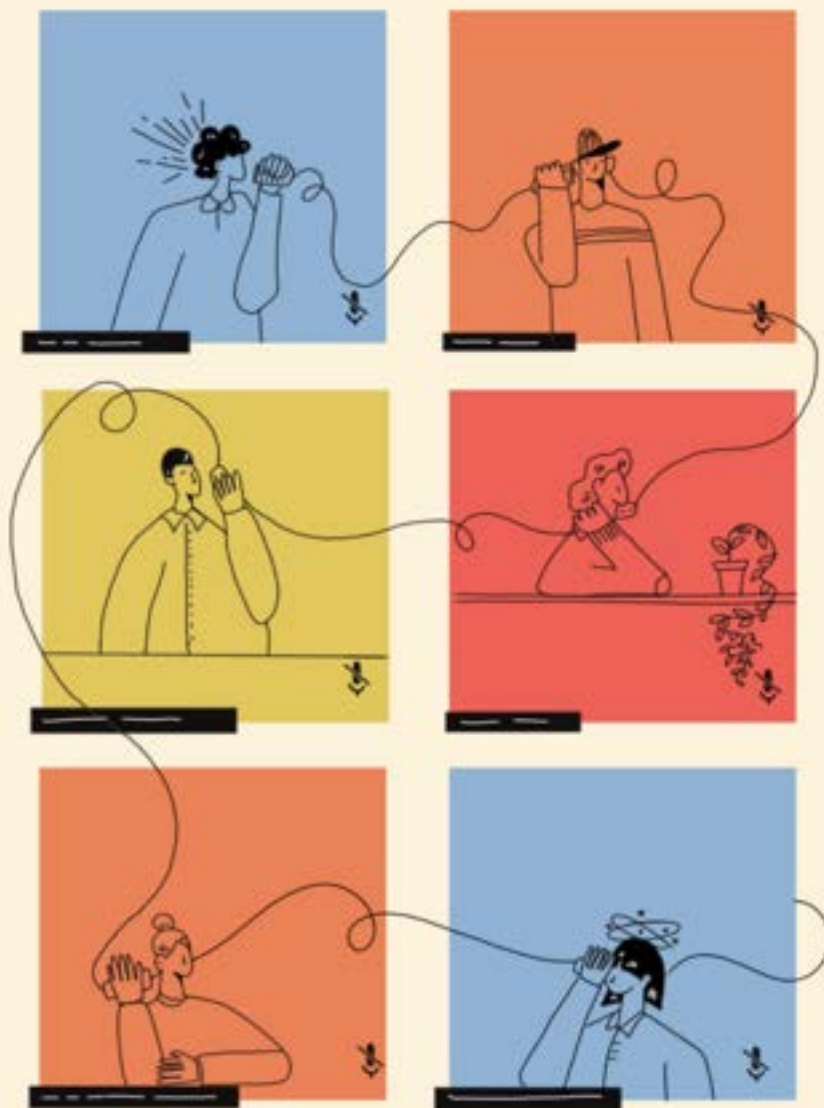


Dimensions

PANDEMIC EDITION



JESUS AND MARY COLLEGE 2020-2021



From the Principal's Desk

Established in 1968, with a vision to empower young women, Jesus and Mary College gives importance to educational approaches that instil human values, principles and ideals that enable students to become agents of social transformation. As a leading women's liberal arts college, the distinctive characteristic of the college is in providing a gender-sensitive and empowering education that assists students to realize their potential and self-worth. An eminent team of experienced academicians and administrators contribute substantially towards the management and growth of the college.

The vision and mission of JMC define its educational policy and have been some of its major strengths and characteristic features. 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, team work and promotion of social capital, sharing of knowledge, skills and resources. The success of the institution's mission is driven by the value-based ethical behaviour of its committed staff and students. The college believes that all aspects of education focus on the core values of contributing to national development while keeping in view the philosophy of having professional ethics and a sound uniform ethical conduct. The college admits students from diverse national and international backgrounds which promotes a multi-cultural ethos on the campus.

With the outbreak of the pandemic, the world has faced unprecedented challenges. These testing times have proved to us the worth of kindness, generosity and unity. The formidable circumstances brought us closer to our loved ones and the humanity at large. We had to create methods to cope with the new obstacles and ensured ways to reach out to our students for their education. Through the pandemic, we learnt to support each other and overcome adversities under the light of humanity.

I congratulate and thank the editorial team for their hard work in bringing out this copy of the annual college magazine.

Prof. Sandra Joseph

Principal



JESUS AND MARY COLLEGE

University of Delhi

2020-21

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ENGLISH

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From the Editorial Desk

But what does it mean, the plague? It's life, that's all.

Albert Camus, The Plague (1947)

We do not know. We are still looking for answers to Camus' existential conundrum. *Dimensions 2020-21* is a collection of writings through which we attempt to understand the myriad meanings, medical, economic, cultural, spiritual, personal and psychological of living through a pandemic. It is an archive-in-the-making, a chronicle of living through history, writing about it as we experience it firsthand.

The pandemic is full of stories and *Dimensions 2020-21* presents before you a carefully curated body of writings, personal memoirs, visual essays, narratives and journal entries on the experience of living and writing in times of Covid 19. Dear readers, there is a unique story emerging from these pages, an untold story of human despair, angst, suffering, isolation, boredom, hope, faith and resilience. Hope you enjoy reading it as much as we did designing it.

I take immense pride in presenting before you *Dimensions 2020-21* with a specially curated section titled *Quarantine Diaries*, a collection of writings by our young, creative students on life during the pandemic. I also present before you a new, revamped version of the conventional photo pages, titled *2020-21 in Screenshots*, a visual memoir of the year 2020-21, a year lived in the virtual space. This year's magazine is a digital edition and will be available for reading on the college webpage.

I take this opportunity to thank Dr. Sandra Joseph, our new captain steering the ship through a rough and tumultuous year of the pandemic. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to Ms. Purnima Topden, Department of English, for teaching me everything about the art of putting together a college magazine. Special thanks are due to the staff editors, Ms. Kashish Dua and Ms. Aneesha Puri for working tirelessly and meticulously through the year. I would also like to thank Ms. Anupama Srivastava and Mr. Birendra Singh for the Hindi section of the magazine. And most importantly, I would like to thank my editorial team for working all the year round.

My very best to you

Sugandha Sehgal

Convenor and Editor,

The Magazine Society

Student Editorial

The magazine society has been an integral part of my final year in college. It was my thrust from being the follower to a leader. Creating this magazine for you readers has been a journey I will forever cherish. It taught me so much in just one year that even though it was all done online, I would never trade this experience for anything else. Although it was another 'pandemic year', we have now adapted to this lifestyle pretty well. This magazine is proof of how we managed to make our way through a lockdown and have come out of it with hope still beating steadfast for a brighter tomorrow. My team and I have spent weeks preparing this edition for you readers and we hope you find your solace in these pages as you scroll through them.

I hope you are able to find something on these pages that will stay with you for a while. I hope your eyes feast over the art and your mind flows with the words woven together. I hope that every person who submitted their entry for the magazine knows that a part of their work has been immortalized in this magazine, and I am glad to be a part of the team that helps curate this reality for them. For the many budding first years who have joined JMC and have been stuck in online classes without getting to taste the campus life, I hope this magazine helps you get a glimpse of what this college has to offer you.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Sandra Joseph for her help and guidance towards the magazine and our convenor, Ms. Sugandha Sehgal, to whom I'm incredibly grateful for her support throughout the year. To Ms. Kashish Dua and Ms. Aneesha Puri, I am extremely thankful to our staff editors who have helped me collate this magazine and guided me through the entire academic year of Cauldron.

My digital and the editorial team, who managed to participate with complete enthusiasm at any last-minute work thrown at them while also keeping up with their assignments, I am so thankful to have such an amazing team with me this year. I want to thank every member of Cauldron, all of you have been an integral part in making this magazine come to reality and I want you to know I appreciate all the help you gave me and this society. Finally, to my rock and the pillar who held me together, I want to thank Ms. Khushi Arora, the vice president who has seen both the highs and lows of making a magazine with me. Thank you Khushi for your unwavering support and guidance, it has been a huge help in creating this piece of work that we dreamed of at the beginning of the year. Thank you to every other person I failed to mention here for your help and counselling, thank you for everything.

Samantha Roy

President

Cauldron, The Magazine Society

PRIZE WINNING ENTRIES



*Credits: Shaoni Dutta
2nd Year B.A. English Hons.*

ANUPAMA NAIR CREATIVE WRITING COMPETITION

(An Annual Intra-College Competition organized by the Department of English in the memory of Anupama Nair, instituted in 1998)

Kaleidoscopia

It was three hours past midnight. The sky was tinged with the deepest hue of blue; a sweet scent accompanied the cool October breeze, carrying with itself invitations to the upcoming festivities. Somewhere in the distance, a shrill whistle and the clanking of the watchman's stick could be heard, disrupting the serenity of the night.

The house at the corner of the street seemed to be revolting against the darkness. A gloomy light seeped through the pale curtains of a lonely window and illuminated the lane outside. Its trembling wooden panes threatened to burst open with the sudden onset of loud music and the intrusive whistle of the watchman finally had competition. Lennon and McCartney's voices crooned through the speaker, and the teenager sprawled across the bed, staring at the ceiling, sat up with a start. It was the bright yellow wall in her otherwise dull room that became the target of her cold, scrutinizing gaze. The scowl etched on her face intensified, as she left the room with a determined step and came back with a toolbox and a large white canvas, stolen (or borrowed; as she would phrase it eloquently) from her sister's art supplies. Hauling the canvas towards the center of the wall, she took out a hammer and nails from the toolbox.

"Dad is gonna kill me tomorrow," she said out loud, but the rebellious spirit taking over her limbs did not seem to care. The plaster of the wall cracked, a few pieces chipped and fell, yet she relentlessly hammered the nails into the wall.

With each thump, a nail embedded itself deeper and

out came a fresh curse from her mouth.

THUMP! Curse the pandemic.

THUMP! Curse the lockdown.

THUMP! No Dussehra.

THUMP! No vacation. No friends.

THUMP! Curse MY LIFE!

Her breathing was erratic and her throbbing thumb had fallen victim to the wrath of the hammer. The tense atmosphere offered a peculiar contrast to the soft melody of the song. She threw herself on her bed, listening to the lyrics to distract her mind

"There are places I'll remember
All my life, though some have changed
Some forever, not for better
Some have gone, and some remain
All these places had their moments
With lovers and friends, I still can recall..."

An anxious knot formed in her throat, her ears turned red, and her efforts to control her tears were in vain as she felt her cheeks moisten and glisten under the warm glow of fairy lights. She had looked forward to this year. Her entire life had been a monochromatic bubble of all things mundane. This was the year when she was supposed to look up from her books and explore the world. Training her eyes on the empty canvas that hung on her wall now, she tried to not focus on the searing ache originating from her temple. The canvas was tilting towards the ground; DIY. How to hammer nails into walls turned out to be an inevitable disaster. The now crooked metal tops were mocking her from

the distance and her eyes accepted defeat and gave in to the approaching slumber.

She was awake but took a while to open her eyes. Stretching her aching arms she forced herself off the bed to finally stop the music that continued playing despite her nap. She pressed the switch of the speaker and waited. Nothing happened. She tried again but the song continued to play; she could feel its volume increasing and found it weird that the playlist had not progressed further but was stuck on 'In My Life' until now. Her eyes widened in surprise when she glanced towards her yellow wall, looking for a way to stop the now almost unbearable music. A mirror had taken the place of the canvas and she was left facing her reflection rather than a blank, white rectangle. Something was amiss. This could not be her reflection. She dashed forward, a terrified scream escaped her lips as she looked at herself. Her skin was white; it seemed like it was enveloped, replaced by the canvas she had earlier hung on the wall. Her fingers twitched involuntarily and moved towards her face. It did not feel like skin; the rough texture of a canvas felt alive under her touch.

The song was even louder now; she moved her hands to cover her ears but could not break eye contact with her reflection. It seemed to change rapidly. Her skin, the canvas, was not blank anymore. It was ruled, like the pages of her school notebook, and a few quotes and diagrams from her textbooks were now printed on her arms. The walls of her room were moving closer to her and she felt trapped. Standing in the centre of the room, hyperventilating and calling out for her parents to help, she realized it was just a dream. Her eyes overcoming the chaos spreading through her subconscious flickered open.

It was a few minutes past dawn. The sky was changing colours, growing brighter each second to welcome the sun. Blinking furiously she woke up and was surprised to find a calmness spreading throughout her body. Her

thoughts seemed settled and were not jumping around like children on a sugar rush. The canvas was right where she had left it; she stood up rubbing her eyes and yet again took a resolute step outside her room. She came back with borrowed brushes and a box of oil paints.

Opening all the bottles, inhaling the addictive smell of paint, and smiling at the memories lighting up her soul, she picked up the paintbrush to express her life until now. It was anything but monochrome. A memory and a small part of her were immortalized with each splash of color on the canvas.

SPLASH! The street she spent her childhood in.

A dash of brown and she remembered the muddy match of football. In the heavy rain, all the bruises, fights, and fouls were forgotten.

SPLASH! Her rooftop hideout.

A mixture of blues and pinks and she eternalized the dusky skies she saw every evening. Lying on the roof; playing her favourite songs, and seeking inspiration in every bird, every kite that flies across the changing skies.

SPLASH! Nani's place.

Speckles of silver and gold, and she recalled bowing to the sun, her grandmother's hair glowing in the sunlight. She used to wake up to the sound of a prayer bell jingling merrily and spent years of her childhood following the long silver plait trailing behind her Nani.

SPLASH! Her parents' room.

Smears of pink and orange and she was wrapped in a warm, itchy blanket, curled up between her mom and dad. Waking up after nightmares, running away from the dark, and finding peaceful sleep with just a tender hand ruffling her hair.

SPLASH! The neem tree in her school.

Shades of green dominated the canvas and she found solace in its shelter yet again. Reading novels on the bench, under its shade, and having conversations with the Ice Cream Man.

She sat down on the bed, a sigh of satisfaction escaping her lips. Her hands were stained with several shades of paint. Deciding to fill the few pockets of blank spaces peppered across the canvas with color in the future, she stood up and admired her work. It looked like a mess, and she had to focus on the intricate, unintentional strokes and blends to highlight parts that could be passed off as beautiful but she was content.

Standing up, she noticed with a grimace, the colorful handprint on the bedsheet. "Mom is definitely gonna kill me today," she said, but the radiant smile taking over her demeanor did not seem to care. Bundling the sheet in her arms, she moved towards the laundry hamper yet observed her feet taking a detour. She opened her wardrobe, folded the sheet with gentle hands, and hid it in a vacant corner. The bedsheet was now a custodian of the small part of herself which she had left behind. Much like the places that had made her, Her.

Aditi Dwivedi
3rd Year B.A. English Hons.

Just a Movie

Today fears float like mist on the streets.
Here they come, just smile and greet,
As the land is theirs, and so are you.
The legend of golden bird is true.

Don't eye those eggs, they aren't for you.
Don't cry like that, these eggs are few.
Don't argue back. You already knew
That justice has her favorites too.
Now grab your flag and raise it high.
Don't you dare question why,
Or the black lensed crow shall spread its wing.
On every shoulder, angels sing—
"Twinkle, twinkle little star
No one cares who you are."

Quickly! Go and hush those failed trials...
War and victory, drunk denials...
It feeds and bleeds; leads and leads and leads,
Until the melodious trance succeeds.
Then screaming crows become sinister.
And here come king's brothers and sisters.

Wait! Wait! When did we all choose a king?
"Crisis dear— a temporary thing".

Look, they dance on the golden birded throne.
And now, you dear, are asked to be gone.
So down below in a pit, we all shall walk,
Where lips move and souls forget to talk.

Listen when heavy whispers speak:
"I hope...your eyes...are not yet weak?"

Look! The shrieking crowd disperses.
Honey-voiced-crows utter their curses.
The books' tongues get cut by their own paper

When whispering voices turn into vapor.

Some illusion of death haunts an ancient ding-dong-
Trending histories: where "conquerors" don't belong.

"And none of these loud group dances are allowed.
Shut up honey! You'll get yourself a golden shroud."

So we all go behind our thin walls,
Lock our doors, and begin to crawl.

As I look at my family,
I tell them about this MOVIE.

"Perhaps old tales shall always sell well."
—Shhhh— you heard somebody ringing the bell?
It's crows on T.V., screaming so well.

"A story so great, my little mouth can't tell."
This is a classic with actors new,
As wine takes a pretty long time to brew.

But if you don't like this movie's vice,
Let's unite since we all paid the price.
And don't you worry, my white capped friends,
In such darkened halls everything blends.
Though do not lose that termite eaten ticket,
Or we'll be on opposing teams of cricket.

This is the movie; we bought tickets after all.

Enjoy! You sit with me in this thicketed hall.
Watch the golden birded throne.
What a fate we have, to bemoan.
Audience, it is a mighty score.
Deja- vu! Have you seen it before?

Of course, it has nothing to do with us as such.
Viewers in movie halls don't cry for characters.
But this prey shall neither talk nor write,

For you—fellow preys—fear hunters' might.

Now, never cite what you have read.
Hungry crows are in search of bread.
And they prepare a noose
For some silly, bad reviews.

So don't get me into trouble.
I am a child in my bubble.
But you should read carefully.
There is no coded mystery.
Rack your brain.
Read again.

—Hushhhh!—
Beware.
Take care.
Don't write.
They'll bite.

Sonia Singh
3rd Year B. A. English Hons.

WORDICT

(Inter-College Creative Writing Competition for 2020-2021, organized by the Magazine Society in collaboration with Ficting)

To text or to not text
A conversation with the Grim Reaper

Italics texts- Riya

Bold Texts- Grim Reaper

Stop trying to connect to me.

Uhm...Excuse me? Who is this?

The Grim Reaper. Who else? I know you've been trying to reach out to me. I'm telling you to stop.

Yeah sure. Look, dude, stop tryna prank me. It's not working.

You humans always think you know everything.

**Riya Dwivedi. Age 30, currently unemployed and homeless.
Crashing at her sister's house (She wants you gone btw)**

You want to waste your time doing this? You know you've been trying to contact me. Ouija Boards, Planchette even Seances

So, what do you want?

No. Now ask me what you want to ask quickly.

Excuse me?

This is why mortals are so despicable. You're talking to me and this is your first question?

*Woah wth!?!? STALKER
How do you know so much about me!?*

O.M.G!!!! I can't believe I actually got through!! Do you always respond to people who are trying to get through the other side??????

Oh wow...I am having an actual conversation with the Grim Reaper. I can't think of anything so fast! Okay first question, are you a man?

Oh, I'm sorry! I always wondered what was Death's gender. They always make you sound like a man.

Well anyway, we beings of the other realm don't conform to such binaries. I can be whatever I want to be.

That's dope! So how do you know when a person is about to die?

Ah, look, a sensible question. Well, I have a team of skeletons keeping track of every person who is at the brink of death.

*A team? Don't you do this alone?
Ticking names off from some old scroll full of names?*

A scroll? Have you looked at the population of your planet?

I have an ARMY equipped with the latest MacBook. I have no idea where the humans get such puny ideas.

Well Okay then, so is it really all fire and torture down there in hell?

Yes. It's hell, what did you expect?

Well for starters, not this crazy level of sarcasm. Another question, who goes to hell and who goes to heaven?

How about you ask me the question you really care about? I know you want to know about your boyfriend.

Heaven.

Yes. It is.

That's what you believe.

Someone lied and it wasn't your poor boyfriend Dhruv

Oh...I thought it was better to ease into that question. How is he? Or Where is he? Heaven or Hell?

WHAT!?! I thought hell is for cheaters and liars too!?

Then what is that lying scumbag doing in heaven? He CHEATED on me!

Wait...No I'm sure! My sister told me she saw Dhruv in bed with another girl

So, you're saying that I...

That you killed Dhruv for no reason at all? Yes, that's exactly what I'm saying.

*No... no no NO that CANNOT BE
TRUE*

I am not here to convince or change your mind Riya.

Then what are you...? Wait a second, why are you telling me all this?

Another sensible question at last. Well you see, I don't usually make the effort to collect every soul on my own.

But you're a special one, aren't you?

What is the meaning of all this!?

You killed Dhruv, an innocent soul. You took his life before he was supposed to die

*I...I thought he cheated on me!
Betrayed my trust!*

...and then you made so many efforts to contact his spirit but ended up getting my attention.

I just missed him...

*Now, I don't like people getting away
with such dirty little secrets...*

I'm confused...

*What's there to be confused about? I'm
here to personally collect your soul
Riya.*

WAIT WHAT DO YOU MEA-

*Oh, these young kids, don't they know,
they should never text and drive.*

Error 404: Message not Delivered

*Samantha Roy
3rd Year B. A. English Hons.*

WORDCRAFT

(Intra-college Creative Writing Competition for 2020-2021, Organized by the Magazine Society)

Distress Calls

The story starts: I was leaving my therapist's cabin when a little voice in my head said, you do realize that they're always looking out for non-verbal cues for your mental state, right? And that got me thinking, was I sitting in a sane way? Did I cross my legs in a normal manner? Did I fold my hands normally? Did I blink too much? Did I say too much? Was I even there like a patient?

Seven, there is a hypothesis that when left alone with nothing else except a very negative stimulus, people will go ahead and experience it, just because it's something to do, rather than doing nothing. A negative stimulus is better than no stimulus. Variety and stimulation lead to neurogenesis or neural growth in your brain. This is why you find yourself digging upon your past repeatedly. You have nothing better to do.

Six, or you may have something better to do, but it won't elicit the same response as when clawing back to painful flashbacks. It will not light up neural pathways and reel in memories like an old VHS tape.

Five, when left with no stimuli around you, you begin to get a sense of complete isolation and sensory deprivation one feels when there is nothing around you. Not pitch blackness, but nothing. It is difficult to imagine something like that since we're not adept at being with our own selves for such long periods of time.

Four, imagine being locked up in a solitary prison with no guarantee of ever coming out. At first, you will crave human contact. Eventually, it becomes

disorienting, you can't handle it anymore. You will do anything to see, hear, touch somebody. So, you'll lie flat on your stomach near the door to hear the sounds of footsteps crossing your doors and see white shoes thump by. Eventually, even this won't help and it will lead to your social death.

It's like being stuck in a simulation that doesn't feel real at all, but also has no grounds for making you feel like you are in a movie. Except had it been a movie, you would have somebody out there fighting for you and proving you innocent. And in the end, you would be coming out of the prison with the background music of Dear Heart by Henry Mancini, with that smile back on your face. But none of that happens. Because you are not real. At least that is what the authorities outside will force you to believe.

Three, you would gradually lose your voice and to a certain extent your vision. You've learned to kill your own voice because you realize you can never speak louder than silence. You lose grip over your own sense of self because human identity is socially created. But you have been denied this and you eventually start questioning whether you even had a self. You are not sure whether you even exist.

Two, so you do what feels the most normal way to approach this. You create a ruckus, do everything abnormal to get beaten up or electrocuted to know that you are real. You bang your heads against walls, not just because you're going mad, but to make some noise. You cut yourself to feel the pain that keeps you tethered to the real world. The same you that was trying

so desperately for human contact, that befriended a bee stuck in the roof of your room, now realizes that it's stuck in suspended animation. It's like being on a static TV with no reel. There are no transmission signals and all you have is the random pixel dots dancing in front of your eyes.

One, you now know for sure you are never coming out.
Be it outside this white, stripped room or your head.
Zero, you are trapped and there is no way out.
This is not a movie, and you are not real.
What would you like to do now?

Anusha Batra
3rd Year B. A. English Hons.

To the Things I never had

I've had quite a few stories to share,
of love, of hate, of deceit, of care
but I long for more, for those are what matter
when every ion of my being will scatter
the good, the bad, the neutral, the undecided
the rebels, the enforcers, the protestors that abided
I've had quite a few anecdotes, in fact
stories are something i think I've always lacked,
so this is an ode, to the things i never had
to a certain extent, the circumstances make me glad

the friends i never had, i write about you, and you, and
you ,and you, and you-

and about the prettiest smiles I've seen today,
from the crooked, to the braced, the yellow and gay.

I write about watching you in the metros and switches
i think about you among anxious twitches

and asking you the time when i already knew, that's its
exactly 30 seconds past 10 past 2

and I hope that times lead to rhymes and poetry, that
brings about 6 new strangers closer to me.

the toys i never played with, i dream about you,

how it felt to touch a doll that new

from riches to rags, I'd lead you down

instead in my lonely nights i drown

one day I'll have you in my hands

till then i hope somebody understands

the toys i never played with, i now only need

to satiate my childish pettiness and greed

the clothes i never wore, you swiped my floor

i wish I'd given you away some more,

for some hollow structure, you would've draped well

instead you're here stuck, with me in a filthy hell

but I'll wash you and sew you, all your tatters and tears

till one lonely boy, comes along and wears

your long lost lover, the pants to your shirt

and smiles at my ragged cloth through his hurt

Deepjyot Ahluwalia
3rd Year B. Sc. Maths Hons.

Deconstructing Gender

(An Intra-College Creative Writing, Photography and Art Competition hosted by the Magazine Society in collaboration with Women's Study Centre)

Till Death Do Us Part

The human body is a carefully manufactured, complex product whose primal goal is to ensure survival. At all costs.

Of all the nights, I fell asleep yesterday, switching off my phone, right when you had decided to give me three missed calls. Only later, would I realize that that would probably be the last welcoming shutdown of the body, I'd rather have liked fallen into.

The thing about bitter coffee is that no one ever gets to know how it is until they taste it. You could have salt in it cutting the obvious attempts to ask for help, but no one would know the sickening distaste of being awake. Now when I look back, I think I knew you most between coffee and sleep. And it kills to know that I could have been there to see you awake. Now that it didn't kill me, I'm awake at 3 am wishing it did. I scroll through my call logs to see the number of times we've had countless conversations running on both ends with compelling silence. I realize now, I was speaking to someone fluent in pain. What becomes even more excruciatingly painful to accept, is how terrifying it becomes to accept ourselves.

No one is innocent. There are just varying degrees of responsibilities.

When I close my eyes, I seem to run back to a wild youth. Where you had the kind of smile that made sunrise beautiful. Or where you drew patterns for stars and the open sky for birds. Now my eyes can't seem to get out of your red checked shirt, swollen

neck, blackened eyes, listless arms hanging from the ceiling fan. I wonder what you did when the air around couldn't reach you and death was still a breath away. It seems like a ghost to me. The one which seems to slip on us and pretend to not hover around, while all it seems to do is become like the lover. A plague caught on, which the souls see but the eyes refuse to meet.

Now I don't like being alone. There are too many voices talking, with no one focused. I wonder what you would have said to yourself when you were bound by yourself to be enclosed. Were there any voices trying to stop you?

If time stops for you when you breathe your last, then what happened to you when the dead in you were trying to live all these years? What happens to your smile? What happens to those feelings that have crushed you for innumerable days? What happens to those overthinking thoughts and quivering hands? When did you stop living?

Why can't it be when you decided to stop doing things you were worth living for? Why does it become so painful? Why do you get covered with ashes and I'm left with gaping holes? If there is no time for you, do you do all the things that you wished to do at once? Or do you wait for grief to get over us so that your soul can be happy with our good memories? Do I get a manual on how to start getting over you? Or can I know how to turn you just into my thoughts and not a red checked shirt hanging from the ceiling fan, with a

face hanging on it like a scarecrow put to scare away death?

Or can I at least get to know if you ever made it? What happens to the survivor? If birth and death become supreme truths then can I know a lie? When was the last time I really saw you?

Anusha Batra
3rd Year B. A. English Hons.

Red

"He got promoted, did you hear?"

Of course.

The junior who joined a year after I did,
is now my boss.

The head before him just got married.

They demoted her into another department.

Maybe her chudha made

too much noise in the office

so they had to ask her to leave.

Maybe the red bangles

were too bright for their eyes.

"Get ready, you're my successor!"

She used to tell me.

I did, I got ready.

But I still remember their face

when she gave them

the gold tinted invitation,

And I felt my position slipping away.

"Sure, sir."

I said to the guy I used to make fun of,
till yesterday.

"Don't be so formal, you've taught me most of this."

I know, I have.

Apparently I'm a very good teacher.

"Yes, mom. Sure."

You can look for a groom.

I'll teach him too.

I'll donne the red bangles and swift about in the office
as I do;

Waiting for another student I'll have to teach things to;

I'll sit at the desk and watch them come and go;

This is as high as the ladder goes.

One step higher

And I'll hit the glass,

Only to fall back down;

Far and low,

Inside the closed doors;

Of my new red home.

Akshita Taneja
3rd Year B. A. Sociology Hons.

Word Weaves

(Intra-college Creative Writing Competition Organised by the Magazine Society)

Jigsaws of Existence

Soaking in the mystic moonlight
 Stood my inherited hourglass-
 Oh so haughtily, looked upon the new moon
 As if in reminder
 Of its phases to build; only to shed.

As candles illuminate the darkest nights
 Blazing with fury, yet disappearing into their calm-
 Oh what power; to juggle sorrow and solace
 And yet what a disgrace to be
 Built, burnt and battered
 In the brightest hour of the dark.

Reincarnated by a simple pivot-
 My hourglass seemed to be accustomed
 With the wise words of Woolf-
 Contrary to the moon and its phases;
 Destined to perpetual transformations
 Of building and breaking.

Crescent to Gibbous; a cycle to rebuild,
 Unlike the hourglass existing
 In binary incarnations of pivotal exchanges.
 Mirroring methods to be made and remade
 Seeking for the familiar among the unknown,
 My heart aches for a sense of belonging
 While keeping to myself and yet
 Drawing traits from the others.
 Reflecting stacks of dominoes
 Built only to be broken; rebuilt again
 Like the life cycle of a phoenix, erupting
 Into flames of continued existence-
 Piñatas; ceremonially celebrated for destruction.
 From the woman I met on the subway
 I picked up attributes of authority,
 And from the guy who lives around the corner-
 Faith and persistence in one's self; laughter and
 kindness
 From the woman who likes to identify

As the jack of all trades, throwing around kindness
 like confetti.

After every book I read and movie I watch-
 Every character I obsess over and person I
 Am in awe of, fictional or real irrespective
 I'm a different person, breathing in their traits
 While living in a world that preaches to be 'you'
 I build and rebuild; with every stranger I meet,
 Speech I hear, book I read, movie I watch-
 And with every single breath I take;
 I am made and remade.

A jigsaw of multiple identities-
 Blending into one.
 Do others also feel the same when they meet me?
 Do they feel their adrenaline rushing through, or feel
 Their heart beating faster when they hear me speak,
 write, read or chatter as my smile fails to contain my
 excitement,
 Do they?

In this world of pivotal lifetimes
 Like the hourglass; reincarnating with every turn
 March, June, September- I am a different person
 Even in December.
 In denial of the others being any different
 Just as I draw traits, I believe
 The others draw words from me-
 Weaving them into their own stories, movies and
 speeches-
 As I am made and remade continually,
 Different people draw words from me;
 Weaving words into worlds- their own jigsaws
 of existence.

Shruti Ohri
Ist Year B. Sc. Mathematics Hons.

Dissent and Democracy

Tihar Jail,
April 13th, 2021
Dear Lata,

The rain poured down in a frenzied hurry, the raindrops racing down the little window of my prison cell in Tihar. I sat in my cell tracing patterns on the window. Today I think of the communist playwright Safdar Hashmi, I heard from the officers outside that it is his birthday. Safdar Hashmi- the firebrand playwright who dipped his feet into the pages that wrote history. In prison when one day bleeds into the next you can do nothing but let your thoughts wander as far as your mind will take them. Will I be painted as a hero amongst the masses who dare to dissent or will I be torn apart limb from limb by the media? My words are twisted like a knife lodged deep in my gut. The false facade created by those very words have landed me here Lata.

My words have never been driven by propaganda rather I speak for those who can't. This is my little contribution to a much larger fight for civil rights and liberties. At a time when we are reeling with the questions of citizenship, legitimacy, and identity I want to be a breath of fresh air for those who believe in a country not divided on sectarian lines. Time is indeed very unforgiving, here I lose track of it, however, I am often reminded of its ruthlessness. For time doesn't wait for anyone. I feel like a ticking time bomb at all times, yet I find peace and calm in the chaos. The prisoners creating a ruckus, the gossiping police officers and you can hear a curse word or two through this whirlwind of commotion. Yet I'm one of the lucky ones, kept in solitary confinement. I imagine a little hourglass in my cell, the sand slipping through the tiny little slit, just like my youth slowly slipping away from me in this pandemonium. The day I was picked up by armed personnel I felt a war cry slip out

of me. Like a candle flaming burning vehemently, bright and blazing. Even today when I close my eyes chasing a sleep that I know won't come to me, I hear battle drums and war cries ringing in my ears. Lata, it is sometimes hard to bid my time in prison. But in the dead of the night, a lonely bulbul sings and I dream of freedom. A freedom brought about by revolution. Where the 3 months spent campaigning and educating all for waste Lata? But then at dawn when the candle flame is worn out and so am I from thinking, I have my answer. I refuse to die here and I refuse to give up my resistance. I have made the little diary you gave me, my battleground, and my pen is as mighty as a sword. The early hours of the morning paint the sky a beautiful shade of orangish-yellow, I think of the Azaan in our old Delhi neighborhood, the month of Ramzaan bringing in a plethora of new memories. I am not aware of what the newspapers write about me, perhaps I am a little inquisitive about what kind of monster they paint me to be. I am after all made and remade continually, built and broken in a vicious cycle of hate and bigotry.

While I feel stripped of my dignity, my gaze always falling on my feet as I combat the sneers of other prisoners and police officers alike. A flame within me burns an angry red. The flame burns with such intensity and fervor that I feel like it is consuming me. But my dearest Lata, you might have to wait for me longer than anticipated. But a new horizon will paint the sky red and the injustice will not continue. A new moon will eclipse all the injustice and envelope the earth in a blanket of love and peace.

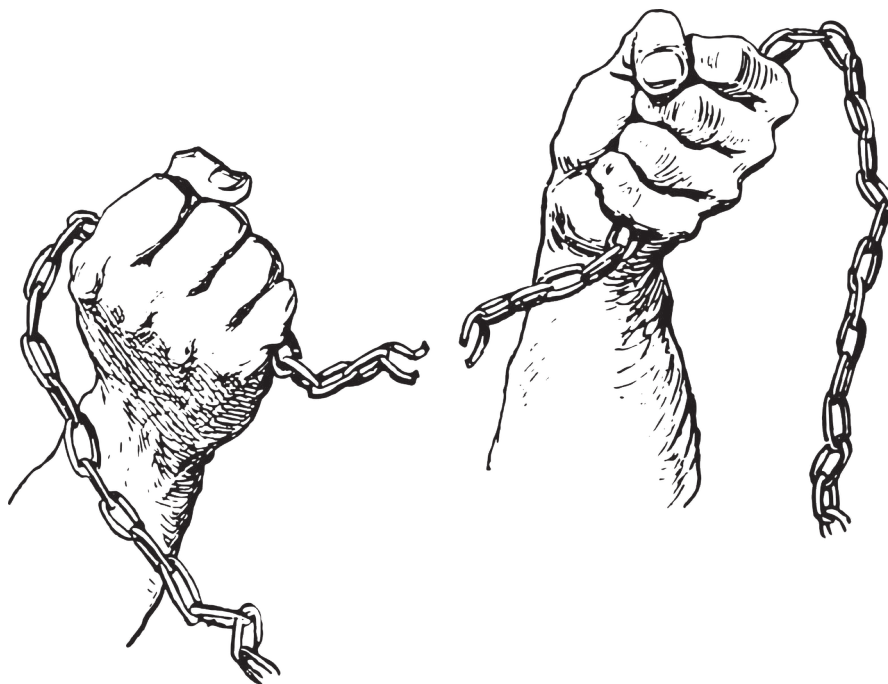
Until then we will continue to defy the lies spread about us, the false and twisted narratives written about us. The bed of lies that our politicians want us to sleep in. Even though the state tries to push the agenda of

one language, one state, one leader, and one religious identity. People will continue to revolt, resist and

revolutionize. After all, when the revolution finally comes, where will the political stalwarts hide?

With Love

Akansha Sengupta
Ist Year B.A. Programme



PROSE

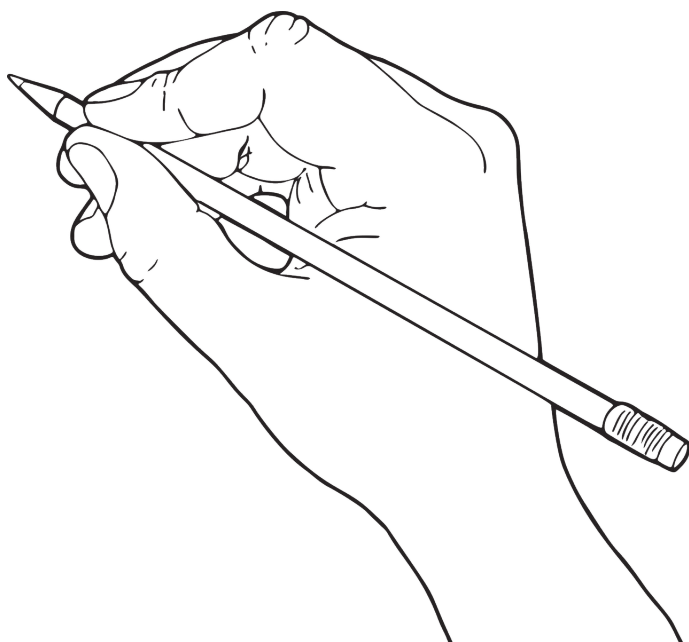


*Credits: Kajol Sen
2nd year B. El. Ed.*

Blurb for an Imaginary Novel (Micro-Fiction)

There are times when the reality looks just as made-up as fiction and while you try to decipher what sets both these worlds apart, they become one. Summer, a cheerful, 17-year-old bibliophile rummages through her bookshelf to find that the last book 'Purgatory to Paradise' opens to doorways, where she has to expiate her sins before entering a new chapter. She flips the pages of the book as if she is running away from reality until the last chapter appears with a closed door and blood-stained pages hiding the title 'Sinner to your Grave'. Will Summer ever reach Paradise?

Khushi Arora
2nd Year B.A. English Hons.



Her Unfiltered Moments From a 'Filter's' Lens

She says I'm pretty. She says this all the time.

She often sits on her bed and gazes at me, eyes twinkling and smile crinkling into the adorable little dimples of her cheeks. And she calls me pretty.

I want to tell her she is pretty too, and not just that- I want to tell her a lot of things. I want to tell her she is so blindingly beautiful when she smiles at her own reflection, her self-confidence making her shine more than the little lights in her room. The mirror I like, we both love her after all. That damned camera on her phone though, we have a serious argument going on. The thing is, yes, that camera makes me look great and I don't care for its filters but that tricky snake likes to tease her some days. She complains the angle is off, which is the camera's fault anyway but then she says her face is the problem and that's just false because that face is the home of her smile. She laughs at that, dry, unsmiling, and I know defense mechanism humor when I see it.

On those wretched days, she turns the camera to me again and again. It pleases her to some extent and that's all I can offer now.

I actually can't offer her much, being aesthetically pleasing is my top contribution but I like to think there are moments I am more than that. On nights when she is tired and exhausted from a rough week, a hard day at work or an argument with a loved one or anything else making her want to curl up in the 'burrito blanket' as she calls it, I hope I can be a soothing presence for those nights. When she turns off all the other lights, and then it's just my soft warm embrace falling upon her, I like to think I am bringing her some solace.

She does gaze at me again then, not with the same beaming smile but that's okay – on those nights I resolve to do enough beaming for the both of us so the sad curve of her mouth can turn around the next morning, back into that brilliant gleam on her face that puts not just the lights but the sun to shame.

I am her faerie lights, brought during her teen years, hanging delicately on the headboard, looking at all her unfiltered moments for years, just wishing the best for her.

Divjot Kaur
3rd Year B.A.English Hons.

The Hymns of the Midnight Oracle

In a small village along the countryside, away from all possible civilizations out there, lived a young woman. Being the sole resident of the village, she lived a life full of solace and solitude. Seasons came and went, but her ethereal beauty remained unscathed.

Hana spent her day peacefully, enjoying all the earthly elements and core values. She shared a deep connection with the four elements – air, earth, fire and water. After living alone for so long, it was as if survival instincts were something she was born with. Waking up at dawn to watch the red fury ball rise and pick the tea leaves from her kitchen garden had been a part of her routine for a long time now. Bending on her knees with her vintage green gown touching the soft wet morning mud, she dedicated her freshly brewed tea to her mother - the Earth. She would stay there till the first song of the birds echoed through the forest every day, at the same time. The flowers around her old yet fortified hut bloomed in their full grandeur, though it was the season of fall, the season of death.

But around her dwelling, it seemed as if spring lasted forever. After freshening up, Hana would comb her wild wavy hair often full of wildflowers and leaves. Her raven-black hair came from her mother's side of the ancestors, depicting a powerful coven, and her sharp facial features came from her father's Greek lineage.

A porcelain glass skin with emerald green eyes, Hana was the epitome of beauty and liveliness. Her plump pink lips reminded of the cherry blossoms in the onset of spring with a thin long neck, she was often seen as a goddess who descended on Earth to bless humanity with her gifts of love and abundance. Spiritually inclined with her ancestors, she sang lullabies in her honey-glazed voice to the creatures of the woods on the nights of the new moon marking a new beginning. This made her feel the presence of forest spirits and swayed away from the feeling of being wanted or known.

One night, Hana sang an ancient rhyme that was engraved in her mind since childhood. Her voice, as usual, echoed through the woods putting all the living creatures at peace. The hydrangeas bloomed, the forest streams flowed through the rocks and the fireflies danced the night away. But this time, her voice reached the nearby village and startled its inhabitants. They seemed taken aback by such a phantom fleet at the devilish hour of the night. The men came rushing out of their homes with huge fire torches, women frightened and the elders cursing the gods for not protecting them. It was past midnight, the woods were dark and eerily quiet as the villagers marched towards the source of the sound.

Hana kept singing, but this time she was sitting in the middle of a pentagon made of candles around her with a set of ancient books. The hourglass, that never had shed a grain of sand, began indicating an impending doom.

“Men fear the energies they don’t know about. I was wrong to contradict you, Mama, you were always right.” And vivid flashes of burning villages flooded Hana’s mind, women screaming seeing their men and homes burn. Overpowering memories from her past life made her recite the hymn even louder. She saw them hunting her.

Meanwhile, the villagers were baffled to find nature blooming in the middle of the woods when all the crops in their fields had dried up leaving them in the acrid smell of poverty. The villagers then ran impatiently towards the only lit hut in the forest, with inquisitiveness and a sense of greed.

A few moments passed by and Hana and the villagers were facing each other. The villagers were amazed and petrified at the same time. Not only had they never seen such an alluring woman before but also wondered how she was thriving on her own. And then out of nowhere, the outcries began,

“She’s a witch! It’s because of her our fields aren’t flourishing! She has cursed our women to be heirless!”
 “Burn her at stake!”

Before any of the villagers could reach anywhere near her, Hana powerfully summoned the four elements

skinning the men alive. Her once innocent green eyes turned solid black and she screamed with black tears rushing down her icy face. The village women stared in horror, as Hana stood up again with a crooked smile. With a flick of two fingers, all the women lay desecrated on the ground. All the faces were washed of youth, lifeless.

And so, Hana lived her ‘youthly life’ forever. “Mama, I wish you could see how beautiful I have become now. They never learn, it seems the curse will last forever”, she laughed, satisfied with her actions.

A new day dawned upon and Hana went on humming the hymn of “pride of the coven, avenge the ancestors”. The flowers were in full bloom and it smelled heavenly. Everything seemed perfect again. After several months, the same village was flooded with new inhabitants again, it was the night of blood moon with occasional howls of the wolves and Hana hummed the night away waiting for the cycle to repeat all over again.

Harshita Dangwal
1st Year B.A. Programme (EE-HS)



Secrets

Day 165. While the world is posting about productivity and self care during quarantine, I am trying to survive in my house. I have never stayed here this long, I am a creature of habit and this house is anything but a dark uncertainty. It is 7:00 am in the morning, I go downstairs to make myself a cup of coffee. Do I hate this house? Not at all. These stairs are the ones where I have slipped numerous times as a child. I grip the railings while descending. If it had not been for these simple pieces of wood, I would not have been able to balance myself from that near deadly fall all those years ago. I wonder if Milo remembers that end stump on which he has spent numerous nights bound, it was his favourite place. I remember waking up at night for a glass of water and seeing him hugging the stump, on his bed, peaceful with his tongue out. I would smile and pat him. I wish I had kissed him instead. Pouring the milk in the glass I measure how much I want. Mom says that I should always measure the quantity for the perfect cup of coffee.

“Three fourth cups of milk, the rest water”

It produces the proper cup, with the perfect deep brown froth. I went through a lot of struggle to make it taste like hers even though I always went with the rules. I finally mastered it. Now I can make the proper cup, so much so that she likes drinking the one I make whenever I am around, which is not much. I come home very rarely but not because I can't. I have stayed in hostels and PGs all my life, and this is the first time I am home for this long and it makes mom happy. She likes to see me roaming about the house in my shabby comfortable clothes, reading and attending classes and drinking coffee and gossiping on the phone. She notices me a lot, she has always kept a close eye on me whenever I am around, maybe to understand me more.

We are not close, quite contrary to what she believes. She does not know what goes on in my head and has had very little practice in reading my emotions. But nowadays when she tells me that everything is getting back to normal and that it's about time that I go back to college, I wonder if she notices more than that. I think she has noticed that I'm growing tired of being here. Maybe she thinks that there is a classic teenage drama going on which I am a part of? She may be clueless as to what it is but I wonder if she knows something is up. And she is right. What she is not right about is that it's not a teenage drama, I don't have friends who fight with me over boys or parties or whatever. She also does not understand that she is a part of the problem and the solution. That she contains the power to make it all okay.

She is the railing that I need. She has the power to support me from this near death pit in which I have been falling and falling but who will tell her? She is so involved in the rules or milk and water that she does not realise that what matters is the amount of coffee one puts in and only she has the power to choose how much of what is needed. But who will make her realise? She need not tell me that I am about to go to college so everything will be alright, I want her to say that she wants to know what is happening in my head. But she does not. And I don't tell her because the rules say so. If I go against the rules then the perfect cup will never be made and it will all go to waste. The milk, the water, everything. So as I put one third of the milk in my cup and turn the faucet to fill it with water to the brim, I dare not let it overflow.

Ritvee Garg
2nd Year B.A. Economics Hons.

Veer and Veera

Trigger warning - physical abuse, homophobic slurs

“Veer! Won’t you come play with us?”

Veer looked up. His classmates were playing football in the small field just outside his class. They looked excited, but the game was as interesting to Veer as his math lessons. He smiled and declined, hoping the boys would not insist. They didn’t. “Call him Veera, not Veer. He’s not a boy like us; boys don’t spend their time drawing shiny dresses and decorating their notes,” one of the boys sniggered.

Veer felt far from hurt; he was used to such remarks. He ignored them and went back to making his latest dress. It was a long pink gown that had small glittering beads. It had frills and looked beautiful; Veer longed to wear it.

No, Veer. You must not think of such things – these are dresses meant to be worn by girls, not men like you. What would the boys say if they found out that not only do you like making these dresses, but also wish to wear them?

He closed his art-file, now thinking about his last conversation with his father. Well, if you could call it a conversation – could a one-sided dialogue filled with cuss-words and thrashing be considered one?

Why was your sister’s lipstick in your drawer? His father’s voice had thundered, as a slap crashed on his left cheek. His mother had flinched but continued to glare at him from the corner of the room, disgusted at having found him applying the lipstick. She had slapped him and removed it fast, before delivering him to his father for further punishment.

How many times have I told you, you’re not a four-year-old kid now, that you’ll wear frocks and apply

lipstick and people will find it adorable. Are you a fag or what? Sons are supposed to be the pride of their families, not embarrass them like this. Another slap.

We named you Veer because it means courageous. Must you behave like this then, like a girl?

It’s bad enough you don’t play sports or do any of the other things boys your age do, but this?

This is crossing a line. Go to your room! You will not get any food today. And if I find this in your room again, I’ll throw you out of the house.

Veer had cried that night, cried so much. Why can I not be both Veer and Veera? Why must I only be one to be deemed brave? Who made these stupid rules anyway? But he did not speak these thoughts out loud, lest he be beaten more.

Now he choked back on his tears, remembering the awful night. He didn’t want to give the boys a chance to call him out on this too.

School finished at 1 PM. He picked his bag up and walked to his house, an apartment just ten minutes away. As he reached the door, he realised it was locked. He crouched to get a look under the doormat, and sure enough, there was a note and a small key.

Betu, we had to leave urgently. Your dad has an office party and we will be back by 11. Don’t get into mischief. – Maa He got up, opened the door, went straight to his room and lay down, tired. It was then he realised that his sister was not home either. Out with some friends, probably.

He made his way to her room slowly, as if he was scared of being caught. He sighed in relief when he realised there was nothing to worry about. Then he smiled. Smiled wide. Excited, he

opened his sister's wardrobe, and took out a bright yellow dress he felt was the prettiest.

Quickly, he wore it and then went to apply a red lipstick.

Beautiful. He looked at himself in the glass mirror, afraid to touch his reflection. The reflection felt and looked more like him than he did on most days. This was freedom. His heart ached to have this freedom forever. But people wouldn't let him have it, would they?

Feeling a melancholic happiness, he decided to not worry about that right now. For now, he could be Veer and Veera, both, without anyone telling him he could only be one. For now, he could be the most he ever was.

Atipriya Dev Sinha
1st Year B. Sc. Mathematics Hons.

Eternal Chaos, Morbid Façade

Nostalgia, Peace, Tranquility that embraced the peninsula of dreams are long lost Awakening and dilemmas replaced them yet again As soon as the first ray of sun hit the flowerless ground Pink sand of dreams and hallucinations shined through the hourglass of my life.

Seamlessly holding on to the disappearing sand, I silently prayed for you to stop Beneath the new moon that adorned my dilapidated, apprehensive soul I wish to keep holding on to your reassuring words But a fear lurked, fear of it to be a façade still envelops my heart.

Moors and abyss of dreams keep my soul in solace every single passing epoch Since the sand of dreams

has already fallen down the hourglass And sooner than that you drifted away like the waft of smoke.

But left an etched mark on the canopy of my heart; like a candle sacrificed My days ran into days not exactly the same.

The hourglass is now a never-ending cycle of pain and prudence I unlocked every door hopelessly to find you waiting for me.

Cloudless nights, days, epochs, all knocked and bid farewell as destined Silence kept singing to my existence Adding an element of myriad life, different from the past.

I am broken into pieces, put myself together, and yet broke again but not for long I restore the missing pieces (stolen) with the strength of the soul.

From all the memories I treasure

I will never forget to gather yours and beautifully align them on life's esplanade.

I feel your presence with every burst of immense pain in my heart. Yet, Nostalgia, Peace, Tranquility that embraced the peninsula of dreams are long lost Awakening and dilemmas replaced them yet again

Faria Khan
1st Year B.A. Political Science Hons.

Stars to Humans

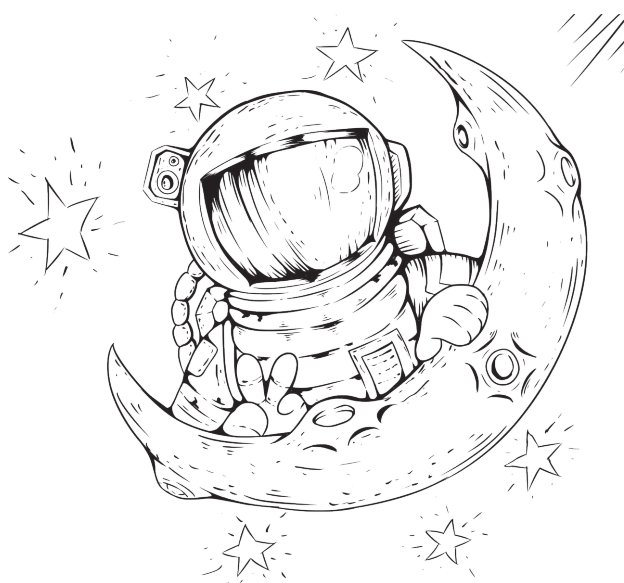
On earth, every hour that falls through the hourglass is sand that cannot hold its ground. It's limiting. Time falls and walking with it, humans fall through creation. Surviving. It is to live for which is to die for; the immeasurable beauty of the ethereal and the eternal. The hourglass here is just funny. Where darkness is the purity of the universe, it is the demon inside the human heart. Where time is illusory to the universe, it is despicable for humans. Once a night every month, the universe favors the stars and banishes the moon for its wickedness.

Gives them the stage to dazzle. Tonight, the stars are not blinded by the grandeur of the moon. They shine brighter than usual. They get to see the beings who look at them from the earth. They want to converse with them and let them know that life as a star isn't so bad.

They speak on behalf of the vastness and liberty of the universe. They create art in the darkness of the cosmos. Once, they made a man with a bow as a symbol for the humans, letting them know that the stars acknowledge

them. They respect each other. They love. Stars called this night the no-moon, as a tease when the moon declared his absence as a new moon. How arrogant it was of the moon to make everything about itself. He liked the effect it had on the humans of the earth as he lived for the madness. How the absence of the moon offers them solace and companionship. It offers them importance. They want to be near the beings who make small blips of light. Stars see it as acknowledgment. One of the stars nearest the earth heard the humans call it a candle. They adored the name. They felt sad for humans as they heard about the full moon's madness. The things it made them do. In the moon's defense, it only said, I am too much for them. They think I'm divine and romanticize me for my moon sickness. If only humans knew the universe is equal and accepting. It is just. It's whole yet expanding. They can give in to their darkness here and it will be called art.

Mishi Doshi
3rd Year B.A. Programme



POETIC MUSINGS



*Credits: Khyati Dubey
Ist year B.A. Programme*

An Ordinary Pandemic Evening

My ordinary pandemic evening begins
with the scent of sandalwood in the air.
I'm listening to old Malayalam songs that are poetry
disguised in beats,
the next door aunty stares at my breasts
and today's lesson at reading faces commences.

1) I'm thin and I shouldn't be
I'm fat and I shouldn't be
I should be nothing more than
rosy cheeks, white angel,
spine bent with the weight of prejudices,
voice turned soft after years of being ignored,
eyes looking down
because what if a woman's head held high
shatters the glass ceiling set so low?

A woman's evolution under patriarchy
looks a lot like this.
I should be nothing more
than your box for me
and nothing less than that.

2) My stretch marks are like the one confident girl on
every dance floor
I can't look away from.
They try to raise themselves off my skin,
as if to say,
"Look, it's not our fault"
"Put some effort towards living".

3) My 20s are to be embraced openly,
not to be sidelined like the migrant labour deaths
around.
I should have enough time to breathe
and yet each evening is a gunshot in the air to indicate
that the race has begun.

The reddish tinge in the sky grows
and with it my heartbeat,
as though I'm waving a red flag,
trying to tame the bull that is the workload that's about
to hit me.

I try to tame it every day in the hope that each email
sent would make me feel a little more complete.
After 6 leaves a metallic aftertaste
of dynamite energy and nonexistent pride to be
someone's slave.
I'm sorry, did that taste like productivity to you?

4) I'm afraid of this pandemic taking away more than
it gave,
as if I never knew a world apart from my phone,
as if every person I met last year were figments of my
imagination,
as if when I step outside this door,
I would be back in an unsteady school bench
in the body of a loud carefree girl
who just didn't know any better,
as if all the self love in the world
would find its way back to me,
if I armed myself to the teeth
with enough new skills
to claw my way up the ranges of capitalism.

I'm scared
of forgetting all the happiness I've ever felt
and remembering only the pain,
none of the growth and only the change.

5) A baby remembers the mother's touch among
hundreds
which is to say that

I'm so terrified of forgetting the touch of the hands that held me
when I was an adult baby
whose emotional range began
at happy and ended at sad.

I'm lost now.
My fingers are tired of holding up walls.
They don't know for how long.

6)The abyss of self hate
looks a lot like your once favourite
now unloved toy left in the corner.
And I can choose not to play with it
but sometimes I want to.

7)I'm listening to 11am lectures about torture methods
and cannot think of anything more than the screen I'm
tired of looking at.

You see,
6 hours of Oppo A5 education
was not meant to be a replacement
during the times of Mr. Pandemic,
but as a temporary measure,
temporary as in the
synonym for happiness.

8) I think it's funny how I let a pandemic invoke hope
in me.

I should've known that capitalism
would make its profits off this one too.
I'm waiting for it to run ads
about spaceships to Mars
to escape the extinction it triggered.

9)It's 5pm
and I don't know where I'll be next year.
Reviewing poems at 5pm is a warning bell.

You shouldn't do it.
The crisp turn of the pages of my journal
always reminds me of the crackle
of a toffee being unwrapped.
But here
uncomfortable truths stare back
instead of toffee,
Like a tattered shirt, arrogant hair
high school bully,
in your face.

I wrote everything I couldn't tell my therapist,
called it a poem,
put every second I couldn't spare for myself,
called it a poem.

