

St. Xavier's College, Jaipur

Nevta, Mahapura Road Near Nevta, Dam, Jaipur, Rajasthan 302029

Literati

An Endeavour of the Department of English
2022, Edition - 9





Department of English 2021-22

Dr Shruti Rawal, Dr Ranjit Kaur, Dr Rama Hirawat, Dr Atiqa Kelsy & Dr Akanksha Johar
(Left to Right)

Message From the Manager's Desk



I am filled with pleasure and pride as I hold the ninth edition of Literati. This magazine, on its own, is the celebration of all the efforts and contributions of the teachers and students, alike, that provide a haven for creativity and innovation. I feel immensely proud to witness this platform where the bright minds of our college can follow their creative instincts. This plethora of the unbound talents of young learners with the glimpses of the various achievements of the department truly reflect the zeal and spirit of the Department of English.

I convey my sincere gratitude and appreciation to the teachers and the students who made the production of this delightful magazine possible. I hope every reader enjoys this magazine just as I did.

Rev Fr Dr Arokya Swamy SJ
Manager

Message From the Principal's Desk



I would like to applaud the Literati team and the Department of English, yet again for the meticulous compilation of all the year-round activities that took place online as well as in in-person mode. Despite the challenges and complexity of today's society, the Department has made significant strides in pursuit of perseverance in the face of difficulty while preserving the essence of learning and adaptability. The year has witnessed well-curated events, guest lectures, and interactive sessions on varied timely topics.

It is the imaginative effort and determination to express everything in words and photos in beautiful expression that is the most delightful. Literati has made an effort to capture the due significance of literature in our lives in a way that ignores none and highlights all the noteworthy parts, so I commend the team working behind this dynamic magazine.

Going through the wonderful feast of creativity, that is the Literati magazine and marvelling at all the feats that these individuals, working as a team have accomplished is a pleasure.

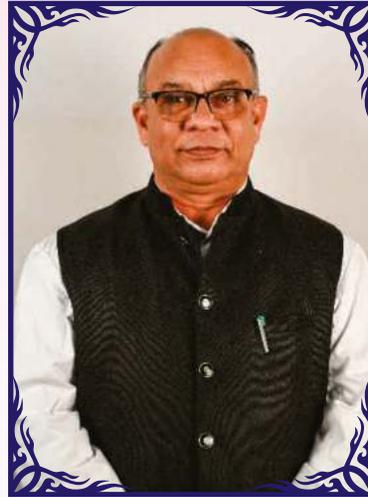
I wish them the very best for the future.

God Bless!

Rev Fr Dr A Rex Angelo SJ

Principal

Message From the Vice Principal & Administrator



Being a patron and admirer of art and literature, I hold the department of English in high regard. As a collective, the brilliant individuals of this department work together to fulfil humanity's purpose of acknowledging and embracing its intrinsic passion. Simultaneously, addressing a wide array of exigent issues and themes, they exhibit the versatility of English literature. The memorable events and enriching lectures conducted throughout the year represent the department's efforts to realise its potential and artistic intellect. The phrase “one for the history books” encapsulates the grandeur of said events.

The Literati magazine, compiled by the same students and professors, serves as a record of these events. It captures the essence of the lessons and memories the students gather over the year. It commemorates a wide array of events ranging from the department's esteemed festival INKA to volunteer work and seminars.

I commend the Literati team for their contribution to the realisation of this impeccable magazine and wish them all the best in their future endeavours.

Rev Fr Dr Raymond Cherubin SJ
Vice Principal & Administrator

Message From the Head of the Department



The old order changed, yielding place to new,

And God fulfils Himself in many ways...

The thought flashed across my mind, as I watched the rain falling steadily outside my window. The gentle murmur of raindrops, whispering the sweet nothings of change that this rain symbolises. Just as the refreshing drops of rain fall on the parched land, not only watering it but washing away the stagnant and allowing the buried, hidden and unnoticed seeds to sprout, grow, and be nourished so that they can bloom in the next spring taught me a valuable lesson.

Change is the only way life moves forward. Every sunrise is different and unique, every morning is a brand-new chance to do things differently than yesterday, every moment is a momentum in the forward direction, every season is a different variety of what nature can be, every cloud is varied and every rainbow reflects a new beauty. The only way we can appreciate this cycle of change is to let go of what was and embrace what is to come!

Running water is clearer than the still waters of the pond, and for every dry leaf that falls off, there is a promise of a new leaf sprouting in its own time. I have run my race, it is time for me now to pass on the baton to someone else, and I am ready for what comes next! I have the experience to cherish and a blank page to write a new chapter of my life. In the past three years, I have made mistakes, I have learnt new lessons, and gone through bitter-sweet experiences, but what I have tried to do through all of it was being human and humane with my feet firmly planted on the ground below me. This is the ground that will always be true to me, even when I am six feet under.

As I write this message for Literati, as the outgoing Head of the Department – I wish all the best to the incoming one. The change is refreshing as it will bring a fresh perspective and a new look! May this be a new dawn, a better morning and a beginning of a new inning, played with skill, dexterity, and elan balanced with wisdom that comes from above.

I want to heartily congratulate the editorial team so ably led by Dr Shruti Rawal for burning the midnight oil and bringing out this issue in time after two years of uncertainty and a long battle with the pandemic which challenged everyone to maintain their enthusiasm, zeal and most importantly focus. They have come a long way from discussing the theme to compiling and presenting their ideas aesthetically combined with subtle literary nuances adding a splash of creativity and a final garnish of humour. As they reap the fruits of their labour, I wish them more inspiration, innovation, artistry, originality and splendid creative expression!

I also wish the outgoing batch the very best of life, today and always! May they bloom wherever they are planted and may they spread their fragrance even in the hands that try to crush them and thus, may they emerge ever victorious, ever new, like the phoenix and may they carry the virtues of competence, character and compassion in a world that needs a lot of healing!

All the best and adieu!

Dr Atiq Kelsy

Head Department of English 2021-22

Message From the Editor-in-Chief



The last few years have been challenging, both for the teachers and the students. It was difficult to pierce the wall the students had built, and yet again this Literati proves that literature continues to be a safe haven for students. Literati is officially the documentation of the events of the department, but conveys, both in spirit and soul the essence of the literature. The colours, sketches, articles, poems and reviews are a testimonial that we can brave all odds with pen in our hands and hope in our hearts.

May we continue to read, write and express what our heart feels!
May our dreams not die with the drudgery of life
May our palette be forever oozing with colours bright
May our pen be the mighty sword with which we ignite the minds...

So, here is presenting.... Literati 2022...

Dr Shruti Rawal
Editor-in-Chief

●—— Message From the ——● ●—— Literati Council Members ——●



Those who wish to draw out their feelings or emotions in any form comes under the shade of 'Literati'. As the President of Literati Council, 2021-22, I have been fortunate enough to get a chance to live the festivities literature offers during compiling, organizing, casting and in every form possible to live the emotions which the texts served us through various genres.

Literati is the handbook which carries the free-flown creativity of all the literature-living students. Being a part of it has always been an honour to me and is something which I'll cherish forever with each upcoming publication of this masterpiece.

Eakanth Jain
President
Literati Council (2021-22)



"Literati council" in itself is the whole world, the activities, pre-INKA events and INKA - the department fest everything all together was an amazing experience for me and this one was more special since it was my last year in college.

Vanshika Arora
President - Enlightened Echelon
Literati Council (2021-22)

Message From the Literati Council Members



Being a part of the Literati council, this year was much more special; exploring literature, applying it to the departmental fest and other activities in various ways, and expressing ourselves through those ways was an incredible experience. These three years with the department, being a bittersweet mix of prismatic emotions - as life usually is when one is growing and understanding oneself - will be cherished forever.

Nihar Vyas
Vice - President
Literati Council (2021-22)



The literati cell is a treasure trove, it is a haven for all free thinkers and poets. The cynosure of all attention is the annual fest-INKA. I can, however, vouch for the fact that it not only conducts the finest literary fest but it also provides a space to express oneself truly. I'm not only honoured but proud to have been a part of society. It has shaped my worldview and opened a world of possibilities for me. It has made me a more sensible and thinking individual.

Nitika Singh
Vice - President
Literati Council (2021-22)



The Literati Council holds all of my heart for reasons that cannot be expressed so easily in words. All through these 3 years, as I have been a part of it, I have observed certain significant changes in myself with the way I see things and work out their solutions. While the council works for organising events and other activities, I believe we as its members experience the functioning of the world inside-out closely. It adds so much to our personality and perspective and I owe it to so many moments of hope, courage, and a passion to strive.

