
 और जीत सके मानवता इस बार
 बस इसीलिए उस दानव को हारना होगा।

गार्गी

बी.ए. हिंदी विशेष ,प्रथम वर्ष



सृजन के विविध आयाम

शिक्षण संस्थाओं के सेट अप एवं कोर्स में विशेष बदलाव करने के साथ संशोधित शिक्षा नीति के अन्तर्गत दोनों की आधुनिक जरूरतों और पारंपरिक शैक्षणिक मानकों के समन्वय को ध्यान में रखा गया है। एनईपी केवल तारीफों एवं साकारात्मक रूप के लिए चर्चा में नहीं रहा बल्कि इसका कई जगह विरोध भी किया गया।

एन.ई.पी के खिलाफ सबसे तीखी आलोचना यह रही है कि इससे उच्च शिक्षा का निजीकरण होगा जो सामाजिक न्याय का खंडन है। एन.ई.पी का उद्देश्य 15 वर्षों में एक विश्वविद्यालय से संबद्धता की प्रणाली को धीरे-धीरे समाप्त कर और कॉलेजों को स्वायत्तता प्रदान करना है जो निजीकरण के द्वार खोलेगा।

सामाजिक वैज्ञानिकों द्वारा माना गया कि आने वाले 15 वर्षों में शैक्षणिक क्षेत्र को संबद्धता प्रणाली से स्वायत्त प्रणाली में बदलने का प्रस्ताव उच्च शिक्षण संस्थानों, विशेष रूप से गांवों और अन्य पिछड़े क्षेत्रों में छात्रों की पहुँच पर प्रतिकूल प्रभाव डालेगा। उन्होंने इस बात पर भी जोर दिया कि सरकारी और निजी शिक्षण संस्थानों को समान मानदंड का उपयोग करने से शिक्षा क्षेत्र में कॉर्पोरेट और निजी खिलाड़ियों के प्रवेश का मार्ग प्रशस्त होगा। सरकार के इस कदम से यह माना गया की सरकार सभी के लिए गुणवत्तापूर्ण उच्च शिक्षा प्रदान करने की अपनी जिम्मेदारी से भाग रही है, विदेशी विश्वविद्यालयों को देश में प्रवेश करने की अनुमति दे रही है जो निश्चित रूप से उच्च शिक्षण शुल्क लेंगे और शिक्षा में जाति और वर्ग आधारित असमानताओं को और बढ़ाएंगे।

साथ ही स्वयं सरकार ने ये दावा किया की इस नीति के माध्यम से भारत देश अपने शैक्षणिक संवेदनशीलता, संस्कृति, परंपराएं और वैश्विक स्तर से समूचा निर्मित होगा बल्कि आज़ाद भारत के सौभाग्य को आधुनिकता के लिए तैयार करेगा।

इस प्रकार नई नीति देश के लिए एक समझौता, एक मिशन बनता है जो देश को समझौते के साथ ही, सफलता की राह पर उठने में सहायक होगा।

लोकतंत्र के रूप में देश शिक्षा के माध्यम से स्वयं का विकास करता है। नई शिक्षा नीति 2020 देश के शैक्षणिक ड्राइव को बढ़ाने से पहले, शिक्षा के लिए समर्पित अनेक लोगों को पारंपरिक-महाजनपद, संस्कृति, भाषा और जाति से जुड़ने और उन्हें अधिक लोगों तक शिक्षा पहुँचाने की नीति बनाई गई है। न केवल भारत पर पूरा विश्व इस शिक्षा नीति का भविष्य परिणाम देखने के लिए उत्सुक है। आशा करते हैं कि आज नहीं तो कल यह शिक्षा नीति हर भारतीय को आत्मनिर्भर होने पर गर्वित महसूस कराएगी।



अंजलि शर्मा
बी.ए हिस्ट्री विशेष, प्रथम वर्ष

नई शिक्षा नीति



**‘शिक्षा वैसी हो जिससे हों सके चरित्र-निर्माण,
जब होगा चरित्र-निर्माण तभी बनेगा भारत महान’**

भारत की संस्कृति और शैक्षणिक परंपराओं का समावेश करते हुए भारत देश ने नई शिक्षा नीति 29 जुलाई, 2020 को घोषित किया। इस नीति की प्रस्तुति से पहले भारतीय संविधान में शिक्षा को आधारभूत अधिकार के रूप में मान्यता दी गई। नीति को लागू करने का एक साधारण उद्देश्य है जो देश में शिक्षा सेवाओं की सुविधाओं, समानता और तकनीकी प्रोफेशनलीज़्म को सुनिश्चित करने के लिए बनाई गयी है।

नई शिक्षा नीति में सभी स्तरों पर और सभी वर्गों के छात्रों को समान अवसरों के साथ शिक्षा प्रदान करने का लक्ष्य निर्धारित है। इसके लिए नैतिक शिक्षा, सामाजिक स्किल, प्रौद्योगिकी संवेदनशीलता, योग्यता आधारित शिक्षा इत्यादि को भी आधार बनाया गया है। इस नीति में उच्च शिक्षा में बड़े बदलाव हुए हैं। अब एक विश्वविद्यालय की जगह उच्च शिक्षा अनुसंधान संस्थान बनेगा जो शोध-विकास और उद्यमकों के साथ तेजी से एकीकृत करेगा। इसके अलावा विदेशी शिक्षकों और छात्रों के लिए नई नीतियां लागू होने वाली हैं जो उन्हें भारत में शिक्षा और अनुभव के लिए प्रोत्साहित करेंगे।

नई शिक्षा नीति में महिलाओं को शिक्षा और उच्च शिक्षा में बढ़िया अवसर देने के लक्ष्य को हासिल करने के लिए एक विशेष दृष्टि रखी गई है। इसके अलावा निजी सेक्टर को भी शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में डालते हुए प्राइवेट विश्वविद्यालयों और कार्यालयों पर नज़र रखी गई है। इस प्रयास में दूरस्थ शिक्षा और इंटरनेट टेक्नोलॉजी को विशेष आधार बनाया गया है, जिसमें जरूरतमंद छात्रों के लिए ऑनलाइन शिक्षा प्रदान की जाने वाली सुविधा भी उपलब्ध है।

नई शिक्षा नीति में बड़ी बदलाव की सूची में परिषदों की संरचना और शिक्षामित्रों को उपयोगी रूप से बदलने के प्रस्ताव शामिल हैं। जैसा कि पहले बताया गया कि नई शिक्षा नीति उपेक्षित और कमज़ोर छात्रों को समर्थन और सुविधाओं का विस्तार करने पर विशेष ध्यान देती है जो उच्च शिक्षा नहीं प्राप्त कर पाते हैं।



वैसे तो लाइब्रेरी ने फोकस का आश्रय प्रदान किया, एकाग्रता बनाए रखने के लिए ब्रेक महत्वपूर्ण थे। ताजी हवा में सांस लेने के लिए बाहर निकल कर ओपन जिम में कुछ मिनटों की स्ट्रेचिंग करने से मेरे दिमाग को पुनः तरोताजा करने में मदद मिली। परीक्षा के दौरान पुस्तकालय में बिताया गया एक दिन न केवल अध्ययन के बारे में था, बल्कि आत्म-खोज और विकास के बारे में भी था। इसने मुझे एकाग्रता के लिए डिज़ाइन किए गए वातावरण की शक्ति, अनुभवों का मूल्य और संतुलन का महत्व सिखाया। पुस्तकालय जहाँ मेरे लिए ज्ञान प्राप्त करने के साथ ही अपने अनुशासन और लचीलेपन को भी निखारने की भी स्पेस दी। उस शाम जैसे ही मैं लाइब्रेरी से बाहर निकली, मुझे उपलब्धि की गहरी अनुभूति महसूस हुई, यह जानकर कि मैंने अपने दिन का अधिकतम लाभ उठाया और अपनी परीक्षाओं में उत्कृष्टता प्राप्त करने के लिए आवश्यक उपकरणों से खुद को लैस कर लिया।

तन्वी शाह
बी. ए . प्रोग्राम, प्रथम वर्ष



कॉलेज पुस्तकालय में बिताया पहला दिन

परीक्षा छात्रों के लिए ऐसी घड़ी लाती है जब पुस्तकालय में सांत्वना तलाशना एक आवश्यक अनुष्ठान बन जाता है। परीक्षा के दौरान जे. एम. सी के पुस्तकालय में पहला दिन बिताने का अपना अनुभव सांझा करूँगी जिसमें खोज, एकाग्रता और व्यक्तिगत विकास की यात्रा शामिल हैं।

लाइब्रेरी में कदम रखते ही मुझे तुरंत शांति का अहसास हुआ। धीमी फुसफुसाहटों और पन्नों की धीमी सरसराहट ने अध्ययनशीलता की ओर मेरे कदम शीघ्रता से बढ़वा दिए। अलमारियाँ ऊँची खड़ी थीं, जिनमें असंख्य पुस्तकें प्रदर्शित थीं। प्रत्येक में मुझे दूसरी दुनिया में ले जाने और एक जटिल अवधारणा के रहस्यों को खोलने की शक्ति दी। मुझे एक आरामदायक कोना मिला, जो ऊँची किताबों की अलमारियों से घिरा हुआ था, जो मेरी शैक्षणिक यात्रा शुरू करने के लिए तैयार था।

पाठ्यपुस्तकें, नोटबुक और अपने लैपटॉप के साथ मैं विचारों की दुनिया में डूब गई। क्लासिक साहित्य से लेकर वैज्ञानिक शोध पत्रों तक, पुस्तकालय ने संसाधनों का व्यापक संग्रह पेश किया। हर पन्ने पलटने के साथ मेरी समझ गहरी होती गई और मेरा आत्मविश्वास बढ़ता गया। लाइब्रेरी के केंद्रित माहौल ने बाहरी दुनिया के शोर को रोकते हुए मेरी एकाग्रता को बढ़ाया। जैसे-जैसे मैंने अपने पाठ्यक्रम का अध्ययन, ऐतिहासिक घटनाओं का विश्लेषण और महान दार्शनिकों के ज्ञान को आत्मसात किया, समय हाथ से निकलता गया।

हालाँकि पुस्तकालय अक्सर एकांत से जुड़ा होता है, यह सौहार्द की अनूठी भावना को भी बढ़ावा देता है। साथी छात्रों को अपनी पढ़ाई में तल्लीन देखकर मुझे याद आया कि मैं इस यात्रा में अकेली नहीं थी। प्रोत्साहन की संक्षिप्त सहमति सांझा करने और ज्ञानपूर्ण मुस्कराहट का आदान-प्रदान करने से एक अनकहा बंधन बन गया। इसके अतिरिक्त, पुस्तकालय कर्मचारियों ने, अपने ज्ञान के भंडार और सहायता करने की इच्छा के साथ, एक आश्रित उपस्थिति प्रदान की। यह जानकर तसल्ली हुई कि समर्थन बस एक प्रश्न ही दूर था।

कब कैसे कहाँ ?

ये तीन साल पूरे हो गए पता भी न चला...
कुछ अलग - सा एहसास लिए
कुछ अलग से यादें बनायें
बीत गए यें तीन साल पता ही न चला।
कब शुरू हुआ
कब खत्म हुआ
ऐसे ही पूरा हो गया पता ही न चला।
कैसे फ्रेशर्स से सीनियर में बदल गए
पता ही न चला
कहाँ 2020 की ऑनलाइन क्लासेज
कहाँ 2023 का फेयरवेल
कुछ ज्यादा जल्दी नहीं बीत गए ये तीन साल?
ये तीन साल पूरे हो गए पता भी न चला...

आरोही अंतरा
बी. ए. हिंदी विशेष, तृतीय वर्ष

मेरा कॉलेज का अनुभव

अब कुछ ही दिनों में मेरा कॉलेज का पहला साल खत्म होगा। विश्वास नहीं होता कि समय इतनी जल्दी बीत गया। मुझे कभी-कभी बहुत खुशी होती है कि दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय के प्रतिष्ठित संस्थान में मुझे पढ़ने का अवसर मिला। आज मैं बहुत गर्व महसूस करती हूँ कि मेरा नाम जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज के साथ जुड़कर अपनी नयी पहचान बना रहा हूँ।

मुझे सी.यू.इ.टी.(C.U.E.T) परीक्षा के बाद जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज में बी. वोक. रिटेल मैनेजमेंट और इंफॉर्मेशन टेक्नोलॉजी में दाखिला मिला।

जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज छात्राओं को रैगिंग निषेध वातावरण प्रदान कर अपनी विशेषता को बनाये रखता है। इससे छात्राओं में सुरक्षा और सुकून की भावना हमेशा बनी रहती है। अपने मन मुताबिक सोसाइटी का चुनाव करना एक अन्य रोचक अनुभव रहा।

कॉलेज में प्रत्येक छात्र को अपने पहले वर्ष में पाठ्यक्रम, पाठ्येतर गतिविधियाँ, कॉलेज और हॉस्टल परिवेश, दोस्त और रूममेट्स के साथ मौजमस्ती और विशेषकर सेमेस्टर एग्जाम्स और रिजल्ट के संबंध में जो भी अच्छे-बुरे अनुभव प्राप्त होते हैं, वे सभी अपने में खुशी और दुःख समेटे रखने के साथ ही सभी छात्रों के भावी जीवन को नये आयाम और नई दिशा प्रदान करते हैं। प्रत्येक छात्र अपने कॉलेज जीवन के सभी अनुभवों को संजो कर रखता है। कॉलेज में बी.ए.सी और एस.ई.सी के विषय के कारण भी बहुत कुछ सीखने को मिला।

मैं आशा करती हूँ कि आगे अपनी निजी और प्रोफेशनल जिंदगी में इसका प्रयोग कर पाऊँ और सफलता प्राप्त करूँ।

रिशिका सिंह
बी. वॉक. (आर.एम.आई.टी.)



मेरे अनुभव

जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज में मैंने दो वर्ष ही बिताये। उससे पहले मैं भगिनी निवेदिता कॉलेज में एक साल पढ़कर आई थी। द्वितीय वर्ष में हमारे कॉलेज की शुरुआत ऑनलाइन मोड से हुई। जल्दी ही ऑनलाइन मोड खत्म हुआ और हम कॉलेज आने लगे, वही से कॉलेज के अनुभवों का दौर शुरू हुआ। मैंने जहां तक सुना था कि 'टीचर्स सिर्फ आते है पढ़ाते है और चले जाते है' ...मगर नहीं ऐसा तो था ही नहीं!

मैंने यह अनुभव किया कि सुनने पर नहीं देखने पर विश्वास किया जाना चाहिए। तृतीय वर्ष तक आते-आते हिंदी विभाग एक परिवार के रूप में परिवर्तित हो गया। टीचर्स, प्रथम वर्ष और द्वितीय वर्ष सभी के साथ मिलकर काम करने में बहुत कुछ सीखने सिखाने को मिला, नए तरह के अनुभव प्राप्त हुए।

मेरा अनुभव सभी टीचर्स के साथ कुछ अलग-अलग रहा है। मैंने सभी के साथ काम किया, बहुत कुछ सीखा और पारंगत होने पर दुगने प्यार की भागीदार भी बनी। इस ज्ञान और प्यार से मैंने अपनी निजी जिंदगी में बहुत कुछ सिखा और अपने सभी अध्यापकों की बातों को मैंने अपने जीवन में अपनाया। आज मेरे मस्तिष्क और हृदय दोनों में सकारात्मक ऊर्जा हैं। अपने कॉलेज में हमारा समय कैसे निकल गया एहसास ही नहीं हुआ?

"बस यहीं सोचती हूं, थोड़ा समय एक साथ और बिता पाते,

यह दो वर्ष की डोर का सिरा कब हाथ में आ गया पता ही नहीं चला।"

भानु प्रिया
बी.ए. हिंदी, तृतीय वर्ष

मेरे कॉलेज का सफ़र



सच कहूं तो कॉलेज का सफर इतना आसान नहीं था।

मन में बहुत सारे विचार, भाव, बहुत सारे सवाल और उससे भी अधिक भय था।.....