My emotions and thoughts are blinking like traffic
lights these days.
Love. Red.
Suicide. Yellow.
Work. Green.

I think my poems are nothing more
than grocery store bills
of my self obsession.

So,
10) Maybe I wouldn't be writing poems
if I had found therapy earlier.

Ann Maria Anil
3rd Year B.A. Political Science Hons.

The Legend of Apollo and Daphne

Bound with the onus to pull the sun across the sky each day,

Apollo, the God of light and healing, was exceptionally adept at archery and swordplay.

But such prowess does bring hubris in one's way, Thenceforth, losing their pride for the devil to pay.

Such was the story of Apollo, The pompous deity was eventually deprived of his Love, for being too shallow.

One morning Apollo came across Eros, the God of love. Apollo mocked, "Little lad, what good are those arrows of yours than delicately striking mortals into love from above!"

But the unperturbed Eros paid no heed to Apollo's words and went forth his way.

Yet Apollo scorned, "It's no feat in front of me. I'm the slayer of Python, and 'tis no child's play."

Now Eros felt the sun God needed a lesson to be taught, And so, an arrow of anguished love on Apollo he shot.

Cursing Apollo to fall in love with the first being he laid his eyes upon, The love God waited for his characters to fall in place and contentedly looked on.

Apollo now went forth with his journey, unaware of his fate, And came upon Daphne who was at once shot with Eros's arrow of repugnance and hate.

As his gaze now landed on the daughter of the river God, He stood transfixed and awed.

"Eyes azure as the deepest, most dangerous oceans of all lands, A mane far more golden than all the Universe's mystical sands, Come away, o beautiful dryad, and be mine forever!

We shall live out eternity entwined in such fervid affections together." Said Apollo with egad, But this love was not reciprocated equally by the dryad.

"Begone, Apollo, at once, lest I shall pray for the Gods' wrath on you.

I am not one for an abomination like you to pursue!" Spat Daphne with distaste and abhorrence, Yet Apollo went forth after her with unstirred determination and perseverance.

Daphne, now desperate and defenseless,

Called upon her father, the river God, Peneus.

Her father, filled with compassion, reached out, transforming her into the world's most alluring Laurel tree.

'Twas the only way to set her troubled soul free.

Apollo, now shattered to see this state of the object of his affection,

Vowed to regard her with utmost love and devotion.

"Since you cannot be my wife, you shall assuredly be my tree.

I shall wear you for my crown for all the worlds to see.

Your leaves shall know no decay, youth in you never being dead!"

Apollo with paramount approbation solemnly pledged.

Cynthia Ann Paul
3rd Year B.A. Programme

Unfiltered

//. authenticity ft. oneself

The dust of discoveries acted as a sieve for catching those pebbles,
Pebbles of listing insecurities, shaping realities, factual moralities
Alongside the zebra crossing and bus we met, paused,
Not the tiny commas and colons
And not the wobbly exclamation marks
Just a dot, technically expecting a capital letter after.

Next spot was the shimmery salted sea.
My face entered, hit the shore and I flipped
Along with the dolphin passing the ball,
Through her nose to mine
And I'm enamored by the beauty of life
Unlike the comparisons, frictions, irritations
I met the sea plants beneath the dunes
Bumped, and traveled above.

Trekking sounded like a great expedition
When I felt hounded by those expectations,
imagination, palpitations,
With every step ahead, hail invited trouble
Like those body cramps, jerks, unending hustle
And I bumped into a soft wrinkled face
a couple around 80, they smiled, my heart swelled.
Those tiring and trying hands left a whole lot of
inspiration.

Closed doors and windows can suffocate
Judgments, movements, and conspiring,
With those brilliant minds locked sensitive hearts
And boom!! It's a fire in the sky
From the woods behind, or the crackers around.
Everything common is the tears, fear, and scare,
There's a beeping sound for 10 seconds.

Are you alright? Do you fear yourself?

Is this really what you want to do? Do you feel anymore?

10. World map for traveling ticks - Did you forget to fill in the list?

9. Jumping from sofas to cushions - Are you longing for that hug?

8. Cotton candies and lush corns - Do you remember?

7. Lamb and squirrel grandma story - Do you miss it?

6. Sunlights and liabilities are kinda cool friends - When did you last laugh on call?

5. Smelling books and crooked flowers - When was the last time you flipped the pages like the speed of the wind?

4. Tiptoe to the fridge for a chocolate sundae - Is your mom looking? I guess she will hold you from behind?

3. Wrapping gifts from one fold to another - Are you forgetting to parcel them?

2. Portrait mode drawing, shading, and coloring - Please, I think you're forgetting to mark them bold? (Smiling gibberish)

1. When people choke, ask them to look up - Don't you feel amused by this?

Up and above and above up till the constellations
And I feel like bugs bunny riding from Ursa major to Orian to the twins

And I saw my perfectly identical brothers

Somebody erased the dot

Lost but found the way back to it ____ beep ____

Just let it be.

Be soft.

Aysha Saleem
2nd Year B.A. English Hons.

A Way with Words

Words always sat beside me as I lay in bed.
 We lay side by side in perfect silence, and all was said.
 Words consumed me, they took me in with no questions
 asked,
 Into a world in which emotions reel unmasked.
 They led me through portals plastered to pages,
 Of historical ages and Shakespearean stages.

Words sat,
 In books and ideas, that have already been torn
 Down to destruction with discussion.
 In my old paperbacks backed with fallacies and rough
 edges.
 In shelves scattered with journals without a journey,
 And a few scribbled mosaics of trashy poetry.

Words made the hourglass look like infinity,
 Where the wait of time lost all validity.
 But lately, words gather before I even reach out.
 They stare right into my soul,
 And linger long after the books are closed.
 They don't just sit.
 They claw and crawl.
 They stray and stroll.

Words never cease their coming,
 They arrive from all sides, all walks of life.

Roommates living in my flat rent-free,
 Scavenging through the mind space relentlessly.
 They snore while I lay at night wide awake.
 They cook up stories by the kitchen stove.
 Words play scrabble in the living room alone.
 They form, foam and blow,
 Flooding the bathroom tub, words overflow.

One foot in reality, one submerged in a thought,
 My brain and bones boiling in a melting pot.
 Words hold my hair back as I empty the store,
 Letters littering on the bathroom floor.
 I drown in the sea of sentences and syllables,
 I drown until I see only shadows,
 Sans structures, skeletons, or labels.

Until I'm not flesh and bone,
 I am a woman of words.
 My brain of jumbled juxtapositions.
 My limbs, loose strings of thought.
 My eyes are two black holes with selective attention.
 My smile, curved in the mark of the question.
 My tears, apostrophes.
 My fallen hair, rotten memories.

I'm nothing but a narrative from the reader's eye.
 A hero, or a monster, only the words decide.

I am the priest and the sinner who has come to confess.
 I am constantly contrasting according to changing
 contexts.
 I'm the metaphysics of metaphors,
 I'm continually being written, erased, and censored.

When I look in the mirror, I see words.
 When I look at words, I see our worth.
 As the words float in the reflecting pond freely,
 The curve of the question mark on my lips answers,
 "I never understood the necessity of accessories,
 But words do look good on me."

Roulie Singh
1st Year B.A. Programme

Fluidity of Identity

I am like grains of sand
 Swiftly slipping through your helpless fingers
 It is my entire being you try to grasp
 But to you, my soul cannot be sold
 I simply do not fit in your mould

I see myself in the roaring waterfall
 Unmatched, untamed, never still
 And I eventually merge, effortlessly
 Into the colossal, calm aqua below
 My whole body, instinctively dissolving in its arms

My body is a temple, and my mind its deity
 A god & a goddess, all at once
 With a thousand arms, a hundred weapons
 But a single desire: acceptance
 And a sole enemy: the world

I wish, I hope, I long
 For you to see me as I see myself
 And that is, everything all at once
 I cry, I scream, I fail
 Your ignorance makes me invisible

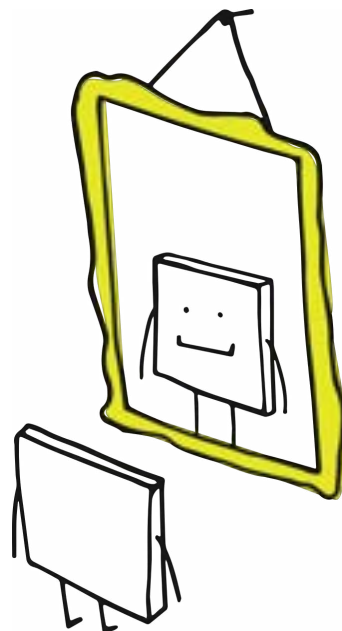
I see you preach
 You preach with shameless pride
 Blatant hypocrisy

Drop that coloured demeanour, for you do not even
 call me human
 You're only the black trying to blend into the spectrum

I am all the shades of all the colours in one
 A raucous rainbow ready to take flight
 If only you would see me through the eye of a prism
 I'd scatter for you, love and light
 Perhaps you'd see my hues instead of just white

Still, your misunderstandings I take in my stride
 Every side of me you try to kill
 Every feather of mine you try to pluck
 I rise as a phoenix from my own ashes
 You cannot bear to look at me, I shine that bright.

Antara Saran Sharma
1st Year B.A. Sociology Hons.



How I Saved a Life

My body talks to me in the language of scars.
 It kisses the mirror and exhales
 As if it were holding the universe in its arms,
 As if the universe was staring back at it,
 From the other side of a world, parallel enough
 To not become the reality of last resorts.
 There are days which taste of energies and conversations
 That seems to swallow me whole, so wide
 That I finally understand the difference between
 'Being home' and 'being trapped'. On such days,
 My body embodies a child playing a surgeon in her
 own game,
 Treating and medicating herself, with a doctor's kit
 That hadn't seen the face of a toy shop this time.
 Breathe in, breathe in, breathe in, breathe out.
 I say it aloud in my mind, as I forget to breathe,
 Just like I forget to unlearn that
 Words that begin the same don't mean the same,
 That I don't need to ch-ange my ch-oices
 Rather ch-oose my ch-anges.

I remind myself to accept the exceptions,
 Like he-art and he-aling inventing a love language of
 themselves,
 Comprehensible enough to teleport to the parallel
 world;
 A language that knows so many words and more,
 Ample words to decipher that you didn't build yourself
 The only trap that feels like home,
 That you didn't build yourself your own rib [cage],
 Just to let the ends of the mirror scar your heart so deep
 That they become part of you and break the language
 of your body.
 Breathe in, breathe out, breathe in, breathe out.
 Now, do you see why you had been forgetting?

Khushi Arora
2nd Year B.A. English Hons.



VISUAL NARRATIVES



*Credits: Khyati Dubey
1st Year B.A. Programme*

The world beyond the looking glass



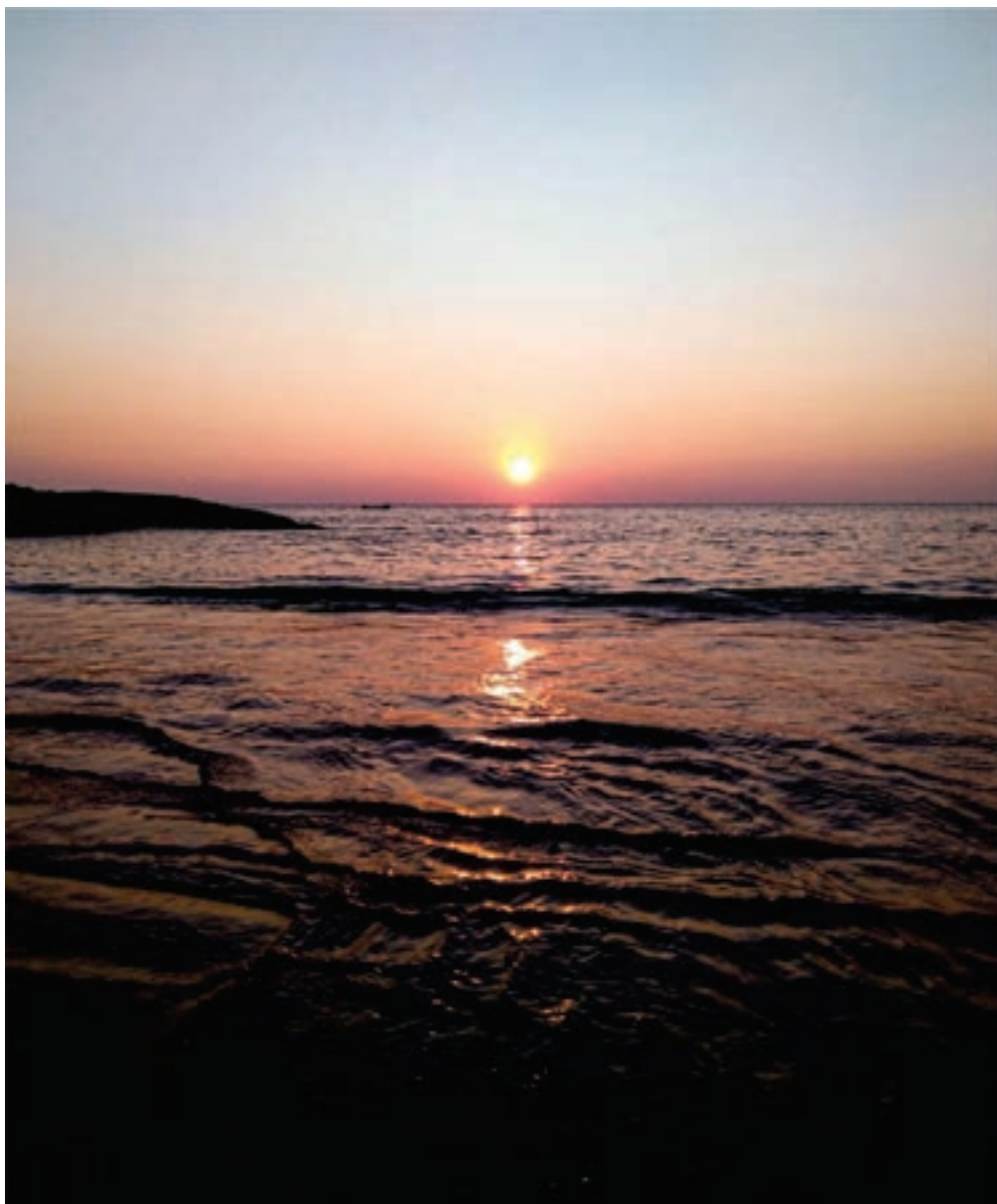
*By Isha Dawar
3rd Year B.A. Programme (Ent-Adv)*

Hallways



*By Shreeja Paschal
2nd Year B.A. English Hons.*

Beyond the setting Sun



*By Yogda Kalra
3rd Year B.A. Programme*

Fluidity of Identity



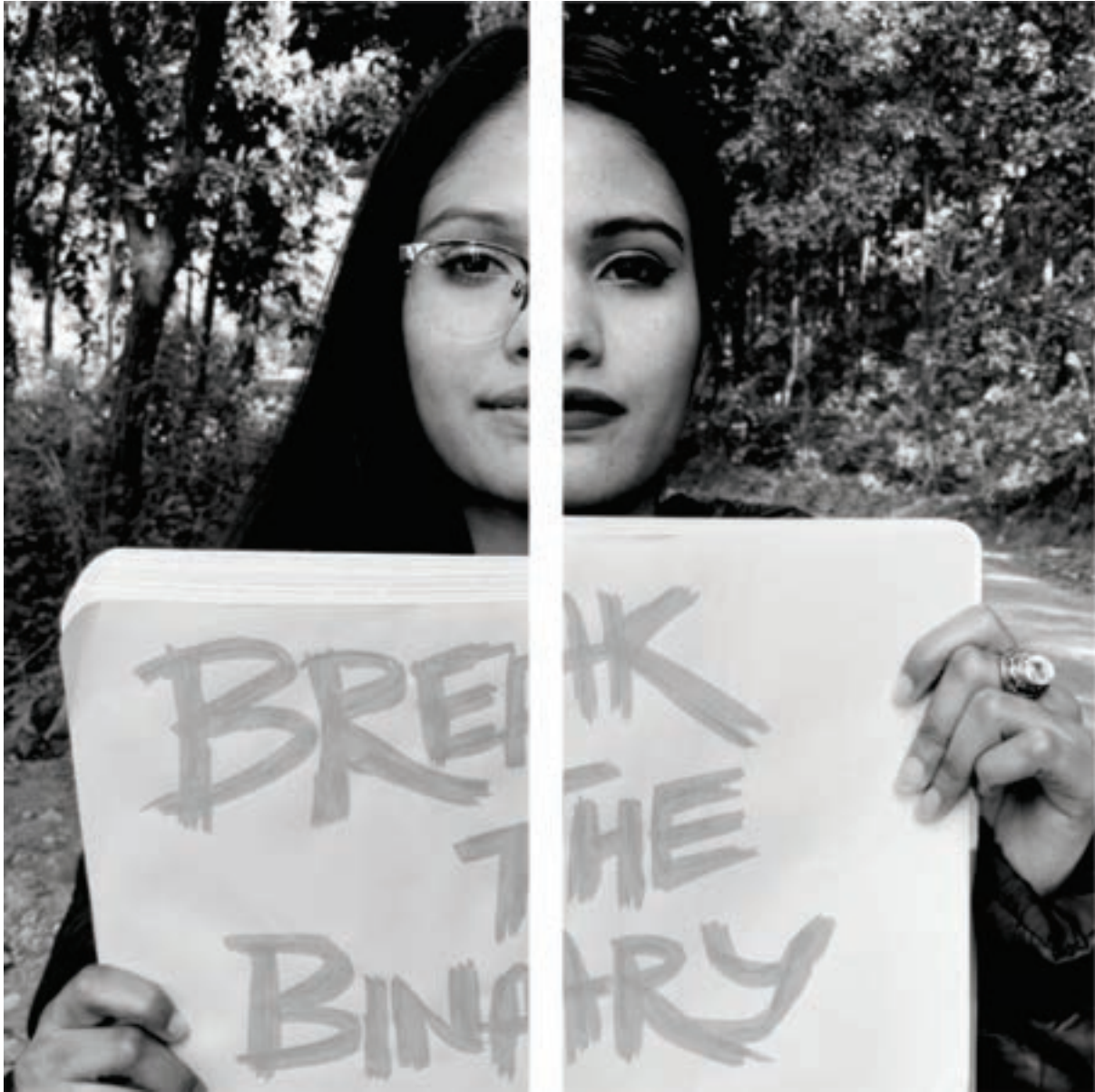
*By Shreeja Paschal
2nd Year B.A. English Hons.*

Identity



*By Pratishtha Jindal
Ist year B.A. Programme*

Break the Binary



*By Simran Tapparwal
1st Year B.A. History Hons.*

On a Summer Afternoon



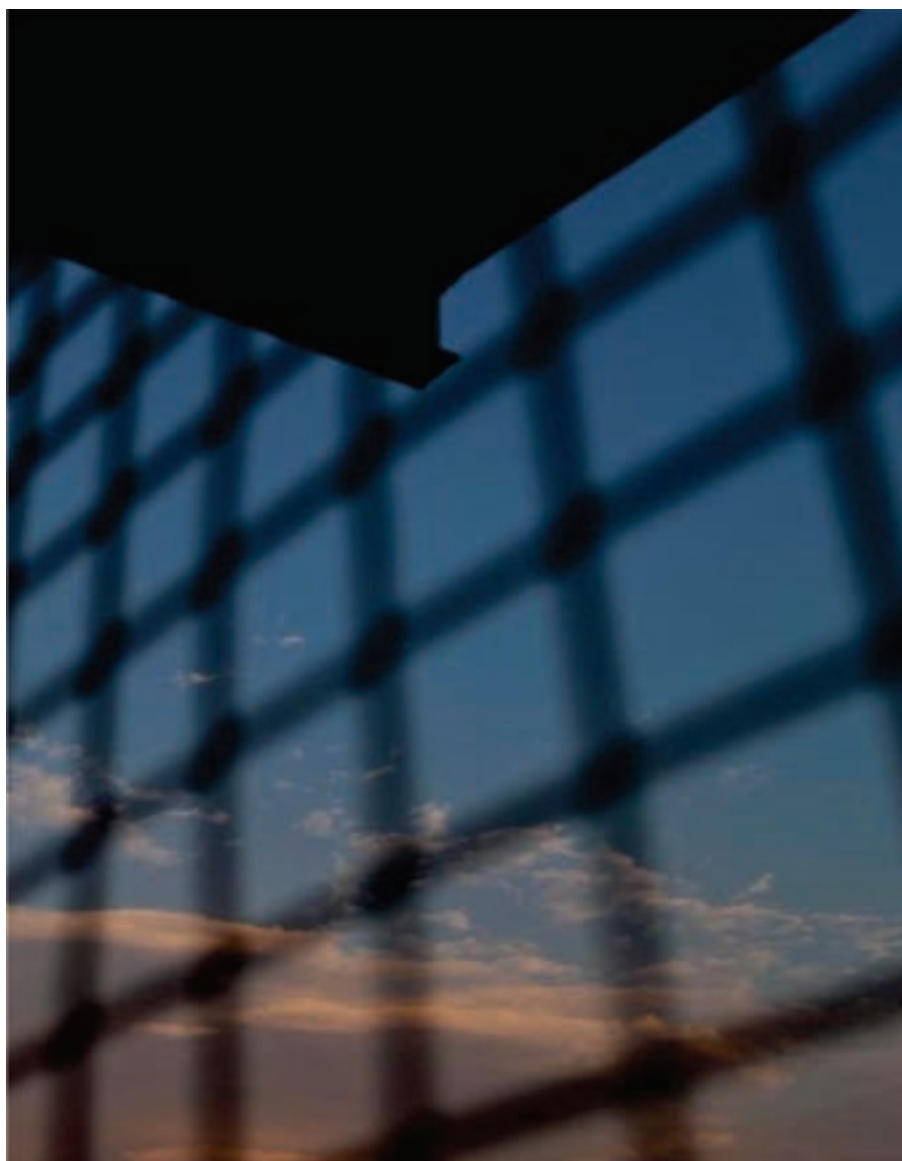
Antara Saran Sharma
1st year B.A. Sociology Hons.

Waterfall



Anuriti Bahl
1st year B.A. Sociology Hons.

QUARANTINE DIARIES



*Credits: Khyati Dubey
Ist Year B.A. Programme*

Strangulated Life

Unlatched the chiffonier,
 Peeked into the
 Blurred lines,
 Grey flecks,
 Distempered image,
 A tincture of dolefulness slithered down the spine
 To selvage the warm fuzzies.
 Frond of cocos-nucifera casted an umbrage of ataraxia;
 Over the neighboring dysphoric milieu;
 Brushed aside the gush of gyp.
 The grin like a Cheshire cat was clicked;
 Obviated was the squeezed glint of tear.
 The gaudy attire in vogue was snapped;
 Cloistered was the harsh panting of acinus and shriek
 of lub-dub.
 The locks hanging down the temples glistened at the
 claret hue of Helios, which was papped. Camouflaged
 was the lacerations on her flesh.
 Trembling hands were concatenated jamming.
 Photographed was the gleeful hue,
 underneath lay bare the declivitous trail.
 Unlatched the chiffonier,
 Peeked into the
 Blurred lines,
 Grey flecks,
 Distempered image.
 Undertook a quiet saunter down the memory boulevard;
 Oozed out the dreary juncture through the cracks of
 the hippocampus. Dessertspoonful of quondam events
 garnished with a clove of nostalgia; relished now is the
 redolence of petrichor.
 Vitrine in the medullary cavity is the carousel pirouette,
 Clandestine is the sonorous trenches and furrows.
 Unlatched the chiffonier,
 Peeked into the
 Blurred lines,
 Grey flecks,

Distempered image.
 The jaunt erased the rambling lacuna,
 Unearthed the minuscule moments,
 Teleported to the antiquated cockcrow.
 Ignited poignant anamnesis of cantaloupe epoch.
 Unlatched the chiffonier,
 Peeked into the
 Blurred lines,
 Grey flecks,
 Distempered image,
 Tantamount to
 wrathful bebies of
 ambivalent watershed cogitation.
 Oozed out the sanguine-fluid,
 Throttled was her zephyr.
 Gamboled did she in a Gadarene rush:
 to insulate,
 to persevere,
 to isolate herself;
 From the briar of patriarchal-thralldom.
 Bouten was squeezed to obsolescence.
 Isolated from the hurly-burly;
 Isolated from the altruistic-philial;
 Isolated from the lecherous gaze.
 Absquatulating, eloping ;
 from the stoupy penitentiary.
 Evanescing and isolating ;
 from the saturnine-washed walls of Gaia's
 condominium.

Sohagni Roy
2nd Year B.A. English Hons.

Strength In Strangeness

As this evil pandemic is around,
That has shown and made it profound,
That together we can fight,
and bring change with joy and light.

This deadly virus stands outside,
"The only solution for all of us to stride,
is to stay in our home,
Enjoy family time and don't roam.

Life in isolation is quite peculiar
but is much required and unfamiliar.
Cook, play, clean, and fight
do whatever you like but just stay inside.

Doctors are working day and night,
We need to understand their plight.
Come let's pledge to help them,
They are the roots and we are the stem.

We can stay home and stop it from spreading,
With earnest voices, the world is begging.

Paarvi Bhambri
1st Year B.A. Programme



QUARANTINE
& CHILL

Hues Of Life In Isolation

In verses with hopes of sustained recovery
written in the sand,
dreaming of lilac cotton candies and soft moss beds,
lying in rooms with doors without handles,
life in comfort zones;
The morning breeze sometimes brings excitement to
learn something new
or maybe revive that long left hobby,
but on some days
the heart longs for people,
for tight hugs, bright smiles
for changes;
from dressing up in a finely ironed attire for walk-in
interviews
to dressing up in a crisp white shirt and pajama to sit in
front of a virtual rectangle,
hours of mute-unmute,
spending the golden hour of the day in understanding
the vibe of each corner of your room;
one where you can cry out the loneliness that is robbing
you of your peace,
the other where you can light scented candles in the
evening and read,
one which fills you with calmness and peace,
and the other where you can make yourself productive
on dull days.
Thinking of random things at 3 a.m.,
some philosophy, some reality,
of the cosmos and magic,
of the chaos and calm,
of finding a parallel universe,
of how the moon looks prettier on a full moon night,

taking a paper and coloring it blue to create a sky of
 your own,
 and then realizing as a mature kid
 that the sky isn't all blue;
 the hues- white, pink, orange.
 Hues of life in isolation.
 Loneliness.
 Silence.
 Some days are a mess
 spent just lying in hopelessness,
 where the bed and those unchanged sheets feel like the
 only respite,
 like empty postcards waiting to be inked with unspoken
 messages.
 And on some days
 waking up at 5 a.m just to watch the sunrise from the
 window,
 reading your favorite book,
 following your palm lines and predicting destinies.
 The kindness that erupts in your belly when you clean
 your room after days,
 the smell of newly ironed sheets and lavender-scented
 candles,
 and video calling mom to tell her that you miss her
 food.

You miss people and their fragrance.
 Hues of life in quarantine.
 Longings.
 Love.
 Nevertheless, every day
 in cities where poems scribbled by youths collapse,
 You write a poem to create history.
 You hold on to happiness
 like a flower
 before it dies.
 Placing your palm on your chest,
 you find hues of life in the drowning darkness.
 You breathe in twenty-six letters of the alphabet in the
 hope that they will give birth to a shooting star and will
 carry your dreams to the sky.
 Hoping to reach the shore again.
 Dreaming of real-life reunions.
 With tight hugs.
 Of warm smiles.
 Of blushing cheeks and moist eyes.
 From hues of isolation to hues of connection.
 Meeting people.
 Becoming a hope, a home, a human again.

Aarushi Sharma
Ist Year B.A. Psychology Hons.

Life In Isolation

Lazy days of summer that I spent with you
Sitting on the benches and laughing all day long
Your smile is burned in my memory through and through
Your voice echoes inside my ears like a song
I remember the mornings we spent inside the Art room
Drawing, painting, gossiping, and joking around with so much fun
I remember our bored faces in the class as we awaited the end of our doom
And the times we almost died melting from the scorching heat of the sun
The harsh winter was easy to bear for we were always together
Your loving embrace was enough to warm my heart from the cold breeze
We were stuck like glue in every season, in every weather
Without fail your arms lifted me up when the weight of the world pushed me to my knees
The last time I saw you was during the spring of last year
When the birds were chirping and flowers were blossoming
The reality of never seeing you again was my biggest fear
Little did I know that daunting nightmare would begin materializing
In the blink of an eye, months have passed by unknowingly
But I remain stuck in that springtime when the world was peaceful
The footsteps that once marked the streets are fading away exceedingly
But I stand frozen in that springtime when life was beautiful
This new isolated life that I lead plunges me further into a state of desolation
No longer can I seek you for the boundless darkness that has engulfed my heart
In the silence, my lips deliver a prayer to the Heavens above to save this dying nation
And for you and I to regain our lost spring so that we may never again stray apart.

*Mawi Suan Kim Shoute
1st Year B.A. Political Science Hons.*

Collecting Pieces For Making Peace

Obscurity reigns supreme,
 chaos wafting in the air,
 eyes welled up with tears,
 fragile hearts, all broke,
 bewildered strings the air,
 the end of the tunnel,
 void of any light and life,
 as the pandemic gulps in,
 flesh and feelings,
 I sit in absolute solitude,
 the clock strikes 1:39 at night, time for some self-talk,
 venting to my inner self,
 about the bottled up emotions, heavily scornful
 thoughts,
 that envelope my mind,
 due to the pandemic, the lockdown, the suffering, the
 anxiety,
 the interminable list of problems, I hold my pen tightly,
 trepidation wires my nerves, too frail to give up,
 too strong to hold on,
 I daub the pages,
 with the battle in my mind,

predicament laces my country, the sentence of silence,
 ending with the ambulance sirens, the healthcare
 strangulating, gasping for breath,
 poverty and hunger vanquishing, the innocents under
 open skies, the cries of anguish echo,
 sending chills to the trees,
 who bow in the vicinity,
 acknowledging the pain,
 necessities of life,
 stocking out makes some lose hope and others their
 life,
 as we congregate,
 unite for a cause,
 from sharing leads to food, baggage to grief,
 with sensitivity and faith,
 let us subjugate,
 the fear that looms over,
 our demure fate,
 factions of society collapse, but one thing can never,
 and should never collapse, the essence of being alive,
 the feeling that makes us human, the word called
 humanity.

Anushka Somvanshi
1st Year B.A. Programme



Letter Of Hope To A Stranger

Hey Beautiful,

‘Set your dreams where nobody hides, Give your tears to the tide’

Though we have a set of prompts, specifying the topic, it becomes a little forceful to me henceforth I thought why not be spontaneous. This pandemic, I literally want to ask the world, What’s been up? because after living at home for more than a year I have lost the capacity to answer. Anyways, what I have come to understand is that this quarantine is somewhat like a blessing in disguise.

There are days when I feel absolutely unproductive and lazy, on the contrary, there are days when my happiness knows no bounds because I might complete a book or crack a long-term selection or just be grateful for my special one. I want everything to get back to normal, but at the same time I don’t want any of my friends or family or close ones to catch the virus and therefore my guilt-ridden self mocks me time and again. What I want to remember from this pandemic is the fact that only one thing matters and that’s LOVE, the 4 lettered bold words can fix everything and anything in the world. The only therapy to every problem and the only solution to every trouble.

A few months ago I wrote a poem titled ‘HOPE’ and from that day on I’m holding up with so much ease yet difficulty, it’s been a great long ride. Before the virus invaded us, I wish I could have spent a lot more

time with my loved ones who aren’t really here in the city now, instead far away in different cities and countries. The self-portrait right now is a little clumsy, procrastinated, and unproductive but at the same time a lot of writing has helped me, it’s like a rescue, a lot of communication has helped in battling with the body aches, anxiety, and gloomy days.

Oh yes, I think I’m a great cook; I have experimented from pizzas to rolls to cakes to brownies and all the food was delicious. I long for traveling, our summer trip this year is still a cliffhanger but nevertheless, in fact, I crave to move into cafes and restaurants and food joints with my friends, hogging on food without any worry is some other kind of fun I suppose.

I’m imagining myself in NYC or LA, 10 or 5 years down the line, pursuing my masters somewhere in the US and lurking around Times Square or San Francisco. My wish list and the bucket list are existing and taking birth in the notes section along with my different aspirations and ambitions; working to fulfill the same.

Right now I’m a happy woman just dressing up for a house party and writing this strange yet funny letter. I think it looks done, so all the best for all future endeavors.

Aysha Saleem
2nd Year B.A English Hons.

Dear Stranger

I write this letter to you as a token of love and positivity you found in a glass bottle that wound up at the shore. That's gotta be one of your movie-to-real-life fantasies, right?

i. I hope your day was happy and your smile shone as bright as the sun. I hope to find the good in all the bad that has been enveloping us. I hope you lived today.

ii. I hope you wrote today. Maybe not on paper, maybe not in your Notes app, but maybe your thoughts are now poetic. I hope you thought of a prompt today, one that you'll remember much later when you sit down scribbling off the last line you wrote; or when you yearned to just start writing a poem. When your hands will inquisitively hover over the sheet of paper, you will remember today - what you felt, a whimsical idea that popped in your head, a moment you experienced and didn't get to cherish enough, a song you heard but didn't get to sing enough. A prompt, and you didn't get to play with words enough.

iii. I hope you find completeness and the threads left with loose ends have now turned into pretty swirly patterns - each one just as unique as the other.

iv. I hope you dreamt last night. I hope you created a

story - much more beautiful than the one we live in and went on an adventure. I hope you go on an adventure every night.

v. I hope you're waiting for tomorrow. Accepting everything that went wrong yesterday and waiting to make it right tomorrow. I hope tomorrow brings love and warmth.

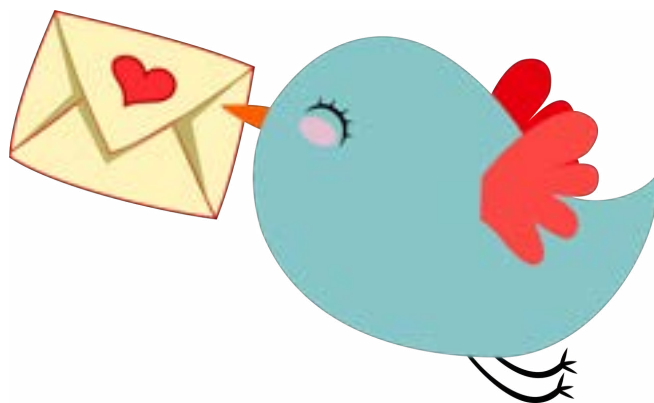
vi. I hope you open that door. That one door we all have, the one we're afraid to knock at... even more afraid to open. The one-step that we have to take towards it. Maybe changing career paths, maybe letting go of relationships, maybe starting a new relationship, maybe it's something you want to try, or maybe it's something you can't wait to try more of. Open that door.

vii. I hope you're wholeheartedly you, always.

May this letter age like a good poem - always finding its way to be relatable in any scenario, anytime. May it make you smile, for that's all that matters.

Love and poetry,
Fellow stranger

Akshita Taneja
3rd Year B. A. Sociology Hons.



Beating the Lockdown Blues

To the wonderful person reading this,

I hope you're having a beautiful day. In times like these when we all have been suddenly shut out from the rest of the world, having nothing but our phone screens to keep ourselves connected, and the daily dose of the various news anchors screaming about the ever-increasing numbers of people being affected all over the country and the world- I still hope that you're doing okay. I know how frustrating it is to still be told to think positively despite all of this when nothing around seems to be in tune with the word "positive". To think how our lives would have been going on, had it not been for the pandemic is almost 'continuous-yawns inducing' now, since we have thought so much about it already. And to think of the repetitive online classes or meetings is even worse. When the first wave of the virus ended and we all stepped out into the sunlight again, feeling ecstatic, none of us ever had the thought that we'd be caged within the confinement of our homes once again in a few months. All the lockdown rituals- trying new recipes, trends, workout routines, and in some cases- doing 29228 online courses and PhD.s all seemed like a little episode of the year gone by and we were so ready to rush back to normalcy. But oops.

Anyway, I am writing this letter in the hopes that I'm able to give you some- if not much- comfort in these unpredictable times. I want to let you know that you're doing your best. We all have different stories to tell and we all have different ways of coping. In these pandemic times, we really don't need that daily dose of "you should have completed 5 internships and a degree by now and mastered 20 new skills". We really don't need that. We need emotional support. We

need assurance that everything will be okay. We need consolation for the time we could have spent running through the college corridors with our friends or going out eating delicious (and extremely unhealthy) pani-puris from roadside stalls. Whoever you are, whatever you do, please don't stress yourself out by trying to push through this infinite race of achieving academic mastery while the whole world seems to be falling apart. Of course, if you feel up to it, you're most welcome to try new stuff. But since most of us have been low on motivation during this lockdown- and blaming ourselves for it along the way- I want you to know it's alright, you're not being lethargic or unproductive. Even if all you did was survive today, I'm proud of you, and you should be proud of yourself too.

To all those kids missing out on their colorful school/ college life, to those people who are missing out on meeting their friends and families, or simply those who just miss the joy of going out without having the fear of catching the virus- your frustration is valid and understandable. I want you to remember that we'll get through this, together, and everything will be okay again. Until then, even if you don't come out of the pandemic being super productive, you deserve to be proud of yourself- for having survived through these extremely difficult times. Always remember, there's always light at the end of the tunnel (no matter how long this tunnel seems to be, we'll get through it together) Stay safe and take care!

Lubna Mujeeb
Ist Year B.A. Programme

Remembrance - To Anne Frank, with love

I found myself thinking of Anne Frank yesterday.

I read her diary in middle school. It was part of the curriculum; I was even tested on it. And like every other school-related book I've had to read- I read it and then promptly forgot most details once the exam was over. Anne died horribly, that truth paints the experience of reading her words in a way that is palpable. My class read aloud from her diary-like it was any other book.

I know I wouldn't want anybody to read my old journals, oh god, I'd be mortified if there were classes of 8th graders reading aloud from the diary of my 13-year-old self!

I wondered what the big deal was- her voice was not extraordinary; in fact, it was much like any other teenager's. There were moments of poignancy here and there but it wasn't the great work of literature I'd sort of expected it to be.

I couldn't grasp what was special about "kitty" back then, I can now.

I wonder if she can see the world from wherever she is, I hope she can't, no one should have to bear witness to this.

I now understand why she didn't write about the holocaust too much. I have no desire to write about this either.

The Franks spent seven hundred and sixty-one days in that attic, and in light of that frightening number, my own time in isolation sounds like a piece of cake.

Things got worse just when we'd gotten our hopes up and now, two people I knew and grew up around have died. Several others are sick. It was easier last year when this was a distant, unlikely fear- when the mirage of an end was still in sight.

How did she do it? How did isolation not eat away at her sanity?

It took me a minute to understand, but I get it now.

There are people my age frantically looking for ventilators, oxygen tanks, plasma and medication they didn't know existed until now. My friend spent hours yesterday looking for a hospital bed for a perfect stranger. And I am sitting here, writing this.

The oxygen cylinder we acquired after several panicked calls haunts my dreams. I never thought I'd have to learn how to use one. I did learn, I had to like she had to.

Kitty was special, not because what Anne wrote was extraordinary- but who she wrote was. Every generation lives through something that changes everything; this is my generation's scar to bear- this is what we will remember, collectively, forever.

The children orphaned, families pushed into destitution, teenagers that became caregivers, and those few who return to the land of the living from ICUs – will live to tell the tale.

She didn't live, but she still told a story, her story. It was important- it needed to be told.

My friends and I will tell our story, the best we can. Maybe someday, someone will read one of our stories aloud in a middle school classroom, and a surly kid in the back will roll her eyes at our long-winded descriptions of how we sanitize everything- even the sanitizer bottle.

And just maybe, our stories will bring someone solace someday - when the world inevitably descends into chaos again.

Maybe, a century from now, someone will write of us, in remembrance.

Sanah Munjal
1st Year B.A. English Hons.

Caged

The Holi of 2020 was different. Even as children played, random declarations of “you’ll get corona” were rampant, and no one realized what lay ahead. A virus had been rumored to have traveled across countries through human touch, and as the chain enlarged, the Prime Minister decided to address the nation. The festivities had almost ended, and one could hear televisions being switched on to access news channels at sharp 6 o’clock in the evening.

It was nearly without ceremony that Rupsha’s family accepted a lockdown of twenty-one days. Rupsha sat on her easy chair on the balcony, pondering the implications of an unforeseen vacation. Her family sat in the other room discussing political decisions in grave voices. Her father was probably outside, puffing that one last cigarette before succumbing to twenty-one days of voluntary house arrest. The usual routine, a cage for a home, except that this time someone had locked the cage. Her final year exams were around the corner, and although worried, she was mostly relieved to have them postponed. Her ink-stained hands hovered near the cup, a single teabag blackening its fluid contents. No other trace of color tinted her skin.

Outside, the streets were soaking in colored waters, and every now and then, one would come across broken eggs strewn carelessly around. Rupsha’s eyes relaxed into these pools of color for the first time in ages. She could hear childish giggles a little way off. It was the sound of happy commotion in an area that had otherwise gone dead silent. She peeked from her balcony and discovered the source of this happiness—a frail-looking auto mastered at the moment by three little kids.

Two skinny boys stood scantily clad in identical shorts, their bodies nearly unrecognizable after a day’s masquerade of colors; the girl had on a worn-out dress,

nearly ruined by indelible stains, her hair a straggly mess. They looked at her and offered a grin. Amused and disgruntled, she averted her gaze.

But she had garnered their attention, and they stood staring at her curiously-- her short-cropped hair, her glasses, the cup of tea without which she couldn’t go a day... “Kya chahiye?” What do you want? Rupsha asked accusingly.

The boy who looked slightly older waved his hand, “Hello,” he said, grinning, “My name is Azad.”

Rupsha offered a smile in return. His innocent omission of verbs seemed endearing. “Idhar aao,” come here, she prompted. “I am Rupsha.”

“Coming madam! Wait two minutes.” the younger one squealed, followed by a burst of laughter, as they came racing towards her.

Rupsha took the candies she had received in dozens in the festival and gave them each a handful of it. The girl popped one of the candies into her mouth, pocketing the rest, coaxing the others to reserve theirs for later too.

“Thank you,” Azad said, hiding the candies in his pocket, like a proud child who had successfully managed the mischief he had set his mind on.

“Go home now,” Rupsha said.

The girl looked blankly at her, momentarily forgetting to suck on her candy, “Where?” “It’s a lockdown,” Rupsha explained in Hindi, “You should not go outside your home. Ghar jao.”

The kids looked at each other, and infectious giggles spread among the three, elevating into bursting laughter, free and pure. “Arey didi,” they said between giggles, “ghar kaha hai?” Where is home?

The gutters were still overflowing with the leftover colors of Holi as they wandered away from Rupsha's cage, hurling well-known abuses at each other, all in

good humor, into an impenetrable cage of their own.

Shaoni Dutta
1st Year B.A. English Hons.

Mandala Art



By Yukkti Khattar
2nd Year B.Voc- Retail Management and IT

Peace In Isolation



*By Paarvi Bhambri
1st Year B.A. Programme*

Behind The Bars



*By Khyati Dubey
Ist Year B.A. Programme*

Masked “Girl With A Pearl Earring”



*By Nandika Agarwal
Ist Year B.Sc. Maths Hons.*

Quarantoon

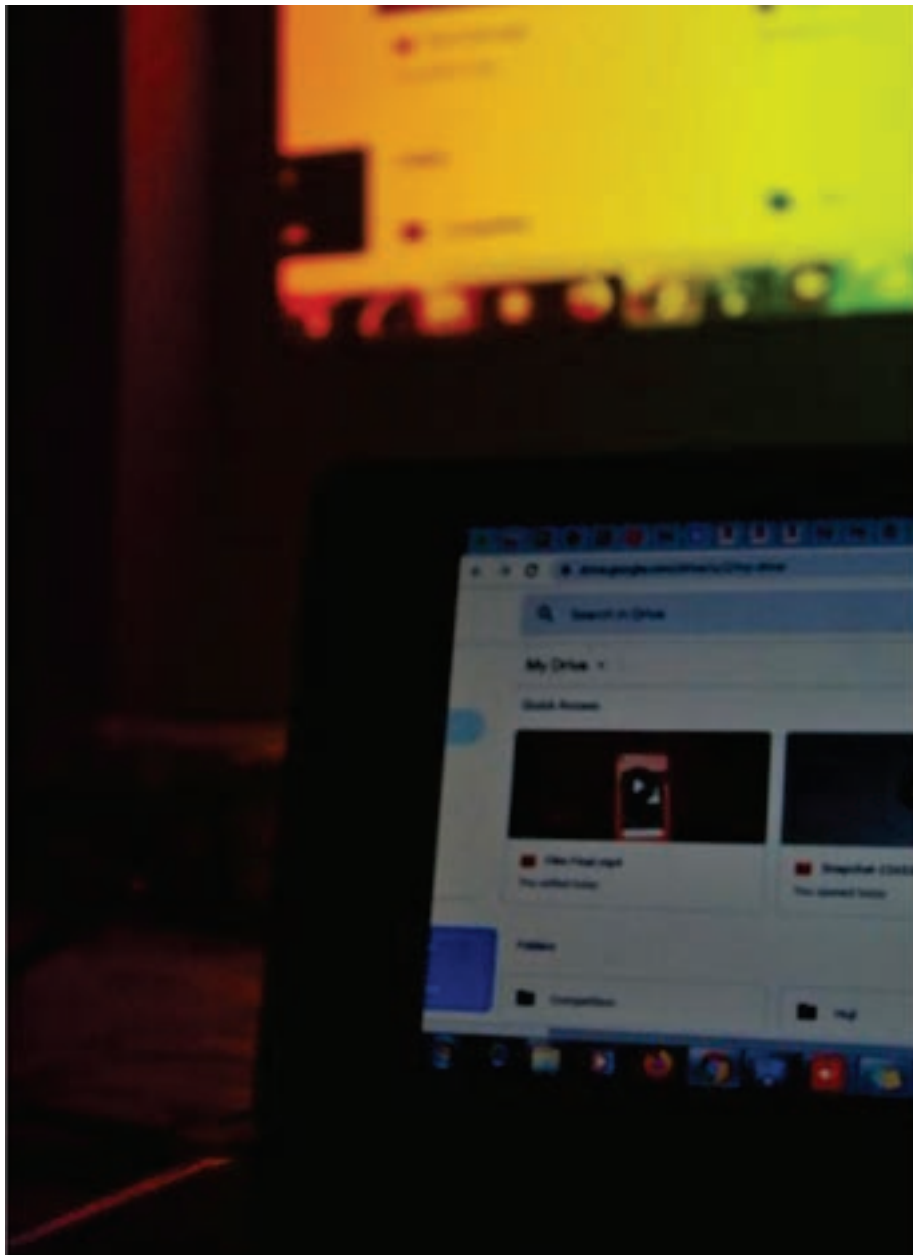


*By Shaoni Dutta
1st Year B.A. English Hons.*



By Shaoni Dutta
1st Year B.A. English Hons.

DEPARTMENT AND SOCIETY REPORTS



*Credits: Khyati Dubey
Ist Year B.A. Programme*

Department of B. A. Programme

The academic session 2020-2021 of the B. A. Programme department commenced with the elections of the newly elected leaders, President- Snead Joanna Cardozo, Vice President- Novena Natalie Patnaik, and General Secretary- Priyal Mittal; who then further selected the student council body for the department, assigning heads and co-heads for several categories such as:

1. Anchoring team- Shanelle (co-head), Srishti Bahl (co-head).
2. Creativity team- Gunagya Sahni (head), Nimisha Setia (co-head).
3. Literary team- Divyanshi Bhardwaj (head), Vanshika Pandey (co-head).
4. Cultural team- Pratishtha Khanna (head), Nikhita Soni (co-head), A. Tabitha Naidu (Singing Head).
5. Organizing team- Akansha Paul (head), Rudra Sharma (co-head).
6. Photography team- Tamey Thomas (head), Alphy James (co-head).
7. Sports team- Netal Singh Shekhawat (head), Tejasvi Ahuja (co-head).
8. Technical team- Shamdhavi Kalash (head), Raisa Katyal (co-head).

The pandemic did not hinder the department's zeal and enthusiasm for bringing the best out of the students and proceeded to virtually conduct its various events.

Carnópri: 27.10. 2020 – 09.11.2020

The very first event that the department organized was "CARNÓPRI", in the month of October. The event had a trail of competitions, which included:

All Ears: The winners were Jennifer Dhupar, Priyal Mittal, Ajina Justin, Akanksha, and Paavni Nangiya.

Drishya: The winners were Winesse Rozario, Rincy Baptish, and Hannah Stephen.

The Hook Step Challenge: The winners were Rini Thomas, Shani Kuriyakose, Paawani Nangia, Aditi Kumari, and Sharanya Verma.

Feel Those Feelings Yaar: The winners were Ashni V Tom, Lorain J Yunus, and Jitty P Varghese.

Agora by Parthenon: 15.11.2020 - 19.11.2020

In November, the B.A. Programme Department's esteemed magazine "Parthenon"; under its event 'AGORA' conducted various competitions.

Vivre- the Art Competition, wherein participants had to select one of the three given themes and give them their own creative twist. Drina Dominic Joseph secured the first position and Aditi Vemuganti was the runner-up.

Lacuna- the Creative Writing Competitive, which had similar rules.

World Philosophy Day Celebrations: 16.11.2020

On 16th November 2020, for the occasion of World Philosophy Day, the Philosophy Combination of B. A. Programme Department conducted a competitive event of Extempore and Interjections based on Ethical Dilemmas. It was an intercollege competition that concluded with the following results: Sheikh Mantasha (Mata Sundri College), Gauri Ramchandran (Hindu College).

A series of events took place- including a Paper Presentation competition in which- Nanda H from Lady Shri Ram College secured the first position, Ms. Gupta and Anjali Roy from Jesus and Mary College secured the second position, Abel Thomas Alex from

St. Stephen's College secured the third position.

A virtual enlightening session by Professor Balanganpathi Deverakondi was also organized for the students on 19th November 2020.

Virtual Freshers: 13.01.2021

The Department also stepped up their game by organizing a virtual freshers party on 13th Jan 2021. The party was themed on Netflix and Bollywood characters; though it was an unconventional mode, the students took part with a lot of enthusiasm and made the event a huge success. Michelle Scaria was crowned as the Miss B. A. Programme and Drishya Taneja was titled Miss Best Dressed. Adrina Scrichonhan and Ritika Singh were the respective runner-ups.

K - B. A. P.: 8.04.2021 – 12.04.2021

The last event of the academic year took place in April. The department collaborated with Iris, the Fine Arts Society of the college for an event related to Korean culture. It included an art competition and a quiz competition based on K-Pop and K-Drama. The result of these is as follows:

K-B.A.P. Quiz Competition

1st place- Yebi Toko

2nd place- Stuti Victor David

3rd place- Sudhamani Tokas

K-B.A.P. Art Competition

1st place- Megha Rana

2nd place- Lubna Mujeeb

3rd place- tie between Drishya Taneja and Niyati Jain

Dr. Preeti Ghosh and Dr. Dinesh Adlakha (HOD)

Snead Joanna Cardozo (President)

Novena Natalie Patnaik (Vice President)

Department of Commerce

The academic year 2020-21 witnessed a digitized environment, a global pandemic, and a flurry of emotions. However, the Department of Commerce witnessed a productive year by organizing a plethora of activities, webinars, and events. The first online event conducted by the department was “Coalescing Minds with JMC Alumnae - Episode 1: Dreamers meet Doers”, held on 26th July 2020. The Department was proud to host Ms. Snigdha Chadha and Ms. Parul Gupta, JMC Alumna as the speakers of the session, moderated by Ms. Sheetal Kakkar. The session focussed on guiding students on their path to their dream B-schools by those who achieved the feat.

This was followed by Teachers' Day celebration, which was organized by the Core Team digitally, to thank the teachers for all the guidance and support they provided to the students. Throughout the year, we specifically focussed on the growth of online platforms and stayed very active on LinkedIn and Instagram, also held various campaigns throughout the year including- Octobertastic, Green Week Reels, Know JMC, Festive Cultural Extravaganza, Impact of Covid-19 on various industries, Jam the Jargon, etc.

In October, we organized three webinars. The first one being “Team engagement during work from home”, held on 7th October. The online session was led by Mr. Vijay Krishna, one of the key leaders at Goodera and an ex-entrepreneur who has worked with over 200 global brands on their CSR and engagement strategies. The second one was “Gandhi's Message to Students”, held on 9th October. The session invited Mr. Christian Bartolf, an educational and political scientist who is closely collaborating with the Free University Berlin and is also the President of the Gandhi Information Centre. Lastly, on 10th October, the Department went ahead and organized a webinar on “Personal

Branding”. The speaker of the event was Mr. Debojit Sen, a senior management professional at Cardekho.

The month of November commenced on a positive note with the arrival of Freshers. To brief them about the workings of the college and various societies, the Department organized an Orientation for the Batch of '23, on 17th November. It started with a faculty introduction, followed by a department and society introduction, a cultural performance, and a Q&A session. This was followed by Ice-Breaker sessions, which were held with individual classes to help the students get to know each other. The Department also hosted Dr. Mani A. Nandi's farewell, to show gratitude for her support and guidance to the students.

In continuation with the JMC Alumnae Webinar series, “Coalescing Minds with JMC Alumnae- Episode 2: Aspirants meet the Professionals” was conducted, on 21st November. This session witnessed Ms. Sumiran Bhatia and Ms. Avanija Rao Budhiraja guide students on their path to their dream B-schools, moderated by Ms. Sheetal Kakkar. Followed by this, another webinar was conducted on 12th December, hosted by Mr. Daksh Sethi, to help the freshers know more about different career trajectories and how college societies and LinkedIn are essential for a college student.

The new year commenced with a fun-filled freshers event to welcome the Batch of '23. The theme of the event was Retro Bollywood. Keeping the tradition alive, Ms. Commerce's competition was held, followed by Cultural performances and games.

The Department also organized two competitions. The first one being “Corporate Triathlon 3.0”, a fun-filled and thrilling event from February 16th -19th. The event was open to students from all colleges and received an enthusiastic response, with around 282 registrations. The Department also organized “Invictus”, the ultimate three-level people manager competition. The final round of which was judged by Mr. Dushyant

Mishra, founder of unLearn and director at Mahika Mishra Foundation, and Ms. Ashna Juneja, co-founder at Eyewearstreet.in and HRBP at Accenture. We concluded the event season with a workshop on “Do's and Don'ts of GD-PI”, hosted by Mr. Daksh Sethi, a certified GD-PI Trainer.

Dr. Sunita Kaistha (Convenor)
Hiral Chawla (President)
Fizza Rizvi (Vice President)

Department of Economics

Established in 1969, the Economics Department of JMC has witnessed a dynamic and commendable advancement over the years. Due to the spread of COVID-19, in March 2020 the nation went under lockdown and educational institutions shifted to online platforms for conducting their studies and activities.

Given the circumstances, to keep the sense of normalcy flourishing, the Economics Department held various events and activities online. The Department held elections for the Student Council for the session 2020-21. This was followed by Teachers' day, which was celebrated with enthusiasm as the students expressed their gratitude for their mentors. With a dedicated faculty and motivated students, the department conducted a workshop on Design Thinking- a Creative Approach to Problem Solving, this enabled students to understand creative and strategic approaches to solve complex problems that involve empathizing with the user and create effective solutions.

The Department also set the benchmark for conducting extracurricular activities that students not only enjoy but also learn a great deal from. With the same perspective, the department conducted an art competition- 'Hues of Economics', the objective of which was to bring

out various individual interpretations of economic concepts and scenarios that students could observe in their surroundings.

As a part of the Annual Lecture Series, the Department organized an informative session on “The Health Sector’s Preparedness to Deal with Pandemics in India and its Relevance” by Dr. Indrani Gupta. This provided the students an opportunity to witness an interactive session. Another session conducted in collaboration with Rethinking Economics India Network was on “The Shortcomings of Mainstream Economics and Expanding an Economist’s Toolkit- The Pluralistic Approach with aim of developing an inclusive outlook for different parameters in economics”.

For the first time, the department welcomed its 53rd batch with an online orientation and welcome program where the freshers were introduced to the faculty and student council members and were shown a glimpse of the college and its activities with the help of a brief presentation.

The Department organized its 3rd Annual Alumni Meet, the major highlights of which were our dearest alumnus describing their journey from academia to art, an interactive discussion with the alumnae, and the networking experience which not only proved to be immensely beneficial for the students but also aided in inculcating a sense of belongingness.

The Department organized its annual fest, EcoVantage on 17th April 2021, Saturday which commenced with a lecture by Dr. Ajit Mishra- Director at Institute of Economic Growth; followed by events for research enthusiasts- Research Symposium (Paper Presentation); a Puzzled Pint 3.0 challenging all the creative puzzlers. This was followed by the event exploring the art of strategy making, Strat-Wars’21 which was conducted in association with the IGTS (Indian Game Theory Society).

