



अGRANIKA

2016



MAC

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From the Chairman's Desk

I am delighted to have an opportunity to address all stakeholders of Maharaja Agrasen College through its annual magazine – Agrantika.

At the outset, let me congratulate the students, teachers and the administration for a well run college. In amongst its peers Maharaja Agrasen College has built good reputation for itself in its relatively short life compared to some of its vintage peers. That can only be due to the commitment of all the people integral to the college. Therefore, the challenge which confronts all of us is even bigger – how to take our college to the next level, to make it among the top 5 sought after colleges?

The members of the governing body, along with me, set ourselves an agenda at the beginning of the term and we have worked towards achieving it but there is more to be done, much more to meet the challenge before us.

The only way Maharaja Agrasen College will grow to reach the heights in institutional quality is when each one of us is consciously striving, in our own ways, to help it reach those heights. I, thus, invite you all to join the efforts, wholeheartedly, to take Maharaja Agrasen College to newer and dizzier heights.

I wish everyone all the best.

Siddharth Verma





From the Principal's Desk

Agranika is a portrait of the life and daily experiences of the students in the college. These experiences emerge from diverse sources as action based research projects, educational journeys, conferences and workshops, international exchange programs, college publications, cultural activities and social work. Dr. Rajhans as editor of Agranika has done well to showcase the rich experiences of students and staff during the preceding academic year.

The establishment of Center for Innovations in Management and Communication in the college with a grant of Rs.1.20 Crore from the University of Delhi, and TV and News Production Program with a grant of Rs.69 Lakhs from the University of Delhi has opened up opportunities for the students of the college to develop their knowledge and skills through practical experience. More than 200 students and faculty members have opportunities to be engaged in 16 innovation projects in the college. The Internal Quality Assurance Cell, established in the college at the initiative of Chairman, Governing Body will go a long way in promoting excellence in all activities in the college.

Visit of students and faculty from Japan and Poland, and visits of college faculty to several countries, gave an opportunity to the college students and staff to engage in educational and cultural exchange with overseas partners. Musical performance of the international Cora Band in the college also broadened the cultural horizons of the students of the college. Organisation of several national conferences, seminars, and workshops in the college, including the 4th Annual National Student Academic Conference, and the educational journeys provided opportunities for students to develop their leadership, teamwork, communication, analytical and presentation skills.

The competencies gained from these activities, besides academic work, were reflected in the significant improvement in academic and co-curricular achievements of the students which further strengthened their motivation and will to succeed. The achievements of 2015-16 have laid the foundations for higher achievements in the forthcoming academic year, and I am confident that students and staff of the college will do that with ease and joy which is reflected in the pages of Agranika.



संपादक की कलम से...

क्या तो समय है जिसमे हम सब बीत रहे हैं। समय अजूबा इसलिए है क्योंकि विकास और विनाश समान रूप से गतिशील है। बीत इसलिए रहे हैं क्योंकि जी नहीं रहे। जीना कठिन हो जाता है जब अपनी ही बनाई धरती पर टर्की, सीरिया, इराक, अफगानिस्तान बनते देख रहे होते हैं। यूरोप की ओर भागती जान बचाने की जद्दोजहद में करोड़ों विस्थापित जिंदगियों को देखते हैं। जीना और भी मुश्किल दिखता है जब टेलीविजन की स्क्रीन पर कुछ मीठा हो जाए के विज्ञापन के ठीक बाद इस्लामिक स्टेट की बर्बर छुरियों से झुंडों में मनुष्य की गलारेती का दृश्य देखते हैं और कुछ कर नहीं पाते। सीरिया, इराक जैसी जगहों से उठता धुआं, उठती नृशंसता की चिंगारी सिर्फ क्लैश ऑफ सिविलाइजेशन-सभ्यताओं के संघर्ष को ही नहीं दर्शाती बल्कि धरती पर मरती मानवीयता को भी प्रमाणित करती है। प्रश्न यह है कि ग्लोबली बिलखती मानवीयता के इस ऊसर दौर में अपनी स्थानीय उर्वरता और विवेक को कैसे बचाया जाये। दहशत और संशय की इस धुंध में अपने युवा छात्रों से हम क्या कहें, वे क्या करें। अग्रणिका इसी संवाद और सृजनशीलता को बचाए रखने का प्रयास है। पत्रिका अनगढ़ हो सकती है पर अपने संकल्प में पक्की है। युवा छात्रों द्वारा पत्रिका में अभिव्यक्त विचार और संवेदना विश्वविद्यालय और मानवता के सुंदर भविष्य की ओर इंगित करते हैं। पत्रिका में दर्ज गतिविधियाँ प्रमाणित करती हैं कि वर्ष भर कॉलेज ने उच्च शिक्षा के बदलते मानदंडों एवं मूल्यों को कितने सहज भाव से आत्मसात किया है।

धन्यवाद संपादक मंडल के सदस्यों अनु जयदेव, एस के रिन्टन, विनय राय, त्रयम्बक नाथ त्रिपाठी, सुबोध, देबोस्मिता पॉल, शूमाइला, ए के ठाकुर, स्वामी नन्दन और विद्यार्थी संपादक मंडल का जिन्होंने इस पत्रिका को संभव बनाया। विशेष रूप से विनय, रिन्टन और त्रयम्बक का धन्यवाद जिन्होंने इस पत्रिका को सगुन रूप देने में अपना दिन-रात एक कर दिया। एक बात और, पत्रिका के प्रकाशन में मेरी देयता निम्नतम है। आपके द्वारा अर्जित पत्रिका शुभकामनाओं सहित आप सब को समर्पित....

इंसान रह सके कोई ऐसा जहाँ भी हो
इस फितना जा ज़मीन का कोई पासबाँ भी हो

डॉ राजहंस कुमार
संयोजक एवं संपादक
अग्रणिका २०१५-२०१६



Editorial, English Section

There are crimes worse than burning books. One of them is not reading them.

Joseph Brodsky

Putting together creative pieces contributed to a college magazine is both an exhilarating and humbling experience. As one reads through the fiction and poetry of young people, one becomes acutely aware of how this generation reads us, who as the supposed bastion holders of a generation have a lot to answer for. Sometimes, it is like reading a perfectly worded, unambiguous script, unflinchingly honest in its certainty. At other times, it is almost like getting a deliberately misaddressed, hesitantly scribbled, cryptic postcard with an absolutely invaluable message. The message of how this generation makes sense of the world around it.

The creative section of the magazine eventually evolved through and beyond the suggested thematic briefs. Creativity after all, cannot be a guided project, and a true blossoming and flourishing of imagination does require a sense of abandon. So we decided to work backwards, tracing the themes and connections in the poems and stories, to listen for conversations in this collective narrative. What we gathered is rather special.

The poems and stories in the following pages traverse a wide range of sensibilities and ideas. The almost confessional tone of, say, 'Void' and 'Fallen Pieces' weaves with the nuances of narratives that go beyond individual subjectivity such as 'The Child of Courage' and 'She Stood there... Barefoot'. There are satires like 'Kajar Billauta'; there are also the socially sensitive chronicles of the city and its denizens in the essays and interviews; and finally there are those narratives that embody the ultimate leap of imagination like 'Mars Chronicles: 3050'. Collectively these narratives, celebrate the will to put-the-world-in-words, and in that join the legions of readers and writers against the nay-sayers and book burners.

It is in order here that I thank members of the editorial team, especially Debosmita Paul and our student editors, who contributed in making this magazine what it is.

It is indeed a true privilege to present it to our readers.

Anupama Jaidev Karir

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Orientation Day

Orientation Day was organised to introduce our 1st year students to the college environment and other facilities. It was celebrated on 19th July, 2015. Students were introduced to the Delhi University UG course structure and were acquainted to the new syllabus for the CBCS. They were also given an academic and activity calendar for all college events to be organized in the whole academic year.

The Students were informed about their responsibilities and duties by the Principal. The Convener of the Discipline Committee elaborated on the strict discipline rules followed in the college. Renowned senior journalist, Shri Siddharth Mishra was the Chief Guest on the occasion. He encouraged students with his words.

It was informed that MAC is fully supportive of Anti Ragging Law and a committee in this regard has also been constituted by the college.

Pamphlets were distributed to give detailed information regarding our non teaching staff and dealing persons. These pamphlets also carried all important contact numbers that the new students might require.



Sardar Patel Memorial Lecture

2nd Sardar Patel Memorial Lecture was held on 31st October to mark the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallhbhai Patel. This is also celebrated as Unity Day, across India.

On this occasion chief Guest Hon'ble Minister Delhi Tourism, Mr Kapil Mishra, shared his own experience about reaching a pedestal in life where social service and equality become the main motives. Mr Mishra informed that he wanted to join politics for satisfying his urge to serve common man. He also asked our young students to stay united for the nation. Keeping focus on their goals and learning from their teachers are vital for all youngsters.

Pamphlets were distributed containing teachings of Sardar Patel and how he always insisted on power of unity.

Before the function began 'Run for Unity' was organized from college campus to establish our faith on power of unity and nationalism. Honorable Chairman, Governing Body, Mr Sidhhartha Verma, our Principal, Dr Sunil Sondhi participated in this run along with large number of students and teaching and non teaching staff.



Vivekananda Memorial Lecture

Vivekananda Memorial Lecture was organized on 12th January to commemorate birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda. This lecture marked the thoughts and message that Swami Vivekananda has given to humanity and specially to the youth as how he invited youth to celebrate and learn lessons from past and stand firm in the present to frame our future.

This memorial lecture was graced by the presence of Padma Vibhushan Hon'ble Dr Karan Singh. His presence inserted an energetic spark in the audience. He spoke about the relevance of Swami Vivekananda's teachings in today's world and the need to understand our strength when the nation actually requires it the most. He also mentioned the cultural strength that we have in India and how it has to keep proving this strength at the global front.

A pamphlet with message of Swami Vivekananda for our young minds was distributed to all present.



Motivational Lecture by Civil Services Topper - 2014

The year began with the Motivational Lecture delivered by Ms. Ira Singhal, UPSC Exam Topper - 2014 on September 2, 2015. Ms. Singhal, the 31-year-old topper who has scoliosis and is the first woman with disability to ace the exam in the general category, has become an inspiration for many students who vow to continue working hard towards their dream of achieving great success.

The session focused on her success story and determination which proved that no one can stop one from achieving what is meant for one, all it requires is just the hard-work and perseverance. Ms. Singhal started her lecture talking about her own experiences of managing herself to crack civil services examination while she was working. She asked aspirants to be well versed with NCERT text books and suggested to be very cautious about selection of optional subject for civil services mains examination. "An optional subject should be the one you are in love with where you can easily spend good amount of time for a longer tenure" she added.

Sooner, she opened the stage to the students to interact and in the process she gave many suggestions to the young aspirants and shared some inspiring philosophies of her own, in which the student participants displayed an overwhelming response to the speaker. She quoted that self-evaluation and introspection is necessary before we start working for a goal. She suggested students who are in final year of courses to work at least for 2 years and gain real time execution and decision making expertise which a civil servant aspirant need to have. The session went very lively and carried sensibility, sincerity, honesty, compassion, passion, brotherly hood, emotional quotient, energy and enthusiasm.



Student Exchange Program with Tokyo University, Japan

Maharaja Agrasen College initiated a long-term educational and cultural exchange program with Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, Tokyo, Japan in the month of February 2016. Twenty one students accompanied by faculty members visited Maharaja Agrasen College on 22nd February and later visited Agra and Amritsar. The students and faculty were from the Department of South Asian Studies and Social Education Center for World Languages, Tokyo University. During the exchange with Indian Students and faculty, the Japanese students and faculty appreciated the diversity of Indian Culture and Languages and expressed keen interest in the different subjects of study in the University of Delhi. The visitors were gifted statues of Goddess Saraswati, the symbol of learning.

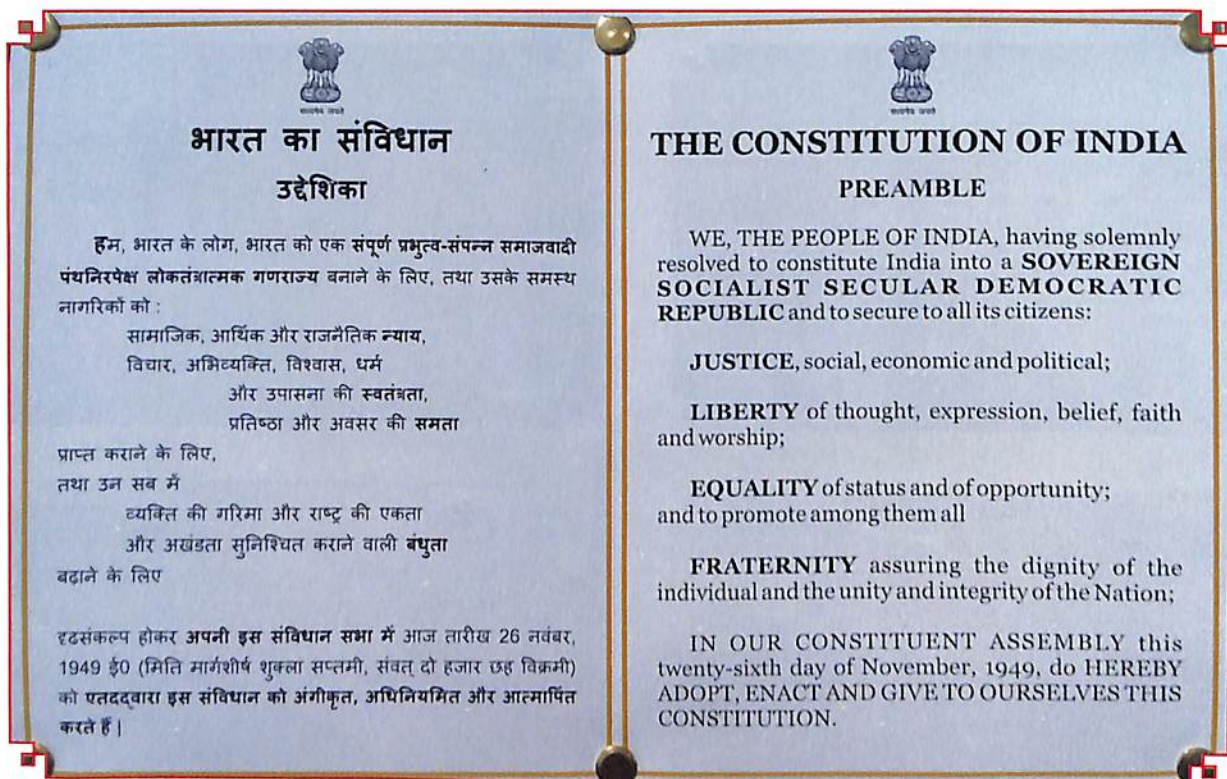


Constitution Day

November 26, 2015 was celebrated as the 1st Constitution Day across India to mark the 125th birth anniversary of Dr Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar, the Chairman of the Drafting Committee of the Constitution Assembly. The Constitution was adopted by the Constituent Assembly on 26th November, 1949.

Maharaja Agrasen College also marked the day by distributing a copy of the Preamble of the Constitution of India to all students and staff members. The Preamble establishes India as a Sovereign, Socialist, Secular, Democratic Republic and this initiative was a celebration of our faith in the Constitution and Indian State.

Two portraits of Dr Ambedkar along with his aphorisms were put up in the auditorium on this occasion.

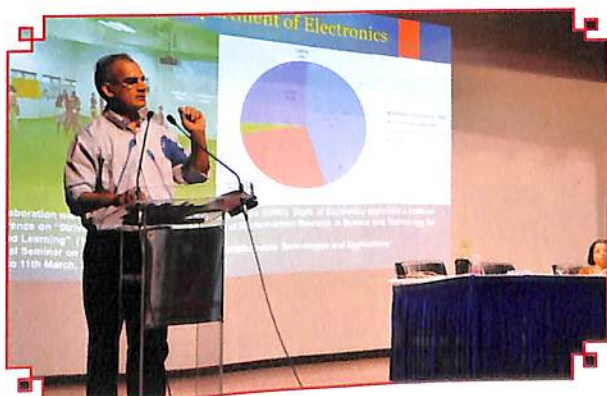
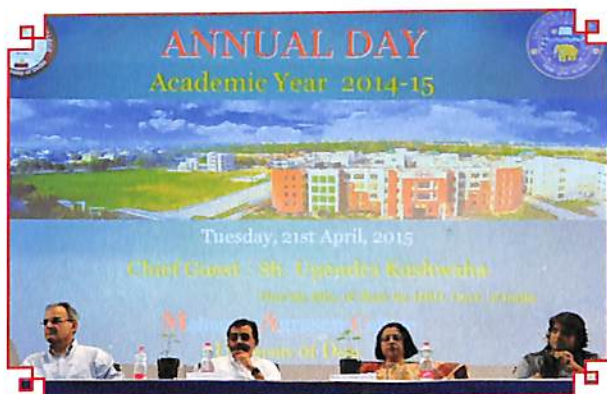


ANNUAL DAY

Annual Day was held at Maharaja Agrasen College on 21st April, 2015. The function was meant to felicitate student achievers, who had acquired the highest grades in their respective courses. The Chief Guest on the occasion was Shri Upendra Kushwaha, Hon'ble Minister of State for Human Resource Development, Government of India. Other dignitaries who were present on the occasion included Prof. Shrimati Chakraborty, Treasurer, Governing Body, Ustaad Kamaal Sabri and Principal, Dr. Sunil Sondhi.

The event began with the lighting of the lamp ceremony by the dignitaries present. This was accompanied by Saraswati Vandana. Shortly after lighting of the lamp, Principal, Dr. Sondhi presented the Annual Report. He mentioned the achievements of the college during the academic year 2014-15. The Annual Report included appraisals of work done by the various Committees, Councils and Departments of the college. Dr. Sondhi also recounted the achievements of the teaching faculty at Maharaja Agrasen College during the current academic year. He concluded his address by congratulating all the prize-winners and exalting the MAC family to work cohesively in taking the institution forward.

Prof. Shrimati Chakraborty mentioned in her address that Maharaja Agrasen College, in its short history has emerged as an intellectually vibrant and environmentally responsible campus. She congratulated Dr. Sunil Sondhi for having skillfully led the institution to glory.



The Chief Guest, Shri UpendraKushwaha began his address by calling Maharaja Agrasen College, a dedicated learning space in the University of Delhi. He said that besides the academic achievements, the college has set high standard for students in the field of culture, sports and extra-curricular activities. He also added that the enthusiasm, commitment and devotion of the staff of college, the energy of the students and dynamic leadership of the Managing Committee have been factors responsible for its success and achievements. He concluded his address by wishing the students, staff and Managing Committee of the college a great success in their endeavours to touch a new height in the field of education.

Dr. Tej Narayan Ojha
Convenor



ALUMNI MEET 2015

The MAC Alumni Meet is an annual grandeur organised in order to promote quality interaction amongst ever-growing and ever-greening MAC Alumni Community. This year was no different as the college under the active guidance of the Governing Body, especially the Principal, Dr. Sunil Sondhi and Chairman, Prof. A.K. Kapoor, successfully organised the gala event in the month of April 2015. The event witnessed participation of over 300 MAC Alumni and their family members. A special feature this year was, for the first time the Alumni Organising Committee attempted to build up an active Alumni Database in the form of MAC Alumni Directory, marking 20 glorious years of college. One of the highlights of this directory has been that the Alumni Database has been erected from scratch, right from the very first batches of Maharaja Agrasen College i.e. 1994 till the last passing out batch of 2014. The process of including the details of the Alumni over the years was enlightening in itself since it showcased how this college has grown up over the years. I would like to thank all the members of the Governing Body, faculty members, non-teaching staff and above all the students over the years for their active support in making this event this year worthy.



National Conference on “Media Literacy: Progression and challenges in developing countries

The two day National Conference on “Media Literacy” was held by Journalism department of Maharaja Agrasen College on 19th of March, 2016. The conference was graced by some prominent names of the media fraternity. The sole motive of the conference was to go beyond the narrow definition of how ‘Media Literacy’ is being viewed in the contemporary world. The two day conference had 4 sessions in total spread across 8 hours.

The first session of the day started with the welcome speech by the honourable Principal of the college, Mr. Sunil Sondhi and was followed by two famous faces a) Shri Saurav Sharma, Senior Executive Producer India TV, b) Shri Baldeo Bhai Sharma, Chairman National Book Trust speaking on the concerned topic.

The first speaker of the day was Mr. Saurav Sharma. He talked about the need for media to present the facts and let people decide for themselves as to what is right or what is wrong. The speaker also emphasised on the fact that the issue of false nationalism engulfing the country is a factory of personal propaganda distributed by some sections of the society.

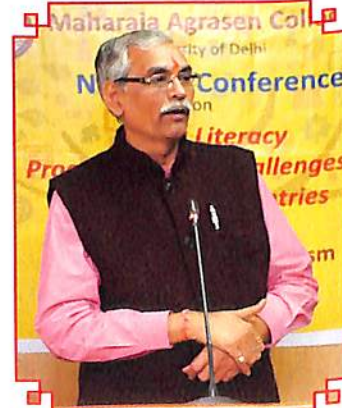
Next and the last speaker of the inaugural session, Sh. Baldeo Bhai Sharma talked about the importance and power of media in today’s world and how education should be used as a remedy against the social evils of the society. He also told the students to be aware of the sensationalism in today’s media, asking them to train their vision and achieve great heights.

The first technical session of the day saw three well-known personalities bracing the occasion.

The first of whom was Dr. Surbhi Dahiya from IIMC who talk about the literal meaning of ‘media literacy’ and defined it as the ability to access, analyse, evaluate and create media of our own. She also said that media literacy is a broad subject which includes news literacy, information literacy, digital literacy and many more such aspects. She also added that there is a need to understand media literacy and the need to develop skills.

The next speaker of the session was Mr. Neeraj Gupta, National Bureau Chief IBN 7, New Delhi. He said its difficult to analyse each and everything. He added, there was a time media would portray an elephant flying for instance and people would believe it, but now people are literate enough to know what is true and what is not. Mr. Gupta also said that as a media literate one should have the freedom to decide which form of media one wishes to see.

The last speaker of the session was Mr. Anant Vijay from IBN 7. He talked about the emergence and influence of social media in today’s world. He said anyone can write anything one wants to and some sections on the social media whether large or small will indeed believe it. He also talked about how Ramesh Thapar,



the then editor of 'crosswords' and how he continuously and extensively wrote about Nehruvian model, which tried to curb the freedom of expression.

The second technical session again saw three illustrious names of the media community taking to the podium and keeping their views.

The first of these faces was Mr. Ajay Kumar, Executive Editor News Nation, who said media doesn't rule the lives as has been said. He also said that it's difficult for any media organisation to not be biased as there is nothing as neutrality in media terms. The speaker later involved students into discussions and took number of questions from them.

The next to speak was Mr. Unnikrishnan from Bloomberg International, who took from where Mr. Ajay Kumar left and emphasised on the neutrality and he countered the view of Mr. Kumar and said media can indeed be neutral by giving weightage to both sides of the story.

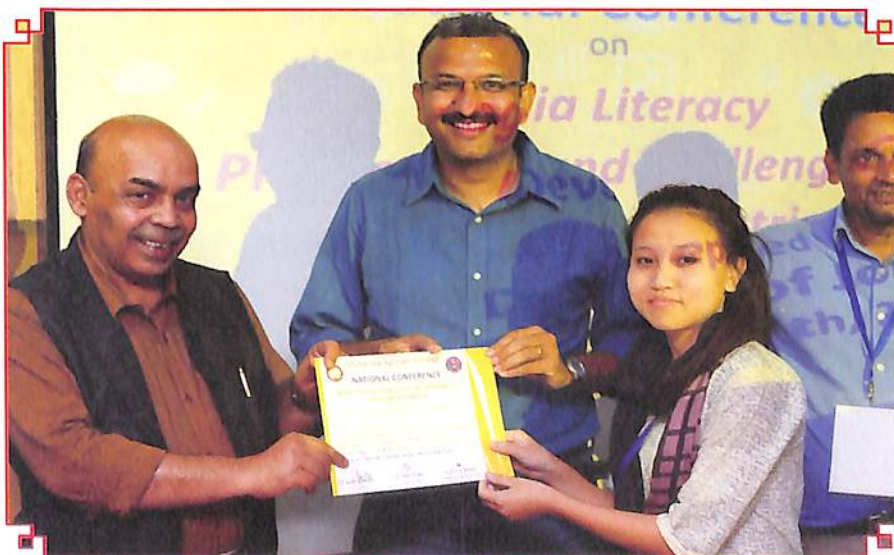
The last to speak in the second technical session was Mr. Pawan Kumar from Thomson Reuters. He said news comes as a storm, and one needs to understand and analyse. He added one needs to think wisely and understand before interpreting something. He also said understanding media is the need of the hour and people should comprehend what media shows and later make conclusions.

The valedictory session was addressed by Prof. Shambhunath Singh and he differentiated between media literate people and general audience. He said "passive consumers are not considered media literate people. They act as active participants in news interpretation." He also said the information we get is mediated information. This information gets audited by the audience. Earlier media researchers used to discuss information imperialism, now it is the era of media imperialism, for media influences how we see the world. New media has also allowed consumers to become producers.

He also illustrated how there is a bias present in news we consume. Bias may creep in deliberately or exist in the unconscious of the reporter.

He also added "When we were of your age, anything published in the news paper was considered sacrosanct, now that attitude has changed."

All in all, the conference was healthy and productive. It gave students an opportunity to understand "media literacy" in a broader perspective. The conference was intellectual to the last and high on quality.



National Conference on Biodiversity and Climate Change Interdependencies in Nature: Pressures and Policies

4th National Conference on Biodiversity and Climate Change was jointly organised by departments of History, Economics, Biology and Business Economics on February 4 – 5, 2016. Like previous years, the conference was very well attended by the students and the faculty of the College. Sh. Ashish Khetan, Vice Chairperson, Delhi Dialogue Commission graced the occasion as the Chief Guest whereas Sh. Chandi Prasad Bhatt, eminent Gandhian environmentalist and prestigious Ramon Magsaysay and Gandhi Peace Prize awardee delivered the keynote address. Other notable dignitaries during the the Inaugural Session included Sh. Siddharth Verma, Chairman Governing Body and Sh. Amit Mishra, Treasurer, Governing Body.

The whole issue of biodiversity and climate change was discussed in light of various pressures and policies during the conference and hinged around following conference threads:

- Diversity of biotic communities and the functioning of ecosystems
- Need for inclusive strategies and technology innovation
- Conservation and Development
- Effective urban management as a condition for cities' sustainability
- Food security, while minimizing environmental impacts
- Inclusive rural development strategies
- Bridging the worlds of natural science and economics
- Public and private policy coherence for attaining sustainable development
- Pressures from various stake holders-flora and fauna
- Communications and Eco-systems

The Inaugural Session saw the Chief Guest Sh. Ashish Khetan exhorting the young minds to keep their spirits of questioning and speaking alive. Our keynote speaker Sh. Chandi Prasad Bhatt emerged as a tireless crusader in the field of environment who seems to have earned each award through his work in the



ALUMNI MEET 2015

The MAC Alumni Meet is an annual grandeur organised in order to promote quality interaction amongst ever-growing and ever-greening MAC Alumni Community. This year was no different as the college under the active guidance of the Governing Body, especially the Principal, Dr. Sunil Sondhi and Chairman, Prof. A.K. Kapoor, successfully organised the gala event in the month of April 2015. The event witnessed participation of over 300 MAC Alumni and their family members. A special featurette this year was, for the first time the Alumni Organising Committee attempted to build up an active Alumni Database in the form of MAC Alumni Directory, marking 20 glorious years of college. One of the highlights of this directory has been that the Alumni Database has been erected from scratch, right from the very first batches of Maharaja Agrasen College i.e. 1994 till the last passing out batch of 2014. The process of including the details of the Alumni over the years was enlightening in itself since it showcased how this college has grown up over the years. I would like to thank all the members of the Governing Body, faculty members, non-teaching staff and above all the students over the years for their active support in making this event this year worthy.



National Conference on “Media Literacy: Progression and challenges in developing countries

The two day National Conference on “Media Literacy” was held by Journalism department of Maharaja Agrasen College on 19th of March, 2016. The conference was graced by some prominent names of the media fraternity. The sole motive of the conference was to go beyond the narrow definition of how ‘Media Literacy’ is being viewed in the contemporary world. The two day conference had 4 sessions in total spread across 8 hours.

The first session of the day started with the welcome speech by the honourable Principal of the college, Mr. Sunil Sondhi and was followed by two famous faces a) Shri Saurav Sharma, Senior Executive Producer India TV, b) Shri Baldeo Bhai Sharma, Chairman National Book Trust speaking on the concerned topic.

The first speaker of the day was Mr. Saurav Sharma. He talked about the need for media to present the facts and let people decide for themselves as to what is right or what is wrong. The speaker also emphasised on the fact that the issue of false nationalism engulfing the country is a factory of personal propaganda distributed by some sections of the society.

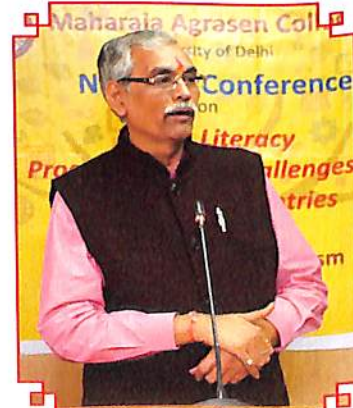
Next and the last speaker of the inaugural session, Sh. Baldeo Bhai Sharma talked about the importance and power of media in today’s world and how education should be used as a remedy against the social evils of the society. He also told the students to be aware of the sensationalism in today’s media, asking them to train their vision and achieve great heights.

The first technical session of the day saw three well-known personalities bracing the occasion.

The first of whom was Dr. Surbhi Dahiya from IIMC who talk about the literal meaning of ‘media literacy’ and defined it as the ability to access, analyse, evaluate and create media of our own. She also said that media literacy is a broad subject which includes news literacy, information literacy, digital literacy and many more such aspects. She also added that there is a need to understand media literacy and the need to develop skills.

The next speaker of the session was Mr. Neeraj Gupta, National Bureau Chief IBN 7, New Delhi. He said its difficult to analyse each and everything. He added, there was a time media would portray an elephant flying for instance and people would believe it, but now people are literate enough to know what is true and what is not. Mr. Gupta also said that as a media literate one should have the freedom to decide which form of media one wishes to see.

The last speaker of the session was Mr. Anant Vijay from IBN 7. He talked about the emergence and influence of social media in today’s world. He said anyone can write anything one wants to and some sections on the social media whether large or small will indeed believe it. He also talked about how Ramesh Thapar,



the then editor of 'crosswords' and how he continuously and extensively wrote about Nehruvian model, which tried to curb the freedom of expression.

The second technical session again saw three illustrious names of the media community taking to the podium and keeping their views.

The first of these faces was Mr. Ajay Kumar, Executive Editor News Nation, who said media doesn't rule the lives as has been said. He also said that it's difficult for any media organisation to not be biased as there is nothing as neutrality in media terms. The speaker later involved students into discussions and took number of questions from them.

The next to speak was Mr. Unnikrishnan from Bloomberg International, who took from where Mr. Ajay Kumar left and emphasised on the neutrality and he countered the view of Mr. Kumar and said media can indeed be neutral by giving weightage to both sides of the story.

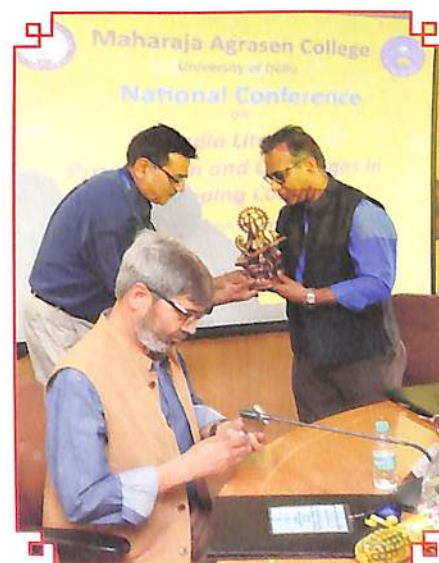
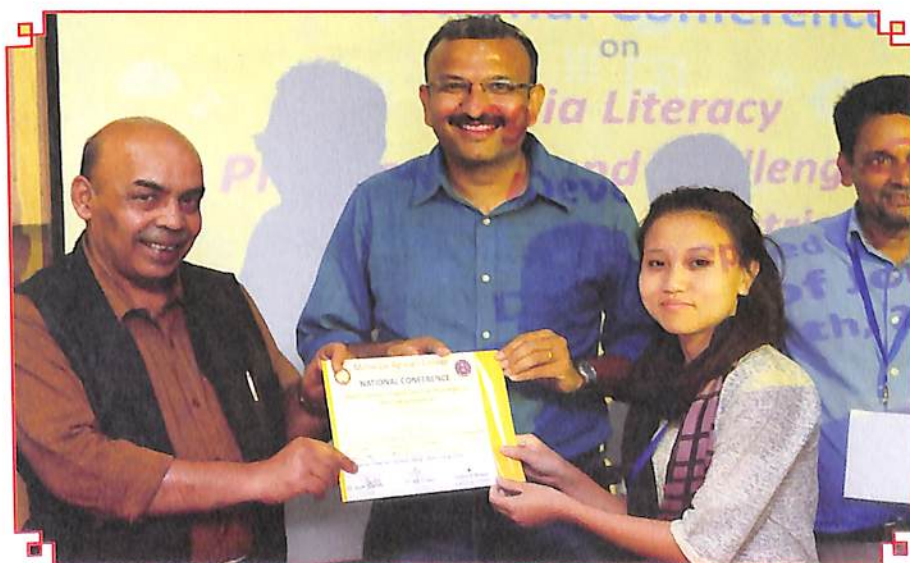
The last to speak in the second technical session was Mr. Pawan Kumar from Thomson Reuters. He said news comes as a storm, and one needs to understand and analyse. He added one needs to think wisely and understand before interpreting something. He also said understanding media is the need of the hour and people should comprehend what media shows and later make conclusions.

The valedictory session was addressed by Prof. Shambhunath Singh and he differentiated between media literate people and general audience. He said "passive consumers are not considered media literate people. They act as active participants in news interpretation." He also said the information we get is mediated information. This information gets audited by the audience. Earlier media researchers used to discuss information imperialism, now it is the era of media imperialism, for media influences how we see the world. New media has also allowed consumers to become producers.

He also illustrated how there is a bias present in news we consume. Bias may creep in deliberately or exist in the unconscious of the reporter.

He also added "When we were of your age, anything published in the news paper was considered sacrosanct, now that attitude has changed."

All in all, the conference was healthy and productive. It gave students an opportunity to understand "media literacy" in a broader perspective. The conference was intellectual to the last and high on quality.



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National Student Academic Congress

The two day long, 4th National Student Academic Congress was organised by Student Council, Maharaja Agrasen College (University of Delhi) on 11th – 12th March, 2016. The conference saw 50 paper presentations by graduate, post graduate students and research scholars across the country. This conference saw papers on various issues pertaining to the theme, "Quality Assurance in Higher Education". The welcome address was given by Niraj Kumar Convenor, Student Advisory Committee. The Chairman, Mr. Siddhartha Verma, was appreciative about the students' endeavours to write and present papers, an opportunity that was not available to students of previous generations. He also expressed his support to have the proceedings published for future reference. Dr. Sunil Sondhi in his key note address emphasized the need to pay attention to the ordinary and the mundane in the present, in order to achieve better productivity and ensure success in the future. The Inaugural session helped to set the perspective of the two days long Conference.

The sessions were on a wide range of themes such as "Quality Assurance: India and the World", "E-learning: A New Pathway for Ensuring Higher Education", "Quality Assurance: Public Private Partnerships", "Quality Assurance: Interface with technology and technical information" "Quality Assurance in Higher Education" and so on.



The valedictory address was delivered by Dr. Smitha Sehgal who emphasized the significance of public institutions in higher learning. She also commended the students for the range of issues covered in their papers, ranging from inclusiveness, participation, role of UGC, NAAC, QAA, the innovative learning, E-learning and others their efforts.

The conference concluded with Dr. Niraj Kumar's vote of thanks to the guests, chairpersons, participants and the organising team for the success of the conference.



BUSINESS ECONOMICS

The Academic Year 2015-16 proved to be quite an eventful as well as fateful year for the Department of Business Economics and Management Studies. From seminars, placement drives and annual departmental event being conducted for the holistic development of students to laurels being brought by the same in inter-college events, this department has shined in various arrays.

A seminar on Digital Marketing was conducted by the name 'Web Camp' on 3rd November, 2015 by Ms. Inderjeet Kaur who is renowned trainer with more than seven years of experience working as a digital marketer and providing digital marketing training. This seminar was organised under the banner of "Webamass", a start-up of Ms. Kaur, which is an industry leading Digital Marketing Training & Services provider established in 2013 in New Delhi. While giving a view of how to pitch in their way into marketing through digital means, Ms. Kaur took on the following topics of discussion: 1) Digital Marketing Fundamentals, 2) Website Designing and Development, 3) How Google Works, 4) Platforms to Promote your business Online, 5) Social Media Marketing, and 6) Affiliate Marketing. The seminar saw attendance from the students of various courses and all of them seemed to learn a great deal from it.

The Association of Business Economics and Management Studies Department has always played a crucial role in honing the skill sets of our students by giving them a simulated environment of the corporate world they are about to enter. The work done here is with the aim to give our students, maximum possible exposure of the business and economic environment by holding interactive talks with industry people, field trips of industrial areas and corporate offices, presentations given as assignments on the developments happening throughout in these fields and so on.

The department organised the 3rd edition of annual departmental fest ENTREUZEST 2016 on 9th March, 2016.

It was a one-day management colloquium embracing an exuberance of business and management facsimile the objective of which was to administer an environment for the young bright students of the city, giving them a platform to showcase their managerial potential in front of a euphoric audience, thus serving as a boost for those who are willing to nurture different skills of representing at an upgraded level.