मैंने सदैव प्रयास किया कि अधिक मेहनत करते हुए आगे बढ़ती जाऊँ क्योंकि कोशिश करने वालों की कभी हार नहीं होती। इसका पूरा श्रेय मैं अपने कॉलेज, अपने सभी शिक्षकों एवं मेरे कुछ विशेष मित्र, जिनके अपार सहयोग से मैंने यह सफ़र भी पूरा कर लिया। यहाँ हर रोज़ एक नया अनुभव जीवन रूपी पुस्तक में पन्ने की तरह जुड़ता जाता है | जैसा की हम सभी जानते हैं कि कॉलेज का जीवन हम सभी विद्यार्थियों के लिए सुनहरे पल होते हैं। हम विद्यालय से निकल कर आगे की पढ़ाई के लिए दाखिला लेते हैं और यहाँ हर विद्यार्थी के जीवन का एक नया आयाम होता है, यहाँ हर रोज़ एक नया अनुभव प्राप्त होता है। हमारा अनुभव तो कुछ अलग प्रकार का ही रहा क्योंकि कॉलेज लाइफ के साथ हम वो बैच बने जिसने ऑनलाइन और ऑफलाइन दोनों माध्यमों के द्वारा अपने कॉलेज से, शिक्षकों से, और मित्रों से जुड़े।.....इस सफ़र में जे.एम.सी से मुझे स्नातक स्तर की डिग्री प्रदान की साथ ही जीवन के ऐसे सुनहरे पलों का साक्षात्कार भी करवाया जो सदैव मेरी स्मृति में बने रहेंगे।

अंकिता आनंद
बी. ए. हिंदी विशेष, तृतीय वर्ष



हमारी नज़र से





ऐतिहासिक रूप में उत्तर प्रदेश साम्राज्यों और राजवंशों का मिश्रण रहा है, जो अपने पीछे वास्तुशिल्प चमत्कारों का खजाना छोड़ गया है। दुनिया के सात अजूबों में से एक ताज महल, आगरा में शाश्वत प्रेम के प्रतीक के रूप में जाना जाता है तो दूसरी ओर वाराणसी में काशी विश्वनाथ मंदिर की वास्तुकला प्रतिभा और इलाहाबाद में संगम की आध्यात्मिक गूंज राज्य की ऐतिहासिक समृद्धि में और योगदान करती है।

साथ में 'संस्कार' उत्तर प्रदेश के सांस्कृतिक ताने-बाने में गहराई से रची-बसी है। पारिवारिक मूल्यों पर जोर, बड़ों का सम्मान और समाज के प्रति कर्तव्य की भावना राज्य में संस्कार के अभिन्न पहलू हैं चाहें वे शास्त्रीय संगीत, नृत्य और लोक प्रदर्शन जैसे पारंपरिक कला ही क्यों ना हो, जो एक पीढ़ी से दूसरी पीढ़ी तक पहुँचाने के माध्यम के रूप में काम करते हैं। कबीर और तुलसीदास जैसे संतों और दार्शनिकों, जो उत्तर प्रदेश की परंपराओं से सदा समृद्ध रहे हैं। बस यहीं कुछ उत्तर प्रदेश का सार है बस यहीं उत्तर प्रदेश का मान है।

तुषिता राज
बी. ए. हिंदी विशेष, प्रथम वर्ष





उत्तर प्रदेश

उत्तर प्रदेश सुंदरता, समृद्ध संस्कृति और ऐतिहासिक महत्व के लिए प्रसिद्ध प्रदेश हैं। यहाँ की खूबसूरती गंगा किनारे उपजाऊ मैदानों से लेकर हिमालय की तलहटी की सुरम्य पहाड़ियाँ तक हैं। पवित्र नदी गंगा, न केवल भूमि का पोषण करती है बल्कि लोगों के आध्यात्मिक और सांस्कृतिक जीवन में भी महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाती है। हजारों वर्षों से समय की कसौटी पर खरा उतरने वाले शहर वाराणसी के घाट प्राकृतिक सुंदरता और सांस्कृतिक महत्व का एक अनूठा मिश्रण प्रदर्शित करते हैं, शाम की आरती का एक मनमोहक वातावरण जो सभी को मंत्रमुग्ध कर देता है।

सांस्कृतिक महत्व की यदि बात की जाए तो उत्तर प्रदेश परंपराओं और त्योहारों का मिश्रण है। पूरे राज्य में मनाए जाने वाले जीवंत और रंगीन त्यौहार यहां के लोगों की सांस्कृतिक विविधता और एकता को दर्शाता हैं। भगवान राम के जन्मस्थल अयोध्या में दीपावली की भव्यता के रूप में रोशनी के त्योहार के सार के साथ सम्पूर्ण विश्व में गूंजती है तो वहीं दूसरी ओर भगवान कृष्ण की जन्मस्थल में होली का उत्सव देश के कोने-कोने में उल्लास के साथ मनाया जाता हैं। ये सांस्कृतिक उत्सव न केवल राज्य में जीवंतता परंपराओं को पीढ़ी दर पीढ़ी धरोहर के रूप में अग्रसर करते जाते हैं।



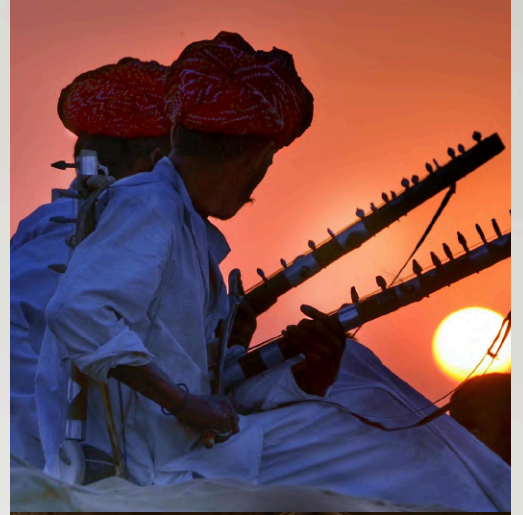
राजसी किलों और महलों पर जटिल नक्काशी से लेकर रंगीन पेंटिंग और हस्तनिर्मित वस्त्रों तक, राजस्थानी संस्कृति का हर पहलू रचनात्मकता और खुशी का उत्सव है। बंधेज के कपड़े की अभिकल्पना पूरे विश्व में प्रसिद्ध है। यहाँ के लोगों की ठाठ - बाट छिपाए नहीं छिपती। राजस्थान की इस धरती पर स्वयं साहित्य की देवी, कृष्ण की चहेती, उनकी आराध्या प्रिय भक्त 'मीरा' ने जन्म लिया।

अपना पूरा जीवन काल उन्होंने कृष्ण की भक्ति से इस मरुस्थल के सौभाग्य को रचा। न केवल मीरा बाई बल्कि कई दिग्गजों ने इस राजस्थान की जमीन पर जन्म लिया। सवाई राजा जय सिंह अपने अद्भुत ज्ञान और पराकाष्ठा की वजह से ही दुनिया जंतर-मंतर से समय के खेल को समझा सकें।

राजस्थान को प्रेम की भूमि कहा जाता है जो तमाम दुनिया को संस्कृति, ऐतिहासिक महत्वपूर्ण स्थलों, सुंदर प्रकृति के साथ-साथ मधुरता से बांधे रखता है और बाहें फैला के कहता है " पधारो म्हारे देश "। यहाँ तक कि इस मरुस्थल में बहती हवा का कण-कण भी आनंदमय और स्वागतपूर्ण प्रस्तुति करता है।

मेरा हर पाठक से निवेदन है कि इस अविश्वसनीय भूमि की समृद्ध विरासत और जीवंत परंपराओं में डूब जाओ और कला, साहित्य के इतिहास की जानकारी का पता लगाने के लिए प्रेरित हों। चलिए, राजस्थान के जादू को अपनी आंखों से सराहे।

अंजली शर्मा
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राजस्थान

राजस्थानी संस्कृति की जीवंत और मनोरम दुनिया में आपका स्वागत है! भारत के मध्य में स्थित, राजस्थान राजसी किलों, रंगीन पगड़ियों और उत्तम व्यंजनों की भूमि है। इस राज्य के लोग अपने गर्मजोशी भरे आतिथ्य और समृद्ध सांस्कृतिक विरासत के लिए जाने जाते हैं। राजधानी जयपुर, वास्तुशिल्प चमत्कारों और हलचल भरे बाजारों का खजाना है। लेकिन जो चीज़ वास्तव में राजस्थानी संस्कृति को अलग करती है, वह है इसके स्वादिष्ट व्यंजन, जो सुगंधित और अनूठे मसालों से भरपूर है।

मज़बूत जूती , सफेद धोती , पीली पगड़ी ,बिच्छू के डंक जैसी मूंछ और उसके नीचे हँसी में ठहाका लगाते होठ राजस्थान का नाम लेते ही ..ऐसे ही पुरुष की छवि मन में उभर जाती है । घाघरा, ओढ़नी, कोहनी तक की चूड़ियाँ, सिर के बीचों बीच बोर, माथे पर ओढ़नी ओढ़े हुए पानी भरती या खेत में काम करती औरतें वास्तविक रूप से स्त्री शक्ति का जीता जागता उदाहरण प्रस्तुत करती हैं। साठ से अधिक किले इसकी वीरता की कहानी कहते हैं । राजस्थानी संस्कृति कला, साहित्य, वास्तुकला और इतिहास की एक जीवंत मिसाल है।



चैत्र का महीना भी पहाड़ों के लिए कुछ खास होता है। बसंत ऋतु आ जाती है, पेड़ों पर नई कोपलें खिलने लगती हैं। तरह-तरह की चिड़िया चहकने लगती है और प्रकृति अपने सर्वश्रेष्ठ स्वरूप में होती है।

उत्तराखंड अध्यात्म तथा पर्यटन दोनों ही दृष्टियों से बहुत सुंदर है। यहाँ लोग दूर-दूर से घूमने तथा आध्यात्मिक तुष्टि के लिए आते हैं। सरलता लिए यहाँ के लोग अपनी लोक संस्कृति के रंगों में सरोबार है।

"जहाँ हिमालय के सामने झुकता है
आसमान
वह है देवभूमि उत्तराखंड"

जयश्री
बी. ए. हिंदी विशेष, प्रथम वर्ष

उत्तराखंड

मेरी जन्मभूमि उत्तराखंड है। यहाँ पहाड़ों की ठंडी हवा और हर एक मोड़ पर मंदिर देखने को मिलते हैं, जिस कारण इसे धार्मिक और आध्यात्मिक संस्कारों का केंद्र भी कहा जाता है। उत्तराखंड में दो मंडल हैं। पहला गढ़वाल जिसको कोटद्वार कहा जाता है और इसे राजा भरत की जन्मभूमि भी माना जाता है तथा दूसरा कुमाऊँ, जिसका द्वार काठगोदाम है।

जहाँ गढ़वाल को चार धाम बद्रीनाथ, केदारनाथ, गंगोत्री, यमुनोत्री से जानते हैं। वहीं कुमाऊँ को झीलों के शहर नैनीताल, छोलिया नृत्य और पिछोड के नाम से जाना जाता है।

वैसे तो यहाँ कई त्योहार मनाये जाते हैं लेकिन हरेला, फूलदेई, बसंत पंचमी, घी संक्रांत, गंगा दशहरा यहां के प्रमुख त्योहार हैं। हरेला त्योहार मानसून आने की खुशी में मनाया जाता है।

बसंत ऋतु के आने में विवाहित स्त्रियाँ लोकभाषा में गीत गाती हैं -

डांणी कांठ्यं को ह्युं, गौली गै होलो,
म्यारा मैता को बौण, मौली गै होलो।

चाकुला घोलू छोड़ि उड़णा हाला,
बैठुला मैतुडा कु, पैटणा हाला,,

घुघुती घरोण लगी हो....
घुघूती घुरुण लगी म्यारा मैत की।

प्रस्तुत गीत में नेगी जी ने पहाड़ की एक विवाहित लड़की का दर्द बताया है। घुघुती चिड़िया जो पहाड़ों में वियोग का स्वरूप मानी गई है। उसके स्वर को सुनकर एक लड़की को अपने मायके की याद आती है और वो बोलती है कि मेरे मायके की घुघुती आवाज़ देने लगी है। बसंत ऋतु आ रही है और पहाड़ों में बुरांश के फूल खिल रहे होंगे। इस गाने को आज भी उतना ही गाया जाता है, जितना की पहले समय में लोग इसे गाते थे।



मेरा गुरुर मेरा बिहार...



"मेरी जन्मभूमि मेरा श्रृंगार है,
मेरी मिट्टी मेरा बिहार है।
हाँ! मैं बिहारी नहीं हूँ- हम बिहारी बानी।
गोपालगंज से किशनगंज तक लेकर जाऊँगी ,
अगर घुमना चाहो तो सोनपुर के मेला से लेकर गया
का विष्णु देवालय भी घुमाऊँगी ।
इन सब के बीच में राजगीर को मत भूल जाना,
वहीं तो मेरे बिहार की शान है।

आज हम यहाँ अपना इतिहास बताने आए हैं,
अपने गुरुर से आपको रूबरू करवाने आए हैं।
मेरे बिहार में आपको चंद्रगुप्त का संकल्प भी
मिलेगा,
अशोक की तलवार का परचम भी नज़र आएगा।
बिंदुसार का शासन है कहीं,
तो मगध का पुराना इतिहास है मेरा बिहार।

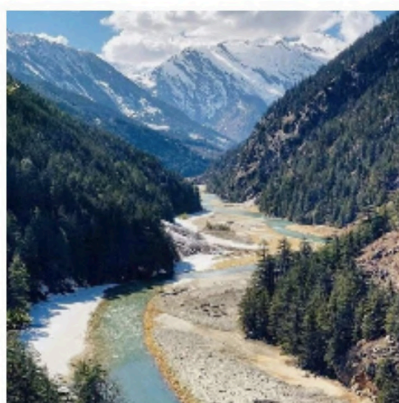
वाल्मिकी के रामायण के साथ मिथिला का
संस्कार है,
तो जनक की नगरी हैं मेरा बिहार।
राजा जनक की पुत्री सीता माँ की भूमि है,
तो माँ गंगा के श्रृंगार का अदभुत रंग है मेरा बिहार।

कई भाषाओं के साथ छठ में शारदा सिन्हा के
गीतों का अलग है खुमार,
तो वही यहाँ लिट्टी चोखा के साथ ठेकुआ का
स्वाद है बेशुमार,
तो आइए न हमारा बिहार में।

तुषिता राज,
बी. ए. हिंदी विशेष, प्रथम वर्ष



लोक रंग





यह सच है कि समय के साथ मूल्य भी बदलते हैं। पहले वही समाज सेवक कहलाता था जो निःस्वार्थ भाव से समाज की सेवा करता था उसे सम्मान और पुरस्कार मिलते थे लेकिन अब समय बदल गया है। आज जीवन मूल्य भी बदल गए हैं। आज वही सम्मान और पुरस्कार पाता है जिसकी नेट वर्किंग अच्छी है अर्थात् जो अधिक चाटुकार और जुगाड़ हो और हमारी दीदी ने तो चाटुकारिता और अवसरवादिता के क्षेत्र में बड़ी बड़ी उपलब्धियाँ प्राप्त की थी।

आज साहित्य की परिभाषा भी बदल गई है। पहले साहित्य सर्वजन हिताय के लिए लिखा जाता था। कवि मैथिलीशरण गुप्त ने लिखा है -

“केवल मनोरंजन न कवि का कर्म होना चाहिए
उसमें उचित उपदेश का भी मर्म होना चाहिए।”

परंतु आज कुछ लोग जो अपने आप को साहित्यकार कहते हैं पर उन्हें साहित्य की समझ नहीं है, वे साहित्य की रचना मन हिताय और स्वान्तः सुखाय के लिए करते हैं। समाज के सुख-दुख से उन्हें कोई मतलब नहीं। क्या लिखा जा रहा किस वर्ग के लिए लिखा जा रहा है, समाज की किस विसंगति को दर्शाता है, उसमें क्या जीवन मूल्य हैं इसकी परवाह न उन लोभी लोगों को है जो अपने आपको लेखक कहते हैं। साथ ही न उन लोभी प्रकाशकों जो अपने स्वार्थ के लिए कुछ भी छापने को तैयार रहते हैं। वास्तव में साहित्य तो साधना और तपस्या है। एक साहित्यिक रचना के लिए साहित्यकार निरंतर मानसिक पीड़ा झेलता है, चिंतन मनन और मंथन करता है तब जाकर वह कोई रचना समाज को दे पाता है जो समाज की दिशा बदल देती है और समाज में परिवर्तन लाती है।

परन्तु आज के युग में लेखक होने के लिए यह सब विशेषताएँ आवश्यक नहीं हैं। आज जो सबसे ज़्यादा ज़रूरी है वह आपकी प्रकाशक से अच्छे संबंध होनी चाहिए। फ़ेसबुक पर आपके असंख्य फ़ॉलोवर्स होने चाहिए, बस आप साहित्यकार बन जाएँगे। लोभी प्रकाशक भी आपकी योग्यता और प्रतिभा को आँकने की क्षमता रखते हैं। उन्हें भी जब लगता है जब आप उनकी पुस्तक की कितनी प्रतियाँ अपने मित्रों के सहयोग से कार्यालयों, विद्यालयों और महाविद्यालयों के पुस्तकालयों में खरीदवा सकते हैं तो वे भी झट से आपको आपकी पुस्तक पर पुरस्कार देकर आपको कृतार्थ कर देते हैं भले ही वह आपके द्वारा सम्पादित पुस्तक ही क्यों न हो। इस क्षेत्र में भी दीदी की पकड़ बहुत मज़बूत थी। हर कॉलेज, सरकारी कार्यालयों में दीदी के चाचा, भइया या बहन लगे हुए थे। उन सभी पुस्तकालयों में पुस्तकें खरीदाना उनके बाएँ हाथ का खेल था। तभी तो प्रकाशक ने उन्हें उभरते युवा साहित्यकार का सम्मान प्रदान किया। इसी को कहते हैं एक हाथ ले एक हाथ दे।