This year as a part of its social drive, the Department collaborated with an NGO- Project Clap for a donation drive to spread awareness about menstrual hygiene and its importance; and being able to provide sustainable pads for people in need at subsidized rates.

Mrs. Smita Gupta (Convenor)
Gatha Singh (President)
Rochelle Prakash (Vice-President)

Department of Elementary Education

The academic year started with the internship orientation program for fourth-year students. The faculty members in the department arranged a series of events throughout the academic year. Virtual platforms like Google Meet and Microsoft Teams were used for conducting classes, workshops, and webinars.

Several interactive sessions were put together for the students and the faculty members by distinguished professors and resource persons to familiarize the online mode of teaching and learning, rethink the usual pedagogy and the practices, and discuss the possibilities and perspectives of digital education. The webinars series titled - Pedagogy in the Pandemic included Pedagogy in the times of pandemic with a focus on the pedagogy of science vis-à-vis online teaching and learning (Prof. Sadhna Saxena), Challenges of schooling during covid (Prof. Anita Rampal), Imagining the right to education in the context of the pandemic (Prof. Padma M. Sarangapani) and Idea sharing session regarding an online internship with Faculty members (Dr. Sonika Kaushik and Mr. Prakash Sahoo). The session on Teaching at Mirambika during pandemic (Dr. Kamala Menon and

Dr. Jayanthi Ramachandran), and the talk on Integral Education (Dr. Ramesh Bijlani) provided the students with an opportunity to interact with the practitioners and educators associated with the alternative schools (Mirambika).

The webinar on mental health, emotional well-being in the time of Covid by Prof. Namita Ranganathan shared the mental health concerns that emerged due to covid. Another webinar on mental health, Stepping into the new normal: Emotional well-being by Ms. Esha Mehta emphasized the need for self-love, developing a positive outlook towards life, and what the new normal means to everyone. The science webinar on Work and Energy with First-year students by Ms. Anshumala and her team from Joy of Learning provided the students with hands-on experience in dealing with some of the scientific concepts.

For the first-year students, the department organized a session on Discussion on the scope of B.El.Ed program. Apart from this, an Online interactive session was also conducted for the first years to allow the students to meet their fellow students of the department in an informal setting. The fourth-year students did their online internship with Deepalaya School as a part of the course work. The department collaborated with RELO, India of the US Embassy to organize two 10-week long virtual courses for Teaching English for 21st Century Skills and Content-Language Integrated Learning for fourth-year students and the graduate batch of 2020. The courses were meant to enhance student's professional skills and support them in developing practical classroom teaching strategies. This year because of the covid situation, there were only limited campus placements which included three schools Aravali International, Faridabad; St. Patrick, Andhra Pradesh, and HRM International Delhi.

The annual department event Aagaaz 2021 was held on March 22, 2021, followed by the department alumni

session of JMC with Deepali Sah, Annu Ralli, Isha Verma, and Sheetal Paul. The keynote speech of this year's Gijubhai Memorial Lecture, "The meaning of being a teacher: A reflection at the time of pandemic" was delivered by renowned sociologist, Prof. Avijit Pathak, JNU. Prof. Pathak addressed the significance of the relationship between teacher and learner and emphasized that online teaching does not fulfill the basic requirement of teaching and therefore it cannot be substituted with face-to-face teaching and learning. A theatrical performance *Andhi Mein Chirag* was organized on the life and speeches of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, the first education minister of India, with eminent artists Begum Zakia Zaheer, Dr. Syeda Hameed, Ms. Rene Singh, Ms. Pakhi Jain, and Mr. Lokesh Jain.

The department has been facilitating learning for students from home during the lockdown days. In addition to online teaching, PowerPoint presentations, videos, and the sharing of content were encouraged through google classroom and WhatsApp groups. The recorded videos were sent to the students who had no/less internet connectivity. In addition to that, the department had requested the college to provide laptops to the needy students and the students had received the laptops. We are also taking continuous feedback from the students so that we could timely address the issues they might be facing. Besides, all the faculty members of the department are involved in the student mentoring program.

The pandemic has been brutal to humanity. Though the times were difficult for both teachers and students, the department managed to organize many academic and cultural events with the constant support of all the students and faculty members.

Ms. Asha Sundaram (Faculty)
Twinkle Uppal (President)
Shawna Shaji (Vice-President)

Department of English

The academic year 2020 - 2021 was very fruitful for the Department of English, Jesus and Mary College. Even though the pandemic ensured that college activities were shifted online, many events were successfully conducted virtually.

The session kickstarted with the Department Webinar Committee, in collaboration with the IQAC, organizing two webinars, Impact of the Pandemic on the Metropolitan Middle-Class Indian Woman, and Stigma and the Covid Pandemic: Testimonies of Resilience, Resistance and Agency, which were held on 12th June and 25th June 2020, respectively. The Department Webinar Committee comprised of Ms. Dolly Kapoor (Teacher-in-charge), Ms. Purnima Topden, Dr. Sharon Pillai, Dr. Jennifer Monteiro, and Ms. Ishita Singh. Prof. Debashis Bandhopadhyay, Prof. Rukmini Sen, Dr. Sheeba Marwah, Dr. Mridula Tandon, Ms. Geeta Seshamani, and Ms. Angellica Aribam were the invited speakers for the two webinars.

Following this, the English Literary Association (ELA) held its student body election for the year on 21st August '20. Dania Mary Santhosh (3rd Year) and Srishti Tyagi (2nd Year), were elected as the President and Vice President respectively. ELA's first event was #Inktober (October 20) on its Instagram page, featuring art based on certain prompts, which saw wide participation across the virtual community.

The next significant event was the Anupama Nair Creative Writing Competition ceremony, held via Google meet on 4th November '20. Ms. Aditi Dwivedi, and Ms. Sonia Singh, shared the first prize for their prose and poetry submissions. Recipients of the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 Perry Bannerjee Award, and the 2019-2020 Anupama Nair Memorial Award were also announced on this occasion. The winners were Agnes Mary Joseph (Batch of 2021), Debasmita Nath (Batch

of 2022), and Ms. Sasha Bhatnagar (Batch of 2020), respectively.

Due to the staggering semesters, Trouvaille'20, the Freshers' Welcome was held on 7th January'21, and the Freshers were welcomed with good wishes for their unique academic journey. The theme for the event was "Comfort of Your Home". Everyone turned up in their pajamas and interactive games were organized.

Next, turning its sights on the academic side of things, ELA organized a Career Counselling Session, "Career Day with Alumnae" on 10th February'21. The speakers for the day were ex-students, Ms. Shilpa Sunny, Ms. Parul Goel, and Ms. Atulya Lucy Alexander. The alumnae spoke to the students on the possibility of a diverse range of career options after a degree in English Literature.

Infusing lightness into things, another social media series #Litterateur was organized from 11th March'21. Book recommendations and reviews curated from the Department students were featured on ELA's Instagram page to amalgamate fun with education.

The Department organized a two-part Lecture Series from 7th April'21 – 8th April'21. The theme for the first day was "Modernity and Society" and the speakers for the topic were Dr. Tobias Toll and Dr. Asijit Dutta. The theme for the second day was "Contemporary in Culture" and the speakers were Dr. Vinita Sinha and Ms. Shabani Hassanwalia. The eminent speakers were from diverse Indian universities, and the event was open to all students and teachers of JMC. All the Talks were also live-streamed on JMC's YouTube channel to encourage wider academic accessibility.

An introductory lecture on Chaucer's Canterbury Tales was organized on 23rd April 2021 for the First Years batch by Dr. Susan George. Ms. Harriet Raghunathan,

a retired faculty member of the Department was the speaker for the same.

The eventful year was brought to a close by the ELA's organization of Sayonara Senpai, the official Farewell for the outgoing batch of 2021. Taking place on 22nd June 2021, the event was deftly managed by the juniors, with performances, games, and collegiate nostalgia marking the hour-long meet.

We would like to end by extending our gratitude to Principal ma'am for her constant encouragement in these endeavors, our TIC Ms. Dolly Kapoor for her guidance, Officiating TIC Ms. Purnima Topden for her presence and advice, our ELA Staff Convenors Ms. Sameera Mehta and Ms. Aneesha Puri for helping us execute these events perfectly, and all the teachers of the Department of English for their support in these trying times.

Ms. Sameera Mehta, Ms. Aneesha Puri (Convenors)
Dania Mary Santhosh (President)
Srishiti Tyagi (Vice President)

Department of History

Throughout these unprecedented times the History Department actively engaged in organizing several events throughout the academic year (2020-2021) so as to facilitate discussion and critical engagement on contemporaneous issues.

The first event organized by the department was an online panel discussion, titled "NEP 2020: Inherited and Current Inequalities", on 2nd September 2020. Our esteemed panelists were Dr. Madhu Prasad (Presidium Member, All India Forum for Right to Education), who emphasized a longer history of exclusion and the struggle for democratic rights through access to education. Our second esteemed panelist was Professor Joga Singh (Retd. Professor &

Former Head, Department of Linguistics & Punjabi Lexicography, Punjabi University, Patiala), who stressed on the falsification of linguistic realities and the overburdening of school curriculum with language courses under NEP 2020. The discussion was an important and enriching one as it materialized shortly after the formal announcement about the Union government's adoption of the New Education Policy (NEP) 2020. We saw participation from across the country.

The Department of History commemorated World Mental Day by organizing a webinar on the theme "Tracing a Social and Cultural History of Insanity in North India, 1800-1950s" on 10th October 2020. This online public lecture was delivered by Dr. Shilpi Rajpal from AURO University (Gujarat) who has authored the archivally rich book *Curing Madness? A Social and Cultural History of Insanity in Colonial North India, 1800-1950s*, published by OUP. Her talk focused on both institutional and non-institutional histories of madness in colonial North India. The lecture highlighted the role of psychiatrists as historical actors and how the emergence of psychiatry was enmeshed with political histories of the period.

Over the period November 2020 to January 2021 the Department of History organized a Webinar Series on the theme "Situating Histories of South Asia in Global Context." The series revolved around public lectures delivered by two very eminent scholars, Professor Dilip Menon and Professor Jan Breman. Professor Menon (Mellon Chair of Indian Studies, & Director of Indian Studies in Africa, University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, S. Africa) titled his discussion the "Changing Theory: Thinking Concepts from the Global South." Meanwhile, Professor Jan Breman (Emeritus Professor, University of Amsterdam) titled his lecture on the "World of Labour, Pauperism and the Pandemic." Both sessions of the Webinar Series were livestreamed on our Facebook page to elicit greater

participation and viewership.

The Department of History in collaboration with the college Women's Studies Centre also commemorated International Women's Day with a special lecture by Urvashi Butalia (noted feminist publisher). Her public lecture was titled "A History of Our Own: Mapping Women's Movements and Feminism in India," and was held on 10th March 2021. Ms. Butalia traced the evolution of women's history in India by highlighting women's agitations and their roles in specific movements in the country.

The Department concluded its co-curricular activities of the academic session with a Panel Discussion on the "History Syllabus Revision and the Dangers Ahead," hosted online on 23rd April 2021. Our esteemed panelists included Professor Irfan Habib (Professor Emeritus, Aligarh Muslim University), Professor Kumkum Roy (Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University) and Professor Salil Mishra (Ambedkar University Delhi). The event was live streamed on our Facebook page and elicited much interest. Each of the panelists lucidly explained worrying features of undergraduate history syllabus proposed by the UGC, particularly those facets which seriously contradict the development in history writing towards greater inclusion of the diversity in experiences, social formations and regions.

Apart from these educational webinars and discussions, the History Department also organized a lively Fresher's Welcome for the new batch that took admission in November 2020. Keeping in mind the graduation of our third-year students, we organized a power-packed online farewell meet to bid adieu to our seniors, which concluded with warm messages from the department's faculty members.

Vriti Monga (President)
Daisy Mehta (Vice President)

Department of Mathematics

As we were learning to navigate the absurdities of the pandemic together, the Department of Mathematics managed to collaborate and conduct many events. Even though the times were challenging, an amazing effort was made to make sure that the virtual events were a success. Here is a brief summary of the events held:

Intercollege Paper Presentation Competition 2020:

The final round of the Intercollege Paper Presentation Competition was conducted by the Department of Mathematics, Jesus & Mary College on November 2, 2020 from 3pm to 5pm. The judges for the event were Dr. Vandana Khaitan and Dr. Anu Saxena. Dr. Sandra Joseph, the principal of JMC shared a few words of encouragement on the occasion. The papers presented by each team were brilliant and highly appreciated. While the judges were calculating the results, three of our college alumni, Neha Sam, Vidhi Vashishth and Yukti were asked to talk about their immensely successful research paper. Dr. Indrakshi Dutta, the Head of the Department of Mathematics, Dr. Shruti Tohan, Dr. Monica Rani, Dr. Shikha and all the other department teachers provided their constant guidance and support in conducting this wonderful event.

Alumni Session 1:

The first alumni session was conducted by the Department of Mathematics, Jesus & Mary College on February 10, 2021 from 1pm to 2pm. The speaker for the event was Ms. Sharmistha Chowdhury, a JMC alumna, ex-Deloitte who at present is an MBA student at INSEAD (France), and has worked in corporate finance, valuations and financial modelling, professionally for 4 years. She spoke about her work, its challenges and educational experience. Overall, the event was immensely fruitful and informative.

Alumni Session 2:

The second alumni session was conducted by the Department of Mathematics, Jesus & Mary College on March 11, 2021 from 1pm to 2pm. The speaker for the event was Mrs. Shruti Chawla Mudgal, who after her under-graduation from JMC did her post-graduation in Mathematics from IIT Delhi and is currently the head of Consumer Lending at Freecharge. She spoke about her experience studying mathematics at IIT Delhi and how mathematics made her good with numbers and deduction.

Alumni Session 3:

The third alumni session was conducted by the Department of Mathematics, Jesus & Mary College on March 17, 2021 from 9am to 10am. The speaker for the event was Dr. Shreya Gupta, who after her under-graduation from JMC, did her Masters in Mathematics from Delhi University and PhD in Operational Research from the University of Texas at Austin. She is currently doing her research in machine learning. She is also the product leader at Texas' leading artificial intelligence start-up, Spark Cognition. She spoke to the students about Machine Learning & Artificial Intelligence as a career and about her journey studying Mathematics.

Lecture Series 1:

A lecture was organised by the Department of Mathematics on March 22, 2021 on the topic "Rings of Continuous Functions". The speaker for the session

was Dr Sanghita Dutta, an Assistant Professor at the Department of Mathematics at the North Eastern Hill University. Her area of research during her PhD was Differential Topology and her current areas of research include Rings of Continuous Functions and Applications of Graph Theory. She has published about 10 research papers in several National and International Journals. This was a great learning experience.

Freshers' 2020:

The Department of Mathematics organised Freshers' 2020 on January 20, 2021 to welcome the incoming batch of students. The event was filled with fun games and performances, along with two of the freshers being crowned as Miss Mathematics and Miss Personality.

Farewell 2021:

The Department of Mathematics organised a virtual Farewell for the outgoing Batch of 2021 on April 22, 2021. The event was filled with fun games, beautiful dance and singing performances. This was followed by the teachers saying a few words to the outgoing batch and the students talking about their college experience.

As we faced this unusually challenging time, the events brought a sense of motivation and camaraderie which made this year an unforgettable one.

Dr. Indrakshi Dutta, Dr. Rashmi S. Thukral
(Convenors)

Yashika Kapoor (President)

Aditi Mehra (Vice President)

Department of Physical Education

As the session began amidst the nationwide lockdown, the Department of Physical Education did everything in its capability to support and nurture its students right at home. From welcoming a new batch to bidding goodbye to its seniors, the Department worked effortlessly to put up some successful online events.

The year started with the recruitment of core team members of the Department. Out of the many applicants, a total of 60 members were selected to be part of the team. All of these members worked relentlessly on each and every online event that took place during this session. After building a strong core team, it was time to select the office bearers of the Department. The Council consists of three posts: the President, the Vice President, and the Secretary. For the first two posts, the elections were held on October 21, 2020, and the results were declared on the same day. Gargi Garima Kalita was elected as the President and Divya Deeksha Chaturvedi was elected as the Vice President. Due to a delay in the admissions of a fresh batch, the interview for the post of Secretary took place on February 16, 2021, wherein Laavanya Ray was selected for the aforementioned post.

The Department has always believed that knowledge is power. To help guide its members, a Training and Research Cell was initiated on October 24, 2020. This cell aims to furnish information pertaining to the career and job prospects in the field of sports and physical education. Furthermore, the Department organized a webinar on Career Prospects in the Field of Sports on October 31, 2020. The keynote speaker was Mr. Soheil Tandon, the Director-Founder of Pro-Sports Development. He is a social entrepreneur who specializes in the sports and development field. He has been associated with sports management for over 10 years and has extensive experience working with diverse

groups of young people. Taking cognizance of the fact that the mental well-being of players is extremely crucial, particularly in these trying circumstances, the department organized a webinar on the Underlying Importance of Sports Psychology on November 21, 2020. Our chief speaker for this webinar was Dr. Sharda Jain. Dr. Jain holds a Ph.D. in Psychology from Delhi University and has 13 years of work experience, primarily dealing with sportspersons, their parents, and coaches. This webinar covered everything from mental game coaching to its benefits, and further discussed career opportunities in sports psychology. After covering various areas in the field of sports, our department also collaborated with the Department of Maths for their annual newsletter. Volunteers from our department answered questions regarding the growing use and importance of technology in today's time. These submissions were made through videos and the answers were posted by the Math Department on their social media handles.

The Department also offered a warm welcome to its new batch of 2020-2023. A virtual freshers' party was organized on February 17, 2021, with events like dance and song performances, along with some fun games. With just as much enthusiasm, the Department also bid farewell to its outgoing batch of 2021 virtually on April 28, 2021. Irrespective of the adversities, our sportspersons never missed an opportunity to bring laurels to our institution and we take great pride in that. Following are the achievers from the first year: Members of the Handball team, including Vicky, Jaya, Tanisha, and Khushboo, participated in the Junior and Senior nationals and secured the third and fifth positions respectively. Shuttlers Likhita Srivastava, Khushi Gupta, and Kavya Gupta participated in various tournaments over the session and emerged victorious. Athletes Ansu Jacob and Mohini participated in

the Annual Athletics meet and secured the second position. Chhavi Tommar, an upcoming volleyball player, participated in the All India Volleyball Tournament and secured the third position. Athlete Taranjeet Kaur bagged the first position in the 100m race with a record timing of 11.70 seconds in the 18th Federation Cup Junior Athletics Championship held at Madhya Pradesh in January 2021. She was declared the Best Athlete of the tournament. Additionally, she clinched gold and a silver medal in the 100m and 200m races respectively, in the 36th National Junior Athletics Tournament held from February 6-10, 2021, in Guwahati, Assam. From the second year, Lalita, a Taekwondo player, participated in a state game and two national games and bagged golds in all.

We are truly pleased that our department has successfully sailed through all trials and tribulations. The past session has indeed been a source of motivation for all the members of the Department of Physical Education. We hope that we continue to strive and bring laurels to our institution.

Dr. Anju Luthra (Convener)

Gargi Garima Kalita (President)

Divya Deeksha Chaturvedi (Vice-President)

Laavanya Ray (Secretary)

Political Science Department

1. 5th September 2020 - Teachers' Day
The Association organized an evening that began with dances and songs and ended with shayaris, poems, stories, and personalized video messages presented by the students to their teachers.
2. 8th September 2020 - International Literacy Day
An Interdepartmental Poster-Making Competition on the theme of literacy was conducted on the occasion of International Literacy Day.
3. 21st September 2020 - International Day Of Peace
On the International Day of Peace, the Association conducted an Essay Writing Competition on the topic 'Role of the United Nations in maintaining International Peace and Security.'
4. 1st October 2020 - 151st Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi
To observe the birth anniversary of Gandhi Ji, the Association organized a webinar and screened a presentation on his life and philosophy. The choir sang Vaishnav Janata and Raghupati Raghav Raja Ram.
5. 5th-10th October 2020 - Mental Health Awareness Week
The opening ceremony of this week took place on 5th October in which a presentation of the importance of mental health was screened and the song 'The Climb' was sung by the students. On 6th October, Ms. Tanvi Bajaj, a movement therapist, addressed the students on the topic - 'Movement and Mental Health'. On the third day, Ms. Leenoor Lingzyer Foning, a psychotherapist, was our speaker for the topic 'Self-Awareness and Self-Care: The Cornerstone Of Mental Health'. On 8th October, Ms. Nisha Sachdeva, a Clinical Psychologist, addressed the students on the topic 'Coping and Resilience During Difficult Times.' On 9th October, a mindset coach, Mr. Akshay Agarwal, interacted with the students on the subject of emotional intelligence. The closing ceremony was preceded by an Open Mic Session, a Poetry Competition on the topic of Mental Health, and a singing performance by Mr. Tanay Mimani on 10th October.
6. 21st October 2020 - United Nations Day
The students were addressed by the Former UN Assistant Secretary-General, Former Deputy Executive Director of UN Women, and the

Ambassador of India, Mrs. Lakshmi Puri on the topic 'Gender Equality & Women's Empowerment: UN@75, UNWOMEN@10, and a Post- COVID Future'.

7. 23rd November 2020 - Webinar
A webinar was held on the topic - 'Are There Governance Solutions to the Rise of Vaccine Hesitancy in a Populist Era?' The speaker for this webinar was Dr. Theodoros Dounas.
8. 16th January 2021 - Freshers' Virtual Party
We welcomed the freshers with a Retro Bollywood-themed virtual party which was full of dances, singing performances, and fun games. We also organized a virtual tour of the college for them and made a personalized video for them.
9. 9th February 2021 - Creative Writing Competition
The Association conducted Belles Lettres, a creative writing competition, on two topics - 'What if we did not have the Internet during Lockdown?' and 'What if Partition hadn't happened?'
10. 20th March - International Day of Happiness
A webinar was held on the topic 'Decoding Happiness' by two faculty members of the Art of Living, Mr. Aakarshan Khurana, and Mrs. Dimple Kalwani. They taught the students a few meditation techniques as well.
11. 7th April - Alumni Session
The Association invited some alumni to talk about the path they chose after obtaining a bachelors' degree in Political Science and enlighten the current batches with future prospects of pursuing a B.A. Hons in Political Science.
12. 22nd April - Launch of Department Magazine
The first issue of the annual department magazine, Politoscope, was released on 22nd April. The theme of the first volume of Politoscope was Human Rights.

13. 24th April - Farewell

The farewell, themed 'Going Down The Memory Lane', was organized for the outgoing batch of 2021 on 24th April. It was an engaging virtual farewell with a lot of games and singing, dancing, and acting performances.

Ragini Jha (President)

Gorvi Sajnani (Vice-President)

Psychology Department

The academic year 2020-21 was a well-balanced combination of academics and recreational events for the Department of Psychology. Given the current restrictions of the Covid-19 pandemic, a myriad of activities were conducted using online platforms. On 19th June 2020, the department, in collaboration with the Internal Quality Assurance Cell, organized a webinar with Prof. Aseem Shrivastava (faculty member, Ashoka University) on the topic 'In a relationship.. with the screen'. Moderated by Ms. Annie Baxi, the discussion explored the changing dynamics of the individual and collective with the screen in the Covid-19 era. It proved to be an enlightening discussion with enthusiastic participation from students and faculty members.

The month of October witnessed the collaboration of our department with Snapshots, the photography society on the occasion of World Mental Health Day, celebrated on October 10. While snapshots provided deep and meaningful pictures, the Psychology Department provided thought-provoking content surrounding the theme of Mental Health, the labels associated with it, and the attached stigma. The pictures were shared on the social media accounts of both the collaborators.

The Psychology Department Book Club was launched with full pomp and vigor on 19th October 2020, with the vision of bringing together all the readers

on a platform where everyone could read books, share their experiences and live their lives through fictional characters. Each of the books that were read was based on certain themes and evoked a new perspective in us, covering a range of themes like love, caste, life, and meaning. The club actively engaged in activities online with readers sharing their learning experiences, what stood out for them, which books they would recommend to their younger selves, and other interesting questions. It instilled in us a sense of belongingness and fueled our burning desire to read.

The department welcomed the batch of 2023 through a virtual Orientation on 17th November 2020 where they were introduced to their teachers, seniors, and the general functioning of the department. They were officially welcomed to the department by our TIC, Dr. Joan Antony. As a part of their Community Psychology class with Ms. Sudha Shashwati, Ms. Vaidehi Chilwawar, a practicing therapist was invited to conduct a session with the third-years on 19th November 2020. The talk enlightened the students about how to conduct community-based research in real-time. The speaker shared her personal experiences and the students learned the important points to keep in mind when interacting with a community, beyond what's found in textbooks.

On 13th February 2021, an online Freshers' celebration-themed 'If 2020 were a person' was conducted. Our enthusiastic freshers dressed up as their own personal

interpretations of 2020 and showed their creativity through their outfits. The event was filled with lively dance and music performances by the seniors, along with exciting games. The freshers also got an opportunity to introduce themselves and showcase their talents. The event proved to be a wonderful opportunity where all members of the department got to interact with one another and know each other better.

On 9th March 2021, an informal session was also organized in early March for the first-years to discuss tips and suggestions for OBEs with their seniors. The seniors shared their experience and how to make the process smooth and easy for the juniors' first Open-Book Examinations.

Lastly, on 13th April 2021, the department organized a discussion on 'Opportunities for Higher Education in Psychology' for its third-year students. The speakers for the event were alumni from our very department, including Ms. Aarushi Nayyar (MA Applied Psychology, DU), Ms. Sharin D'Souza (MA Psychology, DU), Ms. Mehar Makkar (MA, Clinical Psychology, TISS Bombay), Ms. Tanya Antony (Pursuing Masters in Xavier's, Bombay), and Ms. Priyanjali Jha (Pursuing Masters in AUD, Delhi).

Overall, the Psychology department had a fruitful and productive year, filled with exciting and knowledgeable events and discussions.

Meenakshi Ajith (President)
Vanshika Luthra (Vice-President)

Department of Sociology

The Department of Sociology, Jesus and Mary College began the session with an interactive webinar on the topic “Sociology Beyond Boundaries: Forms, Knowledge & Imagination” by Dr. Dev Nath Pathak, an Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology, South Asian University, on the 10th of September, 2020.

The Department, for the first time, conducted an inter-college meme-making competition, ‘Memology’. The competition had three themes:

1. The fault in our capitalism
2. Education during the pandemic
3. To Goswami or Not to Goswami: Current media politics

The results were announced on the 2nd of October, 2020 on the social media handle of the department.

A virtual alumnae session on career guidance, ‘Careerscape’, was organized by the department on the 8th of October 2020. This session was addressed by two alumni of the department, Ms. Sharmi Palit and Ms. Mir Hubiba.

Following this, the department conducted an online competition along the overarching theme of ‘Unlearning Gender Stereotypes’. Participants submitted their entries in written and visual art formats. The results were announced on the 23rd of November, 2020 on the social media handle of the department.

The Freshers Debate, an annual event, was held virtually as a first step to the sociological approach. The debate had two motions:

1. This house believes that demonstrations or protests should only be held in designated protest spots.
2. This house supports non-traditional or integrated

casting in films.

The Freshers Welcome, though virtually, was a day full of enthusiasm, fun, and engaging activities to make the first-years feel at ease and to get to know their seniors and teachers. The theme required the Freshers to dress up in blue color. The Inaugural Talk was given by Prof Robert M. Geraci who teaches Religious Studies at Manhattan College in New York City and has been a Fulbright-Nehru Research Scholar at the Indian Institute of Science and the National Institute of Advanced Studies in Bangalore. The lecture was held on the 14th of January, 2021, titled “Robots and Gods: Mythical designs of Advanced Technology”. It was an insightful talk that expanded the horizon of the students. This was followed by a special lecture for the department students, titled “A Time for Transgressions: The Life of an Ethnography and Ethnography as Life” by Dr. Prasenjeet A. Tribhuvan, Assistant Professor of Sociology at IIT, Jodhpur. It extended learning beyond textbooks.

Soon after this, an online advertisement competition ‘Re-Write’ was organized by the department, in which the participants had to rewrite scripts of the advertisement that immortalize discrimination of all kinds in a politically correct manner. The results were announced on the 11th of April, 2021 on the social media handle of the department.

The annual Sociology Department fest, Carpe Diem, was organized on 9th April 2021 on the theme “Pandemic Pandemonium”. The fest saw great involvement of students from all three years. The event was attended by over 200 participants from colleges across the country and concluded as a day of great interaction. Some of the events organized as part of the fest are mentioned below:

1. Special lecture on “The Pandemic: In Search of

Meaning of Our Existence” by Prof Avijit Pathak, Centre for the Study of Social Systems, School of Social Sciences, J.N.U.

2. Art Comic Strip Competition on the theme ‘A Lockdown Saga’.
3. An Online Photography Competition, ‘Seeing the Unseen’.
4. Blackout Poetry Competition, ‘Zaahir’.

The academic year was concluded with the release of “Meraki”, which is the department’s annual magazine, and the theme for the same for the academic year 2020-2021 was “Covid and Campus Spaces”.

Dr. Nivedita Ghosh (Teacher In-Charge)
Aditi Varshney (President)
Mehak Pasricha (Vice President)

Department of Bachelor of Vocational Studies Retail Management and IT

The first event of the Department of B.voc RMIT of Jesus and Mary College was the Freshers for the batch of 2020-23 which was a gracious and cordial welcome for the new batch. Freshers received a chance to not only exhibit their talents but also feel comfortable and adapt to their new surroundings. With this spirit, Freshers 2020 was organized to felicitate the first-year students for their new journey ahead.

The Department organized the creative designing contest, DIF - Doodle your logo, Influence your brand name, Flair your tagline. It was an online competition where the participants were required to create their own brand name, logo, and tagline. The main aim of this competition was to bring out the creativity and knowledge of students in order to facilitate interaction,

learning, and growth. The Department had received 30 entries for the same. This competition was organized in collaboration with Mega Tree who were the gifting sponsors for the same.

The Department also successfully conducted its first webinar with goDutch on 6th November 2020 in which Mr. Arjun Midha, Growth Head of goDutch enlightened the students on entrepreneurship and marketing. Commencing the webinar with his introduction, he displayed a bird-eye view of his journey, right from the beginning when he decided to leave his job and how goDutch came into existence to how he is currently facing the COVID-19 scenario as an entrepreneur.

There were four key tips mentioned in the session that were noteworthy:

1. The art of patience helps in dealing with real-life problems.
2. Keep negativity away from your life even if it comes from your inner circle so that consistency and confidence remain maintained.
3. Empathise with others and learn.
4. Change is the only constant.

Lastly, the speaker also answered numerous queries raised during the session, like how to finance startups or how to survive in a competitive market. With this, the webinar came to an insightful close. The session went on to reinforce that sometimes listening to someone else’s journey can provide you with answers to questions that you didn’t know you wanted to ask.

Time and space are no longer barriers when considering a program, thanks to the rise of virtual internships. The Department took the initiative to enhance the employability of the students during the COVID-19 pandemic through an Online Internship Drive started on its Instagram page. Through this initiative, it

informed students about internship opportunities in different domains which proved to be very insightful for the students.

Some of the companies that were a part of the Internship Drive are-

Duupdates, F-Salon Academy, Urban Company, Vegal media, Stubborn factory, Zoomcar, Qoulomb, Cipla, Urban Clap, Zomentum, Cashkaro, Unschool, Oyster.

The Department concluded the academic year with a farewell to the third-year students. The event included Halloween performances, stand-up comedy, and a quiz about the various spots in the college, allowing seniors to refresh their memories at JMC. The farewell was concluded with an Online Scribble Day for seniors to be able to express their feelings.

Dr. Shalu Solanki (Convenor)
Kreeti Sharma (President)
Vanshika Jain (Vice President)

Bachelors of Vocation (B. Voc) Healthcare Management

A terrific year, difficult times, and priceless value of human connection –that is how the year unfolded for the Bachelors of Vocation (B. Voc) Healthcare Management. The experiences were very uplifting as the girls got ready for a calendar that was full of opportunities and activities.

The year began with a webinar for awareness on Covid-19 in early June. As the world was still learning the behavior of the virus, we stood with the doctors to help educate people about hygiene and explore precautionary measures.

Following the elections for the office bearers, the

Student Council for the academic year 2020-2021 had their sleeves rolled up to furnish the department with many talents.

As the session started with online classes, the last week of October had many creative ideas around the corner. After a month of planning, the department held its first online campaign on its official Instagram from the 1st of November till the 7th of November. The year 2020 has been a powerful reminder that we are all in this together and our choices and actions have the power to protect the most vulnerable among us in a big way. The topic chosen for the campaign was “Cancer- A silent killer” with the slogan “Cancer is a word, not a sentence”.

During Cancer Awareness Week, we were joined by cancer survivors from all over the world sharing their stories with us. As part of Cancer Awareness Week, we had Dr. Janani Manoharan (Gynaecologist & Obstetrician) as a guest speaker for a webinar on- “Managing emotional health of cancer patients, families, and caregivers” at 4:00 pm on the 3rd of November, 2020. Following the event, we had Dr. Peyush Bajpai (Head of Oncology, Manipal Hospital) taking a webinar on “Breast Cancer, Screening Current Management Strategies” addressing and educating our girls on 6th November 2020. The Cancer Awareness Week overall was a success with more than 70 young women supporting the awareness for Breast Cancer by participating in the Pink Dot Campaign.

After the commencement of the annual winter break, new additions to the Department’s core team were made as we welcomed the newly enrolled first-year students. With a fair representation in the core team, we, yet again, had some new ideas cooking and the team started the new semester with an interesting topic and an equally interesting personality on board. Dr. Rahul Khemani, a Consultant Psychiatrist from

Mumbai with a fairly good record in the field took a webinar on - “The Imposter Syndrome”. Held at 5 pm on the 21st January 2021, the webinar was a success.

Following the story on Imposter Syndrome, our team had another piece of information to offer to our batch that would be soon passing out and entering a professional world. On the 23rd of January, 2021 at 5 pm, Dr. Keshav Sharma, a senior Psycho Oncologist, team leader at the Department of Mental Health and Behavioural Sciences, Fortis Healthcare, joined our students to hold a workshop on - “Replacing Self-doubt and Building Confidence”.

The last webinar for the year was about “Menstrual Hygiene and Hormonal Imbalances,” which was taken by Dr. Deepa Deewan, Associate Director, Head of Unit, Max Hospital, Gurgaon. The event was held on the 29th of January, 2021 at 6 pm.

Although the department couldn't be together under the same roof on the JMC campus, it witnessed online get-togethers, supporting each other throughout the rough uncertain time. The department held its Freshers Welcome party online on the 23rd February 2021 at 4 pm over Google Meet. Soon it was time for the juniors to wish their seniors adieu. The official farewell party was held on the 18th of April, 2021. Both the parties, having a series of online games with active participation, made up for the lost opportunity of meeting in person.

The year was a beautiful one. It was full of hope and energy as the department stuck together, with its students and teachers alike.

Dr. Anupreet Vig (Convenor)
Ms. Nadia Rawat (President)
Ms Akanksha Jha (Vice President)

All India Catholic University Federation (AICUF)

The All India Catholic University Federation (AICUF) stands for service and liberation of all people, irrespective of differences in caste, gender, language or belief. The year 2020-21 was an unprecedented year for the whole world. With the onset of the pandemic and the subsequent lockdown, AICUF, under the guidance of its Convenor, Sr. (Dr.) Molly Abraham and the Faculty Advisors, Dr. Christhu Doss, Ms. Megha Jacob, Ms. Reshma Jose and Ms. Alisha George was able to conduct a series of events via platforms like Google Meet to cater to its members throughout the year.

AICUF conducted its first few webinars, to motivate students and help them make the most of their time with their loved ones. The first session, titled, “On What Matters”, was conducted by Fr. Jitu D’ Monte, and the second, on “COVID-19 Pandemic: Unmasking Truth About Ourselves” with Dr. Anthony J. D’Souza. The sessions revolved around the importance of self-reflection and self-discovery, especially during the lockdown. The new academic session was flagged off with a Society Fair on 12 September 2020, to facilitate student registrations. This was followed by the interview and selection process of the office-bearers and the Core Committee members, for the year 2020-21. A new post for the role of ‘Treasurer’ was also introduced in 2020. The academic year for the first-year students officially began on 16 November 2020.

On 12 December, the faculty and students of Jesus and Mary College welcomed all the first-year students and their parents by organising an Orientation Programme. The programme was graced by our Principal, Dr. Sandra Joseph, Sr. (Dr.) Rosily T.L. and our AICUF Convenor Sr. (Dr.) Molly Abraham. The students

were addressed by Dr. Bernard D'Sami, the Dean of the School of Human Excellence, Loyola College (Autonomous), Chennai. On 23 December 2020, AICUF organised an online Christmas programme on the theme, "Hope". It resonated the importance of the virtue of hope during the pandemic and how important it is to hold on to goodness, in order to overcome the darkness of the world.

An interactive and fun talk show was conducted on 15 January 2021, so that students could explore the theme, "Is being Christian fun?" with Mr. George Devassy. The interactive session talked about the different aspects of faith and a person's relationship with God. The students discussed the importance of leading a spiritual life and the concept of freedom, from various perspectives. On 10 February 2021, AICUF organized a movie screening for all its students. The short film titled, 'Mother Teresa's First Love', was directed by Folco Terzani and Ana Pincus. Mother Teresa's life has always been an inspiration to many and this film certainly instilled the idea of hope and love in the students.

On 26 February 2021, a session on the topic "Considerations on Our Education and Our Purpose" was conducted with Mr. Jobin Thomas, Assistant Professor, Department of English. The session emphasised on reflecting on our purpose, by questioning our routine lives and our responsibility as students, towards the education we have received. On 12 March 2021, a webinar was conducted on the theme, "Lent: A Journey Towards Easter" with the speaker, Fr. Babu Paul. He discussed the meaning of Lent and the purpose it holds in our lives.

On 16 April 2021, AICUF in collaboration with the Ethnic Eight, North East Students Society of JMC, organised a talk on "Challenges of the Youth During COVID-19: Self-Motivation and an Optimistic Outlook". The speaker, Prof. John Varghese, Principal

of St. Stephen's College, talked about identifying and acknowledging our privilege, how we must keep moving forward through every phase of life and the importance of seeking help, when we need it.

Through the course of this academic year, AICUF gave each of its students an opportunity to develop their personalities under the meticulous guidance of the teachers. Hence, AICUF provided a platform to students, to showcase their talents, skills and abilities and helped them in fulfilling their social responsibilities to their utmost potential.

Sr. (Dr.) Molly Abraham (Convenor)

Ms. Rincy Baptish (President)

Ms. Joanna Mary Santhosh (Vice President)

Ms. Rini Varghese (Treasurer)

Cauldron: The English Magazine Society

Cauldron, the English Magazine Society works towards editing and compiling *Dimensions*, the annual English Magazine of Jesus and Mary College. To generate content, the staff editors and the student-editorial board organise several intra-college events and competitions that accept creative content ranging from photographs to original artworks to political opinion pieces. The academic year of 2020-2021 transpired to be a remarkable year for The English Magazine Society as well as its members.

Cauldron held its student-body election for the year 2020-2021 on the 19th of August, 2020. Samantha Roy (3rd Year, English Honours) and Khushi Arora (2nd Year, English Honours) were elected as President and Vice President respectively. The election was followed by a recruitment drive of the second and third year students. A screening of eligible candidates from the

society for the formation of the Editorial Board took place thereafter. Another round of selection for the society members as well as the Editorial Board took place after the commencement of the academic session for first-year students. The students selected for the year were Aditi Dwivedi, Anusha Batra, Anushka Somvanshi, Atipriya Dev Sinha, Aysha Saleem, Divjot Kaur, Eva Eliza John, Gayatri Ahuja, Lubna Mujeeb, Pratishta Jindal, Prisha Revar, Shaoni Dutta and Shreeja Paschal.

Cauldron's first event of the academic year was an online creative writing competition titled 'Wordict' in collaboration with Ficting, a storytelling and reading application, which was organised in the month of September '20. This competition presented an opportunity for all DU students to pen their thoughts creatively and weave a story/poem out of the prompts provided and a chance to win exciting cash prizes and internship opportunities. The winners of 'Wordict' were Devaanshi Mahajan (1st Position), Samantha Roy (2nd Position), and Mridul Macker (3rd Position) with Honourable Mentions given to Navya Coomar and Anusha Batra.

The next event Cauldron organized was a creative writing, art, and photography competition called 'WordCraft' on the theme 'Unfiltered'. Its winners for Creative Writing were Anusha Batra (1st Position), Deepjyot Ahluwalia (2nd Position), Khushi Arora (3rd Position) with Honourable Mention given to Cynthia Ann and for Art/Photography, Isha Dawar, Shreeja Paschal and Yogda Kalra secured the first, second and third positions respectively.

On the 19th November, the English Magazine Society came together with the JMC Education Programme to collaborate with Fuzia, a global online networking and engagement community for another online competition called 'ShareKindness'. The competition welcomed entries in the form of stories, poetry, incidents, art, design, photographs etc.

Following this, the Cauldron team brainstormed to organise an online Creative Writing, Art and Photography Competition in collaboration with the Women's Studies Centre, JMC titled "Deconstructing a line about the Competition". Its winners for Creative Writing were Anusha Batra (1st Position), Akshita Taneja (2nd Position), Khushi Arora (3rd Position) with Honourable Mentions given to Sania Javed and Atipriya Dev Sinha and for Art/Photography, Shreeja Paschal, Pratishta Jindal and Simaran Tapparwal secured the first, second and third positions respectively, with Rochelle Prakash and Kajol Sen, bagging the Honourable Mentions. Cauldron also collaborated with Sunny Mugs, the Poetry Society for a session on Blackout Poetry and an interesting activity soon after. The society members collectively settled on the idea of organizing a creative writing competition titled, 'Word Weaves'. The prompts for this competition were created by members of the Editorial Board and ranged from the abstract to the animated.

The society decided to wrap up the year and this series of events with a Panel Discussion 'A Peek into Publishing' with Yoda Press, a successful independent publishing house, organized in collaboration with LitScroll, the E-magazine of the Department of English. Held on the 21st of April '21 and graced by Ishita Gupta, the Senior Editor and Rights Manager at Yoda Press, and editor Tanya Singh as panelists, this event witnessed great participation from the students.

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

Ms. Sugandha Sehgal (Convenor)
Samantha Roy (President)
Khushi Arora (Vice-President)

Curiosus: The English Quiz Society

Curiosus, the English Quiz Society, started in 2014 to help develop a thirst for knowledge, and subsequently build a quizzing culture, among young women. In the academic year 2020-21, Curiosus seamlessly adapted to the online mode with its first Instagram quiz series, called Quaranzquiz, which focused on the theme Entertainment. As a part of this, multiple short quizzes were conducted from May 11 to May 17 and saw participation from people of all ages.

The second quiz of the year, Qrious '20 was a more formal General Quiz and was conducted on the Dare 2 Compete platform on June 20. In light of the BLM movement in the USA, Curiosus felt it necessary to educate people through its social media and hence posted an Instagram story series on Racism on June 24. On the days following this, it also posted two other story series, one on the Caste System, due to its similarity with Racism, and the other on Pride, due to June being internationally celebrated as Pride Month.

On August 21, yet another Instagram quiz was conducted, this time a Disney and Pixar Quiz. One of the main events conducted this year was, however, a MELA Quiz on October 3, for which the Preliminary round was held on Google Forms and the Final round on Google Meet. The event was a huge success, having had participation from students of various colleges in India.

Another Instagram quiz was conducted on January 18 as part of the Orientation for freshers in the college, and the theme was Politics and Protests in India. The last event of the academic year was its annual intra-college quiz, the St. Claudine Thévenet Quiz, held on April 9. This quiz is unique to Jesus and Mary College, and every year it does not it honor the founder St. Claudine Thévenet. Curiosus collaborated with Algorithm as well, in their #TechingOutLoud, which

fittingly discussed the importance of technology in our lives today. The society also continues to engage people with interesting bits of information via the story series known as Little Known Trivias, and the three-post series, which are: News Highlights of the Week, Question of the Week, and Weekly Dose of Pop Culture.

Ms. Richa Krishna (Convenor)

Ms. Jasmin (Convenor)

Ms. Anamika Asthana (Convenor)

Muskan Mudgil (President)

Catherine Gomes (Vice President)

Dastaan: Art and Architecture Society

Dastaan is an open platform for people who are curious about Delhi's glorious heritage. It is the perfect synthesis of diverse cultures and beautiful artistic and architectural marvels, which bring together history and heritage enthusiasts from different walks of life and binds them through love and respect for the same.

Heritage and history form an inextricable part of our identities and are thus appreciated not just by students of history but the people of the world in general. Dastaan aims to cultivate that appreciation by providing people a space to learn, discuss and circulate their views with like-minded others. This year, faced with the challenge of continuing our journey amidst a pandemic, we furthered our reach through social media to ensure the continuous dissemination of knowledge from our end. While Delhi remained a central theme of our work on social media, it also displayed the heritage, tangible and intangible, of different parts of India.

Our reach on social media was facilitated by our pages on Instagram, Facebook, and WordPress. They not only became our means of connection with the world but were also repertoires of information, carefully studied and compiled by our Core Team members. On Facebook and Instagram, we posted regularly about different aspects of our art, architecture, and culture and started with a new segment called ‘Recent Indian Archaeological Discoveries. We concluded the year with our Urdu Week where we traced the evolution of Urdu literature and the linking of Urdu with the conversational language today. On our WordPress page, we put up thoroughly researched articles at least twice a month on themes like Symbolism in Islamic Architecture, Great Indian Folk Deities, and Jewish Architecture in India. Apart from expanding our presence online, we conducted two talks, one in each semester. On the 28th of November 2020, we conducted an online interactive session titled ‘Goddess Cults in Early India’ by Professor Mahalakshmi Ramakrishnan from the Centre of Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University. Professor Ramakrishnan talked about the evolution, historical origins and discussed the interpretations of Goddess Worship in early India by drawing from examples of Tamil traditions.

Our second talk of the academic session was conducted on the 22nd of April 2021 and was titled ‘Miriyaat-Rediscovering and Romanticizing Delhi’. The speaker for the same was Mr. S. N. Ali Fraz Rezvi, a scriptwriter, theatre artist, and poet with a boundless knowledge of Urdu literature. The talk focused on famous Urdu poet Mir Taqi Mir, his poetry, and the view of Delhi that reflects in his work. We concluded the academic year with this talk and the Urdu Week.

Dr. Amita Paliwal (Convenor)
Saumya Gupta (President)
Shaivie Sharma (Vice President)

Entrepreneurship Cell

“Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement. Nothing can be done without hope and confidence.” – Helen Keller.

The Entrepreneurship Cell (E-Cell) is one of the most active societies of Jesus and Mary College and is premised upon effective engagement with college students. E-Cell was established in 2014 by a body of driven young women to make a difference. They set their eyes on every opportunity to make their mark in the competitive world.

E-Cell has hosted a myriad of informative events and speaker sessions. It took upon multiple challenges and successfully undertook all its activities and events in a virtual mode owing to the pandemic. The pandemic didn’t deter the team, and Team E-Cell put up a great show.

ONLINE EVENTS/TALKS/ SEMINARS/ CAMPAIGNS CONDUCTED

1. Lesson Learnt in Lockdown (27th July – 1st August 2020): Organized an online story campaign on Instagram/Facebook where 20 core team members talked about their 2020 lockdown lessons.

2. Collaboration with Panorama, the Film Society of JMC (17th – 21st August 2020): Collaborated for a series of posts that portrayed TV Shows and Movies from the Corporate/Business World. The posts were put up on E-Cell and Panorama’s Instagram and Facebook handles, with a 900+ viewership.

3. Collaboration with Enactus JMC (26th September 2020):

Collaborated for a series of posts for E-Cell’s Instagram and Facebook pages. These posts involved our team members busting myths about working women and

their Women Entrepreneur inspiration, reaching out to 700+ people.

4. #MyWorkSourceofJoy Story (26th – 27th September 2020):

To commemorate International Week of Happiness at Work, all members were encouraged to put up stories as a part of the #MyWorkSourceofJoy Story Campaign – held on Instagram and Facebook.

5. Let's Haul from Small (21st October – 28th October 2020):

To promote Small Businesses the Research Department came up with an idea for a Story Campaign (Instagram/Facebook). The campaign name was Let's Haul from Small #ShopSmallMartnotWalmart and consisted of promoting 65+ small businesses from all states and UT's of India. We also tagged the said businesses to increase their reach.

6. E-Start-o-Sphere (29th – 30th October 2020):

We organized the first E-Version of Start-o-Sphere. There were 250+ participants in the event. The theme for the event was #NeverTooLateToStartup. There were 3 games: Biz-ipher, Feel It Reel It, and BollyFlix which saw a huge turnout in terms of participants. For the first time, registrations for the games took place via the E-Cell website. Two Instagram Live Sessions on the theme mentioned above were also conducted with women entrepreneurs invited as speakers. The first session was with Ms. Harbhajan Kaur from Punjab, a 94-Year-old businesswoman, who founded her food venture Harbhajan's when she was 90 years old. The second session was with Ms. Megha Gupta from Haryana, a 35-Year-old homemaker turned businesswoman, who founded her Hair Care venture – Keshananda. Both the speakers had many insights to share and they motivated the audience as well.

7. Egnite (8th – 9th March 2021):

We organized the first E-Version of Egnite, our second annual event for the session. The theme for the event was #Egreenite. There were 250+ participants in the event. There were 3 games: Mind Your Business, Jo Jeeta Wahi Entrepreneur, and Sus stands for Sustainability which saw a huge turnout in terms of participants. These games were business-centered which gave an overview of the business world to the participants. The registrations for the games took place via the E-Cell website. There were two Instagram Live Sessions on the theme Sustainable Business with two entrepreneurs invited as speakers. The first session was with Mr. Udit Sood, Founder of Eco Right Bags. The second session was with Ms. Muditi Gandhi, Founder of Mayu Designs. Both the speakers enlightened the audience on the importance of sustainable businesses and the strategies they use to promote their respective businesses.

8. Collaboration with Cauldron, the Magazine Society of JMC (14th March 2021): Collaborated to produce two Instagram Reels about Fiction and Non-Fiction Books from the business world, receiving a reach of 750+ people.

9. #GTimeonGMeet (15th – 20th April 2021):

Conducted an online post-campaign on Instagram and Facebook. This campaign focused on 25 members sharing their E-Cell experience and working in a college society in an online mode.

Dr. Rekha Dayal, Ms. Charu Sarin Arora
(Convenors)
Divija Gupta (President)
Namya Gupta (Vice President)
Kajal Kapoor (General Secretary)

The Western Music Society

“Echo is not a society, it’s a country.” These are the words of most spectators, and well, they aren’t wrong. Consisting of a diverse group of 26 passionate and versatile singers, Echo, the Western Music Society is one big family. At the beginning of each year, freshers are filtered through rounds of auditions and then trained according to their range. From taking out different parts to compiling the annual production, Echo manages it all without any external professional help.

This year despite the pandemic, Echo continued undeterred and found new ways to work around the sudden shift to virtual platforms. The society held online auditions in the month of January and selected a team of 13 new members. Through consistent online meetings and practices, the members got to know each other and worked together to create this year’s piece, a heartfelt rendition of ‘How Far I’ll Go’ by Alessia Cara.

Echo participated in various online competitions in both group and solo events and brought laurels to the college. They placed first in ‘AcaHella’ organized by Maitreyi College in the group category and third in Octaves organized by Shaheed Sukhdev College of Business Studies in the solo category. Apart from this, the society majorly focused on building their online presence and keeping their social media consolidating their social media presence by frequently posting short covers and musical pieces to gain greater reach.

The society hosted ‘JAM 1.0’ an Open Mic as well as an Intra-College Competition in collaboration with JMCEP (Jesus and Mary College Education Program) on 1 st May 2021 which was a very successful event and saw the participation of a number of kids and students alike. In these difficult times, this event was much needed and lifted everyone’s spirits. The judges were Khushi Pallavi, Michelle Masih, and Sara Joseph - talented seniors and former members of Echo.

Echo is currently working on the upcoming ‘JAM 2.0’ an Open Mic Covid Relief Fundraiser set to take place on 15th May 2021. All the proceeds will be donated to Mission Oxygen, an initiative importing oxygen concentrators and donating them to hospitals and St. Mary’s Tiffin Service, an initiative that provides food at nominal rates to covid affected families.

The society also participates in college events from time to time. With everything being moved online, this year Echo contributed by performing remotely for Teachers Day, PTSA, and Freshers to name a few. Packed with powerful voices of strong and dedicated young women, Echo strives to give its best at every platform and wishes to do the same in the coming years.

Dr. Susan George (Convenor)

Sara Bhasin (President)

Varsha Susan Mathew (Vice President)

Enactus

The COVID-19 pandemic struck the world with all its might, but the spirits of all 108 Enactus JMC members remained unscathed.

Our flagship project, Sugam, ranked in the top 12 of the Race to Rethink Plastic Competition organized by Enactus. In the month of February & March, Enactus JMC & Enactus Hamburg with their Project Vlouw joined forces to launch a cross-culture networking campaign whereby both teams introduced each other's undertaking to expand outreach beyond national boundaries. The collaboration also entailed a plastic-free campaign, sharing plastic-free practices & resolutions, which saw immense participation across both countries.

On 12 September 2020, Project Sahaay, our fourth project, was launched as part of 'Enactus Cares: Ideas for Impact Contest' organized by Enactus India in which it was awarded as one of the 'Best Collaborative Ideas' out of 110 projects from all over the country. The launch event was a huge success, thanks to participation from prominent industry leaders like Mrs. Abhinandita Mudgal, Director, KPMG, Mr. Siddharth Verma, Partner, ProConsults, and Mr. Pawan Karki, CEO, Possible.in. Under its pilot, Sahaay provided end-to-end business consultancy to two clients.

As the year progressed, we successfully launched multiple campaigns, like 'Plant a Plant Campaign', a 15-day campaign launched by Project Dhara. Project Iffat started the 'Paint Blue Campaign', in consideration of World Handwashing Day and the pandemic, to promote the simplest but one of the most effective ways to stop infection: handwashing. Project Sahaay initiated a campaign called 'Your Story, Their Business', as part of which, we collected and shared heart-warming stories about 6 local entrepreneurs who

spoke about their life trajectories, indirectly promoting their business. Project Dhara organized a safe Diwali Campaign under which, for every picture of a lit Diya we received, Project Dhara, in collaboration with JMCEP and Teens of God, donated a seed pencil to an underprivileged child.

Enactus Jesus and Mary College and Enactus Shaheed Bhagat Singh College came together to organize a 2-day workshop with fun-filled activities and engaging discussions for Grade 11th, 12th, and incoming college students on the topic 'Passion and Performance on Purpose' with Mr. Terry Torok, Chief Innovation Officer, Enactus. We received 60+ entries for our 77 Seconds Pitch Competition, where participants were asked to pitch their passion and express their thoughts in a time frame of 77 seconds.

Webinars conducted this year include 'Psychological First Aid', a mental health talk by Dr. Priya Bir, an eminent psychologist, 'A Pandemic of Mistreated Nature' in collaboration with Prof. P K Joshi, a Professor in the School of Environmental Sciences. Project Dhara, in collaboration with WePlant, organized a webinar titled "Bring Plants In, Good Health Follows" facilitated by Mr. Santhosh George, Founder of WePlant.

Enactus JMC successfully conducted a Hygiene Kit Distribution (comprising soaps, sanitary napkins, phenyl bottles, and ORS sachets) with over 200 recipients and a paper soap distribution with the aim to spread awareness about the importance of handwashing, especially during the unprecedented times of COVID-19.

In March 2021, Enactus JMC hosted its flagship event: "Advitya 1.0". The four events as part of Advitya were - Tadbeer - The B-plan competition, Vichaar- A case

study competition, The Plastic Marathon: an initiative to ignite a thought-provoking discussion followed by an on-the-spot case study competition, and Vyapaar - a Pitch or Ditch competition.

For the third consecutive year, Enactus JMC was among the top few teams to receive the prestigious KPMG Business Ethics Grant for running the projects.

Dr. Savita Rastogi (Convenor)

Gautami Khanna (President)

Sharanya Verma (Vice President)

Latika Murarka (General Secretary)

The English Debating Society

It was quite an eventful year for the English Debating Society of Jesus and Mary college. Even in the midst of a pandemic that brought a plethora of changes from learning how to compete in a virtual world to constantly expressing our views with our members through interactive mediums, the members learned a lot over the last year.

We started off the year with the elections for the posts for the year 2020-21, which were held on 25th September via the Google Meet platform in the presence of the convenor, Ms. Megha Jacob, and the faculty advisor, Ms. Najia Zeb. Ms. Pratistha Khanna, Ms. Ishika Sood, and Ms. Anusha Singh were elected as the President, Vice President, and Secretary after a fair election. Thus, the Council along with the Core Team of the society was finally formed. The council started conducting mock sessions for the members, who have been actively participating in different inter-college competitions and bringing laurels to the college since then.