Harshita Agarwal
General Secretary
Literati Council (2021-22)

Editorial Board



I feel extremely delighted and honoured to be a member of the Editorial Board of Literati. I want to express my sincere gratitude to our teacher coordinators for helping us overcome every challenging task. I am thrilled to have the chance to design the magazine's back cover as it was a remarkable experience. I have done everything in my power to work hard and exerted every effort possible to maintain the magazine's reputation for excellence and quality. It was an immense pleasure to work with so many talented people and to finally be able to hold the magazine that was the outcome of our combined efforts. We appreciate everyone who helped make this edition of Literati a huge success!

Anushree Sharma
BA Honours English II



As the saying goes, the mind like a parachute works best when opened. This humble initiative is to open the gates of wisdom for the budding minds to roam free in the realm of imagination and experience to create a world of beauty in words. This magazine isn't just a record of what took place in the past years but is a collection of the memories that we at Xavier's will cherish forever. I am thankful to our teacher coordinator for entrusting us with the responsibility of "Literati Magazine". We have put in relentless efforts to bring excellence to this treasure trove.

Ananya Kaushik
BA Honours English II

Editorial Board



“Literati” quite an expression and indeed a great experience! Since the very beginning, I have been a huge fan of words, poetry, and excerpts - in short anything and everything that helps one to express and others to be able to reach the depth of emotions, feelings or merely raw thoughts. Literati - brought to you by the Department of English is an incredible accumulation of such work. It has been such a bliss to work for the magazine with so many artistic minds and our amazing mentors.

Tanya Parwani
BA Honours English II



At the core of one's ideology, purpose, and actions, lies inspiration, pivotal to the quality of practically everything that encompasses their being. At times, elusive, at others, abundant, it can be scarce, but omnipresent. The trick is to draw upon it when found. Being on both the giving as well as the receiving end, literature not only inspires people but is also the product of a driven mind. This, in my opinion, is what the Literati magazine stands for the efforts of scores of brilliant students. Capturing the tales written, memories made, and bonds forged by the student, is the brainchild of exceptionally motivated individuals. My gratitude for being able to contribute to the fruition of such an incredible piece while working alongside a group of extraordinary people is beyond expression.

Gaurav Garg
BA Honours English II

Editorial Board



Literature, for me, is not just stories, poems, and texts but the essence lies in finding the meaning behind those written words and more importantly rediscovering yourself. It is one of the best ways to express one's beliefs and emotions. All year round the Department of English organizes various vibrant and enthusiastic activities and Literati is the window through which you can peep and relive all those memorable moments. This is not just a magazine with words inscribed on the pages but a journey full of zeal, passion, wax and wane which helped each one of us to carve ourselves into better beings. We hope that you relish these delightful memories and find yourself giggling as you flip the pages. Happy Reading!

Ananay Vishwas
BA Honours English I



Literati, for me, is the celebration of the culmination of a year-long journey of the students and the teachers of the Department of English. With all the achievements of the department and the brilliant creative inputs of the students displayed, Literati truly mirrors the hard work and the talent of the teachers and students alike. Working for this magazine has been a delightful experience and I am really thankful to my teachers for giving me this opportunity.

Garima Sharma
BA Honours English I

Editorial Board



Literature has always found ways to capture my heart and now Literati does too! The entire journey of compiling the magazine has been a wonderful experience for me not to mention the artistic team and great mentors. Working for a magazine solely for literature has been an immense pleasure!

Shreya Garg
BA Honours English I



Since I fell in love with reading, it has given me a place to rejoice in its sanguinity or bliss and has led me to find a strange comfort in it. Through literature, you live numerous lives vicariously, exploring ideas and paths unventured. Being a part of Literati has been an exhilarating experience and introduced me to some of the most creative and genuine ideas and perspectives. We hope you enjoy its magic!

Devangna Yadav
BA Honours English I



It was an astounding experience for me to work in the editorial team in Literati. I would like to express my gratitude to our mentors and to everyone else who has worked hard to put together this newsletter and make it a memorable experience.

Khyati Kapoor
BA Honours English I

— Literati Magazine: A Path Together —

How do stories emerge? How do tales of adventure, sorrow, or gladness come to be? Perhaps once, a traveller sat beside the warm fire in biting cold, and invited another weary wanderer to share in the warmth; perhaps one pilgrim to another told of the sights witnessed, of dangers escaped, of the distance yet to be traversed. Thus began a story. This story changed tongues, changed paths, changed its robes; even the fabric itself changed. Much like the phantom ship of Theseus, and yet, it was the same story – told by one rover to another, sharing in the warmth, shielding from the cold.

Are we all not travellers, sightseers, passengers of this world, meeting each other at crossroads, walking together for a few furlongs and then parting again? Even though we are together for relatively such a short span, we form connections that last beyond lifetimes – in names carved on tree barks or rocks, in photos preserved in albums or on the web, in souvenirs or memorabilia. And what sustains those bonds are stories, told to each other or of each other: told to oneself in lonely quiet of the night, told to children with widened eyes, told to giggling sweethearts bright, told to aged ears awaiting dawn's rise.

Quite alike are stories and the astronauts' footprints on the moon – none will ever fade, till there are hearts heeding and eyes spying. And thus, reach we, you and I, through this ramble within a dusty library of the mind, to Literati.

For Donne and his lover, a compass was all that contained their love and their entire world; but we, you and I, are different. Not bound to the point as a compass, we are as loose leaves of an ancient tome, ever drifting, ever resting, in the fickle wind that is the lovechild of Time and Earth. And as these yellowing pages, we all share something that identifies us with this tome – for one page may fit into several volumes – and that something is Literati: the long index recalling the pages glued together into one spine; the spine still remains, the leaves have flown away.

Now, as you open this edition of Literati, as your fingers caress the pages, as your eyes drift from one image to the next, let yourself understand the significance of the experience shared, the singularity of the laughs lived and woes welcomed; let your mind witness the bird's eye view of this specific path that we, you and I, have travelled together for a few furlongs, and witness the footprints that are left behind in the still sands of these pages.