प्रोफ़ेसर अमिता तिवारी,
हिंदी विभाग



दीदी को मिला युवा साहित्यकार सम्मान



दीदी ने इस बार फिर बाज़ी मार ली थी। एक ही झटके में उन्हें एक नहीं दो सम्मान मिले। एक समाज सेवा के लिए और दूसरा साहित्य सेवा के लिए। कहते हैं न कि सेवा करोगे तो मेवा मिलेगा। दीदी ने इसी वाक्य को अपने जीवन का मूलमंत्र बना रखा है। सेवा मानव धर्म है। वास्तविक मानवीय मूल्य सर्वजन हिताय हैं पर दीदी को इस प्रकार के मूल्यों से बेहद एतराज था। उन्हें इन मूल्यों को अपनाने से बदहज़मी हो जाती थी। उनका कहना था यह भी कोई सेवा है जिन्हें हम जानते नहीं, पहचानते नहीं जिनसे हमें कुछ मिलेगा नहीं उनकी क्या सेवा करनी? गली कूचे में जाकर झुग्गी झोपड़ियों में रहने वाले लोगों या बुजुर्गों की सेवा करने से क्या लाभ? अरे सेवा तो उसकी करनी चाहिए जो हमें कुछ दे सके। सास की सेवा करके क्या मिलेगा उसका तो बेटा भी अपना है और उसकी सम्पत्ति भी अपनी। सेवा तो अपनी माँ की करनी चाहिए जिससे उसका बैंक बैलेंस भी मिले और सेवा करने का एहसान भी हो।

पैसे की लालच में उन्होंने रिश्तों को भी तिलांजलि दे दी थी। अपने क्षेत्र में यदि सेवा का पुरस्कार उन्हें मिलता तो लोग पूछते न कि तुमने क्या सेवा की इसलिए उन्होंने इसका तोड़ निकाला और दूसरे राज्य में किसी गाँव में जाकर समाज सेवा का सर्टिफिकेट दिखाकर पुरस्कार लिया।

साहित्य के क्षेत्र में भी दीदी उन्हीं से नाता रखती और उन्हीं को दीदी, भईया और सर कहती जिनसे उनका कोई बड़ा हित सधता हो। ऐसे लोगों के कार्यक्रम में जाकर सुबह से शाम तक कार्यक्रम खत्म होने तक उनकी सेवा करती थीं। यह सेवा इसीलिए थी कि उनको इसके बदले मेवा मिल सकें।



किन्नर कथा' उपन्यास की तरह ही 'अस्तित्व' उपन्यास में गिरिजा भारती ने प्रश्न उठाने के साथ-साथ कहीं न कहीं उसका समाधान भी उपन्यास में ही दे दिया है। लेखिका ने किन्नर समुदाय को परिवारों द्वारा अपनाने व किन्नरों का विवाह करा उन्हें अनाथालय से बच्ची गोद दिलाने के सुझावों को उपन्यास में दिखाकर किन्नर समुदाय के प्रति लोगों के सामने एक नई सोच का प्रतिनिधित्व किया है।

उपन्यास के शिल्प के विषय में बात करें तो दोनों ही उपन्यासों के शिल्प में धारदार व्यंग्यात्मक शैली, प्रश्नात्मक प्रवृत्ति के साथ-साथ लोकोक्ति और मुहावरों का भी खूब प्रयोग हुआ है।

उपन्यासों की भाषा सरल, सहज तो है किन्तु साथ ही भाषा की एक कमी भी है जो कि स्त्रीलिंग और पुल्लिंग के अलावा नपुंसक लिंग की अपनी अभिव्यक्ति के लिए कोई ठोस भाषा नहीं मिल पाती है। दरअसल, ये कमी केवल इन उपन्यासों में ही नहीं है बल्कि किन्नर विषय पर लिखी गई सभी रचनाओं में देखी जा सकती, किन्तु फिर भी इन उपन्यासों 'किन्नर कथा' और 'अस्तित्व' को पढ़ने और समझने में कोई बाधा नहीं आती है। यही लेखकों की कुशलता का प्रमाण है।

इस प्रकार 'किन्नर कथा' और 'अस्तित्व' उपन्यास किन्नर समुदाय पर शोध करने के लिए एक नई दिशा देते हैं, जिससे कि इस समुदाय को समझने में खासी सहायता पाठक व शोधार्थी दोनों को होती है। अतः किन्नर समुदाय को समझने व उन पर शोध करने के लिए एक शोधार्थी को इन उपन्यासों से गुजरना ही पड़ेगा, तभी वह हाशिये के समाज का अध्ययन बारीकी के साथ कर पाएगा।

भारती
अतिथि प्राध्यापक,
हिंदी विभाग

संदर्भ सूची :

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किन्नर कथा' और 'अस्तित्व' में किन्नर समुदाय के अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण सांस्कृतिक पक्ष की जानकारी मिलती है, हममें से बहुत कम लोग ही किन्नरों के तीज-त्यौहार, रहन-सहन, मान्यताएँ आदि के बारे में जानते होंगे। इनके इस पक्ष को बहुत ही बारिकी से रचनाकार दिखाते हैं।

किन्नर कथा' उपन्यास में तारा की मृत्यु पर लेखक दिखाते हैं कि परंपरा में ऐसी मान्यता है कि हिजड़ा को दोबारा हिजड़ा का जन्म न मिले, इसलिए उसे रात में जब लोग सो चुके होते हैं, चुपके से दफना दिया जाता है। उसकी अर्थी पर जूते-चप्पल भी मारते हैं जिससे मृत अभागा पुनः किन्नर के रूप में जन्म न लें। ऐसे ही बहुत से रोचक प्रसंग हमें दोनो उपन्यासों में देखने को मिलते हैं।

'किन्नर कथा' और 'अस्तित्व' इन दोनों ही उपन्यासों में लेखको ने कई ऐसे प्रश्नों को उठाया है जो पाठकों के दिमाग में एक ऐसी चिंगारी को जन्म देते हैं, जिससे पाठक अपने को इस हाशिए के समाज से जोड़ता ही नहीं बल्कि इनकी पीड़ा व दर्द को महसूस भी करता है। दोनों उपन्यासों की एक खास विशेषता यह है कि दोनों उपन्यासों में लेखक केवल प्रश्न या समस्याओं को ही नहीं उठाते बल्कि उसका समाधान व सुझाव भी प्रस्तुत करते हैं जैसे 'किन्नर कथा' उपन्यास के प्राक्कथन में महेन्द्र भीष्म अन्य राज्यों द्वारा किन्नरों के लिए उठाए गए कदम को बताते हुए लिखते हैं कि :-

"चुनाव आयोग द्वारा मतदाता-सूची में किन्नरों के लिए स्त्री/पुरुष कॉलम के अलावा 'अन्य' कॉलम का प्रस्ताव विचाराधीन है तो बिहार सहित देश के कई राज्यों की सरकारें किन्नरों के उत्थान के लिए कई हितकारी कदम उठाने जा रही हैं। तमिलनाडु व गुजराज में बहुत पहले से किन्नरों को समाज की मुख्यधारा से जोड़ने के लिए कई महत्वपूर्ण कदम उठाए जा चुके हैं।"

'किन्नर कथा' उपन्यास में तो महेन्द्र भीष्म यहाँ तक दिखाते हैं कि किस प्रकार नकली किन्नर असली किन्नरों का रूप धर कर लोगों के बीच असली किन्नरों की छवि बिगाड़ रहे हैं। उपन्यास में ऐसे ही (नकली किन्नर) लंबू हिजड़ा, रहमान है तो (असली किन्नरों) में सोना उर्फ चंदा, तारा, नगिना आदि हैं। ये नकली किन्नर सामान्य पुरुष होते हैं लेकिन गरीबी व बेरोज़गारी के कारण ही यह किन्नर बन जाते हैं। ये नकली किन्नर केवल असली किन्नरों की छवि ही नहीं बिगाड़ते बल्कि आर्थिक रूप से भी उन्हें नुकसान भी पहुँचाते हैं।

शिक्षा के साथ-साथ विस्थापन का दंश भी इनको (किन्नर समुदाय) अपने परिवार से झेलना पड़ता है। अन्य लोगों की तरह ही सहज, स्वभाविक जीवन को अपने परिवार के साथ रह कर बिताने का हक समाज ने इस समुदाय को नहीं दिया।

लेखक उपन्यास में यह भी बताते हैं कि असली किन्नर कभी भी दो-चार रूपों के लिए लड़ते नहीं हैं और न ही किसी को श्राप देते हैं, बल्कि उन्हें जो खुश होकर लोग देते हैं वह उसे स्वीकारते हैं।

दरअसल मुख्यधारा के समाज ने इन हाशिए के समुदाय के लिए कोई विकल्प छोड़े ही नहीं हैं, क्योंकि न इन्हें आम बच्चों की तरह शिक्षा दी जाती है, जिसका विशेष कारण जेंडर की अस्पष्टता है। 'किन्नर कथा' की सोना उर्फ चंदा और तारा के माध्यम से यह बात समझी जा सकती है। इन दोनों को केवल किन्नर होने भर से शिक्षा जैसी मूलभूत आवश्यकता से दूर रखा जाता है। वहीं 'अस्तित्व' में प्रीत शिक्षा को प्राप्त कर अपने पैरों पर खड़ी तो हो जाती है लेकिन अपना सच सबसे छुपाकर ही वह शिक्षा ग्रहण कर पाती है। यदि प्रीत के किन्नर होने का सच उसके माता-पिता सुधा और वर्मा जी के अलावा कोई और जानता तो शायद ही वह शिक्षा प्राप्त कर अपने अस्तित्व की खोज कर पाती।

इसका प्रबल उदाहरण किन्नर कथा के सोना उर्फ चंदा व तारा हैं, जिन्हें केवल किन्नर होने के कारण अपने घर से निकालकर जबरदस्ती एक ऐसे समाज में रहने को मज़बूर किया जाता है जो कि उसे वह आत्मीयता और लगाव नहीं दे पाता जो किसी बच्चे या किशोर को अपने परिवार से मिलती है।

इसका एक उदाहरण तो यह है कि हममें से शायद ही किसी ने कुवागम का नाम सुना होगा। कुवागम का मेला किन्नरों के जीवन का महत्वपूर्ण मेला होता है जो कि तमिलनाडु में हर साल लगता है। यहाँ दूर-दूर से किन्नर समुदाय पहुँचते हैं तथा एक दिन की सुहागन बनने का सुख प्राप्त करते हैं। इस एक दिन की सुहागन बनने भर से वे अपने जीवन के खालीपन को दूर करने की कोशिश करते हैं। ऐसे ही कई प्रसंग उपन्यास में हैं, जो इनके प्रति जिज्ञासा से पाठक को भरते हैं। ऐसा ही एक प्रसंग किन्नर समुदाय की शवयात्रा को लेकर भी देखा जा सकता है।



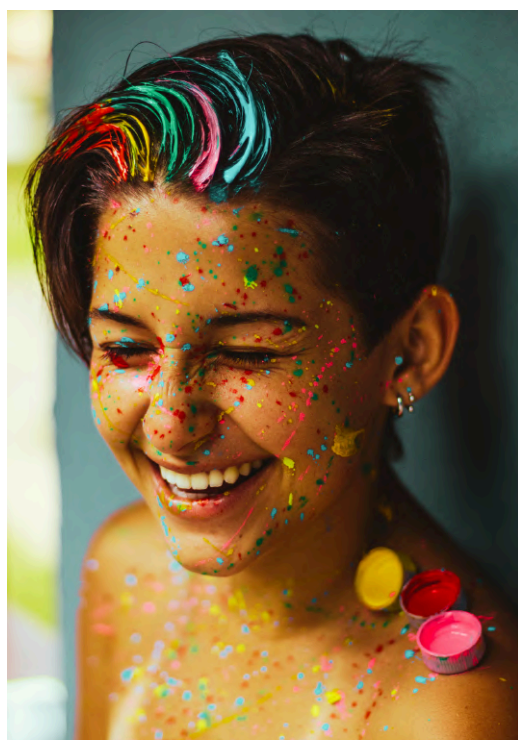
मनुस्मृतिकार के अनुसार तृतीय प्रकृति की उत्पत्ति जीववैज्ञानिक कमी है। संभवतः इसलिए इन्हें हीन माना गया है। पाणिनी के संस्कृत व्याकरण में इनका उल्लेख है। तमिल व्याकरण की पुस्तक 'तोलकाप्पिम' में भी किन्नर समुदाय का उल्लेख मिलता है। इतना ही नहीं मिस्र, बेबीलोन और मोहनजोदड़ों की सभ्यता में भी इनके प्रमाण मिलते हैं। संस्कृत नाटकों में इनका जिक्र है और कौटिल्य के अर्थशास्त्र में कहा गया है कि राजा को हिजड़ों पर हाथ नहीं उठाना चाहिए। इसी प्रकार गुलाम मंडी में सामाजिक हैसियत के अलावा उनकी राजनैतिक भूमिका को भी रेखांकित किया गया है- "राजाओं के राज में हिजड़े बहादुर योद्धाओं के दल में शामिल किए जाते थे स्त्री और पुरुष कुछ भी बन सकने की उनकी क्षमता उन्हें राजकीय जासूसों के पद भी दिलवाती थी। दरबार हो या मंदिर वे अपनी नृत्यकला का प्रदर्शन करके वाह-वाही भी लूटते थे, इनाम इकराम भी कमाते थे। बादशाहों के हरम में सुरक्षाकर्मी होते थे, औरतों के साथ संबंध ना बनाना उनकी कमी नहीं, खूबी थी। हिजड़ों का तिरस्कार तो अंग्रेजों के जमाने से शुरू हुआ।"

कन्नारों की वस्तु स्थिति, उनकी सामाजिक, आर्थिक, राजनीति, धार्मिक, सांस्कृतिक आदि सभी पक्षों की पड़ताल 'किन्नर कथा' उपन्यास में महेन्द्र भीष्म और 'अस्तित्व' में गिरिजा भारती करते हैं। इन दोनों उपन्यासों की सबसे मुख्य बात यह है कि इनमें संपूर्ण किन्नर समुदाय को समेटने की कोशिश तो है ही साथ ही किन्नरों के दर्द, विस्थापन व पीड़ा को भी पाठकों तक पहुँचाने का काम उपन्यासकारों ने किया है। ये दोनों ही उपन्यास हाशिए के इन समुदायों की व्यथा कहते हैं और साथ ही कई प्रश्न पाठक के मन में छोड़ देते हैं।

किन्नर समुदाय की प्रमुख समस्या इनके मनुष्य न समझे जाने की तो है ही साथ ही इनके आर्थिक और सामाजिक जीवन के दर्द भी इन उपन्यासों में उकेरे हैं। आर्थिक तंगी के कारण ही ये वर्ग नाच-गाने, भीख मांगने, वैश्यावृत्ति करने और कई बार तो अपराधिक मामलों में लिप्त होने को भी अभिशप्त है।



हिन्दी साहित्य तथा समाज में किन्नरों की भूमिका: एक विश्लेषण



वर्तमान दौर वंचितों एवं पीड़ितों की अस्मिता का दौर है। साहित्य में विमर्शों का जो दौर चला वह वर्तमान में भी गंभीर चिंतन स्वरूप में है। स्त्री विमर्श, दलित विमर्श, आदिवासी विमर्शों ने तो साहित्य में अपनी एक जगह बनाई, साथ ही कई छोटे-छोटे विमर्श भी उभर कर सामने आए। इन नए विमर्शों में जहाँ एक ओर पसमांदा विमर्श, अन्य पिछड़ा वर्ग है तो दूसरी ओर एल.जी.बी.टी. (लेस्बियन, गे, बाएसेक्सुअल, ट्रांसजेंडर) विमर्श भी। इन सभी विमर्शों में जहाँ मुख्य संघर्ष अस्तित्व की पहचान का है तो वहीं एल०जी०बी०टी० विमर्श में मनुष्य न माने जाने का संघर्ष है। इन विमर्शों में भी सबसे निम्न स्थिति में ट्रांसजेंडर या किन्नर समुदाय है।

किन्नर शब्द सुनते ही हमारे दिमाग में समाज से बहिष्कृत लोगों की छवि बनने लगती है। ये लोग शादी, बच्चे के जन्म के अवसर पर, बस, ट्रेन, सड़क या किसी पार्क में आपको पैसे मांगते दिख जायेंगे, लेकिन आपने कभी ये सोचा है कि आखिर ये लोग इस तरह से पैसे मांगने को क्यों मजबूर हैं? उनकी व्यथा हमें विचलित करने के स्थान पर उन्हें उपहास का पात्र क्यों बनाती है? वास्तव में मनुष्य के रूप में जन्म लेने के बावजूद किन्नर दयनीय जीवन जीने के लिए मजबूर हैं। किन्नरों के साथ होने वाले सामाजिक भेदभाव से उनका मनोबल टूटता है। उनके लिए न रोज़गार की व्यवस्था है और न ही उनकी अपनी कोई पारिवारिक इकाई।

ऐसा नहीं है कि ये समुदाय (किन्नर समुदाय) हाल ही में उभरा है। दरअसल प्राचीन काल से ही इनका अस्तित्व रहा है किन्नर समुदाय की उपस्थिति हमें पुराणों के समय से ही मिलती है। यही नहीं 'रामायण' और 'महाभारत' जैसे महाकाव्य में भी शिखंडी तथा पांडवों के तेरह वर्ष के वनवास में एक वर्ष के अज्ञातवास में अर्जुन भी जो रूप धरते हैं वह किन्नर (बह्वनला) का ही था।