The English Debating Society of JMC organized its first virtual Inter-College Conventional Debate for the year 2020-21 on 7th November 2020 on the Google Meet platform, which was judged by the society's very own ex-President Ms. Pramiti Singh and Dr. Jayanti Seth (retired JMC faculty). Keeping up with the tradition of bringing up the latest burning issues around the world for a healthy discussion, the topic for the debate was set as "This house believes the feminist movement should encourage men to lean out rather than encouraging women to lean in". It was quite an intriguing session, where students from various universities like DTU and Christ University, participated zealously and put up their views quite assertively to impress the judges and the audience. Cash prizes were given to the winners of this competition.

Moving on, the Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. collaborated with our college and our society for a debate competition with yet another interesting topic – 'Individual integrity is the key to eradicating corruption for national Prosperity' under the able leadership of Ms. Sunita Narain. IOCL representatives and our respected Principal Dr. Sandra Joseph graced us with their presence and spoke a few words to everyone there. There were some brilliant and fascinating views on the topic shared by all the participants (six of them belonged to EDS). The jury comprising Sr. Dr. Molly Abraham, Dr. Meenakshi Kumar, and Ms. Sunita Narain meticulously went through all the speeches and decided on the final winners. The society also held auditions for the new candidates (first years) to join the society. We received 250 applications to join our group. After a thorough and vigorous audition round, inclusive of Group Discussions and Personal Interviews conducted by the Convenor, the two faculty advisors, and the office bearers, the society finally welcomed 25 freshers to join us on a new and exciting journey.

Throughout the year the society has been holding informative mock sessions and discussions with the society members. The society continues to do so with Rahul Menon (A trained Parliamentary Debater) taking up interactive sessions on the ins and outs of Parliamentary Debates. This will help the members to get fresh perspectives on the skills and techniques required for the different forms of parliamentary debating.

Ms. Megha Jacob (Convenor)

Pratistha Khanna (President)

Ishika Sood (Vice President)

Anusha Singh (Secretary)

Ethnic Eight: The North East Society

The Ethnic Eight North East Society of Jesus and Mary College is one of the compulsory societies of Jesus and Mary College which is solely formed to empower the North East young women of the college. It is an active society which is led by our respected convenor Sr. (Dr.) Molly Abraham. This society aims at promoting the socio-cultural diversity of northeast India and its population so as to integrate and include them with the rest of India/Indians and among the JMC students.

The student members are only from the Northeastern states of India, Ladakh, and Nepal. This society currently consists of 65 student members, the convenor, Sr. (Dr.) Molly Abraham and the faculty advisor, Ms. Megha Jacob. The previous academic year ended with an online farewell session for the society students from the batch of 2019-20, in the month of August 2020.

Despite the limitations caused by the pandemic, the society started an initiative of holding interactive events and hosting online documentaries on the northeastern states of India among the members with an aim to learn about each other's history and culture. The documentaries hosted online were on the histories

of Meghalaya, Nagaland, and Mizoram in the months from January to March 2021. These were well received amongst the members both from an informative and from a cultural perspective. For the new members of the society, an online Freshers' Session was held.

The society also attended the session organized by AICUF, JMC on "Is being Christian fun?" led by Mr. George Devassy, Former international coordinator, Jesus Youth. He talked about the importance of having a one-on-one relationship with God for the students.

The society also collaborated with AICUF, JMC, and held a session on "Challenges of the Youth of Today During Covid-19: Self-Motivation and Optimistic Outlook" led by Prof. John Varghese, Principal of St. Stephen College, University of Delhi. He encouraged the students not to panic during this time and motivated them to be strong and empathetic enough to take care of themselves by doing day-to-day activities that make their inner self happy and also to reach out to others. The session ended with a Question and Answer Session. It was an enriching experience for both the students and the faculty members of JMC.

The society held its last event for this academic year with a lecture by Ms. Tulsipriya Rajkumari, Indian Economic Service officer, who is presently working in the capacity of Deputy Director in the Chief Economic Advisor's office under the Ministry of Finance in the Government of India. She spoke on the topic "The North East Indian Women in Leadership Roles." She motivated the students to go beyond their curriculum and to work hard towards a bright future. Ms. Tulsipriya Rajkumari inspired the students by narrating her own journey as a woman from the state of Manipur who had to fight her own battles to reach the position where she is today. It ended with an interactive Question and Answer Session. The session was not only insightful and inspiring but also extremely enjoyable.

Sr. (Dr.) Molly Abraham (Convenor)

Kesang Doma Lama (President)

Ruth J Lalrempuii (Vice President)

Equal Opportunity Cell

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

EOC's new session kick-started with interactive and fun games as we organized an Ice Breaker session, to interact with the members beyond formal lines. The office bearers walked the members through the vision of the society, so as to prepare them to take on this beautiful and enriching journey.

We launched our first online campaign of the year 'Empathy Challenge.' This was one of its kind, wherein participants carried out daily activities while being blindfolded. The main purpose of this challenge was to sensitize people about visual disabilities and aid the participants to empathize better with visually impaired individuals.

In lieu of World Kindness Day on 13th November, we launched the 'Act of Kindness' initiative, encouraging individuals to share their anecdotes wherein they displayed kindness towards themselves and others. We received a number of entries that were shared on our Instagram page to create a domino effect. In addition to this, the members of the society sent a personalized note to each other which instilled a sense of warmth, encouragement, and worth.

In the month of December, we initiated another informative, yet fun campaign on Instagram which aimed at normalizing conversations on disabilities and PwBD, intending to instill a fresh perspective. This consisted of three aspects: #EOCrecommends wherein

we critically analyzed movies like Forrest Gump, Barfi, and A Beautiful Mind and highlighted various aspects to inspire the community, #JourneyswithEOC that focused on featuring inspiring personalities who battled distinct odds in their life and did not let their disability become a hindrance in their journey to success and #AwarenesswithEOC which focussed on debunking myths and educating individuals about diverse disabilities.

We began the new semester by hosting a webinar on 'Mental Wellness and Social Inclusion' with Ms. Srishti Asthana, a renowned psychologist. She emphasized the noxious effects social isolation can have on one's mental health and that social inclusion is the key to one's satisfaction in life along with higher longevity, characterized by healthy and quality life. Through this event, participants were able to develop an appealing and supportive approach towards others' needs.

In April, EOC organized its annual inter-college competition 'Prayas' for students with disabilities, where young talents expressed their views on the theme - 'Cultures of India' through art forms such as dance and music. Students enthusiastically participated and the entries were judged by Ms. Ruma Roka, founder of Noida Deaf Society, and Ms. Shikha Mathur, a professional vocalist.

The highlight of the annual event was an interactive live session on 'Inclusivity and Disability' by Professor Anil Kumar Aneja, Nodal Officer, Persons with Disabilities and Officer on Special Duty, Equal Opportunity Cell, University of Delhi. He emphasized the importance of an inclusive society and the need to overcome our individualistic attitude and initiate inclusive efforts and reach out mentally and rationally to help create a better society. The event was a huge

success welcoming more than 150 participants and was highly acclaimed by all. The Team EOC expresses its gratitude to our convenor and faculty members who have been our support system throughout. It has been an overwhelming journey with the best team possible. We thank everyone for their contribution and for having faith in us.

Dr. Anu Saxena (Convenor)
Kristy A Mathew (President)
Aastha Singh (Vice President)

Finance and Investment Cell

Events/Seminar conducted:

1. On 22nd August 2020, a workshop on 'Risk Management' was conducted in collaboration with the Institute of Risk management (UK), India Affiliate. The main objective of this workshop was to inculcate the basics of risk management and to define job/career prospects.
2. On 31st August 2020, the weekly newsletter 'Finance and Investment Compendium' which includes caricatures, business models & analysis of stock markets, was released.
3. On 24th October 2020, an internal event 'FINANCIAL BINGO' was conducted for the society members. The aim was to impart financial knowledge in a more interesting manner.
4. On 28th October 2020, an international webinar on 'Behavioural finance - Mind over markets' was conducted in collaboration with Scotsgrad. The session addressed the relevance of psychology to finance, the skill gap expectations, and preparedness for the Master's program in the UK. The session was addressed by Dr. Kevin Campbell, Director, MSc Investment Analysis University of Stirling, UK.
5. On 8th November 2020, a webinar on 'Investment Banking and Private Equity Careers' was conducted in collaboration with The Number Monkey.
6. On 5th December 2020, a pre-selection orientation was organized to counsel freshers on the aim of the society, its objectives, and activities.
7. On 12th December 2020, the Student Development Program on 'Preparing for GD/Presentation/Personal Interview' in collaboration with the International School of Business and Media was organized. The session was addressed by Dr. S Jayaraman, Director.
8. On 3rd February 2021 FIC, JMC organized its first online pre-event 'BRAND BOOZLED' that took place on our Instagram handle wherein financial concepts/famous brands had to be identified.
9. On 10th February 2021, FIC, JMC organized its second online pre-event 'Brain Boggled' that also took place on our Instagram handle.
10. On 12th February 2021, a webinar was conducted on 'LinkedIn Essentials' in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Digital Education, to help the attendees create a strong LinkedIn profile.
11. On 20th February 2021, FIC JMC celebrated its annual academic fest, FINTELLECT 2021. Three competitions were organized:
 - a. ECONOMICS OF INOCULATION: A homegrown game, ECONOMICS OF INOCULATION was a great success. The game was to give the participants a real-life example of how the coronavirus vaccination will work across the country. Over 20 cross-college teams competed against each other to bid a price for raw materials keeping in view various government schemes and a prescribed budget.
 - b. BUDGET-O-MANIA: All of us have once in our life criticized the Government about its budget

allocation. So, the objective of this interesting yet learning-oriented game was to step into the shoes of the government and prepare a budget by tackling the problems that arise on the way. Ms. Jasmin Singh, Assistant Professor at Jesus and Mary College was the honorable judge of the event.

c. **CORPORATE VOYAGE:** A Financial knowledge-based event, was aimed at taking the participants on the journey of learning about different stocks and pitching them to investors. The event occurred in 2 phases i.e., the quiz round and the stock pitching round, where the participants had to pitch for the stock allotted to them to the Panel of Investors. The Panel of Investors composed of Ms. Gurpreet Kaur (Assistant Professor at Jesus and Mary College) and Mr. Pranav Thakkar (CA, CFA)

12. On 10th February 2021, a webinar was conducted on 'Finance and Stock Market'. The objective of this was to impart knowledge of financial markets and their different aspects to beginners. The session was addressed by Mr. Pranav Thakkar, Analyst at Alvarez & Marsal.

13. On 18th April 2021, a workshop on 'Developing Investment Acumen and Stock Analysis' in collaboration with Cerebro Kids was organized. It covered the basics of Investment, introduction to Stock Market, Analysing the Company Numbers to make the right investment decisions. The session was addressed by Mr. Arpit Gupta, Cerebro Kids Co-Founder (IIM Lucknow Alumnus).

Dr. Ameeta Motwani (Convenor)

Maulika Agarwal (President)

Sakshi Nayyar, Sanmathi Rao (Vice Presidents)

Green Society

The Environment Society of Jesus and Mary College- The Green Society aims to protect and spread awareness about the natural environment and the impact of our everyday actions on it. This is done by spreading awareness to save energy, water, reducing disposable plastics, promoting reusable materials, planting saplings, etc. We believe that a better world is not only within reach but is being built today. The Green Society currently has over 400 students under its wing.

The Green Society organized over 12 events for the academic year 2020-21. We had an enormous plastic collection cycle that ran throughout the year. We organized four cycles of the Anti-Plastic Campaign - "Bag It JMC!". Students showed their support on their Instagram handles using #BagItJMC to create awareness about plastic pollution and its effects. With around 200 students participating in this social cause, vast amounts of single-use plastic were collected and disposed of properly. This campaign turned out to be a huge success.

Various events were held under the "Constitution Day Campaign", which was our theme for the year. An inter-college debate competition was organized online, for the first time, via Google Meet, on the topic: "Should the Indian Constitution impose a joint responsibility on the State and the Citizen to protect and improve the Natural Environment?" with over thirty participants from different colleges across Delhi. An inter-college essay writing competition was held on the topic "Increased Role of People and Civic Society in Arresting Climate Change", with many participants from different colleges across Delhi. A webinar was hosted via Google Meet, giving exciting insights and tenets about the Indian constitution, its history, and the significance of fundamental rights, with over 300 participants.

Apart from that, we organized various other events and initiatives, kicking this year off with “Independence Day week” by showing support to ban the production and sale of “Chinese Manja” on the call of the Department of Environment, Government of NCT of Delhi. We encouraged students from various colleges to join the Global Digital Climate Strike with MAPA- Most Affected People and Areas, by showing support through social media. We collaborated with Enactus JMC to show support for their campaign “PAINT BLUE” to provide handmade soaps to those in need to promote sanitation and hygiene. In a joint effort with the Department of Sociology, JMC, we supported their campaign “Food for Thought”, concentrating on World Food Day and Poverty Day, and helped spread awareness on food wastage and its effects on Climate Change. We partnered with ‘Greensphere’- Eco Club of Indira Gandhi Delhi Technical University for Women to discuss Sustainable Menstrual Practices.

Students were made aware of the cost-efficient and eco-friendly menstrual cups, organic pads, and their health benefits. We also conducted a workshop with ExploreiT- an organization that champions environmental sustainability, via Microsoft Teams, to raise awareness about global warming and climate change, attended by more than 130 students. This year, the Green Society emphasized the theme of Constitution Day and aimed at spreading awareness on current vital issues such as Climate Change, Poverty, Sustainable Menstrual Practices, etc. All the events organized this year encouraged students to have an empathetic relationship with the environment, illuminating the importance of individual action and creating a better future.

Dr. Sushmita Ram (Convenor)

Ms. Ananya Kaushal (President)

Ms. Manishika Pawaia (Vice President)

IRIS: The Fine Arts Society

IRIS: The Fine Arts Society, JMC is one of the oldest and prestigious societies of Jesus & Mary College. It was established in the 1970s under the name of ‘Paint and Brush Society’ to give college students a platform for fine arts. In five decades of the establishment of society, we have expanded our horizon to give space to different forms of art, handicrafts, etc., to keep up with the evolving nature of the field. We, as a society, aim at the holistic development of the students by giving them a platform to nurture their artistic talent and encourage students to participate in various arts activities inside and outside the college.

The society presently has a team of 40 core members and more than 100 volunteers. Society’s office bearers include President, Vice President, General Secretary, Organising Head, Marketing Head, and Finance Head. Along with the convenor and teacher in charge, they organize a plethora of activities to test creativity at different levels. The academic session of 2020-21 was very challenging for us as a society; to organize activities and events amidst a global pandemic such that the participants can explore the creative horizons and maintain the authenticity of art.

Considering all the options available to conduct and arrange everything virtually, we ran our first event, ‘Mandala Workshop’, in the last week of September. The workshop was open for all the JMC students and was conducted by our Marketing Head, Palkin Dalal. We then collaborated with Enactus, JMC for Project Iffat, which aimed to empower women affiliated with HIV AIDS. The members of the society shared their experiences and thoughts on gender equality. In the first week of October, we recruited our core team of second and third-year students. We also started an online challenge, ‘Promptober,’ taking inspiration from Inktober created by artist Jake Parker. Every week a prompt was released and the participants from various colleges across the country had to submit their entries by the end of each week.

In the spirit of Diwali, we organized a Rangoli making and Diya Decoration competition in November. The semester then ended with the 'Texture Painting Workshop' conducted by Ms. Navneet Kaur, the founder of Del.Art and a professional art teacher. The even semester of 2021 began with another 'Mandala Workshop', which saw over 200 registrations from students of different colleges. In the second week of January, an 'Annual Orientation Session' was held to welcome the freshers and detail them about the society. Thereafter, recruitment forms for freshers were released. A freshers' 'Talent Hunt Competition' was organized as a custom. Three competitions were organized under this Talent Hunt. The competitions were: - Poster Making, Cartoon Making and Calligraphy Writing.

In the last week of January, an 'Origami Workshop' was organized, which was conducted by Carla Emanuelle, an origami instructor from Brazil. In February, we launched 'Indian Folklore Amble' a 28-day long tale of folklore from the streets of India. The members and volunteers dedicated artwork to each state representing the state's folk art and cultural heritage. The aim was to spread awareness about Indian folk arts. In the same month, we collaborated with the Economics Department of JMC for a session with alumni of JMC. They are currently associated with the fields of art, craft, and aesthetics.

In the second week of March, we conducted our annual art fest, 'Beaux Arts 2021', which had three competitions: - Trace the Art (Erasure Art Competition), Digiflix (Digital Art Competition), and Maskerade (Mask Painting Competition). The fest was scheduled from 10th March 2021 till 13th March 2021. The fest saw over 300 participants. The convenor announced the winners in the closing ceremony, followed by a

performance from vocalist Priyanka Aryal. The fest had nine sponsors and seven media partners. In April, we collaborated with the BA Programme Department of JMC for one of the competitions in their annual event, 'K-B.A.P.' The art competition in 'K-B.A.P.' was based on the theme of fusion of Korean pop culture and Indian art forms.

We also collaborated with Cafe of Creatives and Focus, The Film and Photography Society of Ramjas College, DU for 'Memories', a photo-art challenge. In the first week of May, we did another collaboration with the Udayy Learn App to conduct a Mandala Workshop for students from the classes of first till fifth. We then collaborated with 'Artists for a cause' for a Covid Relief Fundraiser, by organizing a Mandala Workshop which was conducted by our Marketing Head Palkin Dalal and artist Sanya Bountra. The society collectively participated in various competitions organized by other colleges.

The society bagged first position in Spectrum (Inter-College Online Exhibition) organized by Vibgyor, The Fine Arts Society of Shivaji College, DU. The society bagged the first runner-up position in Pradarshani'21 (Reveal through Reels, Online Exhibition) organized by Tulika, the Fine Arts Society of Lady Irwin College, DU. Our members and volunteers individually represented the society in various competitions throughout the year.

Dr. Nishwan Bhatia (Convenor)

Ms. Charu Sarin Arora (Convenor)

Ridhima Gauba, Rishika Rampal (Presidents)

Charvi Singh, Khushboo Nagpal (Vice Presidents)

Jesus and Mary College Education Programme (JMCEP)

Jesus and Mary College Education Programme is a student initiative that seeks to empower underprivileged children and instil in them values that go beyond the scope of classroom education. Along with an emphasis on English, Mathematics and Moral Sciences, these students are also taught to cultivate courage, build resilience, and develop a mind of their own in all their creative glory.

The annual activities for JMCEP for the academic year 2020-21 began in May with the elections. Mary Michelle Mathew and Smakshi Thalia were elected as the President and Vice President, respectively. This was followed by the selection of its members and the core team of the society.

Orientation for the 2020-21 session was held on 23/09/20 and 15/01/21 (for first-year students). The orientation aimed to welcome the volunteers and give them an insight into the background and functioning of the society.

This year, JMCEP collaborated with the World Youth Council and Social Vision, where the volunteers took to video conferencing methods to teach students. JMCEP started a YouTube channel and regularly uploaded videos on basic Math, English, Social Sciences, and General Knowledge. The society also introduced its homegrown initiative Project Aashray, wherein volunteers taught the children of their domestic help. The latest guerdon was the collaboration with Sidharth Memorial Charitable Trust. This mentorship program is a year-long tie-up that focuses on skill development and overall personality enhancement.

On 12/10/20, to commemorate the “International Girl Child Day”, JMC Education Programme organized an interactive session on “Gender as a Social Construct: Role of School and Society” in collaboration with the

Women’s Studies Centre. Ms. Nisha Dedhwal, the guest speaker, elaborated on the concept of gender as an entity that affects personal and public lives.

On 4/11/20, JMCEP organized a workshop on “Learning Disabilities Among Students”. The speaker, Ms. Drishti Jaisingh, elaborated on learning disabilities among students and provided an insight into how differently-abled students can be taught with care. On 27/11/20, a webinar on ‘Debunking Myths of Anxiety in Children’ was conducted. The speaker, Ms. Nishtha Narula, focused on raising mental health awareness among the volunteers. On 23/11/20, JMCEP organized a workshop on ‘Child Protection Policy and Online Education’ with Garima Agarwal, who addressed the theme of safeguarding and securing children and their privacy in the era of online learning.

JMCEP conducted lesson planning workshops on 24/02/21 and 6/03/21 to equip the volunteers with the expertise required to efficiently conduct a class. Apart from webinars and workshops on several social and educational issues, JMCEP organized a few movie screenings like Neeraj Ghaywan’s short film ‘Juice’, and Mansi Jain’s ‘Everything is fine’.

To promote a green Diwali, JMCEP collaborated with Enactus JMC and became a part of its Diwali campaign. The society also collaborated with Cauldron and Fuzia to hold a contest on ‘Shared Kindness’, which allowed our volunteers to express themselves through creative pieces.

Furthermore, JMCEP collaborated with the NGO Social Vision and conducted a donation drive in October that accepted monetary and in-kind donations.

Our work in the academic year 2020-21 was featured in “The Week Magazine”, where the cover story titled Covid Heroes talked about the contribution of

JMCEP volunteers in teaching needy students during the pandemic, along with a photograph of JMCEP's president Ms. Mary Michelle.

The JMCEP society takes a lot of pride in its work and at the same time is greatly humbled by the affection shown to them by children. Despite the pandemic disrupting the routine of physical classes, JMCEP has successfully continued its venture.

Ms. Monica Chhabra (Teacher In-Charge)

Ms. Kashnie Singh (Teacher In-Charge)

Ms. Gurpreet Kaur (Teacher In-Charge)

Vrinda Moda (Teacher In-Charge)

Mary Michelle Mathew (President)

Smakshi Thalia (Vice President)

Jesus and Mary College Model United Nations Society (JMCMUN)

The Jesus and Mary College Model United Nations Society participates in MUN Conferences across Delhi NCR and brings accolades back. JMCMUN Society also conducts the JMCMUN Conference annually, one of the most sought-after conferences in the circuit, seeing participation from across India. Given the COVID-19 Pandemic, the society conducted its first-ever virtual Model UN Conference on 3rd and 4th April 2021. Even though the modality was completely different, the conference strongly carried forward the legacy of its previous conferences. It was once again praised for being one of the best organised MUN conferences in the Delhi Circuit. The participants addressed and deliberated on some of the most pertinent agendas in the world. The JMCMUN Society participated in the UNHCR Launched "MUN Refugee

Challenge" and discussed relevant concerns regarding the empowerment of refugees through technology. The National Commission for Women was the second committee wherein delegates discussed the low female labour force in India and solutions for the same, as delegates in the committee of United Nations Security Council deliberated upon the ongoing political crisis in Myanmar. The quality level of debate was upheld as 200+ delegates and international press members participated in the conference.

The society also conducted various practice and training sessions over the year for its members to improve their debating skills. Current affairs including, but not limited to, sexism, casteism, the farm laws, relevance of the UN, etc. were picked up and the members voiced their views, making strong and analytical arguments.

Ms. Amrita Bhalla (Senior Faculty Advisor)

Dr. Saumya Varghese (Teacher Convener)

Meraal Imam (President)

Saloni Srivastava (Vice President)

Urvashi Suryavanshi (Treasurer)



Kahkasha: The Street Theatre Society

Kahkasha is the multilingual street theatre society of Jesus and Mary College that strives to bring a change in society. Established in 2007, Kahkasha has immense respect for art and causes. The society is known for its unique selection of topics, energetic performances, and the urge to educate whilst entertaining. Over the years, Kahkasha has grown as one of the most loved and prominent societies in the Delhi Collegiate Theatre Circuit (DCTC). It was named the 'best street theatre society' across the DCTC for 2019-2020. Its past productions have been a crowd-pleaser which includes- 'Dawaat (2019-2020), The Other Side (2018-2019), and Dua (2017-2018). Each production offers a learning experience with satirical and emotional undertones giving the audience something to take back. Kahkasha has performed in colleges and places in Delhi and outside the city like- Antaragini, the annual cultural festival of IIT Kanpur, and Mood Indigo, the annual cultural festival of IIT Mumbai.

With the Covid-19 pandemic taking over the world and life being shifted to an online mode, it did pause the performance of society, but learning went on. The cheerful Kahkasha auditions shifted to zoom meetings. Kicking off with a fun orientation for the freshers, it finally welcomed a new batch for 2020-2021. The annual Parent Teacher Student Association took place virtually, and the society officially welcomed its office-bearers.

Kahkasha organized an interactive webinar under the guidance of Mr. Sumit Arora on the topic, 'Theatre Activities and Exercises during the Lockdown'. The webinar included various theatre exercises and a question-answer round in the end. The society also organized an innovative filmmaking webinar under the guidance of Ms. Anaitha Vohra for its society members. It was a new experience for everyone as filmmaking is poles apart from street plays. It helped

understand to understand the basics of filmmaking, camera work, and scriptwriting. Social Media has been a useful tool throughout the year to engage with audiences. Understanding the importance of mental health in a pandemic, Kahkasha, in association with "You're Wonderful Project", organized an informative Instagram live chat with a clinical psychologist, Ms. Sonakshi Gandhi on the topic, 'Social Media Romanticizing Mental Health'.

The society members have worked on their skillset throughout the year by helping one another with regular meetings and discussions. Kahkasha also directed and shot a fun little skit for the NSO. The team members have also participated in competitions of writing and monologues organized by SRCC, Mukhauta, the theatre society of Shaheed Rajguru, Junoon DSC, Kritva by IMI. Members also ventured out into performing at virtual open mics. The society has used its social media platforms to partake in social media activism. After several discussions, the society selected "Emotional Abuse" as its topic of the year. It is using Instagram to spread information and awareness about the same. Besides, it has also helped in providing information for Caste-Based Atrocities as well as Covid-19 relief resources.

Kahkasha is a space where everyone is accepted and heard. It firmly believes in the motto, 'magic lies in the periphery' and hopes to continue working for the betterment of society and fighting against systematic biases.

Ms. Kashnie Singh (Convenor)

Ms. Annie Baxi (Convenor)

Ms. Reshma Raichel Jose (Convenor)

Divya Nunhoi Sharma (President)

Sneha Chandna (Vice President)

Management Interaction Cell

Management Interaction Cell, the corporate cell of the college, aims to bridge the gap between campus academia and the corporate world by providing students with opportunities to gain real-time industry exposure, build a community to share knowledge, and foster friendships to create a supportive environment to learn.

We aim to cultivate a mindful conscience through digital campaigns on powerful themes. MIC's new session kick-started in July with one such campaign, Inclusivity Starts with I, to highlight the importance of heedful corporate practices and illustrate the struggles of marginalized communities. Towards the semester end, we undertook another responsible campaign, Social for Local, to lend a helping hand to the small-scale businesses primarily affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. To foster stronger relationships among alumnae and students, we launched a networking platform, JMC Alumnae: Women in Business, in September 2020. The initiative kick-started with a session on the Importance of Networking and Professional Development, attended by our alumnae, faculty members, and students across the country. Throughout the year, we organized several events with our learned alumnae, including a workshop on Financial Modeling for Startups by Ms. Tanvi Loond, Founder of Insta CA, and a networking session, Coffee Connections, to provide students with insights into the transition from college to the corporate world. We also launched a Student-Alumnae Mentorship Program to promote partnerships between experienced professionals and young enlightened individuals. Currently, we have mentors from various domains constantly guiding our fellow, high-potential JMCites with their aspirations.

Striving to provide our members with international

exposure, we collaborated with two foreign universities. In October 2020, we organized our college's first-ever global networking event with the Women in Business Club at Kelly School of Business, Indiana University, the USA. The students connected with their international counterparts to debunk myths around foreign education and understand the differences in the lives of the two groups and the common problems faced at the workplace. Soon after, we co-hosted an extensive two-day Networking and Professional Development Workshop with Women in Business Club, IEBusiness School, Segovia, Spain, and presented a plethora of opportunities in the corporate spectrum and empowering women to achieve pioneering success.

All through the year, we coordinated educational sessions and workshops with speakers from esteemed organizations, including EY, Bain & Co., LinkedIn, and American Express, to give experienced direction to the students of JMC. The workshop on Resume Building and Reviewing by Ms. Jennifer Garibay, Recruiter at Google assisted students in crafting a well-polished resume. The informative sessions on Women in Workplace, Post-Pandemic Careers and Skills required, and Overseas Education aimed at guiding students to take one step closer towards their professional journey.

In February 2021, we launched the first edition of our flagship fest, Envisage, which covered multifarious activities, including cultural performances and enthralling competitions. The events included B-Plan, Case Analysis, Marketing Mania, and exciting Treasure Hunt, which were carefully designed to enhance the participants' business understanding, creativity, and analytical and problem-solving skills. The week was dedicated to Mental Health and Well-being at Workplace

to break the stigma and normalize conversations around the topic. The campaign was aimed at spreading awareness about stress management and self-love. The fest was a huge success and memorable experience for the team, witnessing engagement from 300 students, 8 industry leaders, and 2 artists.

Team MIC offers its heartfelt thanks to the Principal and our Convenors for being our constant source of encouragement and shedding on us their distinguishing energy. We anticipate greater and better initiatives in the years ahead. We thank everybody for their commitment and for trusting us.

Dr. Vibha Mathur (Convenor)

Ritu Sharma (President)

Shruti Agarwal Vice President)

Tanisha Arora (General Secretary)

Mercatus: The Marketing Society

Mercatus, the Marketing Society of Jesus and Mary College attempts to bridge the gap between textbooks and the real world as we convert our ideas into reality. We stand by the pillars of creativity, innovation, and diligence.

We are inspired to innovate, and hence we create!

The session of 2020-21 started with the society growing its social media presence as the entire country hopped onto the new work from home reality. Our aim for the session remained to carry forward our vision, to learn, create and innovate to the best of our abilities even in times of uncertainty.

On 26th June 2020, we conducted a webinar in collaboration with Younity to learn about LinkedIn profile building, personal branding, and networking to

allow students to make the best out of it! Our speaker was Mr. Praful Garg, Founder, and CEO of Younity. This was followed by an Instagram live session in partnership with IMS (Internet Marketing School). The session was an insight into digital marketing, its scope, and the opportunities, and how one can make the best out of it in the present scenario.

Inspired by our annual fundraiser event Amusement Day and our desire to give the juniors a true college experience Mercatus conducted Pan-game-ic, an online weekend getaway event. It had various events spread over the weekend to introduce college fun, even in the online mode!

Marc-a- Muse, our Annual Flagship Event, was held on 4th and 5th March 2020 it was filled with games and events to awaken the marketers and tickle your analytical side. The events were Brand Bash, Escape Room, Ad-mad, Marketing Maestro, and Kaun Banega Marketer. The event's highlight was the session with our guest speaker Ms. Sejal Kumar, a YouTuber, influencer, and songwriter. With an audience of over 100 students, the session was a fun-filled interaction with Ms. Sejal where we learned more about the behind-the-scenes of every Instagram and YouTube sensation.

Mercatus believes that sustainability and creativity go hand in hand. We have always ensured that we do our part and use our resources to give back. Keeping up with the tradition, we launched two sustainable projects this year- Teach for India and Virtual Bazaar.

An initiative in collaboration with Teach for India was launched to include art, dance, music, and theatre in the curriculum of kids from backward classes. This is an attempt to offer holistic growth and an all-around development to every kid. Mercatus members volunteered to take up sessions and activities with the kids on different topics and ensure they found and pursued their interests.

Virtual Bazaar is an initiative in partnership with the Trikon Society for selling hand-made products made by women artisans. These products range from dhoop sticks and cones, woven baskets to Aipan Art. This is an attempt to increase the reach of this small business and help the talent of these women find the right platform and appreciation.

As we ended the session, we had one last thing to check off our list, The Mercatus Thrift Store! The thrift store is our online shop where we aim to sell products made by our creative team. We plan to achieve aestheticism and affordability and introduce a one-stop place for buying wonderful and creative goodies.

We are incredibly grateful to our Faculty Convener Dr. Savita Rastogi, for her constant encouragement. We would also like to thank Ms. Vrinda Moda, and Ms. Alisha George, the faculty members, for their support and help.

Dr. Savita Rastogi (Convener)

Ms. Vrinda Moda and Ms. Alisha George (Teacher Members)

Gunpreet Dahiya (President)

Radhika Goyal and Aanya Sikka (Vice President)



Mudra: The Western Dance Society

Mudra is all about creating an environment that fosters collective creativity expressed through various western dance forms. The heritage of Mudra is to impart lasting confidence into its members so that they become better dancers and exude the same confidence as individuals. It is not just a college society rather a community that is always eager to learn from each other and build each other up through mistakes and failures. Along with perseverance and hard work, we believe that one's attitude plays a key role in success. Even when the odds are against us, our passion drives us forward to achieve success and overcome hurdles. Every time Mudra takes the stage, we represent not just one batch but 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. This feeling was especially evident in the efforts we put into the group during this year that was marred by uncertainties of the pandemic. Even with the college closed down and in-person practices halted, we persisted, engaged with each other. The biggest challenge in quarantine was to keep ourselves physically fit; to do that, we would organize group online practices and workout sessions. We also got an opportunity to attend various online dance workshops organized by eminent choreographers, which helped to keep us growing. The transition from in-person on stage competitions to online competitions was initially tough because dance is an interactive art form where you feed off the energy of your team members as well as the audience; to do the same in front of a camera didn't have the same energy, however, as time went on it got easier because we were dealing with the changes together.

Mudra commenced this year by participating in an

Official Dance Music Video Championship where teams from all over India participated, followed by our first outstation fest at IIT Mumbai (held virtually). During the fest season, Mudra participated at many college festivals through online modes such as the ones of Janki Devi Memorial College, Indian Institute of Management (Visakhapatnam), Symbiosis Institute of Operations Management (Nashik), Lal Bahadur Shastri Institute of Management, Xavier's School of Management (Jamshedpur), Indian Institute of Management Studies (Mumbai), PGDAV College (morning), PGDAV College (evening), Hansraj College and Ambedkar University. We also prepared and presented our video performances for our College events, for example, the Freshers', Farewell, Teachers' Day, etc.

Apart from these inter-collegiate festivals, Mudra also got a chance to participate in a Web series. Overall, it was an eventful year for Mudra; we got to develop many new skills and learn a lot of important lessons in our pursuit of excellence.

Ms. Shruti Tohan (Convenor)
Prerna Dewan (President)
Abisha Joseph (Vice President)

NATIONAL CADET CORPS (NCC)

NCC has been operating in Jesus and Mary College since 1974. Currently, there are 150 cadets enrolled. NCC conducts numerous activities every year where cadets participate enthusiastically. There have been various camps and events organized throughout the year. Different social awareness campaigns/drives, rallies, etc., have been conducted by NCC as well. This year, because of the Covid-19 pandemic, cadets of

Jesus and Mary College participated in various online activities such as :

EK BHARAT SRESHT BHARAT CAMP (EBSB-I)
(July 6, 2020- July 11, 2020)

- LCPL Amrita Malhotra
- LCPL Sonali Sharma

PRE- REPUBLIC DAY CAMP (RDC) CADRE-1
(Oct 19, 2020- Oct 28, 2020)

- SGT Kanchan Rawat

EK BHARAT SRESHT BHARAT CAMP (EBSB-II)

- SGT Kanchan Rawat (Aug 13, 2020- Aug 20, 2020)
- LCPL Nandini Verma (Nov 5, 2020- Nov 10, 2020)
- CDT Stefiya Thomas (Nov 5, 2020- Nov 10, 2020)

PRIME MINISTER'S RALLY (Jan 10, 2021- Jan 29, 2021)

- LCPL Megha Anil
- LCPL Priya Pal
- CDT Monika

RASHTRIYA SWACHHTA PAKHWADA CAMP
(Jan 18, 2021- Jan 31, 2021)

- LCPL Rinki Bala
- LCPL Amrita Malhotra
- CDT Tannu

EK BHARAT SRESHT BHARAT CAMP (EBSB-III)
(Apr 26, 2021- Apr 30, 2021)

- LCPL Vallari Saurabh
- CDT Ritika Sharma
- CDT Ambily Sabu
- CDT Josme Jaimon
- CDT Irin Anna Rajesh

All the cadets enthusiastically took part in the online awareness spreading a campaign of the government initiative - ATMANIRBHAR ABHIYAN - where cadets took the 'Be Vocal for Local' pledge and shared

their creative ideas and contributions to the same through their social media handles in September. Cadets actively took part in Tree plantation Drive where they shared photographs of planting saplings in their vicinity. They also contributed to the Air Pollution Drive by participating in slogan and poster-making competitions. All the cadets energetically took part in the FIT INDIA AND FIT INDIA RUN CAMPAIGN and shared inspiring photographs amidst these harsh times in October. Cadets who took Part in EBSB CAMP got the opportunity to learn about diversity in India through interactive sessions held during the online camp. They passionately took part in cultural competitions. Lcpl. Amrita Malhotra received “Best speaker from Delhi Directorate Award for the debate on Disaster Management” NCC JMC and IQAC in collaboration with the Indian Air force conducted an inspiring webinar on “Careers at the Indian Air force” on 6th August 2020. NCC JMC organized an online Orientation on 25th November 2020 where rank holders and convenors welcomed new enthusiasts to join our NCC family. All the cadets, with full zeal and zest celebrated Constitution Day on 26th November 2020 online and took the pledge to be the responsible citizens of our nation. Cadets also participated in various competitions, including essay/poetry writing, Poster making, presentation-making, and submission of blogs.

NCC JMC conducted its first-ever INTERCOY ONLINE QUIZ COMPETITION on 8th January 2021 in which teams from all three companies participated. Cdt. Ritika Sharma and Cdt. Nandini Verma bagged the first position from Bravo Coy. Lcpl. Megha Anil, Lcpl. Priya Pal and Cdt. Monika undertook the prestigious Prime Minister’s Rally Camp. During the same camp, all three cadets got the golden opportunity to visit the PM House. Lcpl. Megha Anil performed at the PM House which was a very enlightening and encouraging experience for her. This once-in-a-lifetime opportunity

for her was aired on the National TV channel on 24th January 2021. She got to perform at the Ladies Meet Event as well. Lcpl. Rinki Bala, Lcpl. Amrita Malhotra and Cdt. Tannu got a chance to visit PMO during their Rashtriya Swachhata Pakhwada Camp. During their camp, they performed in Nukkad Natak (Street Play) and Poetry Recitation. Our cadets undertook a 3-days Combined Annual Training Camp (CATC) organized in the month of February. Towards the end of this semester, Cdt Nandini Verma won first prize in the NCC Fest of Miranda House- Nischay’2021 held in March 2021. She received a cash prize for the same.

Dr. (Lt.) Richa Raj (Associate NCC Officer)

Ms. Priyanka Marwah (Convenor)

Ms. Rashi Mukhopadhyay (Convenor)

SUO Punarnava Sharma (President)

LCPL Megha Anil (Vice President)

NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME (NSS)

The National Service Scheme, Jesus and Mary College aims to develop students’ personalities by instilling a sense of social justice and welfare through community service. NSS JMC strictly abides by the motto, ‘Not Me, but You’. During the COVID-19 pandemic, NSS JMC organized several competitions and drives to raise awareness about pertinent social, environmental, and health issues.

The session 2020-21 commenced with the International Day of Yoga on 21 June ‘21. Events to spread awareness and encourage the practice of yoga included a webinar on “Yoga: Guardian of the Mind, Body, and Spirit” and the rule of yogic postures by the volunteers at their homes. Additionally, there were essays and poster competitions.

A ‘Tree Plantation Drive’ was organized on the occasion of Independence Day on 15 th August ’21

in which the volunteers enthusiastically planted trees in their respective localities. This marked the volunteers' responsibility towards the well-being of the environment and symbolized the spirit of Self-Reliant India.

A series of events were conducted to observe the 'Fit India Movement' from August to October 2020 to promote the theme of "Freedom from Lethargy to Live Healthy Life". Some of the events included poster making on the importance of fitness, exercise with family, fitness challenges, healthy cooking competition, time-lapse exercise video making, documentary screening on mental health, guided meditation session and, 'Fit India Freedom Run'.

The unit also participated in NSS Day, which is annually observed on 24th September. NSS- JMC volunteers represented the college by presenting how NSS JMC is adopting Gandhian values in its endeavours.

A series of events were organized to observe the Vigilance Awareness Week, 2020 based on the theme of 'Vigilant India, Prosperous India' to raise public awareness regarding the existence of and the threat posed by corruption. The events included the Integrity Pledge, Essay Writing Competition, Poster Making Competition, Slogan Writing Competition, and Vigilance Awareness Survey. On festivals of Diwali and Lohri, NSS JMC volunteers spread joy by sharing food items, stationery, clothes, candles, diyas, sweets, books, masks, sanitisers, etc., within their capacity with the underprivileged.

The unit also organized several webinars throughout the year such as 'New Education Policy 2020- Facts and Fiction', 'Swaasthya Seva with UBlood Smart Connect (Importance of blood Donation)' and 'Cancer Awareness and Prevention' to equip the participants

with the knowledge about various issues and bring them a step closer to being agents of change. The National Road Safety Month, 2021 was organized to encourage all volunteers to spread awareness about road safety through various activities.

To observe International Women's Day, NSS JMC organized a Menstrual Hygiene Awareness Drive in which NSS volunteers made posters about menstrual hygiene and spread awareness by making informative videos and teaching underprivileged women and girls around their locality about the importance of using proper menstrual hygiene products. NSS JMC organized a drive to spread awareness about the COVID vaccine rollout, the procedures to access the vaccine, and COVID appropriate behaviours. The volunteers created and shared various messages, posters, documents, and videos to disseminate authentic information among the masses to develop an environment of universal vaccine acceptability. Even amidst the pandemic, the members stayed dedicated to their path of social change. Through these activities and opportunities, NSS promoted the holistic development of its volunteers, transforming them into responsible citizens committed to the welfare of society.

Dr. Mahima Varma (Programme Officer, NSS JMC)
Prabhleen Kaur (President)
Bhavya Bhardwaj (Vice President)



NEEV: Training and Development Cell

NEEV: Training and Development Cell of Jesus and Mary College draws its name and metaphorical essence from the upkeep of strong roots, which ultimately serve as a foundation to the tree of life. NEEV is a student-run body of like-minded girls committed to catalyzing change, nurturing creativity, and strengthening the roots of student life. The focus is on the holistic development of all involved inside and outside NEEV by internship, fellowship opportunities, soft skills, technical skills training, digital campaigns, one-on-one mentorship, and much more. The academic year 2020-21 witnessed major steps to ensure a promising future for society's beneficiaries. The most noteworthy engagements are as follows:

(1) Level Up with NEEV: Virtual Bootcamp (18th -20th September 2020)

A three-day interactive program was organized, commencing with an enriching exchange between students and Team NEEV to understand students' expectations on Day 1, followed by mock group discussion and personal interview rounds held by JMC alumnae on Day 2 and 3. On Day-2, students were also introduced to a new discipline, 'R language'. The training was held in association with BRICS CCI. 10 students enrolled in the complete course.

(2) Internship portal (went live in September 2020)

The team curated a one-of-a-kind internship portal that served as an exclusive listing of all opportunities that enable easy student access and eliminate hassles in securing internships.

(3) Career Calling: a Social Media Campaign to boost Professional Prowess

(9th -25th October 2020)

Detailed research and analysis of the most sought-

after career choices from a myriad of industries were presented in a concise form to enable students to make a well-informed career choice based on their skills, strengths, weakness, and interests.

(4) Webinar on Effective Communication: in association with College Owl

(13th October 2020)

The special emphasis of the webinar was to master presentation delivery and build authenticity to eliminate ambiguity in communication. It was addressed by associates from College Owl, a startup by JMC alumnae.

(5) Coalescing Minds with JMC Alumnae (26th July 2020 - 21st November 2020)

It was a two-part webinar series conducted in collaboration with the Department of Commerce. It provided an exclusive opportunity for the student body to connect and interact with JMC graduates who study in premier institutes or work with reputed firms to gain valuable lessons from their journey.

(6) Neev ke Ambassadors 2.0 (4th February - 15th May 2021)

The second edition of the ambassador program enabled first-year students to closely understand the functioning of various departments under the aegis of NEEV and handle tasks under the guidance of their designated mentors.

(7) Campus to Corporate Simplified (25th February-7th March 2021)

This four-part webinar series was designed for students to identify and hone relevant skills required to make them corporate-ready under the expert guidance of corporate executives from top-tier business firms.

(8) Collaboration with Coursera (March 2021)

With the advent of digital platforms like Coursera, the opportunities to learn are endless. This collaboration provided a unique opportunity for the students of JMC to take up paid courses of their choice. They were taught by industry experts, free of cost.

(9) Mentorship Week (April 2021)

A 6-day mentorship program was curated to give students deeper insights into the corporate world, with a role-specific approach based on their individual career goals. The program aimed to supplement the students' existing knowledge base and real-time understanding of corporate communication by providing mentorship in groups of 8-10 students, tapping into LinkedIn, networking, Group Discussion, and Personal Interview preparation and CV review.

Prachi Newtia (President)
Mahek Haider (Vice President)

Nrityanjali: The Indian Dance Society

Nrityanjali, the Indian Dance Society of Jesus and Mary College, has been active and successful in JMC and Delhi University. Amidst the ongoing crisis, Nrityanjali successfully completed another year with certain accomplishments.

Auditions

Auditions were conducted in online mode in two rounds. The first round of auditions was conducted on the 10th of October, 2020 while the second round was conducted on 20th of December 2020, selecting the best of all applicants.

Independence Day

On the Occasion of the 73rd Independence Day, two

members of our society performed “The Role of Women in India’s Growth” during the online celebration on 15th August 2020.

Freshers’ Day

The new journey with the freshers was kickstarted by conducting Freshers’ Day online on 13th February 2021, where the second and third years danced their hearts out for their juniors. The members of Nrityanjali presented a power-packed dance fusion of Bollywood, bhangra, and Tollywood dance forms, which filled our hearts with joy and excitement.

Teachers' Day

Teachers have three loves: love for learning, love for learners, and the love for bringing the first two together. JMC is filled with the most loving, caring, understanding, dedicated, and cool teachers. It was an honour for the members of Nrityanjali to present a power-packed Bollywood dance performance for them.

PTSA’19

On the occasion of the oath-taking ceremony of the office bearers for the academic year 2020-2021, which was conducted on the 24th of February, 2021, Nrityanjali presented a graceful classical dance performance to the audience.

Adaa’21

Nrityanjali was successful in conducting the intercollege Indian dance competition, Adaa'21 in online mode on 17th April 2021. Solo classical and semiclassical/folk competitions were held, and the winners were gifted with cash prizes. All of the members put in a lot of effort for this event, and it reflected because Adaa was a huge success this year. The panel constituted of Ruchi Balooni, who is a well-known Kathak dancer and guru, and Smt. Tanushri Roy, who is also a professional Kathak dancer.

Farewell

It is a rule of nature that all good and bad things always come to an end. So did the journey of the batch of 2021 with Jesus and Mary College and Nrityanjali. With all the unforgettable memories, unbreakable bonds, and a dash of sadness, the seniors bid adieu to college and the society. The juniors presented another emotional and exceptional performance on 18th April 2021 with Farewell'21 (online mode).

Holi Milan and Incredible India

Our society was invited to perform in Holi Milan organized by Shrinkhala in NDMC Convention center, Connaught Place, on 21st March 2021. The choreography was by Raas Garba which left the audience in awe. On 26th March 2021, we were invited to perform in another program organized by Shrinkhala, Incredible India, in Noida Haat. The choreography was again by Raas Garba.

Choreography

Even the ongoing crisis was not able to shake our will to dance. The choreography of this year was Raas Garba, a popular folk dance of Gujarat. Garba is a dance that honours, worships, and celebrates the feminine form of divinity. Even in online mode, our team participated in almost all the competitions at IIT Mumbai.

Triumphs

Nrityanjali could do group performances for competitions conducted by IIT Bombay, Jhaankar- the Indian dance society of Amity University, Gurugram. Nrityanjali even participated in a group folk dance competition organized by the Hindi department of JMC, in which we secured the third prize. We also got the golden opportunity to perform in 'Incredible India' and Holi Milan organized by Shrinkhala World of dance in Noida Haat and NDMC Convention Centre, Connaught place, respectively.

Amidst the ongoing crisis, the opportunities for the team to present their performance were less. However, the society could actively participate in the events organized by different colleges. One of the most graceful Kathak dancers of our society, Perna Sharma, made the society proud through her achievements during the academic session 2020-21. Her achievements are :

*First position in Let's Nacho at Vasundhara- Annual geo fest of Geography department of Shaheed Bhagat Singh college

*Second position in Manifest Varchasva (vibes- solo dance competition) organized by IIM Lucknow.

*Second position in MUDRA'21 organized by Nrityangana - Indian dance society of Sri Venkateswara college.

*Third position in NATRAJA'21 organized by Nrityam- the Indian dance society of Vivekananda college.

*Third position in TAAL-TARANG'21 organized by Kavyakriti- Indian dance society of Hansraj college

*Third position in BHRAMARA'21 organized by Thirikan dance society of Shyama Prasad Mukherjee college for women.

Another beautiful kathak dancer of our society, Deepshikha Upreti, secured the second position in Raasaragini 2.0, the solo classical dance competition organized by Jhankaar- the classical dance society of Amity University, Gurugram.

All of society's achievements would not have been possible without the encouragement and support of our respected principal Dr. Sandra Joseph. Dr. Anupama Srivastava, our dearest convenor, has always been our guiding light. Her suggestions and advice were crucial to our success. Last but not least, through the efforts and dedication of each member of this society, we have been able to achieve greater heights. Despite the

difficulties, their unwavering support and dedication to society helped make this academic year a huge success for Nrityanjali.

Dr. Anupama Srivastava (Convenor)

Rosmin Ann Raju (President)

Neha Joseph (Vice President)

Panorama: The Film Appreciation and Movie-Making Society

Like every other year, Panorama, The Film Appreciation and Movie-Making Society of JMC orchestrated myriad events and activities despite the impediments caused by the Pandemic, bringing together a community of cinephiles. The society creates a platform where students can express and partake in their interest and love for cinema. In the academic year 2020-2021, Panorama went above and beyond achieving this goal.

Prior to the beginning of the session, Panorama held its elections for the society council heads, wherein, Diya Joseph (B.A. Political Science Honours, III Year), Payal Upreti (B.A. Economic Honours, III Year), and Mehak Pasricha (B.A. Sociology Honours, II Year) acceded to the position of the President, Vice-President and General Secretary, respectively.

With the commencement of the academic year, the society conducted the selection process for its Core Team, where the following students were designated as team heads: Mridula Bhasin as the Organizing Head, Kriti Bhagat and Shreeja Paschal as the Film-

Making Heads, Aliza Junaid, Vanshika Luthra, and Shreya Ghosh as the Content Heads, and Jolynne John and Rabani Khurana as the Social Media Heads. This was followed by two rounds of recruitment of new members - in October for second and third years, and in January for the newly inducted first years.

Panorama Kickstarted the year with a collaboration with Girlup Sakhi where we addressed popular TV shows, dissecting different representations and characterizations revealing hidden problematic themes. This was followed by another collaboration with E-CELL, JMC where we dealt with movies and series from the corporate world. In our collaboration with the Women's Studies Centre, JMC, we organized a short movie screening and discussion on the short film 'Devi' directed by Priyanka Banerjee. This was followed by an Instagram Live with the movie director, highlighting the relevance of her movie and rape culture, in what came out to be an inspiring and informative session.

Panorama was also in conversation through an Instagram Live Session with the actor Gurfateh Singh Pirzada, who starred in the Netflix Original 'Guilty'. We conducted another one of our society collaborations with JMC Education Programme where the short film 'Juice', directed by Neeraj Ghaywan was screened, followed by a fruitful round of discussion. In November, Panorama initiated a Lecture Series 'PanoramaTalkies', where our first speaker Ms. Sameera Mehta spoke on the topic 'No Cinema for Old Women?'. The session focused on the association between ageing and gender in Bollywood by deconstructing three Bollywood films spanning the 2000s. The society also organized an insightful session with Director Naman Govil where we looked into the silent eviction of the forest tribes of India through his documentary screening and discussion.

The Film-Making Team also collaborated with Sunny

Mugs, the poetry society of JMC, in making a series of short videos featuring and expressing the essence of a collection of poems written by the Sunny Mugs members. Throughout the academic year, the society held multiple movie screenings and discussions on topics and films chosen by the members.

The highlight of the year was Panorama's first online annual fest which was conducted on 1st and 2nd April 2021. The cinematic fest "Quaran- times" was themed around the various movies and shows from Quarantine and OTT Platforms. The fest boasted of various online events and competitions, namely: A Talk with Vikram Dasgupta, the Director of the multi-award-winning 'Calcutta Taxi' and of the documentary 'Beyond Moving', movie screening and discussion of the short film 'Bittu', a panel discussion on 'The Rise of OTT Platforms in the light of the Pandemic' with Mr. Nakul Singh Sawhney (Filmmaker), Ms. Aakansha Bisht (Content Creator for Voot), Ms. Priyanka Banerjee (Director), and Mr. Anugyan Nag (Professor of Film Studies at Jamia Milia Islamia University), Prompt-Based Scriptwriting Competition, Reel Making Competition, Treasure Hunt and CosCon: The Cosplay Competition.

Following this, The Film- Making Team of Panorama successfully completed its annual production "Not A Documentary", a short film about the issue of cybercrime against women through social media. The Content Team efficiently carried out writing exercises for articles, covering a varied set of themes that explored mental health, supporting characters of movies and shows, regional movies, fan-fiction, analytical articles, etc. The film appreciation blog run by the society (www.panoramajmclmsoc.wordpress.com) was the most active, with over 30+ film reviews and articles written by members covering multiple themes and genres in this academic year.

The year 2020- 2021 proved to be highly successful

for society despite the restrictions in light of the pandemic. The society owes this favourable outcome to the continued support from its convenor, Dr. Sandhya D Nambiar, ex- convenor Dr. Renny Thomas, the Principal, and the college.

Dr. Sandhya D Nambiar (Convenor)

Diya Joseph (President)

Payal Upreti (Vice- President)

Peace Society

Peace Society is an initiative to propagate inner peace and an atmosphere of serenity in the environment through its various initiatives. The society is multifaceted in its approach towards its objectives and organizes events ranging from mindfulness and physical well-being to personal development. It is one of the compulsory societies in JMC, comprising a core team of 44 students, including the office bearers, heads of various departments, members of each department, and a membership of 521 students in total.

In the academic session 2020-2021, the society conducted a string of successful events in the form of interactive webinars and interesting competitions ranging from personality development to mental health. Peace Society welcomed the new academic session with 'Minding our Minds', a series that presented an opportunity to the participants to get answers to questions related to mental well-being with the help of a psychologist. The event had Dr. Priya Bhatnagar as the guest speaker and was conducted on 1st June 2020.

After this, the society conducted a week-long event, on sustainability from 6th to 12th September 2020, which was inaugurated with a webinar titled 'Roadmap to Sustainability'; the guest speaker was Ms. Ridhima Kandru, who is a sustainability activist at Zero Waste

Indians. Next in line were a few competitions - DIY, quiz, and creative writing, and poster making, all of which saw participation from students all across the country. The week concluded with a session on the topic 'Adapting to a Sustainable Lifestyle' by Mr. Ajinkya Hange, co-founder of Two Brothers Organic Farm.

The society then celebrated the International Day of Peace by way of two events, a webinar on 'Shaping Peace Together' by Ms. Monika Singh, a renowned TEDx Speaker, and a poetry writing competition 'Calmuse'; the judges for which were Ms. Anukriti Upadhyay, an author, and Ms. Aparajita Deb, who is a part of the Delhi Poetry Circuit. Due to its high popularity, success, and positive feedback, 'Minding our Minds' was conducted thrice this year, the second session, conducted on 9th October 2020, had Dr. Mimansa Singh Tanwar, a clinical psychologist at Fortis Healthcare, as the speaker. The third session was conducted on 6th March 2021, and had Dr. Tanushree Sangma, expressive art-based therapist, and psychologist at Fortis Healthcare, as the speaker.

In light of the pandemic, the society conducted a virtual book reading session with Ms. Anukriti Upadhyay as the guest speaker, who read a portion from her book "Kintsugi." The Peace Society also celebrated United Nations Day in the form of 'Quest for Harmony', a conflict resolution competition in which teams had to analyze a real-life political crisis and figure out a way to resolve it and win prizes. The competition saw participation from colleges all across the country.

After this came Halloween and the society planned a series of fun events and competitions, 'Nocturnal Trailblazers', an online scavenger hunt, 'Festival of Frights', a mood board-making competition, and micro tale competition, and 'Ghostly Affair', a ghost story-telling competition. The whole series came to an end with the release of a 'Halloween Playlist' on Spotify.

Since then, Peace Society has conducted a range of webinars on 'Health and Hygiene', 'The Indian Education System During Covid-19', 'Fears of Lives' and 'Who Are Your True Friends?' The society also organized a webinar series on personality development, which included sessions on public speaking, first impressions, body language, power dressing, personal branding, and etiquette and manners, all of which had renowned speakers and an audience above 100 students per session.

We, at Peace Society, hope for an optimistic year and strive to do our bit in bringing it about. Through pandemics and protests, amid struggles and tensions, we are keen on searching for our strengths and tolerance and helping as much as we can along the way.