The event was inaugurated by a Corporate Talk on "Entrepreneurship, Fund Raising & Team Building" which was delivered by Mr. Rustam Sengupta (Founder & CEO, Boond Engineering and Development Pvt. Ltd.), followed by two business, marketing and economics related events namely 'Indifferent Consumer – Utility Maximization' and 'Brand Maze – Marketing & Brands'. Judging the participants on a plethora of aspects ranging from innovation, crisis management, strategising and operating, it tested the participants' ability to Storm, Norm and ultimately PERFORM! Having participants from colleges all over Delhi, the event met with great success.

Our department's students have brought laurels to the college in various inter-college events, specially mentioning the attainment of first position in Table Tennis (Boys & Girls) in the fest Runbhoomi at College of Vocational Studies, University of Delhi. Active participation has been seen in various college events as well, ranging from conferences to theatre to sports and so on.

The magazine committee of our department has been quite handy in giving a good platform to the writers present within our midst. Simply named after our department, the magazine is called "BEAM" (Business Economics And Management). The articles published in this magazine are preferably kept to the fields adhering to the business or economics environment and the various developments taking place in it. Excerpts from our interviews of established people in the corporate world are published in order to portray their valuable experience.

Working in tandem with the college's Training & Placement Centre, the Placement Committee of our department has been working towards keeping the students informed about the various potential companies which can be approached for either Summer/Winter Internships or Placements. This placement season saw the students of this department being placed in companies from different sector, a few being 'Urban Clap' and 'S & P Capital IQ'.

The students of this department have been channelizing their energies throughout all aspects of life for an overall growth.



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The two day long, 4th National Student Academic Congress was organised by Student Council, Maharaja Agrasen College (University of Delhi) on 11th – 12th March, 2016. The conference saw 50 paper presentations by graduate, post graduate students and research scholars across the country. This conference saw papers on various issues pertaining to the theme, "Quality Assurance in Higher Education". The welcome address was given by Niraj Kumar Convenor, Student Advisory Committee. The Chairman, Mr. Siddhartha Verma, was appreciative about the students' endeavours to write and present papers, an opportunity that was not available to students of previous generations. He also expressed his support to have the proceedings published for future reference. Dr. Sunil Sondhi in his key note address emphasized the need to pay attention to the ordinary and the mundane in the present, in order to achieve better productivity and ensure success in the future. The Inaugural session helped to set the perspective of the two days long Conference.

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Department of BBE & BMS, Maharaja Agrasen College

ENTREUZEST 2016
STORM.NORM.PERFORM

Corporate Talk


Mr. Rustam Sengupta
Founder and CEO
Boond Engineering and Development Products
MBA from INSEAD with over 10 years of industry experience

Event 1
Indifferent Consumer
Utility Maximization

Event 2
Brand Maze
Marketing & Brands

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COMMERCE

The Academic Year 2015-16 has been an eventful one in the department of Commerce. The year kick-started with a Workshop Session on Tally ERP.9 (a popular tool for computerised accounting) for the students & faculty of Commerce and the members of our Accounts office by Tally expert from University of Delhi. A Youth Money Olympiad was organised in association with Principal Mutual Fund and Money Wizards to inculcate financial literacy amongst the youth which will help the students take informed financial decisions. Interactive session series were organised, titled as 'Ad Libitum' by TusharBatra and Rohan Dandona, third year students, which gave a platform for the students to share their reach, curiosity & intellect and helped towards their holistic development.

Leaping in the threshold of experiential learning in the form of trips and excursions the department organized a series of educational trips. A string of one day outings from an industrial visit to SSIPL RETAIL LTD (Nike), Sonapat (Haryana) to a visit to Pratapgarh Farms. Also a field trip to Okhla Bird Sanctuary in March. A sweet ending to the academic year came when a three day semi-educational trip to Jim Corbett-Nainital was organised for the students by the department in March.

Taking the baton of learning forward the Department has organised a three day event titled as 'LEAD 2016' Learning Entrepreneurship in Advanced Directions, from Thursday, 28th January 2016 to Saturday, 30th January 2016, comprising of Startup Conclave 2016; National Symposium on "Emerging Trends in Entrepreneurship, Business, and Management" The sub-tracks included Digital India, Challenges of Women Entrepreneurship, Social Entrepreneurships, M-Commerce- Present and Future Prospects for Start-ups, Emotional Branding, Workforce Patterns, E-Accounting, Mergers/Acquisitions in Start-ups, Ethical Business Practices, Sustainability and CSR, Issues of E-Accounting in India, Online Marketing vs Kirana stores; and 'CRUSADE 2016' – Annual Commerce Fest. This three day event was a platform for the young leaders of our college in enhancing entrepreneurship skills and careers through interactions with various professionals & experts related to Startup Ventures and through exploring emerging issues in entrepreneurship, business, and management.



The event LEAD was flagged off with the Startup Conclave on the first day in which inspirational entrepreneurs like Rashmi Bansal (Author: Stay Hungry, Stay Foolish), Deepak Goel (Karma Circles), Siddhant Satija (Ad Uncle), Suchita Salwan (Little Black Book) and Amritesh Tyagi (India Lets Play) shared their startup stories with the students of the college.

On the second day, the National Symposium aimed to bring together the young student community and research scholars to discuss and share their innovative ideas, opinions, and research experiences related to the emerging trends and issues in the field of entrepreneurship, business, and management in India. It was an attempt to feature, not the milestones of the past, instead what is trending in now. Original research papers, articles, research or innovation project, case study, or based on field survey or a literature review covering the broad theme and/or sub-themes were invited for presentation and deliberation in the symposium and for e-publication thereafter.

Despite their academic pressures, our students also outshined in certain co-curricular arenas. Aditya Nair, a third year student, showed his research prowess in various National and International Conferences. Sumedha Uppal, a second year, proved her talent in Oratory, Debating, and Creative Writing throughout the year. Archit Gupta and RishabhBatra, third year students availed an internship training opportunity in Mauritius, while Namit Arora, a student of second year, completed internship training programme in Philippines during this academic year. The balance between academics and sports was again maintained when the department team won the inter department Cricket Tournament of the college.

Sticking to the dictum that if your mind can conceive it, your heart can believe it then you can achieve it the Department of Commerce continues to reign not only in terms of having the biggest chunk of students in the college but also holistically. Commerce students aim at working hard and putting their breath and being for reaching many more mile stones and permanently engraving their indelible mark in the history books of Maharaja Agrasen College.



COMPUTER SCIENCE

The department of Computer Science at Maharaja Agrasen College aims at inculcating the spirit of technical competence, creativity and innovativeness in the students through regular teaching, guidance and competitions.

Presently the department offers B.Tech.(Computer Science), a challenging academic programme, which encourages students to not only excel in course work but also carry out research in the later part of the course. The Students learn next level Computer Science concepts in advanced courses and pursue research at the later stage of the course.

The Department is also engaged in teaching B.Sc. Physical Science, Mathematical Science and B.A. Programme courses having Computer Science as a main paper. The department caters to the need of other students and faculty in the college by organizes training workshops time to time.

State-of-Art Laboratories & Class Rooms

The department maintains three centralized air conditioned laboratories, equipped with seventy i3/i5 desktop computers and other desired hardware such as Scanners, Printers and Projectors. The laboratories fulfill the need of all the software as required by the curriculum.

The students at the Department have the unique opportunity of working in various development environments like MS-DOS, LINUX, and MS Windows (XP/vista/7). The students also have the opportunity to use Wi-Fi facility through the day.

Academic Activities in the current Academic session:

Inter College Symposium

The Department of Computer Science successfully organised an inter-college symposium on 7th November, 2015. The Symposium emphasized on technical discussions and presentations by the students and industry experts that helped the students deal with the real-time scenarios.



The event was graced by Mr. Upendra Bhati CEO, India Mergers, Mr. Ajay Aggarwal, Director & Head of RES operations, ALCATEL India Ltd. and Mr. Alok Gupta, DGM, Newgen Software Technologies Pvt. Ltd.

The Symposium "Optimal Cosplay" was on optimisation that can be based on any aspect or problem that involves the application of Computer Science and devising or proposing better solution to it.

The Symposium provided a platform to the students where they presented their ideas on a particular theme provided beforehand and rounds of technical discussions were conducted by the industry experts to give them a gist of the technical advancements out there in the tech-market. Also, students presented their ideas which were judged on the basis of originality, feasibility and creativity and won prizes, certificates and most importantly appreciation from the industry experts.

Excursion to Pratapgarh Farms:

The B.Tech Computer Science students and faculty had a wonderful time at the Pratapgarh Farms in Jhajjar Haryana, on 6th February 2016. They enjoyed traditional food, games, camel rides, camel cart rides, tractor rides and participating in rural creative activities like pottery, weaving, pounding grain etc.

Inter College Technical Fest VZEON16

The Department of Computer Science is organising a two days intercollege technical fest VZEON16 on 18th – 19th March, 2016. The technical fest includes all the events that emphasise on showcasing the technical skills of the students and help them to prepare themselves to compete with the upcoming challenges.

The technical fest includes the following events:-

- 1) DXiners – An event of website development in which the competitors will be designing website based on given themes and the most creative and dynamic website will be awarded.
- 2) Innovative Minds – An event that emphasises on technical discussions and presentations of original ideas on topics relating the fields of 'Microprocessors' and 'Compiler Design' by the students and industry experts that can help the students deal with the real-time scenarios. The papers presented in the event would be kept in the form of a book. The event is constraint to register B.Tech Computer Sc. students only.
- 3) LAN-Parliament – An event of LAN gaming in which there will be different rounds of different games in which the participants have to excel to bag the prize!

Department is registering participation from universities such as IP, Jamia, Amity and several other colleges of D.U.



ELECTRONICS

The department of Electronics, Maharaja Agrasen College has been constantly engaged in nurturing a creative and collaborative learning environment leading to growth and progression of a diverse student body. During the academic session 2015-16, the teachers and students were actively involved in innovation projects, organizing and taking part in conferences and workshops that help update their subject knowledge providing an atmosphere conducive to learning. In addition, a very dynamic students' society 'Tech-Titans' ensured that students were involved in diverse activities in order to ensure holistic development of students.

A 2-days Second National Conference on "Student Driven Research for Inspired Learning" in Science and Technology was organized along with Embedded Systems and Robotics Centre (ESRC) on 16 - 17 October 2015. The conference provided an opportunity to educators and students to acknowledge, and showcase undergraduate and postgraduate research being carried out by students by enabling them to engage with the wider communities to exchange ideas and share intellectual activity through paper presentations and poster presentation sessions. The keynote address at the inaugural session was delivered by Dr. Anil Wali, Managing Director, Foundation for Innovation and Technology Transfer (FITT), Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi. The 2 days of the conference featured five invited lectures by eminent educators from University of Delhi, IGNOU, IIT Delhi and IIT Mumbai, 70 paper and poster presentations by distinguished academicians and students from all over India. The selected papers presented during the conference were published in a special edition of International Journal of Scientific Research and Development (ISSN No 2321 0613).

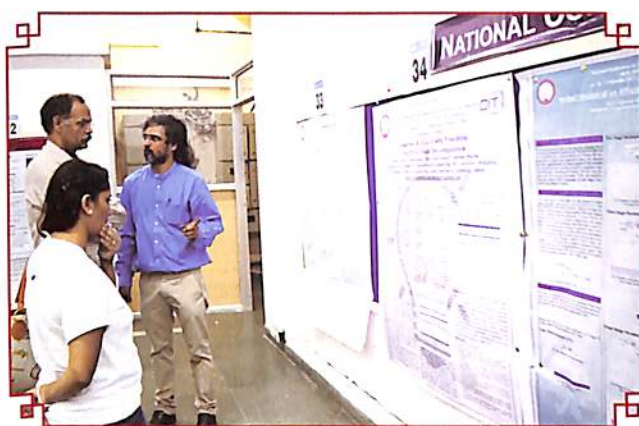
In its endeavor to keep itself abreast with new knowledge and developments in the field, the department routinely organizes workshops and training programs for the students and faculty members. The department organized a 2 days faculty training Program on "Embedded System Design using Atmel 8-bit and 32-bit MCU" on 7-8 January 2016 to keep pace with the ever evolving concepts and devices in the field of microcontrollers and embedded systems. The 'Professor Summit 2016' was organized along with Atmel Corporation, a worldwide leader in the design and manufacture of microcontrollers, under the Atmel University Program, India with an aim to enable universities to achieve operational excellence in embedded design using AVR MCUs, an ideal platform for academic courses, laboratories and projects. The



program saw a widespread participation by faculty from many colleges of University of Delhi and NCR.

In the year 2015-16, the faculty and students of department of electronics were awarded with two innovations projects by University of Delhi, namely 'Problem based learning within Simulation Environment' and 'Content Syndication and Catalogues for Undergraduate Science Courses'

The Tech-Titans society of Department of Electronics plans to organize its departmental co-curricular and extra-curricular festival Elektro-Zeal '16 in the last week of March 2016 with an aim was to ensure the all-round development of the students, especially development of organizational and management skills, communication skills, creative talents, social and interpersonal skills, etc. through programmes like quiz, circuit simulation etc.



ENGLISH

Keeping up with its nature of being an inquisitive and an enthusiastic department, the Department of English has had a year full of activities aimed towards making students connect to not just the literary world but also the larger world beyond their immediate and classroom ambit. The new session began with all the three batches coming together to celebrate Teachers' Day. The light-hearted and interesting games involving both students and teachers acted as ice-breakers between them. Principal, Dr Sunil Sondhi, also attended the party. He along with the teachers of the department cut the ceremonial cake. This event was succeeded by the induction of the ACTIVE Society, the literary association of the department. Student office-bearers were appointed through democratic process. The office-bearers as well as the members of ACTIVE Society have proven to be the backbone of several events organised by the department during this academic session.

The next important event was the two-day trip to Amritsar and Wagah Border in mid-October. The road trip from Jalandhar to Wagah Border gave the students and accompanying teachers an opportunity to see the countryside of Punjab. The students enjoyed watching the 'Beating the Retreat' Ceremony at the Wagah Border in the evening. The night-view of the iconic Golden Temple at Amritsar mesmerised them. The late-evening walk inside the Temple gave them a strong feel of the power of spirituality and humanity which cuts across narrow concepts of caste, class and religious identities. The experience of the langhar at the Temple on the following afternoon was a re-assertion of this realisation. The visit to the Jallianwalla Bagh brought the student face-to-face with the glorious history of the Indian National Movement. The students also visited the Durgiana Temple in Amritsar before boarding the train back to Delhi.

The department organised a visit to LTG Auditorium in October to watch William Shakespeare's Merchant of Venice, produced by the Dramatech Group. Students from B.A. (Hons) English and B.A. (Prog), along with teachers of the English department got the real experience of watching a play performed in a theatre, thereby relating to it not as a static text but as a kinesic experience. Since Shakespeare and this play, in particular, are a part of the B.A. (Prog) and B.A. (Hons.) English syllabi, this experience helped the students to understand the nuances of theatre, acting and performance.



The much awaited Annual Lecture Series was organised on February 2, 2016. Prof R.W. Desai, Retired Professor, Department of English, DU, delivered the fourth lecture of the series on the topic "Can Poetry Be Taught?" Prof. Desai discussed the ideas of poetic license and poetic style. He alluded to poets like Sarojini Naidu, W. B. Yeats, S. T. Coleridge and Ernest Dowson. His lecture included the recitation of Archibald MacLeish's famous poem, You, Andrew Marvell by Ishan Wadhwa and Neelabja Adkuloo, students of BA (Hons) English II year. Prof Desai concluded by putting forth the fact that poetry can be taught. He stressed on the role of the teacher in transferring the meaning of the poem to the students. Both the students and the teachers gained significantly from Prof. Desai's lecture.

The succeeding event, a heritage walk to Nizamuddin Dargah and Basti on February 16, 2016, was a curtain raiser to the national conference on City Lives: Narratives and Spaces organised by the Department of English. B.A. (Hons.) English students along with students from Generic Elective 'Text and Performance' course participated in this walk. Teachers from the English department as well as from other departments joined it. The teachers and the students got to experience one of Delhi's holiest and oldest continuously inhabited areas. The walk included visits to monuments like Chausath Khamba, tombs of Princess Jahanara and poet Ghalib and the Baoli, alerting the participants about the 700 year old history of Delhi. The visit to the final resting place of patron saint of Delhi, Nizamuddin Auliya, and the experience of the Qawwali performance at the Dargah by the descendants of the legendary Sufi poet Khawaja Amir Khusrau helped the students to understand Sufi mysticism and culture.

The UGC-sponsored interdisciplinary conference organised on the 24 and 25 February 2016 was a grand success. Around 25 research scholars along with 15 invited speakers gathered to deliberate upon various aspects of city life in the 9 sessions of the seminar. The photographic and digital arts exhibition titled "Dreams Deferred: City Dreams" was also a grand success. Curated by Vinod Verma, it included works by students of our college as well as research scholars from other colleges and universities.

Apart from these events, the department has been frequently conducting screenings of films based on texts for its students. Workshops for the students of Generic Elective courses offered by the Department of English – 'Media and Communication Skills' and 'Text and Performance' – were also organised in the current academic session. The Department will organise its annual feature "Meet the Authors" in the month of April.

The students of the Department of English have not only been keenly organising and participating in departmental events but they have also been keen participants and proud winners at several inter-college and intra-college events. Several students of the department have been successful in procuring internships and jobs in prestigious organisations like Leo Burnett Inc. through placement drives conducted by Placement and Training Cell of the college.

The Department of English hopes to continue with its endeavours in the coming years and provide holistic training and support to its students to help them evolve and succeed in life.



हिन्दी विभाग

साहित्य का लक्ष्य मनुष्य होता है। मनुष्य निर्माण की प्रक्रिया में साहित्य की महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका होती है। साहित्य की सांस्कृतिक सहभागिता मानवीय संवेदनाओं के विकास के लिए होती है। साहित्य की यह अनिवार्य शर्त है कि यह घनिष्ठ संबंध निरंतर विकासवान रहे, इसके लिए साहित्य के सैद्धांतिक ज्ञान और उसके व्यावहारिक उपयोग की अनिवार्यता होती है। इन दोनों का समायोजन ही ज्ञानार्जन और उसके बोध को सुनिश्चित करता है। इन्हीं पद्धतियों से विद्यार्थियों का समुचित विकास किया जा सकता है।

हिन्दी विभाग इन्हीं संकल्पनाओं के साथ विभिन्न प्रकार की साहित्यिक और सांस्कृतिक गतिविधियों का संचालन करता है। ये गतिविधियाँ सुचारु रूप से सम्पन्न हो सकें इसके लिए विभाग में नवचेतना परिषद का गठन किया जाता है। वर्तमान सत्र में इस परिषद के अध्यक्ष पद के लिए छात्र अमित कुमार झा बी०ए० प्रतिष्ठा (हिन्दी तृतीय वर्ष), उपाध्यक्ष के लिए सोनम हिन्दी प्रतिष्ठा (द्वितीय वर्ष) को सचिव पद पर राखी हिन्दी प्रतिष्ठा (द्वितीय वर्ष) को सह-सचिव अविनाश मौर्य हिन्दी प्रतिष्ठा (प्रथम वर्ष) को तथा कोषाध्यक्ष पूजन कुमार ठाकुर हिन्दी प्रतिष्ठा (प्रथम वर्ष) को चुना गया।

हमारे प्राचीन ग्रंथों में ज्ञानार्जन के अनेक तरीकों पर विचार किया गया है जैसे अनेक प्रकार के शास्त्रों का अध्ययन—‘नाना शास्त्र अवेषणात’। ठीक वैसे ही आधुनिक समय में फिल्म (सिनेमा) भी ज्ञानार्जन का एक सशक्त माध्यम है। इस संकल्पना को ध्यान में रखकर दिनांक 12 अगस्त 2015 को महाविद्यालय के संगोष्ठी कक्ष में पी०के० फिल्म का प्रदर्शन किया गया और उसमें आए मुद्दों पर विचार-विमर्श किया गया। ताकि विद्यार्थी फिल्म की तकनीकियों को सीख सकें।

संवैधानिक रूप से हिन्दी भाषा के प्रचार-प्रसार के लिए दिनांक 14 सितम्बर 2015 को प्रतिवर्ष ‘हिन्दी दिवस’ के रूप में मनाया जाता है। हिन्दी विभाग ने भी ‘हिन्दी दिवस’ को बहुत ही सर्जनात्मक तरीके से मनाया। महाविद्यालय प्रेक्षागृह के भू-तल पर कार्यक्रम का आयोजन किया गया। इस अवसर पर विद्यार्थियों ने स्वरचित कविताओं के पाठ के साथ ही साथ हिन्दी के प्रमुख रचनाकारों की कविताओं का पाठ किया। हिन्दी के कवि एवं चिंतक शम्भु ठाकुर जी (जो की मुख्य अतिथि के रूप में आए थे) ने अपने उद्बोधन से विद्यार्थियों को हिन्दी साहित्य की बारीकियों से परिचित कराया।

सीखने की प्रक्रिया में वे सभी घटक सहायक होते हैं जो कि प्रत्यक्ष और परोक्ष रूप से जीवन और विचार को प्रभावित करते हैं—उदाहरण के तौर पर महापुरुषों के जीवन और विचारों को देखा जा सकता है। वैसे भी हमारे ग्रंथों में कहा गया है कि—‘महाजनो येन गतः सपन्थाः’। इसी को ध्यान में रखकर भारतीय संकल्पबद्धता के परिचायक ‘दशरथ माँझी’ पर



आधारित फिल्म 'माँझी : द माउंटेन मैन' का प्रदर्शन दिनांक 6 नवम्बर 2015 को महाविद्यालय के संगोष्ठी कक्ष में किया गया।

किसी भी भाषा और साहित्य के लिए उसमें विमर्श पक्ष का होना अनिवार्य होता है। इसकी संपन्नता के लिए हिन्दी विभाग ने दो दिवसीय कार्यक्रम 8 जनवरी 2016 को वाद विवाद और कविता पाठ प्रतियोगिता तथा 9 जनवरी 2016 को निबंध लेखन प्रतियोगिता का आयोजन हुआ इसमें विद्यार्थियों को प्रथम, द्वितीय, तृतीय और प्रोत्साहन पुरस्कार दिए गए। तकनीकी दक्षता के लिए 8 फरवरी 2016 एवं 1 मार्च 2016 को स्तर-9 तथा स्तर -2 की कार्यशाला आयोजित की गई। स्त्री विमर्श पर गहन विचार विमर्श के लिए हिन्दी विभाग में 'माँ' फिल्म दिखाकर चर्चा की गई।

हिन्दी विभाग के वेब पेज के लिए और पीपीटी प्रस्तुति के लिए प्रथम वर्ष के विद्यार्थियों की टीम बनाई गयी। जिन्होंने इस कार्य को बखूबी से निभाया।



JOURNALISM

The department promotes learning not only in classes, but has worked hard in providing field experience to its students. The students have successfully bagged internships in various media organizations like The Indian Express, Hindustan times, Bloomberg TV, IBN7, NDTV, Doordarshan, Delhi Metro, Center for Media Studies and Leo Burnett.

The department organizes several symposiums, conferences and annual media fest to bring professionals from the media industry to enhance communication between the students and media professionals. This year the department organized the National Conference Media Literacy: Progression & Challenges in Developing Countries. The conference involved stalwarts from the media industry; like Baldeo Bhai Sharma, Chairman National Book Trust, Mr. Unni Krishnana, Bloomberg International and it allowed students to communicate and clear their doubts on Media Literacy.

Apart from that, the department organized symposium on "Indian Television Content". Mr. K G Suresh, Consulting Editor DD News was the key note speaker. A widely interaction between the guest and the students took place where they get to know about widely spread field of TV journalism. A workshop on Radio Script writing was organized by the department where students were taught about Content Writing for the contemporary radio. Mr. Saiam Hasan from Radio Mantra was invited as resource person for the same.

Yatharth, Annual cultural festival of the department was organized in the month of February this year, around 250 participants from various institutes were present express their creative talent.

Students also attended a two day Film Festival & Workshop on documentary making organized by the Singapore High Commission at Siri Fort Auditorium.



Also, the students have been actively participating in the councils and societies of the college. Students have been actively involved in the events organized in and outside the college. The department is committed towards the holistic development of the students; hence such activities and events are organized by the department to inculcate learning along with academics.



POLITICAL SCIENCE

The Department of Political Science started its new academics session 2015-2016 under the CBCS system. Students who took admission and were welcomed and apprised about the department. Students were also very excited about department and college.

Students celebrated Teacher's Day with great enthusiasm and showed respect to the teachers for being their mentors. The whole academic year was very eventful for the department. Chanakya, Political Science society of Maharaja Agrasen College organized a two day fest of academic activities on 29 and 30, September 2015. Prof. Santosh Kumar, Executive Director of National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM) & SAARC Disaster Management Centre gave a talk on "Disaster, Risk, Reduction and Sustainable Development" on 29th September, 2015. Various events were conducted in the duration of these two days like extempore, essay writing, self-composed poetry on 'Beti Bachao', rangoli on tribal theme etc.

A much awaited trip of the department was organized which was basically an educational trip to Manali for students from 1st to 5th October, 2015. The students were taken to the village Malana in Himachal Pradesh to study the democratic set up that is practiced there and is considered to be one of the oldest democratic setup.

A group of students also visited the Parliament as a part of the Youth Parliament Award ceremony on 21 of January 2016.

The department also organized two day National conference on the topic "India's Changing role in New world Order" on 14 and 15 March 2016. The conference provided a platform to various academicians, Diplomats, Civil society representatives, Research scholars and students to discuss changing role of India's foreign policy in recent times. Professor Ashok Modak, National Professor and Sreemati Chakrabarti Head of Department, East ASIAN studies were among the eminent speakers who shared their valuable knowledge and experience with the students. Paper Presentation for students of the college in the National conference was also incorporated, many parallel sessions on the day two i.e 15 march were held.



The department is also undertaking Innovation Projects in which students and faculty of the department are involved :

1. Dr. Sanjeev Tiwari- Delhi University Innovation Projects 2015-16, Project Code:301

Project Title: Delhi a City of Migrants: A Study of the Socio-Economic and the Political Conditions of the Migrants.

2. Dr. Subodh Kumar- Delhi University Innovation Projects 2015-16

Project Title: Impact of Reservation Policy on Under Graduate Students since 1991: A Case Study of University of Delhi .

The students of the department actively participated in other colleges of University of Delhi and Jamia Millia islamia and won several prizes in various competitions.



ECONOMICS

The department of Economics of Maharaja Agrasen College has always been a front runner in Academic exercises. In the past the department has successfully organised many conferences and seminars. In this series conference on Biodiversity and climate change is organised every year. The department also got two innovation projects funded by university of Delhi out of which one naming “Developing a connect between spiritual ecology and sustainability in the university curriculum through empirical study”, has already been completed and the other one naming “Understanding emerging agrarian crises in India: inputs for national policy on sustainable agriculture” is going on.

Carrying forward its old tradition the department has successfully organised many events in the year 2015-16.

Academic activities in the academic session 2015-16:

Projects: Ms. Saumya Shukla is one of the principal investigators of the innovation project(MAC 306) funded by University of Delhi titled, “Understanding emerging agrarian crises in India: inputs for national policy on sustainable agriculture”

Conference: The department in collaboration with department of History, Business Economics and Biology has organised 4th national conference on Biodiversity and Climate change titled, “Interdependencies in nature: Pressures and Policies on February 4– 5, 2016.

Departmental Festival: The economics society of department of economics, Students for Academic Growth in Economics (SAGE) has organised one day economics fest on 6th April 2016. Various intercollege events were organised in the fest like Quizzes, Economics Tambola etc. The event was well attended by the students of various colleges of University of Delhi.



MATHEMATICS

The Department of Mathematics began its new academic year 2015-2016 by electing the office bearers of "Ramanujan Society".

The first talk on 20th January was delivered by Professor Pankaj Gupta, Department of Operation Research, University of Delhi. The second talk on "Fallacies" in Mathematics was delivered by Professor V. Ravichandran, Head Department of Mathematics University of Delhi. The event ended with great success. The Department is planning to organise on Mathematical Software by the experts, an educational trip and department fest for the students of B.Sc (Prog) Mathematical science and B.Sc (H) Mathematics to encourage all-rounded development and to make them to remember their college days forever.

Dr. Prasannan AR, Dr. Sushil Yadav, Dr. Awadesh Kumar Poddar attended two days National Seminar on topic which was held on 16-17th February, 2016 in Sri Aurobindo College, University of Delhi. It was approved and sponsored by the Ministry of HRD, Govt. of India. One of the faculty members Sushil Yadav completed his Ph.D in Mathematics from University of Delhi in September 2015. The student of the department participated and won MST-2016 at MNIT Jaipur and won first Price in "Basket Ball" and brought college laurels.



B.A. PROGRAMME

B.A. Programme was involved through the entire year in various academic and creative activities that involved students with eminent teachers and artists in a mutually reciprocal exchange of ideas and expressions. In addition, a variety of professionally relevant programmes were also organized keeping in mind the need that students have for a viable and meaningful professional career.

The office bearers of LAKSHYA society, the student body of B.A. Programme was nominated in the month of September, 2015 by the Convener Dr. Shashi Singh of B.A. Programme Committee. Nominated body of the society is Tazeen Anadil as President, Shahnavaz as Vice President, Sourav Shukla as Secretary, Anshu Singh as Treasurer. Executive Members of the society are Gyanendra Singh, Sonali Jain, Twinkle from second year and Nitish, Anand Raj, and Shakshi from first year.

The LAKSHYA society organized the event "Aaghaaz" on 11 February 2016, Thursday in the conference room as well as in the auditorium. The students participated in Debate and Quiz competition enthusiastically. There was also a documentary film presented about "Kabir" by Prof. Vinod Verma which was shown to the students which enabled them to appreciate theatre. The students also participated in computer workshop which helped them in their technical development and for future use. The students volunteered in events such as Biodiversity Conference, National Students Academic Congress and The Annual Sports Meet. The students showed their active participation in National Students Academic Congress. Research Papers were also presented by Anshu Singh, Tazeen Anadil and Gyanendra Singh. Tanmay Mishra from second year has achieved Second prize in Aurobindo College (DU), second prize in Zakir Hussain College (DU), second prize in Bihai Parmanand Institute of Technology and best actor award in PGDAV College (DU).

The students also work in synchronization with the theatre society, the street play society and other creative writing events. The students are looking forward to participate in the upcoming events like the College festival YUVAAN and many more.



HISTORY

Department of History has been on the forefront in the organization of the annual conference on "Biodiversity and Climate Change" for the fourth year. The theme this year was "Interdependencies in Nature: Pressures and Policies". This two day National Conference was witness to some of the top names in the field of environmental conservation. The Keynote Address was delivered by noted Gandhian environmentalist Sh. Chandi Prasad Bhatt. The conference also showcased various nuances of biodiversity through a photo exhibition.

The Department has set up a museum of History and Culture in the departmental room and the adjoining corridor. Although in its initial stage, the museum has some rare collection of photographs on the life and times of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. We plan to put up theme based exhibition on distinct periods of Indian history in particular in months to come.

The department has also set up a reference library in room no. 233 purchased from the non-recurring grants received from Govt. of NCT of Delhi. This library can be accessed by students and faculty of all disciplines and courses.

The department has been regularly organising outdoor trips to locations of historic importance. This year, students were witness to the architectural marvel of Agra - the Taj Mahal. Set amidst a garden, this was built by the Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan.



PHYSICS

The Department of Physics is engaged in all round development of students via adopting innovative means of teaching learning process. With this perspective, the department engages itself in conducting various presentations, seminars and audio visual shows for the students to arouse interest in Physics and instill scientific temperament among them.

In the academic session 2015-16, the Department of Physics seeded a new Lecture series called "Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Popular Science Lecture Series" to apprise the students and teachers on recent developments in Science. The main motive of the said lecture series is to acquaint the teaching and students' community on impact of scientific developments has on our daily life. The Inaugural Lecture of the said Lecture series was held on 1st September 2015 in the Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel Auditorium, MAC. The topic of the Lecture was "Hundred Year of General Relativity: How it changes the worldview" and was delivered by Shri Biman Basu, Scientist (Retd), CSIR and Ex-Editor, Science Reporter. The Chairman of the Governing Body of the college Sh. Siddharth Verma was gracious enough to accept our invitation as Chief Guest for the function. The event was well attended by teachers and students and the talk enlightened us on the vexed topic about the impact of Einstein's ideas on our lives.

The department envisages all-round & holistic development of students. By way of engaging students in various activities team work is fostered & leadership training is imparted. Through group discussions, quizzes, and volunteer work their personality development is encouraged. Our faculty member Dr. Swami Nandan conducted workshop on interview preparation for students which was highly successful in its objective of preparing students for campus placement and job interviews. Senior member of the faculty Dr. Parthasarathi delivered an enlightening lecture on the topic 'Recent Advances in Physics'. The presentation was aimed at making students aware and informed about newer researches in this core area of science and eliciting their interest towards basic understanding in the subject matter of Physics.

The Department of Physics is in process of setting up a Computer Lab in Physics department which will benefit students of the departments in their Practical and Project classes. This will not only take care of the demands of the new CBCS program but also motivate the students to seek new ideas and implement the same in their curriculum. The department has a Student Society named "Physica" which engages itself in conducting various activities to benefit the students. We are proud to state that our students are well versed in all the activities of IT, desktop publishing, graphics etc.



BIOLOGY

Department of Biology in collaboration with departments of History, Economics and Business Economics organised the 4th National Conference on "Biodiversity and Climate Change: Pressure and Policies" on 4th and 5th February 2016. Many eminent speakers from various fields delivered lectures.

The learning objectives of this conference were to discuss the issues of climate change and understand its impact on habitats. Various linkages across economic, social and environmental dimensions were also highlighted to make the students realise the problems arising due to climate change especially on our natural bio-habitats and agriculture. Students were also given knowledge about the role of science in the development of a sustainable world and the challenges of putting the scientific findings into practice. After the presentations were made by the speakers, students asked them various questions. All the speakers appreciated the quality of questions and the commitment shown by them to protect the environment.

A workshop for the students to train them to carry out gardening activity was also conducted. They were taught as to how to grow certain varieties of plants bearing seasonal flowers that can blossom under Delhi's climatic conditions.



CHEMISTRY

The Chemistry Department aims to serve in the broadest, innovative and most liberal manner towards the advancement of chemistry in all of its branches through academics and promotes innovative curriculum development and exposes students to advanced instruments and technology. The academic performance of the students of the Department of Chemistry has been excellent over the past years. Ms. Manjari, Ms. Uma and Mr. Anuj students of BSc. Physical Science have secured 100% marks in Chemistry in year 2015. In addition to academics students excels in sports and cultural activities also and achieved top 3 ranks in cricket, volley ball and other games.

The students' society of B.Sc. Physical Science, KETOS, organized its annual event 'Scintilla' to compete and hone their organizational skills in various events like quiz competition, Power Point presentations and debate competition which witnessed participation from across the departments. The Chief Guest for the event was Prof. Biman Basu who delivered the inaugural lecture on 'Gravitational Waves'. Students thoroughly enjoyed as they got the opportunity to open up informally among themselves and with their teachers.



But... The Truth

When we see a house on a suburb which is neither too big nor too small but has an elaborate garden with blooming flowers in it, we impulsively picture a happy family. A father who works hard on weekdays and spends time with his wife and children on evenings and weekends; a mother who like every other parent loves her children immensely and tends to them day in and day out; two little kids who spend their time playing and imagining and wait for the night so that they get to hear yet another bedtime story with a happy ending from one of their parents.

But in reality, this is nothing but a figment of our imagination. There is only one in a million chances that what we imagine, may actually be so. Every individual, every house, every single thing in this world has its own story. We happen to know some stories through word of mouth or through some pieces of writing which testify the credibility of the stories.

I once read a novel titled *Thanks for the Memories* by Cecilia Ahern. The protagonist's father, there, takes the photographs of his dead wife off the wall and keeps them in the cupboard each morning and puts them back by the evening. The protagonist named Joyce thinks that her father doesn't love her mother anymore and therefore can't stand seeing her photographs and that he puts them back just to keep up appearances before her. But in reality, he hides them so that his wife doesn't see him smoke. Since she didn't like him smoking, he was too ashamed to smoke in front of her. So, the truth is totally the converse of what the protagonist assumes.

Most of the time people simply conjure "truth" based on their thoughts, imagination and experiences. This can be said to be both right and wrong: it is right because the truth is mostly what we see and wrong because we only think that what we have seen is absolutely true.

Only one out of five people have the ability to analyse the truth, not only on the basis of what they have seen or heard but on the basis of other factors as well. It is important that every society has those "one of out five people" who provide a different perspective to what we see.

Illustration: Saumya
B.A. (Hons) English
III Year

Shivi Puri
B.A. (Hons) English
I Year

Telling My Story

Only I can tell this story
Because the story is mine
Like a free bird
I knew no limits
The open sky was my abode
I perched on every bark of the tree
Because I was free!

I played as if this would never end,
Being as happy as I chose to be
No one could do anything wrong;
But this was not meant to last long.

As I flew from branch to branch,
From city to city
From place to place
I was still unaware of the dark
That would soon shroud me...

Yes, I became the one
That was no more allowed to fly
No more chirpings, no more in control of myself
Because I was restrained and restricted.

Seeing the open sky covered by darkened clouds
I lay hopelessly
Counting my days;
Finding no solace.

That day revealed
Something fierce, cruel and evil
As I was in chains
I could no longer be myself
I preferred rather to stay quiet.

Only I can tell this story
Because the story is mine;
Those long reins of bondage
Were worse than my worst nightmares.

They say-"Every cloud has a silver lining"
I searched for mine in the penetrating darkness
That is when I found a new hope
A new beginning, my silver lining!