अंग्रेजी में इनके लिए 'हरमोफ्रोडाइट्स' स्त्री-पुरुष लक्षणों वाला और ग्रीक में इन्हीं लक्षणों से युक्त हरमोफ्रोडाइट्स की मूर्ति को स्त्री-पुरुष प्रेम और सौंदर्य का प्रतीक बताती है। वात्स्यायन की पुस्तक 'कामसूत्र' में इनके बारे में विस्तृत जानकारी है। कामसूत्रकार वात्स्यायन ने पुरुष प्रकृति, स्त्री प्रकृति और तृतीय प्रकृति का उल्लेख किया है। मनु ने 'मनुस्मृति' में इसे जैविक रूप से व्याख्यायित करते हुए कहा कि 'उच्चकोटि के पुरुष से लड़के का जन्म होता है स्त्री के प्रभावी होने पर बच्ची का जन्म होता है और यदि दोनों समान हैं तो तीसरे प्रकार के बच्चे का जन्म होता अथवा बेटा, बेटी जुड़वा होते हैं यदि दोनों कमज़ोर होते हैं तो वे कमज़ोर अथवा परिणाम में विफल होते हैं तो तृतीय प्रकृति के मनुष्यों की उत्पत्ति होती है।

अपने सतत एवं जागरूक नज़रिया से समाज को देखते हुए बद्री नारायण ने अपनी रचनाओं के माध्यम चिंतन के नए द्वार खोले और इसीलिए आज इन्हें चिंतन और विमर्श के प्रमुख हस्ताक्षर के रूप में भी जाना जाता है।

स्वयं साहित्यकार बद्री नारायण साहित्य अकादमी सम्मान से सम्मानित होने पर प्रसन्नता सहित यह मानते हैं कि जीवन की इस ऊहा-पोह को वाणी प्रदान कर प्रस्तुतीकरण करने के पीछे समाज के उन लोगों को श्रेय जाता है, जिनसे मैं प्रभावित हुआ।

आरोही अंतरा
बी. ए. हिंदी विशेष, तृतीय वर्ष

संदर्भ सूची :

1. बद्री नारायण, तुमड़ी के शब्द, राजकमल प्रकाशन, दिल्ली, 2019, पृष्ठ संख्या : 105
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उनके द्वारा रचित 'तुमड़ी के शब्द' जो लगभग 70 कविताओं का संग्रह हैं जिसमें आम जानता के जीवन को आवाज़ को आधार बनाया गया हैं।

जीवन के प्रति संवेदनशीलता की अभिव्यक्ति 'तुमड़ी के शब्द' संग्रह की कविता 'हम' में साहित्यकार बद्री नारायण ने लिखा हैं कि :-

'कुछ हमें सताते है
कुछ को हम सताते है
एक दूसरे को सताते हुए
हम इस सभ्यता को आगे बढ़ाते हैं'

अनेकताओ के कत्ल पर
'एकता' यहाँ लेती है आकार
खंड-खंड को मार-मार
'अखंडता' आती है
हुज़ूर! माई-बाप, सरकार
क्या कहूँ, क्या ना कहूँ

आज के मानव जीवन की व्यस्तता में ख़ालीपन को प्रस्तुत करती इनकी रचनाओं में उन व्यक्तियों की संवेदनशीलता की अभिव्यक्ति इन शब्दों में हुई हैं -

'आनंद, वैभव, खुशियों की तलाश में
मॉल, हाईवे, फ़्लाई ओवर से गुज़रते
तुम पहुँच रहे हो एक महाबाज़ार में
उसी बाज़ार के बिलकुल बगल से
खुलता है मृत्यु लोक का एक महाद्वार...

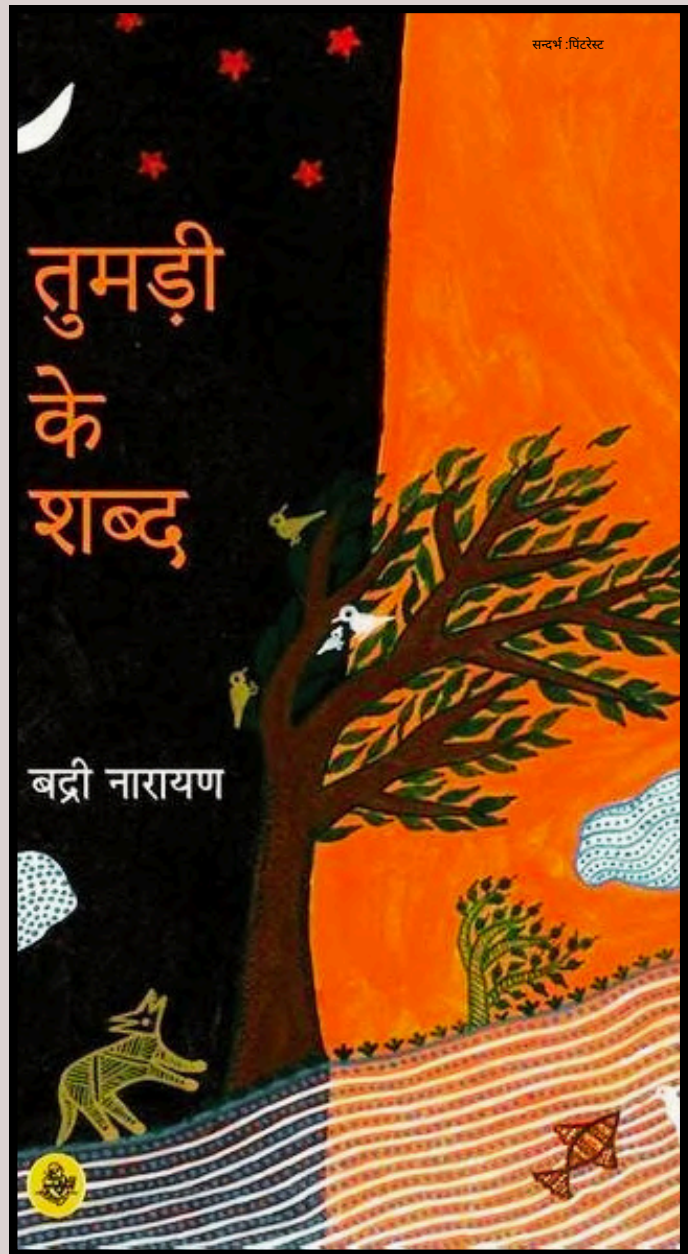
इसके साथ ही आरक्षण नीति, सामाजिक यथार्थ की वास्तविकता, आधुनिक मानव की कामना , सत्ता के पीछे भागते मानव की दुर्दशा इत्यादि तमाम मानवीय भावों और विचारों को मूर्त करती इनकी रचना एक बेहतरीन प्रयास है। हमारे आज के भौतिक, वैज्ञानिक और तर्कसंगत तथ्यों का मिथकीय और लोक कलात्मकता के साथ तालमेल बैठकर प्रस्तुतीकरण ही इनकी लेखनी की सबसे बड़ी विशेषता हैं ।

बद्री नारायण रचित 'तुमड़ी के शब्द'

बद्री नारायण हिन्दी के महत्वपूर्ण कवि है। नवें दशक के कवियों में सर्वाधिक चर्चित बद्री जी सामाजिक इतिहास एवं सांस्कृतिक मानव विज्ञान के विशेषज्ञ भी हैं। हिन्दी के प्रतिष्ठित कवि होने के साथ-साथ बद्री जी उत्तर भारत की आधारभूत राजनीतिक समझ और निर्मितियों की पहचान करने वाले समाज वैज्ञानिक के रूप में भी जाने जाते हैं। बद्री जी ने बहुत सी रचनाओं के माध्यम से अपने विचार एवं अनुभूतियों को पाठकों के सामने प्रस्तुत किया जिनमें कुछ प्रमुख रचनाएँ इस प्रकार हैं - 'खुदाई में हिंसा', 'शब्द-पदीयम', और 'सच सुने हुए कई दिन हुए' इत्यादि। भारत भूषण अग्रवाल पुरस्कार, बनारसी प्रसाद भोजपुरी सम्मान, केदार सम्मान, स्पंदन कृति पुरस्कार, राष्ट्र कवि 'दिनकर' पुरस्कार, शमशेर सम्मान, मीरा स्मृति सम्मान जैसे महत्वपूर्ण पुरस्कारों से भी सम्मानित हो चुके हैं।

केवल हिंदी में ही नहीं अंग्रेजी, बांग्ला, उड़िया, मलयालम, उर्दू तथा अन्य भारतीय भाषाओं में उनकी कृतियों का अनुवाद हो चुका है। ये कविता लिखने के साथ-साथ इस पर हो रहे चिंतन एवं विमर्श के एक प्रखर हस्ताक्षर के रूप में भी जाने जाते हैं।

बद्रीनारायण उन संवेदनशील कवियों की श्रेणी में आते हैं, जो मानव जीवन के समस्त अनुभवों को साहित्य के स्तर पर अभिव्यक्त करने की क्षमता रखते हैं।



निर्मल वर्मा मूलतः एक रचनाकार हैं, अतः रचना के गंभीर और बारीक प्रश्नों पर उसी गंभीरता और बारीकी से विचार करते हैं। सृजन के रहस्यों व प्रश्नों-प्रतिमानों पर जिन कुछ लेखकों ने निर्भय व स्वाधीन होकर विचार किया है, उनमें जैनेन्द्र कुमार, अज्ञेय और निर्मल वर्मा के नाम उल्लेखनीय हैं। ये तीनों ही लेखक विचारधारा और दिलों के दलदल से मुक्त होकर साहित्य पर विचार करते हैं। निर्मल वर्मा के अनुसार - “ एक कलाकृति अंततः एक विराट् दार्शनिक और आध्यात्मिक अनुभव होती है। रचना दर्शन का कोई सत्य या सूत्र नहीं बताती बल्कि एक चमत्कारिक रहस्योद्घाटन करती है जिसमें एक सत्य की तानाशाही नहीं- अनेक विरोधी, अंतर्विरोधी सत्य का एक ऐसा यथार्थ उद्घाटित होता है, जो हमारे अपने जीवन के खंडित, बदहवास, विश्रुंखलित अनुभवों को एक संगति, एक पैटर्न, एक व्यवस्था देता है। हमारी दुनिया में एक कलाकृति का कोई विकल्प नहीं।”

संदर्भ सूची :-

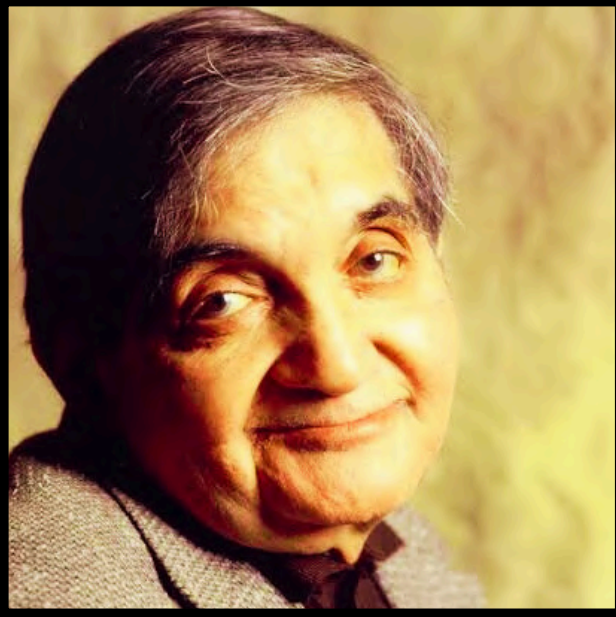
- 1.शब्द और स्मृति, निर्मल वर्मा, वाणी प्रकाशन, दिल्ली, द्वितीय संस्करण 2023, प्राक्कन, पृष्ठ 10
- 2.हिन्दी कहानी : उद्भव और विकास : डॉ. सुरेश सिन्हा, अशोक प्रकाशन, दिल्ली, पृष्ठ 595
- 3.समकालीन कहानी : दिशा और दृष्टि : सम्पादक डॉ. धनंजय, अभिव्यक्ति प्रकाशन, 1970, पृष्ठ 111
- 4.लंदन की एक रात : जलती झाड़ी संग्रह; निर्मल वर्मा, राजकमल प्रकाशन समूह, 1965, पृष्ठ 59
- 5.शब्द और स्मृति, निर्मल वर्मा, वाणी प्रकाशन, दिल्ली, द्वितीय संस्करण 2023, पृष्ठ 93
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- 7.वही
- 8.भारत और यूरोप: प्रतिश्रुति के क्षेत्र, निर्मल वर्मा, वाणी प्रकाशन, दिल्ली, पृष्ठ 95

कोई अनुभव, कोई सत्य ऐसा नहीं-जो एक उपन्यास, एक कविता के अनुभव और साथ की जगह ले सके। जिस चीज का कोई विकल्प नहीं, उसका अपने में होना ही इतना अनमोल सत्य है कि प्रश्न उसकी ‘प्रासंगिकता’ का न रहकर यह हो जाता है कि क्या हम और हमारा समाज एक कलाकृति में अपनी प्रासंगिकता खोज पाते हैं?

निर्मल जी मानते हैं कि कला का सत्य इतिहास के खूंटो से नहीं बंधा होता, न ही वह सामाजिक परिवर्तनों द्वारा परिभाषित किया जा सकता है। किसी कलाकृति का सत्य काल-परिवर्तन के साथ झूठा नहीं पड़ जाता, वह उत्तरोत्तर अपने नए अर्थ खोलता जाता है। निर्मल जी मानते हैं कि कलाकृति के प्रति हमें उपयोगितावादी रुख नहीं अपनाना चाहिए। वह किसी चीज को प्राप्त करने का ‘साधन’ नहीं बल्कि अपने में ‘संध्या’ है।

ज्योति

अतिथि प्राध्यापक, हिन्दी विभाग



बरोजगारी रंग-भेद, प्रवासी जैसी सामाजिक समस्याओं को आधार बनाकर इन्होंने अपना अधिकतर कथा-साहित्य रचा है। 'लंदन की एक रात' कहानी का आधार रंग-भेद की समस्या है। तीन दिन कारखाने में जाकर भी इन विदेशियों को नौकरी नहीं मिल पाती क्योंकि वे काली चमड़ी वाले हैं। प्रतिक्रिया स्वरूप पात्रों की भावस्थिति कितनी दारुण है:- “उसे नहीं मालूम, मैं बदला ले रहा था.... उसकी सफेद चमड़ी के संग.... और उसने हाथ से इशारा किया, अश्लील इतना नहीं जितना जुगुप्सामया... दूर कारखाने के परे ट्यूब.... स्टेशन की बत्तियाँ चमक रही थी।”

निर्मल ने सामाजिक, वैयक्तिक समस्याओं के अतिरिक्त अपने चिंतन में स्मृति और परम्परा को बहुत महत्व दिया है तथा इनके सामने 'इतिहास' को रखकर उसकी सीमाओं का विश्लेषण करते हैं। वे लिखते हैं, “मैं अकसर सोचता हूँ कि वे शहर कितने दुर्भागि हैं जिनके अपने कोई खंडहर नहीं। उनमें रहना उतना ही भयानक अनुभव हो सकता है जैसे किसी ऐसे व्यक्ति से मिलना, जो अपनी स्मृति खो चुका है, जिसका कोई अतीत नहीं। अगर मुझसे कोई नरक की परिभाषा पूछे तो वह है, हमेशा वर्तमान में रहना, एक अंतहीन रोशनी, जहाँ कोई छाया नहीं, आदमी हमेशा आँखें खोले रहता है- नींद और स्वप्न व अंधेरे को भूलकर। जहाँ वर्तमान शाश्वत है, वहाँ शाश्वत भी अपना मूल्य खो देता है, क्योंकि जो चीज शाश्वत को आयाम देती है- समय- वह खुद कोई मूल्य नहीं रखता।”

इसी प्रकार 'माया का मर्म' कहानी है। कहानी का नायक एक बेरोज़गार व्यक्ति है जो न तो स्वयं को सिद्ध कर सकता है क्योंकि ऐसा करने से उसे आत्मघातक पीड़ा होती है और न ही स्वयं की सार्थकता सिद्ध कर सकता है क्योंकि ऐसा करने से वह वहाँ फिट है, यह नहीं दिखा सकता। मानव-मन पर चिंतन की पर्तें पड़ती-उधड़ती रहती हैं और बेकार रहना वैसे भी एक दारुण स्थिति है :-

“मैंने पहली बार बेरोज़गारी के इस लम्बे अरसे पर से दरिद्रता की राख को बिना दर्द के कुरेद दिया। जो अभाव की रिक्तता अब तक चुभती थी, वह अब भी है।” चुभन बढ़ती जाती है तथा चिंतन प्रक्रिया एक व्यर्थ जान पड़ती है- “मेरा सोचना मेरे जैसे ही बेकार है, इसलिए आज नहीं सोचूँगा।” यह चिंतन मानव मन की स्थितियों का यथातथ्य चित्रण करते हैं। बेरोजगारी का दर्द, मर्म को स्पर्श करता है, जिसे आज का प्रत्येक बेकार मानव झेल रहा है।