Dr. Savita Rastogi (Convenor)
Archisha Asthana (President)
Vedika Khanna (Vice President)

Placement Cell

The Placement Cell of Jesus and Mary College functions throughout the academic year to aid the third-year students in finding jobs after graduation and facilitate internships to all the college students. The cell strives to provide opportunities and also acts as the bridge between the students and the companies. Since the college students are from an array of disciplines, the cell aims to provide various windows to the students.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the working of the cell had shifted entirely to an online mode. We were concerned about the number of companies that would visit the campus during these unprecedented times. Fewer firms visited in the first half of the academic session. However, this changed in the second half and we witnessed a rise in the number of companies that came for recruitments.

Nevertheless, the Placement Cell had a fruitful year,

and many new companies and the regular ones conducted the recruitment drive. We have had 72 companies coming to Jesus and Mary College for placements, including BCN, Deloitte USI, EY, Wipro, PwC, Accenture, Genpact, Blume Global India Pvt. Ltd., ICICI Bank, and others.

There has been a significant increase in the internship opportunities for the students- companies like Metvy, Ernst and Young, eigoPaathshaala, KRG Consultancy, Outlook Group, BlitzJobs, EduKey, Muskurahat Foundation, Consumer India, Global Education, Orgo Bell, NITI Ayog participated in the internship drive. The students have been able to participate in a variety of international internships as well. Around 150 companies have come with internship offers and more on the way as the recruitment process continues.

The Cell also organizes talks, workshops, and competitions to equip students with life skills and to provide career guidance. We had a Session on “Skills to Succeed at Placements” by GWEPP; “How to do well in Personal Interview; Group Discussions and How to write a Resume” by T.I.M.E; and “Building a Successful Career in Professional Services Firms” by EY. These sessions were organized on online platforms and saw great participation from the students. The sessions allowed them to have a clear and better understanding of the corporate world and helped students gain confidence in approaching interviews.

Ernst and Young conducted a “Corporate Finance Women of the Year” competition for all students. The Pearl Academy and Deloitte also organized competitions. The events saw enthusiastic participation from the students of our college.

Mrs. Sunita Narain (Convenor)

Ashni Santhosh (President)

Isha Agarwal (Vice President)

Puzzle Society

The Puzzle Society is one of its kind at the University of Delhi. It provides its members’ various opportunities to showcase their skills. The society conducts various events, workshops and numerous competitions for its members throughout the year. This year the Puzzle Society conducted multiple activities;

· Lockdown Puzzles

Lockdown puzzle competition conducted on the official Instagram page of The Puzzle Society was held to engage its audience through some mind-boggling puzzles. All the puzzles were themed around the lockdown, and we received good responses on all the puzzles posted. The three winners were applauded on the social media page of the society.

· The Green Puzzles

The Green Puzzle series was organized concerning two important days from the environment conservation perspective, World Environment Day and World Ocean Day. We celebrated by posting a series of puzzles on our social media page.

· Live Session with Aryan Chhabra

The society did an Instagram live session with Aryan Chhabra, the National Record Breaker, in solving the official Rubik’s cube to encourage the members and followers to try out their hands-on cube. The live got around 158 viewers.

· Clash of Fans

The Clash of Fans competition in collaboration with Dare2Compete was conducted in three theme-based rounds. The Puzzle Society also received a 3.3-star rating on a scale of 5 on the official Dare2Compete portal.

· Touzzles

Touzzles competition was conducted in collaboration

with the Global Youth, JMC Chapter to embark on ‘World Tourism Day’. It was conducted in two rounds and the winner was given a shoutout on Instagram.

· Chess Workshop and Competition

An interactive chess workshop was organised by the society on 10th October 2020. Niranjana Navalgund, FIDE master and trainer, was invited as the trainer for the day. He discussed some basic and some strategic moves in chess. Followed by the workshop, a chess puzzle competition was organized.

· Interview Puzzles

On the occasion of National Puzzle Day, the society posted interview-related puzzles on its official social media pages to help the society members and followers enhance their knowledge.

· Weekly Puzzle Meets

The Puzzle Society has been conducting Puzzle Meets since September 2020. In each puzzle meeting, a different kind of puzzle was discussed. The outcome of these meets has been great because the members have learned a lot of new puzzles.

· EUREKA’21- The First Independent Annual Event

The Puzzle Society organized its Annual Online Event- Eureka’21 from 26th February 2021 to 28th February 2021. The event included one pre-event, five sub-events, and had three gifting partners and five media partners. The pre-event was launched on the official Instagram page of the society. The three winners were given a shoutout on the social media pages of the Puzzle Society. The main event had a total of 563 registrations and a total of 12 winners were announced from five sub-events.

· Puzzled Pint

The Puzzled Pint competition was conducted on 17th April 2021 in collaboration with the Economics Department of JMC. The competition was conducted in

three rounds. The three winners were sent e-certificates.

· Techno Puzzled

Techno Puzzled competition, a tech-themed puzzled quest, was conducted on 18th April 2021 in collaboration with Algorithm, JMC. The competition was conducted on Dare2Compete and the winners were given a handsome prize.

Dr. Daisy Sales (Convenor)

Ms. Smita Gupta (Convenor)

Ms. Megha Jacob (Convenor)

Diksha Jha (President)

Vaanya Bansal (Vice President)

Snapshots: The Photography Society

Snapshots, the Photography Society of Jesus and Mary College, has always been keen on covering the college’s events. However, even during the academic year of 2020-21, where everything took place online, the society tried to make the best out of the online semester with various photography competitions and webinars.

As the academic year began, Snapshots collaborated with Zephyr, the photography society of the College of Vocational Studies, University of Delhi, for a series of photography webinars. With Over 12 webinars, colleges from all over DU participated in the event. Snapshots also provided Zephyr with the speaker for one of the webinars.

The society also organized two inter-college photography competitions in October’20 and January’21 respectively, with the themes of ‘food’ and ‘portrait’ respectively. In January’21, the Society also conducted a Photowalk to Rajpath a few days before

the Republic Day Parade, for the members who could and wanted to attend it. Furthermore, the society conducted its annual fest, 'Cameraderie', a series of photography competitions. Although the event was an online one, we had the participation of over 200 photographers from colleges and universities from all over Delhi NCR. The online fest took place in February'21 and consisted of four competitions -

1. Photostory
2. Doppelganger
3. Memography
4. Cutback JPEG

The society concluded the annual event with a webinar on travel and drone photography by a renowned photographer, Abhimanyu Singh Dalal. The webinar had a participation of over 80 people.

Mr. Jobin Thomas (Teacher In-Charge) Convenor
Akanksha Barla (President)
Shreeja (Vice President)

Students' Council

The year 2020 was different from every past year for everyone in the JMC community. The academic year 2020-21 began with the students' council's elections through an online campaign and voting process for the first time. In October and November, the students' council hosted meetings with the office bearers to address grievances like access to society funds, availability of college counselors, enrollment of freshers to compulsory societies, etc., and to take suggestions. This was followed by the PTSA'20 Annual meet where the office bearers of the various societies and departments which come under the Students Council took the oath. The council organized the virtual oath-taking along with the PTSA committee.

An online virtual freshers event was also organized for the Incoming batch of 2021. Through this virtual farewell, the council gave the freshers a walk through JMC through a campus tour and organized fun-filled cultural performances. For the first time, we came up with an Instagram filter for JMC freshers for them to enjoy and be a part of a huge Montage of Memories while staying safe at home.

The Council also took up the initiative called the Covid Care Initiative. The council took up an initiative to provide psycho-social support, vaccine-related information, unwind sessions, and intercessory prayer meetings for the staff and students at JMC in the trying times of COVID-19. Special mention to the Students' Council Organizing Committee, a team of 5 students that extend support to the council to organize all the various events, the students in the committee are as follows Aashi Gangwar, Harshita Mitra, Ishana Agarwal, Pratistha Khanna, and Rudraa Sharma.

We wish to thank our Principal Dr. Sandra Joseph, our Staff Advisors, Dr. Sushila Ramaswamy, Dr. Alka Marwaha, and Ms. Megha Jacob, the non-teaching staff, and all the students for their unstinted support and cooperation. We did our best to represent the diverse and multifaceted views of the students of the college. Thank you for your support.

Meru Madaan (President)
Elizabeth Reji (Vice President)

Sunny Mugs: The Poetry Society

Sunny Mugs is a society of aspiring poets who bond over rhyme and rhythm. Starting its journey as a club, Sunny Mugs was officially made a society by the administration in 2018-19. The third year of the society, 2020-21, fittingly commenced with a creative writing competition in collaboration with 'Students for Covid Relief', an initiative started by some students of the University of Delhi. Sunny Mugs not only received impressive entries from various colleges and universities but was also able to donate funds to support people in need. The second event, conducted on 9 August 2020, was also focused on the inescapable reality of the pandemic: Sunny Mugs collaborated with BlueQuill, the creative writing club of Miranda House for "Pandemic Time Capsule", an anonymous letter exchange that provided a safe space for students to build hope through heartfelt assurances, cute doodles, shared playlists and long lists of recommendations. The society collaborated with "Letters to Strangers" for the next segment, a youth-run global mental health organization. Members sent letters and received the same from their pen pals. Sunny Mugs also took another step to address mental health issues, by collaborating with WSC to host a webinar on "De-stigmatising Mental Health" by Professor Priya Bhatnagar, followed by an open mic. Several other collaborations with different groups took place throughout the year, via which Sunny Mugs was able to expand its media of art, poetry and storytelling, such as Stellar 2021: JMC Chapter, an intra-college storytelling competition, in collaboration with Tape a Tale on 27 January 2021; a session on "Black Out Poetry" with Cauldron; a social media series on cinematic poetry videos with Panorama; a social media series on technology and its forms, along with Algorithm: and an inter-college open mic with Global Youth, JMC Chapter on 10th April 2021. Apart

from the collaborative events, Sunny Mugs also held several splendid internal open mics and interesting internal sessions, including River of Life, Poetry Live Drawing, Kennings, Tips for Performance Poetry, Writers' Meme-Making, Pick A Poet: Rumi, Feminist Poetry Reading, and Inter-Relationship Between Music and Poetry. To incite bonding between the society members, two movie screening sessions were organized as well, where 'Chutney' and 'Dead Poets Society' were respectively screened. However, the most celebrated events were our annual competitions, "Lafzon Ki Numaash", the annual Hindi-Urdu Slam Poetry Competition, and "Tailored Verses", the annual English Slam Poetry Competition, held on 28th February 2021 and 7th March 2021 respectively. Both the events witnessed beautiful poetry along with extremely admirable judges. Another tradition that Sunny Mugs wanted to keep alive is 'The Sunny Book of Poems', which is a collection of beautiful poems by the members of the society spread over a plethora of genres and is set to launch online on 1 May 2021. None of these achievements would have been possible if not for the members collectively working towards excellence to scale new heights.

Dr. Susan George (Convenor)
Archana Tripathi (Convenor)
Aditi Dwivedi (President)
Aysha Saleem (Vice President)
Sharmee Godhulika (General Secretary)

Tarannum: The Indian Music Society

Tarannum, The Indian Music Society of Jesus and Mary College always brings the colourful flavor of traditional Indian folk songs and pure Classical to varied programs, both within and outside the college. Tarannum has adapted to the new normal, carried on with regular practice sessions, and organised webinars despite the unprecedented times. Some in-house activities included conducting a virtual program for Independence Day, presenting recorded group songs for events like Republic day, Gandhi Jayanti, and Vasant Panchami.

In the current academic session, on 10th June of 2020 Tarannum organized a workshop on शास्त्रीय संगीत और मनोभाव, with Pt Riteish Mishra of Benaras Gharana as the speaker. As is the tradition, Dr. Sr. Rosily commenced her address by invoking God's blessings. Ms.Sneha Saira, President of Tarannum, warmly welcomed the esteemed speaker and guests, followed by a beautiful introduction to the webinar topic by Dr. Anupama Shrivastava, the convener of Tarannum. The Speaker was introduced by Ms.Ratee Bahree, who is the shishya of Pt. Ritesh Mishra. The webinar commenced with Pt. Mishra giving insights into the power of Shastriya Sangeet and how it has a positive impact on us mentally and spiritually. He conducted a thorough discussion on how music, besides expressing our emotions, also helps us fight our inner conflicts and calm our internal turmoil. The session was moderated by Ms. Annie Baxi (Assistant Professor, JMC) and Dr. Anupma Shrivastava. The stimulating questions posed to the speaker invoked responses that were very insightful and greatly informative.

Soon after, on 6th July 2020, an online symposium was organized on the topic " Reimagining Learning with New Perspectives in Music". The Guest Speaker

was Dr.Arindam Mukhopadhyay, a Hindustani Classical vocal Teacher at Gandharva Mahavidyalaya. Dr. Mukhopadhyay gave a revitalizing session on the dynamics of understanding music, and techniques to better grasp musical knowledge. He spoke about the various folk songs and the rich musical culture of our country. With the help of real-life examples, he gave a modern and a traditional approach to the topic. He spoke about music as not just an art but a way of living.

Towards the end, a question and answer session was moderated by our convener Dr.Anupama Srivastava and students were encouraged to participate . Dr. Arindam patiently answered each question and enlightened the participants as well as the organizing team. After the question and answer session, he presented a small piece of a classical composition that was cherished by all participants. After both the sessions, a feedback form was circulated among the participants in which Tarannum received encouragement to conduct more such webinars and was highly appreciated for their conduction.

Currently, the team has both amateurs and classical singers trained in Hindustani and Carnatic music. They share their passion and interest in music, and with regular riyaz strive to scale new heights.

Dr.Anupama Srivastava & Ms. G Lavanya
(Convener)

Dr. Tanu Parashar & Ms. Bipasha Rosy Lakra
(Staff Advisors)

Sneha Saira Jacob (President)
Christeena Roy (Vice President)

Troubadours: The Theatre Society

With the beginning of the 2020 session of college online, Troubadours began its festivities with its “Annual Farewell” for the previous third-year society members, in the form of an online zoom event, on 2nd June 2020. All society members hosted online games and video presentations to bid adieu to their seniors. In July 2020, Troubadours also collaborated with Enactus JMC, on their “Project Iffat” in their fight against “Stigma and; Discrimination attached with HIV/AIDS, especially among Indian Women”. A video campaign was launched on social media platforms of both Troubadours as well as Enactus.

Following which work began with ideas and discussions surrounding the annual script, until there was further news of classes resuming. The session for freshers was yet to begin; thus auditions were held for 2nd and 3rd year students of Jesus and Mary College in October 2020, for scriptwriters, actors, and PR members. The entire process was ten days long, where over two rounds of auditions were held, along with interviews for the PR members. Following this, final selections were made and members announced. Troubadours planned a warm welcome for its new members, following which the society worked together on the script and made our social media platforms more active.

During the span of the next few months throughout October and November, the society members attended zoom meetings to write the script as well as for various theatre exercises and activities, such as “Anna”, expressions and emotions, improvisations, etc., following which the society activities hit a brief pause due to 3rd and 5th-semester examinations.

Work resumed in the last week of December 2020, with the organization and planning of the “Fresher’s Auditions”. Registrations opened up by 30th December, and online auditions for scriptwriters and actors were conducted within a span of fifteen days from the 1st of January to the 15th of January 2020. The freshers were then officially welcomed into the society, along with the new members of 2nd and 3rd years, during the “Annual Society Fresher’s” held on 31st January 2020, comprising of a welcome meeting, orientation, and then some ice-breaking sessions.

Post the welcome of its new members, the society has been working hard with them to complete work on its script for the “Annual Production”, as well as on various drama exercises to help members get familiar with each other, as well as their characters. Exercises have varied from improvisations, voice activities, expression work, mirror exercises, and more. The society has kept work going, online keeping the current situation in mind. Currently, work continues via zoom, to keep the interaction going, and the drama flowing.

Dr. Jennifer Monteiro (Convener)
Arsheya Oberoi (President)
Nishita Mehta (Vice President)



Women's Study Centre (WSC)

The 2020-21 session of the Women's Studies Centre began with Independence Day Celebrations and a Presentation by the Core Team on 'The Indian National Movement, Women's Issues and Participation'. Our Inaugural Panel Discussion was conducted on August 29th on 'Women and Lockdown: Differential Experiences and Realities.' Prof. Ritu Dewan (Centre of Gender Economics, University of Mumbai), Priyanka Kotamraju (Chitrakoot Collective), and Meera Jatav (senior journalist) were invited. In lieu of the caste-based atrocities, a lecture on 'Dalit Women's Lives Matter' was organized. This issue was taken up again by Cynthia Stephen (Dalit activist) and Nikita Sonavane (legal researcher) on November 20th and February 26th, respectively.

WSC incorporated Certificate Course Modules on Gender and Law (October 16th to October 28th) and Gender Analysis of the Lockdown (November 6th to November 18th) during the odd semester. For Gender and Law, Dr. Sophy Joseph (NLU, Delhi) and Audrey D'Mello (Majlis Manch) were invited. For first-year WSC members, Certificate Course Modules on Public Health and Global Care Chains (January 16th to February 10th) and LGBTQIA+ Writings from India (February 4th to 8th) were coordinated. The former had speakers such as Dr. Panchali Ray (Independent Researcher), Prof. Praveena Kodoth (Centre for Development Studies), and Dr. Christa Wichterich (Basel University). The LGBTQIA+ series had Sharif Rangnekar (Author) and Professor Ruth Vanita (Professor of English, University of Montana) as speakers.

A series on 'Narratives of Gender and Sexuality' coordinated by Ms. Kashish Dua (WSC Advisor) was organized from October 14th to November 13th

on gender narratives, creating allyships, and coming out. To commemorate World Mental Health Day, an Open Mic was organized in collaboration with Sunny Mugs, the Poetry Society, on October 10th where Dr. Priya Bhatnagar (WSC Advisor) was invited for a lecture. In celebration of the International Girl Child Day on October 12th, a lecture on 'Gender as a Social Construct' with JMCEP was streamed. A workshop on 'Sustainable Menstruation' was also organized in collaboration with Girl Up, Sakhi, on February 5th to mark Menstrual Health and Awareness Day. In collaboration with the Internal Complaints Committee of JMC, WSC organized a workshop on 'Sexual Harassment in the Workplace/Internships' on October 21st with two trainees from a feminist law firm.

With V.V. Giri National Labour Institute, we took a Collaborative Training Workshop on 'Gender and Development: Labour Policies for Women Workers' from 27th to 29th January. WSC initiated a conversation on transnational feminism through 'Dialogues with Feminists Abroad' with international scholars such as Alessandra Spano, Andrea Zamparini, and Marta Carramiñana on February 12th and 13th. A series on the '2021 Budget' was organized in coordination with the WDC of Miranda House in March. Similarly, a series of workshops were organized in collaboration with Sarojini Naidu Centre for Women Studies, Jamia Millia Islamia, on 'Gender, Community & Personal/Family Law' on April 22nd and 24th. For International Women's Day celebrations, WSC organized its first online annual festival, Jagriti, on March 5th with an Inaugural Lecture by Kirti Singh (women's rights lawyer) and a National Student Seminar where 15 students presented papers on the theme 'Gendered Realities in Times of Growing Authoritarianism'. In collaboration with the Department of History, a lecture

was streamed by Urvashi Butalia (feminist writer and activist) on March 10th.

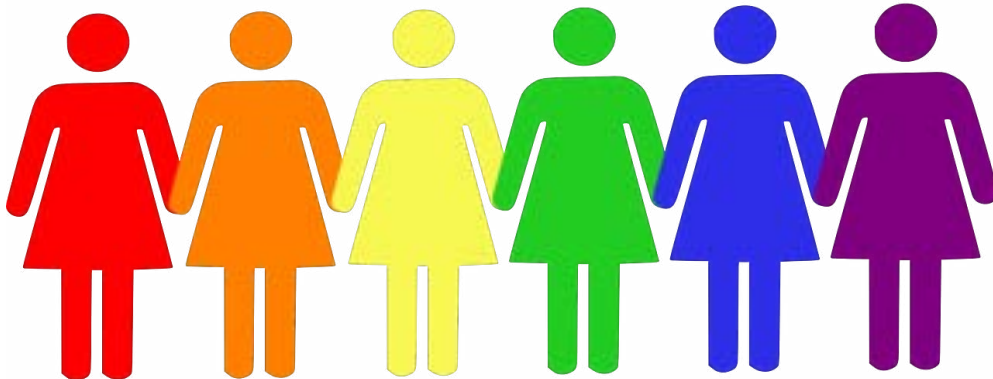
A competition for creative writing and photography was organized with Cauldron on 'Deconstructing Gender'. Furthermore, a collaborative Turncoat Debate Competition was organized with the WDC of Lady Shri Ram College on April 13th. The Core Team organised other interactive sessions such as film screenings, presentations, discussion circles, and reflecting on revolutionary women's poetry. Additionally, stand-

alone workshops were conducted on intersections of gender with ecofeminism, body positivity, consent, media, and disability. Through online campaigns, blog posts, solidarity statements, Jigyasa (our Annual Magazine), and Research Projects, we have attempted to keep conversations and debates going even during the physical limitations of the lockdown.

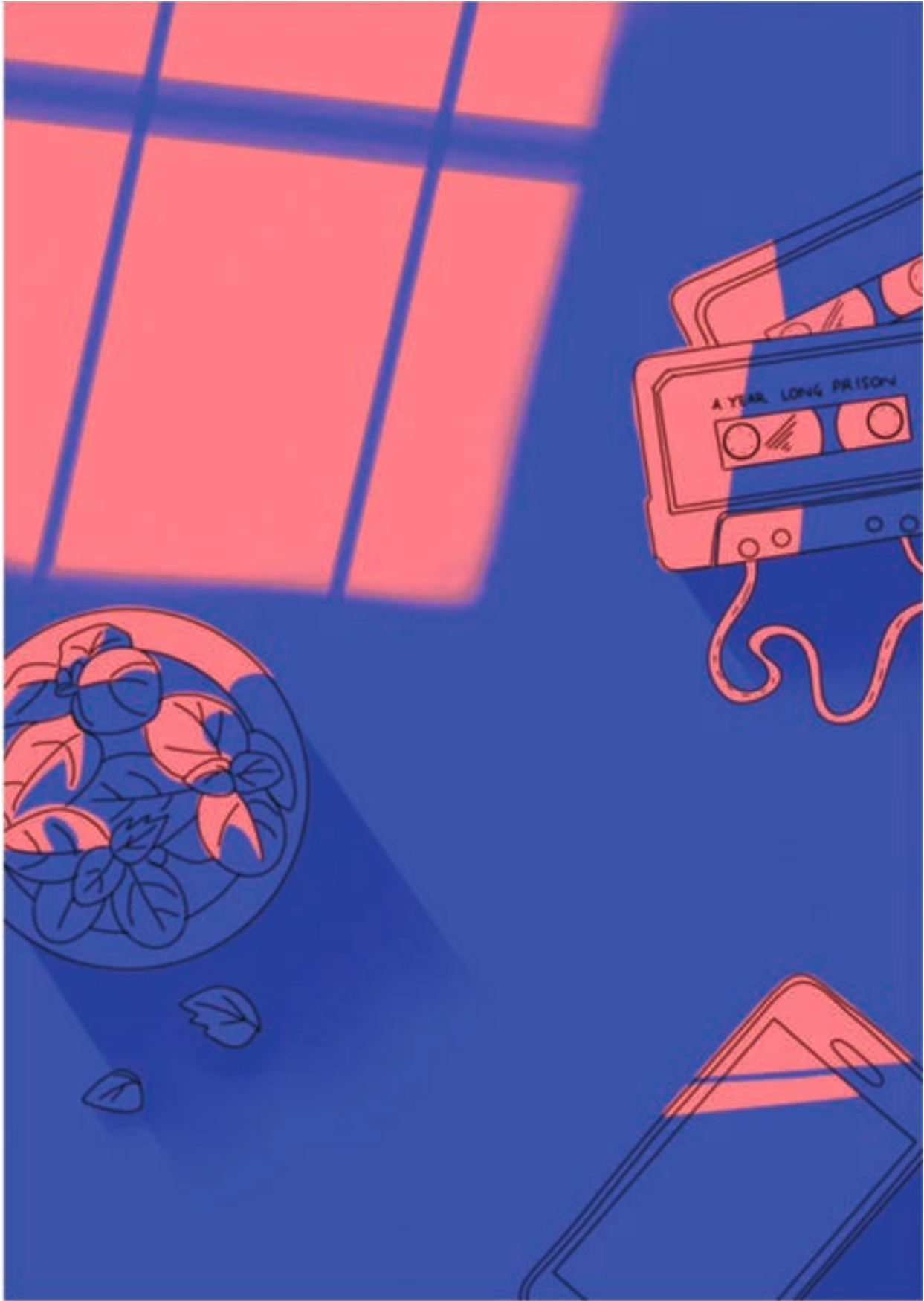
Dr. Maya John (Convenor of WSC)

Dhwani Jaisingh (President)

Riya Arora (Vice President)



2020-2021 in Screenshots



*By Shaoni Dutta
1st year, English Hons.*

Welcome Aboard

BACHELORS OF VOCATIONAL STUDIES,
JESUS & MARY COLLEGE

FRESHERS 2K20

Cordially invite all faculty members
and students

Date - 21/12/20
Time - 5 pm
Platform - Google Meet
Dress Code - Your favourite movie/series
character



DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
JESUS AND MARY COLLEGE
PRESENTS

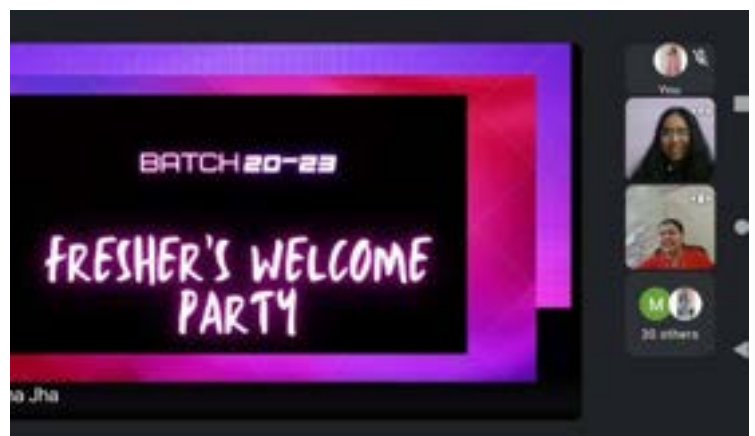
FRESHER'S DEBATE

Date- 6th January, 2021
Time - 1:00 pm- 2:00 pm
Venue - Microsoft teams

MOTION 1
This house believes that
demonstrations/protests
should only be held in
designated protest spots

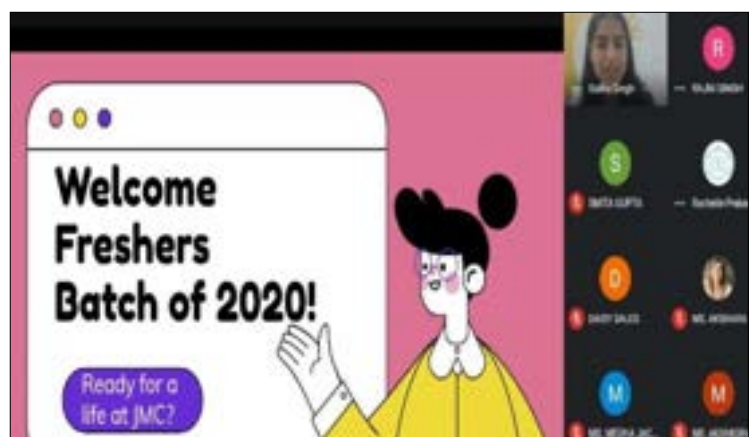
MOTION 2
This house supports non traditional
or integrated casting in films

JUDGES
Ms. Jennifer Monteiro
Dr. Sandhya D. Nambiar

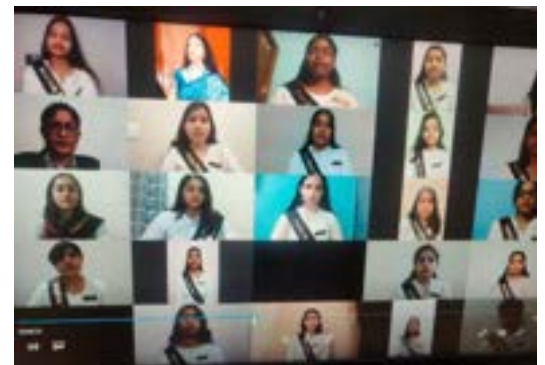
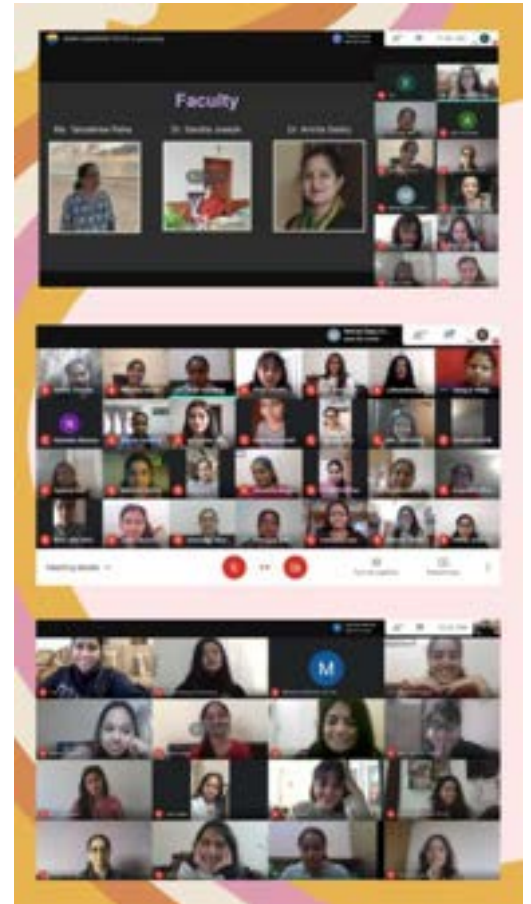


FRESHERS' WEEK

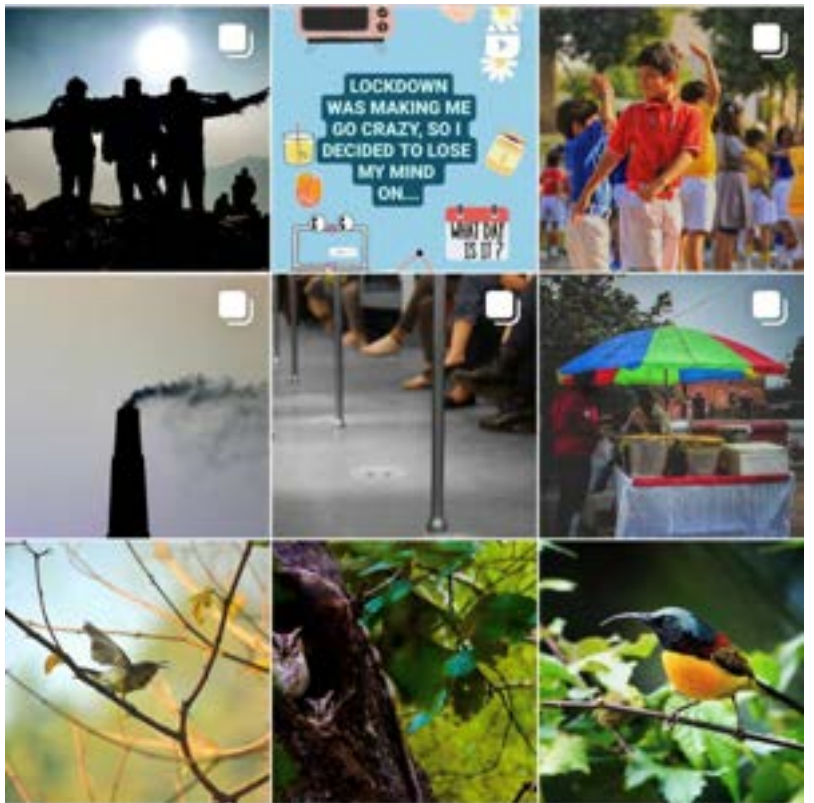
**DATES:
11-15 MARCH**



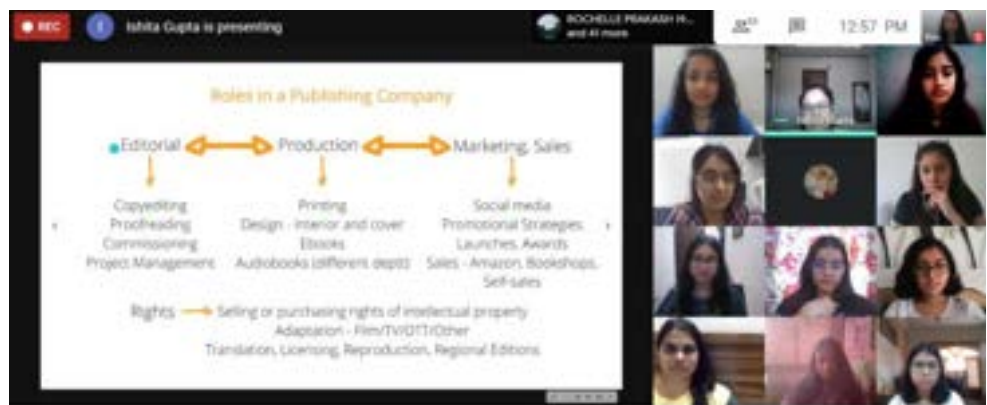
PTSA & Orientation



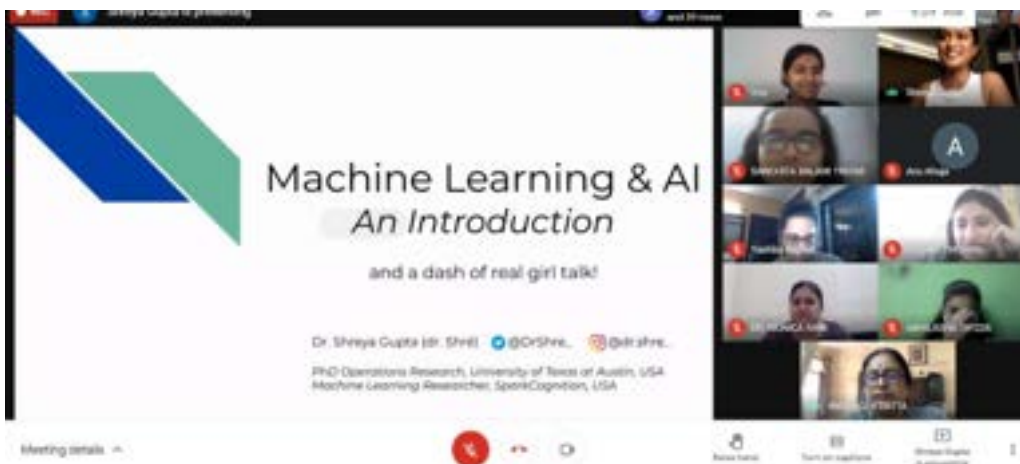
Department & Society Events



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DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
JESUS AND MARY COLLEGE

PRESENTS

CARPE DIEM 2021 PANDEMIC PANDEMONIUM

SPECIAL LECTURE:
The Pandemic: In search of meaning of our existence.

Prof. Avijit Pathak
Avijit Pathak is Professor in Centre for the Study of Social Systems, School of Social Sciences in Jawaharlal Nehru University.

ZAAHIR Blackout poetry	A LOCKDOWN SAGA Comic strip	A CLOSE SHOT AT GENDER 1 Shot Film	SEEING THE UNSEEN Photography
----------------------------------	---------------------------------------	--	---

Date : 9th April 2021
10:30am onwards

FOR ANY QUERIES, CONTACT :
ADITI BARKHANE (PRESIDENT) : 9988212483
MEHAR RAJESHKA (VICE PRESIDENT) : 9988212483

POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION,
JESUS AND MARY COLLEGE

Calls entries for

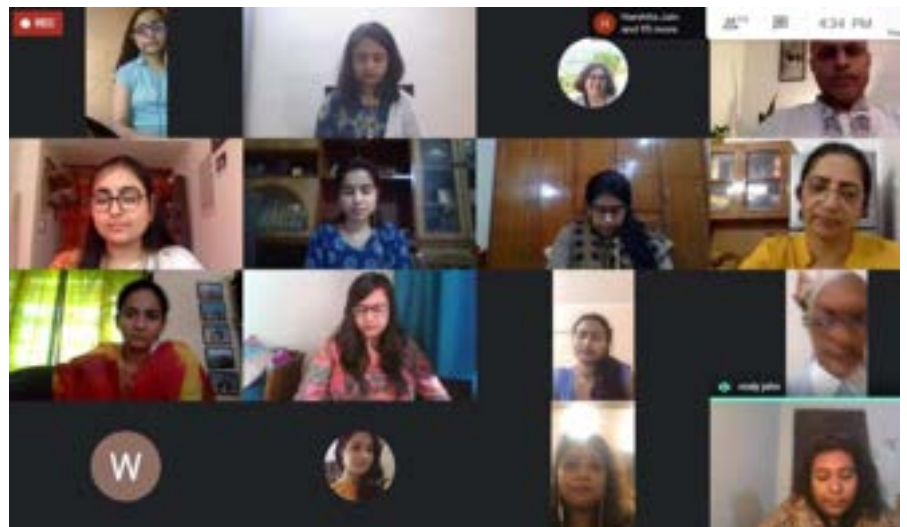
Essay Writing Competition

On the occasion of
International Day of Peace

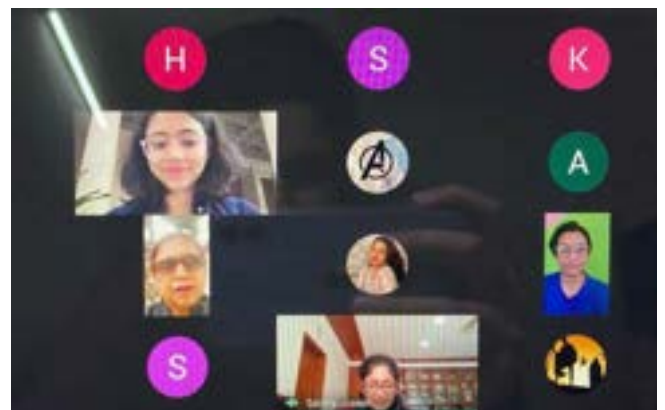
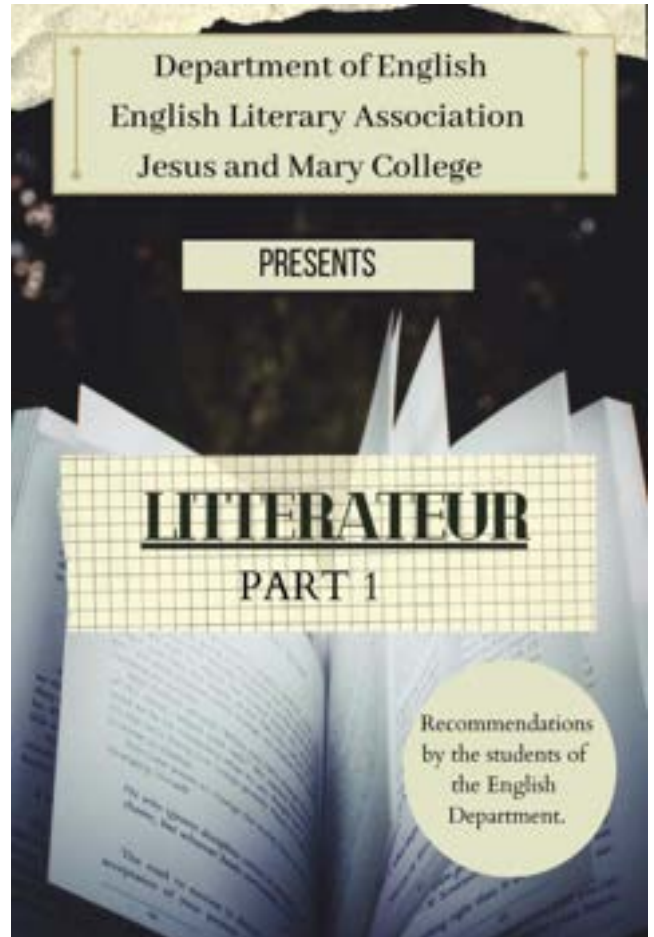
Topic: Role of United Nations in maintaining international peace and security/
अंतर्राष्ट्रीय शांति और सुरक्षा बनाए रखने में संयुक्त राष्ट्र की भूमिका

-Word limit: 250-3000 words
-Entries will not be accepted after 20th September, 2021
-Certificates will be given to all participants
-Cash prize will be given to winners

For more details, contact:
Rajeev Anand (President) : 9988212483
Dhanu Sengupta (Vice President) : 9988212483



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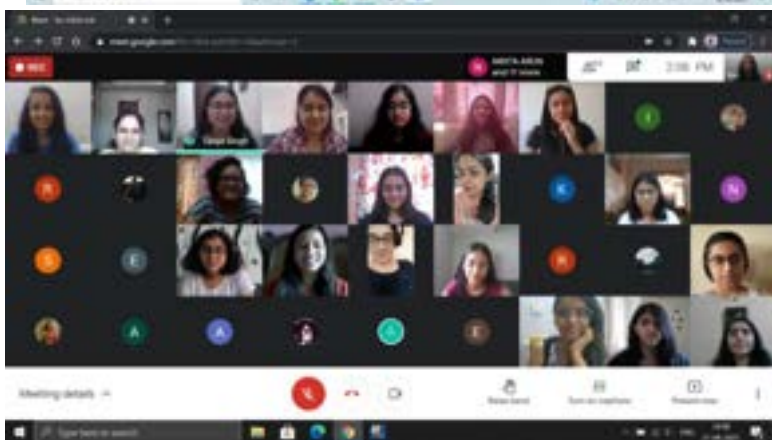


DR. SHEEBA MARWAN

Dr. Sheeba Marwan is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Economics and Geography at NYU and Satterberg Hospital, New York, currently, she is the Deputy Chief for Covid-19 for the Department. Her areas of research interest include healthcare geography, sociology and mental health surgery.

She is the Joint Organizing Secretary (JOS) (2020, 2021), Coordinator and Co-Editor with NARUP (2019-2020) and Chairperson of Research Excellence Committee (REC) (2019). She has 36 papers in National and International journals to her credit. She has been the Assistant Editor of RGSJ (2019-20).

She has won several prestigious prizes such as second rank in Ordination India Merit Scholarship (2010), second prize for oral paper at the 44th AGU Annual Conference (2014), second prize for oral paper at the 46th National Conference of GEOGUM (2014), first prize at the FGD (2015), Usha Krishna Gada Geographical Knowledge, Mohor (2016), 3rd prize at the NCF (2016), International Board on Management Studies, first prize at the 13th World Congress and 2nd NARJ (2016), paper and the IS East-Asia for the Oral Paper at the ESRI AGU (2020), London.



Zero Wastage (Zero) Waste: 3R's

- Reduce:** Use reusable water bottles, avoid single-use plastics, etc.
- Reuse:** Recycle paper, reuse old clothes, etc.
- Recycle:** Separate waste, use compost, etc.

YOUR PLASTIC WASTE IS NOT WASTE!

REUSABLE PLASTIC PRODUCTS!

Isaac Newton

- Principia: 1687
- Formulates Galilean physics in mathematical language
- Made numbers move by inventing calculus
- Instead of 4 causes and 5 elements: 4 Laws (God-given)
- Law of gravity Universal, Without cause
- Turns physics into the first Modern Science.

India Network Rethinking Economics

Welcome you to a workshop on

Expanding the Economists' Toolkit: Plural Economics

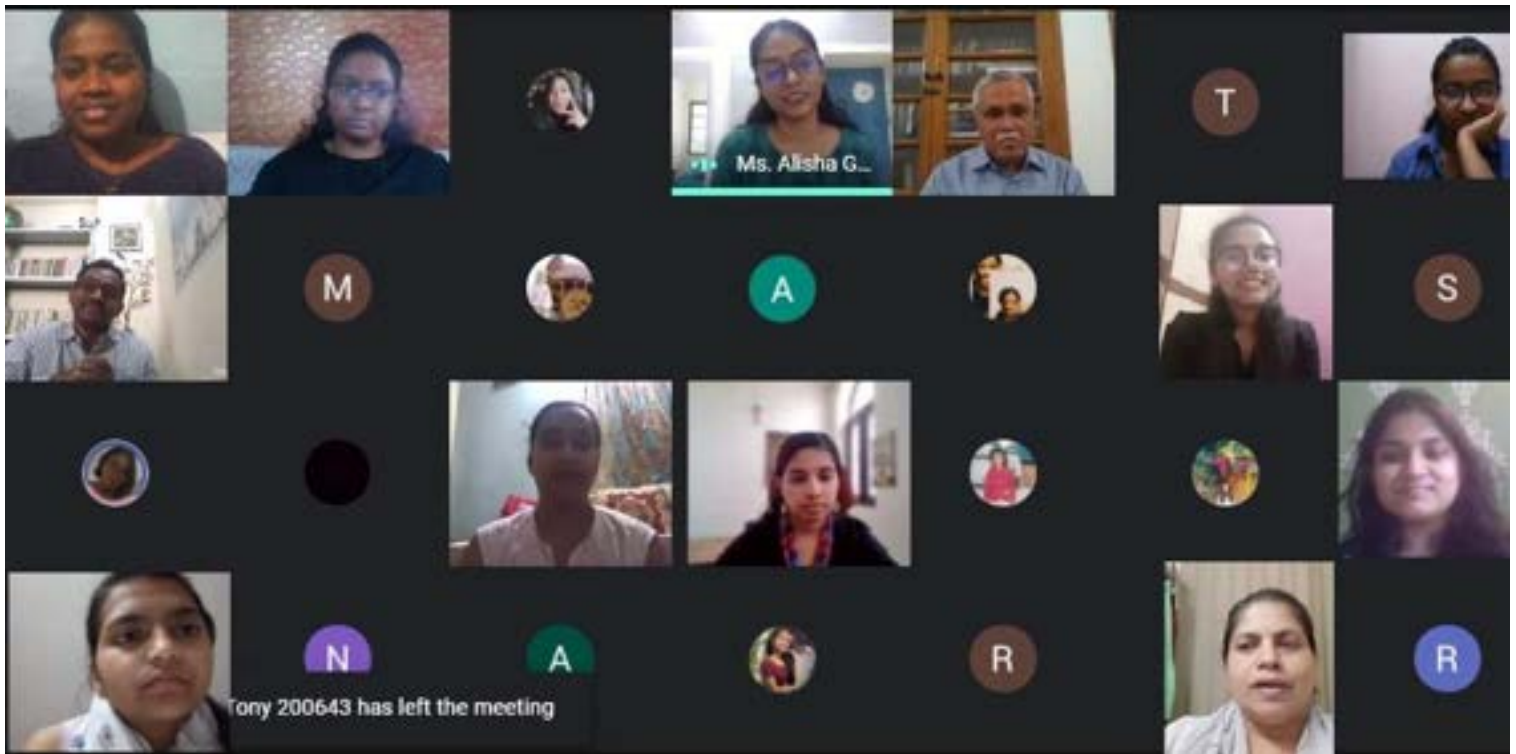
FEBRUARY 6TH, 2021

Moderated by
Dwayne Leonardo Fernandes



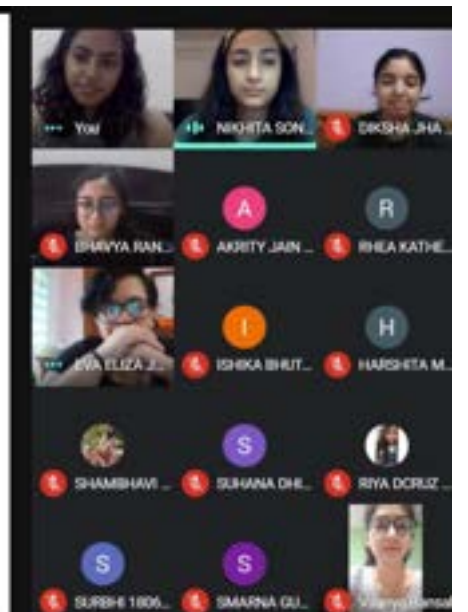
rosly john

Department & Society Events



Easy? Let's try out another one

The puzzle shows a sequence of four boxes. Each box contains a set of shapes: a triangle, a hexagon, a circle, and a square. The shapes are arranged in a specific pattern that changes from one box to the next. The fourth box contains a question mark. Below the sequence are four options labeled A, B, C, and D, each showing a different arrangement of the shapes.



SNAPSHOTS
THE PHOTOGRAPHY SOCIETY
JESUS AND MARY COLLEGE

presenting
CAMERADERIE '21
15th-20th February

PHOTOSTORY
DOPPELGÄNGER
MEMOGRAPHY
CUTBACK JPEG

REGISTRATION LINKS IN BIO!
FOR ANY QUERIES CONTACT:
Akanksha Barla (President) +91 98185 84197
Shreya (Vice President) +91 72813 22264

OUR PARTNERS:

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY CELL, JESUS & MARY COLLEGE
in part of the Annual Events 'WISDOM' Organized by the
disability association of

Inclusivity & Disability

PROFESSOR ANE KIDHAR ANITA

10th April 2021 12pm Zoom Meeting

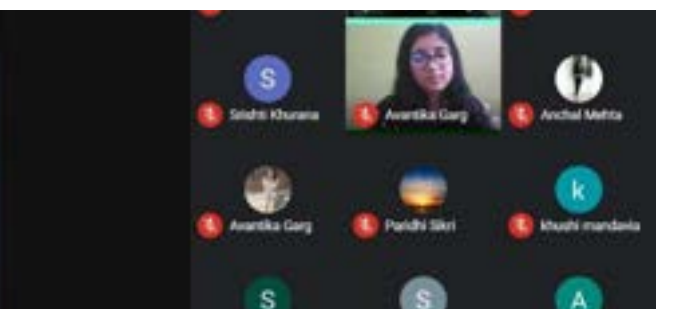
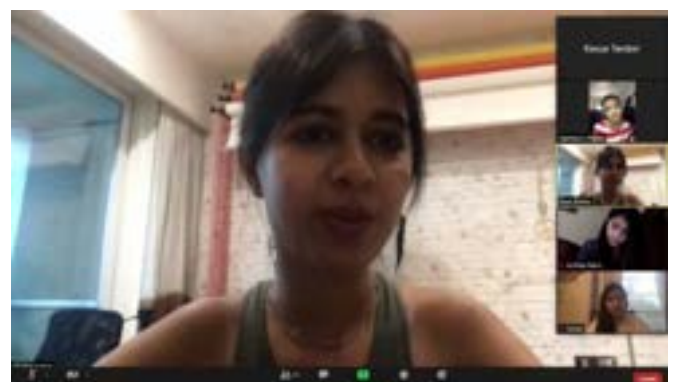
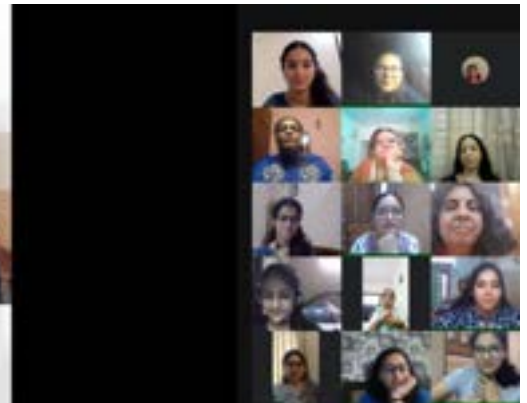
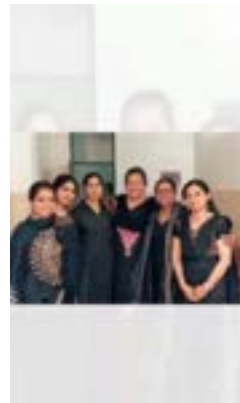
Locating the Budget

1. Decrease in demand & consumption insignificant
2. MRPD: 7% rural households cannot afford nutritious diet
3. Rise by 0% of people MPI, 17% rise in 42 years
4. 2019-20: economy grew by 4%, share of selected jobs fell by 22.2%
5. Fall in GDP 5% to 23.2% if informal sector is taken into account
6. 200 million jobs lost (1.2B Sept. 2020)
7. April-July 2020: formal manufacturing sector profit down 19.8%; wages down 17%
8. PF accounts (revenue) fell by 68.7 billion in first 6 months of 2019-20. Further fall by 7% billion between April-December 2020. Withdrawals also rose by more than 10 percent.
9. Fall in savings: Global Hunger Index, Mournful Children, Unhealthy India, Gender Equality Index, Environment, Water & Air Quality, Democracy Index, Peace Freedom...