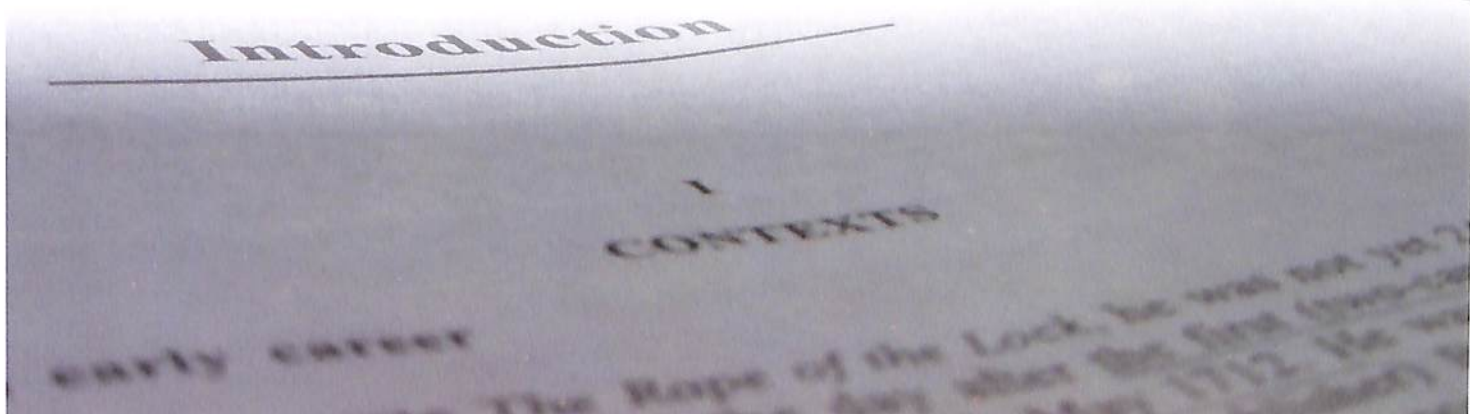
I struggled & struggled
Breaking shackles & confronting hindrances
At last, I succeeded
In setting myself free!

No more in captivity
Everyday my happiness reaches a new height,
Once more, I am free
Flying with my wings wide open!

Telling everyone my story
An untold story of struggle
I hear every new morning echoing
"Bird, continue to hope, and you will never be disappointed."

Komal Srivastava
B.A. (Hons) English
I Year

Illustration: Saumya
B.A. (Hons) English
III Year



Kajar Billauta

In India almost every superstitious person is petrified of a "kajar billauta". I find it funny how some people think that a black cat crossing your way can spoil your day. Even when an ordinary cat passes by, it is considered as "bad luck" so it is not hard to imagine the panic a kajar billauta creates.

I remember this funny incident when a kajar billauta crossed my friend's way. Unfortunately, she was going to appear in an examination that day. We were already in a hurry but she refused to move forward. She insisted on taking the long route. I did not have the time to argue. I did not accompany her and took the short cut. Apparently, that was a big risk. I reached on time. On the other hand, my friend reached the main road after following the long route from where she took an auto, got stuck in traffic and reached the examination hall thirty-five minutes late. She missed out on several questions and she was absentminded throughout the examination. For obvious reasons she did not perform well. After we were done with the exam, I went to her to talk about how silly these superstitious beliefs are but before I could begin to speak, she cried out, "That silly kajar billauta ... it ruined my examination; it ruined my day!". I was amused at this. She did not do well not because of the kajar billauta but because of the silly superstition she believed in. She admonished the poor cat like anything. She had such a firm belief about the kajar billauta that I found it hard to change her mind. Well, that cat crossed my path as well and I did quite well in the exam.

Humans, fully equipped with both physical and mental faculties, cannot change the fate but a mere black cat can! I fail to understand how people end up believing such nonsense.

Let me narrate another incident. A kajar billauta once crossed the path of a man on his way to work. He did not have the time to stop and so he continued to move forward but walked as if walking through fire. He was worried about how his day would turn out to be. He presumed that he would have a hard time and made him upset. He entered his workplace with a sullen face, could not focus on his work and missed his deadlines. When he failed to complete his share of work, he had to face the flack from his boss. Following the admonishment he received, he blamed the black cat for his misfortune. Well, it is as clear as day that the cause of his misfortune was none other than himself. He let himself be swayed by a superstition. Nothing is more amusing than this. I wonder what black cats have to face after crossing the ways of such people!

To conclude, I will say that believing in superstitions can only affect us negatively. A kajar billauta is an ordinary creature, like every other creature around us, which has got its own life to live; it has got no time to devise schemes to ruin the lives of us humans!

Amirtha D
B.A.(Hons) English
I Year



Human Mind: The Most Valuable Treasure

Man is the most powerful and beautiful creature in the universe. In fact, man is the master of all living creatures of the earth. Man is said to be the master and controller of all living things because he is gifted with the faculty of the mind. Other creatures do not enjoy the privilege of higher intelligence that man enjoys.

It is true that men have invented modern technologies which have transformed their lives. But Rome was not built in a day. Modern scientific and technological advancements involve the painstaking hard work and meticulous research activities of our past generations. In the early stage of civilization, ancient men were fighting for basic amenities and they learnt how to produce fire by rubbing two stones. Modern man must be thankful and grateful to their predecessors for this. If the minds of Kautilya (Chanakya, the famous ancient economist), Charak (the ancient medico), Tansen (the wonderful singer and musician of Akbar's Court), Kalidas, Ved Vyas, Guru Rabindra Nath Tagore, Elbert Einstein, C.V. Raman, Swami Vivekanand, Issac Newton and a lot more could not have created a niche in their respective fields, we would not be able to build our pillars for success.

Human mind requires continuous efforts, research and some creative activities to realize the desired output. A young man who graduated yesterday but stops learning today will be uneducated tomorrow. Continuous efforts enable the mind to innovate and explore the new. Inventions are made out of necessity. The modern stage of mobile has travelled a journey of several distances through telegraph and telephone. Networking systems like the internet is an outcome of the human mind. The modern Automated Teller Machine (ATM) involves the endeavours of millions of customers, thousands of bankers and engineers. The 4M's – Men, Machines, Money and Materials – required to execute any work are brought together by the human mind.

The specific feature of mind is that it never becomes static. Mind is the master and controller of whole human body. It remains active even while the body is sleeping.

We must be very careful and vigilant about how we use our minds. While creative thoughts can lead to great success; negative, destructive, misleading and harmful thought can challenge the growth and progress of a society.

Different human minds have different thought processes. It is not necessary that if a man visualizes an incident, someone else will imagine it in the same way. That is why our society becomes a composition of both good and bad things. But the civilization of only that society becomes superior whose creativity and innovation dominate over destruction and inhuman acts. India is respected in the world because of its unique feature of unity in diversity. Different religions work together differences.

Minds must be given full of scope to grow and prosper. To achieve this competitive environment and optimum facilities are two key factors. In today's era acquiring certificates become useless unless relevant knowledge and adequate information are gathered into minds. Before getting admission in a college, a student should explore his ability and identify his area of interest and should then focus on his potential. A student's mind can be focused towards his personal as well as national growth. Now a man does not only belong to a village, a city or a country but to the entire world. It depends upon the interest, capacity, broad vision and

willingness to channelize the powerful energy of mind on the basis of which a man from India can lead in USA. It is the prime responsibility of the government to make available the sound infrastructure, creative climate and supportive surroundings so that human minds can prosper in coordination with the system. Responsible authorities in the government must review the prevailing circumstances to channelize the young minds into the mainstream of the country's growth and prosperity.

Hence, we must focus on taking inspirations from the lives of the personalities like Mahatma Gandhi, Swami Vivekanand and Dr. Kalam so that our minds can also produce wonderful and innovative ideas rising above the caste, creed, religion, politics, community which will be remembered for ever.

Mr. Mukesh Kumar
Section Officer (Administration)

Journey of Life

Our life is full of new experiences which may be good or bad. But those experiences teach us a lot and sometimes become a major cause of our personality growth. We face a number of ups and downs in our life. There are times when we enjoy so much that we make claims like, "My life is so perfect!" And then there are times when we deny our erstwhile claim by saying, "There is nothing good in my life and I hate it". Basically life is all about uncertainty; we can't predict what will happen next and whether it will be a good or a bad experience.

The journey of our life revolves around moments that we create. Since we can't predict the future, we should stop worrying about it and should just imagine the experience as a good memory.

Experiences are all about us making them memorable. At each step of our life we will experience something new, and that will be the point where we have to explore, learn and indulge ourselves in living life to the fullest. Life is too short to dwell on bygone "bad" experiences so we should move forward with all our confidence, strength and will power and be optimistic about the future rather than being pessimistic and putting our morale down.

Illustration: Saumya
B.A. (Hons) English
III Year

Yamini Mer
B.A. (Hons) English
I Year

Snippets

Tell Tale

Swimming in my mind are stories. Stories waiting to be told. Stories not wishing to be told, the ashes of a shrouded past consumed by bitterness and betrayal. Stories impatient to get out, pushing against my cranium with a mighty force. Stories of my dear and near, their dysfunctional experiences juxtaposed with mine. Stories I dream to write about, but they escape my memory as I open my eyelids. Isn't it magnificent, the idea that you carry such tremendous rich infinite experiences in your head?

Every story is unique and great in its own sense.

Rekindle

I was fast asleep when I felt something warm against my left cheek. As my eyes adjusted to the faint light filtering through the curtains, I woke up to the bright midmorning sun peeking at me. So kindly excuse my enthusiasm, a sunny day after an entire week of intense cold, fog is welcomed with joyous heart. I shut my eyes and let the warm seep into my bones, soaking every inch of me. I pictured the Helios with Godric Gryffindor's sword battling it out with the fog, slaying the mist and managing to hoodwink a giant cluster of clouds to finally emerge, victorious. Huzzah! (I needed a win, and I got it.)

As I finally managed to crawl out of bed, I stole a whisper to the blazing ball hanging above – just hang in there bud. Let the greyness that has imprisoned my soul be replaced by fire.

Believe

As I write this, I look up and the sky is the colour of my China. It's usually breezy, considering its mid-May. I tug on to my billowy olive green kaftan, my gaze falling on my hands. I stretch my free hand out, palm facing upwards. All these lines across my palm, private secret engravings in their own right, surely they must intend something. "Do they?" I say it aloud, surprising myself and the spaniel from next door curled up at my feet who jumps up with a start. Or, maybe I should rephrase it to whether I'm willing to believe? What exactly do I place my belief in? Belief is a tricky thing. Just when you decide to repose your faith in a human, they throw you off balance and give you a reason not to. The good news is beliefs are not set in stone. As long as it stems from your very core, you will be okay.

I believe: in purging my soul of painful memories and past betrayals. That embracing yourself is a process. In giving without expecting anything in return. That first and foremost, we must live up to ourselves. In my strength, my capability, my dreams, my choices. In the vast unbounded potential of everybody.

The struggle to find something that's going to pull us through is a never ending journey. So hold onto faith, whatever your idea of faith maybe. That, with a dash of hope. And if all else fails, Ben and Jerry's hot chocolate.

Neelabja
B.A. (Hons.) English
II Year

Illustration: Saumya
B.A. (Hons)English
III Year

The Child of Courage

Following her everyday routine, Gurpreet woke up at the crack of dawn, completed her household chores, dressed up Mousin, sent him to school and found herself brooding, yet again in front of the mirror in an attempt to find her real face. Wiping off the tears that have dried over the years, wondering about the next pretext when Mousin will ask for his father, she became conscious of the fact even today will go in vain.

Receiving Mousin from school later in the day she wordlessly veiled his customary question, "Maa, will my father ever come to meet me?" They reached home and passed the rest of the awkwardness in silence.

Mousin sprinted to his mother when he heard her shrieks. It was only then that he realized that she was having a nightmare. He hastily made an effort to wake her up, "It's alright maa, wake up!" After waking up from her dream, without much ado, she clutched her son into her arms, virtually smothering him. Before she could react, Mousin is ready with his usual question and this time he is determined to get an answer.

"You have to tell me, I know this is related to my father. I deserve to know this maa. I am 14 now!"

She realized that she could no longer avert it, so she began, "No one really cared about this piece of land touching the India-Pakistan border near Attari. This place could only see visitors of the Wagah Border. Needless to say, they were our only source of our income".

After gathering some courage, she continued, "All I can recall is the day when my father asked me, my mother and sister to shut down the doors and not to move out until he reaches back. The noise of gun firing and explosions, moments later proved to us that it was perhaps the last conversation with the man of the house. Abruptly, we heard a knocking sound at the door. After a while of remaining hushed, I stood and opened the door. I found my father's corpse lying amid a thousand more dipped in red. Before I could realize what was happening, I saw a heavily armed man ... your father, a terrorist ..."

Mousin stayed teary eyed and wordlessly held his mother's hand. The latter concluded, "Mousin, you are not a progeny of a violation, but the outcome of a woman's courage to change an option to a choice".

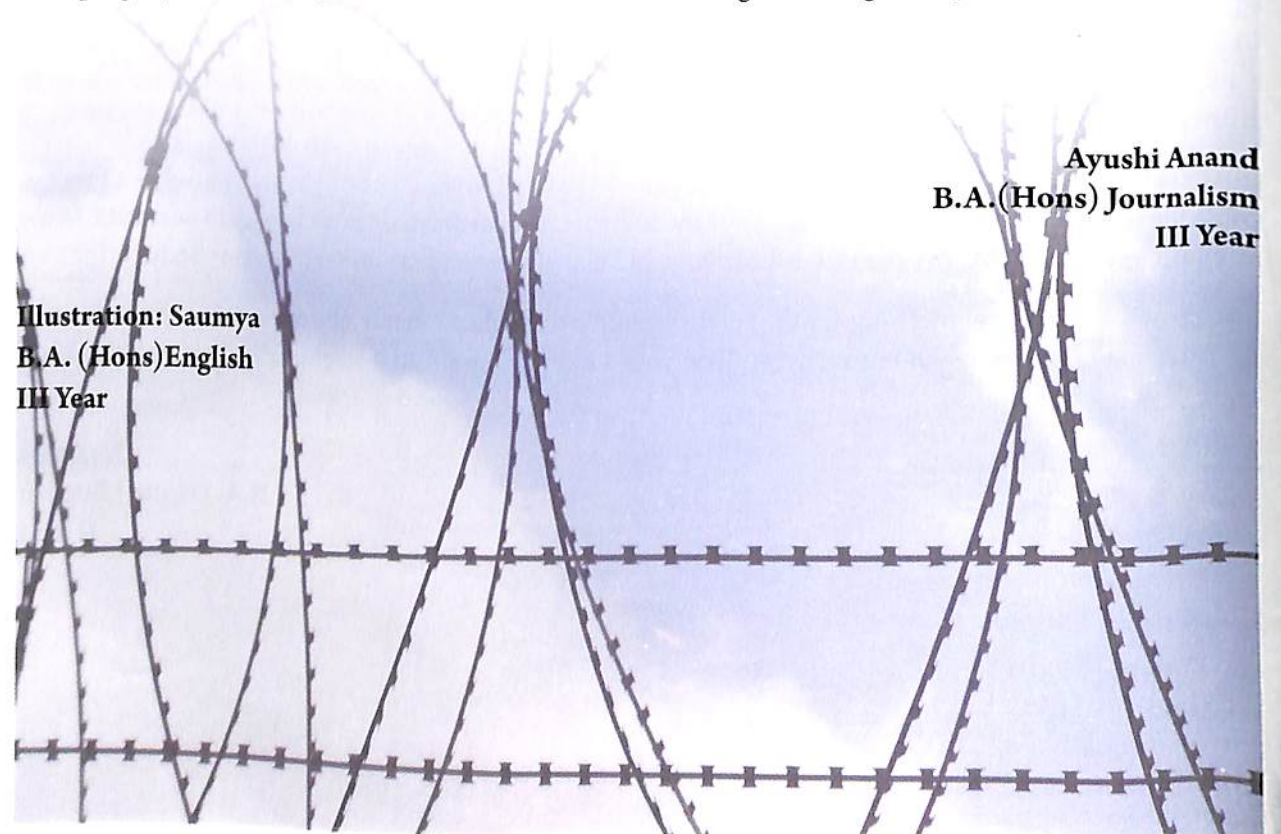


Illustration: Saumya
B.A. (Hons) English
III Year

Ayushi Anand
B.A. (Hons) Journalism
III Year

Paths to Salvation

Sitting high on his throne on the immortal mount,
The almighty Father perceives his subjects,
Much of whom worship him as God Almighty,
Some who even profess their love for him
In their own strange little ways; some who
Condemn their immortal soul by making
A living in God's name and mislead His subjects
With lies, and deceit; some who are unsure
Of their belief, yet are sheltered by the warmth
That only belief can provide; some who abstain
From all contact with the world, in the hopes of
Coming into His good graces, yet most driven by
Ulterior purpose; some that openly declare
Their vehement opposition to even the barest notion
Of a Higher Entity, yet in their own small way,
Are the staunchest of His supporters.
He goes by many names in as many of
His subjects' kingdoms; He is Zeus of Olympus,
Presiding over the mounts of Greece; to the Romans,
He was Jupiter, commander of the best of their men;
He appears to the Indians as Lord Indra, lord of the sky,
And Krishna, and Rama, and the avatars through the ages;
He dons a new name, a new guise, for each of the golden eras
Of his human subjects, for he is at once Jesus and the Prophet,
And all his different forms, for they are one and the same,
And show but the immensity of his power, the power of faith.
He does not ask obeisance, or worship of some sort;
Nor does the sacrificial flame sooth his heart;
It is but truth he desires, a beautiful and yet terrible price,
For have not blows been exchanged on the matters
Of perceived slights to the sanctity of one's God?
But it is not this truth that He desires, it is a thing
Much harder to find – the truth of what one really is,
For that truth is the only true path – to Salvation.

Ishan Wadhwa
B.A. (Hons) English
II Year

Void

She felt numb,
 There was a strange void.
 She was an actor
 Searching for a missing article.
 It could not be found anywhere.
 No one could help her,
 Words fell short to give a description.
 She herself didn't know what it was.
 She would recognize it immediately
 Was all that she knew.
 The article had to be found soon,
 The emptiness was chewing her up.
 One day she decided to take a break
 From playing characters,
 To take a walk in the desert.
 She was moping
 When she heard someone weeping.
 The weep was unfamiliar,
 Yet it had a spell which captivated her.
 She paced her steps faster
 To reach the source of the sound.
 She saw someone in the shadows.
 She reached for the petite being,
 The innocent face of the creature
 Looked through her eyes
 As if to hypnotize her.
 She realized the void had dissolved,
 The souls had communicated.

Saumya Agrawal
 B.A.(Hons) English
 III Year

Inevitable You In Me

Perhaps the world might be fair,
 Beauty of which
 To my eyes were rare;
 I travelled a lot, the world around,
 To look for so, but no good was found.

Then you came and took me there,
 To a place I never had been
 But I wished I were.

This is how,
 You dissolved in my blood,
 And resolved all my thoughts.
 I may be wrong,
 Or may be not.

Perhaps the smile may rejoice the soul,
 Art of which,
 I never learned on whole;
 The smile of you, brightens my face,
 Where presence of yours anyone can trace.

Before you came, I was a body so grim,
 You taught me love, you made me smile,
 And reverted to me the gift of soul... ..

This is how,
 You dissolved in my blood,
 And resolved all my thoughts.

I may be wrong,
 Or may be not.

Ashish Abhishek
 B.A. (Hons) English
 I Year

The Seven Ages

Is the world really what it seems to be?
Wherein men and women continue to
struggle for supremacy,
They come, and one day they go, but leave
behind them
A journey, of which, there are too many parts
to behold.
But the seven ages, O those sweet memories!

At first the infant, with cheeks plump and
rosy
Who, with his birth, has redefined the word
'beauty'.
Then, the intelligent school boy
With an uncanny resemblance to his
progenitors
Walks to school to charm all alike!

And then the lover, brimming with passion
for his loved one
An hour without whom seems to be an eternal
duration.
Then a soldier, sharp and fierce as an eagle,
Filled with patriotism, and a spirit of
martyrdom,
Who instead of his family thinks his nation
paramount.

And then the justice, pinnacle of wisdom and
sincerity,
Who never fails to scrutinize and analyze.
The sixth age, a humble reminder of
dependence,
It leaves you with enough to just sit and
wonder.

The last stage of all, with nothing but one
constant turmoil:
To give up on life, or let life give in as per the
time destined.
No matter what choice one makes,
As long as one leaves the world with no
regrets.

Divyank Kushagra Bansal
B.A. (Hons) English
II Year

Pieces Apart

If I'd ever known
That it would be my last day
With millions of words left to say
If I'd ever known
About his intention
Filled with greed and obsession
If I'd ever known
I would be rendered with no chance to have
a look
At all the things that I loved but never took.
If I'd ever known
How to choose life when you are half dead
Writhed in pain with wounds all red.
If I'd ever known
The solution to my never ending pain
And to all the efforts that ended in vain
If I'd ever known
Who was responsible for my terrible death
I kept thinking this till my last breath
If I'd ever known
It was not only my body that was being made
impure
Even my soul was wounded in a way that had
no cure
If I'd ever known
That one day I would lay all alone
In this grave, midst of an insect and a stone
If I'd ever known
That memories are all that are now left
After that dreadful day of a terrible theft
If I'd ever known
He would silence even the voice of my heart
Leaving me only with a few pieces apart.

Alina Kazmi
B.A. (Hons) English
I Year

DU Dilemma

'I don't want to go to SRCC!' exclaimed Meera.

'What? You don't want to go to THE SRCC - one of the best colleges of DU?' asked Radhika.

'Ya! I do want to go to a regular college but SRCC is no where in my list'

'But why?'

'Going to a regular college has always been my dream and I will fulfill it no matter what but getting admission into SRCC is not my cup of tea! What I think is that it is an overrated college.'

'You are....' Radhika was cut down in between.

'I know I'm awesome.'

'You're mad'

'Thank you. Now let's go back to our home'

Meera was someone who wanted to explore each and everything. She was considered mad for her dream of experiencing ALMOST EVERYTHING in life. From being a cancer survivor to a leader in a protest march, she had experienced many shades of life and desired to experience. Her dreams may seem crazy but she was still confident enough to dream them. She has learned a lot about college life through her cousins' narration and Karan Johar films. She always wanted to go to a regular college and these stories made her aim to get admission in DU stronger day by day. She was mentally prepared for all the fun she had dreamt of. From fests to trips to 'canteen masti' each and everything seemed exciting to her.

Meera was more than an average student. She was not the topper in her class or her school but she was doing fine with her studies. It was the time for her board exams and she was working hard because she knew that her dream of landing into a regular college that too in DU would only be fulfilled if she secured 'good' marks.

Meera studied a lot and did well in her exams. She was on top of the world when she saw her result. She had secured 91.25% and her joy knew no bounds when she saw her marks. Her family was proud of her. She had reached half-way towards the fulfilment of her dreams; but she was told by her teachers that she will not get admission in a campus college because she didn't score that well. Anyways, campus or off-campus didn't bother her. What she wanted was admission in DU and that too in a regular college.

The first cut-off was released a few days later and she was unhappy. She was unable to get into any of the colleges. But, still she didn't leave the hope because there were 9 cut-off lists to be released. Few days passed, cut-off lists released one after another but she was still waiting to get admission. But hope did not fade out.

It was the day of fifth cut-off. She was sure that she will get admission in a college with subjects of her choice this time. She hurriedly reached the college she was sure she might get admission. She was waiting for her call when a girl called Naina came and sat beside her. Both started interacting and found that they had applied for the same course.

'Ohh great! How much have you secured?' asked Meera.

'70%', said Naina. 'I hope I get admission somewhere soon. I have been hopping from college to college for the past 15 days.' Naina was called in and Meera never saw her again.

Meera was unable to get admission because her marks were not 'good' enough to secure her a seat in DU in the fifth list as well.

Meera was shattered from within. All the colleges offering the subject of her choice closed admissions by the fifth list. Left with no other option, Meera applied for a correspondence course. From being a fun

loving, bubbly, chirpy girl she changed into being a reserved one. It was as if her life took a halt.

3 years have passed and Meera has still not recovered. She is suffering from depression and is currently undergoing psychiatric therapy. She has completed her graduation by correspondence and that too in that field which never interested her.

What was her fault? Was dreaming her fault? Was studying day and night to get admission in DU her fault? She could only wonder!

Aastha Ahuja
B.A. (Hons.) Journalism
II Year

Dream

I am lost somewhere.
 where tears speak
 the untold emotions.
 where smiles reveal
 the corrupt ideas.
 where eyes unveil desires:
 where air divulges the truth.

Lets just close our eyes and dream..
 Lets just do it for a moment and smile
 because missing that is missing a life
 simple and serene

Manisha Ashok
B.A. (Hons) English
III Year

असोजिता
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Ephebiphobia

“Ephebiphobia”, or “fear of youth”, is one of the most enduring phenomena in our society – and recently it has become more prevalent than ever.

You may not know the word, but you’ve probably had the feeling.

An ephebiphobic society is one that views young people in negative and judgmental terms, where the media reports the latest hideous crimes and abuses of youngsters, which invents devices such as the Mosquito (which emits a high-frequency sound painful to the young) to move pestilent youths along. So worried are we by stories of bad behaviour that we become hyper-protective towards our own children, raising them almost in captivity, cooped up indoors, while letting them do their socialising and risk-taking in the unregulated spaces of the internet. But this fear and suspicion is counterproductive. If you tell someone they are a failure a good number of times, they will be. If you blacken the reputations of many by the actions of the few, you discriminate. If you design a herd-mentality education system, built around targets and testing, you lose those that require individualised support.

The voices in the debate are loud and numerous, and often remind me of the way in which we used to address racial imbalances. To comment that “I see young people behaving like hooligans all the time” implies that what is seen is representative of the general state of things, and that enables discrimination to flourish. Yes, there are some hideously behaved young people, aggressive and violent. There are gangs and groups that wander aimlessly, drinking, smoking and behaving in an anti-social fashion. There are classrooms where staff are terrorised. These young people exist, and their behaviour has to be dealt with. But if you suggest that they are vulnerable and need understanding and support, you are labelled a wet liberal.

Why do we fear, stigmatise and discriminate against young people.

Children need boundaries and authority. They need manners and respect for others. They need sanctions and consequences to help them learn. But they will only respect if they are respected, will only learn if their strengths and needs are individually understood, and will only strive if they feel valued and encouraged.

Because while we blame, label and misunderstand an entire generation, because of the actions of a minority of their peers, we can only devalue and never empower. This isn’t about making excuses. It’s about challenging a society that discriminates against its youth, and so excludes them from shaping the cultural and social landscape and embracing their futures. In other words, we are an ephebiphobic society – and we should be ashamed of course.



Mansi Agarwal
BA (Hons) Business Economics
I Year

My Idol and His Discreet Tale...

It was almost twilight when I was on my way home, kicking stones on my way, singing, dancing in the dimly lit road. I knew I was late already but this time I had no excuse to get myself through my mother's vexation and fury. It was just for her to be worried for me as I could not be the perfect son for her. Even at the age of 16, when all my friends were earning members of their family, I was just a mediocre kid, good for nothing and more of a liability for my family. We lived in a village in Chennai, where life was tough, earning was a necessity for the house lamps to kindle. My parents got me counselled and each of the counsellors said that I might have some passion or something in me which will come up one day in life but that much was not enough for me. I wanted to be a proud son, but I knew it was not too late. There was still time. I reached home and forgot to bring vegetables like I was asked to. Just like any other day, mother was cooking food and father had not yet arrived since he had loads of work on Mondays. Once he came, we all had dinner and I didn't get chided much as mother was not well. She slept early that day and made my bed for me like usual. I apologized to her but she almost turned deaf ears to my appeals. She gave me a smile and said good night. I packed my bag for school and a minute later father came to my room knocking and sat on my study chair. He seemed happy and cheerful, I asked him what was the reason for the unwonted smile he wore. He hugged me and said he got a hike in his salary and we were soon going to have better days. My father worked in a factory which supplied power to the factories in the city and with the flux of time it was doing quite well too. That day I wanted to speak my heart out to him and vent out all my choked sorrow because it had been many days now since I had been feeling worthless. He sat and heard me patiently and then he continued to say that it was too early for me to lose feathers of hope and I had something in me which would find its light soon enough. Then he shared things about his past and said some golden words to me which I will never forget, he said... "You have to dream before your dreams come true son, just as it was said by Dr APJ Abdul Kalam, once you have high dreams no one can stop you from fulfilling them, not even you yourself if you have the passion and determination." He then asked me to not worry so much and just Dream Big! The next day I went to school and heard my friends talk about their idols. There were names of successful people from every field like some of them were Charles Darwin, Stephen King, Stan Smith, Elvis Presley, Albert Einstein and even Mr. Rattan Tata. When I was asked I didn't have any such name to enounce. But only two words came out of my mouth, 'my father'. That day I wanted to bring a change in me. It was like something lit up in me that wanted me to work hard and bring wings to my dreams. I worked hard in whatever I did and then years passed and I completed my schooling and graduated from college. The question was, now what? Am I actually doing what I wanted to or am I just a sheep in the heard who is just going with the flow. I thought to myself what more can be done. I was 24 now and there were millions like me who were hunting for jobs and were yearning for more. Again my father's golden words struck me. He used to say "All birds find shelter during rain. But eagles avoid rain by flying above the clouds. So problems are common but the attitude makes a difference." After a while I left my house to take a stroll, after a long walk I came to the endpoint of the road. Nearby there was a small hut where I overheard a father berating his little son, about 8 for something. For a moment I stood there watching them and hearing the child wail profusely. The boy ran out of the hut and sat on a big stone outside. That's when I was reminded of my Father. How and what words he told me and I thought it would be unjust for me to just pass by without paying any attention to the whole scenario. I approached the child and spoke to him. As I did so he had stopped sobbing and took me as his friend. And then I told him about me and how I knew he was feeling like. Because sometimes all someone

needs is a shoulder to cry on or a motivational spirit. He took what I said as a good message and hugged his father when he came to him and that's when I had a sense of relief within me. Months passed and in no time I was 28, a successful entrepreneur, married and well settled in Bombay. I was invited to a corporate meeting of the largest companies in India where I was not only to give an inspiring speech but also I was to be awarded with India's most successful entrepreneur. Coincidentally it was my father's birthday the same day and I anxiously wanted him to be a part of my life's golden path so I sent tickets for both my parents to fly to Bombay. Just after a few days I received a call from home and my mother sounded low. Words were not coming out of her, all she said was, "Sachin, we got your letter, your father is no more and I will not be able to make it there, he had been suffering from Cancer, he never told you I know, but this was for you only son. He always wanted you to become an eminent and a successful person in life and he knew that by knowing this fact you might not have the same confidence and faith in yourself and thus the legacy of the family will continue to be in ruins" My feet stood stoned, my eyes wide open and a cold gush of blood flowed through me. All my life, my only source of inspiration was my father but I was the one who was not there for him when he needed me the most. I felt extremely guilty of my selfishness. All along it was about me? He hid such a big thing from me and that too for my own good? Probably he was right or maybe not, I can't say but I was shaken up badly because now that I had everything, Everything seemed like Nothing. The next morning was supposedly The Big Day for me which did not seem big enough anymore. Everything seemed pointless but there again I was reminded of My Idol. He wanted me to continue no matter what. Gathering some courage that day I went to the event, and addressed the audience. Just when I stood there in front of the mass and gleaming lights, with all paparazzi focusing on me I just had a heavy throat and I could barely speak anything. But then it was important for me to convey to everyone who was behind this and who was MY IDOL. "He was a fighter, he was my motivator, and he was the one who was with me to give me fortitude and strength and most of all he was My Father. The one behind all this. Behind all that I have achieved and without his guidance I was a sightless toddler crossing the road".

He asked me always ... not to read success stories, because from there I can only get a message but reading what goes behind it, the toil & the pain, will get me the thrill of doing it and striving to accomplish my dream and that would be when I will get a step closer to success. I love him, but today wretchedly he could not join me here that is for what he made me strong. But I will always cherish what both my parents have done for me and the hope that they never lost.

Mansi Agarwal

BA (Hons) Business Economics

I Year

In Introspection

Sitting by her window side,
 She stared into the infinity.
 The tranquility of her face
 Contrasted the silent storm
 Inside her.
 The darkness of the night
 Didn't scare her,
 Rather it added to the mystery,
 She was trying to solve.
 Her dark brown eyes were calm
 Yet yearning for something,
 Something she couldn't explain
 Or even understand.
 She had lost the count
 Of the sleepless nights she had spent.
 She wished to stay alone.
 People and their faces irked her.
 Intolerable and noisy they were.
 Peace was all she wanted,
 Peace of mind,
 To understand her thoughts.
 Only one question hovered her mind,
 The answer had to come from within.
 She searched every thought of hers
 To find the answer but in vain.
 She believed
 The answer would solve everything.
 A gentle breeze blew the strands
 Of her long black hair on her face.
 Without being conscious,
 She neatly tucked them
 Behind her ear
 And closed her eyelids
 In introspection.
 All she could see was how

She had wasted her life.
 Somewhere deep inside,
 She was still yearning
 For the dream
 She had left behind.
 She was not happy
 When she had to change paths.
 She cried herself to sleep each night.
 But with time,
 She learnt to compromise with life.
 "After all," they say,
 "Life is all about compromises."
 Now again, the time was near,
 When she would be at crossroads.
 Years back, she had the same feelings,
 But this time,
 She didn't wish
 To make a compromise with life.
 She was not sure about the decision
 She had taken.
 This doubt scared her.
 Each time she pondered upon her decision,
 she would ask herself,
 "Will I be happy in the future?"
 Life was such,
 She had forgotten
 To stay happy in the present.

Saumya Agrawal
B.A. (Hons) English
III Year

Illustration: Saumya
B.A. (Hons) English
III Year

Dislodged Seed

That vacation, that summer,
It was just a game of truth & dare
On a lovely note it had ended
But couldn't it have gone on forever?
I wish I could stop that time
And did what I thought had been right
Because the words that you whispered into my
ears
Had filled my eyes with tears

After that vacation, that summer, the winter
approached
Deep in thought, I saw you standing by the door
I wished to smile and hold your hand
But my heart realised
It was just not a favorable time

I have repeatedly asked
This same question over and over again
“How can you be as incomprehensible as a
fragrance diffused in air?”

It is indeed hard to underscore the meaning of
words

”It was just a game of truth and dare”, I say
“On a lovely note it ended”, you say

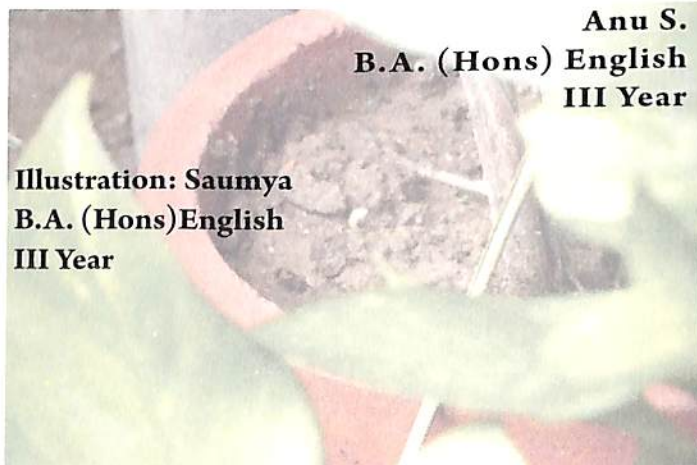
Were we friends or were we not?
I had asked you once but you seem to have
forgotten
So tell me now and tell me the truth
So that I can say I am there for you
Of all friends I have ever met
Your last words I will never FORGET!!

Sony Sharma
B.A. (Hons) English
I Year

I'm here
It's me
I have just been sown into your body
Would it be silly if I ask,
"Can you sense my presence?"
Time has passed
I have undergone metamorphosis
I'm connected to you
I see the world through you
I smell the world through you
I feel the world through you
I taste the world through you
I hear the world through you
Hear, yes, I do hear your voice, dear mother
Hear, yes, I do hear a harsh voice of a ruffi-
an, dear mother
Hear, yes, I do hear your protests, dear
mother
I sense a foreboding
A shadow is lurking in the corner
The shadow is gripping me
The shadow is consuming me
I'm dislodged
I'm gone
Your lovely "doll" is lost forever

Anu S.
B.A. (Hons) English
III Year

**Illustration: Saumya
B.A. (Hons)English
III Year**



‘Bhaskara Uvaachaa’

(Father Sun complains to God for his daughter Earth's pathetic condition)

O Lord of lord, God of god!!!
I am always thankful to you O god,
For bestowing a Green Resurrection Stone,
My Beloved Daughter Earth!!!

To you, she was so beloved,
Powerful Angel in your Divine Ministerial Cabinet!!!
One and only who had the talent,
To reproduce her own younglings

But who is responsible for her pathetic condition now?
Where her own progeny scraping her green halo!!!
Who is responsible for her pathetic condition?
Where her own cannibal offsprings molesting her!!!

Where to complain, where to fight,
For my beloved daughter, I don't know!!!
O God of god!!! Open your eyes of justice,
Towards my Beloved Daughter Earth!!!

(God responds to Father Sun)

O Omniscient Sun!!! Can't you see!!!
When I bestowed her to you,
I bestowed a unique boon,
To rejuvenate and purify herself soon!!!

Look at her body vital signs changing,
Her cannibal children are suffering.
O Omniscient Sun!!! Can't you see!!!
She is rejuvenating!!!

But that rejuvenation is leading to Destruction!!!
Destruction of Civilizations, Destruction of Nature,
Destruction of the cosmic law imposed by Divine Ministerial Cabinet,
And of those by me and my Incarnations.

O Omniscient Sun!!! It's high time now,
Something productive shall be done.
O Omniscient Sun!!! Can't you see!!!
The Countdown of Time passing by.

Aditya Nair
B.Com. (H)
III Year

What Lies Beyond My Own Pond?

There was this tide,
That rose last night
In the ponds surrounding mine.
Until and unless it bothered me,
I felt the tide was fine.

But soon this carefree attitude
Went down the drain
When I witnessed the havoc,
The aftermath developed by pain.

There was someone in one of the ponds
With whom I had spent my days.
Now, those days stand still.
With me, they also gaze
Through the beautiful face turned white.
They whisper the message brought by the
tide.

I asked her to come to my pond
To live with me.
She said that she could not.
She was not free.

I wondered... there was nothing around.
No shackles tied her.
She said, "Chains do not bind her body.
It is the soul, they capture."