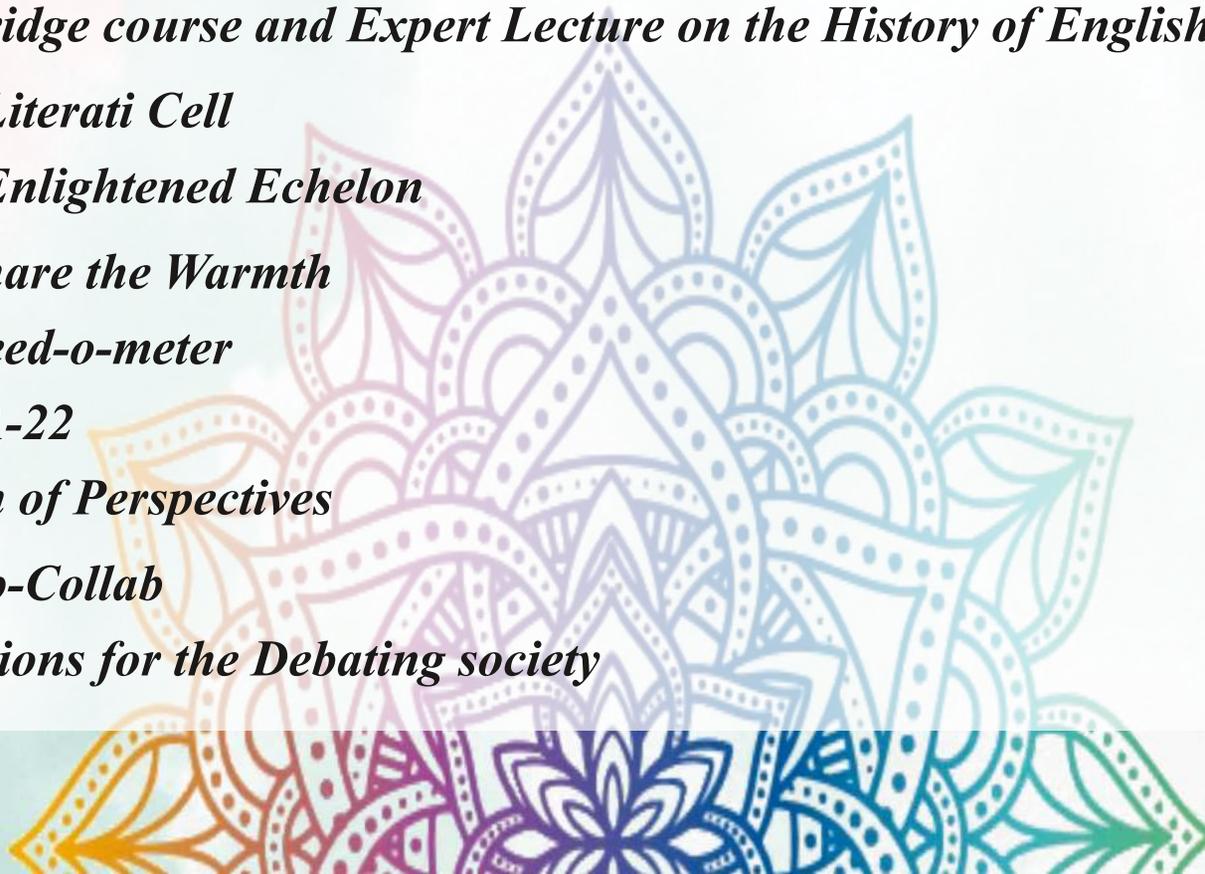
Nihar Vyas

BA Honours English III

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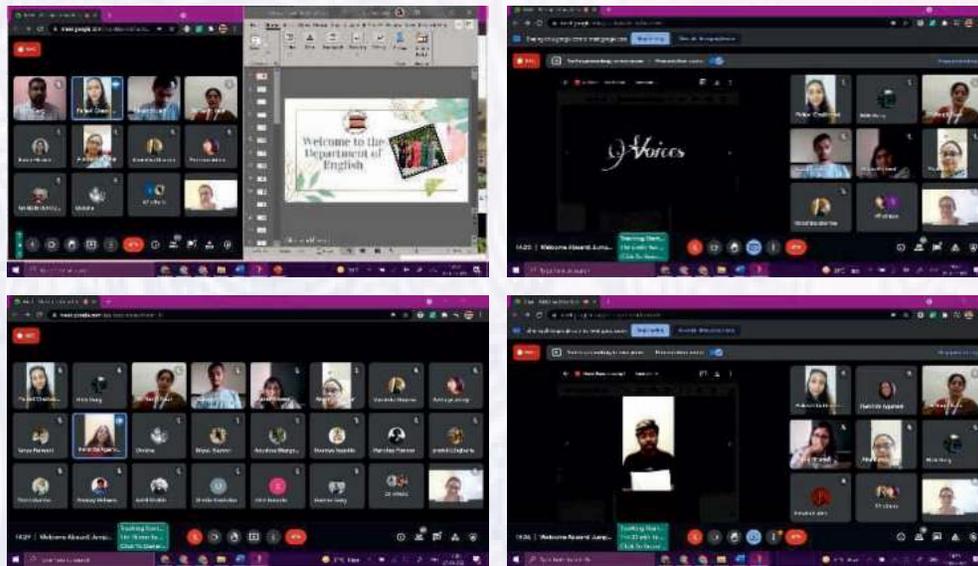


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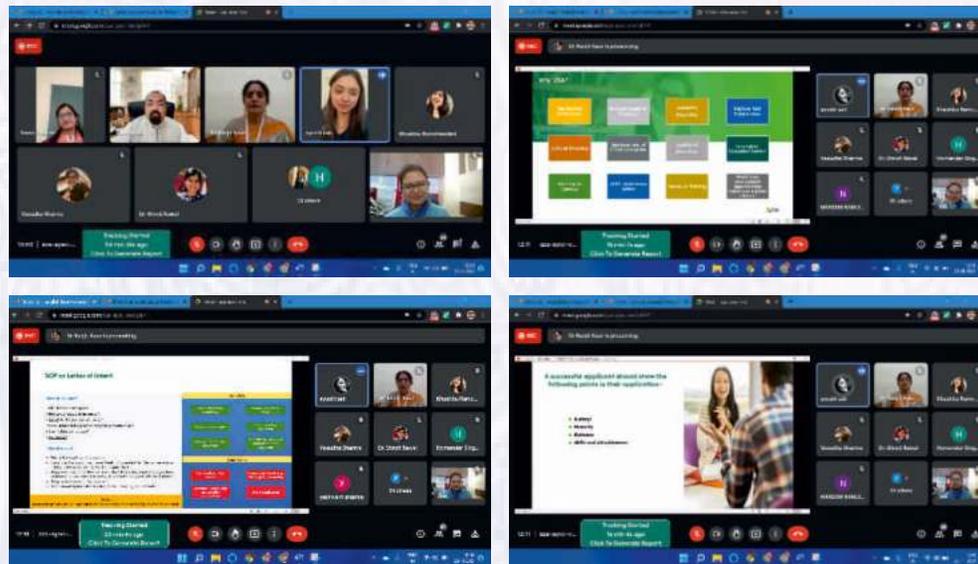
— Department Orientation - Welcome Aboard : Jump on the Bandwagon —

The Department of English at St Xavier's College – Jaipur had its virtual orientation program where the fresh assemblage of aspiring students to build their careers in the English Honours Degree Program was embraced by their seniors and department faculties. An hour's program where the Head of the Department, Dr Atiqa Kelsy, through her welcome note enlightened the newcomers and motivated them through inspiring short stories. and followed up with sharing success stories of alumni who were a part of the program. Nihar Vyas (BA Hons – III) a versatile student of the department in his mesmerizing voice-over video, creatively introduced the world of English literature to the new entrants. Many other seniors of the department with the emcee for the day Pallavi Chattopadhyay (BA Hons – II) engaged students with certain online games to break the icy glass between seniors and juniors. The highlight of the program was Ritik Garg, an alumnus of the department, introducing the department in all its colours with a personal touch as he himself was a part of many of the events described therein. The orientation ended on a high note of warmth and cheer and was well appreciated by everyone.



— Rejoice to Reconnect Alumni Interaction Session – I —

The Department organized an Alumni Interaction Session, on 23 November 2021, where Ms Ayushi Sah from batch 2018 was invited as the speaker for the virtual talk. Ms Sah had been awarded the prestigious Xavierite of the Year 2018 award for being a versatile student and is at present working at IDP Gurgaon. She spoke about the various aspects that students should keep in mind with regard to writing their Statements of Purpose and Letters of Recommendation while applying to foreign universities. The session was highly informative, and students immensely benefitted from the talk as it would help them write their SoPs and LoRs more effectively when they pursue Higher Education.



— A Word with the Veterans: Alumni Interaction Session – II —

The Department of English organised an Alumni Interaction Session on 29th November 2021 where Ms Vamika Naruka, an alumna of the college from 2015 batch threw more light upon the topic, PR, Content Writing & Management. The interaction with Ms. Vamika proved to be a boon for the students, to hear from an accomplished senior to guide and assist them in excelling in PR, Content Writing & Management. Ms. Vamika has a graduate degree in English Literature from St. Xavier's College. After which she did a Master's in Journalism from K.C. College, Mumbai before continuing her Job as the Sr. Copywriter in Excel Entertainment (Flickbay) and Content Head at Koimoi and Bollywood Bubble for a year, respectively. She is currently working as the Sr. Account Executive at AvianWE. She told students how she went into the PR field as a Content Writer for The Ideal Home & Garden Magazine after her Internship in the Times of India. She shared her experience of working in the Bollywood Industry as a Sr. Copywriter in Excel Entertainment and how it changed her life. She showed students a path on how one should only go into Industry if they know the skills of working with a massive team and where everyone has to coordinate with more than 200 people. She shared her experience of learning and growing with many people who worked on the same project for months.



— Digital Humanities – Technology as a Gateway to Culture —

Details of the Activity/Work Performed: The Department of English, St Xavier's College, Jaipur organized an enrichment lecture through the virtual portal. The guest speaker for the day was Dr Arjun Ghosh – Associate Professor – Department of English at IIT Delhi. He shared his thoughts and reflections on 'Digital Humanities – An Introduction'. The session was very engaging and interactive for the students. He opened a whole new world to the listeners, and researchers to explore futuristic digital pedagogies and learning coding that ensures a bright future for them. It was indeed a valuable talk, which culminated with a series of interactive questions and responses. Certain online tools like Palladio, Timeline, 19/47 Archive and many other modern tools and techniques were introduced and explained to the participants during this session that would prove to be useful in conducting research and bringing Humanities closer to the digital world. The students found the session very useful.