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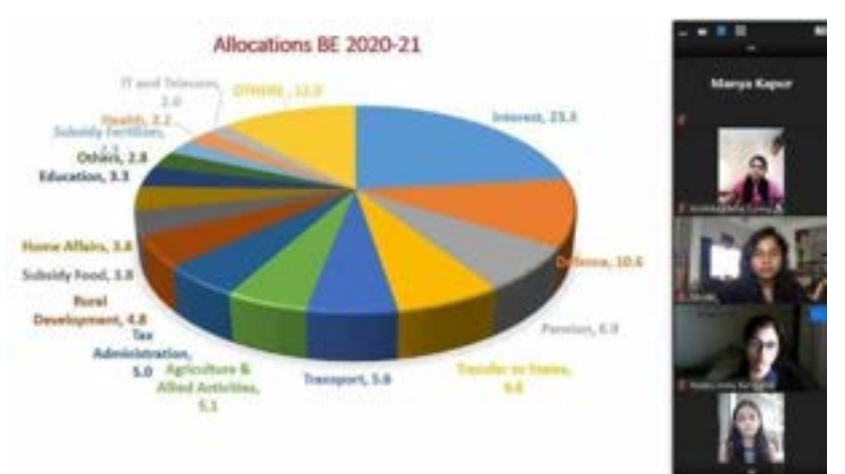
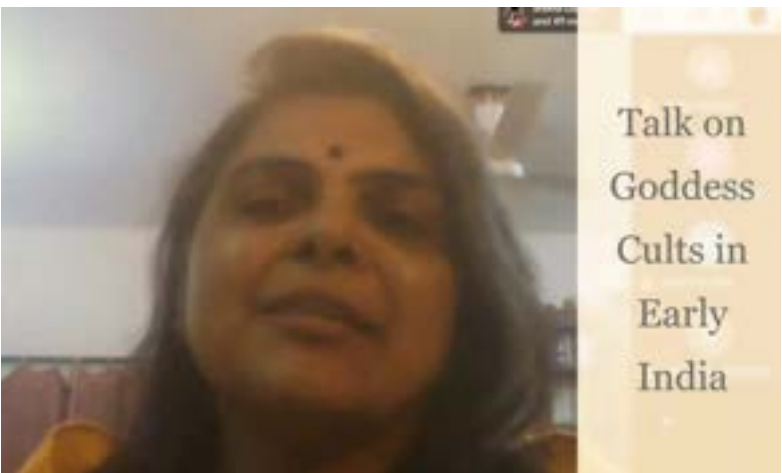
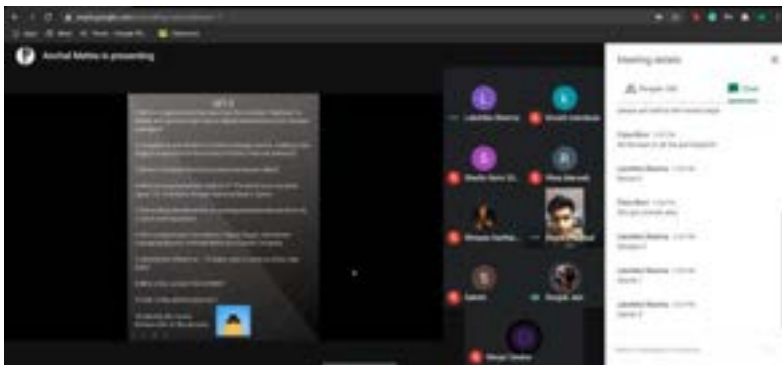
we are proud to announce **SIMRAN SAWHNEY** as the winner of **NEW YORK INTERNATIONAL FILM AWARDS (NYIFA)**



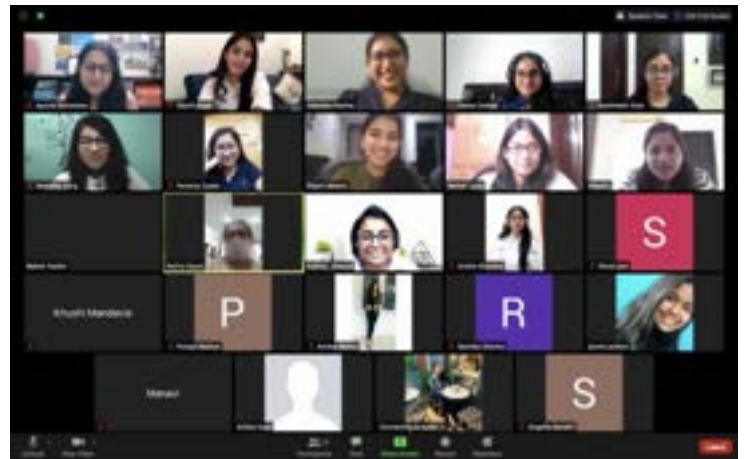
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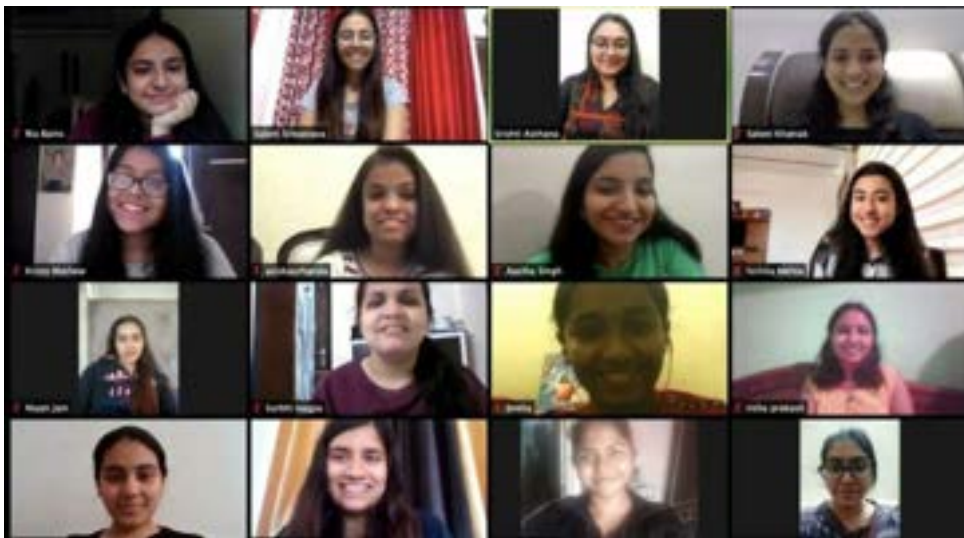
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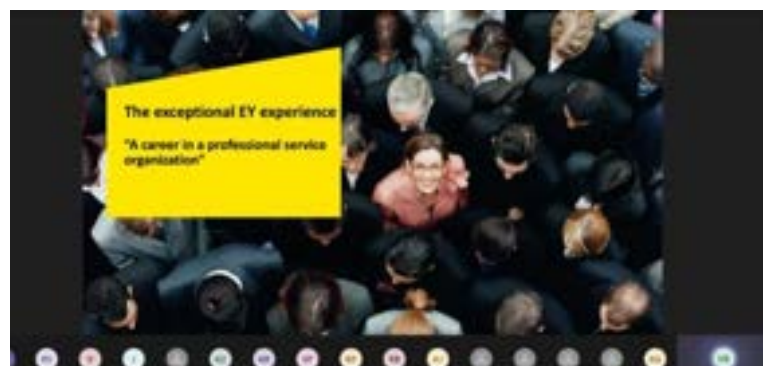
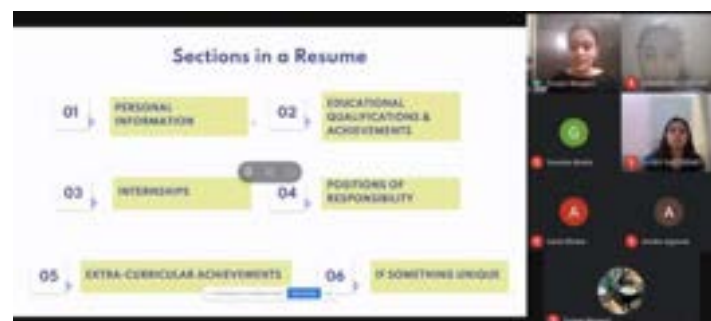
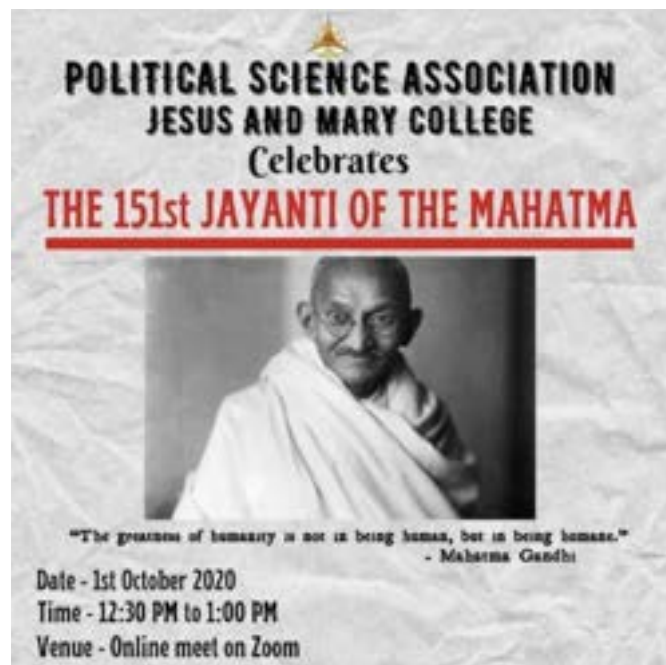
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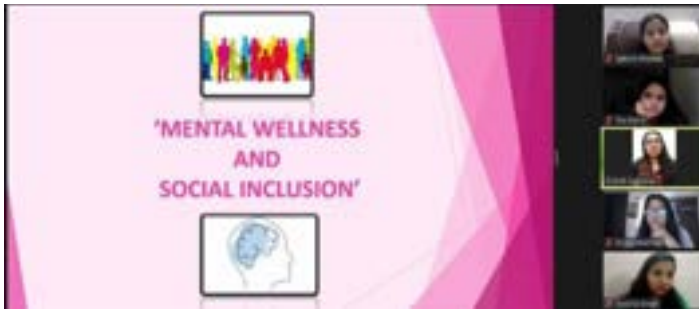
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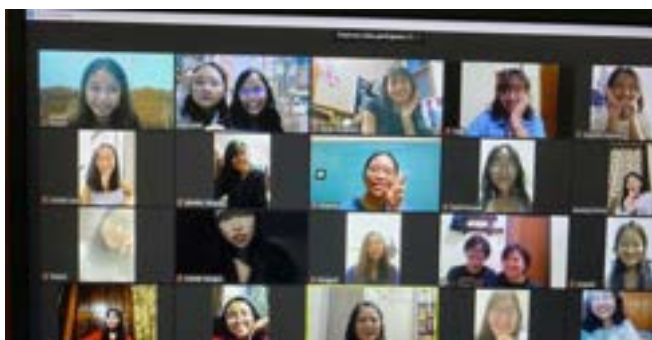
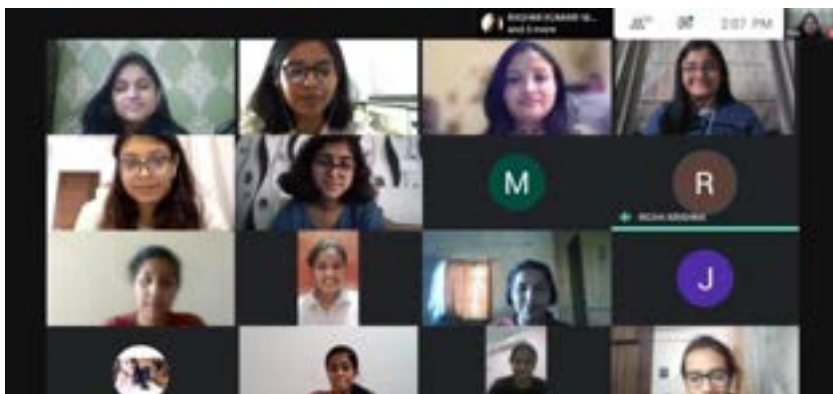
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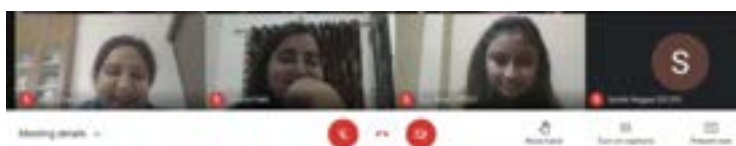
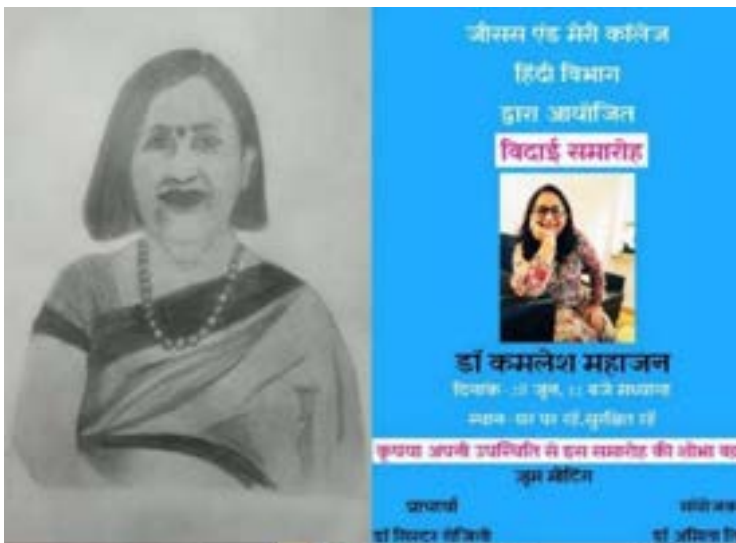
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Fare thee Well





वार्षिक पत्रिका 2020–2021, जीसस एण्ड मेरी कॉलेज
संपादक मंडल

हिन्दी

डॉ. अनुपमा श्रीवास्तव
डॉ. बीरेन्द्र सिंह

अंग्रेजी

सुगंधा सेहगल
कशिश दुआ
अनीशा पुरी

छात्र संपादक

हिन्दी

वेणु, अदिति

संपादकीय समिति –

समीक्षा, रीना शुक्ला, बरखा यादव
सौंदर्या द्विवेदी, तेजस्वी, दीपा कुमारी, अमीषा

अंग्रेजी

अनुशका सोमवंशी, फरिया खान
ख्याति दूबे, लुब्ना मुजीब, मनवी अघ्नहोत्री
मुस्कान पुंज, नंदिका अग्रवाल, पार्वी भंबरी
श्रीजा पाश्चाल, स्टेफिया थॉमस, अदिति द्विवेदी
अतिप्रिया देव सिन्हा, आएशा सलीम, दिवजोत कौर
ईवा एलीजा जॉन, प्रतिष्ठा जिन्दल, प्रीशा रेवर
शाओनी दत्ता

चित्रांकन समिति –

नंदिनी रॉय, चेतना, वेणु

इस अंक में

सम्पादकीय

3

छात्र सम्पादकीय

4

कविता

सुधर जा ऐ मानुष

5

चाय

5

वो डरता है

5

हर ओर सन्नाटा यहां

6

वक्त ही तो है.....

6

कोरोना कोरोना कोरोना

7

महामारी और मानसिक स्वास्थ्य

7

ओ कोरोना तू कहां से आया

8

मैंने भी महामारी देखी

9

प्रथम किरण का उदय

10

तुम और मैं

10

कोरोना से टूटे सपने

11

कोरोना से टूटते सपने

12

योद्धा

13

कोरोना का संकट

14

घिरा राष्ट्र जब संकट में

14

कोरोना का कहर

15

कोरोना

16

जिंदगी थम सी गई	16
मानव जाति घबराई क्यों?	17
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पंचमहाभूतों से निर्मित इंसान और उसकी भावाभिव्यक्तियों का स्वरूप भी इन्हीं की प्रकृति के जैसा होता है। कभी अपनी तपन से तो कभी तरलता से और कभी अपने वायवीय स्वरूप में तो कभी अथाह गहराइयों को लिए हुए ये अपनी निरंतर यात्रा करती ही रहती हैं। इन विचारों की विविधता इनकी विभिन्न गतियों में मुखरित होती रहती हैं। इनकी खास बात यह होती है कि किसी भी स्थिति में अपना रास्ता बना ही लेते हैं। जैसे जल, अग्नि और वायु अपने लिए रास्ता खोज ही लेते हैं तो धरती अनंत गहराइयों तक जा सकती है और आकाश की तो बात न पूछें जिसका आदि और अंत ही नहीं उसी प्रकार लगभग दो वर्ष से चल रहे लॉकडाउन में भी भावों और विचारों के नानविध रूप प्रस्तुत होते रहें हैं।

विभिन्न संस्थानों के कार्य स्वरूप के अनुसार गतिशीलता किसी न किसी रूप में बनी हुई है। शैक्षणिक संस्थानों पर कार्य शैली में अधिक बदलाव देखा गया क्योंकि यहाँ पठन-पाठन की प्रक्रिया ही पूरी तरह से वर्चुअल प्लेटफार्म पर उतर आई। जिसके अच्छे-बुरे दोनों ही परिणाम परिलक्षित हो रहे हैं। परन्तु अगर भावों और विचारों की अभिव्यक्ति की बात करें तो उसमें पहले से अधिक सघनता और विस्तार दिखलाई पड़ता है। आभासी दुनिया में सिमटी मानवीय अभिव्यक्तियों में अधिक खुलापन और मनमानापन तो है ही लेकिन सृजनात्मकता के भी उत्कृष्ट रूप भी प्रस्तुत हुए। कोरोना बीमारी के कारण जीवन में संवेदनशीलता और संवेदनहीनता दोनों ही बराबर दिखाई पड़ी। कही किसी ने अपना पूरा हृदय ही खोल दिया तो कहीं कृपणता भी प्रदर्शित हुई जैसे कि जीवन को सही मायनों में परिभाषित करने के लिए उसकी बड़ी आवश्यकता है। विद्यार्थियों के सन्दर्भ में इस बात को भली-भाँति समझा जा सकता है। कॉलेज की वार्षिक पत्रिका के माध्यम से कई चुनिन्दा रचनाओं से परिचय हुआ जो विभिन्न पाठ्यक्रमों के विद्यार्थियों की उम्दा अभिव्यक्तियों के खूबसूरत आयाम हैं। ऑनलाइन शिक्षा के कारण पठन-पाठन में घटी रूचि से बिलकुल अलग पत्रिका समिति के द्वारा आयोजित विभिन्न रोचक कार्यक्रमों में न केवल इन विद्यार्थियों ने बढ़-चढ़ कर भाग लिया बल्कि अपनी रचनात्मकता की धार को भी तेज किया। समिति द्वारा आयोजित हिंदी भाषा पर आधारित अंतर्राष्ट्रीय वेबिनार और ब्लॉग लॉन्चिंग इस वर्ष के बेहतरीन कार्यक्रम रहे। इसके द्वारा विद्यार्थियों को हिंदी वैश्विक स्थिति का जायज़ा मिला और ब्लॉग के द्वारा उनके अन्दर की विभिन्न अभिव्यक्तियों को एक ऐसा मंच मिला जहाँ वे बेधड़क अपनी बात रख सकते हैं। इस प्रकार यह समिति लॉकडाउन की बेड़ियों के बावजूद एक से बढ़ कर एक कार्यक्रम आयोजित करती रही। पत्रिका में संलग्न सभी रचनाएं इस खास दौर के ऐसे दस्तावेज़ हैं जो आगे आने वाले समय के लिए ऐतिहासिक महत्त्व को लिए हुए हैं। इसके संयोजन में छात्र अध्यक्ष वेणु और छात्र उपाध्यक्ष अदिति समस्त छात्र मंडल ने बड़ी ही लगन से अपना योगदान दिया। उम्मीद है आभासी दुनिया में रचित पत्रिका का दूसरा अंक सभी को अवश्य पसंद आएगा।

शक्ति और स्नेह,

डॉ. अनुपमा श्रीवास्तव
डॉ. बीरेंद्र सिंह

छात्र संपादकीय

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

साल 2020–21 हम सभी के लिए चुनौतीपूर्ण एवं संघर्षपूर्ण रहा। विश्वभर में आई कोरोना महामारी ने हमारी परीक्षा लेनी चाही मगर हम सब ने भी एक जुट होकर इस दौरान हर कार्य उतने ही उमंग और उत्साह के साथ किया। यही हमारे लिए गर्व की बात है। इसी कारण इस साल की पत्रिका को हम एक डिजिटल स्वरूप में प्रकाशित करने जा रहे हैं।

प्रस्तुत पत्रिका में जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज की छात्राओं की रचनात्मक अभिव्यक्ति को एक मंच प्रदान किया गया है। पत्रिका में प्रकाशित हुई हर कृति मूलरूप है। प्रस्तुत अभिव्यक्तियों में हर छात्रा का अपनापन दिखाई पड़ रहा है।

छात्राओं द्वारा लिखी गई हर रचना को इस पत्रिका में शामिल किया गया है जिससे कि हम उनके भावों एवं विचारों से अवगत हो सकें।

अंत में मैं हमारी प्राचार्या डॉ सैंड्रा जोसेफ और हमारे कन्चेनर्स डॉ. अनुपमा श्रीवास्तव एवं डॉ. बीरेंद्र सिंह के सहयोग, प्रोत्साहन एवं मार्गदर्शन के लिए उनके प्रति आभार व्यक्त करती हूँ। साथ ही मैं उपाध्यक्ष अदिति और अपने सहयोगियों को भी धन्यवाद देना चाहूंगी, जिनके सहयोग से हर कार्य संपन्न हो पाया।

वेणु
अध्यक्ष
हिंदी ऑनर्स, तृतीय वर्ष

सुधर जा ऐ मानुष

सुधर जा ऐ मानुष अब भी समय है
यह लीला रची है जिसने संसार की
आज देखा है उसने यह कुकर्म का लेखा

देखा उसने अभी बस कुछ क्षण भर है, ध्यान देने पे प्रलय न
आने में देर है
सुधर जा ऐ मानुष अब भी समय है।।

यह सुनामी, यह त्रासदी, यह बदलती महामारी यह सब तेरे कर्मों
का फल है।।

सुधर जा ऐ मानुष अब भी समय है,

जो बीत गया सो भूल कर कल को उजियार, वरना यह कमाई
धरी रह जायेगी सब तेरे जाने के बाद, कुछ ना रहेगा तब तेरे
चाहने वालो के पास, खुद के लिए कम जरूरत मंद लोगों के
लिए कर विचार।

क्या करेगा यूं घूम कर दूर विदेशी राज्य
जब न रहेगा खुद का यह स्वर्गीय सा कुटुम्ब राज्य।।

सुधर जा और कर सब पर उपकार
भूल जा द्वेष भावना अपना मैत्री की राह
भूल जा किसे देना है दंड किसे करना है क्षमा।।

रख बस ईश्वर पर भरोसा यह पल भी बदलेगा जरूर अगर
सब मिल कर देगे एक दूसरे का साथ।।

होगा अगर सब उसके अनुसार, सब ठीक हो जायेगा रख
उस पर विश्वास।।

वर्षा द्विवेदी

चाय

अगर एक चाय मिल जाए
दिल फिर खिल जाए
बात पुरानी याद आए
वो डायरी के किस्से,
आंखों के सामने आए
कसम से वो अदरक वाली चाय,

बड़ी याद आए
उस चाय की गर्माहट,
और सुबह के कोहरे की आहट
और तुम, आज फिर से बड़े याद आए
हाय ये चाय तो चहरे पर मुस्कराट लाए

उस सर्दी के हौसले बुलंद हो
उससे पहले हम चाय पी कर नरम हो जाय
चलो एक चाय हो जाय
चलो एक चाय हो जाए।

सौन्दर्या द्विवेदी
बी. ए. हिन्दी ऑनर्स, द्वितीय वर्ष

वो डरता है

वो डरता है यह सोच कर,
वो डरता है यह सोच कर, बिमार हुआ तो खरीदा जाएगा उस
इंसान कि इंसानियत द्वारा।
एम्बुलेंस के लिए, ऑक्सीजन के लिए खरीदा जाएगा वैक्सीन
के लिए हर उस चीज के लिए, जिसका उसे दिया जाता है
सरकार बनने से पहले आश्वासन वो डरता है, इस महामारी
से,
वो डरता है इस इंसान कि बदलती इंसानियत से।।

वर्षा द्विवेदी
बी. ए. हिन्दी ऑनर्स, द्वितीय वर्ष

हर ओर सन्नाटा यहां

हर रोज बढ़ते फासले
हर रोज मौतें बढ़ रहीं

हर ओर दुख के काफिले
कैसी महामारी चली

धुन थम गयी संसार की.
वे वक्त के मजदूर हैं
पर वक्त से मजबूर हैं

ताले लगे, रस्ते रुके
जाएं कहां वे दूर है
सुनता कहां मालिक भला
चीखें यहां लाचार की

है पीठ पर गठरी लदी
और कांध पर बच्चे लदे
जाना है मीलों दूर तक
पर प्राण फंदों में फँदे
कैसा भयंकर वायरस !

जीवन हुआ इससे विरस
हर शख्स संक्रामक हुआ
वर्जित हुआ उसका परस
बस मास्क में महफूज है ।।
सांसें सकल संसार की.

संदिग्ध है हर छींक तक
संगीन है वातावरण
अस्पृश्यता ने हर लिया
है सभ्यता का आवरण

है जान सासंत पर पडी
खुद ही यहाँ सरकार की
जीत का ना सोचा होता न देखना पडता यह हाल
काश वोटो की गणना से मान्य अधिक होता जनता का प्राण ।।

वर्षा द्विवेदी

बी. ए. हिन्दी ऑनर्स, द्वितीय वर्ष

वक्त ही तो है.....

वक्त ही तो है...बीत जाएगा

आज ही तो है...कल चला जाएगा ।

किसको पता था की एक दिन कुछ ऐसा हो जाएगा

जब आदमी, आदमी से दूर हो जाएगा

वक्त ही तो है...बीत जाएगा ।

किसको पता था कि इस वक्त में कुछ अच्छा भी हो जाएगा

जब सब अलग होकर भी एक हो जाएगा,

वक्त ही तो है...बीत जाएगा ।

सुना है बेमतलब में आपका कोई होता नहीं

अगर हो भी जाए तो कोई भरोसा नहीं

पर इस दौर में तो कुछ और ही नजारा नजर आया,

जब अनजान ने अनजान को समझाया,

वक्त ही तो है...बीत जाएगा ।

वो वक्त भी क्या वक्त था,

यह वक्त भी क्या वक्त है

वो वक्त भी क्या वक्त होगा

जब सुनाने को कुछ ऐसा होगा

वक्त ही तो है...बीत जाएगा ।

आज ही तो है...कल चला जाएगा ।

आरोही अंतरा

कोरोना कोरोना कोरोना

कोरोना हो रहा हर देश हर शहर
दुनिया के हर देश में बरसा रहा अपना कहर

सुन मेरी बात कोरोना से ना डर
छोटी-छोटी बातें और छोटे से उपाय कर
कोरोना से बचना है तो
पब्लिक प्लेस से बच और रह अपने घर

मजबूरी है जिसकी जाने की
बात है पापी पेट और खाने की
तो कोई बात नहीं
किसी बात का डर नहीं
घर से निकल तू मास्क लगाकर
लोगों से बात करना
एक मीटर की दूरी बनाकर

सुन मेरी बात कोरोना से ना डर
छोटी-छोटी बातें और छोटे से उपाय कर
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ना बात कर ना हाथ मिला
ना मुंह लगा ना गले लगा
ऐडवाइज है सबको पहन हाथ में ग्लब्स
और मुंह पे अपने मास्क लगा
भीड़-भाड़ से दूर रहकर
खुद को बचा और दूसरों को भी बचा।

वंदना कुमारी

महामारी और मानसिक स्वास्थ्य

ये रास्तों के सन्नाटे
ये घरों से आती आहटे
कुछ जगहों की पुरानी यादें
खिड़कियों से झांकती
कुछ चंचल आंखें
ये बहती हुई पवन
मेरे कानों में आकर कहती है
ये वक्त भी गुजर जाएगा
ये वक्त भी गुजर जाएगा

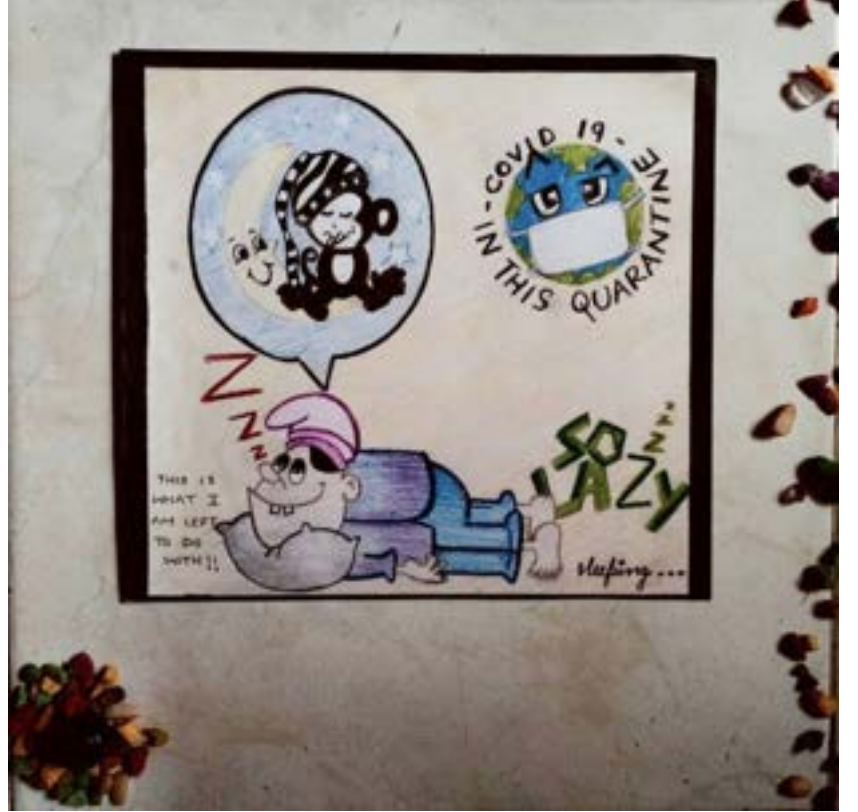
लगाया मैंने बैर पवन से
पसंद ना आये मुझको बात
भरे भवन में देती है एक झूठी सी आस
फिर भी जाने क्यों जागी है उर में एक आस
पवन कहती है मेरे मन से छोड़ो तुम घबराहट का साथ

कैसे सुनूं मैं बात पवन की,
मैं महामारी से आहात
पर सुननी जरूरी है आज पवन की ये बात
मन मेरा विचलित रहता है।
बदला है अब मानसिक स्वास्थ्य
तरह – तरह के प्रयोग करूं मैं
पर कैसे जगाऊं आस।

सौन्दर्या द्विवेदी
बी. ए. हिन्दी ऑनर्स, द्वितीय वर्ष

ओ कोरोना तू कहां से आया

ओ कोरोना तू कहां से आया ।
 सब कुछ हो गया पराया पराया ।
 तेरा आना किसी को ना भाया ।
 मम्मी बोले हाथ धोए ।
 घर से बाहर कहीं ना जाए ।
 सखा सहेली सब भूल जाए ।
 स्कूल की टीचर की याद सताए ।
 नानी का घर हमें बुलाए ।
 शोपिंग के लिए मन ललचाए ।
 बर्थडे फीका फीका पड़ जाए ।
 ओ कोरोना तू बता हम छोटे छोटे
 बच्चे कैसे अपना दिल बहलाए ।
 तेरा भय इतना सताए ।
 कोरोना तुझसे नहीं डरते हम ।
 हममें है तुझसे लड़ने का दम ।
 सोशल डिसटेंसिंग निभाएंगे ।
 गुड सिटिजन बनकर दिखाएंगे ।
 सरकार के रूल्स अपनाएंगे ।
 घर मे बैठकर तुझे हराएंगे
 और फिर अपना जीवन खुशहाल बनाएंगे ।



नंदिनी रॉय
 हिंदी ऑनर्स, तृतीय वर्ष

मैंने भी महामारी देखी

पुरखों ने बताया था ।
 एक बार एक महामारी का समय आया था ।
 प्लेग था फैला चारों ओर
 एक तांडव—सा मचा था घनघोर
 हर ओर खडा था कुटिल काल ।
 वो लिए खडा था मृत्यु जाल
 हर ओर पडे कंकाल थे ।
 वे दिन बड़े विक्राल थे
 क्या कठिन समय था आदमखोर ।
 हर ओर दिख रहे यम कठोर
 न आए ऐसा काल कभी ।
 रह जाए महाप्रलय वहीं दबी
 पर पाप बढ चुके धरती पर ।
 अन्याय हुए दृष्टिगोचर
 निर्णय होना आवश्यक था ।
 मनुष्य, सत्य का नाशक था
 भ्रष्टाचार का दर्शक था ।
 कुकृत्यों का परामर्शक था
 अभी कलयुग का काल न आया था
 यह तो ईश्वर ने केवल चेताया था
 तब मैंने भी एक महामारी देखी ।
 सम्पन्नों की भी लाचारी देखी
 रह गए हाथ पर हाथ धरे ।
 और क्षीण पडे सारे पैतरे
 कोरोना वह महामारी थी ।
 पिंजरो में रहना यह विवशता हमारी थी
 ऐसी एक बीमारी निष्ठुर देखी ।
 अभिमानियों की अकड चूर चूर देखी
 वह मृतकों वाली हर दोपहरी देखी ।
 तब मैंने भी एक महामारी देखी
 ईश्वर की भी कैसी माया है ।

पुनः एक बार मनुष्य को उसकी बिसात का स्मरण कराया है
 व्याकुलता तब एक छाई थी ।
 महाप्रलय घडी जब आई थी
 देखा मुर्दों के झुंडों को
 और शव अग्नि के कुंडों को
 कहीं घर—कुटुम्ब में त्याग दिखे ।
 कहीं हिंसाओं के राग दिखे
 कहीं महिलाओं पर नाग दिखे ।
 निज राष्ट्र प्रति अनुराग दिखे
 कुछ पीडाओं की चीख सुनी
 धन—वंचित की तकलीफ सुनी
 कभी महाभारत का सार सुना ।
 कुछ मूकों का सत्कार सुना
 कभी रामायण की सीख सुनी ।
 सीता नारी निर्भीक सुनी
 कुछ भेदों की सच्चाई खुली ।
 कहीं मानव में अच्छाई मिली
 कुछ ने उम्मीदे छोड़ी ।
 कुछ ने काल दिशा ही मोड़ी थी
 ऐसा भी समय विचित्र था आया ।
 निष्काम पड़ी सब धन — मोह — माया
 कुछ परिवर्तन तो दिखा सही ।
 और न्याय की एक थी आस जगी
 तब एकजुटता हमारी देखी ।
 प्रलय से लड़ने की तैयारी देखी
 हम बंदर और प्रकृति मदारी देखी ।
 तब मैंने भी एक महामारी देखी
 तब मैंने भी एक महामारी देखी ।

अनुष्का कौशिक

प्रथम किरण का उदय

वह साल बड़ा ही निष्ठुर था
 बस प्राण—हरण को आतुर था
 जीवन पर जीवन लेता था
 कुछ अच्छा कभी न देता था
 हो लाख कमी उस एक बरस
 न आया उसको तनिक तरस
 पर हर सिक्के के दो पहलू
 कुछ दोष मढ़ा, अब मृदु कह लूँ
 मुझे मेरा मार्ग दिखा ये गया
 कुछ अति—विशिष्ट समझा ये गया
 जीवन के अंधेरे से अवगत करा ये गया
 दुनिया में रहना सिखा ये गया
 भ्रमित थी कि है मुझे भी कोई कला मिली?
 या रह जाएगी जिंदगी सहज और मिली—जुली ?
 शौर्य कमाना है तो आवश्यक है एक गुण!
 उसका पता लगे तो बनूँ उसमें निपुण !
 पूरे बंद में अर्जित किए उत्तम विचार
 कभी कुछ गीत सुने, कभी सुना वेदों का सार
 कविता के रूप में निकाल दी अपनी भड़ास
 तब प्रतीत हुआ बहुत महत्वपूर्ण होता है प्रथम प्रयास
 एक कवि का तो गुण ही है गहन चिंतन
 बस फिर क्या था! आरंभ हुआ जीवन—मंथन
 मेरा व्यवहार कुछ बदल गया
 हर विषय पर गहरी सोच का उदय हुआ।
 जहां रुचि नहीं थी वहाँ बढ़ने लगी
 मैं हर ज्ञान के स्रोत को पकड़ने लगी
 निज—मुख पर तेज—सा आ गया।
 यह बरस जीवन का लक्ष्य दिखा गया द्य
 थोड़ी समझदार मैं भी बन गई
 थोड़ी भौहें मेरी भी तन गई
 वो थोड़ा समय स्वयं पर काम किया।
 तब—तब चिंतन किया, जब—जब विश्राम किया।

अनुष्का कौशिक

तुम और मैं

उस सड़क से आते तुम
 सामने से आती मैं
 अपने बाल संवारते तुम
 खुद पर इतराती मैं
 धूप पड़ती तुम्हारे चहरे पर
 तुम्हें निहारती मैं
 तुम्हें देखकर खुश होती मैं
 पर मुस्कराते तुम
 देर से निकलती मैं
 पर देर हो जाते तुम
 शिकन आती मेरे माथे पर
 और परेशान हो जाते तुम
 बेवजह मुस्कराती मैं
 और तनाव से मुक्त हो जाते तुम
 सपने देखती मैं
 मेरे सपनों में आते तुम
 कभी तुम 'मैं' होते
 और कभी मैं हो जाती 'तुम'
 कविता लिखती मैं
 और मेरी कविताओं में आते तुम
 घर से निकलती मैं
 तो रास्ते में मिल जाते तुम
 नजरे मिलाती मैं
 तो बात करने से घबराते तुम
 बारिश होती मेरे शहर में
 और भीग जाते तुम
 कभी तुम 'मैं' होते
 और कभी 'मैं' हो जाती तुम।

सौन्दर्या द्विवेदी
 बी. ए. हिन्दी ऑनर्स, द्वितीय वर्ष

कोरोना से टूटे सपने

ये एक अदृश्य हत्यारा है
जो कोरोना के रूप में आया है
चारों तरफ तबाही का मज़र है
सड़कों पर सन्नाटा छाया है
लोग सहमे, डरे हुए है
जीवित है पर मरे हुए है।

ये अमीरी—गरीबी का फर्क न जाने
जो बाहर निकले उसी पर लागे
पिंजरो में जानवरों के समान ही
मानव घरों में बंद होने को मजबूर है।

ईश्वर भी मनुष्य से रूष्ट गये हैं
मंदिर, मस्जिद, गुरुद्वारा सब बंद पड़े है
मनुष्य जीवन और मृत्यु के बीच जूझ रहा है
जीवन के रहस्य को खोज रहा है।

वर्षों की मेहनत से, जो गृहस्थी बसाई
जीवन भर के परिश्रम से, जो पूंजी कमाई
बच्चों के भविष्य के लिए, जो सपने संजोए
आंखों से वे ओझल होते जा रहे हैं।

सोचा न था उसने यह भी दिन देखना पड़ेगा
बच्चों को भूख—प्यास से बिलखते देखना पड़ेगा
एक माँ को बेटे के अंतिम दर्शन को तड़पते देखना पड़ेगा
सोचा ना था यह भी देखना पड़ेगा।

माँ—बाँऊजी का सहारा बनने का
जीवन में आगे बढ़ने का
कुछ कर दिखलाने का
हृदय में जो स्वप्न संजोए
सब बिखरते जा रहे है।

मजदूर वर्ग इतना असहाय बेबस हुआ
दो वक्त की रोटी को लाचार हुआ
घर छोड़ने को विवश हुआ
मीलो पैदल चलने को इस डगर पर
जिंदा रहने निकले जिंदगी के इस सफर पर

कोशिश सब की जारी है
हिम्मत ना किसी ने हारी है
जीवन रूपी गाड़ी सबको आगे बढ़ानी है
यहाँ कोई थमा नहीं यहाँ कोई थका नहीं
हिम्मत सब की बढ़ाई है
कोशिश सब की जारी है।

सपने सारे टूट गये है
सब कुछ पीछे छूट गये है
जहाँ शुरुआत हुई थी
वहीं आकर थम गये है
रास्ते खो गये सब सपनों के
हम ये कहां आकर अटक गये हैं
जिंदगी विरान हो गयी है
सपने सारे टूट गये हैं
सपने सारे टूट गये हैं.....

प्रशंसा
बी. ए. हिंदी ऑनर्स, द्वितीय वर्ष



कोरोना से टूटते सपने

लाखों उजड़ गए इस कोरोना में
मजदूरों का हाल तो कुछ इस तरह बेहाल हुआ
एक एक दिन कटना दूभर
और जीना एक मलाल हुआ

जब हम इन्हें दुआएं देने से भी हिचकिचाते हैं
इन्हीं लम्हो में इनके टूटे सपने भी दम तोड़ जाते हैं।
कोरोना ने तो इनका कुछ यूं हाल कर छोड़ा
जिंदगी को बदल इनकी शारीरिक मानसिक स्थिति को हलाल
कर छोड़ा है
चीखती फरियाद और टूटते सपनों की चिंगारियां
जिनपर पक रही है अलग अलग सत्ताओं की तरकारियां
गरीब मध्यम वर्ग, सभी का यहाँ कुछ यूं रोना है
कच्ची रोजी और किराए की कोठी भी छूट गयी
सर पर अब चादर सिर्फ आसमान की
धरती बनी बिछोना है।

आज भुख एक आम बात हो गयी
लाचारी यह सारे अवाम हो गयी
इस काल में भूखा इंसान न जाने क्या क्या खा रहा है
रोटी नहीं खुद का ईमान चबा रहा है।
खेल इस रोटी का ही है सारा
कोई बटर लगा कर खा रहा है
कोई सुखी ही चबा रहा है
और इन दिनों कोई तो हर रोज
इससे मिल भी नहीं पा रहा है।
ख़्शान से बैठे अमीर नेता लोग लगाकर आसन
उस आसन से सुनने को मिलता है
घर घर पहुँचेगा राशन
पर यह राशन नहीं
निष्कर्षित रूप से रह गया है
महज एक भाषण

इस स्थिति के बाद इंसान को रहा नहीं खौफ मौत का
सच कहूँ तो शायद यह जीने से डर बैठे हैं
जीने की तम्मना छोड़, खुद पर ही घोर सितम कर बैठे हैं

भुख की आग ने कुछ यूं सितम ढाया है
कइयों के जिस्म को भस्म कर राख बनाया है
लेकिन बची खुची मानवता ने आवाज उठाई है
गरीबों लाचारों की मदद के लिए कइयों ने अपनी जान दाव
पर लगाई है

अंधेरा है गहरा
माना अंधेरा है गहरा
पर मानव ने भी कब हार मानी है
संघर्ष चाहे कितना ही कठिन क्यों न हो
जीत ही इन्होंने शानदार जानी है
धर्म कर्म का इतिहास फिर दोहराया है
न जाने इन्होंने कितने सपनों को
खत्म होने से फिर एक बार बचाया है।

खयालात मजबूत रख
ये हालात भी बदल जाएंगे जरा सब्र तो रख है मानव
फिजाओ का रुख बदल जायेगा जरा सब्र तो रख ऐ मानव
विज्ञान का तू ज्ञान कर
प्रकृति पर भी अभिमान कर
पर....सीमाओं का भी ध्यान कर

कोरोना को देख मानव आज कुछ घबराया है
वरना इसने हमेशा खुद को ही सर्वश्रेष्ठ जताया है

ऐ मानव खुद के अस्तित्व का मान रख
तू इकलौता श्रेष्ठ नहीं इसका भी ज्ञान रख
रख विश्वास की ये वक्त बदल जायेगा
कोरे सपने फिर पूरे होंगे
नया वसंत नई किरणे नई आशाएं
लेकर तेरे समीप आएगा

दीपा कुमारी
द्वितीय वर्ष

योद्धा

हर कोई है यहाँ योद्धा,
 खाली सबके कार्य अलग है,
 हथियार नहीं है तो क्या,
 सबके पास विश्वास बहुत है।
 लो छिड़ गया है युद्ध-ए-कोरोना,
 जो कहता है हम से डरो ना,
 हर जगह इसने मचाया है सा युद्ध घमासान,
 पूरा विश्व है आज इससे परेशान,
 होटल, विद्यालय, कार्यालय सब हो रहे बंद है,
 कौन क्या है इससे फर्क नहीं सब आज घर में बंद हैं,
 लेकिन हमें डरना नहीं है,
 वो कोरोना है तो हम भी इंसान है,
 आज साथ ना होकर भी एक साथ है,
 हम सब के अंदर होता है एक योद्धा खाली
 उस योद्धा को जगाना है,
 इस युद्ध में हर किसी को कोरोना योद्धा बन कर दिखाना है,
 हम डॉक्टर नहीं तो क्या हुआ जो कर सकते हैं
 वही तो करना है,
 युद्ध में हर योद्धा के होते हैं अलग अलग कार्य,
 हर कोई मैदान में नहीं जाता,
 अपने कर्तव्य को निभा कर ही तो कोई योद्धा है कहलाता,
 तो अपने कर्तव्य का पालन करना है,
 अपने व अपनों के लिए इससे लड़ना है।
 एक योद्धा का सबसे पहला गुण होता है विश्वास,
 तो सबसे पहले अपने अंदर विश्वास को भरना है।
 एक योद्धा हमेशा सक्रिय रहता है,

तो हमें हमेशा हर स्थिति से निपटने के लिए सक्रिय रहना है।
 एक योद्धा को हमेशा धैर्य रखना चाहिए,
 तो हमें भी अपने धैर्य को नहीं खोना है।
 एक योद्धा में अनुशासन होना चाहिए,
 तो हमें भी अपने अनुशासन को दिखाना है,
 हर नियम का पालन हर वक्त करना है।
 एक योद्धा अपने बुद्धि व बल का सही प्रयोग करता है,
 तो हमें भी अपने बुद्धि और बल का हर संभव प्रयास करना है,
 और कुछ इस तरह हम सबको एक कोरोना योद्धा बनना है,
 और इस कोरोना से लड़ना है।
 तो चलो एक कोरोना योद्धा बन जाते हैं,
 और इस कोरोना की पहचान को मिटाते हैं।



कोराना का संकट

ये कैसी विपदा आई है ये कैसा संकट आया है,
 बदल रहा प्रकृति का नियम जिससे हर प्राणी घबराया है,
 जब होती थी गर्मी तब वर्षा संग बादल भी तेज गर्जाया है,
 यहां भोर उजाले में भी बस अंधकार ही छाया है
 ये कैसी विपदा आई है ये कैसा संकट आया है
 धारण कर वर्दी पुलिस ने अपना कर्तव्य निभाया है,
 दिन रात जगे हैं पुलिस,
 डॉक्टर व परिवार ना साथ में पाया है,
 वहीं डॉक्टर ने भी जान बचाकर भगवान् का दर्जा पाया है,
 ये कैसी विपदा आई है ये कैसा संकट आया है,
 जिस तरह डटा हुआ बॉर्डर पर सैनिक
 उसी तरह लोगों ने भी एकता का परचम लहराया है,
 क्या त्रुटि हो गई है हमसे क्यों सब पे काल मंडराया है?
 महामारी का रूप धारण करके क्या तुमने सबको चेताया है?
 यदि भूल हुई तो माफ करो चरणों में शीष झुकाया है।
 ये कैसी विपदा आई है ये कैसा संकट आया है।

घिरा राष्ट्र जब संकट में

घिरा राष्ट्र जब संकट में
 खतरा एक विकराल उठा
 उन्नत मानव जीवन भी
 जिसके सामने टिक न सका
 सदी के सबसे बड़े खतरे से
 मानव जीवन थर्राया
 भय के कोल कुंहासे में
 कोई मार्ग न दिख पाया
 विद्यालय, कार्यालय,
 दुकान बाजार

सुने हुए एक पल में
 घबराकर डरकर कोरोना से
 इंसान जब जा घुसा घर में
 जब लटक गए ताले सब जगह
 मस्जिद, चर्च और मन्दिर में
 आशा की किरण एक
 दिखती न हो किसी पल में
 तब मानो छोड़ मन्दिर
 ईश्वर धरती पर चला आया
 डॉक्टर, नर्स, पुलिस, सेना
 का वो भेष रख आया
 संकट बड़ा, उपाय दूरी
 फिर भी आगे बढ़ सेवा दी
 लगे रहे और डटे रहे वो
 कई रातों तक नींद न ली,
 उनकी सेवा के आगे
 नतमस्तक सारा विश्व खड़ा
 कोरोना योद्धा के बल पर ही
 भारत यह विश्व युद्ध लड़ा
 हम खड़े आज भी डटे भी
 मजबूती से, बदौलत इनकी है
 हम स्वस्थ रहे और भारत भी
 यह जिम्मेदारी इनकी है
 कोरोना योद्धा की प्रशंसा
 शब्दों में बयों न कर पाती हूँ
 मैं कर सकती एक ही कर्म आज
 शत् शत् नमन मैं करती हूँ

कोरोना का कहर

पहले सी अब दिखती नहीं हैं
रौनकें बाजार की.

हर ओर सन्नाटा यहां
हर रोज बढ़ते फासले
हर रोज मौतें बढ़ रहीं
हर ओर दुख के काफिले

कैसी महामारी चली
धुन थम गयी संसार की.

वे वक्त के मजदूर हैं
पर वक्त से मजबूर हैं
ताले लगे, रस्ते रुके
जाएं कहां वे दूर हैं

सुनता कहां मालिक भला
चीखें यहां लाचार की.

है पीठ पर गठरी लदी
औ कांध पर बच्चे लदे
जाना है मीलों दूर तक
पर प्राण फंदों में फँदे

है जान सांसत में पड़ी
खुद ही यहां सरकार की.

कैसा भयंकर वायरस !
जीवन हुआ इससे विरस
हर शख्स संक्रामक हुआ

वर्जित हुआ उसका परस

बस मास्क में महफूज है
सांसें सकल संसार की.

संदिग्ध है हर छीक तक
संगीन है वातावरण
अस्पृश्यता ने हर लिया
है सभ्यता का आवरण

चूलें एकाएक हिल उठीं
अस्तित्व के दीवार की .

है चीन से फैला जहर
ईरान पर बरपा ईरान पर बरपा कहर
इटली बना शमशान है
बज उठा यू.एस में बजर

संभावनाएं क्षीण हैं
इस व्याधि के उपचार की.

ठप हुए उत्पादन सभी
चुक रहे संसाधन सभी
शेयर सभी लुढ़के पड़े
बेअसर आवाहन सभी

मंदी ने तोड़ी है कमर
दुनिया के कारोबार की।

नंदिनी रॉय
हिंदी ऑनर्स, तृतीय वर्ष

कोरोना

कोरोना की हो रही सब जगह हा-हा-कार
कैसे करें इसका उपचार
यही है सबका विचार
टीकों का होने लग गया है आविष्कार
ना जाने कितनो का उतारेगा ये मौत के द्वार
हाय-हाय कोरोना की ये हा-हाकार।

चीन से आया ये कोरोना
चीख-चीख कर कह रहा है
कि मुझसे तुम डरो ना
शुरुआत में
कोरोना के काटे से धरती
बन गई थी फूल
पर अब लग रहा है
कि ये है हम सब की भूल।

2020 में आया ये भारत पहली बार
फिर लग गया लॉकडाउन
हमारे पी. एम. ने बनाए नियम हजार
हुआ नए-नए शब्दों का आविष्कार
लॉकडाउन पेंडेमिक, सोशल डिसटेसिंग
दो गज दूरी, मास्क है जरूरी का लगा जोरो-शोरो का नारा।
दंसवी और बारहवीं की बोर्ड की परीक्षा हुई निष्काषित।

कोरोना ने कर दिया हम सब की जिन्दगी को असंतुलित
ऑक्सिजन की हो रही है किल्लत
मृत्यु हो रही है सफल।
हे भगवान! सुन लो हमारी ये मन्त
और दो छुटकारा इस महामारी से
फिर से बना दो धरती को जन्त।

हिमानी देव वर्मा
बी. कॉम., प्रथम वर्ष

जिंदगी थम सी गई

बस एक क्षण की बात थी, और बस जैसे समय थम से गया ..
सालों से चलती रेलगाड़ी की आवाज अब कान में पड़ती नहीं,
बाघों में खिलखिलाते बच्चों की मुस्कुराहट
अब आती नहीं नजर,
घड़ी का कांटा बस तेजी से बढ़ता रहा,
पर जिंदगी कहीं थम सी गई।

बजारों की चकाचौंध में अब अंधेरे का बसेरा था,
उम्मीद के मंदिरों पर लग गया
जैसे कोई उदासीनता का डेरा था,
सपने रम संजोय थे सालों से,
था अब उनका भविष्य कुछ अप्रत्यक्ष सा,
घड़ी का कांटा बस तेजी से बढ़ता रहा,
पर जिंदगी कहीं थम सी गई।

शिक्षा के घरों में अब घंटियों की खनक नहीं,
कहते हैं, घर ही सबकी लक्ष्मण रेखा, है नहीं
महफूज यह बाहरी दुनिया,
यह दुनिया महफूज भी थी कभी?
वहाँ सुंदर वादिया और नदिया, अकेलेपन की परछाई में हो
रहे थे खोखले,
सहसा रिश्ते हो गए सीमित चार दीवारों में,
अब " मैं " के अलावा रखता नहीं था कुछ भी मायने,
न जाने कितनी को निगल गया यह कठिन समय,
घड़ी का कांटा बस तेजी से बढ़ता रहा,
पर जिंदगी कहीं थम सी गई।

एक वो मंजर था, और एक आज है,
पहले लोगों की शक्सीयत छिपाई जाती थी
चेहरे रूपी मुखौटे से,
और आज मुस्कुराहट को छिपाना एक मजबूरी सा है,
समय के पहिए ने आखिर ये कैसा खेल खेला है !
घड़ी का कांटा बस तेजी से बढ़ता रहा,
पर जिंदगी कहीं थम सी गई।।

लवनया चतुर्वेदी
बी.ए. हिन्दी ऑनर्स, प्रथम वर्ष

मानव जाति घबराई क्यों?

जब जब किसी को ठेस पहुंची,
बदला जरूर लिया गया ।
जब जब वजह सही जान पड़ी,
उसको सराहाया भी गया ।
अब मैं उठी,
तो त्राहि त्राहि क्यों?
मानव जाति घबराई क्यों?

तुमने हरियाली छीनी मेरी,
जंगल को बंजर किया ।
हवा भी काली, काला है पानी,
इतना भयानक मंजर किया ।
अब मैं उठी,
तो मुझपे ऊंगली उठाई क्यों?
मानव जाति घबराई क्यों?

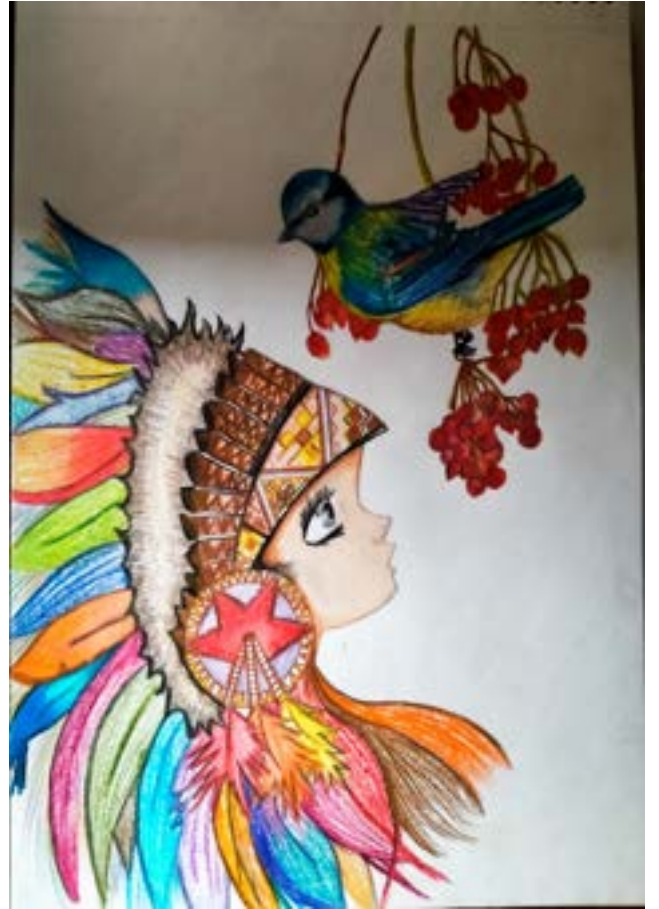
गलत है कहना,
कि तुमको सचेत नहीं किया गया ।
बे मौसम बारिश और बर्फीली चट्टानों का गलना,
कितने संकेतों ने प्रयास किया,
पर तू अडिग खड़ा रहा ।
अब मैं उठी,
तो मुझसे पिघलने की गुहार क्यों?
मानव जाति घबराई क्यों?

मेरा तुमसे कोई बेर नहीं,
पर अब तुम्हारी खेर नहीं ।
इतना तुम सताते हो,
और मेरे गुस्से को गलत बताते हो ।
अब मैं उठी,
तो मेरे बरताव से परेशानी क्यों?

मानव जाति घबराई क्यों?

अब तो मेरी तबियत भी कुछ खास नहीं रहती हैं ।
फिर भी यह तडपती रूह, अश्वासन तुम्हें देती हैं ।
खतरा भले ही बच्चों के अस्तित्व को हो ,
पर चिंता माँ को ज्यादा रहती हैं ।
अब भी सब में हैरानी क्यों?
मानव जाति घबराई क्यों?