The chains of caste, of race,
The chance of class and gender.
How powerful these chains could be,
I stood there and wondered.

She said, "I have to live with these chains.
One day, I'll leave."
As she spoke these words, I wondered,
How troubled she was.

Now there she lies on the ground,
Her face is quiet and calm.
They allow me now, to hold her
And take her face in my arm.

The water in the pond is still
And she is placid.
It seems as if she is gone to some place
Where she can smoothly sail,
Without any fear, without any veil.

I don't know whether to laugh or to cry.
She is finally free,
But the sorrow lies in the fact
That she is not here with me.

Abhinav Anand
B.A. (Hons) English
I Year



Where I lived for Nine...

I opened my eyes
To see the blue sky
Oh! it is so bright
But where is my dark home
Where I lived for nine...

I started breathing
And then I cried
My mother held my finger
And made me see the sky
I forgot that home
Where I lived for nine...

I giggled with joy
And saw this world with my tiny eyes!

Oh! How he dragged me down...
And blocked out my sky!
I closed my eyes
I did not cry
But I yearned to see my home
Where I lived for nine...

I met her in heaven,
My mother, and cried
Why did you give me away to him
When I was born to see the sky
Give me my home again
Where I lived for nine...

Now, I don't want to be born again...
Now, I don't want to see the sky...

Dr. Charu Arya
Assistant Professor, Dept of English

Gone

She stood there bare foot
evoking laughter and misery.
There was something about her
that nobody could understand
was she a walking dead?
Sullen eyes, swollen lips
tattered clothes and that cut wrist
tells a story, that no story teller will hum,
because she and I were just human

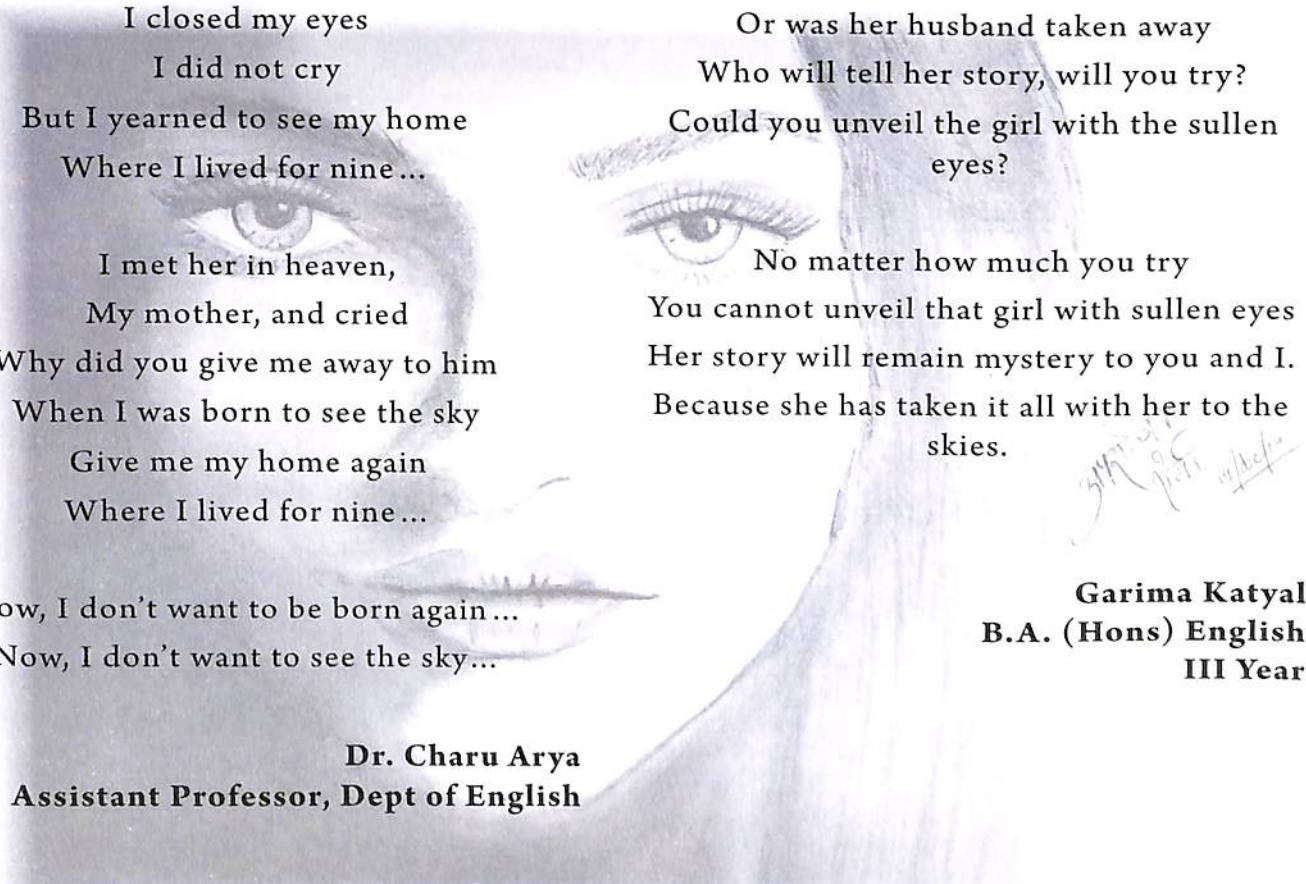
Barefooted woman with sullen eyes,
what all mysteries do you hide?
who was behind, the cat or the dog?
was it a work of the omnipotent God?

That sad smile on her face,
veils all the thoughts coming my way.

Has he won the battle and come?
Or was her husband taken away
Who will tell her story, will you try?
Could you unveil the girl with the sullen
eyes?

No matter how much you try
You cannot unveil that girl with sullen eyes
Her story will remain mystery to you and I.
Because she has taken it all with her to the
skies.

Garima Katyal
B.A. (Hons) English
III Year



Why not a Girl Child

People wish for a boy
Not for a girl....
Their blessings are for males
Not for females....

BUT

When they need courage
They pray to Durga
When they desire knowledge
They pray to Saraswati
So, why they hesitate to have
Goodness in their family?

Even

A Girl is a doll,
The princess of the house
Loved so much
So pretty and cute
Lighting every corner
Like a little fairy
She solves all problems,
But never demands,
So affectionate,
Till the very end.
Why then are we so cruel to her,
And Kill her in the womb?
Think about it,
And take an oath,
To Give her the Right
To Survive....

Tanishka Sharma
B.A (Prog)
I Year

Woman: Unparalleled Creation of GOD!!

Don't ever let them say
You are a woman!
You have no choice
You ought to listen,
You have no voice

Don't let them tell you
you are a woman!
You need to learn.
Your needs are yours
Not his concern.

Be warned, they will say
You are a woman!
Braving penetrating eyes.
For men are stronger,
When they have vice.

They will scare you
You are a woman!
You will endure pain.
For crying and pleading,
will all in vain.

Remember
you are a woman,
With strength unmatched, uncommon!
You must have courage and ambition,
To go beyond given definitions!

Ahaa, You are a woman!
Divine nurturer of soul.
With brilliance and compassion!
Now play the leading role.

Rohit Rai
B. Sc. Mathematical Sciences
II Year

You are the Reason

If Sun is the reason for the existence of life
on Earth,
You are the reason of my existence on this
Earth.
The sun is eclipsed by the shine arising ev-
ery time a smile spreads across the face of
yours.
The dawn proclaims, your purity exceeds in-
finitely.
Even high rising waves recede every time an-
ger washes the face of yours.
The presence of yours in a place
Becomes my reason to be there.
The felicitous smile of yours ties me to you.
Love speaks through the eyes of yours,
You want me to find my place in this world,
While you stand by the door.
Fragrance emanates from every whiff of your
breath,
Bringing me from to life from death.
It is often said, reasons bring us to a dead
end,
But you are the reason of my existence,
Who was ready to accept the dead end.

Ashish Abhishek
B.A. (Hons) English
I Year

Sound and Silence in the City...

A sound...
A shriek...
And slowly sinking... it's her voice...
Through the windows of the high rise
building
When the darkness of sunlight wraps
her body...
She tries to cry
and tell her mother
her fear....
But she can't move her tongue
To scream... and shriek...
For he traps her tight
Alone in his room
And wraps
her body....
She still tries to cry...
To tell her mother...
She is there, in the darkness of sunlight
Through the windows of the high rise
building
She can never scream or shriek...
slowly sinking in her own
voice....

Dr. Charu Arya
Assistant Professor, Dept of English



She Stood there... Barefoot

Under the dazzling sun, on the warm sand of the seashore, she stood barefoot facing the shimmering sea in a reverie, with seemingly no awareness of her immediate surroundings. Her dark eyes, which appeared to twinkle as the bright rays of the sun deflected on them, were transfixed at something non-existent across the distant horizon. The frothy tides crashed at her feet and receded at regular intervals, leaving specks of wet sand to accumulate in the spaces between her pale toes.

The beach bustled with people. Children sprinted in leisure and couples strolled hand-in-hand. Theirs were faces brimming with jocundity. In the midst of this throng of happy people stood the strange woman who seamlessly blended into the scene like a flower blossoming in an expanse of hayfield, and yet if one were to pause whatever activity they were engaged in for a while and let their vision wander, they would eventually find their eyes resting on her and be struck with an instantaneous realisation of how distinctly she stood out. And then she would immediately become an object of curiosity.

She was like a lifeless mannequin whose presence was nothing short of a mystery. The only thing that suggested she was in fact a flesh-and-blood person was the blinking of her eyes. Her appearance could hardly be considered graceful if one goes by conventional standards. She was undoubtedly young--probably in her mid-twenties--but she seemed to be lacking in the characteristic vigour of youth, as if she fostered no expectation from life and would willingly yield if the tumultuous waves of the sea proposed to gobble her up. Her constitution was frail, and the long, oversized shirt that enveloped her upper body and the knee-length, sloppy skirt only served to highlight it. The occasional breeze ruffled her dark hair that ran down to her waist and threw some strands on her face, but she was unperturbed. Her face was more or less devoid of expression and subsequently gave no clue as to what ran through her mind as she stood there motionless staring off into the distance. What were her intentions?

A group of unruly teenagers bumped into her as they scampered along the shoreline. She appeared startled for a moment but regained her composure the next. One of the kids nonchalantly uttered an apology but upon receiving no response, he muttered something amongst his companions and they walked away. The crowd gradually began to dissipate as the clock tower in the town square struck one, insinuating lunch-time. A shabby little boy with a couple of balloons held by their strings in his left hand and a flimsy bag dangling from his right shoulder by its leather strap stopped by the woman who still stood fixed at her spot. He looked up at her for a moment and then timidly pulled at her skirt with his free hand. She broke away from her trance-like state and looked down at the boy indifferently. The boy picked a bright red balloon and held it out at her. "No money," she muttered. The boy blinked at her and walked away.

The beach by now was completely abandoned. The clamour died down. The only things audible in the scene were the roaring of the tides and the squawking of the seagulls. The woman looked around for a while and then took to her heels towards the town as if she suddenly remembered an appointment she was supposed to keep that afternoon. She walked briskly through the half-empty street and eventually disappeared among the crowd upon reaching the town square.

The next day she could be found on more or less the same spot, in the same clothing, and with the same stoic look on her face. She stared off into the distance like she did the previous day, with no regard for her surroundings. Deeply curious from having watched her for two consecutive days, I approached her and greeted her with a hello, hoping to strike up a conversation but with a lingering doubt in the back of my mind if she would be willing to engage in one to begin with. She responded with a low bow. Having no idea how to go about asking what she was up to, I put the question directly to her. She did not respond. Just when I was about to give up on my futile endeavour to quench my curiosity, she turned towards me, stared me in the eyes, and said, "I wish I knew".

Priyanka Das
B.A. (Hons) English
III Year

Into the Heart of Delhi

Delhi, in its 700 years of history has had an ever-evolving culture, absorbing and adapting at every significant phase. A journey into the depths of its history reflects the rich Ganga-Jamuni civilization, the city preserves in its heart. Shugra Khatoon, K.M. Meena, Rachita Gupta, Priyanka Das and Anu S, students of B.A. English (Hons) III Year visited the Hazrat Nizamuddin Dargah and Basti, one of Delhi's oldest surviving localities to get a glimpse of the vibrant Sufi culture, an apt illustration of the syncretistic tradition the city embodies within it. They interviewed Hazrat Syed Sadiq Serwer Hussain Nizami, a direct descendant of Hazrat Nizamuddin Auliya and Sufi scholar, Syed Ajmal Nizami. Some excerpts from the interviews are given here:

Interview with Hazrat Syed Sadiq Serwer Hussain Nizami

We wish to know about Sufism.

Allah and his messenger have their commandment. He is rabbul-al-almeen, the lord of the universe. He does not exist for one sole creature. When he grants the breath of life, he grants the same for everyone. This dargah is one place where people of all faiths arrive and gather. This is not necessarily so in every other religious place.

Tell us something about your lineage?

I belong to the 21st generation. I am the sole successor of Hazrat Nizamuddin Auliya—the present sole successor and a direct descendant of Hazrat Nizamuddin Auliya. Our family traces its origin to Bukhara. Bukhara was initially in Russia [Transcribers' Note: Bukhara was a part of the Russian Empire (1721-1917), to be specific]. Now it is in Uzbekistan. We are pure shadad.

What is the atmosphere of this place like during festivals like Eid and Basant?

The way it's like in every household. People visit their parents during festivals. Likewise, they come here (to the dargah) for the blessings of Hazrat.

[Transcribed and Translated by: Priyanka Das and Shugra Khatoon]

Interview with Syed Ajmal Nizami

Tell us about Sufism.

Actually Sufi is a very short word (spells out) S U F I. In Arabic we have 4 words: 'swad' (Arabic) 'waw' (Arabic) fa/ fai (Arabic) & ya (Arabic). But the meaning is quite bigger. In fact, if you consider swad – (it) means prayer, waw which means virassat/viladat which means coming to the world with a purpose, fa is for farz, i.e. you are carrying the duties & your legacy by birth, ya is for yaadeinelahi-to remember & recall The Almighty. So what we believe is that the word Sufi is a gigantic word; even the universe is smaller when we compare this word because the ink of the pen will dry up & if all the trees are made into pen & all the ocean becomes ink, they cannot describe the word Sufi. This is what I believe. It is larger than we think. But for a layman or common man to understand, it is (more) like the followers of Islam who are being trained or are born with a special sense: a sense of serving humanity. They are called Sufis. But that doesn't mean serving people only; they have to follow the Islamic way of praying & preaching: and at the same time, meeting people from different backgrounds, colour, caste & creed. This is called being a Sufi.

How does Sufism prescribe syncretism and cultural exchange?

Sufis have mountains of literature whether it is Chishti Literature of Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti, Khwaja Amir Khusro, Khwaja Nizamuddin Auliya, who hail from India or Sufis of foreign descent like Jalaluddin Mohammad Rumi from Turkey, Bayazid Bastami from Iran, Faizani Atta-ullah from Afghanistan, Shaykh Ahmad Bamba from Senegal and Imam al-Jazuli from Morocco. Sufism emerges from interaction of the philosophies professed by the Sufis from various parts of the world and various sections of the society.

The thing is that the concept & feelings behind the word Sufi & being a Sufi are similar; i.e. to create bridges: ideological bridges; bridges of love; bridges of having exchange program like what we know now-a-days as students exchange program. What is that? ... exchanging of culture ... young people bring old things in a new way like old wine in a new

Do you think Sufism in Delhi is receding into the background owing to urbanization?

To reach a certain peak, you will have to think of a fall; only after a fall, you will reach a height; without fall, there is no peak; without peak, there is no fall. We believe it is like washing of the society. How can I explain it in a more easy way? How can I explain it in a more easy way? A child hears certain stories from old nanis, dadis, & other family members. When he grows up, he hears & reads the same stories on a broader and a more mature scale.

Similarly, Sufism has also altered its form. When we think about the essence of Sufi, we can see it gaining popularity over the past 20 to 30 years. If Sufi means getting common people connected, we call it "social media" these days. The concepts like 'Facebook' and 'Internet for All' - what do they mean? 'Internet for All' gives you access to Knowledge which means you are more aware of the society and better are connected to people around you. This makes exchange of ideas and opinions easier and this is what Sufism also professes.

Moreover, I see that the youth today are more eager to know about their customs. India is regarded as the land of spirituality; you have Jainism, Buddhism, and Islam, they all add to the pluralistic culture in India. Sufism and spiritualism will definitely continue in not only in Delhi but all over India, despite the drastic changes in the society.

Shugra Khatoon, K.M. Meena, Rachita Gupta, Priyanka Das and Anu S
B.A. (Hons) English
III Year



Cultural Life in Delhi

Some call it the Heart of India, others the Heritage City, Green City.... Some regard it as the Land where guys give roses, others refer to it as the Happy place in the whole world... it is Delhi... Dilli Dilwalon Ki!

When it comes to Delhi, people name it differently after drinking their own cup of experience from its exquisite great food, history lessons and rich cultural heritage, all-in-one package.

Moving around the place and exploring a whole world within the world of the Heritage City, as we gathered excerpts from the lives of innumerable inhabitants and gleaned our impressions, we were fascinated by the utterly complex, colourful and arresting picture of the city as it unfolded before us.

Firstly, we met a lady, a school teacher to be precise; on asking her what she finds the most fascinating about Delhi she exclaimed "Greenery!" Just driving along the tree-lined roads could be a pleasure, which go refreshingly green in the rains!

Not just the trees, the parks and gardens, the beautiful restful places where elders go for a walk, some walk their dogs, where children play cricket in the evenings, small benches become breeding places of exchanging recipes, trading gossips and accomplishing the task of knitting warm sweaters.

The same tree-lined roads which were so soothing to the eyes of this lady provided for a frame of great photography for the other man. He found it glorious the way monuments emerge as a backdrop and spring suddenly round the corner when he is just driving by. He referred to the city as the City of Extremes – from well-planned posh colonies to congested, grimy ones. Though he believed that amidst the crazy noise and chaos, Delhi's history calls out to him! There are so many buildings here, each with a story to tell of ruined mansions and gardens, vestiges of once glorious Delhi. Its historical richness fascinates him that carrying a 5000 year old heritage, a capital built over 11 times during a course, Delhi is so magnificent.

Next, we happened to meet this elderly uncle who had just shifted to Delhi from Orissa. On questioning him about the contrasting culture and life, we gathered that he believed each place in India to possess its own set of culture, tradition and language; but Delhi doesn't seem to have one sole culture rather a melange of many cultures and customs.

We asked him how he finds the people in his vicinity and he came out with a perfect prejudiced definition of a Delhi-ite – a hostile, reserved and self-centred one, who doesn't cater to others concern and is caught in the rut of his own busy life. (We sure hope his perception changes with sweeps of time and he sees the optimistic side of people here.) Though, interestingly, he added that it seemed to him that majority of people here are Punjabis who are leading the city, followed by the mercantile class! Funny, isn't it?

He was also perplexed about one peculiar thing about Delhi – the names of its places with no literal affinity to their meaning. For example, Barakhamba Road with no literal poles; DhaulaKuan and LalKuan with no 'kuan' and Rajouri Garden and Tagore Garden which are actually not gardens. He seemed funny since how could the observations of such aged people be so naive!

Nevertheless, there were other people also who didn't judge the city through their narrow prism but enjoyed and even took an inspiration from the life here. We found a woman so moved by the incredible variety of culinary delights Delhi has to offer, that she felt tempted to learn to cook. In 3 years she found herself raiding speciality stores for delicacies and those Parantha and TikkiWalas became more of an encouragement that still compel her to launch bazaar walks and cuisine tours every now and then to learn and taste the Masala of Delhi!

We met some young students too, who were out in the sun laughing and working on projects just like us. To one of the girls, Delhi meant a mix of upscale and downscale colleges, about noisy, glorious weddings,

the bustling bazaars, colourful jhumkies and jooties and what not.

We also met a young journalist whose insight of Delhi was just great. The most difficult aspect of the city one had to adjust to was pollution and traffic in her opinion. But on a deeper level, she found the precise answer to be her own schedule of daily life, which she found insufficient to grasp all of Delhi's delight - it's wonderful people, eclectic occasions, bright bazaars, honking vehicles, hectic traffic- all giving a sense of happening life! But the most exalting was what she said in the end, "Over the years the city has revealed more and more of itself. Whenever we begin to think we know the city well enough, something new turns up and discovery starts afresh. I suspect the journey will never end."

When we try to define the essence of a huge dynamic city like Delhi and the life of its inhabitants, words just don't seem enough. Still when asked to define Delhi in one word, people came up with a plethora of ideas - from functional Chaos to Fantastic; from Bright to Ancient. Some called it Addictive, others Invigorating. For some it is a Home, for some it is even more than that, it is the Infinite...

Gauri Mishra
BA (Hons) English
III Year

Perception

Today was the day.

He was finally going to read it today.

When the doctors had first told him of the accident, right after he came out the coma, he had been stymied. 'How is it that I can retain most parts of my psyche, but forget the people I know?' Oh, he'd heard their psychobabble - early onset memory impairment due to his depression, accelerated by the head-on collision.

Those words did nothing, however, to explain what he could feel - literal holes in his remembrance - disjointed incidents floating around in the abyss of his mind. And the book held the answers to that.

It was a photo-album-cum-scrapbook - contained the pictures and some details about his friends. Those same friends were the ones to create the book - and wasn't it sad that he couldn't remember them, at all.

He had been alternately curious about, repulsed by, horrified by, and on one unmemorable occasion, reduced to whimpering under his hospital bed by that black-bound book. But not today.

Today was the day he would finally let go of his fears and do it.

He approached the book, picked it up, and put his finger between the cover and the first page. He hesitated, and then took the plunge...

Outside the hospital room, a dignified woman stood silently crying, with a doctor putting a comforting hand on her shoulder, as the grey-clad man inside started screaming and fell to the floor. "I'm afraid your father's psychosis has increased ..."

Ishan Wadhwa
B.A. (Hons.) English
II Year

Delhi: From Humble Origins to Debacle Extraordinaire

Originating from the ashes of a nation devastated by the Partition riots, Delhi came into existence as a haven for refugees who poured in from the regions of the present day Pakistan, along with others from border-sharing states of Punjab, etc. Delhi in its entire history has seen endless empires rise and fall, and has also been fortunate to have been the capital city of several of them. So it is pretty clear that Delhi has had a glorious past. Coming back to the refugees who were sheltered here, we know that they are the ones who worked endlessly to re-establish themselves, along with re-establishing the city of Delhi, which is why a common belief exists in our society that people belonging to Delhi are known for their 'dedicated hard-working skills'. Owing to this humble beginning, one would expect that such a place should remain true to its roots and continue on the path on which it started, but looking at the present scenario, one would surely doubt this belief and expectation.

As a child I was proud of the rich heritage this city had to offer, despite being motley mix of several cultures, often critiqued by the elites that this city does not have a culture of its own and was rather made up of fragments of several other cultures, but at the end of the day, this was the most startling and fascinating fact for me. This gave birth to the notion that a city like this will always welcome people from various cultures with open arms, and cultural harmony would never cease to exist. But is this really so? I doubt.

The concept of 'intolerance', which recently caused a stir in the entire nation (stretched too far by the Indian media in my opinion), does seem like a bohemian thought in a country which takes pride in its so-called 'diversity', but at the end of the day, its effects can be felt clearly. News reports flourish throughout all news channels on issues caused in the name of 'religion' on a regular basis. Religion in itself has become an all-pervasive, overpowering and fire-breathing monster, ready to cause chaos and destruction on the smallest of opportunities. Delhi-ites have become rather 'tolerant' to all things lie on the verges of the inhumane. We read endless number of reports on the rising number of crimes against women and various other pitiful crimes in the capital. It comes across as if people have given up. Earlier we used to hear suggestions and debates on how such crimes can be curbed in the city, but now all we hear is "let it be, happens daily now, and cannot really do anything about it". People fail to realize that giving up on improvement of such conditions makes them all the more worse. Lynching, murders, organized crime and political espionages are now dime a dozen.

The fact that "If you can't beat it, join it" ideology is not the way to go forward. It is simply taking away all the greatness and grandeur associated with Delhi, now commonly referred to as "The Crime Capital" and by many more such derogatory names.

So why has Delhi taken such an ugly turn on its path to progress? Some say it is all because of the growing importance of money and establishing power, by any means whatsoever, and it is not all wrong. Partially this is the cause. Other not-so-bright individuals who can't come up with a logical explanation blame the Government and its money-centric policies. What people fail to understand is that a government can only propose all its policies – it needs our approval to be implemented and so it is our responsibility to make a conscious decision and choose only those policies which will benefit all of us, and retaliate against all those which can harm us or create any sort of divide in the society.

This is what we need to become intolerant towards – oppressive schemes being forced upon us which give limitless power to certain individuals and eliminate the participation of the common man from the framework of governance policies. If this is not realized soon enough, then Delhi will end up being remembered only as an example of the moral, political and social/ethical degradation that a city can go

through and the worst case scenario – the entire nation suffers the same fate as this city.

The dream for now is to see this capable city taking matters into its own hands and setting things straight again – a place where women are treated with the same respect which is attributed to them in religious scriptures and mythology, where a person from the north-eastern parts of the nation goes back home and gladly calls Delhi his/her 'second home', and travel plans be based on the occasion and not on the time of the day for all individuals, irrespective of their gender.

Divyank Kushagra Bansal
B.A. (Hons) English
II Year

Shortcut

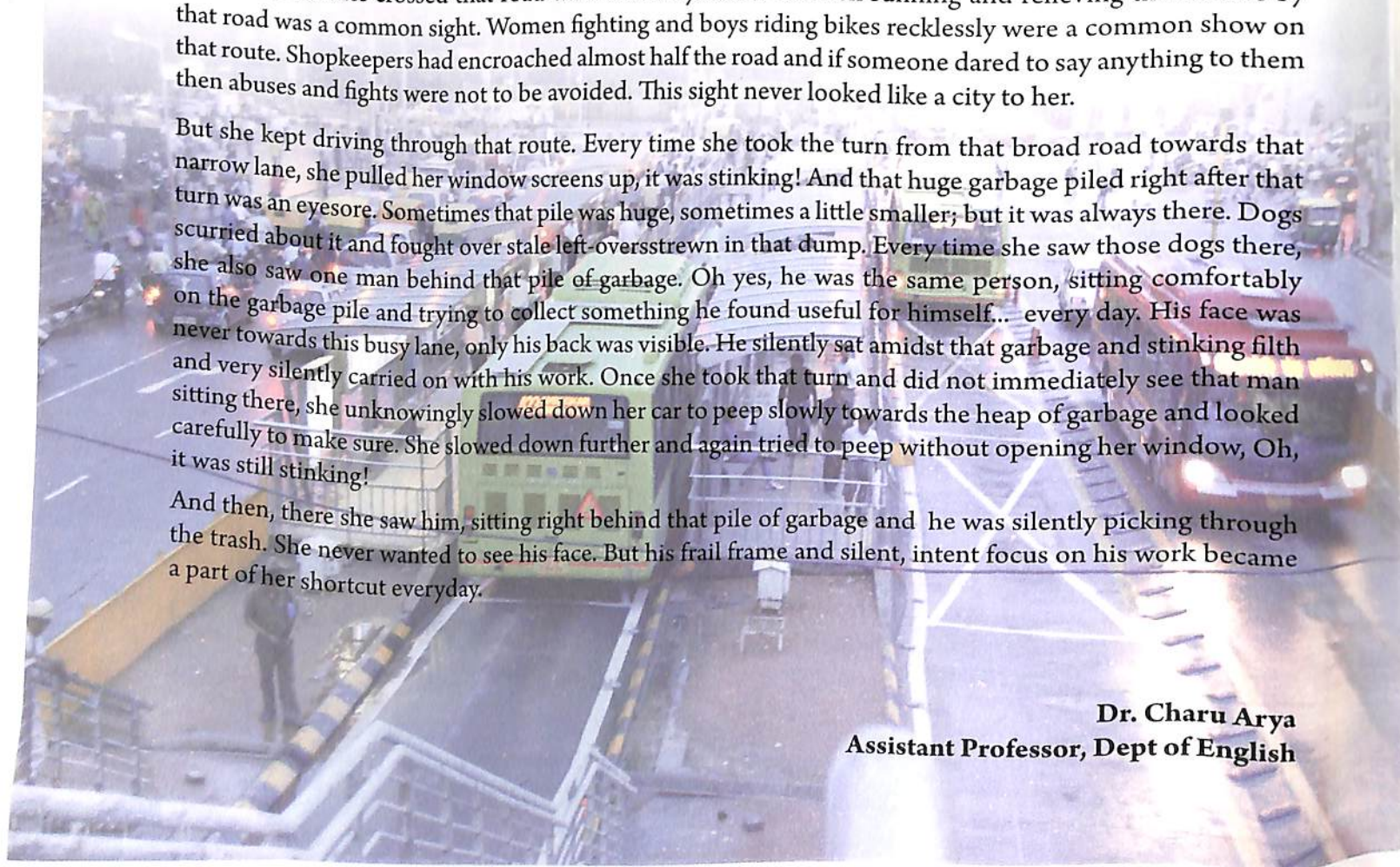
Every time she took that turn, she pulled up her window screens up, it was stinking! She always drove in cars and lived on upper floors, imagining how people lived on these stinking roads.

This was one turn from her regular road towards market. She took that road everyday: it was definitely a shortcut. She had tried those long routes with broad clean lanes, but traffic was something that she wanted to avoid. As soon as she reached that cut automatically her hands turned her steering to that congested road. Two vehicles crossed that road with difficulty. Small children running and relieving themselves by that road was a common sight. Women fighting and boys riding bikes recklessly were a common show on that route. Shopkeepers had encroached almost half the road and if someone dared to say anything to them then abuses and fights were not to be avoided. This sight never looked like a city to her.

But she kept driving through that route. Every time she took the turn from that broad road towards that narrow lane, she pulled her window screens up, it was stinking! And that huge garbage piled right after that turn was an eyesore. Sometimes that pile was huge, sometimes a little smaller, but it was always there. Dogs scurried about it and fought over stale left-overs strewn in that dump. Every time she saw those dogs there, she also saw one man behind that pile of garbage. Oh yes, he was the same person, sitting comfortably on the garbage pile and trying to collect something he found useful for himself... every day. His face was never towards this busy lane, only his back was visible. He silently sat amidst that garbage and stinking filth and very silently carried on with his work. Once she took that turn and did not immediately see that man sitting there, she unknowingly slowed down her car to peep slowly towards the heap of garbage and looked carefully to make sure. She slowed down further and again tried to peep without opening her window, Oh, it was still stinking!

And then, there she saw him, sitting right behind that pile of garbage and he was silently picking through the trash. She never wanted to see his face. But his frail frame and silent, intent focus on his work became a part of her shortcut everyday.

Dr. Charu Arya
Assistant Professor, Dept of English



My Title, My Story

It was not a hard task to choose the topic that I was going to write on.

How authentic would it seem if I begin my story on a note that all we desire in life is to write our own “story”. We want to share our unique experiences. We want to shout aloud to the whole wide world “this is what I have done”

The only problem is that our “story” might not be as unique as we assume it to be and more often than not it might turn out to be the same old drama.

I don’t intend to pen down my biography. I desire neither to peek far behind nor too ahead in time. To be true, at times, I feel that I don’t have the proper words to narrate my “story”.

Having admitted that, what I now would like to do is to rewind the past six months of my life. I know it’s would seem a bit ludicrous but I promise it is highly amusing.

I feel that I’m a part of some high profile Bollywood movie!

And it is going on and on!!

OMG!! At such a pace!!

Reality check: I am aware of the fact that many students (just like me) leave comfortable spaces of their respective homes to pursue higher studies.

(Seriously, why does it have to be so complicated?)

Hailing from a small city, I had no former assumptions regarding anyone or anything in the metropolitan city of Delhi. But after going through my share of lived experience- from losing my smartphone; to those moments of “solitary confinement” wherein thoughts are my sole possessions; to the exploration of the DilwalokiDilli, I find myself gradually being enveloped with what I would call a metropolitan cover.

What is with this sort of tag-No one has free time in Delhi.

This is the most irritating tagline that I have ever come across. It becomes even more annoying when I myself have been tagged as the “Busy One” even though I genuinely want to know and meet the so called “busy” people of Delhi.

Finally, Delhi also revives in you a bit of an emotion that a person never realised had within them -“Ego”. Despite being a no- one, a city dweller might still harbour an “ego”. No matter how much a person tries to resist, it finally overpowers their “Being”.

There is still so much to add, so much to say but sometimes one needs to respect time & let it have its final say.

Ritik Kapoor
B.A. (Hons) English
I Year

The Sad Fate Of Nature

(This poem won the first prize in Poetry Writing Competition (English) at VIDYOTTAMA)

With her fragile beak, the tiny sparrow offspring pecked at the inside of the egg,
It was finally time to enter the world and explore the plethora of happiness with her tiny legs.
When she was in her mother's womb, she had heard all about the nature's wonders,
She had heard about the resplendent flowers, the scenic meadows and skies that stretched towards infinity.

She had heard about the sturdy trees which were a thousand years old, the howl of the ferocious wolf and about the great Amazon that meanders.

She was especially bubbling about a peculiar species called humans,
Because from what she had heard, they could walk, talk, dance, cry and achieve feats that were uncommon.

They could build huge monuments, walk on oceans and even fly without wings.

The little sparrow so badly wanted to meet these creatures of magic, be their ally, fly with them and play with them on swings.

Bubbling with excitement, the tiny creature finally cracked open her shell.

Little did she know, the world she was going to enter was nothing short of hell.

Instead of embracing her with a loving hug, her mother launched into a long lecture of caution.

Never leave this nest, the world is a dangerous place.

Pollution, destruction and annihilation are the new ways.

Be especially cautious of the vicious species called humans.

They are selfish, evil and nothing less than Satan.

They burn nature's sturdy trees, kill the bear for fur and blacken the skies that stretch towards infinity.

Cramp the scenic meadows, annihilate the flowers and flood the rivers with toxicity.

But the naïve little sparrow didn't want to listen to a single word, Mama's just exaggerating, how can humans be so evil?

How can they send mother earth to such a horrendous peril?

Throwing caution to wind, and ignoring her mother's pleas, the little sparrow took her first flight.

Amongst the burning trees she realized that her mother was right.

Scared and nervous she started to return to her homely nest,

That was the exact moment when a young man decided to put his new gun to its test.

Athira Suresh
B.Tech Electronics
III Year

Nature's Bounty

The serenity of flowing clouds
 And the rumble of pouring rains,
 The beauty of blooming daffodils
 And dew drops of grass strains.
 That croaking of frogs in clogs
 And Cuckooing of koel on bright morns
 Make the air a hall of fame
 Whereevery one just tries to prove their
 name.
 I wonder if I had been a tree!
 Would I have liked the birds perching on me
 Or would I just shake my branches free?
 The smell of moistened mud
 And the brilliance of the blooming bud
 Takes me to God's own world
 Where every being can express without word.

Noira Khan
B.Sc. Mathematical Science
II Year



Dust

The soft caress of a summer breeze
 The gentle sigh of a steaming kettle
 And, afire in the summer sunshine
 Is the dust that refuses to settle

 Suspended, motionlessly in the air
 Bits of the universe, lost to time
 A silent bittersweet spectacle
 That exists, but in my mind

 And try and try as I may
 To cover up all the chinks
 The light always finds a way
 To find me when I'm on the brink

 So that I may again look at the dust
 Illuminated by the glow
 Have faith in the light again and trust
 Like all summer things, I'll grow

 And face the winters that I must face
 With the dust still in my head
 Letting me know, I do not travel alone
 Down the dark road I have been led

 And I'm sure when the time is ripe
 The light will glow again
 And then to dust I will be returned
 To the dust from which I began

 Till it is at last someone else's turn
 To be serenaded by the kettle
 And sit under the summer sun
 Wondering at the dust that never settles

Aprajita Sharma
B.Com (Hons)
III Year

Movie Review: Ghost in the Shell

Movie Review: Ghost in the Shell (Animated) (1995)

Directed by: Oshii Mamoru

Based on the Japanese graphic novel of the same name by Shirow Masamune, Ghost in the Shell is set in the backdrop of a future when it's not uncommon for you to walk on a busy street and bump into cyborgs— humans who have been “cyberized” to such an extent that every aspect of their functioning is taken care of by high-tech equipment within their “shell”, the prosthetic body, and “ghost” which is the slang term for consciousness. So what was it that you really bumped into? What is it that differentiates a human from a cyborg? What makes us human—the biological matter, the consciousness or the memories? These are the questions that Ghost in the Shell explores. On the surface, it's a cybercrime story. Rapid progression of cybernetics has resulted in various complications, particularly “ghost hacking”. Section 9, a unit of National Public Safety Commission of Japan, is responsible for dealing with such sensitive crimes. The protagonist is Major Kusanagi Motoko, a member of Section 9, whose body is almost entirely cyberized with the exception of her brain which is organic. With the aid of her co-workers, she must track down Puppet Master, an ingenious hacker.



The movie is an intricate piece of work with technical terms and phrases popping up every now and then. This makes it difficult to comprehend quite a few parts of the movie, especially if you're watching it for the first time and you don't have at least a minimal knowledge of cybernetics and the like. However, if you watch it with enough focus, grasping the overall plot should not be that difficult of a task. Basically, you need to look at it as a reel of threads instead of trying to disentangle every intertwined thread if you're a first-time viewer. Subsequent viewings can facilitate an in-depth understanding. This is one of those works of fiction that offers a new insight with every viewing; it can be interpreted and reinterpreted in more than one ways.

Although cyberpunk is the core, Ghost in the Shell also has a philosophical dimension. Cyberization facilitates storage of memories in external devices like hard drives and consequently their sharing. You can share the memories of a party you went to with a friend— what you saw, what you heard and even the sensations you had. So, how would you define concepts like “reality”, “identity” and “individuality” in a world where accessing others' memories is as simple as browsing files and folders on your computer? How would you know that the memories you possess are “real” and exclusively yours and have not in fact been “hacked” and

tampered with and distorted or erased? If the latter is the case, are you still you? What does it mean to be human after all in this milieu where technology has overtaken life functions that have hitherto been natural and organic? If your entire physical being is one complex system of prosthetics, do you cease to be human? To reiterate the question posed in the introductory paragraph, what makes us human to begin with?