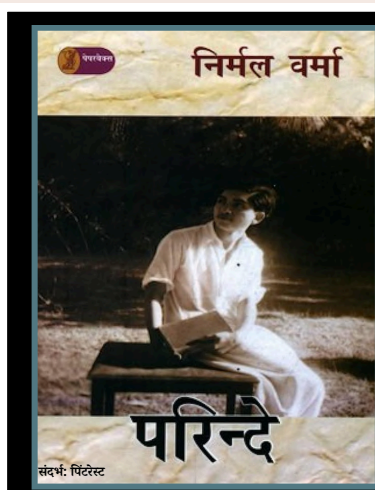
उनके अनुसार यूरोपीय मानववाद की दंभपूर्ण आक्रमक अवधारणा का विरोध पूरब के विचारकों (जैसे गांधी का 'हिंद स्वराज') ने तो किया ही पश्चिम के भी टॉलस्टॉय, इलियट, येट्स, आर्वेल, लारेंस आदि लेखकों-चिंतकों ने किया। गांधी की आधुनिकता यूरोपीय आधुनिकता से भिन्न थी। वह यूरोप के 'व्यक्ति-स्वातंत्र्य' को धर्म की आचार संहिता में रखना चाहते थे और धर्म को भी रूढ़िवादिता से मुक्त रखना चाहते थे। इस प्रकार एक सच्चे आधुनिक की तरह वे भारतीय और यूरोपीय दोनों संस्कृतियों का आत्मलोचन कर रहे थे।

निर्मल वर्मा के कथा-साहित्य के पात्र भी 'व्यक्ति-स्वतंत्रता' की खोज में भटकते दिखते हैं। निर्मल वर्मा ने जीवन की मीमांसा की है। इसीलिए इनकी वैयक्तिक-चेतना आधुनिक परिवेश में अकेले पड़ गये व्यक्ति की अंतर्मुखी प्रवृत्तियों को उभारने में अभिव्यक्त हुई है। इनका व्यक्ति चिंतनशील है, किसी-न-किसी विचार में निमग्न रहता है, ऐसी स्थिति में सुनसान स्थान की खोज में भटकता रहता है।

इनके रचनाओं के पात्र मानवतावादी है इसीलिए जहाँ वे एक ओर संवेदनशील हैं, दूसरी ओर संघर्ष प्रिय भी। अपने अकेलेपन से ऊब कर ये क्लबों व रेस्तरां में ही भटकते रहते हैं। अपने ही अंतर की गुत्थियों को उलझाते-सुलझाते स्वयं से ही संघर्ष करते रहते हैं। इनकी कहानियों को समझने के लिए छोटा-सा बौद्धिक प्रयास करना पड़ता है क्योंकि इनकी कहानियों में जीवन की आलोचनात्मक-प्रत्यालोचनात्मक व्याख्या हुई है-

"यही कारण है कि उनकी कहानियों में जीवन की आलोचना एवं मीमांसा के वे तत्व भी निहित है जिनके आधार पर उनके दृष्टिकोण को प्रगतिशील भी किया गया है।"

निर्मल वर्मा के चिंतनपरक निबंध वैश्विक चिंता और मानवीय सरोकारों से ओत-प्रोत है। निर्मल जी अपने समय के ज्वलंत प्रश्नों से भागते नहीं, उनसे पूरी शक्ति से टकराते हैं। इनमें साहित्य और कला के ही नहीं समाज, राजनीति और सामान्य जीवन के भी गंभीर प्रश्न होते हैं। सृजन-प्रक्रिया, सौंदर्य और नैतिकता, संप्रेषण, आस्था, प्रासंगिकता, विचारधारा और प्रतिबद्धता, परम्परा और इतिहास-बोध, भाषा, मिथक, भूमंडलीकरण, औद्योगिकीकरण और आधुनिक विकास, समाज-व्यवस्था, सांप्रदायिकता और धर्मनिरपेक्षता, सभ्यता और संस्कृति, संस्कृति और राष्ट्र, मानववाद, लेखक की स्वतन्त्रता और स्वधर्म इत्यादि विषयों पर गंभीर निबंध लिखे हैं। वे इन प्रश्नों पर स्पष्ट दो टूक विचार व्यक्त करते हैं। सामाजिक समस्याओं के साथ ही वैयक्तिक अंतर्मन का विश्लेषण करने के कारण इनके पात्र भी चिंतनशील बने रहते हैं।



धनंजय वर्मा के शब्दों में -

"निर्मल वर्मा की कहानियाँ जीवन की वे अनुभूतियाँ हैं, जिन्हें एकांतिक अनुभूतियाँ कहते हैं। ये अंतर्मुखी और व्यक्तिपरक होती हैं। इन कहानियों में घटनाएँ हैं साथ में एक मुखर चिंतन है, जिसके अवलम्बन से अकेलेपन की पर्तें स्तर-स्तर पर खुलती जाती हैं। वे स्तर जिंदगी के व्यावहारिक पक्ष में नहीं खुलते बल्कि उससे हटकर अनुभूति के क्षणों में मुखरित होती हैं। इसलिए निर्मल वर्मा की कहानियाँ आज की कहानी में विशिष्ट उपलब्धि है।"

निर्मल वर्मा का वैचारिक चिंतन व कथा साहित्य



संदर्भ: पिंटेरेस्ट

बीसवीं शताब्दी चेतना के उभार का युग हैं। चेतना मनुष्य में जन्म से विद्यमान होती है। चेतना के मूल में आशा, आकांक्षा, उत्साह, उल्लास का विशेष महत्व है। 'अह ब्रह्मस्मि' तथा 'मैन इज द मेयर ऑफ़ ऑल थिंग्स' कहकर सभी मनीषियों एवं दार्शनिकों ने मनुष्यों में अस्मिता का भाव भर दिया और धीरे-धीरे अस्मिता की भावना इतनी व्यापक हो गयी कि धर्म, संस्कृति, दर्शन, राजनीति, मनोविज्ञान एवं साहित्य आदि सभी में व्याख्यायित होने लगी। नये रचनाकारों ने विचार के नये धरातल, भाव की नई भूमि तथा जीवन के नये संदर्भ की खोज कर उसे अभिव्यक्ति प्रदान की।

इस युग के रचनाकारों ने अत्यन्त निर्भीकता से युग के चतुर्दिक संघर्ष को उभारा है और सभी वर्गों की चेतना को वाणी दी। साथ ही व्यक्ति के अस्तित्व को उजागर कर 'मैं भी कुछ हूँ, मेरी भी सत्ता है' की भावना ने प्राण प्राप्त किया है। ये लेखक पाठकों को झकझोरते और उन्हें वैचारिक ऊर्जा देते हैं।

निर्मल वर्मा अपने समय के उन प्रमुख रचनाकारों में से हैं जिन्होंने अपनी रचना में वैचारिकता को प्रधानता दी। वे मात्र रचनाकार नहीं बल्कि वैचारिक रचनाकार हैं।

इस अर्थ में वे अज्ञेय की विशिष्ट पंक्ति में प्रतिष्ठित दिखते हैं। निर्मल वर्मा पर भारतीयता से परे विदेशी विचारों और अनुभवों को परोसने का आरोप लगा, इस संबंध में वे स्वयं कहते हैं- "मैं बरसों से अपने देश से बाहर रहा हूँ। इससे मेरे भीतर एक अलगाव-सा उत्पन्न हुआ है जो मुझे कभी-कभी बोझ-सा जान पड़ता है। किंतु दूसरी तरफ इसी 'अलगाव' ने मुझे अपनी जातीय अस्मिता और संस्कृति को एक ऐसे कोण से देखने का अवसर दिया है, जहाँ भ्रम व भुलावे के लिए गुंजाइश बहुत कम है। मैं एक साथ अपने को बाहर और भीतर पाता रहा हूँ- पश्चिम से मुझे एक तार्किक अंतर्दृष्टि मिली है, जिसके सहारे मैंने अपनी संस्कृति के मिथक- बोध, बिंबो और प्रतीकों की गैर तार्किक अंतर्चेतना को परखने की चेष्टा की है, दूसरी तरफ मैं खुद इस अंतर्चेतना का अंश हूँ, जिसके आधार पर मुझे आधुनिक तर्कशील तकनीकी सभ्यता के अंतर्विरोधों का अहसास भी होता रहा है।"

निर्मल जी द्वारा तार्किक अंतर्दृष्टि से अपनी जातीय अस्मिता और संस्कृति के मिथक-बोध, बिंबों और प्रतीकों की गैरतार्किक अंतर्चेतना को परखना तथा उसके आधार पर आधुनिक तर्कशील तकनीकी सभ्यता के अंतर्विरोधों का एहसास करना चिंतन के क्षेत्र में ऐसा कार्य है जिसे आधुनिक हिन्दी लेखकों में उनके अतिरिक्त सिर्फ अज्ञेय ने पूरा किया। चिंतन का यह क्षेत्र साहित्य चिंतन तक सीमित नहीं है।

निर्मल जी संपूर्ण सृष्टि को उसकी संपूर्णता में स्वीकार करना चाहते हैं और औपनिवेशिक चिंतन से मुक्त भारतीय चिंतन में उन्हें यह समग्र दृष्टि प्राप्त होती है। उनके अनुसार यूरोपीय मानववाद की 'मनुष्य' के बारे में यह बुनियादी अवधारणा रही है कि वही सृष्टि के केन्द्र में है और उसकी तर्कबुद्धि, विवेकबोध और स्वचेतना उसे इस दृष्टि में जीने वाले प्राणियों से न केवल अलग करती है बल्कि उनकी तुलना में उसे अधिक श्रेष्ठ, महत्वपूर्ण और अधिक स्वाधीन बनाती है।

निर्मल जी के अनुसार मार्क्सवाद भी यूरोपीय मानववाद की इस अवधारणा को स्वीकार करता है। पहले इसने प्रकृति पर विजय प्राप्त करके औद्योगिक प्रभुत्व स्थापित किया। फिर एशिया, अफ्रीका की जातियों को और अमरीकी महाद्वीप के आदिवासी भारतीयों को नष्ट करके।

साहित्य संवाद



आरोही अंतरा, बी. ए. हिंदी विशेष, तृतीय वर्ष



सन्दर्भ :पिंटेरेस्ट

द एलीफेंट व्हिस्पर्स

2023 में भारत की भूमि ने दो-दो ऑस्कर जीतकर इतिहास रचा, एक तरफ तो नाटों-नाटों की धुन पर पूरा देश नाचा तो वहीं एक शॉर्ट डॉक्युमेंट्री फिल्म द एलीफेंट व्हिस्पर्स ने सबकी आँखों को नम कर दिया।

इस डॉक्युमेंट्री का विषय और स्थान रोचक हैं। इसके निर्देशक और निर्माता भारतीय महिलाएं कार्तिकी गोंजाल्विस और गुनीत मोंगा हैं, जिन्होंने सम्पूर्ण विश्व में नारी प्रतिभा का परचम लहराया है। 39 मिनट की तमिल भाषा डॉक्युमेंट्री दक्षिण भारत के एक अनाथ हाथी और उसको बचाने वाले बोमन और बेली की सच्ची कहानी है। डॉक्युमेंट्री में डायरेक्टर ने मधु मलाई नेशनल पार्क की खूबसूरती के साथ-साथ वहाँ के जनजातीय जीवन को भी बहुत ही खूबसूरत तरह से प्रस्तुत किया है।

यह कहानी आदिवासी जीवन के इर्द-गिर्द घूमती है। इसमें रघु के ठीक होने से जीवित रहने की यात्रा में बोमन और बेली की भूमिका और उनका निश्छल प्रेम को जीवंत रूप दिया है। कहानी में रघु की सारी हरकतें और आदतें एक छोटे बच्चे की तरह दिखाई गई हैं और बोमन और बेली को उसके माता पिता के रूप में दर्शाया गया है।

इस फिल्म को देखते हुए लगा कि इसमें मनुष्य और प्राणियों के बीच विश्वास, प्रेम और शांति पूर्ण सहसंबंध है। इसकी नींव प्रेम और भरोसे के आधार पर टिकी हुई है। हमें एक बड़ा संदेश यह भी मिलता है की जंगलो और उसमें रहने वाले प्राणियों को बचाना है तो हमें भी जंगल में रहने वालों की संवेदनशीलता को अपनाना होगा।

ऑस्कर से सम्मानित की जाने वाली यह गुनीत मोंगा की दूसरी फिल्म है। 2019 में उनकी फिल्म 'पीरियड एंड ऑफ सेंटेंस (Period end of sentence)' को बेस्ट डॉक्युमेंट्री शॉर्ट फिल्म की श्रेणी में ऑस्कर सम्मान मिला था। ऑस्कर 2023 के लिए द एलीफेंट व्हिस्पर्स के साथ 'हाउ डू यू मेजर ईयर', 'द मार्था मिशेल इफैक्ट' और 'स्ट्रेंजर एट द गेट' को भी नॉमिनेट किया पिंटेरेस्टगया था। इन सभी शॉर्ट फिल्मों पछाड़ते हुए द एलीफेंट व्हिस्पर्स ने ऑस्कर सम्मान प्राप्त किया।

गार्गी

बी. ए. हिंदी विशेष, प्रथम वर्ष

अतः यह कहा जा सकता है कि सिनेमा निर्माण होता ही समाज के लिए है इसीलिए वह समाज के विभिन्न गहरे पक्षों से जुड़ी रहती है। एक ओर तो यह समाज के यथार्थ से रूबरू कराती है और तो वही दूसरी ओर समाज को एक नयी दिशा भी प्रदान करती हैं। आज हमारा सिनेमा देश – विदेश के जीवन के सत्यों को लेकर चलता है।

सत्य की पराकाष्ठा की प्रस्तुतीकरण के दौरान हमें इस बात का स्मरण रखना चाहिए कि कोई भी वस्तु स्वयं न अच्छी होती है, न बुरी। वस्तु का अच्छा या बुरा होना उसके उपयोग पर निर्भर करता है। यदि सिनेमा का विचारपूर्वक सही प्रयोग किया जाए तो मानव जाति के लिए यह बहुत लाभदायक हो सकता है तथा इसके सब दोषों से बचा जा सकता है।

भानु प्रिया

बी. ए. हिंदी विशेष, तृतीय वर्ष





अतः मनोरंजन के स्तर पर लोग सदा से ही अधिकाधिक पाने को उत्सुक रहा करते थे।

भारत में अंग्रेजों के शासन काल से ही फिल्मों बनने का सिलसिला आरंभ हुआ जिसका सफर मूक, संवाद के साथ श्वेत-श्याम और फिर रंगीन फिल्मों के दौर से गुजरा। आज भी भारतीय फिल्मों पूरी दुनिया में बड़े चाव से देखी जाती हैं। सिनेमा के विविध आयामों के विकास के साथ ही यह एक ऐसा माध्यम बनकर उभरा जिसने विश्व के लोगों के लिए मनोरंजन के नए द्वार खोल दिए, क्योंकि इसे किसी भी वर्ग, जाति तथा धर्म के लोग एक साथ देख सकते हैं। इसका आनन्द पूरा परिवार एक साथ बैठ कर उठा सकता है। वर्तमान समय में यह मनोरंजन का एक सुलभ साधन बन गया है।

भारतीय सिनेमा में पौराणिक फिल्मों के दौर से यह प्रारंभ होकर समाज के विविध रूपों को अपने भीतर समेटती है। दादा साहब फालके के निर्देशन में बनायीं गयी फिल्म 'राजा हरिश्चंद्र' से यह परंपरा प्रारंभ होकर आज तक के समाज के विविध पक्षों को समेटती है। आज के दौर में सामाजिक विषयों पर फिल्मों, कला फिल्मों, व्यावसायिक फिल्मों इत्यादि अपनी विशेषताओं के अनुरूप सिनेमा के क्षेत्र को अधिक विस्तार प्रदान करती है। 'कानून', 'धर्मपुत्र', 'धूल का फूल', 'वक्त' जैसे फिल्मों के माध्यम से समाज के रूढ़िवादी संस्कारों को तोड़ने के लिए कारगर प्रयास किया।

वही कला फिल्मों जैसी 'पार', 'दीक्षा' इत्यादि फिल्मों समाज की समस्याओं के समाधान और रूढ़ियों पर कठोर प्रहार की अभिव्यक्ति का माध्यम बनी है। इनके अलावा 'दामिनी', 'बॉर्डर', 'तारे ज़मीन पर', 'पिंक', 'श्री इंडियट', 'माई नेम इज़ खान', 'गुलाब गैंग', 'सिंघम' इत्यादि फिल्मों समाज के अनेक मुद्दों को समेटती है, जिन्हें सिनेमा के उत्तरोत्तर विकास गति के आयाम कहना अनुचित नहीं होगा।





सिनेमा और समाज का संबंध

साहित्य और समाज के बीच अत्यन्त घनिष्ठ संबंध है - “साहित्य समाज का प्रतिबिम्ब है। साहित्य का मुख्य प्रयोजन हित साधन है।..... साहित्य मानव जीवन के अनुभवों और अनुभूतियों का विराट रूप है। यह मानव विकास में जितना सहायक होता है, उसी तरह समाज विकास में भी इसका दायित्व उतना अधिक होता है। समाज में साहित्य के माध्यम से विचार तरंगे प्रवाहित होती हैं, जिससे सामाजिक गतिविधियां लगातार प्रभावित होती हैं।”