हिमांगी मिश्रा
बी.ए.(प्रोग्राम) पोलिटिकल
साइंस सोशीयोलोजी, प्रथम वर्ष



हम कातिब

जो देखती हूँ सोचती हूँ, सहती और सुनती हूँ
 उसी को शब्द के साँचे में ढाल देती हूँ।
 कहानियाँ लिखती हूँ कशमकश की
 काव्य करती हूँ भावों का,
 आसमानों को छूते अरमानों का
 वो कहानियाँ भी हकीकत है
 और वो काव्य भी तो अमलन है
 क्योंकि हम कातिबों की दुनिया में तो हर सोच ही सच है।

ये कलम और ये कागज ही मेरी कश्ती है,
 ये मेरा ही नहीं अनेकों का इतिहास रचती है।
 सूरज जैसे मगरिब में जाकर फानी हो जाता है,
 वैसे ही हम भी तो एक दिन छिप जाएंगे
 और तब ये शब्द ही सबको हमारी हस्ती बताएँगे।

ये लिखावट ही हमारी तालीम है,
 और लिखावट ही हमारी तारीफ है,
 समझ लिया और उनमें खुद को ढूँढ लिया
 तो अच्छा बता दोगे,
 वरना मुझे और मेरे शब्दों को बुरा बना दोगे।

लेखकों की दुनिया अलग और खुशनुमा है
 भाग्यशाली समझती हूँ कि लिख पाती हूँ
 क्योंकि,
 हर किसी में कहाँ अपने भीतर को खोलने की दिलेरी है
 कहाँ अपने दिल को जुबां पर रखने की सुजा—अत है।

1975 की इमरजेंसी और प्लेग से कुछ अलग
 मगर बहुत समान समय था
 इतिहास का पन्ना फिर से दोहराया जा रहा हो
 ऐसा कुछ समय था।
 जिसको देखकर भी अनदेखा कर रहे थे
 हर दफा वक्त न होने का बहाना दे रहे थे
 उन सब बहानों का सुलझाव था ये
 खुद से हुई तमाम शिकायतों से
 गुस्सा, प्यार, दुख, अकेलेपन से
 दिमाग के हर उलझे तार को सुलझाने का
 ऐसी सारी मुलाकातों का मौका था ये।
 कई लोगों को सदा के लिए खोया
 कई जनों को दूरी ने परे किया
 कितने ही गमों को सहन करना पड़ रहा था
 अपने से दूर रहने का दर्द बहुत हो रहा था
 पर जिन्दगी की विचित्रता का और जिन्दगी के हर पल का
 शुक्रिया अदा करने का इक तरीका था ये।
 किताबों में खुद को खोजने का,
 कलम उठा खुद को खोलने का
 अभी तक जो थमे हुए थे, जो रास्ते बंद पड़े थे
 उन रास्तों को खोजने का, नए रास्ते तलाशने का
 खुद को हसरत—ए—दीद का
 हर भाव को आगोश करने का
 सबसे हसीन वक्त था ये।
 वक्त, विचार, विश्वास का अश्रु, अभाव, आक्रोश का
 बेरहमी बखशीश, प्रसन्नता— दुख सा
 हर विलोम सा लगाया है ये
 हाँ ये वक्त थोड़ा अलग था, थोड़ा कड़वा भी
 अपनों के बीच अपनेपन का एहसास सा
 जिंदगी की सच्चाइयों से भरा भी
 ये वक्त हिसाब से परे था।
 कहूँ तो चारदीवारी के अंदर ही
 बाहर भीतर के
 तमाम तथ्यों से रूबरू होने का वक्त था ये
 गमगीन माहौल में परखने का, खुशी के पलों को जीने का
 पेंडेमिक का दौर, माहौल था ये।

दिशा जैन
 राजनीति विज्ञान, प्रथम वर्ष

समाज

समाज बना चार लोगो से
 घिरा है कई रोगों से
 नदियाँ सूखी देश की सारी
 पड़ गया सूखा फैली महामारी
 घनघोर अंधेरा छाया
 लोगो पर संकट मंडराया
 खाने के तो लाले पड़ गए
 पेड़ों के तो सब पत्ते झड़ गए
 हर ओर मच गयी हाहा कारी
 पड़ गया सूखा फैली महामारी
 नदियाँ सूखी सूखे ताल
 प्यास से हो गए सब बेहाल
 महामारी का छाया प्रकोप
 लोगो को हो गए कई रोग
 परेशान हुए सभी नर नारी
 फैली है भयंकर महामारी
 वेदों की ओषधि सारी
 खत्म ना कर पायी बीमारी
 संकट में आ गया है देश
 कुछ बची ना आशा शेष
 घबराई जनता सबसारी
 फैली है भयंकर महामारी

कोमल
 बी.ए. हिन्दी ऑनर्स, द्वितीय वर्ष

वृक्ष की चाह

धरती की मैं हरियाली हूँ
 सबके सुख-दुख का साथी हूँ
 वर्षा लाकर फसल उगाता
 सबकी भूख मिटाता हूँ।

मुझसे ही तो दुनिया में
 फूल फल और खुशहाली
 बिन तेरे जीवन में मुश्किल
 खाली होली और दिवाली।

फिर भी कद्र न इंसानों को
 काट रहे मुझको हर दिन
 दुःख इतना ही अब भी मुझको
 लेगी प्रकृति बदले गिन-गिन।

मरुभूमि धरती बन जाए
 जीना मुश्किल हो जाए
 अच्छा है ऐसा होने से
 पहले इंसान संभल जाए।

जीवन अगर बचाना है तो
 अब भी मुझको मत काटो
 हरियाली धरती को बढ़ाकर
 दुनिया में खुशियाँ बाँटो।

शगुन
 बी. ए. हिन्दी ऑनर्स

सुबह का इंतजार

एक कविता को पूरा किया जाए
 या भरा जाए उस सूखे पन्ने को जो बेरंग सी सफेदी लिए
 हुए है
 कोई धुन नई बनाई जाए
 या सुना जाए वो संगीत जो राहत दे रूह को
 तेरे बारे में सोचा जाए
 या उन यादों के बारे में
 जो अब धुंधली सी लगती है
 अपनी तमन्नाओं को पूरा किया जाए
 या महसूस किया जाए रूह के खालीपन को
 खामोश रहा जाए
 या खुद से बातें हजार की जाए
 पुरानी गलतियों से हताश हुआ जाए
 या सीखा जाए उनसे कुछ भविष्य की ओर
 तानो को दिल से लगाया जाए
 या आगे बढ़ा जाए उन लोगों को बेचारा समझकर
 जो मिला नहीं उस पर रोया जाए
 या जो है उसमें खुश रहा जाए
 मोहब्बत के लिए मिट्टी हुआ जाए
 या मिट्टी से मोहब्बत की जाए
 गुजरे लम्हों के बारे में सोचा जाए
 या जिया जाए आज में ही
 इन तमाम सवालों के जवाबों को ढूंढा जाए
 या सो जाया जाए गहरी नींद में
 और किया जाए उस सुबह का इंतजार
 जो देती है सिर्फ खुशियों भरी रोशनी।

सौन्दर्या द्विवेदी
 बी. ए. हिन्दी ऑनर्स, द्वितीय वर्ष

बनारस, जहाँ जीवन मात्र मोह और मृत्यु ही यथार्थ है

मंदिरों का शहर है बनारस
 भारत की राजधानी बनारस
 भगवान शिव की नगरी है बनारस
 दीपों का शहर है बनारस
 यँही नहीं शुरू बनारस का जलवा हुआ होगा,
 किसी रूहानी अहसास ने जरूर दिलो को छुआ होगा,
 गंगा की धड़कती लहरों का आँचल,
 और उस आँचल से खेलती ताजा रोशनी की किरणों,
 दूर रेत के दर्रा से झाँकता इन किरणों का देवता,
 फिजाओ में घुली घंटी आरती और भजन की अनंत आवाजें,
 इनकी धुन पर गोता लगाते आजाद परिंदे।
 और कुछ ठहरे हुए लम्हे,
 ये वो लम्हे हैं जिनमें न जाने कितनी सादिया अपनी सुध खो
 आई है।
 जिसके जादू के आहोश में पूरी दुनिया समाई है।
 इन्हीं आहटों की सदा सुबह बनारस कहलायी है।

ऊर्जा से परिपूर्ण होते दर्शनार्थी
 घाटों पर टहलते वैरागी
 तट पर लगा सैलानियों का मैला
 धार्मिक क्रियाओं से सजी सुबह की बेला,
 दूर दूर मंदिरों से आती शहर की अजान,
 और सदियों से सुलगता एक महा शमशान,
 ये सब बहोत है हमें खुद को भुलाने के लिये,
 सबकुछ भूलकर खुद को पाने के लिए।

यह काशी नगरी पुरानी है,
 इसकी हर एक कहानी यहाँ सबमें जानी पहचानी है।
 मान्यताओं के अनुसार इसकी स्थापना शिव के द्वारा हुई,
 और इस तरह यह हिंदुओं के लिए एक पवित्र स्थली बन
 गई।

यह हिंदुओं के पवित्र सप्त पुरियों में से एक है,
 स्कंद पुराण, रामायण, महाभारत, प्राचीनतम ऋग्वेद सहित,

कई हिंदू ग्रंथों में इस नगरी का उल्लेख है
गौतम बुद्ध के काल में,
वाराणसी राजधानी थी काशी की,
ये ऐतिहासिक उपलब्धि वाराणसी की,
कहती हैं एक अमिट कहानी भी

अनेक विभूतियों का जन्म इस बनारसी धरती पर हुआ ,
इस धरती ने खुद में सँजोया है, कतरा कतरा इतिहास इन
विभूतियों का।

महर्षि अगस्त्य , धन्वंतरि, गौतम बुद्ध,
संत कबीर, लक्ष्मीबाई, रैदास,
और महान पाणिनि, पतंजलि,
महर्षि वेदव्यास, वल्लभाचार्य, गोस्वामी तुलसीदास
इन सभी ने दी बनारस को अलग पहचान,
और किया भारत के सर्वश्रेष्ठ स्थानों में से प्रथम श्रेणी में
विराजमान

गंगा नदी तट पर बसी काशी बड़ी पुरानी नगरी है,
इतने प्राचीन नगर संसार में बहुत नहीं है।
यह अनन्तो में अलग एक है।

बौद्ध और जैन धर्म में भी,
यह एक महत्वपूर्ण शहर है।
यह भूमि अनोखी है यहाँ कई धर्मों का मेल है।

भारत के कई दार्शनिकों, कवि,
लेखकों संगीतज्ञों का जन्म यही हुआ,
मुंशी प्रेमचंद, जय शंकर प्रसाद,
आचार्य रामचंद्र शुक्ल,
पंडित हरि प्रसाद चौरसिया,
और उस्ताद बिस्मिल्लाह खां।
भदेनी पर बनी रानीलक्ष्मीबाई की जन्मस्थली गर्वानुभूति कराती
है।
इसी तरह मुंशी प्रेमचंद की जन्मस्थली,
लमही कुछ दूरी पर स्थित चर्चित बन,
उनकी लेखनी में वर्णित ग्रामीण, परिवेश की ओर ले जाती है।

गोस्वामी तुलसीदास ने हिंदू
धर्म का पूज्य ग्रंथ यही लिखा,
और गौतम बुद्ध ने अपना प्रथम संदेश,
यही निकट सारनाथ में दिया।

दुनिया के सबसे पुराने शहरों में से एक
जो वक्त के साथ चलकर भी,
रुका हुआ महसूस होता है,

यह शहर कोई और नहीं बनारस ही है,
जो अनंत वर्षों से खड़ा खुद की,
ही गौरव गाथा गाता प्रतीत होता है।

इतना अनछुआ , इतना पवित्र
की आप इसे छू नहीं सकते,
सिर्फ अंजुल में भर सकते है।
धार्मिक नहीं आध्यात्मिक शहर ये बनारस है।
यहाँ आश्चर्यचकित रूप से,
जीवन और मृत्यु साथ साथ चलते है।
गंगा नदी में डुबकी लगाने से,
आत्मा पवित्र हो जाती है।
अंदर जन्मी मानव की अहं और कुंठा,
इस जल में धुलकर कही,
प्रवाहित सी हो जाती है।

काशी विश्वनाथ में होने वाली,
शाम की गंगा आरती,
स्थानीय लोगो के साथ साथ,
पर्यटकों को भी भाती है।
और इसलिए शाम के समय आरती में
शामिल होने वालों की संख्या,
अकस्मात बढ़ जाती है।
इस तरह बहुत पहले बसाई गयी,
यह प्राचीन नगरी,
कालान्तर में ज्यो की त्यों स्थापित हो,
समय यात्रा का अनुभव कराती है।

घाट श्रृंखला में,
यहाँ हर घाट के अलग ठाठ है

दशवामेध घाट अपनी प्राचीनता,
तो मणिकर्णिका और हरिश्चंद्र घाट,
यहाँ अंत्योष्टि के लिए विख्यात है।

मणिकर्णिका घाट पर,
यहाँ चलता मोक्ष प्राप्ति का कारोबार है।
जो स्व ईश्वर द्वारा संचालित है
सफेद कपड़ों में लपटे शवों की अर्थियां,
मानो जीवन की अंतिम यात्रा के लिए तैयार सी हो,
यहाँ एक भी दिन ऐसा नहीं जाता,
जब 200-300 कि संख्या में,
शवों का अंतिम संस्कार न हो।

इस स्थान पर,
कभी ठंडी नहीं पड़ती चिता कुंड की अग्नि,
हर घंटे फिजाओ में गुनगुनाते,
दाह संस्कार के मंत्र,
वातावरण में घुल मिल जाते हैं,
जीवन मरण के चक्र से मुक्ति,
और फिर अन्नत शांति यही पाते हैं।
कई संत महात्माओं ने,
बनारस के घाटों पर आश्रय लिया है।
और यहाँ के कण कण को,
ज्ञान और अध्यात्म से सींचा है।

जहाँ की हवा खुद में ही मुप्त,
ओषधी है,
जहाँ पर मरना भी मंगलकारी है।
जहाँ मंदिरों का शहर,
सभ्यता को नया करता है,
हासही सोचा,
ये यही बनारस है,
जहाँ कोई धर्म नहीं सिर्फ आध्यात्मिकता है।

अच्छाई का अंजाम

जीवन मरण तो केवल एक समझौता है,
ये इंसान क्यों इस पर इतना निराश होता है?

कहते हैं आने वाला वक्त किसने देखा है,
तो क्यों तू इस पर इतना चिंतित रहता है?

सब यही सिखाते रहे की अच्छे कर्म करोगे तो स्वर्ग में निवास करोगे,
मगर क्या स्वर्ग किसी ने कभी देखा है?

तू कर्म किए जा फल की चिंता मत कर,
मगर बिना फल लिए क्या कोई इंसान कर्म करता है?

इन्हीं उल जलूल सवालों में फंस जाता है इंसान,
क्या कभी भी वह अच्छाई का फल जान पाता है?

गीता, कुरान व बाइबल, सब पढ़ लिया
क्या जो इनमें लिखा है वही सत्य होता है?

ना जाना किसी ने इसका सत्य
जो इंसान मान ले क्या वही सच्चाई बन जाता है?

इसीलिए मनुष्य, अपनी सच्चाई और अच्छाई पर भरोसा रखे ,
क्योंकि अच्छाई का अंजाम अच्छा ही होता है।

अदिति

बी ए हिंदी ऑनर्स, द्वितीय वर्ष

दीपा कुमारी
द्वितीय वर्ष

यदि विभाजन नहीं होता

आकस्मिक परिवर्तन न आते,
यू भूमि नहीं अटी पड़ी रहती मनुष्यों की लाशों से
लेकिन ये तभी होता,
अगर विभाजन न होता

शहर न बदलते, भारत न बदलता
ये जमी का रंग नहीं बदलता
रक्त की धाराओं से
लाखों जाने यू न जाती,
यू लाखों लोग उजड़ते न
शरणार्थी बनकर रहते न
अगर विभाजन होता न

भारत इतिहास के पन्ने में ऐसा जनसंहार न दर्ज होता
यू एकदूसरे को खत्म करने के लिए,
यू मानवता न बिलखती इंसा के आगे खुद के अस्तित्व को
बचाने के लिए।

पीढ़ियों से कमोबेश जो मेल-मिलाप से रहते आए,
1947 में एकदूसरे पर यू जबरदस्त कहर न ढा पाते
यू दो धार्मिक समुदायों का पागलपन न जोरों पर होता,
अगर विभाजन न होता।

यू ढेरो दर्द भरी कहानियां मशहूर न होती किताबों में
बंदूकों और लाठियों से हमला करना
यू हजारों मुर्दों के बीच एक जान का बेजान सा पड़े रहना
अलग अलग धार्मिक समुदायों का
अपने से अलग समुदायों वालों का सफाया करना
औरतों का बलात्कार और अपहरण अपने चर्मोत्कर्ष पर होना
यह मरघट सा माहौल न बनता
अगर विभाजन न होता

करोड़ों यू उजड़ते न
रातों रात अजनबी बनते ना
खुद की जमीन पर फिर यु रिफ्यूजी बनकर रहते न

लाखों में मरने वालों की संख्या न होती
रातों रात खड़ी की हुई सरहद के इस पार या उस पार जाना
न होता
यू पलक झपकते माल असबाब हाथों से न जाता
अगर विभाजन न होता

लोग करोड़ों अपनी जड़ों मकानों खेतों कारोबारों से यू जुदा
न होते
बचपन की यादे उनसे न छिनती
ये सिर्फ एक भयानक सपना होता
अगर विभाजन न होता

लाखों लोग तिनको तिनको से जिंदगी शुरू करने को विवश
होते न
यू रोती तड़पती मासूम जिंदगियां यतीम होती न
16 माह के इस गृहयुद्ध से भारत जलता न
अमृतसर जिला चौतरफा यू रक्तपात कोहराम से भरता न
अगर विभाजन होता न

औरत जिनको सबसे निरीह समझा जाता
यू उनको अगवा किया जाना
उनको बार बार खरीदा बेचा जाना
अनजान हालातों में अजनबियों के साथ जाना
फिर जिन्दगी बसर करने के लिए मजबूर किया जाना
ये अनवरत आस्थगित शोषण रुक सकता था
अगर विभाजन न होता

कुछ आगे के हालातों में भी परिवर्तन की मांग होती
भारत तीन राष्ट्रों में बटता नहीं।

कारगिल युद्ध और पाकिस्तान के खिलाफ लड़े गए युद्धों का
अस्तित्व भी तब होता नहीं
आतंकवादी हमलों का डर तब कुछ हद तक कम होता यहा

जिसने बरसों से पाकिस्तान भारत को दुश्मन रूप में विस्थापित
किया
इसका कारण बना कश्मीर विवाद में होता नहीं

दुनिया की ढासु क्रिकेट टीम भी शायद यहाँ होती,
जब सचिन तेंदुलकर जैसे भगवान
बोलिंग में इमरान खान
और वसीम अकरम की रफतार और स्विंग
सच में हर एक खिलाड़ी धमाकेदार होता।

विभाजन से उपजा पाकिस्तान और उसकी गद्दारी ने
अब हमारा रक्षा बजट बढ़ाया है,
शिक्षा, स्वास्थ्य का बजट बढ़ाया जा सकता था अगर विभाजन
न होता।

ये भी सुनो
भारत फिर चीन के आगे जनसंख्या मामले में पिछड़ जाता
गरीबी की स्थिति होती
भुखमरी से हा हा कार होता

भारत की स्थिति भी कुछ ठीक नहीं होती
सहिष्णुता की कमी सभी में प्रखर हो ती
हर रोज दंगो का समा होता

अंत कहा जा सकता है
इतिहास से कुछ सिख लेनी है
हर पहलू को समझना है
अच्छा होता तो बुरा भी होता
अब स्थितियों के साथ चलना है
इसको ही सवारना और बदलना है।

दीपा कुमारी
द्वितीय वर्ष

दिल से दिल मिलाना

जश्न भी मना लिया
गले पर फूलों से सजा हार भी डाल दिया
पर क्या इन सबने तुम्हें उस रोती माँ का दर्द महसूस करा
दिया?

तिरंगे से सजा कपन भी उठा लिया
शान और शौकत से सलाम भी ठोक दिया,
पर क्या इन सबने तुम्हें उस सैनिक का दर्द महसूस करा
दिया?

यो तो सदियों पुरानी चलती आई कहानियों का ज्ञान है।
जो बचपन से ही मन में लड़ाई का एक जनून सा पैदा कर
देती है।

पर क्या अनुमान है वहाँ की सच्ची तस्वीर क्या होती है?

बिना कुछ महसूस किए हम भी उसी गीत में सुर से सुर
मिलाते रहे, की देश के लिए शहीद होना गर्व की बात है।

कभी खुद किसी को शहीद होते देखते।

तब भी क्या इस गीत में सुर से सुर मिला पाते?

कभी उनके हालातों में जीवन जीकर देखते,

कभी अपने से सालों जुदा होकर रहते,

तब भी क्या इस गीत में सुर से सुर मिला पाते?

जिस हार और दहशत को कभी खुद महसूस नहीं किया
तो फिर किस मुँह से कह दिया— अपने देश के लिए मर मिट
जाना गर्व की बात है।

दोस्तों यह बात गर्व की कम,

अपने गिरबान में झांकने की ज्यादा है।

यह बात उन शहीदों और उनके परिवारों की ओर

सवंदेना और सहनशीलता जताने की ज्यादा है।

अपने आने वाली पीड़ियों को सच से परिचित कराने की
ज्यादा है।

अब सुर से सुर मिलाने की नहीं

दिल से दिल मिलाने की कामना है।

दीपशिखा उप्रेती
प्रथम वर्ष

सोशल मीडिया बना अस्पताल

देश भर में कोरोना के चलते स्वास्थ्य सेवाएं चरमरा गई हैं। लोगों को अपनी समस्याओं का कहीं समाधान नहीं मिल रहा था इस मुश्किल दौर में सोशल मीडिया एक सहायक प्लेटफॉर्म की तरह उभरा। कोरोना की दूसरी लहर के चलते अस्पतालों में ऑक्सीजन सिलेंडर, आईसीयू बेड्स एवं ऑक्सीमीटरों की भरी कमी के कारण लोग अपने परिजनों को बेबस हालत में एक अस्पताल से दूसरे अस्पताल में लिए दौड़ते नजर आ ही रहे थे, वे सभी अपनी सारी उम्मीदें को बैठे ही थी की सोशल मीडिया ने अपनी ताकत दिखाई और न जाने कितने ही लोगों ने इन सभी जरूरत की चीजों की अपडेट्स अपने इंस्टाग्राम एवं ट्विटर अकाउंट्स पर देना शुरू कर दिया। कई सारी संस्थाओं ने खुद के पेज बनाए जिनमें वे यह सभी चीजें कहां और कितनी मात्रा में उपलब्ध हैं उनकी जानकारी जुटा कर पोस्ट करने लगे। काफी सारे लोगों ने व्हाट्सएप पर भी ग्रुप्स बनाएं और वहां पर भी इन सब जरूरत की चीजों के बारे में अपडेट देना शुरू कर दिया। मगर यह भी उतना कारगर नहीं साबित हुआ तो हमारे सोशल मीडिया स्टार्स एवं सेलिब्रिटीज ने भी लोगों की मांगों को पोस्ट करना शुरू कर दिया। जैसे अगर किसी को एक आईसीयू बेड की जरूरत होती है और वह किसी बड़े सोशल मीडिया स्टार को मैसेज भी करता था तो वह उसका यह मैसेज अपने इंस्टाग्राम स्टोरी पर लगा कर सबसे आग्रह भी करते थे की अगर किसी को इस चीज की उपलब्धि की जानकारी है तो इनसे संपर्क करें।

हमारे अभिभावकों को हमेशा हमारे सोशल मीडिया का प्रयोग करने से हमारी चिंता लगी रहती है लेकिन इस दौर में उन्होंने भी हमारा हाथ नहीं छोड़ा और जिन्होंने भी सोशल मीडिया का इस प्रकार प्रयोग किया है उसको खुद पर गर्व होना चाहिए।

अदिति
बी ए हिंदी ऑनर्स, द्वितीय वर्ष

‘कोविड-19 शूरवीर

वर्ष 2020 हम सबकी जिंदगियों में एक ऐसा तूफान लेकर आया जिसने हम सबको हिला कर रख दिया। एक ऐसी महामारी जिसके बारे में ना कभी किसी ने सुना और ना कभी देखा। इस महामारी का नाम है, कोरोना वायरस (कोविड-19)। जब तक यह दुनिया समझ पाती कि यह महामारी किस प्रकार फैल रही है तब तक न जाने कितने अनगिनत लोगों ने अपनी जान गवां दी। फिर धीरे-धीरे हमारे वैज्ञानिकों एवं डॉक्टरों ने यह खोज निकाला कि यह महामारी छूने और साथ उठने बैठने से हो रही है। फिर सब इसी खोज में लग गए कि अगर यह महामारी एक इंसान से दूसरे इंसान तक केवल छूने मात्र से हो रही है तो डॉक्टर किसी भी कोरोना पीड़ित का किस प्रकार इलाज कर पाएंगे। सब इसी परेशानी से जूझ ही रहे थे कि किस प्रकार डॉक्टर अपने आप को बचा कर कोरोना से पीड़ित लोगों का इलाज कर सकते हैं क्योंकि जो पीड़ित है उनके साथ साथ डॉक्टरों पर भी कोरोना संक्रमित होने का खतरा बना ही रहेगा। हमारे डॉक्टरों ने भी हार नहीं मानी और अपनी वीरता दिखाते हुए उन्होंने तय किया की डॉक्टरों को जहां सभी भगवान का दूसरा रूप मानते हैं वे कैसे किसी की जान बचाने से पीछे हट सकते हैं, उन्होंने अपनी सुरक्षा को ध्यान में रख सभी का इलाज निश्चल स्वभाव से करना शुरू कर दिया और जैसे ही डॉक्टरों को शूरवीर सबने बनते देखा तब कई और ऐसे लोग सामने आए जिन्होंने इस महामारी में बचाव के लिए अपनी अपनी वीरता दिखाई जिसमे हमारे पुलिस कर्मियों ने सरकार के हर प्रोटोकॉल के पालन का ध्यान रखा अपनी जान की परवाह किए बगैर और डॉक्टरों के साथ साथ वे भी हमारे शूरवीरों की सूची में शामिल हुए। मगर वक्त जितना अच्छा दिख रहा था उतना था नहीं, जिन्होंने भी अपनी वीरता दिखाने का साहस किया की देश के लोगों की जान बची रहे, उन्हीं की जान को खतरा हो गया और हमने ना जाने कितने ही ऐसे जवान को दिए। कई ऐसे वीरों की जान जाने के बावजूद सभी कर्मों अपना काम करने के लिए डटे रहे क्योंकि उन्हें भी इसी बात पर विश्वास है कि जब सब साथ मिलकर सबकी सुरक्षा एवं सहायता करेंगे तभी हम कोरोना को हरा पाएंगे।

अदिति
बी ए हिंदी ऑनर्स, द्वितीय वर्ष

कोरोना काल में लॉकडाउन का अधूरा सच

विश्व स्वास्थ्य संगठन या WHO द्वारा कोरोनावायरस यानी साल 2020 में आई महामारी कोरोना ने पूरे विश्व को झंझोड़ के रख दिया और मार्च 2020 तक आते आते चीन के वुहान शहर से निकले इस वायरस ने पूरे विश्व को अपनी चपेट में ले लिया। दुनिया भर के वैज्ञानिक एवं डॉक्टर और अन्य सभी लोग इस महामारी को कैसे भगाएं या इसकी चपेट में आना कैसे कम करें इसी सोच में पड़ गए। क्योंकि यह महामारी लोगों के छूने या हाथ मिलाने या साथ उठने बैठने से हो रही थी इसलिए दुनिया भर के सभी देशों ने यह फैसला लिया था कि इस कोरोना वायरस से बचने के लिए एक ही उपाय है लॉकडाउन। देशभर में लॉकडाउन होने से ना लोग बाहर अपने घरों से निकलेंगे ना ही किसी से मिलेंगे जुलेंगे और ना यह वायरस ज्यादा फैलेगा। जहां लोगों ने इस लॉकडाउन का इमानदारी से पालन किया वहीं कई लोगों ने इस लॉकडाउन को अमीरों के आराम करने का लॉकडाउन बताया।

लॉकडाउन भले ही पूरे देश भर में था मगर श्रमिक वर्ग निरंतर इस देश की अर्थव्यवस्था को संभालने में लगा हुआ था। अमीरों ने जहां इस लॉकडाउन की अवधि को अवसर में बदलने स्वरूप अन्य देशों की सैर करना शुरू कर दिया था वहीं हमारा श्रमिक वर्ग चाहे वह छोटे तबके पर हो या मिडिल क्लास तबके पर निरंतर अपनी मेहनत से इस लॉकडाउन के समय में अपना घर चला रहा था। जहां हमारा श्रमिक वर्ग लोगों को रोजमर्रा की सुख सुविधाएं पहुंचाने में दिन रात परिश्रम कर रहा था वहीं अमीरों या ऊंचे तबके के लोग महामारी के डर को अपने मन से निकाल छुट्टियां मना रहे थे। इन सब बातों का मतलब फिर यही निकलता है कि अंत में लॉकडाउन आधा अधूरा ही साबित हुआ और जहां सरकार को सभी के लिए पाबंदियां लगानी चाहिए थी, यह पाबंदियां सिर्फ आम जनता तक है सीमित रही। यह लॉकडाउन अपना मतलब खोकर केवल अमीरों के लिए आराम करने का समय मात्र ही रह गया।

अदिति

बी ए हिंदी ऑनर्स, द्वितीय वर्ष

कोरोना काल में साफ सफाई का महत्व

विश्व स्वास्थ्य संगठन या WHO द्वारा कोरोनावायरस यानी कोविड-19 को 2020 में महामारी घोषित किया गया। यह वायरस अभी तक करोड़ों लोगों को अपनी चपेट में ले चुका है और अभी भी इसके थमने के आसार नहीं जान पड़ रहे हैं। पूरा विश्व इसी चिंता में था की ऐसी महामारी जो छूने व साथ उठने बैठने से हो रही है उससे किस प्रकार बचाव किया जाए और अंत में फिर वही समाधान सबको सुझा—साफ सफाई— जिस प्रकार हमारे पूर्वज हर चीज में साफ सफाई का पाठ पढ़ाते रहे हैं, हमें वही पाठ अब वापिस पढ़ना था। हमारा पूर्वज या महात्मा गांधी जी ही हमको स्वच्छता का पाठ पढ़ाते आए हैं मगर उसका महत्व आज समझ में आया। वायरस तो अपना काम करेगा ही, हमको स्वच्छ रहकर उसको फैलने से रोकना होगा जिसका एक ही समाधान है बार बार हाथ धोना, आंख और मुंह को ना छूना, 6जि की सबसे दूरी बनाए रखना, घर से बाहर हैं तो हाथ बार बार सैनिटाइज करना और सबसे जरूरी और महत्वपूर्ण बात, मास्क पहनना। यही कुछ नियम हैं जिन्हें दुनिया भर के लोग तकरीबन दो साल से मान रहे हैं और ना जाने क्यों अब यह उनके जीवन का हिस्सा भी बन चुका है। अब सामान्य स्वच्छता बनाना नियम नहीं हमारी रोज की आदत बन चुकी है। शायद यह महामारी हमें यही पाठ सिखाने आई हो की कोई महामारी आए या ना आए हमें स्वच्छता का हाथ कभी नहीं छोड़ना चाहिए क्योंकि यही एक स्वस्थ जीवन जीने का मंत्र है।

अदिति

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पेड़ेंमिक

2020 में चीन से आया कोरोनावायरस जिसने हमारे देश के अर्थशास्त्र, राजनीति, शासन प्रबंध, व देश के सामान्य सामान्य नागरिक को कठिन चुनौती देखकर बहुत ही गहरा प्रभाव डाला। 24 मार्च 2020 जब श्री नरेंद्र मोदी जी ने 21 दिन के लॉकडाउन की घोषणा की थी तो मानो सभी का जीवन रुक सा गया था। देश में सभी फैक्ट्रियां, व्यापार, विद्यालय, विश्वविद्यालय बंद थे। मानो एक अलग सी शांति थी, जो धीरे-धीरे सभी को परेशान कर रही थी। इस बीमारी ने मनुष्य से मनुष्य को दूर कर दिया था। बच्चों का भविष्य, दसवीं व 12वीं की परीक्षा, बढ़ते कोविड-19 के मरीज, विश्वविद्यालयों में पढ़ रहे छात्रों को घर वापस लाने का प्रयास व श्रमिक वर्ग की व्यवस्था जैसी कई चुनौतियों का सामना हमारे देश को करना पड़ा। उस समय देश रुक सा गया था, पर वहीं दूसरी ओर बिना थके निस्वार्थ भाव से कोविड-19 जैसी जानलेवा बीमारी के समय भी देश के लिए अपनी जिम्मेदारी निभा रहे थे, डॉक्टरों, पुलिस, एंबुलेंस, सफाई कर्मी, शासन प्रबंधक, स्वास्थ्य मंत्रालय। हर रोज मरीजों की बढ़ती संख्या हमारे चिकित्सा विभाग पर बढ़ती जिम्मेदारी आने वाले खतरे का संकेत थी। पूरा देश डॉक्टरों, चिकित्सक टीम से उम्मीद लगाए बैठा था।

आज भी हमारा देश रोना वायरस से लड़ रहा है और आगे भी लड़ता रहेगा। बस जरूरत है तो हमारे साथ वह समझदारी की। इस समय में हम सब दूर होकर भी अत्यंत पास है और यही हम सब की सकारात्मकता है जो हमें और हमारे देश को साहस प्रदान करती है। हम सभी निस्वार्थ भाव से सेवा देने वाले वर्ग का सम्मान करते हैं, और इस समय में कोरोना वायरस इन की पालना करना की भी तरीके से उन्हें धन्यवाद देना होगा। “यह समय भी बदलेगा”।

**निष्ठा नारायणीया
बी. ए., प्रथम वर्ष**

शिक्षा की डोर देखो उड़ी-उड़ी जाए

इस कथन को काफी हद तक जुटलाया नहीं जा सकता और आजकल की शिक्षा प्रणाली को देखकर तो बिल्कुल भी नहीं। भले थे वो दिन जब शिक्षक अपने शिष्यों के साथ गुरुकुल में पढ़ा और पढ़ाया करते थे, वहाँ के कड़े अनुशासन में रहते थे और साथ ही साथ खुले मैदान व पेड़ के नीचे बैठकर अपने गुरुओं से शिक्षा का आदान-प्रदान करते थे। इस प्रकार की शिक्षा पद्धति से अनेक प्रकार के लाभ होते थे। सर्वप्रथम बच्चों का मानसिक एवं बौद्धिक विकास तीव्र गति से होता था और खुले आसमान के नीचे पढ़ने से प्रकृति व पर्यावरण के साथ जो आपसी मेल-जोल और संबंध बनता था, वो अलग। परंतु अब ऐसा प्रतीत होता है कि वे दिन कई बरस पीछे छुट गए हैं और उनका लौटना एकदम नामुमकिन सा लगता है।

हर बारी एक बहुत ही प्रचलित कथन हम सभी को सुनने को मिलता है—यदि अच्छे अंक से पास नहीं होंगे तो अपने कक्षा व जीवन में आगे कैसे बढ़ेंगे। मानो हम जिस प्रकार की शिक्षा पद्धति के अंदर आते हैं, उसमें अंक और प्रतिशत एक अहम भूमिका निभाते हैं, पर हम इस चीज को हर किसी पर थोप थोड़ी न सकते हैं। हर व्यक्ति की अपनी एक रुचि होती है जिसमें वे किसी न किसी तरीके से पूर्ण-रूप से योगदान देता है क्योंकि वहाँ पर उसका शौक एक महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाता है। जरूरत है तो हमारे नजरिए को परखने और बदलने की, जो हर बारी मार्क्स शब्द से शुरु और वहीं खत्म होने का नाम लेता है। केवल परीक्षाओं के अंक व परिणामों के बलबूते पर हम कब तक सबको परखते रहेंगे। यदि हम सब यह सोचकर बैठें हैं कि शिक्षा की डोर अभी इतनी भी हाथों से नहीं निकली है और संभालने योग्य है तो इस पर मैं केवल एक ही बात कहना चाहूँगी कि—“दिल बहलाने को गालिब यह ख्याल अच्छा है, लेकिन हूजूर सच कहूँ तो अभी थोड़ा कच्चा है।” प्रभावी शिक्षा ‘सही अध्ययन और पूर्ण रूप से व्यक्ति की रुचि को महत्व देना, सही मायनों में ऐसे तीन पहलू है जो हमारी शिक्षा प्रणाली को चाहिए ही चाहिए।

**दीपशिखा उप्रेती
प्रथम वर्ष**

कोरोना काल में समझ आये दोस्ती के सही मायने

कोरोना काल में समझ आये दोस्ती के सही मायने साल 2020 हम सभी के लिए बहुत ही कठिन और चुनौतीपूर्ण रहा। ना कहीं बाहर आना जाना, ना किसी से मिलना जुलना, अपने घर में रहकर काम करना, इसी में गुजरा कोरोना काल का यह समय। जहां घर पर बैठकर सबको अपना काम संभालने में दिक्कतें महसूस हुईं वही एक और समस्या सबके सामने आई कि इंसानों के लिए मित्र, दोस्त या कहे बंधु होना इतना महत्वपूर्ण है। मनुष्य को ईश्वर ने भावनाएं इसलिए ही दी है कि वह किसी अपने से अपनी बातें अपने विचार अपनी भावनाएं व्यक्त कर सकें या बांट सकें।

हम सब इस भागदौड़ भरी जिंदगी में भूल ही जाते हैं की अपना होना और अपनों के साथ रहना कितना जरूरी है। अपनी बातें दूसरों को बताना या उनके विचार सुनना कितना जरूरी है। इस महामारी के चलते जहां हम सब अपने घरों में कैद हो गए तब सभी ने पहचाना की अगर हम लोगों से ना मिले और अपने मन की भावनाएं ना किसी से बांटे तो वे दिमागी रूप से अस्वस्थ महसूस करते हैं। हम सब अपने आसपास रह रहे लोगो चाहे वे दोस्त हों या परिवार को इतनी अहमियत नहीं देते मगर इस लॉकडाउन के समय में जब हमारे पास कोई अपना नहीं था। अपनी बातें करने को अपने मन के विचार बांटने को अपने सुख दुख बांटने को तब हमें एहसास हुआ की सबके जीवन में एक दोस्त होना कितना जरूरी है। पूरे विश्व में यह बात सामने आई की लॉकडाउन के समय में इस महामारी के चलते बहुत से लोग दिमागी रूप से अस्वस्थ पाए गए और उसका एक ही कारण था उनके पास किसी अपने का नाम न होना। कई सारी संस्थाओं ने ऐसे हेल्पलाइन नंबर जारी भी किए ताकि लोग इस मुश्किल समय में खुद को अकेला ना पाए। कई सारी वेबसाइट्स की सूची भी लोगों ने अपने अपने सोशल मीडिया हैंडल पर फैलायी जिसकी वजह से काफी लोगों ने अपने आप को अकेलेपन से बाहर निकाला। ऐसे मुश्किल समय में पूरे विश्व से लोग एक दूसरे से घुले मिले और इस बात पर जोर दिया की दिमागी रूप से अस्वस्थ होना कोई शर्म की बात नहीं, हम एक दूसरे के लिए अगर हमेशा ऐसे ही जुड़े रहे तो कोई भी इंसान इस दुनिया में खुद को अकेला नहीं पाएगा चाहे वक्त कितना भी कठिन हो।

अदिति

बी. ए. हिंदी ऑनर्स, द्वितीय वर्ष

स्वच्छ भारत-स्वस्थ भारत

स्वच्छ भारत अभियान को स्वच्छ भारत मिशन अभियान भी कहा जाता है। यह एक राष्ट्रीय स्तर का अभियान है और भारत सरकार द्वारा चलाया जा रहा है। जो कि शहरो और गाँवों की सफाई के लिए की गई क्योंकि स्वच्छ भारत ही स्वस्थ भारत होगा। इस अभियान में शौचालयों का निर्माण, ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में स्वच्छता कार्यक्रमों को बढ़ावा देना, गलियों और सड़कों की सफाई देश के बुनियादी ढाँचे को बदलना आदि सम्मिलित है। इस अभियान को आधिकारिक तौर पर राजघाट नई दिल्ली में 2 अक्टूबर 2014 को महात्मा गांधी की 145वीं जयंती पर प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी द्वारा शुरू किया गया था।

देश को स्वच्छ बनाने के लिए हर भारतीय नागरिक की एक जिम्मेदारी है। इस अभियान को सफल बनाने के लिए लोगों ने पहल की है। शिक्षक और स्कूल के छात्र इसमें पूर्ण उत्साह और उल्लास के साथ इस अभियान में शामिल हो रहे हैं। स्वच्छ भारत अभियान के एक राष्ट्रव्यापी सफाई अभियान के रूप में प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी द्वारा शुरू किया गया एक स्वच्छ अभियान है। यह एक स्वच्छ भारत, स्वस्थ भारत की कल्पना की दृष्टि से लागू किया गया है। यह एक सपना था। इसलिए इसे गांधी जी की जयंती पर भारत सरकार द्वारा शुरू किया गया। गांधी जी ने अपने वक्त में नारों द्वारा और लोगों को प्रेरित करके स्वच्छ भारत की कोशिश की थी। किंतु वो लोगों की कम रूचि के कारण असफल रहा। इसको सफल बनाने के लिए प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी ने स्वच्छ भारत अभियान लागू किया तथा सभी नागरिकों को इस अभियान को पूर्ण रूप से सफल बनाने के लिए सहयोग करना चाहिए। इस विषय में –

गाँधी जी का सपना था।

भारत स्वच्छ बनाना था

मोदी जी अभियान चलाएंगे

हम सब स्वच्छ अभियान सफल बनाएंगे।

शगुन

बी. ए. हिन्दी ऑनर्स

लॉकडाउन-सफल या विफल

“थक कर मत बैठ ए मुसाफिर तू आज हारा है तो कल सफल भी होगा, क्या हुआ आज अंधेरा है, तो कल एक नया सवेरा भी होगा”

आज हम सब एक महामारी के दौर से गुजर रहे हैं। आधुनिकता और विकास के इस दौर में मूल्यों कि चमक कही धुँधली पड़ गई है। चीन से आरंभ हुई इस महामारी ने आज ना ही केवल विकास की दर को जकड़ लिया है किंतु मानवता पर भी एक गहरा संकट बन कर सामने आयी है। ऐसे में विकसित देशों के पास जो संसाधन और जो कुशलता उपलब्ध है, वह विकासशील देशों के पास उस मात्रा में उपलब्ध नहीं है जिससे स्थिति और बिगड़ती जा रही है। ऐसा ही विकासशील देश हमारा है जहां इस महामारी का आरंभ फरवरी के पहले हफ्ते में देखने को मिला जिसके बाद से इससे संक्रमित होने वाले लोगों की संख्या बढ़ती चली गई। इस वैश्विक महामारी की रोकथाम के लिए हमारी सरकार ने “लॉकडाउन” का प्रयोग किया।

मगर प्रश्न ये उठता है कि क्या यह लॉकडाउन सफल हो पाया। भारत जैसे विशाल जनसंख्या वाले देश में लॉकडाउन का प्रयोग और उसकी सफलता पर कई पक्ष सामने आए। मेरे विचार में जब इस लॉकडाउन की उपरी चमक को ना देख कर उसकी गहराई में जाकर देखा जाए तो हमें यह पता चलता है कि यह उपाय सक्षम साबित नहीं हो पाया। कुछ आंकड़ों व घटनाओं की सहायता के माध्यम से मैं अपने पक्ष को रखना चाहूंगी।

सर्वप्रथम लॉकडाउन की सूचना देने से उसके आह्वान तक केवल 4 घंटे का समय दिया गया, जब की समय कि मांग यह थी की अग्रिम सूचना दी जाए ताकी देशवासी अपने आप को शारीरिक मानसिक व व्यावसायिक रूप से तैयार कर सकें।

आवश्यकता यह थी कि छोटे उद्योग पति अपने उद्योग व उद्योग में काम कर रहे मजदूरों को पूर्ण तरह सूचित कर व उन्हें कुछ संसाधनों के साथ रवाना कर सके ताकी वह भी महामारी के चलते व काम बंद हो जाने की वजह से अपने घर खर्च और परिवार की देखभाल कर सकें।

“चले थे वो इस आस के साथ की चलते चलते घर पहुंच

जाएंगे मगर कहां जानते थे कि—

सियासी नीतियों में बंध जाएंगे”

“थी आशा उनके मन में कि गांव पहुँच जाएंगे मगर कहां जानते थे वो की परिवार को रोटी के कुछ टुकड़े और कपड़ों के कुछ पुर्जे ही मिल पाएंगे”

आवश्यकता यह थी कि प्रवासी मजदूरों की आवाज भी एक पहचान मांग रही थी। क्या लोगों इन हालातों में उन मजदूरों को दो वक्त की रोटी मिल पाई?

आवश्यकता यह थी कि कोटा में फंसे छात्रों की गुहार भी सुनी जाती। आवश्यकता यह थी कि जो छात्र अपनी प्रवेश परीक्षाओं की अनबन में फंसे हैं उन्हें सरकार की तरफ से एक मार्गदर्शन मिलती जिससे वह छात्र मानसिक दबाव में आकर आत्महत्या का माध्यम नहीं चुनते।

तालाबंदी के मध्य वेतन का भुगतान, व बहू राष्ट्रीय संगठनों द्वारा कर्मचारियों को निलंबित करना इन विषयों को भी संबोधन की आवश्यकता थी। प्रश्न यह है कि इसकी जिम्मेदारी कौन लेगा?

“मुरझाए फुलवारी के लिए वो शीतल पवन थे निराशा में वो आशा की किरण थे

सैकड़ों चिराग जलाए उन्होंने
रहे कार्यरत वह तन मन से”

कोरोना काल में कार्यरत सुदृढ़ व निष्ठापूर्वक “कोरोना वॉरियर” के अगर कार्य स्थलों व सुविधाओं को हम देखें तो हम कल्पना भी नहीं कर सकते हैं कि किन स्थितियों और हालातों में कोरोना वॉरियर काम कर रहे हैं।

जमीनी हकीकत देखी जाए तो पता लगता है कि चिकित्सक, पुलिसमैन, बैंक कर्मी व अध्यापक जो इस काल में भी शिक्षा संस्थानों में आकर ऑनलाइन संसाधनों के माध्यम से छात्रों को शिक्षित कर रहे हैं, क्या उन्हें पूर्ण सुरक्षा मिल रही है?

क्या सरकार ने चिकित्सक, बैंक कर्मी व पुलिस कर्मियों को उचित संख्या में “PPE” किट पहुंचाई? वेतन व अच्छी सुविधाओं के बिना भी वह अपनी कुशलता के माध्यम से पूर्ण

निष्ठा के साथ इस महामारी से संक्रमित लोगो का इलाज कर रहे हैं। शायद ही बहुत कम लोग इस बात से परिचित हैं कि कई चिकित्सक 5 महीनों से अपने घर नहीं गए।

आवश्यकता यह है की इस जंग में जिन चिकित्सकों ने अपनी जान गंवाई है उनकी शहादत को व्यर्थ ना जाने दिया जाए, ना की सिर्फ थाली पीट कर झूठा सम्मान दिखाया जाए।

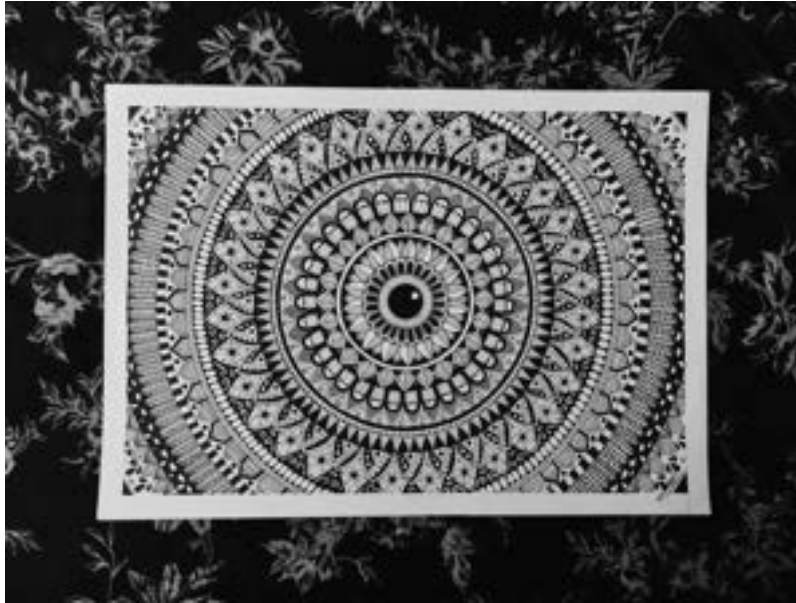
सबसे महत्वपूर्ण विषय जो लॉकडाउन से प्रभावित हुआ है वह है देश की "जीडीपी", प्रश्न यह उठता है कि क्या लॉकडाउन के चलते अपनी नौकरी खोने वाले कर्मचारियों व अपना उद्योग बंद पड़ते देखने वाले छोटे उद्योग पति, बिना वेतन के बिना काम कर रहे चिकित्सा कर्मी, सफाई कर्मी व शिक्षकों की जिम्मेदारी कौन लेगा।

कुप्रबंधन व अदूरदर्शी योजना ही सबसे बड़ा कारण है की लॉकडाउन असफल रहा।

अंत में बस यही कहना चाहती हूं कि कोई राष्ट्रीय सम्पूर्णतः किसी महामारी के लिए तैयार नहीं होता ना ही यह भविष्यवाणी कर सकता है की क्या होने वाला है पर उस समस्या से लड़ने के लिए आवश्यकता है कि एक प्रबंधित, व्यवस्थित व दूरदर्शित योजना का पालन हो और राष्ट्रवासियों का इस लड़ाई में पूर्ण सहयोग या योगदान हो।

धन्यवाद

पुनर्नवा शर्मा
फिलोस्फी ऑनर्स, तृतीय वर्ष



कोरोना काल

आज जब हम भारत की बात करते हैं तो स्वाभाविक रूप से स्वामी विवेकानंद जी ने जो बात कही थी उसको मैं जरूर स्मरण करना चाहूंगी। Every Nation has a message to deliver, a mission to fulfill, a destiny to reach यानी हर राष्ट्र के पास एक संदेश होता है जो उसे पहुंचाना होता है हर राष्ट्र का एक मिशन होता है जो उसे हासिल करना होता है हर राष्ट्र की एक नियति होती है जिससे उसको प्राप्त करना होता है।

कोरोना काल पूरी दुनिया के सामने चुनौती बनकर आया, लेकिन जिस प्रकार भारतीय समाज ने इस चुनौती को स्वीकार कर कोरोना के खिलाफ लड़ाई लड़ी है, उस प्रकार विश्व के किसी भी समाज ने इस लड़ाई को नहीं लड़ा। जिस प्रकार तमाम संसाधनों से परिपूर्ण देश कोरोना के आगे लाचार नजर आया वह दृश्य पूरी दुनिया ने देखा। उस समय भारतीय समाज ने कोरोना जैसे बड़े संकट में भी अपनी जागरूकता का उदाहरण प्रस्तुत किया। यही हमारे समाज की विशेषता है। लॉकडाउन के समय जब रोजगार का संकट उत्पन्न हुआ तो समाज के लोग जो किसी मल्टीनेशनल कंपनी के लिए काम करते थे उन्होंने अपने-अपने गृह क्षेत्र में खेती समेत अन्य प्रयोग करके न केवल अपना जीवन यापन किया, बल्कि अन्य लोगों को भी रोजगार के अवसर दिए। हमारा भारत आज के समय का भारत है। आज का भारत "ए मेरे वतन के लोगों जरा आंख में भर लो पानी" वाला भारत नहीं, बल्कि आज का भारत के लिए कहना चाहिए कि "ए मेरे वतन के लोगों हाथ में ले लो शमशीर" वाला भारत है। यह शमशीर किसी से युद्ध के लिए नहीं है, बल्कि यह शमशीर अपने-अपनों के रक्षा के लिए, अपने मूल्यों की रक्षा के लिए है।

कोरोना संकटकाल की इस भयावह परिस्थिति में हम अपने आप को और मजबूत बना रहे हैं। जो अतुलनीय है। हमारा देश इस स्थिति में किसी का अनुकरण नहीं कर रहा है, बल्कि खुद मिशाल स्थापित कर रहा है। देश के सभी सेनाएं सीमा पर तैनात है। थल सेना, वायु सेना सभी अपने कर्तव्य को बखूबी से निभा रहे हैं। पहले से और अधिक सतर्क और चौकन्ना होकर अपना फर्ज अदा कर रहे हैं।

देश के छात्र-छात्राएं भी इस महामारी के समय में जरूरतमंद लोगों की मदद करते दिखाई दे रहे हैं। हर जन अभी एक दूसरे की मदद में लगी है। हम पिछली शताब्दी से ही लगातार सुनते आए हैं कि 21वीं सदी हिंदुस्तान की है। कोरोना संकट के बाद भी दुनिया में जो स्थितियां बन रही है, उसे भी हम निरंतर देख रहे हैं। लेकिन थकना, हारना, टूटना, बिखरना मानव को मंजूर नहीं है। इतनी बड़ी आपदा भारत के लिए एक संकेत लेकर आई है। एक संदेश लेकर आई, एक अवसर लेकर आई है। उदाहरण के साथ अपनी बात बताने का प्रयास करती हूं जब कोरोना संकट शुरू हुआ, तब भारत में एक भी पीपीई किट नहीं बनती थी। N-95 मास्क का भारत में नाम मात्र उत्पादन होता था, आज स्थिति यह है कि भारत में ही हर रोज दो लाख पीपीई किट और दो लाख N-95 मास्क बनाए जा रहे हैं।

योग, आयुर्वेद, होम्योपैथी, एलोपैथी और जड़ीबूटी से कोरोना जैसी बीमारी को दूर करने में हमने जो सफलता पाई है इसका दुनिया अनुकरण कर रही है।

आपदा को अवसर में बदलने की भारत की ये कोशिश जारी है।

और अंत में एक पंक्ति के साथ समापन करूंगी आफत में है डाला दुनिया को, लोग नाम से तेरे डर रहे हैं, तुझसे संक्रमित होने वाले, अनगिनत लोग मर रहे हैं, आसान नहीं है इलाज तेरा, तो क्या इंसान हार जाएगा, तुझे जड़ से उखाड़ फेंकेगा, मानवता को सवार जाएगा।।

समीक्षा
हिन्दी ऑनर्स, तृतीय वर्ष

सर्वव्यापी महामारी/संगरोध

दुनिया चुप हो गई है जबकि यह चिल्ला रही है और अंदर से उखड़ रही है। यह एक स्तरित चुप्पी है और मैं इस चुप्पी को पसंद करना शुरू कर सकती हूँ और शायद कर रही हूँ। जो कुछ भी चल रहा है, अब पहले से कहीं ज्यादा, अपने आप को पहले रखें और वास्तव में क्या मायने रखता है, इसके लिए समय बनाएं। आपको एहसास होगा कि वास्तव में क्या महत्वपूर्ण है। इस महामारी में बस सिर पर छत हो, दिन के माध्यम से पर्याप्त भोजन और पानी और किसी से बात करने के लिए हो बस इतना ही काफी है। हमारे पास अब जो नहीं है वो है देर रात की पार्टियाँ, महंगे डिनर, छुट्टी और भौतिकवादी चीजें जो सिर्फ दूसरों को दिखाने के लिए होती हैं। जीवन के अर्थ में वास्तविक मूल्य को जोड़ना नहीं, लोगों के साथ समान होना, उन लोगों के साथ होना जिन्हें आप प्यार करते हैं, केवल वही बात महत्वपूर्ण है। अपने आप को प्यार, सहानुभूति, क्षमा और दया के साथ समृद्ध करें। अपने स्थान को एक खुश और सकारात्मक बनाएं। अपने आप को अपना रु 1 व्यक्ति बनाएं क्योंकि अब हमारे आस-पास केवल एक चीज है और वो है लॉकडाउन, और जो एकमात्र निरंतर मैं देख रही हूँ वह हम खुद है। हम सीखेंगे और बहुत कुछ महसूस भी करेंगे क्योंकि यह समय ही ऐसा है। हमें अपने आप पर जीत, अपनी चिंता पर जीत करनी है क्योंकि अंत में यह केवल एक चरण है, जिसने हमें अपने लिए समय दिया। इस महामारी को देखते हुए एक कविता प्रस्तुत कर रही हूँ—

आज बड़े दिन बाद हवा से मिली :-

आज बड़े दिन बाद मैं हवा से मिली

पूछा मैंने “कहा चली ?”

बोली “चली जा रही हूँ मैं अकेले गली— गली, कोई साथ खेलने वाला ही नहीं!”

“किसकी पत्ते की प्लेट उड़ाऊँ, किसकी बालों को सहलाऊँ??”

हंसते हुए बोला मैंने “तो बैठो मेरे साथ करो दो—चार बात”

तो बोली “आजकल क्या दिन और क्या रात, हर समय बस यही एक बात ‘ करो सैनिटाइजेशन ’ और धोलो अपने हाथ”

सुनकर मैं बोली “क्या बात— क्या बात!”