— Postcolonialism – An Introduction —

On 2 September 2021, the Department of English at St. Xavier's College - Jaipur organized a Guest Lecture on Postcolonialism – An Introduction through the virtual gateway. Postcolonialism is one of the most substantive and debated topics in the realm of English Literature. Nothing could have been more enriching than organizing a Guest Address on this theme by **Prof Pramod K. Nayar**. Prof Nayar is the Professor – the Department of English at the University of Hyderabad with more than 103 publications and has countless feathers in his cap. His bailiwick is Colonial Writings in English, and he is one of those speakers who can combine the deftness of subject knowledge with real-life examples. During his one-hour session, he mesmerized the participants with his prudent, convincing, well-presented know-how about the topic without any postmodernist jargon. He also dispelled certain preconceived myths regarding concepts such as the difference between the Study of Colonial Discourse v/s Post-Colonial Literature and Culture, who is the Colonizer, and who is colonized? By quoting examples of exemplary writers and figures like Edward Said, M.K. Gandhi and S. Nagarajan, he made the interaction upbeat and au fait. His astounding inputs on Postcolonialism and associative terms were very insightful and enlightening to all our participants. The session concluded with a series of highly interactive questions and answers from the speaker. The undergraduate students found it a bit above their level.



— Bridge Course and Series of Expert Lectures on History of English Literature —

The Bridge is meant to help bridge the knowledge-gap especially for students who enrol for Bachelor's or Master's in English without a background in Literature in their class XII or Under graduation. The course was organized from 20 June 2021 to 30 November 2021 online through Google Meet Recordings. As and when the students were admitted in the college and enrolled in the programme, the links of these recordings were shared with the students so that they could start learning at their own pace while the session was yet to begin. The Covid pandemic had delayed admissions and thus the session. Thus, the recordings were made available to the new entrants so that learning at home could begin amidst the uncertainty created by the pandemic. The presentations focused on the different ages in the history of English Literature, focusing on the features, chronology, literary trends, and social and political changes along with prominent authors of the era and their styles. The presentations were informative and engaging as they helped the students in understanding the different ages and their significance. The purpose of the course is to create a better understanding in terms of the shaping of English literature down the ages up to the present times, the knowledge that is pivotal to the subject. The students found the sessions informative and an exit test was conducted on 30 March 2022. The students felt that the course would have been more beneficial if the classes were physical but given the situation it wasn't possible.



— Selecting New Recruits —

Interviews for the Department Council-Literati Cell and Enlightened Echelon

Applications were invited for the following posts for the Literati Cell and Enlightened Echelon - Department of English for 2021-22:

Literati Cell:

President: BA Hons English III

Vice President: BA Hons English III

General Secretary: BA Hons English III

Joint Secretary (Creative, Technical & Cultural): BA Hons English II

Assistant Secretaries (Creative, Technical & Cultural) & Volunteers: BA Hons English I

Enlightened Echelon:

Coordinator: BA Hons English III

Assistant Coordinators: BA Hons English II

Volunteers: BA Hons English I

The selected office bearers of The Literati Council for the session 2021-22 were:

S. No.	Name	Class	Post
1.	Eakanch Jain	B.A. Eng (Hons.) III	President- Literati Cell
2.	Vanshikha Arora	B.A. Eng (Hons.) III	President- Enlightened Echelon
3.	Nihar Vyas	B.A. Eng (Hons.) III	Vice President- Literati Cell
4.	Nitika Singh	B.A. Eng (Hons.) III	Vice President- Literati Cell
5.	Harshita Agarwal	B.A. Eng (Hons.) III	General Secretary- Literati Cell
6.	Vasudha Sharma	B.A. Eng (Hons.) II	Joint Secretary Creative- Literati Cell
7.	Raghav Arora	B.A. Eng (Hons.) II	Joint Secretary Creative- Literati Cell
8.	Anushree Sharma	B.A. Eng (Hons.) II	Joint Secretary Creative- Literati Cell
9.	Yashasvi Jangid	B.A. Eng (Hons.) II	Joint Secretary Creative- Literati Cell
10.	Ananya Kaushik	B.A. Eng (Hons.) II	Joint Secretary Cultural- Literati Cell
11.	Dimple Shandilya	B.A. Eng (Hons.) II	General Secretary - Enlightened Echelon
12.	Tanya Parwani	B.A. Eng (Hons.) II	General Secretary - Enlightened Echelon
13.	Ananay Vishwas	B.A. Eng (Hons.) I	Assistant Secretary- Literati Cell
14.	Anushka Bharagava	B.A. Eng (Hons.) I	Assistant Secretary- Literati Cell



— The Enlightened Echelon – Pre Inka 2021 —

It is said, “Great satisfaction comes from sharing with others”. Inka '22: Colours of the Quill began with the social initiative, Pre-Inka on 24 December 2021 organised by the Enlightened Echelon, under the aegis of the Department of English. A replica of the annual literary fest, a mini-fest was created for the students of the Government Upper Primary School, Layla ka Vaas, Nevta, (the village adopted by St Xavier's College - Jaipur under the UBA Scheme). To create an ambience like INKA, the school was decorated and multiple competitions were conducted for the students of classes 3-8. The event began with a musical performance by the students of the department, followed by the poetry, story-telling and slogan writing competitions, which were explained to the children in a prior visit. A special session on origami was also taken to encourage their participation. These were followed by a dance party. An enthusiastic response was received from the sponsors of the event - Teach, Messy Door and Krishna Bakery. The team then distributed food packets and celebrated Christmas eve with the kids making it as special for the kids as for themselves. With an enthusiastic participation from the students in the competition, the event was a success with many memories to cherish.



— FEED -O-METER —

The Department of English collaborated with its social partner All About Happiness in their ongoing programs FEED-O-METER from 1 Feb 2022 and continued till 15 Feb 2022. As the nomenclature suggests, the programs were a means to reach out to stray animals, by feeding them. A notice was circulated and students were asked to be considerate and contribute to the success of the event by reaching out to as many as possible. They were given a letter of appreciation for their kind gesture towards everyone. Around 50 students participated in the event. The success of any such event lies in the awareness and realization that a student attains in the context of his social responsibility and his responsibility as a citizen of this Nation.



ST XAVIER'S COLLEGE - JAIPUR
Enlightened Echelon, Department of English
in collaboration with
All About Happiness

organises

FEED -O-METER

1 - 15 FEBRUARY 2022

This is a great opportunity for those who wish to get acknowledgement for their acts of kindness. Feed a stray animal for at least 10 days. Go to your locality or wherever it is accessible, GeoTag the pictures, and send them to the given phone number and due certificates will be provided
+91 9875045459 (Tanya Parwani)

Teacher Coordinator -
Dr Rama Hirawat

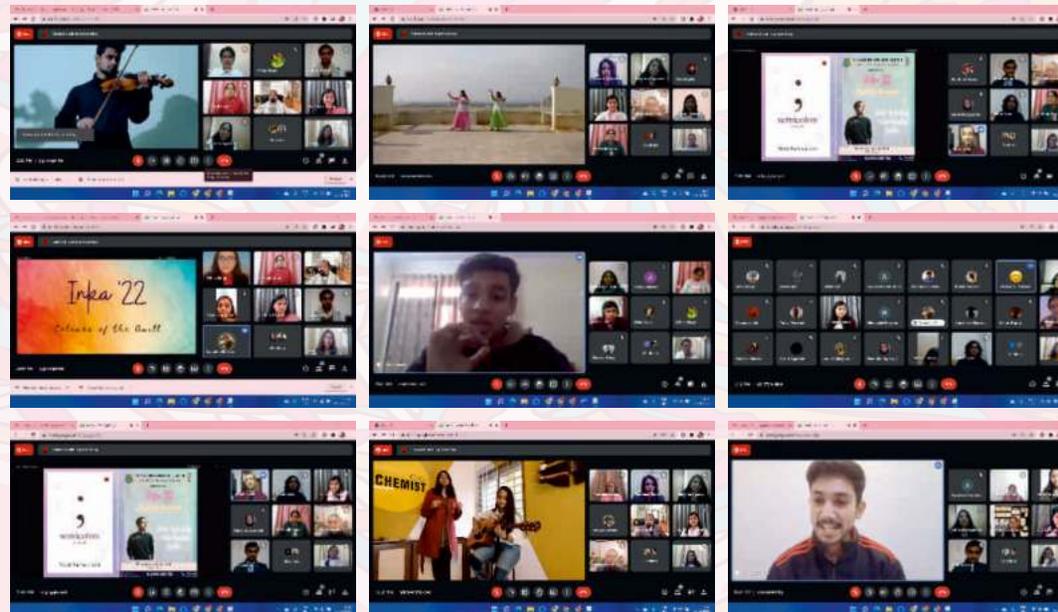
Student Coordinator -
Vanshika Arora
Tanya Parwani
Dimple Shandilya