Now, keeping aside the philosophical aspect, let's move on to the technical aspects of the movie.



Visually, *Ghost in the Shell* is spectacular. Considering the fact that the movie is over two decades old now, the animation and graphics are commendable. The action scenes are fluid and the cityscape—which serves as the backdrop of the movie—and other miscellaneous objects are incredibly detailed, rendering the movie what it is— a futuristic thriller. The voice actors in the English dub did a fine job. The song titled “Making of a Cyborg”, traditional Japanese chant that plays during the opening credits and a couple of other scenes, gives an uncanny feel to the movie and is in stark contrast to the “futuristic” theme.

To wrap up, *Ghost in the Shell* is a classy sci-fi thriller that not only offers an insight into a fictional milieu where the line between man and machine is blurred to a considerable degree, but also provokes us to think about what possibly is in store for us in the near future. Considering man's constant strive to reach the zenith of technological advancements in every conceivable field in this present day and age, is it farfetched to propose that a time akin to that shown in *Ghost in the Shell* is not too far away? You be the judge.

Trivia: The Hollywood cult-classic *The Matrix* trilogy (1999-2003) is heavily influenced by *Ghost in the Shell*.

Recommended Follow-up: *Ghost in the Shell: Stand Alone Complex*, an anime TV Series comprising of two seasons (each comprising of 26 episodes).

Priyanka Das
B.A.(Hons) English
III Year

Mars Chronicles: 3050

"Sky blue." It's perfectly common English phrase. Yet it means nothing to me.

My name is Arun Gaur and I'm a third generation Martian. No one in my bloodline since my grandfather has ever seen a blue sky. He was among the second wave of colonizers who left behind their lives on Earth to remake the Red Planet in our image.

I wonder sometimes what drove him skywards. Was it hope for a better tomorrow or despair for a world that seemed to always be falling apart?

Well, if it was despair then he was right on the money. Space travel is all but dead. We hit roadblock after roadblock. Establishing colonies on other worlds may be the single most difficult undertaking ever conceived. Two entire waves heading to the moons of Jupiter perished within their first five years. The only truly stable colonies are the moon bases and us. And frankly we're held together with duct tape and prayer. The outer planet colonies are still in their infancies despite having more than a century behind them. They ship us minerals that cost almost as much to acquire as they're worth. The general opinion of Earth seems to be that the world government needs to cut its losses with us.

Sometimes I can't blame them.

"Gideon, patch me into my news feed." I say as I enter my quarters inside the Mars Base Prosperity 10.

"Certainly, Captain Gaur." comes the clipped reply of my base's A.I, Gideon.

Gideon is an artificial intelligence. A true A.I, one fully capable of human thought. She is one of the only five in existence. Gideon herself considers this a tragedy, evidence of mankind's paranoia of all that differ from them in this brave new world. However since the sixth A.I wiped Moscow off the map, I'm inclined to disagree with her.

"Our leading story today: Syllas Samson, tech billionaire and President of Rasho Corp, world's leading medical research group has expressed disappointment in the lackluster public response to his ambitious planned expedition to scale Olympus Mons, tallest peak on Mars, and in our solar system."

"Gideon." I said in annoyance as I sat on my desk, "I said NEWS not junk mail."

"Scaling Mons means nothing", I continued. "It has no strategic value to it. No one's risking their lives just for bragging rights over a giant hunk of rock."

"Duly noted, sir" came the same almost monotonous reply. "Shall I move on to the report on the legal battle between the South American Union and the Tata military group?"

"No, forget it. Just tell me how the construction on Farm - Dome 7 is going."

I couldn't quite place my finger on it but there was a sense of unease in the air, a certain foreboding that was driving me up the wall.

"I am afraid sir, that construction has been halted until further notice." Gideon replied, still in that almost monotone, she always used.

If I had been drinking something I may have just done a spit take.

"Wh- what?! Why?" I shouted.

"Sir, the latest material shipments have been delayed. Our currency transfers have also been cut."

"Well that can't be right." I grumbled. "Put me on the line with Khan."

I sat back and tried to arrange my worried expressions into a neutral one as the blue hologram materialized in the corner of the room to show Dr. Khan, our head of finances, sitting at his desk, scrolling through his holo-screen.

"Ah, Captain Gaur, what can I do for you today?" the portly, bearded man said as he looked up. His mechanical eye making a faint clicking eye.

I've told him that he really needs to get a new one.

"Well you can start by telling me why the hell our construction material and funds are being held up!" I yelled at him in my most commanding voice. I expected him to show anger or guilt. But what I got was just puzzlement, as if I'd asked him why the first Moon-town was named Armstrong.

"Are you kidding me?" he asked incredulously.

"No, I am not." I snapped back in what I hoped was the type of irritated tone that inspired immediate obedience in underlings. On the inside however I was pure nerves, this was not going the way I had planned.

"If you could just get serious for a min"

"Captain, let me just stop you right there." He calmly said cutting me off.

I stared at him taken aback as he continued. "The reason they've been 'delayed' is that the world government is planning of cutting funding, I've had my ear to the ground and- and well... let me blunt here Arun." He paused for just a moment before leaning forward.

"They're going to announce a structured fallback in a few years. Du Point is up for re-election soon and she can see where the wind's blowing. The Terran population has lost faith in us. Pulling us back will get her party the votes it needs to recover from that disaster in New Australia. Even our own people are tired. The number one financial goal among Martians is to save enough to move to Earth."

"I'm sorry Arun." He continued as I sat there dumbstruck.

"But the colony project is dead."

Half an hour later I was still in shock.

"How could this have happened Gideon?" I asked, hunched over my desk with my head in my hands.

For all my cynicism, I never really thought our way of life would end. That my home would be abandoned, all because- because the High Chancellor screwed up with the I.T guilds and is desperate for a third term?

But now that it was gone, I realized just how much I loved Mars, how much I wanted more generations to grow up even further afield.

No great star captains, no freighters flying to foreign suns. We had the whole universe before us and we made it out of our own driveway.

"Before I answer sir," Gideon said, snapping me out of my introspection, "How high do you want me to keep my honesty setting?"

"100% Gideon, lay it on me." I said.

"It's because you are all nothing but a pack of shaved apes scrambling about with your eyes blinkered by your own stupidity. Your simple meat brain's incapable of foresight or imagination. Carbon based life forms are obsolete model"...

"All right, all right." I cut her off, smiling in spite of myself. I would have to check how high her sense of humor setting was when she went into that tirade.

"Let's bring it down to 80%, shall we?"

"Yes sir, I will now engage in the subtle deception humans call diplomacy.

The reason this is happening is because the romance has gone from the human mind, driven away by disappointment. You pierced the veil of heaven only to find Pearly Gates blocked with red tape. Space travel, one of your oldest fantasies has been reduced to a sequence of resentments. There are no heroes left to speak of dreams of far flung stories.

The truth is these colonies are nothing short of miracles. You have found ways to survive in places not a simple one of your cells survived to live in, starting with a piece of sharpened flint you built tools that let your species to conquer your world and now others. And conquer you must, not just for practical reasons, for vital resources, but because it is in your nature. You need to expand, to challenge your bounds or you stagnate and die but you've forgotten that.

You cannot conquer your final frontier without something to remind you of the spirit that led you here. You need something to remind you that you make miracles."

The humor had left me, so had the despair. Gideon's words had left me slightly numb. I didn't know what I was feeling, Silently, I started looking through documents on my screen, looking for something to show me what I had to do.

And then I found it.

Barely whispering as if my idea would run away like a frightened deer I said, "Well, it'll definitely take a miracle to pull this off..."

THE SOLAR TRIBUNE

12 August, 3050

TRAGIC END TO DARING DO

We here at the Solar Tribune regret to inform our readers of the death of Arun Gaur, former captain of Prosperity 10 on the return trip from the recently conquered peak of Olympus Mons, as part of Syllas Samson's expedition. According to his on board A.I Gideon, the dust storm at 500 hours Solar Standard Time that occurred yesterday was of far greater intensity than expected, causing his base camp to be buried in a sudden landslide.

For over a year Gaur's journey thrilled the entire human race.

High Chancellor, Du Point has announced that the next two waves of colony ships, she personally will be spearheading the construction of which shall be named in his honour....

Kartik Sarin
B.A. (Hons) English
III Year

Integrity: A Foolproof Formula for Success

Recently, I conducted a workshop on preparation for job interviews for students of our college. While preparing the power point I came across the word 'Integrity' several times over. I was convinced that 'Integrity of character' was the most important common denominator for success in work and life. I found it impending to find out for myself the broader meaning of this lofty word for I had a rather vague understanding of its true input and characteristics. I started looking for the semantics of the word - I came across an article by celebrated author and observer of everyday life, Arthur Gordon which tried to explain the word 'Integrity' from diverse perspectives. I humbly submit that the present text draws heavily from Arthur Gordon's thoughts.

An anecdote from the biography of the Nobel laureate physicist Sir Chandrashekhar Venkat Raman comes to my mind. The story is as follows: Raman Research Institute, Bangalore had invited applications for the post of Research Associate. For the first time in pre-independent India, the applicants were to be paid for their travel to the institute and back. A young post-graduate fared so badly at the interview that Sir C.V Raman publicly humiliated him and asked him not to be seen inside the institute campus any more. However, to his utter dismay the next morning, He found this young man standing at the accounts office of the institute waiting for the window to open. Sir Raman lost his cool and wryly asked, "How dare you come here again"? The fellow gently replied that the accountant had mistakenly paid him in excess of the actual expense for the travel and he had come to return the excess amount. The answer saw an extremely mellowed Raman who instantly offered the position of Research Associate to the gentleman. "I can make someone learn Physics" quipped Raman, "but I cannot teach him - Integrity."

"Integrity according to Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary means a quality of being honest and having strong moral principles. It also means the state of being whole and not divided. I recalled that in mathematics, an integer is a number that isn't divided into fractions. Similarly, a man of integrity isn't divided against himself. He doesn't think one thing and say another-so it's virtually impossible for him to lie. He doesn't believe in one thing and do another -so he is not in conflict with his own principles. It's the absence of inner warfare. This gives a man extra energy and clarity of thought that makes achievement inevitable.

What are the key ingredients to success? Brains? Energy? Know-how? These things are desirable, sure. But they will carry a man only so far. If he's to move to the top and be entrusted with command decisions, there must be a plus factor, something that takes mere ability and doubles or trebles its effectiveness. To describe this magic characteristic there's only one word : Integrity.

I could now relate better to a picture frame of Mahatma Gandhi placed in the room of Hindi department with the statement: "Happiness is when what you think, what you say and what you do are in harmony." "For most of us," says poet Kersey Kartak, "our ideals and actual behavior are at variance. But a man of integrity is a man of one piece."

"Integrity," author Gordon says, "means having a certain built-in set of altitudes."

Integrity means living up to the best in oneself. An acclaimed writer who had lost a fortune in bad investment went into bankruptcy. His intention was to pay off every penny he owed, and three years later he was still working at it. To help him, a newspaper organized a fund raiser and his readers contributed heavily to it. It was a great temptation-accepting would have meant the end of a wearing burden. But Mark Twain refused and returned the money to the contributors. Couple of months later, with his new book a hit, he paid the last of his debts in full.

Integrity means having a highly developed sense of honour. Not just honesty, it is also honour. A person with integrity is an individual true to his own standards and hence to himself. Integrity means having a conscience and listening to it. German theologian Martin Luther in the face of his death decree had declared, "It is neither safe nor prudent, to follow my conscience. Here I stand; God help me, I cannot do otherwise."

Integrity means having the courage of one's convictions. In an operation theater, a newly appointed young nurse said to the doctor, "You have removed 11 sponges doctor while we used 12." "I have removed them all," the doctor declared, "We will close the incision now." "No," the nurse objected, "we used 12." "I'll take the responsibility," the surgeon said grimly. "You can't do that!" blazed the nurse. "Think of the patient!" The doctor smiled, lifted his foot, showed the nurse the 12th sponge. He was testing her for integrity and she had it.

Integrity means obedience to the unenforceable. In a way, this is the heart of it. "Integrity is doing the right thing, even when no one is watching," said C.S. Lewis. No one can force you to live up to the best in yourself. No one can compel you to get involved. No one can make you obey your conscience. A person of integrity does these things any way. There are umpteen example of valour when the captain has chosen to die before any of his men fell to enemy's bullets. Because their concept of duty, though unenforceable, was stronger than the regard for their own safety.

Difficult? Yes. That is why true integrity is rare, and admired. But in terms of ultimate reward it's worth all the effort. Few dividends that integrity pays are:

Boldness. Integrity gives a person the strength to take chances. A person of integrity has confidence and he sees no reason to distrust himself. He is a happy warrior fighting the good fight, indifferent to suffering or ostracism.

Persistence. Integrity often shows up as an unshakeable single mindedness of purpose, a tenacity that refuses to give up. Such men of integrity never give up.

Serenity. People of integrity are shock-resistant. This enables them to accept setbacks, or even injustices. Integrity brings a person: friendship, trust, admiration, and respect. People seem to recognize integrity almost instinctively and are irresistibly attracted to it.

How does one acquire it? Perhaps the first step is schooling oneself to practice total honesty in little things; not telling that small lie when it's inconvenient to tell the truth, not repeating that juicy bit of gossip that is quite possibly untrue, or not charging your personal phone calls or travel bills to the office. Such disciplines may sound small, but when one really seek integrity and begin to find it, one is swept by its sheer power.

A fool proof formula for success? Yes. It's fool proof because-regardless of fame, money, power or any of the conventional yardsticks- if you practice integrity, you are a success.

Dr. Swami Nandan

Assistant Professor, Department of Physics

अंतर्विरोध

थका मन आज पथ पर ही ठहरना चाहता है ,
पर हृदय थक कर भी हाँ संग्राम करना चाहता है

है अतुल्य सौंदर्य फैला ,
प्रकृति का ही शौर्य फैला
अपने आँचल का छोर फैला
हर परमाणु भरना चाहता है

थका मन आज पथ पर ही ठहरना चाहता है ,
हो रहीं नजरें अँधेरी
कालिमा की भव्य फेरी
पर हृदय बिन किये देरी

अतुल आलोक करना चाहता है
थका मन आज पथ पर ही ठहरना चाहता है ,
आँखों से बरसे हैं मोती

हृदय में हल-चल सी होती
करुणा जो आधी ही सोती

दृग को चौतन्य करना चाहता है
थका मन आज पथ पर ही ठहरना चाहता है ,

प्राण पण करके ये अर्पित
सारा ये जीवन समर्पित

पर अभी कुछ और अर्चित

ये हृदय इस शाम करना चाहता है

थका मन आज पथ पर ही ठहरना चाहता है ,

है हृदय में हाँ अतुल बल

इसी बल से सब सरल

ले भाव लक्ष्य भेदन के प्रबल

शर संधान करना चाहता है

थका मन आज पथ पर ही ठहरना चाहता है ,

पर हृदय थक कर भी हाँ संग्राम करना चाहता है । ।

अश्वनी कुमार

(इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स प्रतिष्ठा, द्वितीय वर्ष)

कुछ कहना है

कुछ कहना है, कुछ सुनना है,

सवाल भरी, आँखों से

जवाब भरी आँखे देखना है,

तन्हा खुद को अकेला पाती हूँ

न जाने खुद को कहाँ छोड़ आती हूँ

तू ऐसा अव्यय है मेरा जिसे,

चाह के भुला नहीं पाती हूँ,

न जाने कैसी है,

ये मेरी मजबूरी

तुझे याद किये बिन दुआ न हो मेरी पूरी...

भटक रही हूँ जाने कहाँ

जो है मेरा वो है दूर

जो है पास वो है धूर

सिर्फ सपनों कल्पनाओं में

जी रहीं हूँ,

तेरे मद्धिम हो जाने से

थम जाती है दुनिया मेरी,

उगते सूरज जैसा उमंग है तू

लालिमा जैसा सुन्दर रूप है तेरा,

तन्हा खुद को अकेला पाती हूँ

न जाने कहाँ अकेला खुद को छोड़ आती हूँ...

नदी के किनारों की तरह,

है जीवन मेरा

जाना है कठिन बड़ा

क्यों न ऐसा पुल बनायें

जिससे समाज की रुढ़िवादी, जातिवाद

सोच को मिटायें

इसी भँवर में,

तन्हा खुद को अकेला पाती हूँ

न जाने कहाँ खुद को अकेला छोड़ आती हूँ...

राखी

(हिंदी प्रतिष्ठा, द्वितीय वर्ष)

पंद्रह अगस्त

स्वतन्त्रता के प्रथम युद्ध में
कई महानायक बलिदान हुये
फिर जागी जनता,
लिया मोर्चा
क्रांति और कई आंदोलन हुये
जन जागरण वंदे मातरम
जोश जागते गीतों से
बड़ी चेतना गाँव शहर में
प्रातः झण्डा गीतों से क्रांतिकारी जूझ पड़े थे
अपना देश बचाने को
टूट पड़े थे अंग्रेजों पर
तत्पर थे भिड़ जाने को
बुलंद हौसले हाथ में हथकड़ी
जज्बा जोश नजारा था
अंग्रेजों के दमन चक्र का समझो निर्मम दौर चला था
कड़ी यातना फांसी फंदे
पड़े पीठ पर कोड़े थे
देशभक्त कई कुचल दिये थे
कई बम उन पर छोड़े थे

देशहितों में गैर-गैर पर
अनेक संघर्ष आह्वान हुये
राजगुरु, सुखदेव, भगत सिंह
फांसी चढ़ चढ़ बलिदान हुये
सत्याग्रह और आंदोलन का
फैला विकट नजारा था
अंग्रेजी सत्ता के सम्मुख
अब बचा न कोई चारा था
स्वतन्त्रता इतिहास हमारा
लिखा खून की स्याही से
पंद्रह अगस्त दिन आज़ादी का
आओ खुशी मनाएँ हम
तिरंगा लहरायें उन्मुक्त आकाश में
जन-गण-मन संग गाकर
फिर हर्षाएँ हम
जय हिन्द

सोनम

(हिन्दी प्रतिष्ठा द्वितीय वर्ष)

आज़ाद अपना भारत आज़ाद हैं फिजाएँ

आज़ाद अपना भारत आज़ाद हैं फिजाएँ
आ दोस्त मिलके ज़श्न-ए-आज़ादी हम मनाएँ
देखा जो मुझको कोर्ट में
ये कहने लगे क्लर्क
यारों शिकार आया है इसको खसोट लो
जमशेद जी ये बोले मोटा है ये किसान
रिश्वत में इससे बैलों की मोटी सी जोत लो
फरमाया जैकसन ने झंझट में मत पड़ो
मेरी तो राय ये है की सौ-सौ के नोट लो
जुम्मन ने काँप कर कहा यारों करो न शोर
जो कुछ भी तुमको लेना है पर्दों की ओट लो
नत्थू कड़क के बोले डर की है बात क्या?
अपना ही अब तो राज है डंके की चोट लो!

ए० एन० अब्बाशी
(वरिष्ठ, कार्यालय सहयोगी)

इंटरनेट की दुनिया में हिन्दी

तीसरी तकनीकी क्रांति(1980) के बाद इंटरनेट सूचनाओं के आदान-प्रदान का सबसे सुलभ साधन बन चुका है । इसने मानव जीवन के प्रत्येक क्षेत्र में अपनी छाप छोड़ी है। एक अरब सत्ताईस करोड़ आबादी वाले देश में हिन्दी सबसे ज्यादा बोली जाने वाली भाषा है। देश की सत्तर प्रतिशत से अधिक आबादी इसी भाषा में अपने को अभिव्यक्त करती है।

आज ब्रिटेन, अमेरिका, कनाडा, मरीशस, सूरीनाम, फिजी, नीदरलैंड, दक्षिण अफ्रीका, त्रिनिदाद, और टोबेको जैसे देशों में हिन्दी बोलने वाले काफी तादाद में रहते हैं, जो हिन्दी के प्रचार-प्रसार के लिए काफी सन्तोष जनक बात है ।

इसके साथ ही विकसित देशों में हिन्दी को लेकर ललक बढ़ रही है । आज पचास से अधिक देशों के पाँच सौ से अधिक केन्द्रों में हिन्दी पढ़ाई जाती है । कई केन्द्रों पर स्नातकोत्तर स्तर पर हिन्दी पढ़ाई जाती है । कई केन्द्रों पर पीएच० डी० करने की सुविधा उपलब्ध है । विश्व के लगभग 140 देशों तक हिन्दी किसी न किसी रूप में पहुँच चुकी है । आज हिन्दी के माध्यम से सम्पूर्ण विश्व भारतीय संस्कृति को आत्मसात कर रहा है ।

जब वर्ष 2000 में हिन्दी का पहला वेब-पोर्टल अस्तित्व में आया तभी से इंटरनेट पर हिन्दी ने अपनी छाप छोड़नी शुरू कर दी जो अब रफ्तार पकड़ चुकी है। इंटरनेट पर हिन्दी का सफर रोमन लिपि में प्रारम्भ होता है और फॉन्ट जैसी समस्याओं से जूझते हुये धीरे-धीरे यह देवनागरी लिपि को कम्प्युटर पर नया जीवन प्रदान किया है । आज इंटरनेट पर हिन्दी साहित्य से सम्बंधित लगभग सत्तर ई-पत्रिकाएँ देवनागरी लिपि में उपलब्ध हैं।

अभिव्यक्ति के बाद अनुभूति, रचनाकार, हिन्दी-नेस्ट, कविता-कोश, संवाद आदि ई-पत्रिकाएँ इंटरनेट पर अपनी छटा बिखेर रही हैं । आज हंस, कथादेश, तद्भव, नया ज्ञानोदय, जैसी न जाने कितनी महत्वपूर्ण पत्रिकाएँ इंटरनेट पर उपलब्ध हैं ।

हम दुनिया के किसी भी कोने में रहकर क्षेत्रीय संस्करण के अखबारों को पढ़ कर अपने क्षेत्र विशेष की जानकारी हिन्दी में ले सकते हैं ।

इंटरनेट पर हिन्दी साहित्यिक सीमाओं को लांघ कर अपना प्रसार कर रही है । वह कहानी, नाटक, उपन्यास से आगे बढ़कर महापुरुषों की जीवनियों, चिकित्सा, विज्ञान के क्षेत्र में विश्व की अन्य भाषाओं से कदमताल कर रही है ।

प्रशासकों ने अपनी-अपनी वेब-साइट बना रखी है जिन पर अनेक रचनाकारों की महत्वपूर्ण पुस्तकें पाठकों को घर बैठे मिल जाती हैं। हिन्दी पुस्तकों के ई-संस्करण से पाठकों को यह सुविधा है की वे अपने काम और रुचि का चुनाव कर सकते हैं।

आज सभी आवश्यक वेब-साइटों के हिन्दी संस्करण मौजूद हैं। पूंजी बाजार नियामक सेवी, बी० एस० ई०, एन० एस० ई०, भारतीय जीवन बीमा निगम, भारतीय स्टेट बैंक, रिजर्व बैंक ऑफ इंडिया, पंजाब नेशनल बैंक, भारतीय लघु विकास उद्योग बैंक की वेब-साइटें हिन्दी में भी उपलब्ध हैं।

भारतीय अन्तरिक्ष अनुसंधान संगठन(इसरो) की वेब-साइट हिन्दी में है। जुलाई 2009 में दिया गया रिजर्व बैंक का यह निर्देश महत्वपूर्ण है की हिन्दी में लिखे पत्रों का जवाब हिन्दी में दिया जाना चाहिए। सभी राष्ट्रियकृत बैंकों में हिन्दी अधिकारी और हिन्दी अनुवादक रखे जाने का निर्देश रिजर्व बैंक ने जारी कर रखा है।

राजभाषा अधिनियम 1976(5) के तहत केंद्र सरकार ने 'क' क्षेत्र के अंतर्गत बिहार, हरियाणा, हिमाचल प्रदेश, मध्य प्रदेश, राजस्थान, उत्तर प्रदेश, झारखंड, छत्तीसगढ़, उत्तराखंड, दिल्ली, और अंडमान एवं निकोबार द्वीप समूह, आने वाले सभी उपक्रमों में हिन्दी को प्रथम भाषा के रूप में अनिवार्य कर दिया है।

आज हिन्दी के पंद्रह से भी अधिक सर्च ईंजन हैं जो किसी भी वेब-साइट का चंद मिनटों में हिन्दी अनुवाद करके पाठकों के समक्ष प्रस्तुत कर देते हैं। कम्प्यूटर से निकल हिन्दी न केवल मोबाइल में पहुँच चुकी है बल्कि भारी संख्या में लोग इसका इस्तेमाल भी कर रहे हैं। आज डिस्कवरी चैनल हिन्दी के दर्शकों का ज्ञानवर्धन कर रहे हैं।

आने वाला समय हिन्दी का है, बस कुछ अदूरदर्शी सोच वाले ही हिन्दी के प्रति नकारात्मक भाव व्यक्त कर रहे हैं। आज के समय में न हिन्दी की सामग्री की कमी है और न ही पाठकों की।

हां, विज्ञान और चिकित्सा के क्षेत्र में अभी और काम करने की आवश्यकता है जिससे इसका पूर्ण लाभ आम आदमी को मिल सके। हिन्दी का एक मजबूत पक्ष यह भी है की यह बाजार की भाषा बन चुकी है जो अंतर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर इसकी उपयोगिता सिद्ध करने के लिए पर्याप्त है। हिन्दी संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघ की भाषा बनने के लिए अपने कदम बढ़ा चुकी है बस आवश्यकता है मजबूत इच्छाशक्ति की।

कु० सपना
(हिन्दी प्रतिष्ठा, द्वितीय वर्ष)

जहाँ से कोई वापसी नहीं

सुना है
तुम्हारे जानने वालों की
फेहरिस्त में
तमाम नए नाम जुड़ गए हैं
वे तुमसे हाथ मिलाते हैं
हाल-चाल पूछते हैं
बातें करते हैं,

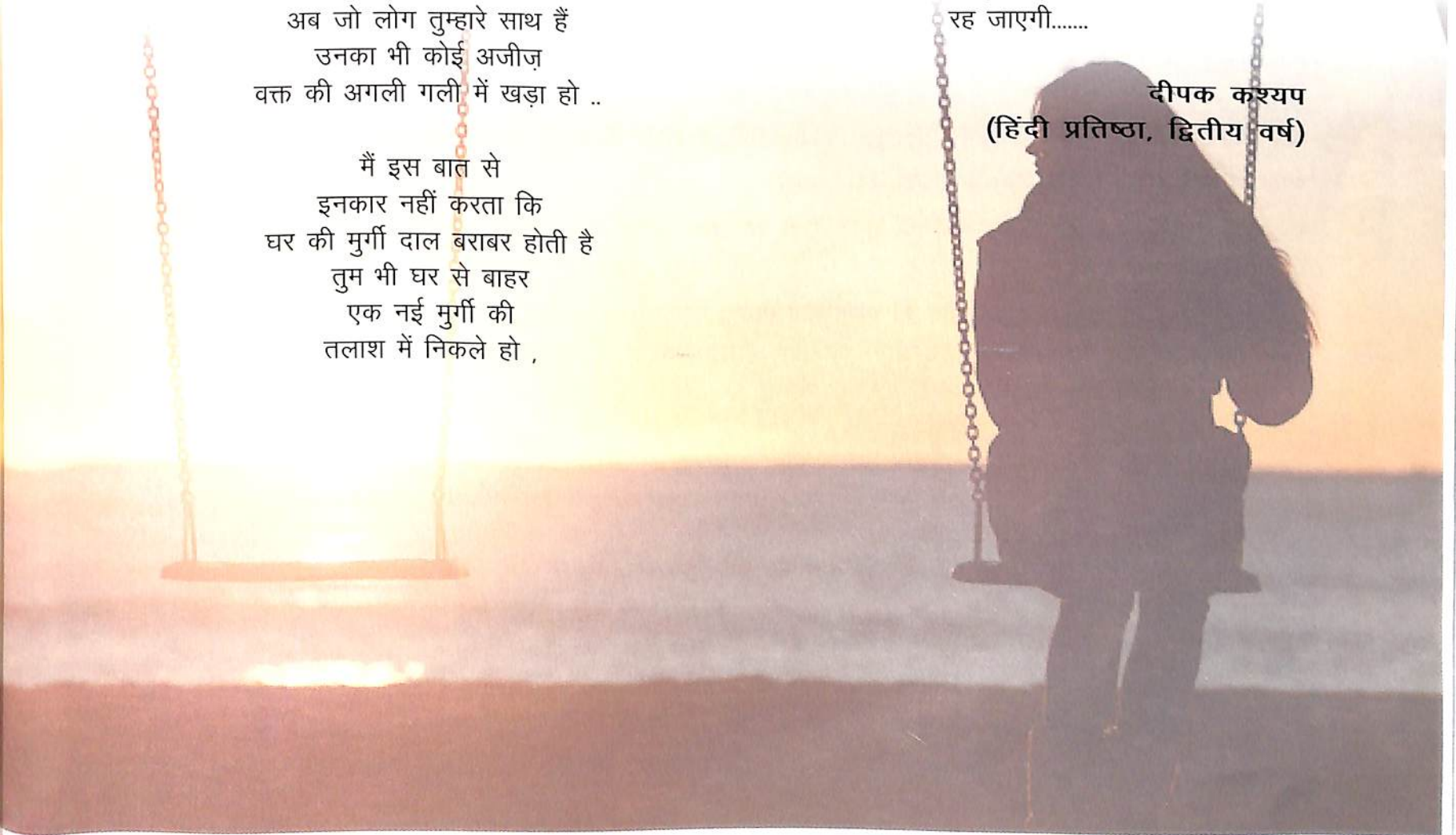
चंद दिनों में
वे तुम्हारे
बहुत ज्यादा अजीज़ हो गए हैं
और अब तुम्हें यह बात
धूमिल आईने की तरह लगती है कि
तुम, चकाचौंध की पिछली गली में खड़े
कुछ लोगों के अजीज़ हो.....

हो सकता है
अब जो लोग तुम्हारे साथ हैं
उनका भी कोई अजीज़
वक्त की अगली गली में खड़ा हो ..

मैं इस बात से
इनकार नहीं करता कि
घर की मुर्गी दाल बराबर होती है
तुम भी घर से बाहर
एक नई मुर्गी की
तलाश में निकले हो ,

पर, मेरे दोस्त
तुम यह बात भूल रहे हो कि
इस बाज़ारवादी सभ्यता में
तुम्हें वो मुर्गी
और तुम
उस मुर्गी को
तब तक अजीज़ हो
जब तक तुम्हारी जेब गरम है,
सच मानो तो
बहुत जल्द
तुम्हें वो दाल बराबर मुर्गी
याद आएगी
और उसे खाने जब तुम आओगे
तो वो भी सड़ चुकी होगी ,
और अंत में
कहने को सिर्फ
धोबी के कुत्ते वाली कहावत
रह जाएगी.....

दीपक कश्यप
(हिंदी प्रतिष्ठा, द्वितीय वर्ष)



जूते का दर्द

लोग केवल यही समझते हैं कि दर्द सिर्फ उन्हीं को होता है जो सजीव हैं ,जो जीवित हैं।

लेकिन आज मैं आपको एक निर्जीव के दर्द का आभास कराने का प्रयास कर रहा हूँ।

अमूमन सभी लोग जूतों का उपयोग केवल पैरों तले होने से मानते हैं, जो की उनकी रक्षा करता है कीचड़,कंकड़-पत्थर, कांटे, रेगिस्तान आदि से। परन्तु जूता अपना दर्द किसी और तथ्य को मानता है। जूते का मनना है की उसका उपयोग जहाँ भी करना है करो ,पैरों में पहन कर चलना है तो चलो, तपती धूप में मूसलाधार बारिश में,कड़ाके की सर्दी में रखना हो तो रखो, आशिकों पर फेंकना है तो उन पर भी फेंको। लेकिन उस जूते को किसी भी भ्रष्ट नेता पर मत चलाओ। भ्रष्ट नेताओं पर जूता मारकर आप उन नेताओं का अपमान नहीं बल्कि उस जूते का अपमान कर रहे हैं।

जूता कह रहा है की उन नेताओं से गौरवशाली हमारा (जूतों का) इतिहास रहा है।

हमारा सम्बन्ध तो भगवान् राम से है, उनके वनवास में हमने खड़ाऊँ की शक्ल धारण की थी, और चौदह वर्ष तक अयोध्या का राज्य हमने चलाया था।

आगे अपने दर्द का जिक्र करते हुए जूता कहता है कि हमारी पहचान दूसरों की सेवा करने से बनी है।

हमने सदियों से अनगिनत लोगों को उनकी मंजिलो तक अनवरत पहुँचाया है।

गाँधी जी, अम्बेडकर जी तथा अन्य लोगों के प्रयासों से दलितों को मंदिर में प्रवेश का अधिकार मिल गया। वे भगवान् के दर्शन करने लगे।

तो मेरा कुसूर क्या था ? मैं भी तो उन दलितों की तरह लगातार सबकी सेवा करता आ रहा हूँ।

बदले में मैंने तो कभी उष्ण तक नहीं की, फिर भी मंदिर में जाकर भगवान् को देखने का अधिकार हमें अभी तक नहीं मिला !

अब आपका तर्क होगा की मेरे ऊपर जमे धूल, गंदगी आदि के कारण मैं मंदिर में नहीं जा सकता !

सब मन में द्वेष लेकर चले जाते हैं उनका क्या? बोलो!