तनु श्री रावत
बी. ए. ऑनर्स, हिन्दी

कोरोना की दूसरी लहर

नए साल 2021 के साथ सभी को उम्मीदें थी कि हालात अच्छे हो जायेंगे, या यूँ कहें कि अच्छे होने भी लगे थे। सभी बंद कार्यालयों, विद्यालयों, विश्वविद्यालयों, आदि के खुलने का सुनिश्चित समय भी बताया जाने लगा था। सब कुछ पहले की तरह सामान्य होने लगा था।

जब 16 जनवरी, 2021 को भारत ने एक साथ 3000 सेंटर्स पर अपना टीकाकरण अभियान शुरू किया, तो सब में एक खुशी की लहर दौड़ गई।

कोरोना की शुरुआत साल 2019 के अंत से ही शुरू हो गई थी लेकिन इसका प्रभाव भारत पे पूरी तरीके से मार्च साल 2020 से दिखना शुरू हो गया। मार्च में होली की छुट्टियों में जो अपने अपने घर गए थे, वे लॉकडाउन लग जाने से घरों पर ही रहें, लेकिन छुट्टियाँ बढ़ती ही गई। शुरू—शुरू में छुट्टियाँ या यूँ कहें कि ये लॉकडाउन वाली छुट्टियाँ अच्छी लगती थी लेकिन धीरे—धीरे इन छुट्टियों से उबन होने लगी।

उन दिनों खाने की मेज़ हो या टी. वी पर न्यूज़ हों, सिर्फ कोरोना ही चर्चा का विषय बना हुआ था। इसी बीच कई अच्छी और बुरी खबरें सुनने में आती थी। घर में रहते हुए सभी की नजरे टी. वी, स्मार्टफोन, इत्यादि के जरिए सरकार की गतिविधियों पर रहती थी। बाहर कोरोना का खौफ ही खौफ था।

आज हम सब फिर उसी जगह आ खड़े हुए हैं। परिस्थितियाँ सामान्य होते होते इतनी भयानक कब होने लगी पता ही नहीं चला। आए दिन कुछ न कुछ खबरें सुनने में आ रही हैं। फिर से लॉकडाउन की स्थितियाँ बन आई हैं।

पूरी दुनिया में फैली इस महामारी से निकलने के लिए मानसिक स्वास्थ्य का भी ध्यान रखना जरूरी है, साथ ही साथ सम्पूर्ण सावधानी के साथ शारीरिक तौर पर भी स्वस्थ रहने की जरूरत है।

तेजस्वी
बी.ए.हिंदी ऑनर्स, द्वितीय वर्ष

कोरोना वायरस और वैरिएंट्स

वायरस(विषाणु) नाम से तो हम काफी पहले से परिचित हैं लेकिन कोरोना वायरस से हमारा परिचय 2019 में हुआ। सुनने में आता था कि कोई संक्रामक वायरस है जो काफी तेजी से फैल रहा है और इंसानों के लिए जानलेवा साबित हो रहा है। भारत में कोरोना वायरस का संक्रमण फैलने से पहले, ये वायरस महज एक मजाक था। उस समय इस विषय पर काफी मीम्स, टिक-टॉक, आदि बन रहे थे। कुछ तो अनुमान भी ऐसे लगाए जा रहे थे कि भारत का जलवायु और मौसम विषाणु के वृद्धि के लिए अनुकूल नहीं हैं, मतलब कि भारत जैसे देश में इस वायरस का विकास नहीं हो सकता।

वायरस का सबसे पहला संक्रमण चीन के शहर वुहान में 17 नवंबर, 2019 को सामने आया था। और भारत में कोरोना का सबसे पहला संक्रमण 27 जनवरी, 2020 में केरला में एक 20 वर्षीय महिला में पाया गया जो 23 जनवरी, 2020 को चाइना के वुहान शहर से कोविड -19 के फैलने की वजह से भारत वापस लौटी थी। धीरे-धीरे भारत में कोरोनावायरस का संक्रमण बढ़ता गया और मार्च, 2020 तक आते-आते मृत्यु दर भी बढ़ने लगा।

दुनिया के लगभग सभी देशों में कोरोना का संक्रमण बढ़ता ही जा रहा था और देखते ही देखते विश्व स्वास्थ्य संगठन द्वारा इसे महामारी घोषित कर दिया गया। भारत में संक्रमण के दर को काबू में करने के लिए भारत सरकार द्वारा जनता कर्फ्यू, लॉकडाउन जैसे कदम बढ़ाए गए। लॉकडाउन के दौरान लोगों को अपने घरों से निकालना निषेध किया गया और सभी परिवहन सेवाओं को निलंबित किया गया इत्यादि। लॉकडाउन के समय लोगो को काफी परेशानी का सामना करना पड़ा, इस दौरान कई लोगो के रोजगार भी छिन गए। लेकिन इससे जो फायदा देखने को मिला वो ये कि भारत ने कई हद तक फैल रहे संक्रमण पर काबू कर लिया, इसके साथ-साथ प्रदूषित शहरों के प्रदूषण दर में भी कमी आयी।

साल के अंत में आते – आते कोरोनावायरस का एक प्रकार (वैरिएंट) सामने आया जिसे हम डेल्टा वैरिएंट के नाम से जानते हैं। डेल्टा वैरिएंट का सबसे पहला संक्रमण अक्टूबर 2020 भारत में पाया गया। इसी दौरान दुनिया के कई अन्य देशों में भी वायरस के कई वैरिएंट्स पाए गए जैसे: अल्फा, बीटा, गामा, थीटा, इत्यादि। अभी तक भारत में संक्रमण का दर पहले से काफी घटा था और नए साल 2021 के साथ भारत ने टीकाकरण अभियान भी शुरू कर दिया था। डेल्टा वैरिएंट का प्रभाव पूरे तरीके से अप्रैल, मई और जून, 2021 में देखा गया। भारत में “डेल्टा” कोरोना के दूसरी लहर का कारण रहा। कोरोना की दूसरी लहर पहले के मुताबिक काफी भयानक साबित हुई। इस समय संक्रमण के फैलाव का दर और मृत्यु दर बहुत अधिक रहा। स्थिति इतनी भयावह बन पड़ी कि कई परीक्षाओं को रद्द किया गया और जो कक्षाएं ऑनलाइन चल रही थी उन्हें भी निलंबित किया गया। साथ में कई नए निवारक उपाय भी सुझाए गए जैसे डबल मास्किंग इत्यादि। कोरोनावायरस की दूसरी लहर ने भारत को एकदम झकझोर दिया है। ऐसा भी अनुमान लगाया जा रहा है कि कोरोनावायरस के एक नए वैरिएंट “डेल्टा प्लस” के साथ देश में इसकी तीसरी लहर भी दस्तक दे सकती है। इनसे बचने के उपाय है कि जितना जल्दी हो सके अपना टीकाकरण करवाइए और निवारक उपायों का पालन कीजिए। कोरोना की दूसरी लहर अभी भी खत्म नहीं हुई है और तीसरी लहर आने के संकेत जताएं जा रहें हैं। ऐसे वक्त में हम सभी को अपना हौसला और घोंसला बनाए रखने की जरूरत है, आगे सब ठीक हो जाएगा।

तेजस्वी
बी. ए हिंदी ऑनर्स, द्वितीय वर्ष

कोरोना में महिलाओं की स्थिति

नैराश्य लीला कुछ इस प्रकार हुई
दुनिया कोरोना महामारी का शिकार हुई
फिर शुरु हुई अनंत लोगों की जीवन समाप्ति की लीला
हृदक विदारक स्थिति आपार हुई
इस स्थिति के संकट की दोहरी मार
नारी पर कुछ इस प्रकार हुई
अनंत संघर्ष, निर्दयता की वर्षा फिर इनपर आपार हुई।

हर युग में नारी बने अपने त्यागो से श्रेष्ठ महान
खुद को समर्पित कर दिया, करा सबका उत्थान
इस वर्ष कोरोना के इनपर कुछ ऐसा प्रकोप दिखाया
फिर अत्यंत कठिन इनका जीवन बनाया
लॉकडाउन में रहकर करती रही 24 घंटे सबकी सेवा और
काम
कभी पति कभी बेटा-बेटी न मिला इनको आराम

परिवार-काम, काम से फिर परिवार, यही रही इनकी जिंदगानी
काम बेतहाशा बढ़ा और जीवन बना नीरस सी एक कहानी।
सहारा देकर परिवारों को तपती धूप में भी किया सफर
न नेहर से मदद मिली इनको न सरकार से ही हो पाया
गुज़र।

गरीब स्त्रियों का हाल, की तो पूछ मत ये खुदा
तूने क्यों चुना, जब जीवन में था यही गड़ा।
फिर भी प्रेम लुटा तन-मन दिया, करती रही बलिदान
स्नेह, ममत्व की वर्षा कर इस संकट के समय को

परिवारों के लिए बनाया कुछ आसान
ऑचल में छुपाती अपने लाल को
करती रही अपना मातृत्व कर्म अनवरत
कइयों ने देखा एक माँ का संघर्ष
खीचती रही एक बैग को, तन-मन से हारकर
जिसपर सोया था उसका एक बालक
कुछ पल की नींद, सुकून और एक छोटा सा संघर्ष विराम
दिलाने के लिए
खुद झेल गयी वो कड़कती धूप को
बालक को आराम दिलाने के लिए।

ऐसी कई अनगिनत दर्दनाक कहानियां गढ़ती गयी।

सड़को पर रोटी-रोटी को कई विधवा माँए तरस गयी
आशाएं कही डूब कर मूर्छित हो गयी
तो क्या...गरीबी की जिंदगी इसलिए दी गयी?

एक बेटी का संघर्ष कुछ यू रंग लाया
लाचार पिता का सारथी बन जब उसने उनको
निश्चित पड़ाव तक पहुँचाया।

पिया संग जो है कामनी, मातुल सूत के साथ
सास-ससुर को सेवती रूके कभी न हाथ
नारी तुम अतुल्य, स्वतंत्र हो
हर स्थिति में जीवन धन यंत्र हो
कोरोना के कपाल पर लिखा
स्नेह सुख मंत्र हो।

दीपा कुमारी
हिंदी विशेष, द्वितीय वर्ष



कोरोना काल में राजधानी दिल्ली

कोविड-19 के पड़ोसी देश चीन से भारत आने के बाद एकाएक भारत का परिदृश्य ही बदल गया। प्रधानमंत्री जी द्वारा लॉक डाउन लगाए जाने की घोषणा के बाद अचानक परिस्थिति बदल गयी। धीरे धीरे पूरे भारत में देर सवेर लॉक डाउन की घोषणा कर ही दी गयी। इस अचानक होने वाले लॉकडाउन ने परिस्थितियों को बद से बदतर कर दिया। जैसा की हम जानते है स्थिति कितनी गंभीर हो गयी। और लोगों को घरों में रहने को सख्त सलाह दी गयी। लोगों के बाहरी दुनिया से एकदम कट जाने से जलवायु में अविश्वसनीय परिवर्तन देखे गए। प्रकृति ने कुछ अविश्वसनीय परिवर्तनो को करीब से देखा जो शायद लॉक डाउन के बिना होने असंभव थे।

भारत की राजधानी दिल्ली जहाँ के प्रदूषण की समस्या भारत में ही नहीं अपितु विश्वभर में प्रसिद्ध है।

दिल्ली का प्रदूषण पूरे साल ही उच्च स्तर पर रहता है। राजधानी दिल्ली में भी प्रदूषण के स्तर में लॉक डाउन के दौरान कमी देखने को मिली। दिल्ली वो शहर है जहाँ हर किसी की सुबह शुरू होती है गाड़ियों की आवाज से, और जहाँ लोग सांस लेते है तो बस जिंदा रहने के लिए इन साँसों में एक बड़ा हिस्सा होता है प्रदूषण का।

विजय चौक से अब इंडिया गेट बहुत साफ दिखाई पड़ता है। परन्तु स्थिति हमेशा ऐसी नहीं रही है। लॉक डाउन के कारण "वर्क फ्रॉम होम" के सिद्धान्त को अपनाने के बाद से ही सड़को का ट्रैफिक कम हो गया है। आमतौर पर लगने वाले ट्रैफिक के हॉर्न के शोर गुल, धुँए, अन्यत्र लोगो द्वारा मचाये गए शोर और गर्मी की जगह अब शांत सड़को ने ले ली है। इनका फायदा उन लोगो को मिल रहा है जिनको इनकी आवश्यकता सबसे अधिक है। जैसे अस्थमा, बीपी, और उन बीमारियों के मरीज को जो साँस से ज्यादा जुड़ी हो। वायु प्रदूषण को रोकने व कम करने के लिए पहले भी कई प्रयास



किये जा चुके है। सरकार द्वारा कई अलग नियमो को लाकर तथा तकनीकी रूप से भी कई प्रयोगो को अंजाम दिया गया है, पर फिर भी ऐसा रिकॉर्ड और ऐतिहासिक परिवर्तन नहीं दिखा। कहा जा सकता है की कोरोना ने कई समस्याओं को उत्पन्न तो किया परंतु कई ऐसी समस्याएं जिनके समाधान होने की प्रक्रिया बहुत ही जटिल थी उसको मात्र कुछ महीनों में ही सुधार दिया। अंत में कहा जा सकता है की कोरोना के आने से जीवन उथल-पुथल सा हो गया परन्तु इसके कई सकारात्मक प्रभाव भी रहे।

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कोरोना में देवदूत मददगार

विश्व कोरोना जैसी महामारी से जूझ रहा है। लोग अपने घरों में कैद हैं, अधिकतर दुकानें बंद पड़ी हैं। साथ ही साथ कई लोग मदद के लिए भी आगे आये हैं। अमीर हो या मध्यम वर्ग सभी ने अपनी हिम्मत के अनुसार राशि दान कर के या खाना बाँटकर के लोगो के लिए रक्षक के तौर पर उभरे। पर इनसब से हट कर इस महामारी में महिलाओं को माहवारी में सैनेटरी पैड काफी तलाश करने पड़ रहे हैं। महिलाओं की यह पीड़ा लक्ष्मीनगर में रहने वाली पांच सहेलियों से देखी नहीं गई और वह पैड लेकर निकल गई महिलाओं की मदद करने के लिए। एक ओर तो लोग अनाज, खाना, मास्क बांट रहे हैं, वहीं यह महिलाएं सैनेटरी पैड बांटकर महिलाओं के मुश्किल दिनों में उनकी सहायता कर रहे हैं। ऐसे समय में जहाँ खाने के लिए पैसे का जुगाड़ करना मुश्किल हो रहा है उस स्थिति में माहवारी के दिनों के लिए सैनेटरी पैड्स का उपलब्ध होना बहुत नामुमकिन सा जान पड़ता है।

जिस तरह मनुष्य के लिए खाना ज़रूरत होता है, ठीक वैसे ही महिलाओं की ज़रूरत सैनेटरी पैड भी होते हैं। इस महावारी में अगर सफाई का ध्यान न रखा जाए तो बीमारी फैलने का खतरा रहता है। लॉकडाउन की वजह से सैनेटरी पैड मिलने में काफी समस्या पेश आ रही है।

भारतीय समाज में वैसे भी ये देखने को मिलता है कि घर की स्त्रियाँ पुरुषों से कभी सैनेटरी पैड्स को लेकर खुलकर बात नहीं करती। इस्तेमाल करने से खरीदने तक को गुप्त रखा जाता है। जैसे कि यह कोई शर्म की बात हो। ऐसी परिस्थिति में स्थितियाँ और विकट हो जाती हैं उन महिलाओं के लिए जो इन सब विषयों पर खुलकर बातचीत नहीं करती घर के अन्य सदस्यों से।

ऐसे कई अनगिनत नाम हैं जो खाद्य सामग्री वितरण में लगे हैं पर ऐसे लोगो के नाम जिन्होंने सैनेटरी पैड्स को इस महामारी के दौरान ज़रूरतमंदों तक पहुँचाया है उनके नाम विरले ही देखने को मिलते हैं अंतः कहा जा सकता है कि यह प्रयास अपने आप में ही अदृश्य है और इस काम को अंजाम तक पहुचाने के लिए जिम्मेदार नागरिक ही अपना योगदान दे सकते हैं। यह लोग ही सच्चे अर्थों में महिला समाज के लिए वरदान हैं।

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कोरोना महामारी और कोरोना वॉरियर्स

एक सप्ताह का लॉकडाउन कब छिट-पुट लॉकडाउन को मिलाकर एक वर्ष से अधिक लंबा लॉकडाउन बन जाएगा ये किसने सोचा था। अचानक से स्कूल, कॉलेज जैसे देश चलाने वाले संस्थान एक से एकडेढ़ वर्ष के लिए बंद हो जाएगा इसकी कल्पना भी मुश्किल थी, पर ऐसा हुआ।

कई सेवाओं को लंबे समय तक रद्द रखा गया। अध्यापकों, रेल कर्मियों, विमान सेवा, व्यापार जैसे कई अन्य पेशों को ऑनलाइन के विभिन्न माध्यमों द्वारा जारी रखा गया। जूम, गूगल मीट जैसे कई ऑनलाइन एप्स ने सहायता प्रदान की। वर्क फ्रॉम होम अत्यंत लाभकारी हुआ।

लेकिन इस अत्यंत निर्मम घातक समय में भी कुछ लोग थे जो ग्राउंड जीरो पर रहकर लोगों की देखभाल कर रहे थे। ये थे डॉक्टरों। लॉकडाउन में भी वर्क फ्रॉम होम इनके लिए व्यर्थ साबित हुआ। अपनी जान पर खेलकर इन्होंने के लोगों की जान बचाई। हालांकि इन्हें कई मुसीबतों का सामना भी करना पड़ा पर ये कभी सुस्त नहीं पड़े। कोरोना मरीजों को आमने सामने आने को तैयार हो उनकी देखभाल की। जब अपने रक्त संबंधियों ने अपनों का साथ छोड़ दिया। तब ये लोग बढ़कर आगे आये। कोरोना से अंततः मृत्यु हो जाने वाले लोगों की जब उनके परिवार द्वारा मृत शरीर को न लेने पर कई डॉक्टरों ने उनकी अंतियोष्टि की।

पर कई मानवता को शर्मसार करने वाली घटनाएं डॉक्टरों और नर्सों के साथ देखने को मिली।

एक मकान मालिक द्वारा किराए पर रह रही एक लड़की को इसलिए मकान छोड़ने पर विवश किया गया क्योंकि वह नर्स थी और अस्पताल में कोरोना मरीजों का देखभाल कर रही थी। अन्य कई स्थानों पर भी ऐसी घटनाओं को होता हुआ दर्ज किया गया। एक अन्य घटना में यह देखा गया की लोगो द्वारा कोरोना जाँच के सैम्पल्स लेने आये डॉक्टरों की टीम पर पत्थर बरसाए गए और कई बार अस्पताल में कोरोना पीड़ित की मृत्यु होने पर पीड़ित के परिवारजनों द्वारा डॉक्टरों के साथ हाथापाई की घटनाएं हुई है।

आज जब कोरोना वैक्सीन आ गयी है और बड़े स्तर पर वैक्सीनेशन की जा रही है और इसे एक क्रांति के रूप में लिया जा रहा है। ऐसी स्थिति में कहा जा सकता है की इस क्रांति को सफल बनाने में हमारे डॉक्टरों और नर्सों का ही हाथ है। जो बड़े स्तर पर वैक्सीनेशन कर रहे हैं। ऐसे स्थानों पर जा रहे हैं जहाँ से लोगों का वैक्सीनेशन के लिए आना कठिन है। दूर दराज के सुदूर क्षेत्रों में जाकर लोगों को वैक्सीन उपलब्ध करा रहे हैं।

निश्चित तौर पर यह कहा जा सकता है की कोरोना काल में डॉक्टरों और नर्सों दृढतय भगवान के रूप में हमारी रक्षा कर रहे हैं। अपने जीवन को खतरे में डालकर अपना तन मन न्यौछावर कर हमारी सहायता को हमेशा तत्पर रहे हैं। पूरा भारतवर्ष इनके आगे नकमस्तक है।

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एक सपना और दिल्ली प्रस्थान

सदैव भी भाँति आज भी उसका विचार इस कठिनाई में टूट गया कि क्या वो दिल्ली जाकर अपना सपना पूरा कर पायेगी? वो सपना जो उसे जीने की आस देते थे। उसके मन में ना ही सम्मान का लालच था और ना ही पैसों की चाह। बस मन में था वह एक क्षण जब उसने अपने मामा को वचन दिया था, कि वो आई. ए. एस. अफसर बनेगी। वो करती भी क्या उस समय, वो समय ही ऐसा था वह जानती थी कि शायद वह उनसे अब कभी नहीं मिल पायेगी, उनके प्रेम व ममता का आभास फिर कभी ना होगा। वह जो कहते जाते, वह हाँ बोलती जाती, आखिर जिस व्यक्ति ने बचपन से उसकी हर अच्छी, बुरी बात पर साथ दिया हो, वह उस व्यक्ति को कैसे मना करती। इस एक क्षण के भरोसे जो लड़की चौराहें तक अकेली नहीं गयी थी, वह हिम्मत कर दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय में अब पढ़ने जायेगी। इस हिचक के साथ उसने अपने और मामा जी की तस्वीर को अन्दर रखा। बस्ता जमाते समय वह सभी का प्रेम, विश्वास व आशीर्वाद भी रखती जाती। माँ, बाबा, बड़े भैया, दादाजी को विश्वास देकर कि वह सुरक्षित रहेगी, वह मन में जिम्मेदारी लिए दिल्ली के लिए रवाना हो गयी।

निष्ठा नराणिया
बी. ए. प्रोग्राम, प्रथम वर्ष

2020 एक ऐसा साल आया.....

जिसने बहुत सी चीजों से हैं रूबरू करवाया
उनमें से पैंडेमिक से भी बड़े अच्छे से रूबरू करवाया
पैंडेमिक का सफर था बड़ा अनोखा
खाना है की पीना या फिर सोना है की घर के बर्तन, बहुत
सी चीजों से है रूबरू करवाया
इस सफर में बहुतों ने उम्मीद भी हारी घर में बैठे-बैठे नए
खाने की विधि भी निकाली
पर इस पैंडेमिक ने बहुत सी चीजे भी सिखाई, घर वालों के
साथ खुशी के लम्हे कैसे जीए यह भी सिखाया। लड़ाई होने
के बाद भी एक दूसरे से हंसके बात करना यह भी सिखाया।
अपने साथ-साथ दूसरों को कैसे हँसाए यह भी सिखाया।
इस पैंडेमिक ने बहुत सी चीजों से रूबरू करवाया...।

खुशी शर्मा



कोरोना काल और रामायण और महाभारत जैसे सांस्कृतिक कार्यक्रमों का पुनः प्रसारण

मंगल भवन अमंगल हारी
द्रवहु सुदसरथ अजर बिहारी
राम सिया राम सिया राम जय जय राम

21 दिन के लॉक डाउन के तीसरे दिन यानी 20 मार्च को सूचना प्रसारण मंत्री श्री प्रकाश जावेडकर जी द्वारा यह घोषणा की गयी की रामानन्दसागर की सुप्रसिद्ध टी वी सीरीज रामायण का पुनः प्रसारण किया जाएगा। इस कार्यक्रम को सुबह और रात के समय दो बार प्रसारण करने का निर्णय लिया गया। यह सच में एक ऐतिहासिक क्षण बन गया। 1987 में प्रसारण होने वाला रामायण, वाल्मीकि की रामायण और रामचरितमानस को आधार बना कर इस कार्यक्रम की रचना की गयी थी। 1987 में जब यह रामायण लोगो के समक्ष प्रस्तुत किया गया था तब यह इतना लोकप्रिय हुआ की उसकी व्यूवर शिप 82 फीसदी थी। जो की अपने आप में ही एक रिकॉर्ड था। कुल मिलाकर 65 करोड़ लोगो की व्यूवरशिप थी। और 55 देशों में इसका प्रसारण किया गया था। इसके पीछे का सबसे बड़ा महत्वपूर्ण कारण था भगवान मर्यादा पुरषोत्तम राम जी का विश्वविख्यात अतुल्य चरित्र। भारतीयों का भगवान राम के प्रति उनकी भक्ति ने ही शायद फिर से इस कार्यक्रम को पुनः प्रारंभ पर बल दिया।

मंगल भवन अमंगल हारी
द्रवहु सुदसरथ अजर बिहारी
राम सिया राम सिया राम जय जय राम

इस मंगल ध्वनि से ही मानो पूरा घर पवित्र होता जाता था तथा सारी नकारात्मकता मन से निकलती हुई सी मालूम होती थी।

कोरोना काल में रामायण के भगवान राम से हमे विषम परिस्थितियों से जूझने व अंत तक हार न मानने की प्रेरणा मिलती है। कोरोना महामारी की वजह से जहाँ परिस्थितियां दिन प्रति दिन और अधिक खराब हो रही थी वही रामायण के पुनः प्रसारण से लोगो को धैर्य, ढाढ़स बंध रखा था। लोग इस

धारावाहिक के पुनः प्रसारण से खुद को ईश्वर के और निकट समझने लगे। इसने पिछले 5 साल के सभी टी वी रिकॉर्ड को तोड़ दिए। इसके अलावा दूरदर्शन पर बी. आर. चोपड़ा द्वारा निर्देशित कौरवों पांडवों पर आधारित महाभारत सीरीज को भी पुनः प्रसारित किया गया। रामायण की तरह ही इसने भी लोकप्रियता के कई कृतिमान स्थापित किये। इसके पात्र हर घर के एक पात्र बन गए थे।

लेकिन कई जगह महाभारत, रामायण जैसे धार्मिक कार्यक्रमों का यू इस तरह प्रसारण होना बहस का विषय बन गया। कई लोगो ने इसके धार्मिक असहिष्णुता से जोडकर देखा, तो कई अन्य धर्म के लोगो ने इसे खुद के धर्म पर खतरा मानते हुए बहसों को हवा दी। कई लोगो ने इसे सरकार की कोरोना महामारी पर हुई उस समय की असफलता से ध्यान भटकाने का कारण माना।

इन सब बातों को दरकिनार करते हुए कहा जा सकता है ये सब कारण भी इन ऐतिहासिक कार्यक्रमो को इतिहास बनाने से रोक नहीं पाए। कोरोना काल में वैक्सीन आने से पहले इन कार्यक्रमों को संजीवनी बूटी की तरह देखा गया।

कहा जा सकता है की इस कोरोना काल में जिस उद्देश्य से इन सांस्कृतिक कार्यक्रमो को पुनः प्रसारित किया गया था। वह उद्देश्य सार्थक हुआ।

दीपा कुमारी
द्वितीय वर्ष

मिथिला की संस्कृति

भारत के विभिन्न क्षेत्र में भिन्न-भिन्न संस्कृति और परम्परा की छटा दिखती है। मिथिला की संस्कृति उत्तर-भारत की एक विशिष्ट संस्कृति के रूप में जानी जाती है।

मिथिला में हर जाति, धर्म, वर्ग और समुदाय के लोग रहते हैं, पर सबके बीच सौहार्द और स्नेह का अटूट सम्बन्ध है। राजा जनक और उनकी सुपुत्री जानकी इस क्षेत्र की विशिष्टता के प्रतीक हैं। यहाँ के निवासी सरल और शांतिप्रिय हैं। मिथिलांचल क्षेत्र में मुख्यतः मधुबनी, दरभंगा, समस्तीपुर, जयनगर एवं सीतामढ़ी जिला आते हैं। मिथिला का मुख्य केन्द्र दरभंगा है। जिसे भावी मिथिलांचल की राजधानी भी कहा जाता है। यहाँ की मुख्य भाषा मैथिली है, जो कर्णाप्रिय एवं मधुर है। मछली पान और मखाना यहाँ की संस्कृति के प्रमुख अंग हैं। यहाँ शुभ अवसरों पर इनके प्रयोग की सुदीर्घ परंपरा रही है। यहाँ आज भी ग्राम्य संस्कृति की झलक देखी जा सकती है। अब भी यहाँ धोती-कुरता और साड़ियों को पहनावे के रूप में देखा जा सकता है।

यहाँ धार्मिक सद्भाव का अनुपम रूप लक्षित होता है। हर धर्म के लोग मिलकर सभी त्यौहारों को मनाते हैं। यह क्षेत्र त्याग, दर्शन, नीति और सदाचार के लिए प्रसिद्ध रहा है।

यहाँ की चित्रकला, 'मिथिला पेंटिंग' के नाम से विश्व विख्यात है। यहाँ के कलाकार केवल देश में ही नहीं बल्कि विदेशों में भी सम्मान प्राप्त कर चुके हैं। इसी पावन भूमि पर विद्यापति, आयाची मिश्र, नागार्जुन, मंडन मिश्र, चंदा झा एवं दरभंगा महाराज जैसे महापुरुषों ने जन्म लिया, जिनके यश-सौरभ से आज भी यहाँ का वातावरण सुगंधित है। साहित्य, भारत की संस्कृतियों में विशिष्ट स्थान रखती है। इस कारण कहा गया है कि मिथिला संस्कृति में सम्पूर्ण भारतीय संस्कृति का प्रतिबिम्ब झलकता है।

सच कहें तो मैथिल, मिथिला और मैथिली अतिविशिष्ट है। प्रतिभा मिलनसारिता, नम्रता व आचरण की शुद्धता का संगम है मिथिला।

विद्या, तप, त्याग, दही, मछली, पान और मखाना की अनमोल

भूमि है मिथिला। विश्व की समस्त भाषाओं का मिठास की दृष्टि से भूषण है मैथिली।

“स्वर्ग से सुंदर मिथिला धाम
माँदान अयाची राजा जनक के गाँव
स्वर्ग से सुंदर मिथिला धाम”

अंकिता आनन्द
हिंदी ऑनर्स, प्रथम वर्ष



हिंदी वाद-विवाद समिति वार्षिक रिपोर्ट (2020-2021)

‘मंथन’ हिंदी वाद-विवाद समिति भाषण एवं वाद-विवाद का आयोजन समय समय पर करती रहती है। इसका उद्देश्य युवाओं की बौद्धिक एवं तार्किक क्षमता का विकास करना है। इस समिति के संचालन का दायित्व डॉ. मीनाक्षी कुमार (संयोजक), मिस मानसी अनेजा (सह संयोजक) द्वारा किया गया। साथ ही छात्राओं में से भी पदाधिकारियों का चुनाव करवाया गया, जिसमें सर्वसम्मति से उन्नति अग्रवाल (13.08.2020) को अध्यक्ष सौन्दर्या द्विवेदी (16.08.2020) को उपाध्यक्ष और पल्लवी (10.12.2020) को सचिव पद के लिए चुना गया।



इस समिति द्वारा सत्र 2020-21 में तीन प्रतियोगिताओं का आयोजन किया गया :-

इसमें पहली अन्तर-विभागीय प्रतियोगिता 2 नवंबर 2020 को जागरुकता सप्ताह के उपलक्ष्य में इंडियन आयल कारपोरेशन के संयोजन द्वारा सम्पन्न हुई। जिसमें 10 प्रतिभागियों ने भाग लिया। यह प्रतियोगिता दो चरणों में सम्पन्न हुई। प्रतियोगिता में हिस्सा लेने के लिए छात्राओं को प्रीलिम्स प्रतियोगिता के द्वारा चुना गया। प्रीलिम्स प्रतियोगिता के आधार पर मंथन समिति द्वारा 4 छात्राओं पूजा, टीना, समीक्षा, सौन्दर्या को प्रतियोगिता के लिए चुना गया। इस प्रतियोगिता का विषय “राष्ट्रीय समृद्धि और भ्रष्टाचार मुक्त भारत के लिए व्यक्तिगत इमानदारी (सत्यनिष्ठा) ही समाधान है” रखा गया। इस प्रतियोगिता को ऑनलाइन मोड द्वारा गूगल मीट पर आयोजित किया गया।

दूसरी अन्तर-विभागीय प्रतियोगिता 6 जनवरी 2021 को आयोजित की गई। इसमें प्रतियोगिता का विषय “संयुक्त परिवार ही भारतीय संस्कृति की धरोहर है” रखा गया। इस प्रतियोगिता को ऑनलाइन मोड द्वारा गूगल मीट पर आयोजित किया गया।

यह प्रतियोगिता केवल प्रथम वर्ष की छात्राओं के लिए आयोजित की गई थी। जिसमें प्रथम स्थान हिन्दी विभाग की प्रथम वर्ष की छात्रा तनुश्री ने प्राप्त किया तथा दूसरा स्थान भूमिका (बी. ए. प्रोग्राम) ने प्राप्त किया।

तीसरी अन्तर-महाविद्यालय प्रतियोगिता 27 फरवरी 2021 को गूगल मीट पर ऑनलाइन मोड द्वारा आयोजित की गई। इस प्रतियोगिता का विषय “वर्तमान समय में मीडिया लोकतंत्र की अपेक्षाओं पर खरा उतरा है” रखा गया। इस प्रतियोगिता में दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय के विभिन्न कॉलेजों के छात्र व छात्राओं ने प्रतिभाग लिया। इस प्रतियोगिता में प्रथम पुरस्कार अभीष्ट



(आर्यभट्ट कॉलेज) व उत्कर्ष पुलकित (अरबिंदो कॉलेज) ने प्राप्त किया। द्वितीय पुरस्कार मेघा (कमला नेहरू कॉलेज) व आस्था (कालिंदी कॉलेज)ने प्राप्त किया। तृतीय पुरस्कार धनंजय (राम लाल आनंद कॉलेज)ने प्राप्त किया। सर्वश्रेष्ठ प्रश्नकर्ता के लिए आनंद (देश बंधु कॉलेज) व सत्यम दूबे (आर्यभट्ट कॉलेज) ने पुरुस्कार प्राप्त किया।

इस वर्ष की सभी प्रतियोगितायें गूगल मीट द्वारा ऑनलाइन आयोजित की गयी। जिससे प्रतियोगिताओं का आयोजन करना कुछ चुनौतीपूर्ण रहा परंतु समिति के कोर टीम के सदस्यों के सहयोग द्वारा व अध्यापकगणों के उचित मार्गदर्शन द्वारा समिति के सभी कार्यक्रम सफलतापूर्ण सम्पन्न हुए। समिति के सुचारु कार्यान्वयन तथा मार्गदर्शन के लिए हम सभी अध्यापकगण तथा सदस्यों का हार्दिक आभार व्यक्त करते हैं।

डॉ. मीनाक्षी कुमार, संयोजक
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सौन्दर्या द्विवेदी, उपाध्यक्ष

प्रतिभा हिंदी प्रश्नोत्तरी समिति (2020-2021) रिपोर्ट

प्रतिभा, जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज की हिंदी प्रश्नोत्तरी समिति है। प्रत्येक वर्ष विद्यार्थियों के लिए विभिन्न विषयों पर अंतर्विभागीय एवं अंतरमहाविद्यालय स्तर पर उनकी बौद्धिक क्षमता को बढ़ाने के लिए प्रश्नोत्तरी प्रतियोगिताओं का आयोजन करवाती है, प्रतियोगिताओं में कई प्रकार के विषय वैविध्य को सम्मिलित किया जाता है।

प्रतिभा समिति ने इसी लक्ष्य को ध्यान में रखते हुए इस वर्ष भी अनेक प्रश्नोत्तरी प्रतियोगिताओं का आयोजन करवाया। इस वर्ष समिति का संचालन डॉ. मीनाक्षी कुमार एवं डॉ. रश्मि द्वारा किया गया साथ ही समिति की अध्यक्ष के रूप में रीना और उपाध्यक्ष के रूप में खुशी त्यागी को चुनाव द्वारा चुना गया। इसके पश्चात् कोर टीम के सदस्यों का चुनाव किया गया। कोर टीम की सक्रियता इस समिति को और महत्वपूर्ण बनाने में अहम भूमिका निभाती है।

आजकल के हालातों को देखते हुए इस समिति का कामकाज पूरी तरह से ऑनलाइन माध्यमों के द्वारा प्रस्तुत किया गया। कोविड महामारी के चलते, यह सत्र 2020-21 अपने पहले

सत्रों से भिन्न रहा। इस वर्ष के सभी कार्यक्रम ऑनलाइन माध्यम के द्वारा प्रस्तुत किया गया।

समिति की प्रथम प्रतियोगिता 20 जनवरी को, 12:45 से 2:00 बजे तक अंतर्विभागीय स्तर पर प्रथम वर्ष की छात्राओं के लिए आयोजित करवाई गई। इस प्रतियोगिता का विषय सामान्य ज्ञान था। इसे तीन भागों में विभाजित किया गया था जिसका विषय पहला खेल, दूसरा सामान्य ज्ञान, और तीसरा समसामयिक विषय था। जिसमें प्रथम स्थान भूमिका (बी. ए. प्रोग्राम) दूसरा स्थान अंकिता आनंद (हिंदी विभाग) और तीसरा स्थान अनुष्का कौशिक (बी एल. एड. विभाग) ने प्राप्त किया।

समिति की दूसरी प्रतियोगिता 1 मार्च को 4:30 से 6:00 बजे तक दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय के स्नातक स्तर के विद्यार्थियों के लिए आयोजित की गई जिसका विषय हिंदी साहित्य का आधुनिक काल था। इसे चार भागों में विभाजित किया गया। पहला पद्य रचनाएँ, दूसरा गद्य रचनाएँ, तीसरा पत्र पत्रिकाओं के नाम, समय, और प्रकाशन और चौथा साहित्यकारों के चित्र देखकर उन्हें पहचानना का था। जिसमें प्रथम स्थान वसीम (एस. जी. टी. बी खालसा), दूसरा हर्ष उर्मालिया (हिंदू कॉलेज), और तीसरा स्थान एम. स. सरस्वती दुबे (किरोड़ी मल कॉलेज) ने हासिल किया।

यह प्रतियोगिता भी पूर्ण रूप से सफल और मनोरंजक रही। इस प्रतियोगिता के माध्यम से इस बात की भी जानकारी मिलती है कि कोविड महामारी के दौर में भी विद्यार्थी विभिन्न ऑनलाइन माध्यमों से जुड़कर खुद को कॉलेज की सामान्य स्थितियों को फिर से महसूस कर अपने ज्ञान को बढ़ा सकते हैं।

समिति को नियमित रूप से चलाने के लिए समय समय पर बैठक की गयी, जिसमें आगामी कार्यक्रमों के विषय पर चर्चा हुई। यह वर्ष समिति के लिए अत्यंत उत्साहपूर्ण और ज्ञानवर्धक रहा को सफल बनाने के लिए कोर टीम के सभी सदस्यों ने अपने दायित्वों को बखूबी निभाया जिसके कारण ही समिति ने बड़े ही सफलता और सहजता से इस सत्र के कार्यों को किया और अपनी सृजनात्मकता से समिति को बनाया गया।

डॉ.मीनाक्षी कुमार (सह संयोजक)
रीना (अध्यक्ष)
खुशी त्यागी (उपाध्यक्ष)
प्रतिभा, हिंदी प्रश्नोत्तरी समिति

कॉल्ड्रन, हिंदी मैगजीन सोसाइटी

पन्नो की एक ऐसी रंग बिरंगी भूल-भुलैया, जहाँ विविध विषयों से सामना होना हो, जहाँ जान-बूझकर लापता होना हो, मानो जैसे किसी गूढ़ ज्ञान की प्राप्ति के लिए फिर किसी साधना में लीन होना हो।

जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज की हिंदी कॉल्ड्रन, मैगजीन सोसायटी एक पारिवारिक सोसायटी है। यह सोसाइटी सभी छात्र-छात्राओं के रचनात्मक लेखनी का स्वागत करती है। विभिन्न भावों एवं विचारों से संबंधित लेखन किसी भी विधा में हो सकती है।

यह सोसायटी हर छात्र को एक प्रभावशाली मंच प्रदान करना सुनिश्चित करती है, ताकि वह रचनात्मक लेखन द्वारा दिन-प्रतिदिन की चुनौतियों के बीच स्वयं को तलाश सके।

सृजन का अर्थ होता है कुछ सोचकर नया बनाना या करना। सृजन कला का वह क्षण है जिसमें मनुष्य जीवन की तमाम अनुभूतियों को अपनी कल्पना से शब्दों में पिरोकर व्यक्त करता है। कॉलेज पत्रिका का उद्देश्य छात्राओं की रचनात्मक कला को, उनकी उभरती हुई प्रतिभा को उजागर करना एवं उनका पथ प्रदर्शन करना है। अपने मनोभावों को शब्दों के माध्यम से अभिव्यक्त करना शांति प्राप्त करने का साधन है। पत्रिका का उद्देश्य छात्राओं के लेखन कौशल का सर्वांगीण विकास करना है।

गतिविधियां :-

साल 2020 हम सभी के लिए कितना कठिन रहा, मगर इस महामारी के दौरान भी सभी ने परिश्रम का हाथ नहीं छोड़ा।

वर्ष 2020-21 की शुरुआत सोसाइटी के पदाधिकारी, अध्यक्ष एवं उपाध्यक्ष के चुनाव से हुई जिसमें सर्वसम्मति से वेणु (हिंदी विभाग, तृतीय वर्ष) अध्यक्ष के पद के लिए और अदिति (हिंदी विभाग, द्वितीय वर्ष) उपाध्यक्ष के पद के लिए निर्णायक मंडली द्वारा चुनी गईं।

कॉल्ड्रन मैगजीन सोसायटी का लक्ष्य ही यह रहा है कि छात्राओं की वैचारिक एवं बौद्धिक क्षमता का विकास हो और वे लेखन के माध्यम से अपने विचार व्यक्त कर पाएँ। समिति ने 2020-21 में मुख्य रूप से प्रतियोगिताओं के साथ कई वेबिनार्स आयोजित किए और अन्य सोसायटी के कैंपेन से जुड़ने का भी सफल प्रयास किया।



समिति ने सत्र की शुरुआत में 'सृजनात्मक लेखन प्रतियोगिता' आयोजित की जो हिंदी पखवाड़े के उपलक्ष्य में रखी गई थी। यह प्रतियोगिता हर वर्ष की छात्राओं के लिए थी।

कॉल्ड्रन हिंदी समिति ने इसी वर्ष अपना सोशल मीडिया पेज भी स्थापित किया। 25 सितंबर 2020 में इसकी स्थापना हुई जिसका लिंक नीचे दिया गया है।

https://instagram-com/cauldron_jmc%igshid%43m836ogbd4r0

सोसायटी की छात्राओं ने इन्वैक्टस जेएमसी के 'वूमेन स्टीरियोटाइप' कैंपेन में भी उनका साथ दिया और सहकार्यता प्रकट की।



इनैक्टस जेएमसी के पेज का लिंक

https://www.instagram-com/enactus_jmc/

समिति ने 8 नवंबर 2020 को अपना ब्लॉग पेज 'आईना-ए-तहरीर' की स्थापना की। इस समारोह में मुख्य अतिथि मनीष शर्मा जी रहे जो एबीपी न्यूज के वरिष्ठ प्रोड्यूसर और 'गंदगी के महारथी' के लेखक भी हैं। मनीष शर्मा जी ने ब्लॉग पेज लॉन्च करने के साथ इस अवसर पर हमारी छात्राओं को कहानी लेखन पर कुछ महत्वपूर्ण बातें भी बताई।

कॉल्ड्रन मैगजीन समिति और भारती कॉलेज की रिसर्च समिति ने सहकार्यता से 18 अक्टूबर 2020 को एक वेबिनार और आयोजित किया जिसका विषय था- 'इंटरनेशनल वेबिनार ऑन लैंग्वेज, रिसर्च एंड टीचिंग : ए डायलॉग ऑन हिंदी।' प्रस्तुत वेबिनार में हमारे अतिथि हमसे विश्व के अलग - अलग कोनों से जुड़े, जामिला ख्लेमकोवा यूक्रेन से, विपुल गोस्वामी जर्मनी से और निकोलस बोइन प्रिंसिपाटो फ्रांस से। यह समारोह सफलतापूर्वक संपन्न हुआ।

जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज में जैसे हर सोसायटी ने अपने-अपने फ्रेशर्स का स्वागत अपने तरीकों से किया, उसी प्रकार कॉल्ड्रन हिंदी समिति ने भी अपने फ्रेशर्स का स्वागत एक

ओरिएंटेशन प्रोग्राम के द्वारा किया। इस कार्यक्रम का विषय रहा- 'एक्सटेंपोर', जहाँ हर छात्रा ने अलग -अलग विषयों पर अपने अपने विचार व्यक्त किए और कार्यक्रम को सफल बनाया।

सोसायटी की छात्राओं ने एक बार फिर एल्गोरिथम जेएमसी (गणित विभाग का न्यूजलेटर) के साथ सहकार्यता प्रकट की और उनके "टेक्नोलॉजी कैम्पेन" में उनका साथ दिया। एल्गोरिथम जेएमसी के पेज का लिंक-

https://instagram-com/algorithm_jmc%igshid%41lbtcov4pzke9

आईना-ए-तहरीर

“शब्दों के साथ खेलने में बहुत मजा है, बस शब्दों को ठीक से लगाना सीख लो”।

जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज की हिंदी कॉल्ड्रन मैगजीन सोसाइटी ने तकनीकी विकास को साथ लेकर आगे बढ़ने के उद्देश्य से ब्लॉग पेज का निर्माण किया है जिसे हाल ही में लॉन्च किया गया है। यह एक एकीकृत मंच है जहाँ विभिन्न छात्र-छात्राओं के सृजन कर्म को आकार लेते हुए देखा जा सकता है। इसके साथ ही विचारधाराओं के विश्लेषण से लेकर देश एवं समाज से जुड़े मुद्दों को भी यहाँ स्थान दिया गया है। यह मंच हिंदी से जुड़ी सभी बड़ी-छोटी अभिव्यक्तियों का स्वागत

करती है जो अकादमिक रूप से प्रभावित और अनुभवात्मक रूप से प्रेरित करने वाली है। विविध शिक्षण संस्थानों से जुड़े विद्यार्थियों और शोधार्थियों की रचनाएँ इस मंच पर प्रकाशन हेतु आमंत्रित हैं।

अधिक जानकारी के लिए ,आप नीचे दिए हुए लिंक पे जाएँ—

<https://jmchindimagazinecauldron.blogspot-com/\m%41>

हिंदी संयोजक
डॉ. अनुपमा श्रीवास्तव
डॉ. बीरेंद्र सिंह

अध्यक्ष— वेणु
उपाध्यक्ष— अदिति



हिंदी विभाग रिपोर्ट (2020-2021)

प्रत्येक वर्ष की भांति इस वर्ष भी हिंदी विभाग द्वारा कार्यक्रमों का आयोजन किया गया। यह वर्ष अपने आप में एक चुनौतीपूर्ण भरा रहा। कोरोना जैसे महामारी में भी हमने तकनीकी सहायताओं के माध्यम से विभिन्न कार्यक्रमों का आयोजन किया। इस वर्ष हिंदी विभाग के अध्यक्ष एवं उपाध्यक्ष का चुनाव 10 अगस्त, 2020 को विभागाध्यक्ष डॉ. अमिता तिवारी एवं अन्य आध्यपिका के निर्देशन में हुआ। इसमें हिंदी विभाग की अध्यक्ष समीक्षा और उपाध्यक्ष तेजस्वी को बनाया गया। इसके उपरांत द्वितीय और तृतीय वर्ष से कोर टीम सदस्यों का चुनाव किया गया।

15 जून, 2020 को हिंदी विभाग एवम् आंतरिक गुणवत्ता आश्वासन प्रकोष्ठ (IQUAC) की ओर से "समकालीन हिंदी उपन्यास और वर्तमान साहित्य" विषय पर वेबीनार का आयोजन हुआ। जिसमें हिन्दी कथा लेखिका मैत्रेयी पुष्पा एवं आलोचक और दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय, हिन्दी विभाग की प्रोफेसर सुधा सिंह मुख्य अतिथि तथा वक्ता थे। विभागाध्यक्ष डॉ. अमिता तिवारी के दिशा निर्देश पर वेबीनार का आयोजन किया गया जिसमें मॉडरेटर की भूमिका हिंदी विभाग की प्रोफेसर डॉ. सपना गांधी ने निभाई।

28 जून, 2020 को हमारी वरिष्ठ अध्यापिका डॉ. कमलेश महाजन की सेवानिवृत्ति समारोह था जिसका आयोजन डॉ. अमिता तिवारी के दिशानिर्देश पर हुआ। कोरोना काल को देखते हुए यह आयोजन ऑनलाइन किया गया। विभाग के सभी छात्राओं ने उनके प्रति आभार प्रकट किया। पिछले सत्र के कुछ छात्राएँ भी वहाँ उपस्थित थी जिन्होंने फेयरवेल स्पीच दी। छात्राओं द्वारा बहुत ही सुंदर गीत तथा लोकगीत प्रस्तुत किया गया। हिंदी विभाग के प्रभारी एवं छात्र संघ के अध्यक्ष द्वारा यह कार्यक्रम अत्यंत ही सफलतापूर्वक आयोजित किया गया।

जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज के तत्वावधान में हिंदी दिवस 14 सितंबर, 2020 के अवसर पर दो दिवसीय विभिन्न विधाओं में कार्यक्रम का आयोजन ऑनलाइन हुआ जिसमें 6 सितंबर को अंतर महाविद्यालय सृजनात्मक लेखन प्रतियोगिता तथा 11 सितंबर को अंतरविभागीय लोकगीत प्रतियोगिता का आयोजन किया गया। सृजनात्मक लेखन प्रतियोगिता में बतौर निर्णायक

मंडल के रूप में डॉ. मीनाक्षी कुमार तथा डॉ. बीरेंद्र सिंह ने भूमिका निभाई तथा लोक गीत के निर्णायक मंडल में बतौर निर्णायक के रूप में डॉ. अर्चना त्रिपाठी तथा एल.एस. आर की प्रोफेसर डॉ. प्रीति प्रजापति ने भूमिका निभाई। सृजनात्मक लेखन के विजेता दीपा कुमारी को प्रथम पुरस्कार, सौंदर्या द्विवेदी को द्वितीय पुरस्कार तथा रागिनी झा को तृतीय पुरस्कार प्राप्त हुआ तथा लोक गीत प्रतियोगिता के विजेता दिक्षा झा एवं अदिति को प्रथम पुरस्कार, रविना थॉमस को द्वितीय पुरस्कार, दिव्या को तृतीय पुरस्कार और पूजा को सांत्वना पुरस्कार प्राप्त हुआ।

14 सितंबर, 2020 को "हिंदी दिवस" के उपलक्ष्य में विभाग द्वारा वेबीनार का आयोजन हुआ, जिसमें श्री. गिरिेश्वर मिश्र (महात्मा गांधी अंतर्राष्ट्रीय हिंदी विश्वविद्यालय के कुलपति) मुख्य अतिथि तथा वक्ता थे। कार्यक्रम में प्रिंसिपल डॉ. सैद्धा जोसेफ तथा भूतपूर्व प्रिंसिपल डॉ. सिस्टर रोजिलि भी उपस्थित थी। विभागाध्यक्ष डॉ. अमिता तिवारी के दिशा निर्देश एवं छात्र संघ द्वारा यह कार्यक्रम अत्यंत ही सफलतापूर्वक आयोजित किया गया।

1 अक्टूबर, 2020 को विभाग की ओर से "हिंदी साहित्य और गांधी" विषय पर शोध पत्र प्रस्तुतीकरण प्रतियोगिता का आयोजन किया गया। प्रतियोगिता में बतौर निर्णायक मंडल के रूप में डॉ.सपना गांधी तथा डॉ. मीनाक्षी कुमार ने भूमिका निभाई। शोध पत्र के विजेता तेजस्वी को प्रथम पुरस्कार, नंदिनी रॉय एवम् अदिति को द्वितीय पुरस्कार, टीना थॉमस को तृतीय पुरस्कार तथा समीक्षा, पूजा, दीपा को सांत्वना पुरस्कार प्राप्त हुआ।

17 नवंबर, 2020 को प्रथम वर्ष के लिए ओरियंटेशन कार्यक्रम का आयोजन किया गया जिसमें विभाग के सभी आध्यपक – आध्यपिका एवम् ऑफिस बीयरर्स उपस्थित थे। कार्यक्रम के दौरान प्रथम वर्ष के छात्रों को विभाग के शिक्षकों, ऑफिस बियरर्स के साथ परिचय करवाया गया और उन्हें कॉलेज के नियमों से अवगत किया गया। विभागाध्यक्ष डॉ. अमिता तिवारी के दिशा निर्देश पर ओरियंटेशन का आयोजन हुआ।

29 जनवरी, 2021 को विभाग की तरफ से प्रथम वर्ष के लिए मिस फ्रेशर्स कार्यक्रम का आयोजन किया गया जिसमें विभाग



के अध्यापक—अध्यापिका और सभी विद्यार्थी उपस्थित थे। इस अवसर पर मिस फ्रेशर्स प्रतियोगिता का आयोजन हुआ जिसमें, इंटरडिक्शन राउंड, टैलेंट राउंड, प्रश्नोत्तरी राउंड, परफॉर्मेंस राउंड के द्वारा मिस फ्रेशर्स के प्रतिभा का चुनाव किया गया। “मिस हिंदी” अर्थात् “मिस फ्रेशर्स” का खिताब उदिशा को दिया गया, फर्स्ट रनरअप एंजेलिना ऑगस्टीन और सेकंड रनरअप अंतरा आरोही को प्राप्त हुआ।

12 मार्च, 2021 विभाग द्वारा ‘हिंदी ऑनर्स के बाद रोजगार की संभावनाएं’ विषय पर “लेक्चर सिरीज” का आयोजन किया गया था जिसमें मुख्य वक्ता हिंदी विभाग की विभागाध्यक्ष डॉ. अमिता तिवारी थी। भविष्य में हिंदी ऑनर्स के बाद छात्राओं हिंदी फील्ड में क्या-क्या कर सकती हैं, इससे उन्हें अवगत करवाया गया और उनके सभी सवालों का जबाब दिया गया। कार्यक्रम में विभाग की अध्यक्ष, उपाध्यक्ष और छात्रों उपस्थित थे।

जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज के तत्वावधान में साहित्योत्सव के अवसर पर दो दिवसीय ऑनलाइन कार्यक्रम का आयोजन हुआ जिसमें 17 मार्च, 2021 को अंतर महाविद्यालय मौलिक कविता प्रतियोगिता तथा अंतर महाविद्यालय लोकनृत्य प्रतियोगिता का आयोजन किया गया छ प्रतियोगिता का उद्देश्य विद्यार्थियों की रचनात्मकता को निखारना था। मौलिक कविता प्रतियोगिता

में बतौर निर्णायक मंडल के रूप में डॉ. मीनाक्षी कुमार तथा डॉ. बीरेंद्र सिंह ने भूमिका निभाई तथा लोकनृत्य प्रतियोगिता में बतौर निर्णायक मंडल के रूप में डॉ. अर्चना त्रिपाठी तथा अदिति महाविद्यालय की प्रोफेसर डॉ आशा ने भूमिका निभाई। मौलिक कविता प्रतियोगिता के विजेता विपासना (रामुनजन कॉलेज) को प्रथम पुरस्कार, अकृति (लेडी श्री राम कॉलेज) को द्वितीय पुरस्कार, विवेक कुमार आनंद (देशबंधु कॉलेज) एवम् रिन्सी बैपटिस (जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज) को तृतीय पुरस्कार तथा दुर्गेश तिवारी (पी.जी.डी.ऐ.वी कॉलेज) को सांत्वना पुरस्कार प्राप्त हुआ तथा लोकनृत्य प्रतियोगिता के विजेता कुड़ियों की फुलकारी (भारती कॉलेज की टीम) को प्रथम पुरस्कार, मृदंगा (मिरिंडा कॉलेज की टीम) को द्वितीय पुरस्कार तथा नृत्यांजलि (जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज की टीम) एवम् नृत्यांगना (श्री वेंकटेश्वर कॉलेज की टीम) को तृतीय पुरस्कार प्राप्त हुआ।

साहित्योत्सव के अगले दिन 18 मार्च, 2021 को “समकालीन साहित्य और समाज” विषय पर वेबीनार का आयोजन किया गया। इस कार्यक्रम में वक्ता के रूप में इंदिरा गांधी राष्ट्रीय मुक्त विश्वविद्यालय के प्रो. जितेन्द्र कुमार श्रीवास्तव उपस्थित थे जिन्होंने कार्यक्रम में उपस्थित छात्र-छात्राओं का ज्ञानवर्धन किया। कार्यक्रम में जीसस एंड मेरी कॉलेज की वर्तमान प्रधानाचार्य डॉ. सैंड्रा जोसेफ भी उपस्थित रहीं। हिन्दी विभाग द्वारा आयोजित यह समारोह सफल रहा। समारोह को सफल बनाने में विभाग की अध्यक्ष, उपाध्यक्ष और कोर टीम ने महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई।

मैं अपनी कॉलेज की प्रधानाचार्य डॉ. सैंड्रा जोसेफ, भूतपूर्व प्रधानाचार्य डॉ. सिस्टर रोजिलि, हिंदी विभाग की विभागाध्यक्ष डॉ. अमिता तिवारी, विभाग की आध्यपक—आध्यपिका का तहे दिल से धन्यवाद करना चाहूंगी की उन्होंने हमें ये अवसर प्रदान किया, हमारा मार्गदर्शन किया और समय—समय पर हमें कार्यक्रम करने के लिए प्रोत्साहित किया।

हिंदी विभागाध्यक्ष
डॉ.अमिता तिवारी

अध्यक्ष—समीक्षा
उपाध्यक्ष—तेजस्वी

संपादकीय मण्डल

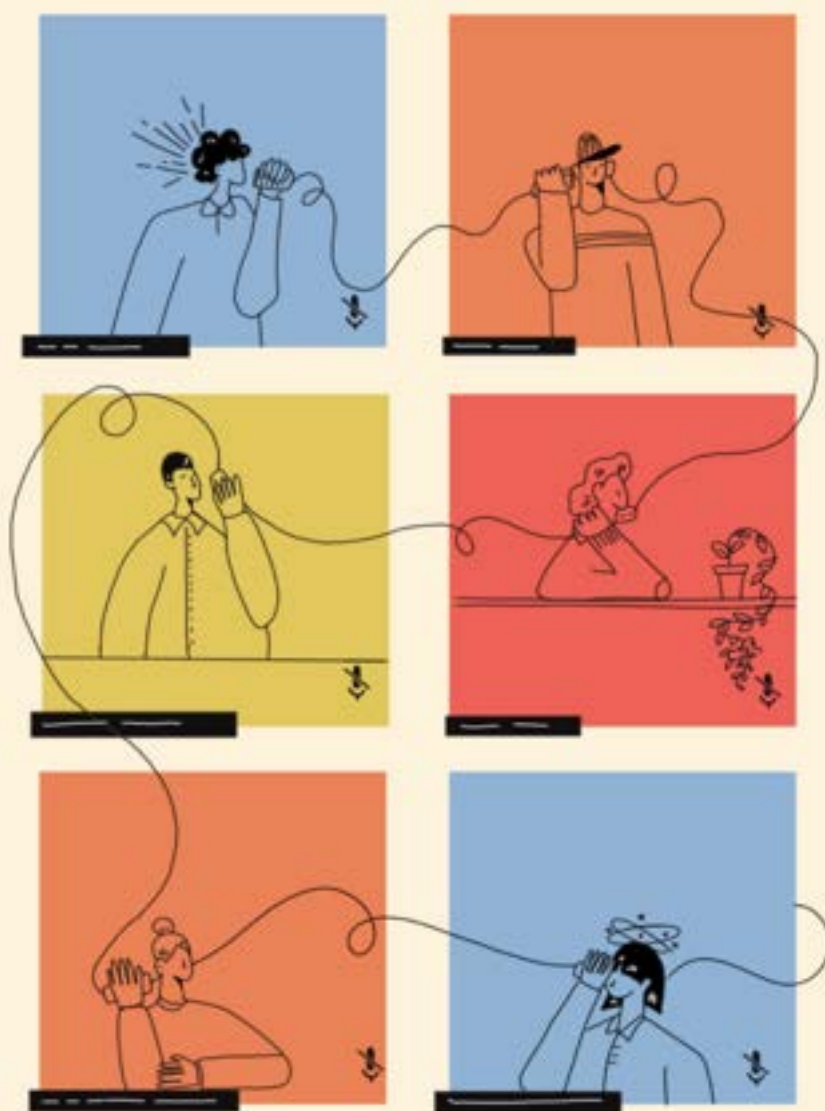


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