Organiser
Rev Fr Dr A Rex Angelo SJ
Principal



Inka '22 – Colours of the Quill

The Literati Cell and the Department of English, St Xavier's College – Jaipur, organised the annual literary fest, Inka '22 – 'Colours of the Quill' virtually on 6 and 7 January 2022. The inaugural ceremony on 6th January saw the fest commence formally in which Rev Fr Dr Arokya Swamy, Rector and Manager, encouraged the students, and Rev Fr Dr A Rex Angelo, Principal, blessed the students and shared his ideas on the theme. The first event, author interaction, was with Mr. Mohit Narbada Joshi, in conversation about his book 'Semi Colon'. This was followed by the poetry session, 'Inks Iridescent', where several performers recited their poems. The day ended with an informal chat session, 'Coffee Table Talks'. On 7th January, the debate competition, 'In Pursuit of Dispute' was held, on the topic “Art is for art's sake”. Next, the mono-act event 'Danse Theatrics' took place, wherein participants' submitted videos were played. Two more events with prior submissions were held – 'Penicillo Inspirante' (creative writing), and 'Chroma Mea' (painting rendition). Several universities from throughout India participated in the fest, such as Manipal University, NIMS University and Doon University, among others. In the closing ceremony, the results of all the events were announced and the fest was concluded with great success.



— INKA '22 Chroma Mea - Painting Rendition 7 January 2022 —

An annual literary fest INKA '22: Colours of the Quill. A very exciting event was organised by the department of English of St. Xavier's College, Jaipur on 6th and 7th January, 2022 via the online platform Google meet. Chroma Mea - Painting Rendition was held online. The submissions were opened a month prior to the fest, and were closed on 5th January. Afterwards, the entries were forwarded to the judge, who scored them, based on their creativity, technique, and expression i.e. their ability to paint, draw, or sketch any old and famous painting of their choice, either digitally or manually which represented the theme of the fest. The judge for the event was Mr. Elver Aubert. Several people from all across Jaipur participated in the event. They demonstrated their passion for art and knack for creativity through the art form of painting. The results were declared on 7 January 2022 during the closing ceremony of INKA '22. Sakshi Gupta of St. Xavier's College in Jaipur won the top spot, and Kirti Jangid of JK Lakshmi Pat University in Jaipur took the runner-up spot. Overall, it was a great platform for the artists to showcase their creativity and art form that tested the participants' thinking ability to reimagine pre-existing works of art.

Coordinator: Khyati Pruthi

Assistant Coordinator: Ananya Kaushik



Penicillo Inspirante - Creative Writing - Report

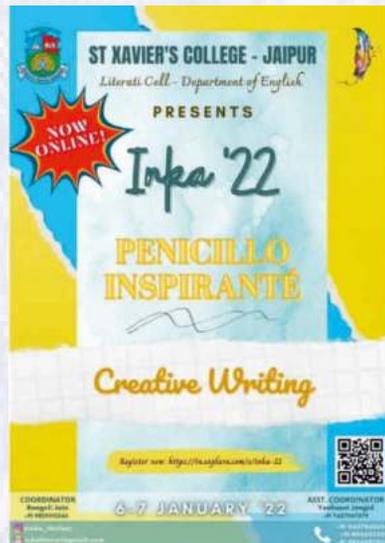
On 6 and 7 January 2022, Inka '22 - Colours of the Quill, the virtual literary fest, was organised by the Department of English and the Literati Cell of St Xavier's College, Jaipur. The Creative Writing event: 'Penicillo Inspirante' was held online. The submissions period for the same commenced one month prior to the fest. The participants were given the iconic painting 'Damayanti' by Raja Ravi Varma, and were supposed to pen down a literary piece summarizing their interpretation of the painting.

The deadline for the submissions was 5 January, following which, the entries were forwarded to the judge. The participants were evaluated on their work's originality, language proficiency, tone, consistency, and compositional quality of piece. Several participants from all across the country submitted remarkable entries.

The results were announced on the final day i.e. 7 January 2022, in the closing ceremony. The first position was awarded to Yashi Awasthi of Maharani College and the Second was bagged by Vasudha Sharma and Ksitij Dutta of St Xavier's College and Manipal University respectively. The event, in its entirety, was a huge success, and ideas for similar endeavours in the future were appreciated.

Coordinator: Rangoli Jain

Assistant Coordinator: Yashasvi Jangid



A lost thread found under moonlight (First Prize)

A garland that has been shattered into pieces allowing themselves to be discrete as much as possible and I suddenly walk down to the memory lane of the night when, I was wearing a red saree with all the solah shringar that a newly married woman attains and with my favourite accessories that holds the deepest fragrance of mogra yes, gajra that he bought for me as a promise I asked him subconsciously and it happened in reality, the night when we got married he brought the gajra that I subconsciously asked for, and gently tied the first end by making space between my neck and hairs that somehow got slipped from his hands while he was trying to absorb the fragrance that got amalgamated among my hairs and gajra, amidst all of this the string of other end got stretched and my favourite accessory is in front of me at the floor, now accepting the love of my broken, shattered gajra which turned into splintered petals.

We sit each night under the moonlight with burns of my despair that reaches no firewood, moon and my maid who once was a queen herself, both of them are just like a moon's surface which is not smooth, it changes its phase but shines ever after. Moon and Hansa, my maid are the reflection of myself, both of them share each desolation of my life and since the day my husband died in the war and Hansa came into my life with the same agony of finding the thread of gajra that has been lost long ago between the shattered petals in a forest

We don't see ourselves in different reflection not because we want to inflame the burning of loneliness but because we want to feel witnessed in our own despair and there it makes us feel complete somehow. Now we three have our breakfast under the moon where the agony of hearts' and the happiness we create, is the variety of cuisine that fills our stomach After years of waiting, we three become the lost thread for each other, by not making a bunch of flowers into garland but by leaving them discrete yet connected just like our love for our broken gajra that we don't wear anymore.

-Yashi Awasthi

— In Pursuit of Dispute 7 October 2022 —

“It is better to debate a question without settling it than to settle a question without debating it”

In light of another lockdown, the annual literature fest of St. Xavier's College—INKA '22: Colors Of The Quill was conducted online. The debate event, titled “In Pursuit of Dispute,” saw 20 participants from colleges across the country come together via a virtual conference to battle it out wielding their oratorical skills and logical reasoning. Participants presented their views on the topic: “The house believes that Art is for Art's sake only.” The inspiration for the same was drawn from the nineteenth century debate- “Art for Art's sake vs Art for Life's Sake”. Being the premise of the debate, participants were supposed to keep in mind the historical context of the topic while presenting their arguments. Speakers were given four minutes to put forth their views and an additional one minute for rebuttal. The judges for the event were Dr. Deepanjali Gardener and Dr. Ranjit Kaur.

The winners of the debate were as follows:

1st best Speaker – Abel John

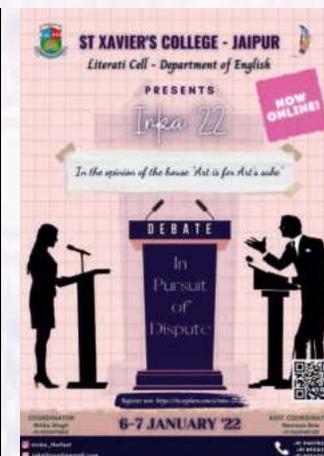
2nd best Speaker- Adya Sharma

3rd best Speaker- Yashaswini Rathore

It was indeed a brilliant learning opportunity for all the debaters, and it provided them with a platform to put forth their opinions.