कला मनुष्य की रचनात्मक सोच और उसकी चेतना के विकास से सीधी तरह से जुड़ जाती हैं। साहित्य और सिनेमा दोनों ही कला के पारंपरिक और आधुनिक विकास प्रक्रिया को हमारे समक्ष प्रस्तुत करती हैं। जहां तक सिनेमा और समाज के आपसी संबंध की बात है तो अब तक के अनुभवों से यह सिद्ध होता है कि दोनों अपनी-अपनी सीमा तक एक दूसरे को प्रभावित करते हैं। हर दशक का सिनेमा तेजी से परिवर्तित होते समाज को दर्शाता है। सिनेमा और समाज एक दूसरे के पूरक भी हैं। व्यक्ति थोड़ी देर के लिए ही सही, अपने दुखपूर्ण संसार से बाहर आ जाता है।

जिस प्रकार साहित्य को समाज का दर्पण कहा जाता है उसी प्रकार सिनेमा भी समाज का दर्पण बनता दिखाई दे रहा है। सिनेमा भी समाज और उसकी वास्तविकताओं को रूबरू कराने का एक अत्यंत सशक्त माध्यम है। प्रो. जवरीमल्ल पारख के अनुसार ‘फिल्म माध्यम की यह विशेषता है कि यह जीवन की वास्तविकता को जीवन से भी विराट रूप में दिखाकर लोगों को गहरे रूप से प्रभावित करते हैं।’

सिनेमा बीसवीं सदी में मानव जाति को मिले कुछ बेशकीमती वैज्ञानिक उपहारों में से एक है। सिनेमा कला का आधुनिकतम रूप है। यह कला का वह सशक्त माध्यम है जो दर्शकों को समाज दर्शन, संस्कृति, सभ्यता, इतिहास, राजनीति इत्यादि से संबंधित और उन पर आधारित विचारों को फिल्मों के माध्यम से प्रस्तुत करते हैं। इसने पूरे विश्व के मनोरंजन के परिदृश्य में एक क्रांति ला दी है, क्योंकि इससे पहले नाटक, नौटंकी व त्योहारों के अवसर पर लगने वाले मेले ही लोगों के मनोरंजन के प्रमुख साधन थे।



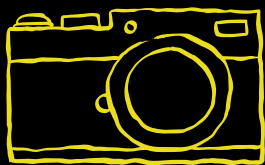
आज के समय में मीडिया साहित्य के अनुरूप तमाम अस्मितावादी विमर्शों को अपने संज्ञान का विषय तो बनाता है परंतु प्रभुत्ववादी वर्ग अपने शक्ति सामर्थ्य का प्रदर्शन करते हुए कभी-कभी इस चौथे स्तंभ को कर्तव्यविमुख भी कर देता है। जनहित से जुड़ी हुई उसकी यह भूमिका विलुप्त होती नज़र आ रही हैं।

आर्थिक, राजनीतिक और सांस्कृतिक मसलों की गंभीरता और अर्थवत्ता को जैसे प्रारम्भिक दौर के पत्रकारों ने समझा, उसकी तुलना यदि हम आज की मीडिया से करें तो पाएंगे की अब यह मसले मीडिया के लिए महज एक प्रोपेगेंडा बन चुके हैं। इन सबका प्रचार-प्रसार वह केवल मुनाफे के लिए करती है। आर्थिक उदारीकरण के दौर में पूंजीपति घरानों को जो छूट मिली उससे उत्पादन का आधार आदमी की आवश्यकता न रहकर सिर्फ और सिर्फ मुनाफा कमाना हो गया।

आज नव-उपनिवेशवाद और नव-साम्राज्यवाद के दौर में जब दुनिया ग्लोबल विलेज और ग्लोबल मार्केट में तब्दील हो रही है तब कोई भी राष्ट्र भाषायी नीति को वैश्विक पटल पर कितनी मजबूती और अडिगता से रखता है, यह अपनी संस्कृति के प्रति गहरी संजीदगी का प्रमाण होगा। चीन और जापान ने भूमंडलीकरण के दौर में भी अपनी भाषा के साथ समझौता नहीं किया। वहाँ मीडिया, बाजार, रोज़गार और ज्ञान का भाषा पर अपना अधिकार है। चीन और जापान में आधुनिकीकरण की भाषा उनकी अपनी भाषा रही, परंतु भारत ने आधुनिकीकरण की प्रक्रिया में यूरोपीय भाषा को अपनाया। आज मीडिया की चिंता में भारतीय भाषा, लोक जीवन और लोक संस्कृति सिरे से गायब है।

आज मीडिया अपनी प्रारंभिक कर्तव्य से विमुख होकर वास्तविक प्रश्नों को अनदेखा कर रहा है। ऐसे में परंपरा और संस्कृति की जकड़ कमजोर पड़ती जा रही है। इस जकड़ को मज़बूत कर अपने कर्तव्य के प्रति आसक्ति ही मीडिया का वास्तविक लक्ष्य होना चाहिए।

डॉ. सोनम सिंह
अतिथि प्राध्यापक, हिन्दी विभाग



उल्लेखनीय है कि सत्ता चाहे धर्म की हो राजनीति या पूंजी की, वर्चस्व की भावना सत्ता का प्रधान गुण है। सत्ताएँ प्रायः अपनी वर्चस्वकारी प्रवृत्तियों को उजागर न होने का भरसक प्रयास करती हैं। लंबे समय के बाद सत्ता का दमनकारी रूप उग्र होता चला जाता है। ऐसे में साहित्य व मीडिया से ही अपेक्षा रखी जाती है कि वह एकजुट होकर लोकजागरण और जनता को सचेत पथ की ओर संधान करें। मीडिया और साहित्य ही वह माध्यम है जो जनता को चैतन्य बनाने का कार्य करता है।

इसी से वह सत्ता का पर्दाफाश करने, उनसे लड़ने की शक्ति व क्षमता अर्जित कर पाता है।

आज के पूंजीवादी दौर में मीडिया का रूप कुछ इस तरह गढ़ दिया गया है, जिससे वह समाज और जनता की आलोचनात्मक चेतना को सक्षम बनाने, उनके ज्ञान-विज्ञान को समृद्ध करने, उनके अधिकारों के प्रति उनको सचेत करने के बजाय मात्र चुनिन्दा सूचनाओं के आदान-प्रदान व मनोरंजन को लक्ष्य बनाकर काम करती है। ऐसे प्रतिकूल समय में साहित्य पर लोगों की निर्भरता बढ़ती है।

साहित्य अपने पाठकों के विवेकीकरण पर बल देता है, उसे चेतनशील बनाने पर ज़ोर देता है। सूचनात्मक ज्ञान की पृष्ठभूमि में निहित तथ्यों के विश्लेषण पर वह विचार-विमर्श भी करता है। यही कारण है कि आज मीडिया के लिए कई महत्वपूर्ण मुद्दे गैर-जरूरी बन गये हैं।

ऐसे में साहित्य दोहरी ज़िम्मेदारी के साथ काम कर रहा है। साहित्य में उपजे तमाम अस्मितावादी विमर्श इसी चिंता के परिणाम हैं। आज साहित्य की चिंता में दलित, आदिवासी, स्त्री और तृतीय लिंग समाज आदि भी आते हैं। मीडिया की कवरेज के लिए यह मुद्दे अब गैरज़रूरी बन चुके हैं।

आज टेलीविज़न, पत्र-पत्रिकाओं आदि पर स्त्री की अर्थनग्न तस्वीरें दिखाना, छापना एक फैशनेबल प्रवृत्ति बन चुका है। पूंजीवादी शक्तियों पर निर्भर मीडिया यह काम बिना किसी संकोच के सम्पन्न करती है। यह ज़रूर है कि ऐसी प्रवृत्तियाँ ही साहित्य के विमर्श के दायरे को विस्तार देती हैं। आज गाँव-शहर के हर वर्ग की गरीब विपन्न स्त्री जो असमानता के प्रश्न से जूझ रही है वह साहित्य के दायरे में आती है।





**"ऐसा चाहूँ राज मैं जहाँ मिलै सबन को अन्न।
छोटे बड़ों सब सम बसै रविदास रहै प्रसन्न।।"**

साहित्य व मीडिया दोनों माध्यमों की आधारभूमि समान है। उनके केंद्र में जनता है। जनता की समस्या, जनता का हित तथा जनता के सरोकार से दोनों जुड़े हुए हैं। मीडिया सत्ता निर्माण और सत्ता विध्वंस में निर्णायक भूमिका निभाती है। मीडिया के माध्यम से जनता की त्वरित और तात्कालिक प्रतिक्रिया को जाना जा सकता है।

मीडिया का सामान्य अर्थ हम समाचारपत्र, टेलीविजन, इंटरनेट, रेडियो आदि से लेते हैं। यदि हम इससे इतर भी ध्यान दें तो पाएंगे कि सम्प्रेषण और संवाद का माध्यम समाज में विभिन्न व्यापक रूपों में फैला हुआ है। परंपरागत नौटंकी, स्वांग, नुक्कड़ नाटक से लेकर बैनर, पैम्फलेट, लोकगायन, विज्ञापन, चित्रकला, आदि मीडिया के ही विविध प्रचलित रूप हैं। बस इनकी परिभाषाएँ मीडिया से किंचित भिन्न हैं। विज्ञापन, चित्रकला आदि साहित्य और मीडिया के ही प्रचलित रूप हैं प्रारंभ में मोबाइल ही संचार का प्रमुख साधन कहलाया क्योंकि उसका उद्देश्य ही दो व्यक्तियों के मध्य संवाद स्थापित करना था। व्यक्तियों के बीच दूरी को मिटाकर संप्रेषणीयता को बढ़ाना ही उसका लक्ष्य था। बाद में हमने देखा कि यह भी मीडिया के एक नये शक्तिशाली विकल्प के रूप में उभर कर सामने आया।

बाद में सोशल मीडिया के आगमन पर एक नयी कड़ी इससे जुड़ गयी। यूँ कहें कि सोशल मीडिया को बहुत से बुद्धिजीवियों, आम जन ने हथियार के रूप में प्रयोग करना शुरू कर दिया है। आज के दौर में मीडिया के पूर्वनिर्मित रूप को सोशल मीडिया कड़ी टक्कर दे रहा है। विश्वसनीयता के मामले में भी वह मीडिया से आगे है।



समकालीन जीवन : साहित्य, संस्कृति व मीडिया की भूमिका

समाज में मीडिया की भूमिका संवाद वाहक की होती है। मीडिया समाज के विभिन्न वर्गों, सत्ता-केन्द्र, व्यक्ति प्रतिष्ठानों और संस्थाओं के बीच सेतु का काम करता है। एक ओर जहाँ वह सरकार, सत्ता-केन्द्रों की योजनाओं, कार्यक्रमों, उपलब्धियों को जनता के बीच पहुँचाता है, वहीं उनकी विशेषताओं, कमजोरियों आदि की आलोचना भी करता है। जनता की आकांक्षाओं, समाज की अंदरूनी हलचलों को भी मीडिया ही भाषायी रूप प्रदान करता है।

मीडिया का यही प्रयास जनता की आवाज़ सत्ता प्रतिष्ठानों तक पहुँचाता है। संवादवाहक की इस भूमिका में तथ्यों एवं घटनाओं के प्रस्तुतीकरण की ईमानदारी बेहद ज़रूरी है, यही मीडिया की व्यावसायिक नैतिकता को भी रेखांकित करती है। लोकतान्त्रिक समाज में जहाँ जनता अपने द्वारा चुनी हुई सरकार के माध्यम से स्वशासित होती है, वहाँ मीडिया चौथे स्तम्भ के रूप में अपनी भूमिका को निभाता है। इतिहास में ऐसे अनगिनत उदाहरण प्राप्त हो जायेंगे जहाँ मीडिया का प्रयोग आंदोलनकारियों, बुद्धिचैता लोगों ने जन-परिवर्तन, सत्ता-परिवर्तन के लिए अहिंसक प्रभावशाली और भरोसेमंद हथियार के रूप में किया। मीडिया की शक्ति और सामर्थ्य को अकबर इलाहाबादी ने पराधीन भारत में रेखांकित करते हुए कहा :-

**"खींचो न कमानों को,
न तलवार निकालो।
जब तोप मुक़ाबिल हो,
तो अखबार निकालो।।"**



यहाँ अखबार निकालने का तात्पर्य है- अहिंसक प्रवृत्ति का उपयोग कर, जनता की बौद्धिक, सामाजिक, राजनीतिक तथा वैज्ञानिक चेतना का परिष्कार करना और स्वतन्त्रता, समानता, न्याय और बंधुत्व जैसे मूल्यों में आस्था और विश्वास पैदा करना।

मीडिया और साहित्य समाज के विस्तृत फलक के दो छोर हैं। दोनों की उत्पत्ति और तात्त्विक मूल्यों का उत्सर्जन समाज द्वारा ही होता है इसी आधार पर दोनों के सह संबंध विदित होते हैं। मीडिया और साहित्य के अंतःसंबंध पर बात करें तो मैथ्यू अर्नाल्ड का कथन याद आता है। उन्होंने पत्रकारिता को शीघ्रता में लिखा जाने वाला साहित्य कहा है। पंडित महावीर प्रसाद द्विवेदी जी का कहना है कि 'ज्ञान राशि के संचित कोष का नाम ही साहित्य है'।

आज 21वीं सदी में यह तथ्य निर्विवाद है कि ज्ञान की दुनिया में उसी की सत्ता सर्वोपरि होगी जिसका सूचना और संचार पर नियंत्रण और अधिकार होगा। अमेरिका का महाशक्ति के रूप में उभरना दुनिया की सूचना और संचार व्यवस्था पर उसके व्यापक अधिकार का ही परिणाम है। मीडिया आज के दौर में बाज़ार, ज्ञान यहाँ तक की युद्ध को भी नियंत्रित और निर्देशित करने की क्षमता रखता है। मीडिया वह माध्यम है, जो समाज के विभिन्न वर्गों, शक्ति-केन्द्र (ध्रुवों) के बीच सम्प्रेषण के दायित्व का निर्वहन करता है। उपेक्षित उत्पीड़ित जनता के सपनों को प्रभावशाली वर्गों तक पहुँचाने का काम वह निष्पक्ष एवं निर्भीक तरीके से करता है। वहीं साहित्यकार के पास विश्वदृष्टि होती है। वह कल्पनाशीलता के माध्यम से समस्त चराचर की अभिव्यक्तियों को शब्द प्रदान करता है। जनता के बीच वैचारिक, सांस्कृतिक, सामाजिक संदेशों के आदान प्रदान का माध्यम भी साहित्य ही रहा है। संभावना, शुभकामना साहित्य का मूल है। संत रविदास ने भी इन दोनों सम क्षेत्रों के कार्य से मिलने वाले उद्देश्य को स्पष्ट शब्दों में लिखा है कि :-



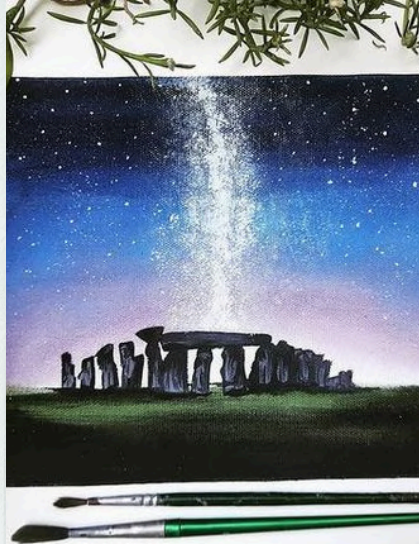
समाज का दर्पण सिनेमा

सिनेमा समाज में हो रही गतिविधियों का दर्पण है। सिनेमा मनोरंजन का साधन होने के साथ ही मानवीय क्रियाकलापों की प्रस्तुति का उपकरण है, जिससे सम्पूर्ण समाज प्रभावित होता है।

पर्यावरण के अनोखे रंग



मौरवी अग्रवाल ,बी. ए हिस्ट्री विशेष,
द्वितीय वर्ष



मौरवी अग्रवाल ,बी. ए हिस्ट्री विशेष,
द्वितीय वर्ष



प्रशंसा ,बी. ए हिंदी विशेष,
प्रथम वर्ष



आस्था पांडे ,बी. ए हिंदी विशेष,
द्वितीय वर्ष

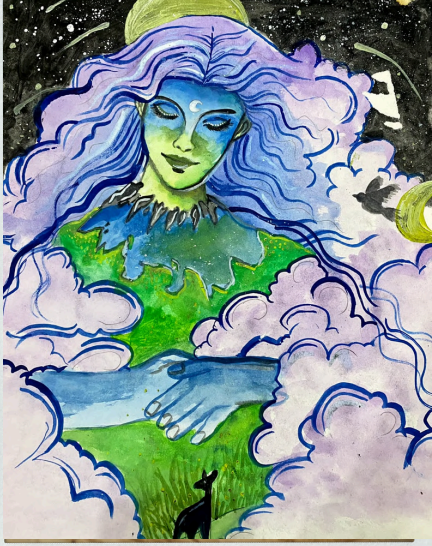


आस्था पांडे ,बी. ए हिंदी विशेष,
द्वितीय वर्ष



मौरवी अग्रवाल ,बी. ए हिस्ट्री विशेष,
द्वितीय वर्ष

पर्यावरण के अनोखे रंग



आस्था पांडे ,बी. ए हिंदी विशेष,
द्वितीय वर्ष



प्रशंसा ,बी. ए हिंदी विशेष,
प्रथम वर्ष



हिमानी देव वर्मा, बी. कॉम प्रोग्राम
तृतीया वर्ष



प्रशंसा ,बी. ए हिंदी विशेष,
प्रथम वर्ष



हिमानी देव वर्मा, बी. कॉम प्रोग्राम
तृतीया वर्ष



हिमानी देव वर्मा, बी. कॉम प्रोग्राम
तृतीया वर्ष

जी -20 के मंच के द्वारा भारत को मौका मिला है और वह इसका सदुपयोग करते दिखाई दे रहा है। आशा है पर्यावरण की दिशा में सिर्फ बैठकें और चर्चाएँ नहीं होंगी, ज़मीनी स्तर पर काम भी होगा।