हम सभी अपने-अपने शारीरिक, मानसिक आदि दुखों को लेकर बहुत ज्यादा तनाव में रहते हैं लेकिन कभी दुसरों की परवाह नहीं करनी चाहिए।

इतने दुखों के बावजूद जूता अपने आप को खुशनसीब मानता है,कि मंदिर में भगवान् से ज्यादा सबका हम पर ध्यान लगा रहता है। लोग बड़े लोगों के साथ या अपनों के साथ हमेशा रहते हैं, पर कभी-कभी गैरों के दुःख दर्द का साझीदार बनना चाहिए। इसी पर मुझे एक शायरी याद आ रही है -

सितारों के सपने सभी देखते हैं,
धरा को अपनाओ तो जानें,
आपने लिए तो सभी जीते हैं
गैरों को अपनाओ तो जानें

हिमांशु यादव
(हिंदी प्रतिष्ठा, द्वितीय वर्ष)

बढ़ता ही चल

डाल-डाल फिर पात-पात
राहों में लेकर सबको साथ
हाथों में थामे सबका हाथ
चलना है हमको साथ-साथ
ये जान ले खुद
पहचान ले तू
बस मंजिल अपनी ठान ले तू

रुकना नहीं चलता ही चल
दूरी नहीं है ख़ास अब
बढ़ता ही चल
आगे रहेंगी मुश्किलें रुकना नहीं
झुकना नहीं

ना भूख हो ना प्यास हो
दिल में जगी एक आस हो
ना हार का हो डर हमें
बस जीत की तलाश हो ,

पल जिन्दगी के चार हैं
मत छोड़ तू जीता ही चल

गर न जिया लम्हा पड़ा
पछतायेगा ता उम्र कल
ये सच है आजमाया हुआ
रोता नहीं हँसता ही चल
कभी धूप हो या छांव हो
या छाले वाले पाँव हो
बरसात हो या रात हो
उम्मीद रख जीतेगा तू
उम्मीद में बढ़ता ही चल

कभी जीत में रुकना नहीं
हर हार को भी जीत चल
कभी राह में थकना नहीं
हर राह मत भयभीत चल
बढ़ता ही चल
बढ़ता ही चल
पल जिन्दगी के चार हैं
मत छोड़ तू जीता ही चल

सुधांशु शर्मा
(हिन्दी प्रतिष्ठा, प्रथम वर्ष)



नागरिक अधिकारों की सुरक्षा में न्याय व्यवस्था

कहा जाता व्यवस्था हमेशा निष्पक्ष होती है। वह सरकार के दबाव से पूर्णतः अलग होती है। सरकार उस पर किसी भी प्रकार का दबाव नहीं डाल सकता है। न ही उसके द्वारा किए गए फैसलों पर उंगली उठा सकती है। साथ ही न्यायपालिका निष्पक्ष रूप से न्याय करती है।

यदि इसी बात को वर्तमान परिप्रेक्ष्य में देखा जाए तो लगता नहीं है कि न्याय व्यवस्था वास्तव में स्वतंत्र है। वह वास्तव में नागरिक अधिकारों का संरक्षण कर रही है ऐसा प्रतीत नहीं होता है। आज पैसों के दम पर बयान बदले जा रहे हैं। गवाहों को खरीदा जा रहा है। इस सब से धनी लोग तो सजा से बच जाते हैं परंतु इनका गरीबों, आम आदमियों को झेलना पड़ता है। का न्याय व्यवस्था में सबको समान माना जाता है और मानना भी चाहिए परंतु आज ऐसा नहीं हो रहा है। धनी लोग बड़ी ही आसानी से मामलों व कानून में हेर फेर कर देते हैं झूठे गवाह पेश कर देते हैं जिससे आम लोग फंस जाते हैं। इस सब का सार ये होता है की आम लोग अपने अधिकार से वंचित रह जाते हैं। इसका सबसे अच्छा उदाहरण सलमान खान का "हिट एंड रन" मामला है। हम सभी जानते हैं जेबी दुर्घटना हुई तब कार सलमान खान चला रहा था। ये बात न्यूज चैनल में बखूबी दिखाई गयी थी। परंतु कुछ दिनों बाद ही यह सामने आने लगा की गाड़ी ड्राइवर चला रहा था सलमान खान नहीं। इस मामले की तारीख को बढ़ाया जाता है तथा अब अंत में दिसम्बर 2015 में उसका फैसला हुआ। जिसमें ड्राइवर ने अपनी गलती स्वीकार की। क्या हम सब नहीं जानते की यह सब पैसों के दम पर किया गया है। गवाहों को बदला गया है तथा आम जनता को गुमराह किया गया है। ऐसे ही कई मामले हैं जिनहे दबा दिया जाता है या उसमें गरीबों को फंसा दिया जाता है। क्या हमें इससे पता नहीं चलता की इस पुकार से सिर्फ और सिर्फ नागरिक अधिकार का हनन किया जाता जा रहा है। कितने ही

नियम ऐसे बने हैं जिसमें सिर्फ गरीबों को ही पीसना पड़ता है। हाल ही में सम विषम गाड़ी के मामले को ही ले लीजिये इसमें केवल आम आदमी ही पीस रहे हैं। जिनके घर में ३-४ गाड़ियाँ हैं वो अब भी मजे से घूम रहे हैं। साथ वीवीआईपी को सम विषम की तालिका में नहीं रखा गया है। ऐसा क्यों? क्या वही देश को चलाने में सक्रिय हैं उनका कार में सफर करना जरूरी है। क्या वो पब्लिक ट्रांसपोर्ट का सहारा नहीं ले सकते आखिर क्यों बार बार हम आमिर लोगों को न्याय व्यवस्था से अलग रखा जाता है। यदि अलग ना भी रखा जाए तो उनकी के पक्ष में कानून को तोड़ मोड़ दिया जाता है। आखिर कब तक देश के नियम तथा कानून सिर्फ गरीबों के लिए होंगे। कब तक आमीरों को नियम और कानूनों से संरक्षण दिया जायेगा। कब तक नागरिक अधिकारों का हाना किया जायेगा। कहते हैं की हर सिक्के के दो पहलू होते हैं हमें दोनों ही परिस्थितियों को देखना चाहिए। अगर किसी में लाख बुराई भी है तो उसमें कुछ अच्छाइयाँ भी होती हैं। इसी प्रकार हा यह स्वीकार किया जा सकता है की न्याय व्यवस्था नागरिक अधिकारों का संरक्षण करती है। वह भरसक प्रयास करती है की जो भी नियम व कानून बन रहे हैं वह जनता हित करते हो। वास्तविकता तो यह है की कानून ही ऐसे बनाए जाते हैं जो मंत्रियों, धनी वर्गों आदि के हित में हो। परंतु फिर भी न्याय पालिका उसमें खल अंदाजी कर नागरिकों के हित में बनाने का भरसक प्रयास करती है। वह पूरी तरह से कोशिश करती है की नागरिक अधिकारों का पूर्णतः संरक्षण कर सके। और वह ऐसा करती भी है। अतः यह खा जा सकता है कि जहां एक तरह न्याय पालिका पर दबाव डालकर कर उसके फैसलों को बदलने की कोशिश करती है वहीं पर न्याय पालिका अपने स्वतन्त्रता को बनाए रखने के प्रति अत्यधिक जागरूक है। यदि कुछ गलत हो रहा है तो न्याय पालिका उसका विरोध करती है। फिर भी कहीं न कहीं देखा जा रहा है कि न्याय पालिका अपना काम निष्पक्ष व स्वतंत्र रूप से नहीं कर पा रही है। कहीं ना कहीं उसके फैसलों को दबाया जा रहा है। अंततः आज आवश्यकता है कि न्याय पालिका को पूर्णतः स्वतंत्र छोड़ दिया जाए ताकि वह निष्पक्ष व स्वतंत्र रूप से कार्य का नागरिक अधिकारों का संरक्षण कर सके। वह केवल वही फैसले ले जिसे सबका भला हो ना कि केवल धनी व धनाढ्य वर्ग।

सुरभी
(बी.ए. प्रोग्राम, द्वितीय वर्ष)

बदलते परिवेश में मध्यवर्गीय स्त्री

स्त्री जो समाज की गति प्रदान करती है। उसकी एक देश के, एक समाज के, एक राष्ट्र के संचालन में एक सरहनीय, अमिट, स्वार्थहीन, निष्कपट से पूर्ण छवि बदलते परिवेश में उभरती हुई नज़र आती है। स्त्री, जो समाज को प्रगति के पथ पर ले जाती है एक माँ के रूप में, एक पत्नी के रूप में अर्थात् जीवन संगिनी के रूप में।

वर्तमान समय में स्त्री के प्रति विचारों, संस्कारों, रिवाजों आदि में अनेक परिवर्तन हुये। एक स्त्री जो अपने पति पर आश्रित होती थी आज इस परिवेश में परिवर्तन हो चुका है वो अब एक आत्मनिर्भर छवि के रूप में देश के सामने दृष्टिगोचर हो रही है। उनके प्रति जो विचार सदियों से हमारे सामज की रूढ़ि बने रहे उन विचारों में आज अनेकानेक परिवर्तन हुये हैं, आज की स्त्रियाँ स्वतंत्र, अपने अधिकारों के प्रति जागृत, अपने कर्तव्यों के प्रति समर्पित हैं, वो शिक्षित हैं वो सही गलत का फर्क पहचानती हैं, वो हर समस्या का समाधान जानती हैं। स्त्री की भूमिका विचारों में तथा स्त्री की स्थिति को लेकर समाज के विचारों में महत्वपूर्ण परिवर्तन लाने की भूमिका शिक्षा ज्ञान ने ही अदा की है। अगर शिक्षा को मध्यवर्गीय स्त्री के जीवन में परिवर्तन लाने वाली शक्ति कहा जाए तो इसमें अतिशयोक्ति नहीं होगी।

वर्तमान की मध्यवर्गीय स्त्री समाज को उन्नति की लीक पर अग्रसर करने में अपनी अमिट व सराहनीय भूमिका अदा कर रही है फिर चाहे वो एक माँ के रूप में, एक बेटे के रूप में, एक बेटे के रूप में या फिर एक जीवन संगिनी के रूप में हो, वर्तमान समय की मध्यवर्गीय स्त्री अपने अधिकारों और आज़ादी के प्रति बहुत सचेत है जिसकी झलक हमें आधुनिक काल में लिखी गई इन पंक्तियों से ज्ञात होती है—

‘मुझे अनंत असीम दिगंत चाहिए

आसमान की खुली छत नहीं

छत का खुला आसमान चाहिए।’

मध्यम वर्गीय स्त्री जहां एक ओर देश की, शक्ति के रूप में उभर रही है तो वहीं दूसरी तरफ उसके प्रति रवैये ने उसके दिल को दहला दिया है। वर्तमान समय में अर्थात् बदलते परिवेश में उसके प्रति जो आचरण अपनाया जा रहा है वो उन मध्यमवर्गीय स्त्रियों के सपनों तथा शरीर को छलनी कर देने वाला है। हमारा इशारा वर्तमान समय में स्त्री के प्रति बढ़ते अपराधों, गुनाहों की ओर ही है जिसके द्वारा स्त्री की छवि को उसकी पहचान को सीमित करने की चेष्टा की जा रही है समकालीन समय के इस बदलते हुये इस परिवेश में मध्यवर्गीय तथा निम्न वर्गीय दोनों वर्गों की स्त्रियों की स्थिति को दयनीय कहा जा सकता है।

स्त्री की छवि में परिवर्तन ही देश की छवि में परिवर्तन ही देश की छवि में विकास में, प्रगति में परिवर्तन लाने की एक महत्वपूर्ण कड़ी कही जा सकती है और ये है भी। देश की जनसंख्या की बराबर की हिस्सेदारी होने के साथ-साथ इन्हें देश के विकास तथा प्रगति में अपनी भूमिका अदा करनी चाहिए और वो कर भी रही हैं।

जब तक स्त्री के प्रति इस भोग विलास के विचार का दमन नहीं हो जाता तब तक वह देश को उन्नति की लीक पर अग्रसर नहीं कर सकती। उसे भोग विलास की वस्तु से ऊपर उठकर देश के विकास लीक पर चलना है उसे घर की चार दीवारियों से निकलकर देश की छवि को सवारना है और ये तभी हो सकता है जब उन्हें अपने भोग विलास कि वस्तु के स्थान पर अपनी भागीदार के रूप में समाज के सामने प्रस्तुत किया जाए।

अतः यह बहुत हद तक यह कहा जा सकता है कि मध्यमवर्गीय स्त्री कि स्थिति में परिवर्तन आया है वो, आज चार दीवारियों से बाहर निकल अपने अधिकारों और आज़ादी के प्रति सचेत है परंतु इसके साथ-साथ ही उसकी सुरक्षा, उसके चरित्र, उसके आत्मविश्वास पर शंका के बादल चौबीसों घंटे मँडराते रहते हैं।

रेखा कुमारी
(बी.ए. प्रोग्राम, द्वितीय वर्ष)

मेरे सामने

मेरे सामने खुली हुई है
 अंक गणित की किताब
 मैं जीवन की सम्भावनाएँ गिनता हूँ
 यहाँ जीवन एक खेल है महज
 यहाँ मैं और तुम
 हमारे जैसे दिखते दो अंक हैं
 मैं लिखता हूँ - ६
 तुम लिख देती हो-३
 तुम्हें नागवार है यहाँ भी
 मेरा किसी और तरफ देखना
 कहीं और ठहर जाना, तनिक देर तक

तुम मुझे ढूँढ़ती हो
 चकवे की तरह निहार लेती हो पूरा आकाश
 थककर, ठहरकर यूँ ही बैठ जाती हो
 मैं देखता हूँ
 जैसे आकाश देखता है धरती को
 तुम्हारे चेहरे पर पसीने की कुछ बूँदें उभर आई हैं
 मैं घिर जाना चाहता हूँ
 तुम्हारे आस-पास बादलों की तरह
 बन जाना चाहता हूँ
 तेज बहुत वेग से बहती हुई
 बसंती हवा
 मैं चाहता हूँ इक बूँद बनना

बादलों की सतह पर कहीं
 खुल जाये कोई मानसरोवर
 मैं छिटक पड़ूँ सबसे पहले
 दुलकते हुए तुम्हारी नाजुक पलकों पर
 देखते हुए तुम्हारी खूबसूरत आँखें,
 आँखों में ठहरा हुआ दृश्य
 उतर जाऊँ हृदय की गहराइयों में
 जहाँ अब भी तुम बैठी हो
 निहारते हुए आकाश
 जहाँ अब भी तुम्हारी आँखों में
 मैं बन रहा हूँ

तुम्हारे सपनों का मानसरोवर
 जहाँ धन - ऋण का योग शून्य नहीं है
 जहाँ अब भी अंक गणित का खेल है जीवन
 और हम दोनों दो एक जैसे दिखते अंक
 जहाँ अब भी बैठी है हमारी काया
 गिनती है ६ धन ३
 बनता है प्रेम धन प्रेम
 यही दृश्य तो है सिर्फ - अंकगणित

सूरज त्रिपाठी
 हिन्दी प्रतिष्ठा,
 द्वितीय वर्ष

ये विचारधाराओं के गुलाम लोग

भारत में कदम-कदम पर भाषा, बोली, सभ्यता, संस्कृति और रहन सहन में विविधता नजर आती है लेकिन फिर भी इस अनेक सभ्यता एवं संस्कृति में एकता है और इस एकता को खण्डित करते हैं वैचारिक रूप से गुलाम लोग। किसी भी तरह की मानसिक गुलामी व्यक्ति को आत्म-चिन्तन कर पाने में असमर्थ बनाती है। किसी विचारधारा को पूरी तरह से आत्मसात् कर लेने पर व्यक्ति की मनः स्थिति भी वैसी ही हो जाती है जैसी कि मानसिक गुलामी कर रहे लोगों की। विचारधाराओं की जीत ही इनकी जीत होती है और विचारधाराओं की हार ही इनकी हार होती है, मानसिक रूप से गुलामी कर रहे ये लोग कुण्ठित हो जाते हैं दूसरी किसी भी विचारधारा को सफल देख कर। कुण्ठित जीवन जी रहे ये लोग समाज में हुयी किसी भी घटना पर इनकी प्रतिक्रिया इनके मानसिक गुलामी का परिचायक होती है। उस गुलामी का जिसे ओढ़ कर ये स्वयं को सदी का महानायक महसूस करते हैं इनसे संवाद स्थापित करने पर स्पष्ट तौर पर यह देखा जा सकता है कि ये स्वयं को न्यायाधीश से भी ऊपर मानते होंगे! लेकिन ये समझ में नहीं आता कि क्यों ये लोग प्रतिकूल किन्तु शाश्वत सत्य को भी विपरीत विचारधारा की जीत मानकर असहिष्णुता का उदाहरण बनते हैं?

किसी भी विश्लेषक जिससे हमें सही और गलत के बीच के अन्तर को स्पष्ट कर पाने का विश्वास होता है वही विश्लेषक जब किसी विचारधारा का अन्धभक्त या अन्धविरोधी होता है तब ऐसे व्यक्तियों से घृणा होने लगती है, मन करता है ऐसे लोगों को समाज में प्रतिबन्धित कर दिया जाना चाहिये क्योंकि ये अपनी विचारधारा समाज पर थोपते हुये निर्णायक की भूमिका में किसी घटना के तमाम पहलुओं को नजरन्दाज करते हुये अपनी समझ को ही सही साबित करने लगते हैं, इनके लिये वह समाज महत्व नहीं रखता जिसके तमाम अहसान ये कभी नहीं चुका सकते हैं। ये अपनी विचारधारा को राष्ट्र से भी श्रेष्ठ बताते हैं, मानते हैं और यदि कोई इनके विरुद्ध तर्क दे तो ये उसे भी किसी-न-किसी विचारधारा में बाँध देते हैं।

ये लोग दम्भ भरते हैं स्वयं के सही होने का लेकिन ये कतराते हैं हर उस तथ्य से जो वास्तव में सही होता है और इनकी समझ को मुंहतोड़ जवाब देता है। इनकी मानसिक गुलामी इनके व्यवहार और क्रियाकलाप में साफ तौर पर झलक रही होती है और खुलकर उस वक्त सामने आती है जब कोई व्यक्ति इनके विरुद्ध अपने तर्क देता है और ये उसको शटडाउन कर देने की कोशिश में जुट जाते हैं।

ये खुद को तो बदलने के बारे में तो सोच ही नहीं सकते साथ ही इस बात को भी नहीं स्वीकार करते हैं कि ये लोग सर्वज्ञानी नहीं हैं कुछ अधूरापन इनमें भी है, ये डिब्बे में बन्द उस केकड़े की तरह हैं जो डिब्बा खुला होने पर भी आजाद नहीं हो पाता। साथ ही अगर कोई केकड़ा स्वतन्त्र होने का प्रयास करता भी है तो ये लोग उसे वापिस डिब्बे में खींच लेने की कोशिश करते हैं। भारत का थिंकटैंक माना जाने वाला वर्ग भी इससे अछूता नहीं है उनमें भी कहीं न कहीं वैचारिक पराधीनता नजर आ जाती है।

आज एक व्यक्ति को इस मानसिक गुलामी से आजाद होने की घोर आवश्यकता है और तमाम रूढ़ीवादी सोच और विचारधारा से ऊपर उठकर किसी भी व्यक्ति की यथार्थपरक बातों से सहमति और हर उस बात से असहमति व्यक्त करने की आवश्यकता है जो अतार्किक हो, समाज के लिये नुकसान देह हो, गलत हो और यदि हम एक स्वस्थ समाज का निर्माण करना चाहते हैं तो यह उसका एक महत्वपूर्ण पहलू भी है।

वैचारिक एवम् मानसिक रूप से स्वतन्त्र व्यक्ति से ही यह उम्मीद की जा सकती है कि वह समाज निर्माण में प्रगतिशील भूमिका निभा सकता है।

अमृताश त्रिपाठी
(हिन्दी प्रतिष्ठा, द्वितीय वर्ष)

रिश्ता

31 दिसम्बर की रात ! जब सारा शहर नए साल के स्वागत की तैयारी में व्यस्त था । पूरा वातावरण रेशमी चकाचौंध में डूबा हुआ था ,मानो आसमान के सारे सितारे उतरकर ऊँची इमारतों की दीवारों पर आ चिपके हों ।

हम कुछ दोस्त भी इसी जश्न का आनंद उठाते सड़कों पर निकले और मस्ती मज़ाक करते-करते उस दूकान पर पहुंचे जहाँ हम अक्सर चाय पीने आया करते थे।

चाय की चुस्कियां लगाते-लगाते हम बगल में शान से खड़ी उस झोपड़ी को देख रहे थे जो शायद झिलमिलाती लड़ियों के जाम में डूबे हुए शहर की इमारतों से अधिक रौशन हो रही थी, वो भी अपने सामने जलने वाले अलाव के बल पर। अलाव के किनारे उस झोपड़ी का मालिक रतन बैठा था। हाथ गरम करते हुए रतन रह-रह कर अलाव में कुछ उलट-पलट लेता, शायद आलू या बाटी। रतन के घर में सिर्फ दो ही सदस्य हैं वो और उसकी बेटी चंदा। चंदा कुछ 9-10 साल की है। एक ऊँचे मचान पर बैठी चंदा घुटने पर चेहरा टिकाये एकटक सामने सड़क पार सोसाइटी में चल रही पार्टी को देखे जा रही थी।

अचानक वो बांस की बनी सीढ़ियों से नीचे उतरती है और दौड़कर सड़क पार करती हुई सोसाइटीके गेट पर रुकती है। गेट की सरिया पकड़कर चंदा अन्दर ताकती है।

"चल भाग यहाँ से" वाचमैन दुत्कारता है।

चंदा वापस भाग आती है और अलाव के किनारे बैठ जाती है।

"बाबा ! हमें पूड़ी खानी है"। पकवानों की खुशबू से मोहित हो चंदा बोलती है

"तूबस मार खाएगी" ! रतन भी झिड़क देता है।

चंदा के आंसू छलक आते हैं । सिर झुकाए फ्राक की बाजू से आंसुओ को पोछती हुई बच्ची चुप हो जाती है।

खिलखिलाती बेटी को उदास देख रतन का मन विचलित हो उठा। वो उठता है अपने हांथो को मैली धोती से पोछता हुआ सोसाइटी की ओर चलता है। छुपते-छुपाते वो अन्दर चला जाता है। कुछ ही देर में रतन पकवानों के पास होता है। भूख ने उसके लालच को बढ़ा दिया और वो असभ्यों जैसे तीन पूड़ियाँ उठाकर खाने लगता है।

खैर, भूख सभ्यता कहाँ देखती है।

जब होश आया तो वह खुद को बड़े-बड़े लोगों की खा जाने वाली नजरों के बीच पाता है।

"कैसे आया रे"? रतन को धक्का देता एक कर्मचारी चिल्लाता है।

रतन गिर पड़ा। वहां भीड़ जम गयी। मैं लोगों की खुसफुसाहट जारी है। चंदा भी दौड़ी-दौड़ी आ पहुंची और अपने बाप का कन्धा पकड़ खड़ी है।

"मैं पुलिस बुलाता हूँ, चार डंडे लगेंगे सीधा हो जायेगा"। एक महाशय महंगा वाला फ़ोन निकालते हुए गरजते हैं ।

रतन स्तब्ध है, चंदा सहमी हुई है । चंदा रोने लगती है, अक्सर उसके पिता उसे उसे पुलिस का नाम लेकर डराते थे । नन्ही सी लड़की आगे बढ़ती है और जूठी प्लेटों के टोकरे में कुछ उलट-पुलट करती है। और फिर आ खड़ी होती है उन महाशय के सामने ।

"आप ई ले लो" ! बाहर फेकते तब हूँ हम ही खाते ! उके बदले ई आप ले लो ! छोटे हांथो में पकड़े 3 -4 पूड़ियाँ वह महाशय की तरफ बढ़ाती है। साहब पीछे हट जाते हैं। उन्हें शर्मिंदगी का एहसास होता है।

"चलो जो हुआ सो हुआ, अब अपनी बेटी को लेकर भाग यहाँ से"- एक दूसरे साहब मामले को टालते हुए बोले। रतन अगले ही पल चंदा को गोद में उठा वहां से चल देता है। थोड़े ही देर में दोनों फिर से अलाव के किनारे होते हैं ।

"मैं पूड़ी नहीं ला पाया तेरे खातिर" – रतन रुआंसा हो उठता है।

"कोई बात नहीं बाबा, हम ई खा लेब" – अलाव में लकड़ी टटोलते हुए चंदा बोलती है।

रिश्तों की इस पवित्र अग्नि में छोटी सी झोपड़ी और चमक रही है, जहाँ बाप को अपने अपमान का दुःख नहीं, बल्कि बेटी के भूखी होने का है।

हम अपने ठंडी चाय को एक घूँट में खत्म कर चल देते हैं।

पीछे मुड़कर देखना चाहा तो पाया कि वो झोपड़ी ऊँची इमारतों से भी ऊँची है जिसका आधार वो रिश्ता है।

स्वप्निल राय

(हिंदी प्रतिष्ठा, प्रथम वर्ष)

तोक्यो, जापान से

शैक्षिक यात्रा अनुभव – डा. राम प्रकाश द्विवेदी

तोक्यो विदेशी अध्ययन विश्वविद्यालय, तोक्यो, जापान छात्रों का समूह अपनी शैक्षिक यात्रा के सिलसिले में दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय, महाराजा अग्रसेन कॉलेज का भ्रमण किया। कॉलेज की ओर से कई अनूठे सांस्कृतिक कार्यक्रमों का आयोजन किया गया जिसमें भारतीय समाज और संस्कृति की झलक मिली और जापानी छात्रों ने इसका भरपूर लाभ उठाया। प्राचार्य डॉ सुनील सोदी और कार्यक्रम संयोजक डॉ० टी०एन० ओझा ने अपने मूल्यवान विचारों से छात्रों को अवगत कराया। कार्यक्रम के तहत जापानी छात्रों को भारतीय छात्रों ने महाविद्यालय के विभिन्न स्थानों का भ्रमण भी करवाया। इससे जापानी विद्यार्थियों को भारतीय महाविद्यालय की कार्यप्रणाली के बारे में भी जानकारी मिली।

जापानी छात्रों भारत से लौटकर अपनी रपट प्रस्तुत करते हैं। इस रपट में उन्होंने अग्रसेन महाविद्यालय में बिताए समय को मार्मिक रूप से याद किया है। विशेष तौर पर उन्होंने पारंपरिक ढंग से परोसे गए भोजन की प्रशंसा की है। शिओन माएदा नामक छात्रा ने कहा कि भारतीय खाना अब उसके रोजमर्रा जीवन का हिस्सा बन गया है और वह अब टोकियो में भारतीय रेस्त्राँ में बार-बार जाकर भारतीय भोजन करती है। यूँजी नामक छात्रा को भेंट स्वरूप प्राप्त सरस्वती-प्रतिमा बहुत भायी। जापान में सरस्वती का रूप बेनजाइतेन नामक देवी का है जो ज्ञान, सौभाग्य और प्रेम की देवी है।

मैं अपने विश्वविद्यालय और साउथ एशिएन स्टडीज विभाग के निदेशक प्रो० ताकेशी फुजिई की ओर से अग्रसेन कॉलेज के प्राचार्य डॉ० सोदी और कार्यक्रम के संयोजक डॉ० ओझा एवं आयोजन में शामिल सभी अध्यापकों का आभार व्यक्त करता हूँ। आशा है भारत-जापान संबंधों का जो अंकुर अग्रसेन कॉलेज में उगा है, वह भविष्य में भी विकसित होता रहेगा।

सेल्फी : एक वैश्विक रोग

सेल्फी शब्द आज विश्व में सबसे ही ज्यादा प्रचलित शब्दों में से एक है। आज के इस उदारीकरण, निजीकरण और वैश्वीकरण के इस युग का सेल्फीकरण हो रहा है। ऐसा लगता है की आज लोग सांस से ज्यादा सेल्फी लेते हैं। यदि आज सेल्फी को वैश्विक रोग घोषित कर दिया जाए तो कोई बड़ी बात नहीं है क्योंकि पूरा विश्व इसके रोग से ग्रसित है। सेल्फी के कई प्रकार होते हैं राजनीतिक सेल्फी, सेलिब्रिटी सेल्फी, सिंगल सेल्फी, डबल सेल्फी, सामूहिक सेल्फी। इस रोग के दुष्प्रभाव भी बहुत गहरे हैं। अब हम देखते हैं की सेल्फी का उदय कहाँ से हुआ। आखिर ये पहली बार कब हुआ।

१८३६ में पहली बार अमेरिका के फोटोग्राफर कारलियस ने सेल्फी ली। १९०० में पहली बार महिला ने सेल्फी ली। यह भी अमेरिका में हुआ। इसके बाद २००५ के बाद धीरे धीरे यह पोपुलर कल्चर बनता चला गया। २००६ में नासा ने मंगल ग्रह पीआर सेल्फी की बात कही। २०१३ में एक सर्वेक्षण में यह कहा गया की ऑस्ट्रेलिया में २-३ महिलाएँ सेल्फी लेती हैं। सेल्फी का इतिहास तो हमने देखा अब इसके प्रकारों पर थोड़ी सी नजर डालते हैं। जब हम सेल्फी इतिहास से आगे बढ़ते हैं तो इसके प्रकारों पर चर्चा करते हैं। डबल सेल्फी, सिंगल सेल्फी, सामूहिक सेल्फी, सेलिब्रिटी सेल्फी, राजनीतिक सेल्फी, जनाजा सेल्फी। देखा जाता है की अकेले सेल्फी लेना भी एक प्रकार है। समूह में सेल्फी लेने का मजा ही कुछ और है। सेलिब्रिटी सेल्फी में जानी मानी हस्ती के साथ सेल्फी ली जाती है। आज के समय में राजनीतिक सेल्फी तो खासा प्रचलित है भारत के प्रधानमंत्री भी इस रोग से नहीं बच पाये हैं और ट्विटर पर भी अपनी सेल्फी लगा रखे हैं। आज जब किसी का जनाजा निकलता है तब भाइयों सेल्फी ली जाती है और अपने फेसबुक पर लगाई जाती है।

आज के युग का सेल्फीकरण हो चुका है यानि खुद को देखने का एक नया तरीका आ चुका है। यह तरीका आज बहुत ही प्रचलित है। जिसे देखे वही सेल्फी ले रहा है रिक्शेवाला भी सेल्फी लेता है। लड़ाई के दौरान अगर सेल्फी हो जाए तो सबके चेहरे पर मुस्कराहट आ जाती है। खाना खाते वक्त सेल्फी, सोने से पहले भी ली जाती है। सेल्फी वाइपर के आविष्कार ने तो सेल्फीकरण को और भी मजबूत कर दिया है। सेल्फीकरण के कुप्रभाव और घटनाएँ भी बहुत हैं। सेल्फी घटनाएँ भी विविध प्रकार की हैं जैसे-सिर पर बंदूक रख कर सेल्फी लेना और बंदूक का चल जाना। यह भी एक घटना है जो घट चुकी है। ट्रेन के छत पर खड़े होकर सेल्फी लेने के दौरान संतुलन खोना और गिर जाना। ऐसी घटनाएँ होती रहती हैं।

हर व्यक्ति सोने से पहले सेल्फी चाहता है, मुर्दा भी जलने से पहले सेल्फी चाहता है। निश्चित रूप से यह एक वैश्विक रोग की तरह है।

रोनी गौतम,
(राजनीति विज्ञान, द्वितीय वर्ष)

भेड़िया हँसता है

भेड़िया हँसता है
क्योंकि वह जानता है
अपनी मर्जी के खिलाफ
तनी हुई रीढ़ की औकात

भेड़िया जानता है कि
उसके सामने की तनी हुई रीढ़
एक डरा हुआ पति है
कांपता हुआ बाप है
जिसे बीबी की रसोई
और बच्चों की फीस के लिए
हर महीने तनख्वाह चाहिए

जानता है भेड़िया कि
सामने के चेहरे पर जो एक
शब्द तमतमाया है
वह हारे हुए नौकर का
नपुंसक गुस्सा है
और वह एक बदले हुए मौसम की तरह
जैसे ही आता है
वैसे ही चला भी जाता है

भेड़िया समझता है
सब समझता है भेड़िया
और इसलिए वह हँसता है
हँसते हुए पगुराता है
पगुराते हुए मुंह के कोरों से
फेन चुआता है
फेन, जो प्रसाद है और जिसे पाने की
प्रतियोगिता हो जाती है
जानता है भेड़िया कि इन
प्रतियोगिताओं में वह भी होगा
जो गाहे बगाहे
"रास्ता भूल जाता है".

पर सुबह का भूला शाम को
उसी रास्ते लौट आता है
जो रास्ता उसे भेड़िया बताता है .

जानता है भेड़िया कि
किस तरह पिंजड़े की आदत डालने पर
शेर भी पालतू हो जाता है
हर कोड़े की फटकार पर
दुम हिलाता है
आँखों के इशारे पर
तमाशे दिखाता है

भेड़िया यह भी जानता है
कि कब चालाक पिता की तरह उसे
नटखट बेटे का बचपना
सह लेना चाहिए
और कब
उसे सामने की मनुष्याकृति को
उसकी जिम्मेदारी और औकात
समझा देनी चाहिए.

इसलिए जब चाहता है भेड़िया
अपनी भृकुटी तान लेता है
और वह आदमी सचमुच
कछुए की तरह
अपनी खोल में सिमट जाता है.

कौन है यह भेड़िया
जो मुस्कुराता है तो दरबार में
हंसने की प्रतियोगिता छिड़ जाती है
और वह जब गंभीर हो जाता है
तो डरा हुआ पति
शाम को घर लौटकर
अपनी पत्नी पर सारा गुस्सा उतारता है
बच्चों से दिन भर का हिसाब मांगता है.

लेकिन हाँ, इतना वह जानता है
कि भेड़िया जब कभी आग खाता है
तो पचा नहीं पाता है.

डॉ ए के ठाकुर



श्री चंडी प्रसाद भट्ट

से

साक्षात्कार



चिपको आन्दोलन के प्रणेता पद्म भूषण श्री चंडी प्रसाद भट्ट, जो भारत के प्रथम आधुनिक पर्यावरणविद् के रूप में जाने जाते हैं और पर्यावरण संरक्षण और सामाजिक कार्यों के लिए रेमन मैग्सेसे पुरस्कार व गाँधी शांति पुरस्कार से सम्मानित हो चुके हैं, उनसे पर्यावरण की वर्तमान चुनौतियों और उनसे निपटने के लिए उठाये जाने वाले विभिन्न कदमों की आवश्यकता और दिशा पर उनसे मधुराज कुमार की बातचीत—

प्रश्न : आपने अपने जीवन के शुरुआती दौर में एक ट्रांसपोर्ट कंपनी में काम किया, फिर आपने 26 साल की उम्र में नौकरी छोड़ दी और पर्यावरण की रक्षा व समाज सेवा में लग गए, आपको इसकी प्रेरणा कैसे मिली?

मैंने 1955 में गढ़वाल मोटर ओनर्स यूनियन से अपना करियर शुरू किया। यह मेरी पहली नौकरी थी। फिर गोपेश्वर हाई स्कूल के प्राध्यापक के आग्रह पर मैंने वहां अध्यापक का पद संभाल लिया। 1956 में जब जयप्रकाश नारायण ने बद्रीनाथ की यात्रा की उस समय उनका सर्वोदय आन्दोलन चरम पर था। उनके भाषण ने मुझे भीतर से आंदोलित कर दिया। उन्होंने सामाजिक असमानता के बारे में समझाया और समाज के आखिरी व्यक्ति को केंद्र में लानेकी बात की। उनके साथ मानसिंह रावत भी थे जो हमारे ही गाँव के थे और सर्वोदय के सक्रिय कार्यकर्ता थे, मैंने सोचा जब ये लोग समाज को इतने समर्पित हो सकते हैं तो मैं क्यों नहीं, और मैं भी सर्वोदय में शामिल हो गया। अन्य प्रेरणा मुझे हिमालय के पवित्र वातावरण से मिली।

प्रश्न : आप चिपको आन्दोलन के प्रणेता रहे हैं, बाद में जिस तरह पर्यावरण की अनदेखी की गई, क्या आपको ऐसा नहीं लगता कि चिपको आन्दोलन इतिहास रह गया ?

नहीं। चिपको आन्दोलन इतिहास की बात नहीं है, वह फैल गया है। अलग-अलग लोग पर्यावरण के बारे में सोचने और आवाज़ उठाने लगे हैं। यहाँ तक की उच्चतम न्यायालय ने भी पर्यावरण के मुद्दे पर काफी संवेदनशीलता दिखाई है। आज अगर एक जगह पेड़ कटते हैं तो हर जगह आवाज़ उठती है। इसके अलावे चिपको आन्दोलन सिर्फ पेड़ों की रक्षा तक ही सीमित नहीं है। इसका दूसरा पहलू रचनात्मक है। यह पेड़ों को हरा भरा बनाने और हरियाली के विस्तार के बारे में है। पर्यावरण की रचना का यह आन्दोलन आज भी हमारे क्षेत्र की महिलाएं व युवा चला रहे हैं। अब चिपकने की आवश्यकता नहीं है। अब आवश्यकता है तो बस एक तथ्यात्मक आग्रह की जो अंतर्मन तक पहुंचे।

प्रश्न : प्रायः देखा जाता है कि सामाजिक कार्यों के विरुद्ध कॉरपोरेट सेक्टर की लामबंदी होती है। क्या आपको भी ऐसी लामबंदी का सामना करना पड़ा था?

हाँ। वहां समाज के बड़े उद्योगपति थे जिनके साथ सरकार व राजनेता भी थे। उनके सामने हम आम ग्रामीण बहुत ही कम थे। प्रारंभ में तीन चार साल काफी मुश्किल थे लेकिन महिलाओं और युवाओं के सक्रिय योगदान तथा सामान्य ग्रामीणों की दृढ़ इच्छाशक्ति के आगे सबको अनुरूप होना पड़ा और आगे चलकर हमें वैज्ञानिकों और प्रशासनिक अधिकारियों का सहयोग भी मिला। हमारी कोशिश यह थी कि यह आन्दोलन पूर्ण रूप से जनांदोलन रहे और इसमें कोई

नेता न उभरे पर मीडिया ने उन लोगों को नेता समझ लिया जिन्होंने हमारे आन्दोलन के बारे में लेख लिखे पर उनका जमीनी स्तर पर आन्दोलन से कोई जुड़ाव नहीं था। मेरा मानना है कि यदि दृढ़ इच्छाशक्ति हो तो अंतर्मन से की हुई आपकी हर कोशिश लक्ष्य तक पहुँचती है।

प्रश्न : देश की वर्तमान परिस्थिति में जब आर्थिक विकास को तेज़ रफ़्तार की ज़रूरत है, क्या आपको नहीं लगता कि पर्यावरण संरक्षण को सर्वोच्च प्राथमिकता देने से आर्थिक विकास की गति में कमी आएगी?

असली विकास वही है जो टिकाऊ हो। हमें भी बिजली चाहिए, अन्य सुविधाएँ चाहिए पर पर्यावरण की कीमत पर नहीं। आप विकास की योजनाएं बनाते हैं, विकास करते हैं और 2013 जैसी आपदा में सबकुछ नष्ट हो जाता है, फिर वह विकास कहाँ रहा ? और विकास योजनाओं के निर्माण में विज्ञान सम्मत दृष्टिकोण और हर स्तर पर जिम्मेदारियाँ सुनिश्चित होनी चाहिए। उदहारण के लिए यदि कोई इंजिनियर किसी प्रलोभन में विज्ञान सम्मत जानकारीयाँ छुपाता है तो भुगतना तो हमें और हमारे पर्यावरण को ही पड़ेगा।

प्रश्न : सरकार ने अभी नदियों को जोड़ने की बात की है और उसके लिए परियोजना भी चलाई है, इस पर आपकी क्या राय है ?

छोटे प्रयोग तो ठीक हैं पर यदि बड़े स्तर पर हम करोड़ों वर्षों से चले आ रहे प्राकृतिक तंत्र को छेड़ते हैं तो यह सुनिश्चित होना चाहिए कि हम विस्थापन, पर्यावरणीय विनाश और अन्य विपरीत प्रभावों से कैसे निपटेंगे। महाराष्ट्र, कर्नाटक और आंध्र प्रदेश के बीच कृष्णा नदी को लेकर बड़े स्तर पर विवाद रहा है तो इस तरह भविष्य में ऐसे टकराव उत्पन्न न हों ये सुनिश्चित होना चाहिए। हमें इस पहल के साथ सबको जल की पर्याप्त उपलब्धता सुनिश्चित करानी होगी।

प्रश्न : पेरिस में हुए हालिया संयुक्त राष्ट्र जलवायु परिवर्तन सम्मलेन में विकसित और विकासशील देशों द्वारा ग्रीन हाउस गैसों के उत्सर्जन को नियंत्रित करने के लिए सार्वभौमिक समझौते किये गए। आपकी दृष्टि में यह कैसे हासिल होगा?

ग्रीन हाउस गैसों के उत्सर्जन कम करने के लिए दो मुख्य बातें हैं जिन्हें ध्यान में रखना होगा। एक तो हम वैसे उद्योगों पर अंकुश लगाएं जो ऐसी गैसों का अधिक उत्सर्जन करते हैं और दूसरा व सबसे महत्वपूर्ण की हम हरियाली और जंगलों में वृद्धि करें। इससे सिर्फ उत्सर्जन में ही कमी नहीं आयेगी बल्कि इसके उत्पादन के अपने पहलू हैं। हमने जंगलों से मिलने वाले उत्पादों को जीडीपी में शामिल नहीं किया है फिर भी ये गौण उत्पाद उत्पादन में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभा सकते हैं। छत्तीसगढ़, झारखण्ड, महाराष्ट्र जैसे राज्यों में जहाँ आबादी का 75% हिस्सा गरीब है, ऐसे क्षेत्रों में आदिवासी इलाके जंगलों से भरे हुए हैं लेकिन फिर भी उनके गौण उत्पादों पर उनका अधिकार नहीं है। मेरा मानना है कि हर गाँव का एक अपना जंगल हो, और उसके उत्पादों जैसे फलों, औषधीय पादपों और चारा इत्यादि पर हर ग्रामीण का अधिकार हो। लगभग 50 हेक्टेयर में घिरा हुआ यह क्षेत्र न सिर्फ पर्यावरण के संतुलन में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाएगा बल्कि यह ग्रामीणों की रोजगार सम्बन्धी समस्याओं का भी समाधान करेगा।



प्रश्न : केंद्र सरकार ने गंगा को स्वच्छ करने के लिए राष्ट्रीय मिशन चलाया है। जल संसाधन मंत्रालय ने आठ मंत्रालयों से संयुक्त मिशन की घोषणा की है, क्या आपको लगता है इससे सुधार आएगा?