Coordinator: Nitika Singh

Assistant Coordinator: Navreen Kaur



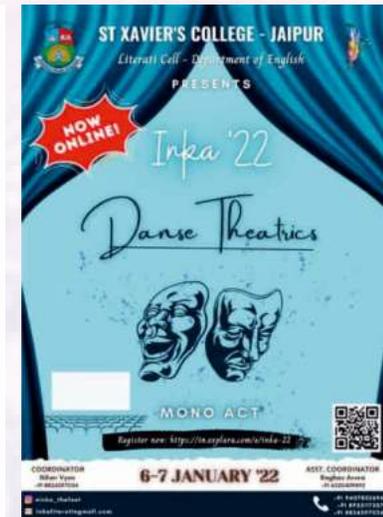
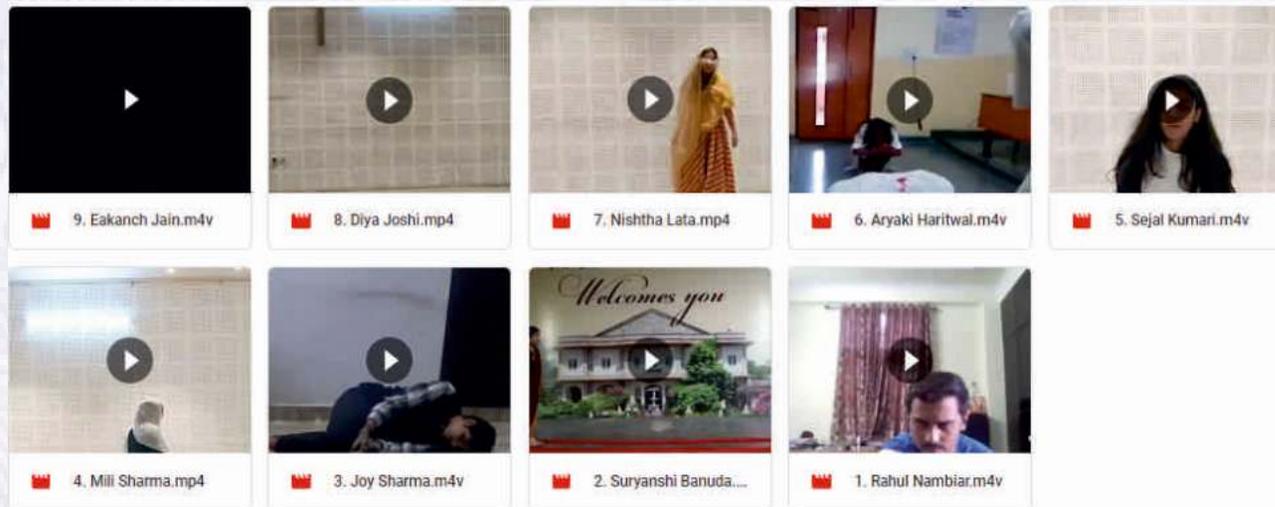
— INKA '22 Danse Theatrics - Mono - Act 7 January 2022 —

The annual literary fest of St Xavier's College, Jaipur, organised virtually by the Literati Cell and the Department of English – Inka '22, was held on 6 and 7 January 2022. On 7 January, the mono-act event, titled “Danse Theatrics”, took place via virtual conferencing. The judge for the event was Mr. Neeraj Kadela, an accomplished thespian and director with several plays and short films under his belt.

The participants were requested to record a video of them acting out a monologue from any book, movie, play or TV show. These were then screened during the event, and the judge marked the contestants on their clarity, expressions and overall performance. Several individuals from all across Jaipur participated in the event, submitting incredible entries giving a glimpse of their exceptional talent. The results of the event were declared in the Closing Ceremony of Inka '22, with Divya Joshi and Sejal Kumari of IIS College securing the first and second positions respectively. Successful proposals for similar future endeavours were welcomed as the event came to a successful conclusion.

Coordinator: Nihar Vyas

Assistant Coordinator: Raghav Arora



— Inks Iridescent - Poetry Session INKA '22 6 January 2022 —

"Poetry is when an emotion has found its thought and the thought has found words." - Robert Frost

On 6 January 2022, the Literati Cell and the Department of English organized Inks Iridescent, a poetry session as a part of the annual literary fest INKA '22: Colours of the Quill.

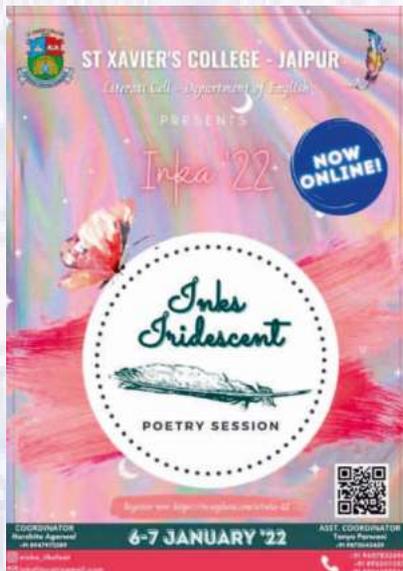
The participants were asked to submit their poetry beforehand and a few amongst them were selected on the basis of originality and creativity. The judge for the event was Dr. Meenakshi Jain, an associate professor at Mohanlal Sukhadia University, Udaipur. Numerous participants from all across the state came together on one platform and spoke their hearts out. It was truly mesmerizing to listen to their language of poetry.

The event began with the formal welcome of the dignitaries followed by the competition. Towards the end of the event, the judge enlightened the participants with her words of wisdom. It was then followed by the vote of thanks delivered by the event coordinator Harshita Agarwal.

With enthusiastic participation, the event saw a variety of themes and styles of poetry performed, and left a lasting impression on the hearts of everyone present.

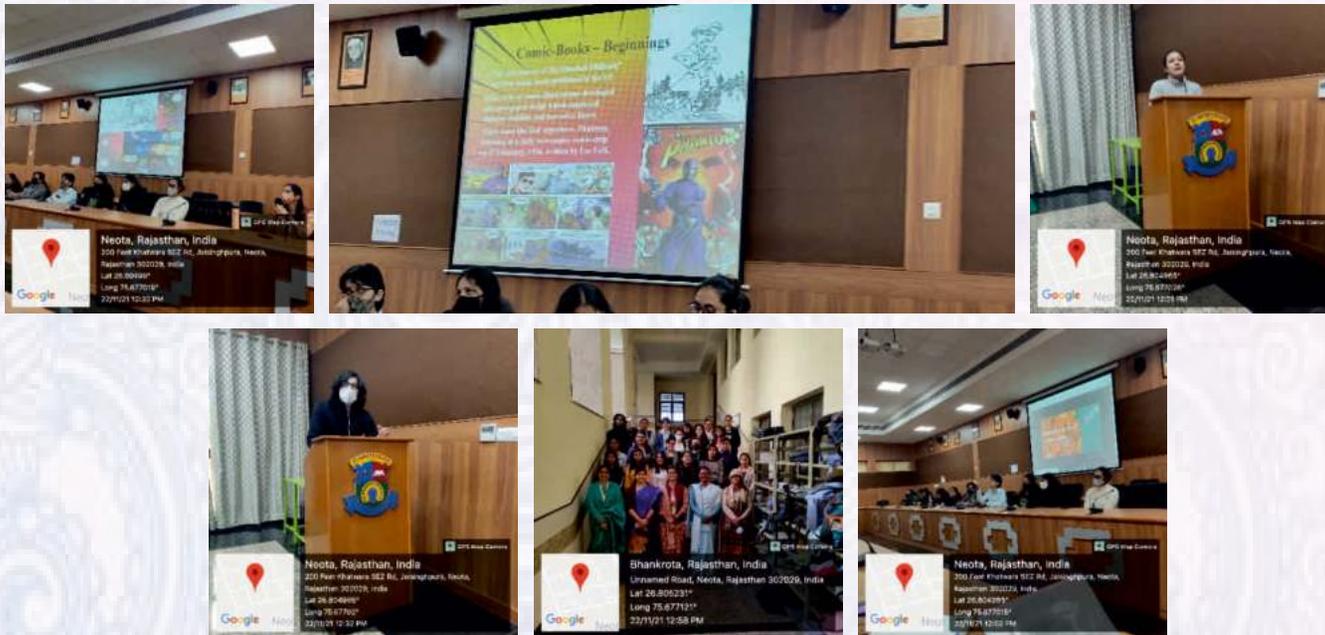
Coordinator: Harshita Agarwal

Assistant Coordinator: Tanya Parwani



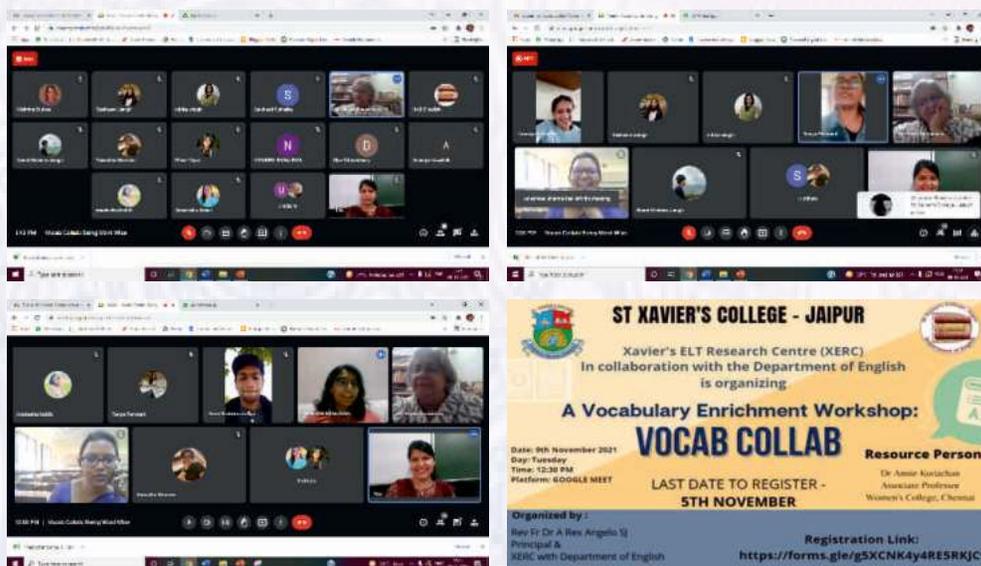
— Prism of Perspectives: Perceptions 2021 —