अब यदि हम पर्यावरण संरक्षण की बात कर ही रहे हैं तो यह कैसे भूल सकते हैं कि विज्ञान के क्षेत्र में प्रतिस्पर्धा और मानव का निजी लाभ प्रकृति को किस प्रकार क्षतिग्रस्त कर रहा है। हमें इसके खिलाफ आवाज़ उठानी होगी और पर्यावरण को संरक्षण प्रदान करना होगा।

मनुष्य अपने स्वार्थवश इतना अंधा हो चुका है कि पृथ्वी को निरंतर अपने हितों की पूर्ति के लिए लगातार दूषित करता जा रहा है। इसे रोकना होगा अन्यथा प्रकृति की असीमित सम्पत्ति जो धीरे-धीरे अत्यंत सीमित हो गई है आने वाले समय में ख़त्म हो जायेगी और फिर मनुष्य के हाथ पछतावे के अलावा और कुछ हाथ नहीं लगेगा।

"खों दोंगे खुद को
तकनीक की इस अंधी दौड़ में
खों दोंगे भविष्य अपना, लालच
की होड़ में।

वक्त हैं सम्भल जाओ
प्रकृति संभालो और हो सके तो
प्रौद्योगिकी से उचित दूरी बना
लो"

अनन्या
हिंदी विशेष, प्रथम वर्ष



(लेख का संदर्भ:

<https://www.g20.in/en/>)

जी 20

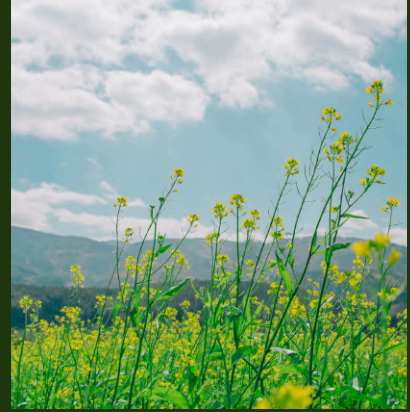


आज के समय में तकनीकी हमारे आपके जीवन का महत्वपूर्ण हिस्सा बन चुकी है। इस दौर में हम आधुनिकीकरण और प्रौद्योगिकी से ना ही मुँह मोड़ सकते हैं और ना कहीं भाग सकते हैं। प्रौद्योगिकी जितना लाभकारी है उतना ही हानिकारक भी है। यह हमारे जीवन में मीठे जहर की तरह मिश्रित होती जा रही है। उसे रोकने या लगाम लगाने के प्रयास असफल होते दिखाई दे रहे हैं और इसी के परिणामस्वरूप प्रौद्योगिकी हमारी प्रकृति को खोखला करती जा रही है।

प्रौद्योगिकी से दूर होना आज के समय में असम्भव है, लेकिन यदि हम प्रौद्योगिकी का नाकारात्मक प्रभाव कम कर के उसका साकारात्मक उपयोग करें तब शायद इस हर दिन कण-कण बिखरती प्रकृति को बचाया जा सकता है। इसी प्रयास में लगे विभिन्न देशों द्वारा हर साल होने वाले जी -20 में शिखर सम्मेलन में पर्यावरण का मुद्दा प्रमुख चिन्ता का विषय रहा।

भारत की अध्यक्षता के दौरान जी-20 सम्मेलन में पर्यावरण और जलवायु परिवर्तन से जुड़ी चुनौतियों पर ज़ोर दिया जा रहा है। दरअसल पर्यावरण और जलवायु परिवर्तन भारत तक ही नहीं बल्कि पूरी दुनिया के लिए संकट बनता जा रहा है।

जैसा की हमें ज्ञात है कि भारत ही नहीं समग्र विश्व जल संकट से जूझ रहा है, इस बात को ध्यान में रखते हुए भविष्य की आने वाली पीढ़ी के लिए जल संरक्षण तथा जल संसाधनों को मजबूत करने के लिए जी -20 के मंच पर इस बात की चर्चा की गई।



जी -20 जैसे अंतरराष्ट्रीय मंच पर भारत द्वारा ग्रीन एनर्जी और सौर ऊर्जा पर चर्चा और मंथन करना बहुत ही सौभाग्य और गर्व की बात है। जल्द ही भारत के हर छोटे बड़े गाँव में, हर पतली चौड़ी सड़क पर, हर इमारत पर सौर उपकरण लगे होंगे जो भारत के भविष्य को उजाले की तरफ ले जायेंगे। वो दिन दूर नहीं जब भारत सौर ऊर्जा और उसके संसाधन प्रयोग में पूर्ण रूप से न केवल आत्मनिर्भर हो जाएगा बल्कि पूरे विश्व में इस सफलता से अपना परचम भी लहराएगा।

अंजली शर्मा
बी. ए. इतिहास विशेष, प्रथम वर्ष



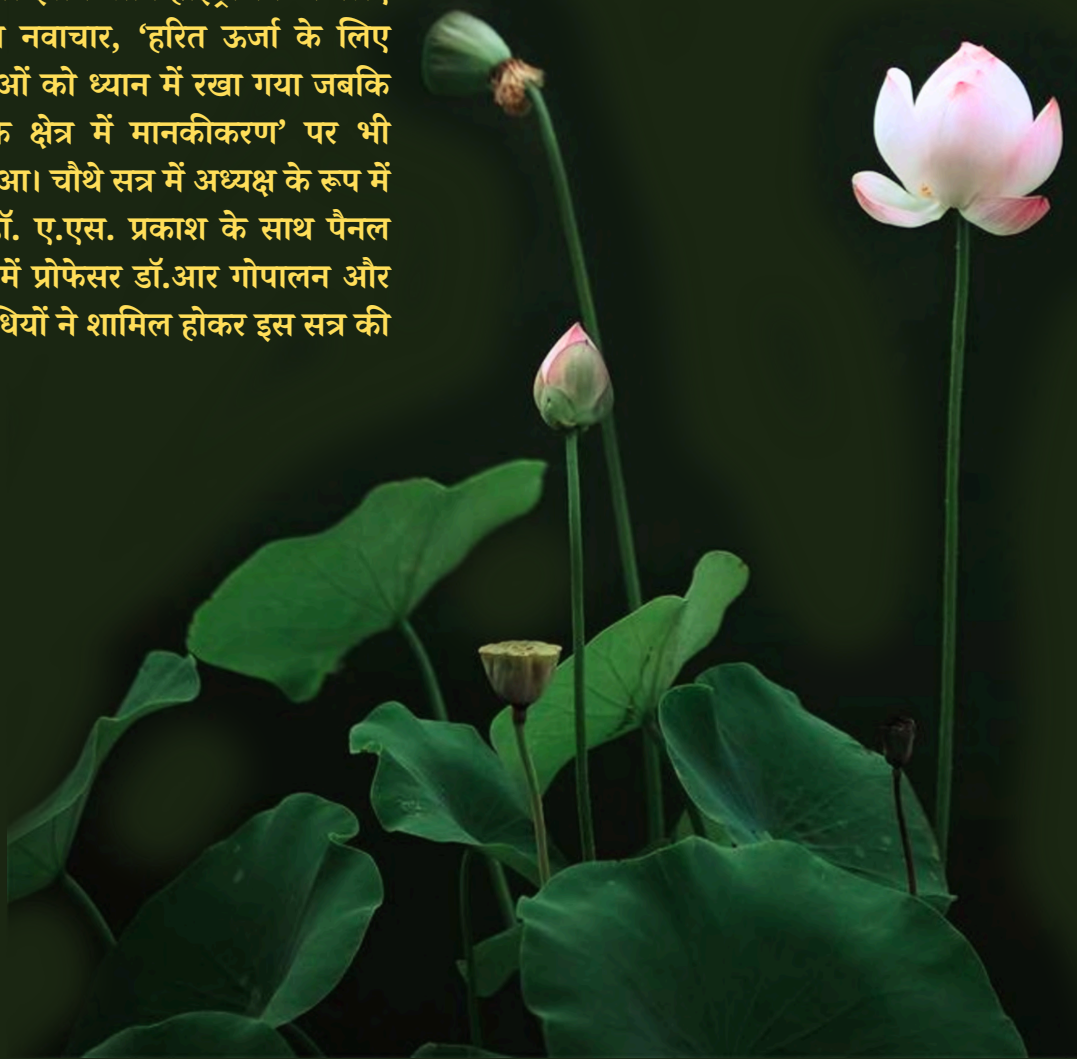
भारत सरकार ने कहा था कि उसने 2022 में 100 गीगावॉट सौर ऊर्जा स्थापित करने का लक्ष्य रखा था। डॉ. चंद्रशेखर ने बताया कि सौर ऊर्जा उत्पादन के लिए एक स्थल के रूप में थार रेगिस्तान का उपयोग करके भारत में 2,100 गीगावॉट तक सौर ऊर्जा उत्पादन करने का अनुमान है। हरित ऊर्जा उत्पादन, भंडारण व रूपांतरण विशेष रूप से हरित हाइड्रोजन, हरित अमोनिया और ऊर्जा भंडारण अवसंरचना के लिए फ्रांस और अन्य जी - 20 देशों के साथ साझेदारी बहुत जरूरी है।

जैसा की हमें ज्ञात है कि भारत ही नहीं समग्र विश्व जल संकट से जूझ रहा है, इस बात को ध्यान में रखते हुए भविष्य की आने वाली पीढ़ी के लिए जल संरक्षण तथा जल संसाधनों को मजबूत करने के लिए जी -20 के मंच पर इस बात की चर्चा की गई।

डॉ. कलाईसेलवी ने कहा की भारत और फ्रांस के बीच दीर्घकालिक द्विपक्षीय अनुसंधान सहयोग विशेष रूप से स्वस्थ और नवीनीकरण ऊर्जा पर अनुसंधान के संवर्धन के लिए है।

सम्मेलन के पहले सत्र में 'ऊर्जा सामग्री और उपकरणों से संबंधित 21वीं सदी की चुनौतियां' पर चर्चा हुई। इसके अलावा सतत ऊर्जा भंडारण के लिए स्मार्ट सामग्री की आवश्यकता, सतत ऊर्जा के लिए सामग्री और 21वीं सदी में स्वच्छ ऊर्जा प्रौद्योगिकी नवाचार में तेजी लाने के लिए सार्वजनिक-निजी भागीदारी जैसे विषयों पर भी मंथन किया गया। दूसरे सत्र में 'सौर ऊर्जा उपयोग और फोटोवोल्टिक प्रौद्योगिकी' पर राय पेश की गई। इस सत्र में एडवांस इन फोटोवोल्टिक्स: मैटेरियल्स, डिवाइसेस, सिस्टम्स एंड एप्लिकेशन' पर भी चर्चा की गई।

तीसरे सत्र में 'हरित ऊर्जा के लिए सामग्री और प्रक्रिया' विषय पर सम्मेलन की अध्यक्षता डॉ. राहुल वालावलकर ने किया। इसमें 'ग्रीन हाइड्रोजन' के लिए सामग्री और प्रक्रिया नवाचार, 'हरित ऊर्जा के लिए सामग्री और प्रक्रियाओं को ध्यान में रखा गया जबकि 'इलेक्ट्रिक वाहन के क्षेत्र में मानकीकरण' पर भी रिसर्च पेपर प्रस्तुत हुआ। चौथे सत्र में अध्यक्ष के रूप में डॉ. अंजन रे और डॉ. ए.एस. प्रकाश के साथ पैनल चर्चा हुई। पैनलिस्ट में प्रोफेसर डॉ.आर गोपालन और अन्य विदेशी प्रतिनिधियों ने शामिल होकर इस सत्र की शोभा बढ़ाई।



भारत घनी आबादी वाला देश है इसीलिए हमें आज के समय में सभी संसाधनों की बहुत आवश्यकता रहती है। हमारे देश में बढ़ती जनसंख्या के कारण ही आत्मनिर्भरता के साथ बिजली की खपत भी बढ़ती जा रही है। तथ्यों को देखें तो देश में बिजली का काफी हद तक उत्पादन कोयले से किया जाता है और ऐसा अनुमान लगाया गया है कि कुछ वर्षों के बाद यह भी समाप्त हो जाएगा।

इसी समस्या को ध्यान में रखते हुए भारत सरकार ने पिछले बीते वर्षों में सौर ऊर्जा और उससे प्राप्त होने वाले फायदों पर सभी का ध्यान केंद्रित किया। जी-20 की अध्यक्षता के दौरान भी भारत सरकार ने इस विषय पर ध्यान केंद्रित करते हुए इसे प्राथमिक विषय माना।

वास्तव में कोविड-19 महामारी ने जलवायु परिवर्तन के व्यापक प्रभावों के बीच हमारे तंत्र की कमजोरियों को उजागर कर दिया।

इस संबंध में जलवायु परिवर्तन भारत के अध्यक्षता में प्राथमिकता बन गया, जिसमें ना केवल जलवायु और प्रौद्योगिकी पर विशेष ध्यान दिया गया बल्कि दुनिया भर के विकासशील देशों के लिए हरित ऊर्जा का अधिक उपयोग भी सुनिश्चित किया गया। इस संबंध में सौर ऊर्जा के सर्वाधिक उपयोग और उसके विकासशील प्रक्रिया के प्रयोग को महत्वपूर्ण विकल्प मानते हुए भारत ने उसे अपनी प्राथमिकता बनाया।

सौर ऊर्जा अन्य ऊर्जा स्रोतों की तुलना में कम जोखिम वाली है, जो इसे अधिक उपयोगी विकल्प बनाती है। इसी कारण भारत ने अंतरराष्ट्रीय मंचों पर भी सौर ऊर्जा के उपयोग को बढ़ावा दिया। 2019 में जी-20 बैठक में भारत में सौर ऊर्जा के लिए स्वीकृत उपायों की सूची प्रस्तुत की। यह उपाय समुद्री सौर ऊर्जा, बाढ़ और नदी ऊर्जा, सौर संयंत्रों में निवेश इत्यादि विषयों को शामिल करता है।



पर्यावरण संरक्षण और सौर ऊर्जा

प्रकृति के सोलह श्रृंगार

रूप अनेक प्रकृति ये दिखाती है
चीर कहीं वृक्ष को ये बनाती है।

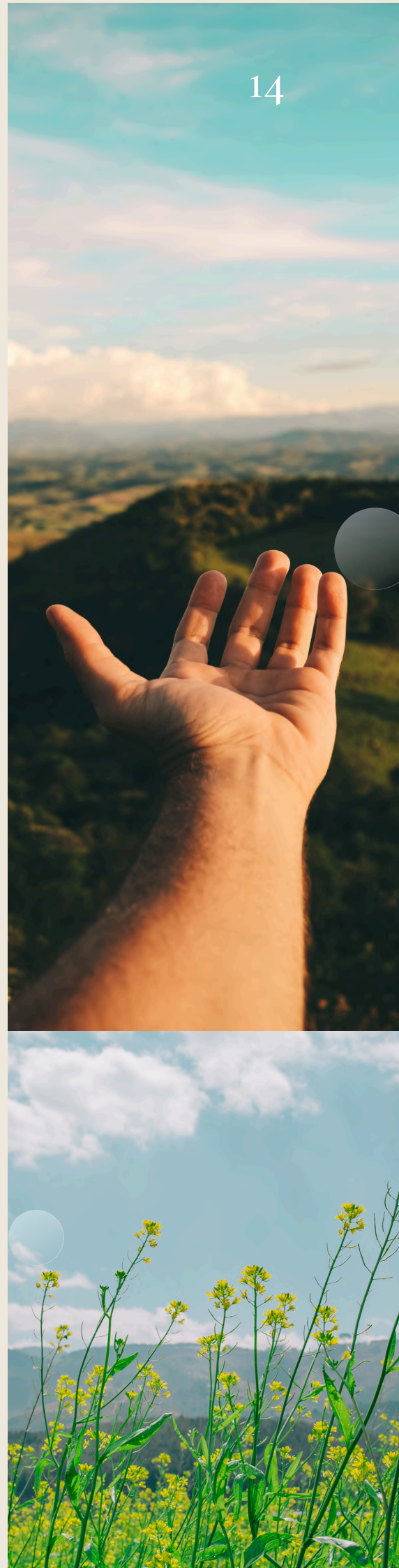
तो कहीं माटी से काजल लगाती है
कहीं शोर मचाए बादलों सा
तो कहीं समंदर का शोर ये छुपाती है।

कभी उत्तर में बर्फ़ अपार ये गिराती है
तो कभी दक्षिण में पत्थर भी पिघलाती है।
कहीं खड़ा कर दे, ये हिमालय-सा अडिग पर्वत
तो कहीं रेत का कण-कण उड़ाती हैं।