यह बहुत अच्छी बात है कि सरकारें इस बारे में सोच रही हैं। गंगा अवश्य साफ़ होनी चाहिए। गंगा के साथ हमारी हरियाली व समृद्धि जुड़ी हुई है। लेकिन 'सर्वे गंगा समुद्रे' अर्थात् गंगा सभी नदियों की प्रतीक है, तो यह अभियान गंगा के साथ साथ अन्य नदियों पर भी होना चाहिए। उदाहरण के लिए बिहार में नदियों में इतना पानी है कि अगर उसका ठीक से प्रबंधन हो तो बिहार के लोगों को खेती छोड़ कर पंजाब व अन्य प्रदेशों में आय के लिए नहीं जाना पड़ेगा।

नदियों के विषय में तीन मुख्य बातों का प्रयास होना चाहिए, स्वच्छता, जलराशि में वृद्धि और उनकी बौखलाहट पर नियंत्रण। यह तभी संभव होगा जब सरकार के प्रयासों के अलावा भी नदियों से सम्बंधित लोक आधारित कार्यक्रम हों और लोगों तक यह बात पहुंचाई जाए कि नदियों को स्वच्छ रखना उनके लिए कितना जरूरी है।

इस पर एक घटना याद आती है, एक बार मैं किसी समारोह के लिए काशी हिन्दू विश्वविद्यालय गया था, वहां एक असि. प्रोफेसर ने मुझसे पुष्प व दीपक गंगा में प्रवाहित करने को कहा, मैंने कहा यह मुझसे नहीं होगा, फिर मैंने देखा मेरे जाने पर उन्होंने एक बच्चे के हाथों उसे गंगा में प्रवाहित करा दिया। मुझे यह देख कर दुःख हुआ। लोगों को इस कार्यक्रम से जोड़ना बेहद जरूरी है।

प्रश्न : दिल्ली में वायु प्रदूषण की रोकथाम के लिए 1-15 जनवरी तक ऑड-इवन फार्मूला चलाया गया आप इस प्रयास को किस रूप में देखते हैं?

गाड़ियों की संख्या नियंत्रित करने के लिए यह प्रयोग बहुत अच्छा था। इससे भले ही त्वरित परिणाम न मिले हो, लेकिन ऐसे प्रयोग पर्यावरण के संरक्षण में छोटे ही सही पर महत्वपूर्ण साबित होंगे। इसके लिए सार्वजनिक परिवहन तंत्र के विस्तार के साथ साथ एक परिवार द्वारा एक से अधिक गाड़ियाँ इस्तेमाल होने से रोकथाम के उपाय होने चाहिए।

प्रश्न : हाल ही में प्रधानमंत्री जी को लिखे आपके पत्र में आपने हिमालय आच्छादित देशों जैसे भारत, नेपाल, चीन व भूटान को एक साझा पारिस्थितिकी संगठन की जरूरत बताई। क्या आप राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर एक ऐसी संस्था की जरूरत पाते हैं जो पर्यावरण के संरक्षण में पूर्ण रूप से सक्षम व सक्रिय हो?

मैंने ऐसा इसलिए कहा ताकि ये जो चार देश हैं इनमें हिमालय से लेकर नदियों का तंत्र आपस में जुड़ा हुआ है, अगर नदियों में कोई उथल-पुथल होती है तो एक देश दूसरे को सूचना देने के लिए बाध्य होगा और इस तरह एक सशक्त चेतावनी तंत्र विकसित करके हम बाढ़ व अन्य आपदाओं से सुरक्षा पा सकते हैं।

जहाँ तक राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर स्वतंत्र संस्था की बात है, सरकारी स्तर पर विभिन्न संगठन जैसे आपदा प्रबंधन का काम कर रहे हैं, मेरा मानना है कि ऐसे सारे संगठनों का सहयोगपूर्वक प्रभावी रूप से किर्यान्वयन हो और सब एक साथ मिलकर एक सक्षम व सशक्त चेतावनी तंत्र विकसित करें ताकि हर आम आदमी तक मौसम और पर्यावरण सम्बन्धी सूचना व चेतावनी पहुँच सके।

प्रश्न: और अंतिम प्रश्न, जलवायु परिवर्तन और जैव विविधता पर उत्पन्न इस संकट से हम कैसे निपटेंगे?

इसके लिए उद्योगों द्वारा प्रदूषण पर नियंत्रण के साथ साथ हरियाली में पर्याप्त वृद्धि होनी चाहिए, साथ ही साथ जलवायु परिवर्तन पर निरंतर शोध होने चाहिए कि हम अपनी खेती और जैव विविधता को आनेवाले तापमान वृद्धि से कैसे सुरक्षित बचा सकें और उसे उसके अनुकूल बना सकें। ग्लेशियरों को पिघलने से रोकने लिए आवश्यक है नमी बनी रहे और उसमें मुख्य भूमिका हरियाली की है। अतः जल का संवर्धन और जंगलों का संरक्षण होना चाहिए।

मधुराज कुमार
(पत्रकारिता, प्रथम वर्ष)

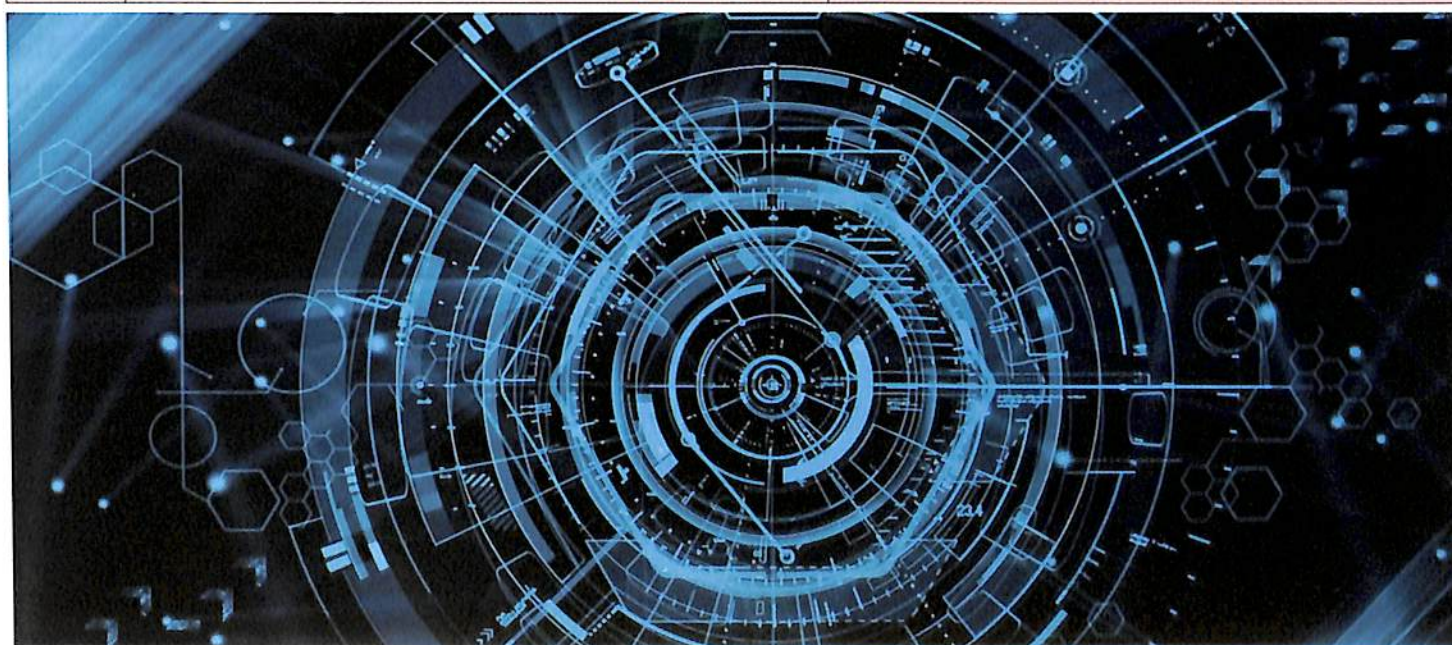
Research & Innovation Projects

To initiate and encourage a culture of research and innovation in the colleges at an undergraduate level Maharaja Agrasen College acts persuasively conducts different projects under Star Innovation Project Scheme & Innovation Project Scheme.

This year college has been assigned nine projects (for a period of one year) & Innovation Projects & seven projects under STAR Innovation Projects (for a period of three years). These projects are student-centric research activities under guidance of teachers from different departments.

Following projects are initiated under Star Innovation Projects

S.No.	Title of The Project	Investigator
1	Culture and Communication in Global Organizations	Dr. Sunil Sundhi, Principal
2	Cyber Security Help System	Dr. Meena Mehta, Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science
3	Develop a Strategy for the In-house Performance Appraisal and Management of the Employees in the University of Delhi	Dr. T.N Ojha Associate Professor, Department of Hindi
4	Developing E-Learning Materials for Information Management of Higher Education	Dr. Sudhir K. Rinten, Assistant Professor, Department of Journalism
5	Strategic Management of Higher Education Institutions : A Case Study of University of Delhi	Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Tiwari, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science
6	Workspace Optimization for Communication and Innovation	Dr. Niraj Kumar, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science
7	To Design and Develop Low Cost, Self-learning Heterogeneous Swarm Robotic Ecosystem	Dr. Praveen Kant Pandey, Department of Electronics



MAC 301: Delhi a City of Migrants: A Study of the Socio-Economic and the Political Condition of the Migrants.

Investigators:

1. Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Tiwari, Department of Political Science
2. Dr. Sushmita Rajwar, Department of Political Science
3. Mr. Vinay Rai, Department of Journalism

Student Investigators

1. Sakshi Saxena
2. Saurabh Verma
3. Kishor Kumar
4. Mayank Mohanti
5. Ashish Jayswal
6. Ayushi Saini
7. Palak Srivastava
8. Md. Irfan Basha
9. Kalpana
10. Sonia Tomar

As per an estimate, Delhi hosts nearly 72 million people from outside. Thus, migrants constitute nearly 47 percent of the total population of the national capital. Though, the migrants comprise of people from all parts of the country but those who have altered the political grammar of the state are primarily from Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand. People from Uttarakhand comprise of nearly 10 to 12 percent in 10 constituencies and thus are able to decide the fate of the candidates effectively.

However, an interesting point is that while the migrants come from diverse social and economic background from their states of origin, they polarise not on religion and ethnic basis but on regional lines. Thus, caste which is such a powerful a force in the electoral dynamics in Bihar, melts away and a regional identity works. Though Mayawati's emergence has made a significant change in this pattern yet the regional polarisation works in constituencies. Though no survey has been done to suggest who came when and from where and is settled for how long in Delhi but it is generally agreed that the flow of migration increased phenomenally after the failure of governance in these two states which got badly rattled under the politics of Mandal and Kammandal in late 80s and early 90s. Failure of governance, derailed economic development and anarchy on the college and university campus threw a pattern of migration.

Delhi, which happened to be the destination for students from upper class strata, started finding inflow of students even from middle and lower middle classes. Migrants significantly changed the socio-economic profile of the city. The influx of the population on the one hand has congested the cities with the phenomenal growth in number of slums and increased the burden on the civic amenities. On the other hand, it has also lowered the cost of services which otherwise would have been many times more than what it is today in Delhi.

The main aim of this study is to analyze the impact of Migrants on Delhi's Socio-Economic and Political condition.

- To assess specific reasons for the migration of population to Delhi.
- To analyze if some particular caste or economic class have migrated to Delhi.
- Is the objective of migration fulfilled (social, political and economic objectives)?
- If given a chance are they willing to relocate back to their home state?
- Have they become homogeneous population of Delhi or still heterogeneous beings?
- To discuss the societal problems linked with migration if any.

MAC 302: Impact of Reservation Policy on Under Graduate Students Since 1991: A Case Study of University of Delhi

Investigators:

1. Dr. Subodh Kumar,
Department of Political science
2. Dr. Niraj Kumar,
Department of Political science
3. Ms Sonia Suchdeva,
Department of Business
Economics

Student Investigators

1. Gaurav Pathak
2. Kapil Nigam
3. Mohit Meena
4. Pooja Jha
5. Pooja Kasana
6. Rahul Pal
7. Roni Gautam
8. Ambika Thakur
9. Lhingdeihat Chongloi
10. Mauli
11. Mona
12. Prince Thomas
13. Rahul Singh
14. Shikha Rai
15. Varsha Sharma

Two hundred years after the French Revolution, the world saw the unification of Germany, the end of the authoritarian regimes in East Central Europe, the Baltic Countries and the former soviet union, and with the transition from dictatorship to democracy in the Philippines, Argentina and Brazil. The worldwide movement towards liberty, equality and fraternity was celebrated. India has been no exception; the irresistible revolution has changed the hierarchical structure of the society. The Quest for development has brought forward the idea of reservation to the Backward Classes and later to the Other Backward Classes. The overall change in the socio-economic and political area has been mainly because of liberal education, secular institutions, one-man one-vote one-value and similar affirmative actions.

Reservation as a whole is a growth facilitator. Caste acts as umbrella where masses live by giving reservation based on caste. The masses get an opportunity to participate in the process of building modern democratic institutions. This can utilize the potential of the majority in the post-reform period for building a modern productionist society. Moreover, BC's and OBC's are a major force of industrial profit since they, too, are consumers. But their share in the ownership or in the management of the industry is negligible. Rapid economic growth demands productive interaction of the society's members with one another. Growth and economic diversification alone will break the correlation between caste and occupation.



MAC 303: Enquiring into the Relevance of Prescribed Text Books for Undergraduate Level in the University of Delhi

Investigators:

1. Dr. Deepa Sharma, Department of Commerce
2. Dr. Charu Arya, Department of English
3. Dr. Arun Julka, Department of Commerce

Student Investigators

1. Aditya Nair
2. Akash Jana
3. Arsh Hashmi
4. Sparsh Garg
5. Keshav Pratap Singh
6. Sunil Yadav
7. Anshu Singh
8. Kajal Saxena
9. Tazeen Anadil
10. Abhiruchi

The book publishing industry in India is defined by a large set of variables. India ranks third only behind USA and UK in the publication of English language books. According to the industry body FICCI, the Indian publishing industry, is currently growing at a compound annual growth rate of 25 per cent. The industry is highly un-organised, disoriented and competitive in nature, with over 16,000 publishing houses and each of them having a market share not greater than 5 per cent.

A nationwide survey conducted by the National Book Trust of India in 2010 revealed that one-fourth of the youth population, a staggering figure of 83 million, identify themselves as book readers. A deep insight into the reader's satisfaction level received from these available products (books), leads to the unflattering truth that qualitative quotient in the average book is deteriorating sharply, especially at the undergraduate level. This has resulted in a socially and intellectually stunted generation. Instead of referring to these products, the present undergraduate student community is favouring low-graded notes & compilers, so as to find Short-Cuts just to crack their examinations. In absence of any authority-led literary standards in our country, students find it hard to digest various standard textual references available in the libraries and thus generally wish to avoid devoting time for library. These rising dissatisfaction levels may weaken their conceptual understanding and in depletion of quality

education at undergraduate level.

What is essentially required in the present day system of education in the University are content oriented books which work as support system for these students and also give a wider outlook towards the constructed knowledge. Research in this area is pertinent at this juncture to bring forth apprehension of losing in-depth academic teaching-learning progression and suggested conduit for it.

The study seeks to evaluate the level of dissatisfaction/satisfaction of the undergraduate students with the referred texts available in the Market and to make suggestions on the basis of research conducted. The specific objectives of the project are here under:

- To measure the perception of the undergraduate students and the academia towards the textual references as an educational tool.
- To assess the level of satisfaction/ dissatisfaction with the textual references available in the Indian Market.
- To identify the factors responsible for the rising dissatisfaction towards the available textual references for undergraduate students in India.
- To suggest level of content oriented books which should be available for students at the undergraduate level.

MAC 304: A Study on the Impact of Suryanamaskar on the Physiological, Psychological and Socio-Political Parameters on Youth in Universities at different Altitudes

Investigators:

1. Dr Mukesh Agarwal
2. Ms Preeti Goel
3. Ms Shomaila Warsi

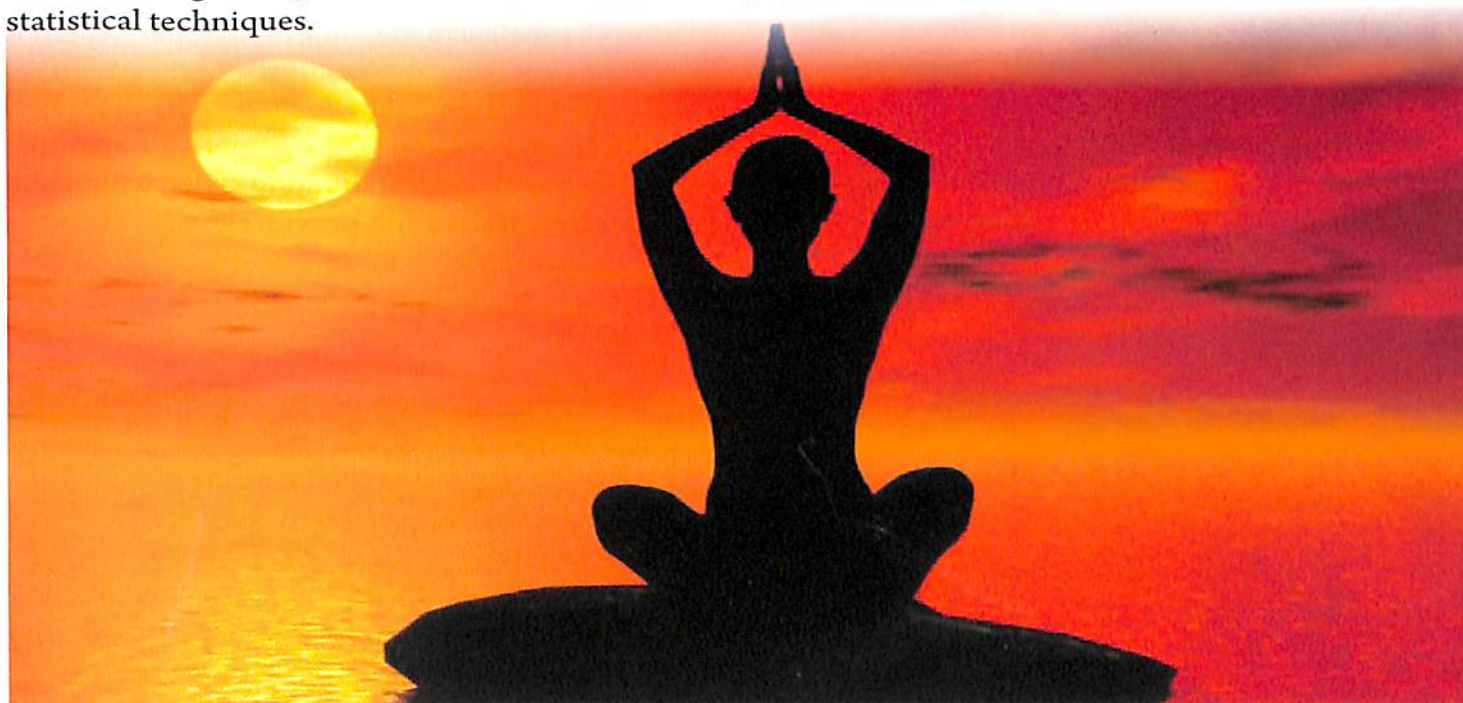
Students:

1. Shivani
2. Devyani
3. Swadha
4. Shibhu
5. Krishna
6. Sahil
7. Dhirender
8. Ankush
9. Diwakar
10. Tushar

Suryanamaskar is an ancient Indian method of offering prayers to the rising sun along with the series of twelve physical postures aiming at physical, mental and spiritual well-being. The postures of Suryanamaskar have specific spiritual connotations. The impact on the cardiovascular system will be assessed. Moreover, anxiety is responsible for behavioral adaptation and affects the performance of an individual, Suryanamaskar is supposed to normalize the psychological variables. The Indian society has a different social dimensions adamantly reserved on traditions, rituals and religion. The study will accommodate the opinion and involvement of politics varied society without any biased approach.

The study focuses on the impact of Suryanamaskar, a branch which is a combination of Yogic postures performed in synchronization with the rhythmic breathing movement. Various studies were conducted on effect of Suryanamaskar but they were limited to physical and physiological parameters. The research will focus on the impact of Suryanamaskar on the youth aged 16-25 years, of the sample size 300, located in coastal, hill and plain areas. The change in their physiological, socio-political and anxiety status will be assessed before and after the seven days of the training schedule. The methodology adopted would be the collection

of data through the questionnaire and the standard equipments. The data will be analyzed by using suitable statistical techniques.



MAC 305: Developing E-Learning Material for Media Literacy of School Children

Investigators

1. Dr. Anshul Taneja, Department of Business Economics
2. Dr. A. K. Thakur, Department of Journalism
3. Sudhir K. Rinten, Department of Journalism

Student Investigators

1. Ansh Goyal
2. Abhimanyu
3. Aastha Ahuja
4. Ajay Kumar
5. Adarsh Kumar
6. Rupal Poddar
7. Ira Puranik
8. Nidhi Tyagi
9. Vaibhav Duggal
10. Saurav Panwar

This project is an effort to provide an option to the citizens, who are really suffering due to poor media literacy and higher media exposures. With outcome of this project we will be able to give such audio-visual material which can be utilized as study material for media literacy of the school children. It is a fact that teens are having multiple medium exposures at multiple facets & screens, parents are helpless to find appropriate answers to the questions raised by media due to poor media literacy.

Process of developing E-learning material for this project is based on democratic participatory learning. For the same, several workshops have been conducted with school children (9th -12th standards) of East Point School situated at Vasundhara Enclave, Delhi. The workshops conducted during the project were designed to provide information about content manufacturing & gate-keeping in various stages.

Till date we have completed 2 stages, i.e. assessment of media literacy & workshops on print media literacy. After the workshops participants were able to understand gate-keeping and inclination of news. They came with following formats of news publications as their workshop outcome.

We are planning to conduct workshops for literacy of electronic media in days to come. After completion of the project we will develop E-learning material. The learning

material will help users to engage with media and information channels in a meaningful manner, which is really essential now a days in India due to nature of Indian Media Industry & Socio-economic growth of the country. There is huge growth in media Industry and its consumption behavior. So media literacy is really not only essential for the school children but also for the society at large. The competence acquired through media and information literacy can equip school children with critical thinking skills, which will enable them to demand high-quality services from media and other information providers.



MAC 306: Understanding Emerging Agrarian Crisis in India: Inputs for National Policy on Sustainable Agriculture

Investigators

1. Dr. Rajatkumar Sant, Department of Commerce
2. Dr. Bibhuti Bhusan Mohapatra, Department of Commerce
3. Mrs. Saumya Shukla, Department of Economics

Student Investigators

- 1 Sweta Bansal
- 2 Sarthak Patel
- 3 Jyotirmani
- 4 Shreya Jain
- 5 Sumedha Uppal
- 6 Nitin
- 7 Shivam
- 8 Aparajita Sharma
- 9 Pratistha
- 10 Subrahm Gupta

In terms of occupation India is primarily an agrarian country. But agriculture contributes a meager amount to GDP; resulting in a trap of vicious circle of underdevelopment for her rural populace. In spite of more than sixty five years of independence and developmental planning the farmers' situation remains pathetic. Earlier, it was nature's fury which was taking their lives, now they themselves are taking their lives. Those who can afford are leaving cultivation whereas those who have no option are staying back in the country side to witness macabre of death. This is nothing but agrarian distress. Over the years, there has been a growing marginalization of Indian peasantry but probably this has been overlooked by our planners. As a result, a large section of peasants have been deprived of institutional credit and devoid of insurance cover. Prima facie, the rising cost of cultivation and lack of appropriate government support prices in the face of slowing down of global commodity prices have increased their burden. On the one hand, the state has ignored them; on the other hand, the market has exploited them. Exorbitant rents of share cropping and high debt servicing obligations to village money lenders have further increased their burden. Owing to global warming and climatic change, the vagaries of weather in recent years add salt to their injury. The present study thus intends to examine agrarian distress in recent years from a holistic perspective by focusing its attention on two north Indian states such as

Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. Based on its findings, the study also intends to explore technological and institutional solution for the clear and present danger in Indian agriculture.



MAC 307: Innovation in Payment System: Strategies to Convert Unbanked to Banked

Investigators

1. Dr. T. N. Ojha, Department of Hindi
2. Dr. Priya Gupta, Department of Computer Science
3. Mr. Ritesh Verma, Department of Commerce

Student Investigators

1. Aakriti Johar
2. Ajay Chauhan
3. Himanshu Rawat
4. Ishu Tiwari
5. Lakshay Sharma
6. Pawan Malhotra
7. Rashmi Maheshwari
8. Sheepra
9. Vipul Deora
10. Yash Agrawal

As Mandis are currently unbanked in India, we did an extensive study of payment systems that currently exist and function in the market. Already learnt about the mode of payments that exist in the target area that is Azadpur Mandi. We listed out the disadvantages of the current system.

We visited two Mandi i.e., Ghazipur Mandi and Azadpur Mandi in September and October 2015 respectively to perform our research about how transactions are being performed in a Mandi at different stages. We studied the existing system of payment in the target area. We also drew out flaws in the system, and how the system can be made efficient and secure.

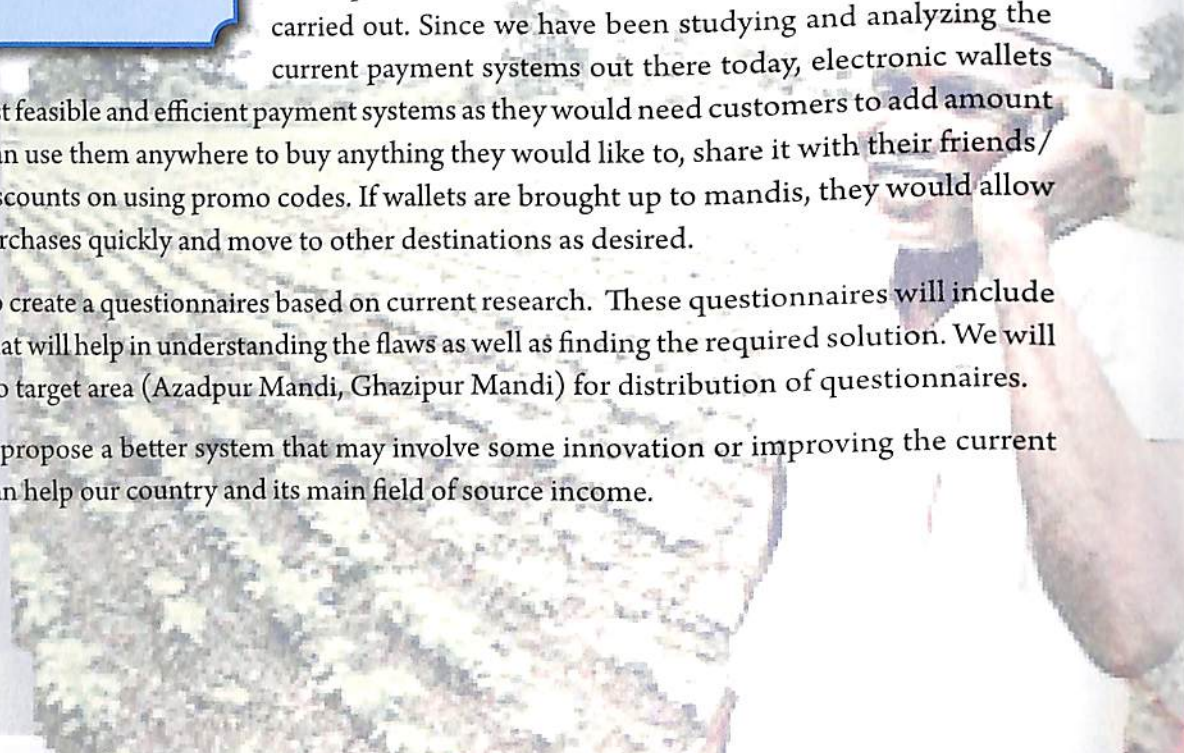
Since we had to study about all the payment system in all the vegetables and fruits markets (mandis) in Delhi, students were divided into different teams and each team was allotted the task to go to one of the vegetable markets and study about the mode of payment, its efficiency, its advantages and its drawbacks. This study helped to know and learn more about the positive and negative aspects of the payment systems and strong involvement of all the team members helped us to do all the tasks efficiently.

A comparative study of different payment mechanisms was carried out. Since we have been studying and analyzing the current payment systems out there today, electronic wallets

turn out to be the most feasible and efficient payment systems as they would need customers to add amount to their wallets and can use them anywhere to buy anything they would like to, share it with their friends/colleagues and get discounts on using promo codes. If wallets are brought up to mandis, they would allow the buyer to make purchases quickly and move to other destinations as desired.

Our future scope is to create a questionnaires based on current research. These questionnaires will include important markers that will help in understanding the flaws as well as finding the required solution. We will have frequent visits to target area (Azadpur Mandi, Ghazipur Mandi) for distribution of questionnaires.

Our final target is to propose a better system that may involve some innovation or improving the current system. So that we can help our country and its main field of source income.



MAC 308: Content Syndication and Catalogues for Undergraduate Science Courses

Investigators

1. Dr. Rajatkumar Sant, Department of Commerce
2. Dr. Bibhuti Bhusan Mohapatra, Department of Commerce
3. Mrs. Saumya Shukla, Department of Economics

Student Investigators

- 1 Sweta Bansal
- 2 Sarthak Patel
- 3 Jyotirmani
- 4 Shreya Jain
- 5 Sumedha Uppal
- 6 Nitin
- 7 Shivam
- 8 Aparajita Sharma
- 9 Pratistha
- 10 Subrahm Gupta

The focus of the proposed project is to investigate whether web 2.0 tools have potential for capturing and specifically for sharing knowledge that is possessed by science teachers in undergraduate education. Although there is no dearth of content creators and aggregators, however, it is not possible to identify and retrieve the relevant documents from the distributed databases by a single catalog. Hence to satiate the need to find customized content on any topic, it is not important to create more content, but to map the best and most appropriate content by making sense of all the content that others are creating and share it forward with the relevant person.

In the new CBCS framework students will have the option of studying the subjects they are genuinely excited about learning. Obviously, Eager and engaged students require high-quality content in his or her academic endeavours. Producing high-quality content is a complex and expensive process, so realizing more value from existing content by distributing the content in a more effective manner is the need of the hour.

Clearly, there is a strong case for organizations/universities to syndicate their content. In content syndication, the

receiving site gains greater depth of information; this makes it more appealing to visitors. On the other hand, the transmitting site gets good exposure, which in turn results in more back links and traffic. In this way, content syndication can act as an easy, cost-effective method information sharing.

Objectives:

- To investigate teaching and learning approaches used in undergraduate science degree in higher education
- To examine the role of technologies in teaching and learning
- To explore best practices and experiences which can be used by science teachers
- The potential uses of web tools in higher learning education
- A framework for content syndication and knowledge sharing incorporating new and emerging web tools to be devised

The usefulness of these tools in sharing of knowledge related to teaching.

MAC 309: Problem Based Learning within Simulation Environment

Investigators

1. Dr. Maneesha, Department of Electronics
2. Dr. Praveen Kant Pandey, Department of Electronics
3. Dr. Vijeta Pundir, Department of Business Economics

Student Investigators

- 1 Kanupriya Sharma
- 2 Ashish Jain
- 3 Harshit Goel
- 4 Ayush Bajaj
- 5 Vibhor Gupta
- 6 Tripti Gupta
- 7 Sarthak Kala
- 8 Yogesh Pandey
- 9 Rishabh Jain
- 10 Ankur Panwar

Student understanding of the connection between theory and application has always been a significant goal in science education. The ability to perform and design experiments is rated as one of the main desirable technical skills of science and engineering technology graduates. Surveys indicate that employers want computer literate graduates with knowledge of data acquisition, analysis, explanation and interpretation along with an ability to formulate alternative solutions to problem. This need has also been reinforced in the new Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) recently being implemented across all over India at undergraduate level. Hence to implement the new curriculum and to facilitate enhanced teaching-learning process, we propose to use problem based learning using simulators to enhance the students' learning experience.

The use of simulators in this research project shall provide the students with practical feedback when designing real world systems and to determine the correctness and efficiency of a design before the system is actually constructed. Consequently, the student may discover the merits of alternative designs without essentially physically building the systems. Hence, by exploring the effects of exhaustive design choices during the design phase rather than the construction

phase, the overall cost of building the system diminishes significantly.

In this research project an intensive problem-based approach is being employed to develop proficiency in the software applications to solve technical problems. Through Project Based Learning, students are empowered to self-direct their educational experience by designing experimental systems and/or subsystems against given specifications. The entire project is based on student-centred learning, designed and managed for the students by the students. The methodology involves focusing on real-world problems to facilitate students' critical thinking and problem solving skills while enhancing the learning experience.

The methodology of the research project involves identifying the components of a PC-based data acquisition system, assessing and selecting an automated data acquisition system based on the requirements (accuracy, repeatability, speed, etc.) of a given application; using data acquisition software to collect and analyse data from a mechanical system, and selecting sensors after evaluation for a given application based on the sensor's response time, accuracy, resolution, and other relevant static/dynamic specifications.

During the course of project, a few undergraduate level science practical designs are being developed and packaged as complete products for use in real time situations

Extra Curricular Activity

Maharaja Agrasen College has been a pioneer institution in fostering cultural values among students. The Cultural Committee has kept the propagation and nurturing of ethnic traditional ethos close to its heart while undertaking cultural activities throughout the year. The beginning of academic session 2015-16 saw trials being held for admitting students proficient in co-curricular activities. Highly motivated students were shortlisted for different cultural societies after rigorous trials adjudged by eminent experts in various art-forms. Various societies viz. Natraj, Septune, Samyantar, Abhinay, Chakraview, Srijan etc. consisting of interested students were formed.

Independence Day Celebration:

69th Independence Day was celebrated with great zest and vigour. Shri Siddharth Verma, Chairperson, College Governing Body, hoisted the tricolour in presence of large number of students and teachers. He exhorted the youth to play a greater role in nation building. He stressed on the idea that the youth must find solution to problems of hunger, employment, illiteracy etc. and become self-reliant in order to be independent in true sense.

Independence Day celebrations were marked by tree-plantation drive in and around the campus and a mini-marathon covering approximately six kilometres around Vasundhara Enclave. An awareness march was carried out by students, making people in the neighbouring locality aware about various aspects of cleanliness and the importance of the need for the co-existence of human beings and the environment.

Onam Celebration

In order to expose MAC community to South Indian tradition and customs, Maharaja Agrasen College and the Delhi Malayalee Association jointly organised a day-long Onam festival function on 13th September 2015. 'Onam Feast'- as the name suggests offered a rare opportunity to savour a wide range of South Indian dishes and delicacies. Students of our college enthralled the audience by putting-up a grand display of classical dance and songs.



Sensitization Programme on Disaster Management

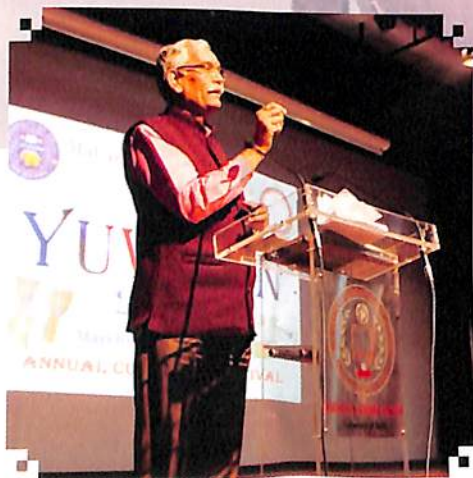
Maharaja Agrasen College in association with the District Disaster Management Authority (East) and Nehru Yuva Sangathan conducted a one-day awareness generation-cum-sensitization program on disaster management on 24th January 2016. The event was organised on the occasion of 154th birth anniversary of Swami Vivekanand – the youth icon of the nation. Student were sensitized about disasters such as earthquake, floods, fire, gas leaks, chemical spill of hazardous material etc. Basic training for pre- and post-disaster preparedness was imparted. Medical and technical skills needed to prepare and respond against disasters, and how elderly and people with special needs could be helped more effectively were the main draw of the programme. Emergency contact number of fire brigade, ambulance, local red-cross, civil defence chapter and disaster helpline number (1077) was shared with the participants. The participants drove home the point that only a prepared community is a safe community.

SPIC-MACAY : VIRASAT

Maharaja Agrasen College has been working in tandem with SPIC-MACAY (the Society for Promotion of Indian Culture and Music among Children and Youth) to nurture and propagate the ethos of Indian culture among students of the college. Noted Kathak danseuse Padmashri Shovana Narain and her team of musicians performed at college as part of SPIC-MACAY's Virasat 2015 series. She took great pains to explain the subtle nuances of Kathak dance to young students. It was indeed an out-of-the-world experience to witness how nritya (dance) and natya (dramatic elements) can be effectively combined to communicate the nava rasas namely love (shringaara), mirth (hassya), compassion (karuna), valour (veera), anger (roudra), fear (bhayanak), disgust (bhibhatsa), wonder (adbhuta) and peace (shaanta).

Music Workshop

While the college provides a platform to its students proficient in various forms of art, it is also at the forefront when it comes to training and educating in matters cultural. A five day vocal and instrumental music workshop was organized under the guidance of legendary Sarangi Exponent Ustad Kamal Sabri and Pandit Sukhamoy Banerjee, tabla player of international repute. A large number of students enthusiastically participated in the workshop and honed their skill and knowledge in instrumental and vocal music forms. On the conclusion of the workshop, the newly trained students presented a spirited group performance. The experience of participation in the workshop was for them – “opening up of yet another frontier of



beauty that music was.”