Perceptions-2021 an initiative by the Department of English at St Xavier's College – Jaipur was organised in the Conference Room on 22 November 2021 to help the students hone their presentation and communication skills. Perception roots its origin in the year 2020 when through a virtual gateway the competition took its first flight with great vigor and enthusiasm amongst students. Perception as the name suggests is related to expressing one's insight in interpreting literature and art. There is no limit to read, learn and explore literature. How people with unique experiences, intellects, memories, and worldviews interpret literature differently and through this platform the students are encouraged to share their 'perception'. For this year it was conducted offline and Dr Shruti Rawal was the esteemed judge for the occasion. The students made presentation on a wide variety of topics ranging from music to Indian-ness to graphic novels to memoirs. The amount of research and reading that was put in was reflected in the quality of the PPTs. It was a fruitful and knowledge enriching activity for the students. The first years get introduced to the concept of Research and thus find the competition useful.



— Vocab-Collab in collaboration with Xavier's ELT Research Committee —

Xavier's ELT Centre (XERC), under the aegis of the Department of English organized a day's workshop on Vocabulary Enrichment titled, 'Vocab-Collab'. The program was conducted through the virtual gateway where students learnt to maneuver their preexisting vocabulary into meaningful conversation and as an information collecting tool. Nitika Singh from B.A. English (Hons) III introduced the eminent speaker for the workshop, Dr Annie Kuriachan – Associate Professor, Women's Christian College, Chennai. Her erudition coupled with experience made the workshop very interactive and gave students handy tools to use their existing vocabulary and at the same time expand it to express better. Through the activities she conducted the students got a hands-on experience to practice the tools taught by her. She engaged the students in a playful manner to teach them tricks to enhance their vocabulary and put it into everyday use. The workshop was well absorbed in terms of knowledge by the students and was successfully conducted. The students who stayed till the end of the workshop gained and learned but most of them logged out as soon as the resource person started with learning activities to help them get comfortable with the tools that would help enrich their vocabulary.



— *Defend What You Believe! Xavier's Debate Club Auditions* —

The Literati Cell under the aegis of the English department organized the auditions for the Debate Club on 26 October 2021. The topic of the debate was that in the opinion of the house “Technology has made our lives easier”. Over 25 enthusiastic debaters participated in the auditions and expressed their opinions on the topic. Students spoke with elan as they were keen on being a part of the club. They were cross-questioned by the other participants and the coordinators. The student organizers were Nitika Singh and Ritesh Kalyani and the teacher coordinator was Dr. Shruti Rawal. The judges for the auditions were Dr. Shruti Rawal and Ms. Akanksha Johar.



— *New Media Journalism (Certificate Course)* —

On the 11th of October, 2021, St. Xavier's College, Jaipur introduced an intellectual certificate course for the enthusiasts of media and journalism in the college through an online platform. Dr. Ranjit Kaur, Assistant Professor from the Department of English, St. Xavier's College, Jaipur took the initiative to introduce and take charge of starting such an amazing activity of practical learning along with theory delivered by experienced professionals in the field.

The mentor of the students of the entire span of learning was Ms. Jennifer, a Public Relations professional, Social Media Strategist & Consultant. With over a decade's experience in digital media management, PR and media coordination, she is spearheading my startup - Connectscape. Having done her Masters in English Literature, she is a proud alumnus of the prestigious M.G.D. Girls' School, Jaipur.

With a class of 24 students, Ms. Jennifer walked different cities, sites, and topics to get the subject opted for clear in all minds with respect to all the possible aspects that should be discussed for the betterment of future journalism.

Moreover, to enhance their knowledge in every aspect of media and journalism special guest lectures were also been organized by Ms. Jennifer. In the sequence of the same, students got to learn from resource persons who were one of the best professionals in their fields. Respectively Dr. Tabeenah Anjum, Senior Journalist and Visual Storyteller, a recipient of the National Award in Photography (2015) and Mr. Arthar, Creative Producer at The Quint, taught in detail about 'Digital Photography' and 'Video Producing for Digital Media'.

To give a life-like experience, students were asked to choose a topic and dig out complete information about the same as a media person about the same simultaneously throughout the certificate course and also taken our for a Photo Walk in order to learn 'how to capture' and 'what to capture' and learn the difference between these two. With the submission of a Photo Story and a final assignment of a media story the evening sessions which took place on weekdays came to an end on 23rd of November, 2021.



— “Good questions make us think. Good stories make us understand.” —

— *STELLAR 2022 -Tape a Tale* —

Literati Cell, Department of English, St Xavier's College - Jaipur, in collaboration with Tape a Tale organised Phase I of the National Level Story Telling Competition, Stellar 2022. It took place on 20 January 2022 in an online mode through the Google Meet video-conferencing application. Dr Ranjit Kaur was the teacher coordinator for the event. Vasudha Sharma was the student coordinator and campus ambassador for this event. A total of 10 selected students from different courses and years performed their stories. The stories ranged from narratives about memories with grandparents and parents, childhood stories and incidents, personal takes on one's identity, to fictional narratives. Following all the story performances, Rev Fr Dr A Rex Angelo SJ, Principal, motivated the gathering and congratulated the participants for their creative narration and story writing. The judges, Mr Ali Husen and Ms Rachana Patil then, announced the result. Kanvika Sharma, student of BA Economics (Hons.) Third Year, was the winner of Phase I of Stellar 2022 and will proceed forward to Phase II of Stellar 2022, inter-collegiate level. The event concluded successfully with a group photograph and the gathering was thanked for their presence by the emcee.



Addressing the Pandemic's Aftermath: ICSSR Sponsored Multi-disciplinary International Conference on 'Emerging New World Order in the Post-pandemic Scenario' 18-19 February 2022

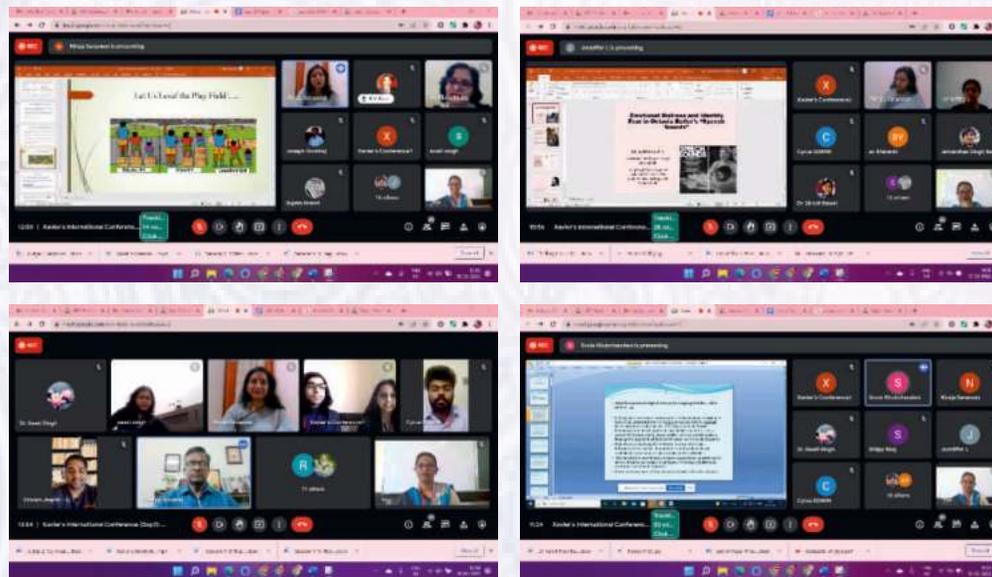
Technical Session V(A) Post-pandemic World: Emerging Discourse in Language and Literature

The Fifth session of the two-day Multi-disciplinary International Conference on 'Emerging New World Order in the Post-pandemic Scenario' sponsored by ICSSR and in collaboration with DST and CSI was focused on the emerging discourse in language and literature in the post-pandemic world was held on 18 February 2022 at 12:30 pm through Google Meet Platform. The Chairperson for the session was Prof. Joya Chakravarty, Former Dean, Faculty of Arts and Head Department of English, University of Rajasthan, Jaipur. The Keynote address was delivered by Prof. Dipa Chakrabarti, Head, Amity School of Languages, Amity University Rajasthan. After the formal welcome by Dr Atiqah Kelsy, Head Department of English, St Xavier's College – Jaipur, the scholars presented their research on areas including trauma and healing, online teaching, use of cinema and videos while teaching online, the cathartic use of literature, emerging pedagogy and crime fiction and OTT. There were fifteen papers presented in the session which concluded with the remarks of the Chairperson who praised the scholars for their endeavours.