कहीं सज जाती है फूलों के डाल-सी
और कहीं दिखे ये कड़े नीम छाल -सी।
खिल रही कहीं-कहीं ये पत्थरों पठार से
तो कहीं समतल में खेत खलिहान भी सजाती है।

कहीं तो है ये जलते लावा के लार-सी
और कहीं ये शीतल गंगा की धार-सी।
हर रूप में मुझे लगती है ये प्रकृति
पृथ्वी के सोलह श्रृंगार सी।

गार्गी
बी. ए. हिंदी विशेष, प्रथम वर्ष



"रूप अनेक प्रकृति ये दिखाती है
चीर कहीं वृक्ष को ये बनाती है।"

पर्यावरण संरक्षण



स्त्री के रूप अनेक

12



तुषिता राज, बी. ए. हिंदी विशेष
प्रथम वर्ष



अनन्या, बी. ए. हिंदी विशेष
तृतीय वर्ष



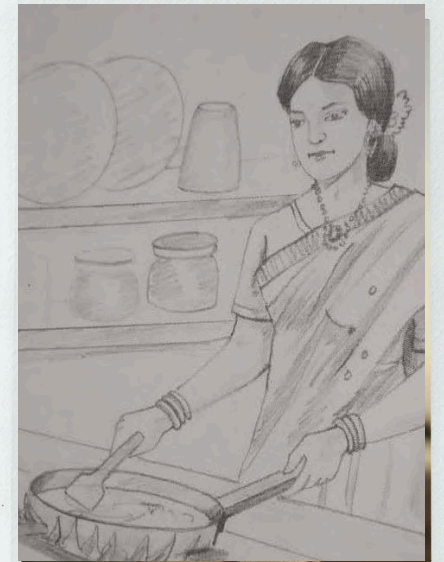
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प्रथम वर्ष



अनन्या, बी. ए. हिंदी विशेष
तृतीय वर्ष

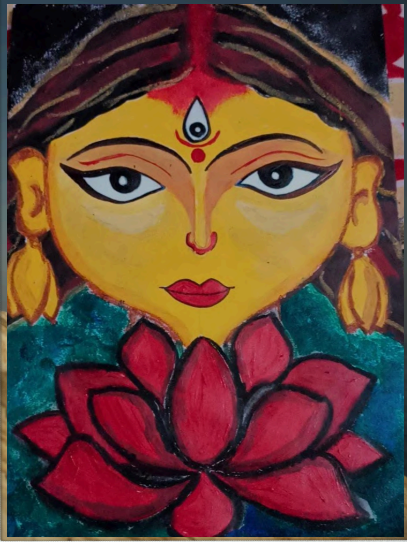


मौरवी अग्रवाल, बी. ए. हिस्ट्री विशेष
द्वितीय वर्ष

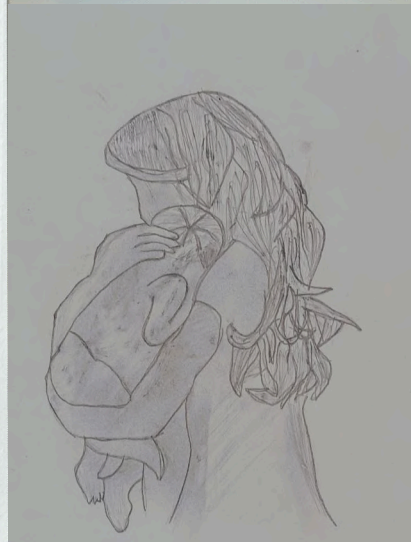


तुषिता राज, बी. ए. हिंदी विशेष
प्रथम वर्ष

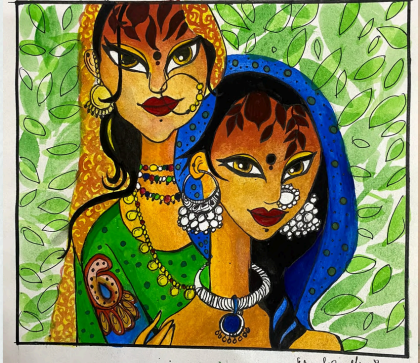
स्त्री के रूप अनेक



तुषिता राज, बी. ए हिंदी विशेष
प्रथम वर्ष



हेमा बेनीवाल, बी. ए हिंदी विशेष
प्रथम वर्ष



आस्था पांडे, बी. ए हिंदी विशेष
द्वितीय वर्ष



तुषिता राज, बी. ए हिंदी विशेष
प्रथम वर्ष



मौरवी अग्रवाल, बी. ए हिस्ट्री विशेष
द्वितीय वर्ष



बानी लक्ष्मी, बी. ए हिंदी विशेष
प्रथम वर्ष

हाँ ! हूँ मैं एक नारी

हाँ! हूँ मैं एक नारी
 स्त्री के रूप में जन्म लिया
 प्रत्येक धर्म को पूर्ण किया।
 बेटी रूप में घर में रौनक लाई,
 बहन बनकर तुम्हारी हर गलती छुपायी ।
 पत्नी के रूप में जीवनसाथी बन आयी
 और न जाने कितनी भूमिकाएं हर दिन हँसी - खुशी
 निभायी ।
 जननी रूप में तुम्हारा पालन - पोषण किया
 ममता से तुम्हारा घर आँगन भर दिया ।
 फिर भी सामाजिक जकड़बंदियों में घिरी मैं
 लगातार अधिकारों की लड़ाई लड़ अपने अस्तित्व की
 परिचायक मैं।

अपने सपनों की उड़ान मैं खुद भर सकती हूँ
 मैं जो चाहूँ अपने हौसले के दम पर खुद ही कर सकती
 हूँ।
 देखना अंत में जीत मेरी ही होगी
 हर विपत्ति पर सफलता का परचम मेरा होगा ।

स्नेहा गुप्ता
 प्रथम वर्ष, बीकॉम ऑनर्स



ख्वाहिशें

सोच रही हूँ खुद को थोड़ा संवार लूं, कुछ ख्वाहिशें दूसरों से
उधार लूं।
अब बंद करूँ सब के गम संभालने का कारोबार, कुछ लम्हें
खुद के साथ गुज़ार लूं।
उम्मीदों को इतना संभालती रह गयी कि ख्वाहिशों से कभी
बात ही नहीं की,
जग में खोजती रही खुद को, अपने अंदर की आवाज़ से कभी
मुलाकात ही नहीं की।
दुनिया से अब लड़ना होगा,
खुद से लिखी किताब को
अब खुद ही पढ़ना होगा।
सोच रही हूँ खुद को थोड़ा संवार लूं, कुछ ख्वाहिशें दूसरों से
उधार लूं।

अनन्या सिंह
बी. ए. हिंदी विशेष, प्रथम वर्ष

...



माँ , तुमने तो कह दी अपनी बात,
मेरे भी सवाल है जितनी लंबी रात।
तो क्यों नहीं उठाती तुम अपनी आवाज़,
बचपन से घुटती आई हो, वही चूल्हा, वही
भात।

ऐसे क्यों तुम दिन-रात आंसू बहाती हो,
अपना पल्लू संभाले ये घर चलाती हो।
जानती हूँ माँ, तुम्हे अफसर बनना था,
खाकी वर्दी पहने सरकारी गाड़ी में चढ़ना था।

चलो मान लिया बुरे थे हमारे हालात,
पाबंदियां बहुत थी पर था ना कोई साथ।
मान लो इतिहास ने अपना पन्ना दोहराया
तो,
जैसी कटी तुम्हारी जिंदगी, वैसे ही कटे मेरी
हर रात।

ना, ना, मेरी लाडो, तू अपना इतिहास खुद
रचाएगी
माना कि मैं खुद का साथ न दे
पाई,
पर मुझे मेरी गुड़िया वर्दी पहन
सरकारी गाड़ी में भ्रमण करवाएगी।

अंजलि शर्मा
बी.ए हिस्ट्री विशेष, प्रथम वर्ष

ख्वाब एक माँ के

...

सुनो गौर से, मैं तुम्हें सपने बुनना सिखाती हूँ,
सौ जंजीरे तोड़ आज उड़ना सिखाती हूँ,
पाबंदियों की पायल होगी पग-पग पर,
मैं तुम्हें मेरी बिटिया, बिना पायल के
सजना सिखाती हूँ।

सीखो छाती ताने आगे बढ़ना,
समाज छोड़ चाहो तो दुनिया से
लड़ना,
जो रोके तुम्हे ये पिछड़े हालात तुम्हारे,
इन हालातों को पीछे ढकेल तुम आगे
बढ़ना।

मैं नहीं कहती ये जंजीरे पिघल जाएंगी,
ये पाबंदियाँ है और तुम्हे ये रोकना
चाहेंगी,
अक्सर ये ज़िम्मेदारियों का पल्ला
ओढ़ आएंगी,
कुछ नहीं तो तुम्हारी सुरक्षा पर
सवाल ज़रूर उठाएंगी।

तो तुम बेझिझक ये सवाल करना,
क्या सही नहीं रानी लक्ष्मी का
लड़ना,
जो दबाए तुम्हे ज़िम्मेदारियों के तले,
तो हालातों को प्रेम से साँझा
करना।

पांचाली



सौजन्य:- ईशप्रीत कौर, बी.एल.एड., द्वितीय वर्ष

मैं स्त्री ना सामान्य, मैं स्वयं समग्र ब्रह्मांड
जब तक पांचाल मेरा परिवार था,
सुखद मेरा संसार था।।
समय को मुझपर दया न आयी,
काल ने मुझपर क्रूरता दिखाई, मैं कुरुवंश कुल वधु
कहलायी।
कहूँ क्या किसी से अपनी कथा,
स्त्री ने ही ना समझी जब मेरी व्यथा।
तनिक भी नारित्व का ना मान किया,
बाँट पांडवों में अपमान किया।
पुष्प पर मैं चलने वाली, सखियों संग उपवन में मचलने
वाली,
हाय! भाग्य की ऐसी मार पड़ी.. मैं बाहर हस्तिनापुर के
असहाय खड़ी।
सींच रक्त से किया खड़ा, इंद्रप्रस्थ सा साम्राज्य बड़ा,
धूर्तता उसपर भी कौरवों की व्याप्त रही।
उनमें तनिक भी ना लाज रही।
शकुनी ने मायाजाल रचा, कुरुवंश उसमें असहाय फंसा,

घृतक्रीड़ा मे पांडवों को ठगा गया,
देवव्रत से कुछ तब ना कहा गया,
धर्म के नाम पर प्रपंच रचाया था।
कोई बताये मुझे,
किसने दुशासन को दुस्साहस का अधिकार दिया?
दासी बना साम्राज्ञी को तिरस्कार दिया।
अगर उस दिन सखा ना मेरा माधव आता,
कुरुवंश इतिहास को क्या मुख दिखलाता।
क्या यही धर्मनिष्ठ की परिभाषा है?
जहाँ स्त्री में स्त्री के सम्मान की बची ना आशा है।
माना धृतराष्ट्र पुत्र मोह में अंधे थे,
परंतु, विचार समग्र सभा के गन्दे थे।
हो अपमानित सभा से जा रही हूँ...
समग्र विश्व को यह बता रही हूँ
त्रयोदश वर्ष उपरांत आऊंगी...
कुरुवंश विध्वंश का कारण कहलाऊँगी।
क्रोधाग्नि समाहित कर वन की ओर चली,
पांचाली हस्तिनापुर से मुख मोड़ चली

अनन्या सिंह,
बी. ए हिंदी विशेष, प्रथम वर्ष



आधी जनसंख्या (नारी) की गाथा



छात्र सम्पादकीय

आज का दौर परिवर्तन का दौर है जिसमें नित नई चुनौतियों से युवा पीढ़ी लगातार अपने को घिरा हुआ पाते हैं। ये परिस्थितियाँ अक्सर उन संवादों से जुड़ी होती हैं जो शैक्षणिक पाठ्यक्रम से दूर यथार्थ की दुनिया का हिस्सा है। ऐसे में आज की छात्रा नये विचारों और नई पहल के द्वारा नवीन राहों के अन्वेषी हैं। ऐसे ही विचारों को प्रस्तुत करने का माध्यम पत्रिका आयाम है। यह आम पत्रिका नहीं बल्कि छात्राओं के भावों और विचारों का सागर है।

"छात्राओं की कल्पना ऐसे बहती है जैसे विचारों की लहरे सपनों की धारा में बहती है।" कॉलेज पत्रिका छात्राओं के ऐसे ही विचारों और भावों को वाणी प्रदान करने के साथ ही उनकी लेखन प्रतिभा से भी उन्हें अवगत कराती है। 'आयाम' पत्रिका छात्राओं को न केवल अभिव्यक्ति का एक मंच प्रदान करती है बल्कि उनमें साहित्यिक सृजनात्मक विचारशीलता के बीज को भी अंकुरित करती है।

इस पत्रिका के माध्यम से छात्र साहित्य और कला के प्रति आकर्षित होकर लेखन की ओर प्रेरित होते हैं। हमारा यही प्रयास है कि बेहतरीन रचनाओं को इस पत्रिका में स्थान दिया जाए। रचनाओं से उभरती नयी सोच न केवल उन छात्राओं तक ही सीमित रहें बल्कि अन्य लोगों तक भी पहुंचे जिससे समाज में नई जागरूकता और बदलाव आए।

हम अपनी प्राचार्य प्रो. सैंड्रा जोसेफ, डॉ. अर्चना त्रिपाठी और डॉ. मीनाक्षी कुमार के सहयोग, प्रोत्साहन एवं मार्गदर्शन के लिए उनके प्रति आभार व्यक्त करते हैं। साथ ही छात्र संपादकीय मंडल और अपने सहयोगियों को भी धन्यवाद देते हैं, जिनके सहयोग से प्रत्येक कार्य सफलतापूर्वक संपन्न हो पाया। आशा करते हैं कि भविष्य में भी यह समिति अपने लक्ष्य को सफलतापूर्वक प्राप्त करेगी।

महिमा सिंह(अध्यक्ष)
आस्था पांडे (उपाध्यक्ष)



सम्पादकीय



प्रारंभ से ही समाज में संप्रेषण अपने भावों और विचारों को दूसरे तक अभिव्यक्त करने की कला के रूप में सामने आता है। यह कला तब और अधिक संश्लिष्ट होकर बाहर निकलती है, जब यथार्थ विषयों को अपने शब्दों के लिखित आलोक में लाकर अन्यतम लोगों तक संवाद स्थापित करती हैं। यही संवाद सृजन का मूल आधार है।

आज की तेजी से विकसित हो रही दुनिया में, परंपरा और आधुनिकता का अंतर्संबंध अन्वेषण के लिए एक आकर्षक परिदृश्य प्रस्तुत करता है। जैसे-जैसे हम समकालीन समाज की जटिलताओं से गुजरते हैं, हम अक्सर खुद को परम्परा और आधुनिक जीवन की बदलती धाराओं के बीच गतिशील अंतःसंबंधों से जूझते हुए पाते हैं। ऐसे ही दैनिक क्रियाकलापों से प्रभावित छात्राओं के मन मस्तिष्क पर पड़ने वाले प्रभाव की अभिव्यक्ति के रूप में 'आयाम' पत्रिका उनकी भावनाओं और सम्पूर्ण अनुभवों को अनेक रंगों से सजा कर प्रस्तुत करती है।

छात्राओं में सर्जनात्मक प्रतिभा के प्रोत्साहन के उद्देश्य की पूर्ति के लिए हमने समय-समय पर विविध समसामयिक विषयों पर प्रतियोगिताओं का आयोजन किया, जिसका प्रतिफलन 'आयाम' (2022 - 23) का यह अंक है। आयाम पत्रिका के माध्यम से छात्राओं ने अपने समय और समाज के ठोस और ज्वलंत मुद्दों पर अपने विचारों को प्रस्तुत कर वाणी प्रदान की।

नारी, प्रकृति, साहित्य, सिनेमा, लोकरंग और सृजन के विविध आयामों जैसे विषयों को समेटती यह पत्रिका युवा मन का दर्पण है। साथ ही इस बार एक विशेष कॉलम 'हमारी नज़र से' के द्वारा छात्रों के कॉलेज और नयी शिक्षा नीति से जुड़े अनुभवों को भी स्थान दिया गया है। आशा करती हूँ कि यह अंक आपको पसंद आएगा।

इस अंक को सफल बनाने में सर्वप्रथम मैं हमारी प्रधानाचार्य प्रो. सैड्रा जोसेफ का हार्दिक धन्यवाद करती हूँ जिनका निरंतर मार्गदर्शन एवं सहयोग मुझे मिलता रहा। अपने सभी विद्यार्थियों का भी दिल से धन्यवाद जिन्होंने ग्राफिक, डिजाइनिंग और टाइपिंग इत्यादि में अपना भरपूर सहयोग दिया। साथ ही डॉ. अर्चना त्रिपाठी (संयोजक) का भी धन्यवाद, जिनका सान्निध्य हमें मिलता रहा। मिस कशिश दुआ और डॉक्टर अनीशा पुरी के प्रति भी आभार व्यक्त जिन्होंने सदैव एक टीम की तरह अपना सहयोग बनाए रखा।

डॉ. मीनाक्षी कुमार
असिस्टेंट प्रोफेसर, हिंदी विभाग



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- कशिश दुआ
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आयाम

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