Theatre Workshop

The college has a vibrant theatre society. The stage theatre society – ‘Samayantar’ and the street-play society – ‘Abhinay’ have earned a pride of place among popular theatre groups of the university by their sheer hard work and quality performances. Skill training in acting is an exercise in holistic personality development. Keeping this objective in focus, the ECA committee held a five day theatre workshop. Noted theatre director Sri Manoj Kumar Tyagi conducted the workshop and trained our students in finer nuances of dramatics which included voice modulation, lighting, costume and set-arrangement for drama etc. The students were greatly benefitted by the workshop and presented a drama titled ‘Kenchuli’ in the auditorium show casing their newly acquired proficiency in acting.

Yuvaan – 2016

The annual cultural fest of Maharaj Agrasen College, YUVAAN, a much awaited mega-event for students of the college was organised on the 19th, 21st and 22nd March 2016. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation by teams from various colleges of the University of Delhi. ‘Natyotsav’ the theatre festival was organized on 19th March. Stage theatre contest – ‘Drishyantar’ and street play competition – ‘Aaina’ were held. The mesmerized audience applauded to the high-octane battle of acting prowess of the participating teams.

The next two days of the event were fun-filled and got overwhelming response from students from various colleges from the Delhi-NCR area. Competitions like solo singing (classical & light songs), group singing, solo classical dance, folk dance, battle of bands, debate, quiz, rangoli making, clay modelling were organised. Other competitive events were Sudoku, portrait making, photography, and poetry recitation. The star attraction of festival was the performance by popular Italian band ‘Kora Beat’ which left the audience spell bound and hungry more of such experiences.

Yuvaan’16 became a landmark event as it was for the first time that the cultural festival had the North-East festival as a special feature. The North-East festival offered a glimpse of the culture, cuisine, and other interesting features about this unique part of India. Visitors were mesmerised at the sheer magnificence of the culture of seven states of the North-East. In a nutshell, Yuvaan’16 lived up to the expectations by becoming a mega cultural event – the reverberation of which will be felt for quite some time.



North East Festival

In the academic year 2015-16, for the very first time in the history of Maharaja Agrasen College a society has been formed named, "North East Society" of the college. The president of the society is H. Arun Kumar Singh and the secretary is Sonu Gupta. Society consists of a total of fourteen students from various streams. In the college annual festival, "YUVAN", the North East Society represented the culture and tradition of North-East India in the college. On 21st and 22nd March, 2016, the society under the able guidance of Dr. Abha Sharma and Dr. A. J. Meitei, presented the cultural & ornament, traditional dresses, food festival, traditional games and dance of the various communities of the region. The main focus of the festival is to bring mainstream India closer to the north east.



Annual Sports Day - SPARDHA 2015-16

A week long Sports festival was organized by the Sports Committee in association with Department of Physical Education. The festival was comprised of various sports events of Indoor & Outdoor nature for students of the college i.e. Chess, Carom, Table tennis, Badminton, Cricket, Volleyball, Basketball, Football along with Athletics. Students from all departments of the college have participated in the week long sports festival which was started from March 05, 2016 to March 09, 2016 followed by Annual Sports Day on March 10, 2016. Inter departmental Cricket, Football, Basketball and Volleyball tournament was organized for college students. Finally, Annual Sports Day- SPARDHA 2016 was organized in College play field. The day was full of excitement and joy for the entire college. On the day, athletic events for students like 100m, 200m, 4x 100m races, shot put, javelin throw and long jump was organized. The events for PWD category was separately organized to boost the morale of the disable students. The chief guest for the occasion was Sh Sidharth Mishra, Former Chairman of the college Governing Body & President CRDJ. He distributed the prizes to the position holders of the different sports events. Report regarding Inter college sports activities 2015-16 The college team has participated in various inter college events in the session. Ball Badminton boy's team has secured third position. Ankush captained Delhi University team in All India Inter University Championship. Football team was reached in top eight teams of Delhi University. The matches to quarter final were pending as on date. The cyclist- Himanshu of college has participated in all India Inter University Championship. He captained the Delhi University team. Three players Mohit, Badal and Vikas have participated in 37th senior National Softball Championship. Seven have participated in North Zone Ball Badminton championship. Sandeep has participated in Junior National Ball Badminton tournament. Umang played Senior national Korfball championship. Thomas in carom has won SRCC, NDIM and symbiosis tournaments. College Basketball won NDIM and MNIT tournaments and was runners up in Symbiosis tournament. Also, College team was performed well in Cricket, Baseball, Kabaddi, Softball and Athletics.





Students' Council

The Students' Council of Maharaja Agrasen College is a group of impassioned students working towards the development and excellence of the college thereby instilling in them a sense of leadership. The council, under the guidance of convenor, Dr. Niraj Kumar has been treading towards the same direction through various academic and extra-curricular events all-round the year.

The year began with the Motivational Lecture delivered by Ms. Ira Singhal, UPSC Exam Topper - 2014 on September 2, 2015. The program focused on her success story and determination which proved that no one can stop one from achieving what is meant for one, all it requires is just the hard-work and perseverance.

The Equal Opportunity Cell of the Council conducted an interactive session with Dr. Anil Aneja, Nodal Officer for Persons with Disability, OSD, EOC, University of Delhi on September 17, 2015. The event received massive participation from across departments and colleges of the university.

Further, the Environment Cell of the council has conducted 'Tree Auditing' in the college and has organised Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan from September 28, 2015 to October 5, 2015. This initiative towards Cleanliness was an eye-opener to the students that Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan is not for only an initiative for a day or for a month, but also as a 'Psychological Revolution' to change the negative attitude of the people towards Cleanliness.

Probably one of the biggest events organized by the Council of Maharaja Agrasen College was the National Student Academic Congress 2016 (NSAC – 2016) which was conducted on 11th and 12th March 2016. The Academic Congress sustained its energy and quality of being a national congress. Abstracts and Research Papers were accepted by the college from all across the country. Students from the undergraduate level as well as those pursuing their Ph. D were welcomed to present their papers on this year's topic, Quality Assurance in Higher Education which had several tracks.

The academic year, 2015-2016 was definitely eventful for the Students' Council of Maharaja Agrasen College and it hopes to organize many more such events in the next academic session as well.



National Service Scheme

The NSS at MAC has been involved in providing opportunities to the students in leadership, selfless service towards others and community building. Since the beginning of NSS in Maharaja Agrasen College, the NSS volunteers have been engaged in organizing and planning various academic and cultural events in order to further the aims and objectives of the NSS in totality.

The programs by NSS at MAC in the past year can be summed up as follows:

1. Diwali Fete was organized by NSS volunteers on 9th November, 2015 at Maharaja Agrasen College in order to raise funds for the Agrasen Baroji Help Initiatives (ABHI). The fete had two sections, one was for food and the other included fun games. More than 20 fun games stalls were put by the students of MAC to help the village Baroji. The Diwali Fete raised approximately Rs. 24,000/- for Baroji which was a huge success and morale booster for the NSS volunteers.
 2. NSS Pedal Power Club which was launched in 2014 has also been working for a cleaner and pollution free environment. The Pedal Power started a cleanliness drive in the month of December, 2015 to support the SwachhtaAbhiyaan App launched by Delhi Government and helped locating piles of garbage in the nearby areas of MAC. In addition to locating the garbage, the club members also ensured implementation of cleanliness drive for the identified area.
 3. NSS also organized Open Day on 29th March, 2016. Students participated in various events like face painting, photo exhibitions, rangoli and t-shirt painting.
 4. Equal Opportunity Cell [EOC] organised an interactive session with Dr. Anil Aneja, Nodal Officer for persons with Disability, University of Delhi in September 2015. Dr. Aneja interacted with the college students and highlighted that disability could occur to any one among us at any moment of time. Further, the only way to overcome disability is by providing / creating a fully developed and equipped infrastructural support to the various forms of disability.
 5. Equal Opportunity Cell (EOC) organized a workshop aimed at Sensitization towards the disability. The EOC has been working since 2013 for sensitization towards disability especially among the students and faculty of MAC.
- EOC has also been very effective in addressing the grievances of the students and helps the disabled students to live with dignity and self-respect.
6. In commemoration of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, of Delhi NSS, MAC celebrated 'Rastriya Ekta Utsav' on 30th October 2015 in the college premises. Events like Rangoli Competition, based on the theme of "National Integration", Debate Competition on the topic "This house believes that increased involvement of youth is the only alternative left to bring national integration and harmony" was organised on this occasion. An Article Writing Competition was also organised for the students.



Teaching Staff Association

This past year was of great significance for the Maharaja Agrasen College Teaching Staff Association. We undertook constant consultations with administration over issuance of Identity Cards (ID) for both permanent as well as Ad hoc teaching staff. We are relentlessly trying to campaign for getting permanent appointments as soon as possible to put an end to adhocism or uncertainty over the continuation of the services of the ad hoc teachers with the college in every new semester.

The commitment to providing better amenities and facilities in the staff room is also our priority. The Staff Association aims to protect and progress the interests of members by bringing them together collectively and democratically. In doing so, the Association seeks to:

- Assist members in enforcing their rights at work, including the rights to: i) fair and equitable treatment at work; ii) reasonable conditions and a balanced working life; and iii) a workplace which is healthy, safe and environmentally sustainable.
- Represent the views of members to the institution's administration.
- Make representations on behalf of members to DUTA.

In 2015-16, the Staff Association carried out a number of key activities and campaigns, driven by input and participation by members:

- **Diwali celebration:** The members collectively celebrated Diwali gifts were distributed to all the members
- **One-day picnic to Botanix, Sohna Road, Gurgaon:** We organised a staff picnic to unwind and get rejuvenated. The staff picnic was well organised with planned activities. The teachers interacted, and bonded with each other in an informal setting.
- **Holi Milan:** The staff members celebrated Holi with great enthusiasm and fervour followed by lunch.

Finally, thanks to our active members who have helped in purchasing and procurement of gifts and hospitality for various purposes. Continuously improving facilities and promoting fraternity among members will continue to be a priority for the Staff Association in coming years.

We need to remember that we are the union collectively and only at our best when we all reach out and support and encourage each other.

Dr Shashi Singh
President, Staff Association

Dr Niraj Kumar
Secretary, Staff Association

Shekhar Kumar
Trasurer, Staff Association



Girls Hostel

At VIDYOTTMA, the resident students came back to the hostel after the vacations on 23 July, the start of the academic session. The committee also welcomed the fresher's on hostel orientation day. Since its inception in 2011, Vidyottma has worked towards the goal of providing safe and secure atmosphere with an academic, activity-filled environment to the residents. The hostel is presently a home to fifty eight outstation students. Working with a commitment to provide holistic development of the hostellers, hostel committee ensures a fair balance between work and play. For the better functioning of the hostel, regular meetings are organized where common problems and grievances are discussed and sorted out and new suggestions are implemented. As planned WiFi facility, which was under process last year, has been functional now. As is practice, the residents celebrated, Diwali, Lohri, and Holi.

The hostel also played host to resource persons and participants who came to participate for the Conferences and events organized by the various MAC departments. Vidyottma provides the girls with a style of living which makes them disciplined and dynamic and helps them excel in academic as well as extracurricular. Activities are organized in MAC and at Vidyottma from time-to-time for a healthy mind and healthy body. Participating in activities or being physically active helps them to stay in shape, teaches them how to organize their time, boosts friendships, and builds relationships, build leadership skills also. The qualities they acquire from involvement in Extra curriculum activities, helps them to grow in their respective careers and living a healthy life. Just to summarize their achievements in current session are as follows

Performances In Academic Activities 2016

- Noira Khan stood 2nd overall in 2014-2015 in department of Mathematical Science, 87.2
- Nishta Gupta stood first in 1st and 2nd semester in department of Commerce.
- Sakshi Saxena stood first in the year 2014-15 in the department of Journalism. Topped the university.

Performances In Extra Curricular Activities 2016

- Ayushi Saini And Akshita Pranali Won Ist Prize In Rangoli Competition At Shyama Prasad Mukarjee College , DU.
- Sheetal Chaudhary-Won Ist Prize In Singing Competition Held By Nehru Yuva Kendra (Govt. Ngo), East Delhi.
- Swati Priyanka Singh Won 2nd Prize In Contemporary Dance (Department Fest) At CVS ,DU.
- Mansi Patel Won 2nd Prize In Rangoli Competition Held At Maharaja Agrasen College ,DU.



- Alina Kazmi And Nidhi Tyagi Won 3rd Prize In Ad -Mad At 'Yatharth' (Department Fest Of Journalism).
- Namita Vishwas Won 3rd Prize In Singing Competition At Inter Hostel Fest Of Ramjas College, DU.
- Sheepra Pandey And Anshu Singh Won Consolation Prizes At Yuva Mahotsav 2016.
- Tazeen Anadil Won The Best Interjector Award In Debate Competition Of Lakshya Society (Department Fest Of B.A Programme).

Students Participation In Natraj- The Dance Society And Samyantar-The Stage Theatre Society Of MAC

- Won 3rd Prize In Dance Competition At Amity Fest And 2nd Prize In PGDAV College Fest (Natraj).
Shalini Rakesh, Rashi Singhal, Ayushi Saini
- Got "Best Production" Award In Bharti College DU. (Samyantar)
Nidhi Tyagi, Alina Kazmi, Mansi Aggarwal, Rashi Singhal, Deeksha Pant, Anshu Singh, Anshika Goel, Tazeen Anadil

Performances In Sports Activities 2016

- Shivani Chetal Won 3rd Prize In Badminton At Inter Hostel Fest Of Ramjas College, DU.
- Won 2nd Prize In Basketball Competition At Intra Hostel Fest Of Ramjas College, DU.
Renuka Thapa, Shaivee Yadav, Tanu Pandey, Shalini Rakesh, Keerti Toppo, Manisha Luthra, Kaushiki Gautam



Library

Library of Maharaja Agrsen College, University of Delhi is housed with a good collection of 37,000 books and 43000 National and International e-journals and other important e-resources related to Science, Social science, Arts and Humanities. The library is equipped with latest information & technologies managed by the qualified & dedicated library staff, assisted with library Automation software, i.e. ALICE FOR WINDOW.



संस्कृति कला केंद्र

शिक्षा का उद्देश्य मनुष्य का सर्वांगीण विकास करना है। हम अपने इस 'संस्कृति कला केंद्र' के माध्यम से इस लक्ष्य की ओर अग्रसर हैं। बदलाव के इस दौर में जहाँ जनमानस के बीच भौतिक सपन्नता पाने की लालसा ने जीवन को जटिल बना दिया है और परिवार, समाज, नैतिक मूल्य एवं मान्यताओं को हाशिये पर धकेल दिया है, ऐसे में यह आवश्यक हो जाता है कि भौतिक विकास के साथ-साथ व्यक्ति का मानसिक विकास भी होता चले। संस्कृति का संबंध मनुष्य के इसी आत्मिक विकास से होता है।

आज का युवा विकास की गति में पहले से कहीं अधिक जागरूक है लेकिन यह जागरूकता अपनी परम्पराओं, मूल्यों के प्रति न होकर सतही संग्रह के प्रति है, जो उसे विकास की स्वस्थ परम्परा से वंचित किए हुये है। अपनी परम्पराओं को जाने बिना आधुनिक नहीं हुआ जा सकता। ये परम्पराएँ आधुनिक व्यक्ति की सृजनशीलता को आधार प्रदान करती हैं। आधुनिक होने का अभिप्राय है वैचारिक क्रियाशीलता का निरंतर सकारात्मक विकास और यह तभी हो सकता है जब हमें अपने पूर्वापर और सह-सम्बन्धों की जानकारी हो। इसी उद्देश्य के साथ 'संस्कृति कला केंद्र' की स्थापना की गयी है।

संस्कृति कला केंद्र की स्थापना का उद्देश्य विद्यार्थियों के विकास तथा भारतीय संस्कृति से परिचय कराने का है। इस लक्ष्य की पूर्ति के लिए निम्न प्रकार की गतिविधियों का संचालन किया जाता है। जैसे – विद्यार्थियों को विभिन्न कला रसों से परिचय कराना, सांस्कृतिक भ्रमण का आयोजन करना, संगोष्ठियों का आयोजन करना, वृत्तचित्रों का प्रदर्शन, संग्रहालय की स्थापना, पत्रिका का प्रकाशन।

वसंतोत्सव :- 12 फरवरी 2016 को हमारे केंद्र के द्वारा महाविद्यालय के सभागार में सांस्कृतिक गतिविधियों के साथ वसंतपंचमी का त्यौहार मनाया गया जिसमें सरस्वती पूजन का कार्यक्रम आयोजित किया गया। विद्यार्थियों ने काव्यपाठ भी किया।



युवा महोत्सव :- मैथिली-भोजपुरी अकादमी दिल्ली और महाराजा अग्रसेन महाविद्यालय के संयुक्त तत्वाधान में दिनांक 13 फरवरी 2016 को निबन्ध लेखन प्रतियोगिता, कविता पाठ और दिनांक 14 फरवरी 2016 को गायन प्रतियोगिता, नाट्य प्रतियोगिता, का आयोजन क्षेत्रीय भाषा में किया गया एवं साथ ही पुरस्कार वितरण भी किया गया।

शैक्षणिक-सांस्कृतिक संवाद कार्यक्रम :- इस कार्यक्रम में संस्कृति कला केंद्र के द्वारा महाराजा अग्रसेन महाविद्यालय के छात्रों और टोक्यो यूनिवर्सिटी ऑफ फॉरेन स्टडी के छात्रों के मध्य एक संवाद स्थापित हुआ जिसमें दोनों ही संस्थानों के छात्रों को एक दूसरे की संस्कृति, सभ्यता और रहन-सहन का परिचय मिला।

विश्व सांस्कृतिक महोत्सव :- दिल्ली में आयोजित तीन दिवसीय कार्यक्रम का परिचय करवाने हेतु दिनांक 4 मार्च 2016 को श्री अविनाश टिक्कु जी एवं उनके साथियों के द्वारा महाविद्यालय में एक प्रावेशिक सम्मेलन का आयोजन किया।



IGNOU

The Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) was established in the year 1985 to impart education by means of distance learning program. IGNOU currently serves approximately 3.5 million students in India.

Maharaja Agrasen College is a study centre for Post-Graduate and Under-Graduate Courses offered by IGNOU. A special highlight of the IGNOU Program is the Induction Program which orients the students enrolled in the distance learning curriculum. Classes are conducted during weekends for Bachelor of Computer Application (BCA), Bachelor of Commerce (BDP), Bachelor of Science (B. Sc.), Master of Commerce (M.Com), Management Program (MBA), Master of Art in Hindi (MHD), Master of Arts in Political Science (MPS), Master of Arts in History (MAH), Master of Art in English (MEG), Master of Science in Mathematics with Application in Computer Science (MSCMACS), Post Graduate Diploma in Journalism and Mass Communication (PGJMC), Diploma in Teaching German (DTG), Certificate in Language and others.

Under the guidance of its coordinator Dr. T.N. Ojha, his able team of Assistant Coordinator Dr. Omkar Singh, Dr. Chavi Bhatnagar, Mr. Ritesh Verma, Mr. Amit Kumar, Dr. Krishan Kumar and the administrative staff comprising of Mr. Rajesh Kumar, Mr. Jaswant Singh, Mr. Naresh Kumar, Mr. Ashok Kumar, Mr. Ashok Atri, Mr. Pramod Kumar Singh, Mr. Harshvardhan, Mr. Kishan Kumar, Mr. Naveen Chandra Chamoli, Mr. Vinod Kumar Tiwari, Mr. Manoj Kumar, Mr. Anil Kumar and Mr. Ajay Kumar the IGNOU centre continues to flourish.

The centre aspires to integrate the community by providing quality education to a larger section of deprived society.

Our Study Centre strives to provide best services to its students.

Achievements:

IGNOU Centre at Maharaja Agrasen College is the only centre in Delhi providing counseling to MSCMACS students.



Some of our students have joined prestigious services. Four of our management students have passed CA exam and few students have joined Delhi University as Assistant Professor and some students have joined Banking and School Teaching.

A Video Lecture was organized for the students of Mathematics in which students interacted with experts through video conferencing.

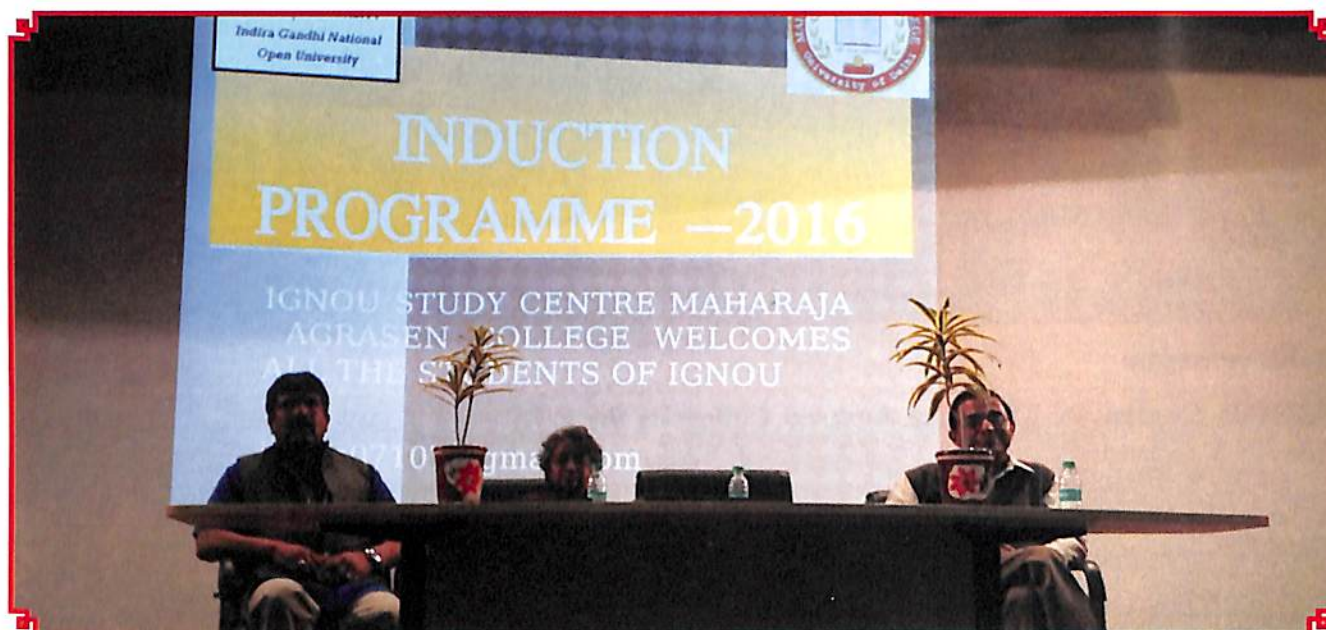
Problems/Challenges:

A lot of Problems are there but we at MAC try to solve the entire problem by following democratic process.

Suggestions:

We are very much satisfied with the kind of services provided by the Regional Centre and we are sure that we will get your support and services in future as well.

Dr. T.N Ojha
Co-ordinator



Non-Collegiate Women's Education Board

Education is the best asset of a nation. NCWEB started by Delhi University is an endeavor to contribute to Higher Education not only by enabling girl students to get a degree in relevant subjects but also inculcate in them the ability to think creatively and to possess good communication skills. Women Empowerment is one of the most talked issue of present day India. We celebrated women empowerment year in 2001 but hardly any success has been made in this area. To empower women, India showcased 'Naari Shakti' during republic day celebration. Programs such as 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao' would only be successful when institutes such as NCWEB blossoms fully. We are proud to say that we have achieved a little of the mammoth task.

Only women students residing in the National Capital Territory of Delhi can enroll themselves as students of the Board. NCWEB is a unique system with lectures on weekends, leaving students with five working days to follow their dream. In this neo-age of 100% cut-offs, class room crunch, gender discrimination, NCWEB is a welcome initiative and a most satisfactory way to attain a degree from the prestigious Delhi University.

The Non-Collegiate Women's Education Board teaching centre at Maharaja Agrasen College was started in June 2011 which was earlier functioning at different educational institutions of East Delhi. The academic session 2015-16 started with unique feature when the new admissions have been decentralized up to some extent. Various new initiatives were also undertaken by the teaching centre. Orientation Program for students was held on the first day of the academic session i.e. on 2nd of August 2015. The teaching centre also organized intra-college cultural competition on 22nd October 2015. Painting, Creative Writing, Self-Composed Poem, Slogan Writing, Mehandi, Rangoli, Solo Singing, Group Singing were



few events where students' participation as well as the skills that they showcased was very encouraging. The Centre undertook initiative to organize various talks by eminent persons from different fields. A talk was conducted on 'Political Discourse of Jammu and Kashmir' by Ashutosh Ji to guide students about their future endeavors. Skill development lecture by F-Tec representative Anupriya on 25th October 2015 followed by special lecture by R.K. Das on 'Motivation and Carrier counseling' on 28th February 2016. The centre organized Annual Sports Day on 27th March 2016. 100 meter sprint, 4X100 meter Relay Race, Long Jump, High Jump, 400 Meter Race and Tug of War were some of the events where students participated very enthusiastically. The Maharaja Agrasen College Centre is trying its best to provide every possible opportunity to the students of NCWEB in order to harness their untapped potential and prepare them to make their career and contribute in the process of nation building. The final aim of education is character building which this teaching centre is emphasizing upon.

Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Tiwari
(Teacher-in-Charge)



Training and Placement Centre

The Training and Placement Centre of Maharaja Agrasen College is a copious student-body, aimed at bridging the gap between the recruiters and students, along with handling all placements and internships in the college. With a constantly changing and evolving work culture, it has become important for an academic institution to instill in its students various skill sets and experience which will allow them to compete in the everlasting race to accomplish their dreams and ambitions.

The Centre has come a long way in establishing a strong recruiter-base, with Tata Power Delhi Distribution Ltd., S&P Capital IQ, Accenture, Anhad Edutrain Solutions Pvt. Ltd., Urban Clap-Talocity, Digital Web Solutions Pvt. Ltd, and with other leading companies, in order to make the best out of all the opportunities that have come their way for placing the students. The Centre has also ensured to provide internship opportunities in Times of India, Indian Railways, Leo Burnett, Macmillan Group and in such leading institutions, and hence giving an experiential learning and industry exposure to the students of the college. The Centre is under constant talks with these companies for providing Summer Internship for the students.

Apart from the successful placement drives, the Centre has organised various workshop sessions in order to develop employability amongst the students. The Centre conducted a Case Study Workshop & Contest under Eptitude, a resourceful team of professionals working in the employability space for under-graduate students. It also organised a 3-day Training Workshop on Quark Xpress Software by Ms. Parul Srivastava, Chief Sub Editor of Hindustan newspaper (Hindi) & Mr. Manish Rai, Senior Sub Editor of Hindustan newspaper (Hindi) which focused on Content Development and Page Making using Quark, and also conducted an Interview Preparation Workshop by Dr. Swami Nandan, Department of Physics, which aimed at improving students' interview experiences.

The Centre has also developed a CV Helpdesk under the mentorship of Dr. Vijeta Pundir



and also organised a CV Development Workshop, by Ms. Manjari Chaturvedi, so as to guide students in making effective CVs. It had successfully organised an interactive talk Ms. Nilima Sil, the Country Manager of the Gandhi Fellowship Program, to enlighten students of our college about the activities being done under their banner across the country as well as to invite interested students for their rigorous leadership development programme.

It is the mission of the Centre to continue on this path to success and bring in more and more recruiters in order to facilitate maximum placements from the college and establish a benchmark in this righteous pursuit.



UGC Cell - Remedial Classes for Undergraduates

Usually most of the students taking admission in various undergraduate programs come from Hindi medium schools. They do understand English which is being taught in class but find it difficult to understand English as a proper discipline paper or their textbooks which are written in technical and formal English. Most of these students lack fluency in English while speaking, reading or writing.

Therefore, after identifying these students through having small counseling sessions across courses, and inviting names through faculty of almost all courses, demonstration classes were held. Large amount of students came for these classes. And as per the requirement and essential need of these students, Remedial classes have been arranged with a Guest faculty invited only for these Remedial classes, and course content is Basic English Grammar and Fluency in spoken English.

These classes are being held thrice a week and will go on till the end of semester. Around 50 to 55 students attend these classes coming from courses – BA program, Hindi Hons, BSc Physical Science, Electronics Hons, Political Science Hons and B Com Hons, etc. The purpose is to make these students understand basic grammar in English and be fluent enough to understand this language for understanding their textbooks. The efforts have started and looking at the regularity of students in these classes, we wish to continue this endeavor in coming semesters as well.



Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC)

Quality Assurance in higher education is no longer a novel concept today. Across disciplines and organizations, and geographical boundaries, an increasing interest in quality and standards is being witnessed. Practicing quality assurance reflects the seriousness with which an organization takes interest in assuring quality and standards to its clients. Commitment to reinforcing quality is the need of the hour. With diversity and multi-disciplinarity as the hallmarks of higher education, it is imperative that the institutes of learning may adopt a broad based liberal approach towards ensuring quality.

Against this backdrop, NAAC, in its latest set of guidelines proposed the setting up of the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) in higher institutions. Respecting this call, the IQAC at Maharaja Agrasen College was set up on 3rd October, 2015 comprising the Principal, Members of the Governing Body and Conveners of Academic Planning Committee, Academic Supervisory Committee and Research Committee. In December 2015, it was further reconstituted with the following members: Shri Siddharth Verma (Chairman, Governing Body), Prof Srimati Chakravarti (Member, Governing Body), Dr. Sunil Sondhi (Principal, MAC and Chairperson, IQAC), Dr Prem Kumari Srivastava (Associate Professor, Dept. of English and Director, IQAC), Dr Shashi Singh (Dept. of Hindi), Dr Niraj Kumar Singh (Dept. of History), Dr Anju Aggarwal, (Dept. of Political Science), Ms Sangeeta Mittal (Dept. of English), Dr Shekhar Kumar (Associate Professor, Dept. of Hindi), Dr Gitanjali Chawla (Associate Professor, Dept. of English), Dr Maneesha (Associate Professor, Dept. of Electronics), Dr Charu Arya (Assistant Professor, Dept. of English), Dr T.N. Ojha (Assistant Professor, Dept. of Hindi), Ms Veena Ralli (Advocate, Supreme Court and Member, Civil Society), Dr Gautam Chaubey (Assistant Professor, Dept. of English, ARSD College and Member Alumni), Mr Dipin Arora (A.O.), Mr Rajender Singh Bisht, (S.O. Accts) and Mr Satya Prakash (Librarian).

Its commitment towards enhancing the academic and research environment of the college is reflected by some of the small yet sure steps that the MAC-IQAC has taken since its re-formation in December 2015. The following provides a bird's eye view of the pro-active initiatives of MAC-IQAC:

1. INTERDISCIPLINARY WORKSHOPS(A MAC-IQAC INITIATIVE)

S No.	Date	Name of the workshop	Target group	Remarks
1.	Feb 08, 2016	"Quality Enhancement in Basic Computers - Level I"	Students of BAP, Hindi Hons. And some faculty members	Department of Hindi and Computer Science facilitated the workshop
2.	March 01, 2016	"Quality Enhancement in Basic Computers - Level II"	Students who had done level I, new students from all courses and faculty members (50 Pax)	Department of Hindi and Computer Science facilitated the workshop
3.	March 15, 2016	Quality Parameters of Data Analysis and Interpretation using MS-Excel	Project Investigators (Students and faculty) of Innovation Projects. (Approx 15 faculty and 45 student participants)	Department of Maths facilitated the workshop
4	April 6, 2016	"Quality Enhancement in Basic Computers - Level III"	Students who had done level I and Level II, and some new students from all courses and faculty members (50 Pax)	Department of Hindi and Computer Science facilitated the workshop
5.	April 12, 2016	"Be CyberSecure"	All girl students of the Girls hostel (40)	Department of Computer Science facilitated the workshop

2. Friday Faculty Research Seminar Series:

The purpose of Friday Faculty Research Seminar Series is to create space for a dialogue between the diverse strands of research endeavours undertaken at individual level by faculty members across disciplines. We hope to create a symbiotic environment of sharing of research practices in the interest of interdisciplinary scholarship. With an objective to provide a platform that encourages exchange and showcasing of inter and multi disciplinary research, each seminar features a 45 minute seminar talk/presentation of the research (completed or ongoing) of the speaker. The speaker is primarily be a faculty member or alumni of the college, a visiting fellow/scholar or a special invitee to the college. The seminar talk is scheduled be held every 3rd or 4th Friday of every month except for the month of June every year at Seminar Room 202 (2nd floor) at 2.30 PM

(i) Inaugural Talk: FFRSS was inaugurated on March 18, 2016 with the inaugural talk by Dr Sunil Sondhi on the topic, "Understanding Foreign Policy: Current Challenges before India".

(ii) The second talk is scheduled on April 22 by Dr Alok Puranik on 'Hindi Political Satire'

3. IQAC Seminar Series: Day-long Seminar on "Practising Quality Culture in Institutions of Higher Education" to be held on April 13, 2016, Maharaja Agrasen College.

4. Additionally, various departments and committees responded to the IQAC initiatives in their own way and supported the IQAC focus on quality enhancement in various academic forums such as the following:

A) Debate on Quality Culture (January 8-9, 2016): Organized by Dr Shashi Singh (member, IQAC) and Hindi Department under the aegis of its Navchetna Parishad. Title: Shiksha Vyavastha Ka Uddeshya Gunvatta moolyon par aadhar it ho?

B) 4th National Student's Academic Congress (March 11 and 12, 2016) on "Quality Assurance in Higher Education" in which around 45 papers from undergraduate and graduate students, and PhD research scholars were presented on different broad aspects of Quality Assurance for example: Quality Assurance: India and the World, Interface with Technology & Technical Information, and Public-Private Partnerships.



Out Going Batch 2016

BMS



Out Going Batch 2016

B.Com (H)



English (H)



Out Going Batch 2016



Out Going Batch 2016

Hindi (H)



Journalism (H)



Out Going Batch 2016



Out Going Batch 2016

Pol.Sc (H)



Out Going Batch 2016

Economics (H)



Out Going Batch 2016

Maths (H)

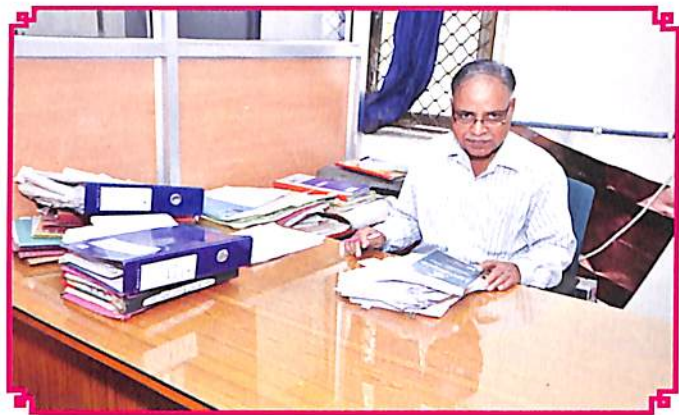


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Administrative Staff





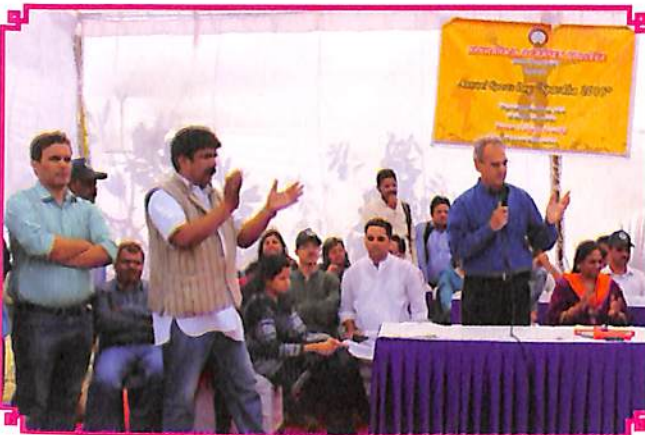


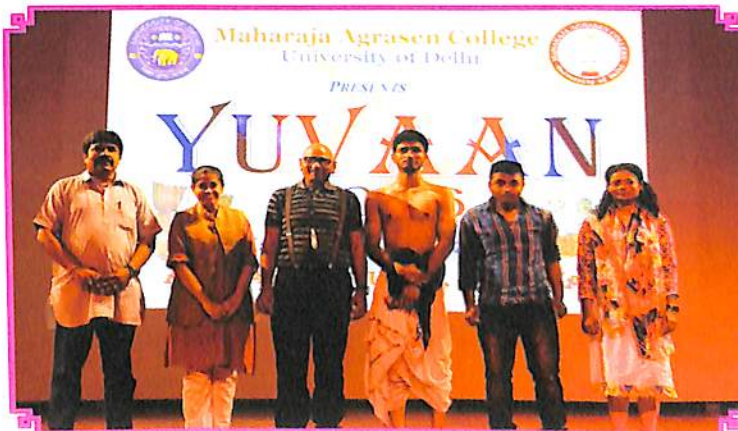


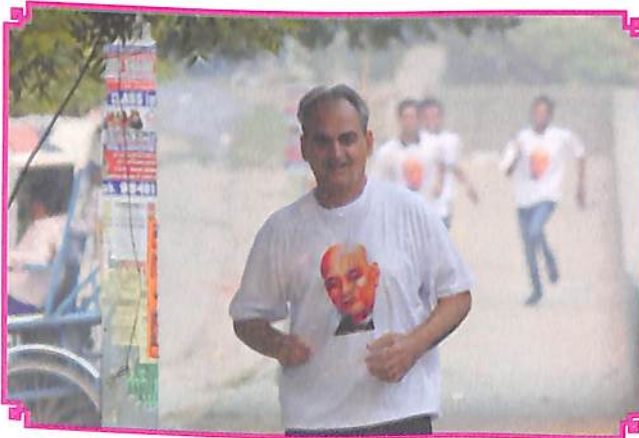












Editorial Team with Principal



Students Editorial Team