Technical Session V(B) Post-pandemic World: Emerging Discourse in Language and Literature

The second part of the Fifth session of the two-day Multi-disciplinary International Conference on 'Emerging New World Order in the Post-pandemic Scenario' sponsored by ICSSR and in collaboration with DST and CSI was focused on the emerging discourse in language and literature in the post-pandemic world was held on 19 February 2022 at 10:30 am through Google Meet Platform. The Chairperson of the session was Prof A Joseph Dorairaj, Professor of English, School of English & Foreign Languages, Gandhigram Rural Institute-Deemed to be University, Gandhigram. The Keynote address was delivered by Dr Niraja Saraswat, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Humanities and Social Sciences, Malaviya National Institute of Technology, Jaipur. After the formal welcome by Rev Fr Dr A Rex Angelo, Principal, St Xavier's College – Jaipur, the scholars presented their research on areas including transformation of digital literature, learning language through social media, effects of pandemic on teaching pedagogies, E-Readers, flipped classroom and language teaching in the post pandemic world. Fifteen papers were presented in the session which were followed by the remarks of the Chairperson who appreciated the scholars followed by the formal vote of thanks by Dr Atiqa Kelsy, Head, Dept of English, St Xavier's College – Jaipur.



— UBA HOUSEHOLD SURVEY – LALYA KA BAS —

Commencing on 15 February 2022, as a part of the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan organised by the Government of India, a 5-day survey was carried out by the students of St. Xavier's College - Jaipur. The survey's goal was to study the field and recognize the various problems prevailing in the village so that appropriate action could be taken to address them. To streamline the survey, different villages were allotted to each department. The Department of English was given Lalya ka Bas along with the Department of Political Science and Pass Course. The students of the two departments made visits to the village on a regular basis to accomplish the herculean task. A group of 10-15 students from each department, accompanied by professors and a local liaison who was a representative of ISREAC/UBA, travelled to the village to collect the necessary data from the residents. The data was collected both digitally and manually. As a result of the tireless efforts of the students, teachers and ISREAC/UBA representative, a total of 234 houses were surveyed, thus accomplishing the challenging task successfully.

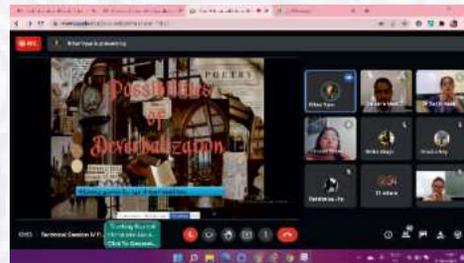


— Research Symposium —

The Department of English organized Technical Session IV 'Changing Dimensions of Literature: Impact of Rapid Globalization on Literature' in the National Symposium- 'Impact of Socio-Economic Policies on Global Development, on 10-11 March 2022 through Google Meet on 11 March 2022. The sub-themes for the technical session IV were, though not limited to:

- Role of Language and Literature in Contemporary Society
- Literature, Media and Cinema
- Voices from the Margins
- Corporate Control Vs Artistic Freedom
- Adaptations and Translations
- Socio-Political and Economic Aspects of Literature

Dr. Urvashi Sabu, Associate Professor, PGDAV College, Delhi University, Delhi, congratulated all the 13 participants who presented their findings after a thorough research on the topics of their choice under their mentors. Nitika Singh won the best paper award for her paper titled 'Investigating the role of translators as a driving force in Mirza Hadi Ruswa's Umrao Jaan Ada'



**Phoenix Inked 2022: National Essay Writing Competition Jaipuria Institute of Management, Jaipur
&
Department of English
St. Xavier's College, Jaipur**

Jaipuria Institute of Management, Jaipur, in collaboration with the Department of English, St. Xavier's College, Jaipur, organised the Second National Essay Writing Competition, 'Phoenix Inked 2022'. It was conducted through essay submissions in the month of May'22, which were judged in two phases. First, at the college level and second, at the national level. Dr Ranjit Kaur was the teacher coordinator for the event. Vasudha Sharma and Raghav Arora were the student coordinators for this event.

Entries were accepted from UG & PG levels of all streams. The participants were to write an essay on any of the following topics:

1. E-learning: Can it be the future of the education system in India?
2. New Education Policy: A progressive policy with diverse challenges?
3. Electronic Vehicles: The future of transport?
4. Raising Legal Age of Marriage for Women?
5. Is humanity enough to handle crises and serve people in need?



Rakshetsa Jha of MA English (Final) became the Overall First Prize Winner at the competition and won ₹ 5000 as a cash prize. Her essay, on the topic 'Is humanity enough to handle crises and serve people in need?' outshined numerous entries. The prize distribution ceremony was conducted on 15 August 2022 at Jaipuria Institute of Management, Jaipur. The event concluded successfully with a group photograph.

Dr. Ranjit Kaur
Teacher Coordinator
Vasudha Sharma & Raghav Arora
Student Coordinators



— Farewell: Royale Sortie —

“No distance of place or lapse of time can lessen the friendship of those who are thoroughly persuaded of each other's worth.” – Robert Southey

St Xavier's College - Jaipur organized the Farewell Ceremony: 'Royale Sortie' for the final year students of the 2021-22 batch to bid them the final goodbye on 8 April 2022. The program was initiated with the welcoming of the guests followed by lamp lighting.

Every club of the college performed with their whole heart and soul during the farewell making the event kaleidoscopic. The students were presented formal awards for each department and then informal tags were distributed. Though the hearts of the graduating students were heavy with tears in their eyes there was a sense of pride in each soul for pinnacling the journey of three years of the college.

This year's Pride of the Department award for the English Department was presented to Eakanch Jain. It was a moment of bliss and grace for the Department of English as Nihar Vyas from B.A. English Hons - III was felicitated with the Xavierite of the Year Award. Reverend Father and Hon Justice Ranka encouraged the students to commence the new phase of their lives with the greatest zeal and refreshed spirits. The event was formally concluded by a Vote of Thanks by Ms Anjali Pareek, Coordinator of the Student's Council.



St. Xavier's College, Jaipur

Award For Excellence

Department of English

Session 2021-22

FOR UG

Pride of the Department: Eakanch Jain

1. Award of Excellence in Academics- Nihar Vyas
2. Award of Excellence in Academics [2020-21] – Soumitra Somendra
3. Award of Excellence in Regularity and Maximum Attendance- Neetu Thakurati
4. Award of Excellence in Leadership & Organizational Skills – Eakanch Jain
5. Award of Excellence in Research- Nitika Singh
6. Award of Excellence in Public Relations- Ayush Sharma
7. Award of Excellence in Marketing –Priyal Maharshi
8. Award of Excellence in Technical Creativity – Eakanch Jain
9. Award of Excellence in Social Responsibility and Extension Activity – Vanshika Arora



FOR PG

1. Award of Excellence in Research – Suchitra Sharma
2. Award of Excellence in Academics [2019-21] – Manisha Ramchandani
3. Award of Excellence for Regularity and Maximum Attendance – Anjaly Thankachan

From the Clubs:

- MoC Club - Khushbu Ramchandani
- Debate Club - Nitika Singh
- Literati Cell - Harshita Agarwal
- Editing - Nihar Vyas and Harshita Agarwal



Xavierite of the Year

JUSTICE J K RANK

XAVIERITE OF



Nihar Vyas



Creative Ventures

Feminism

Feminism?

What is Feminism?

A big question mark on society or us;
A trouble maker for some people or weapon for some

What is Feminism?

Some use this for defense and some for attack;
For some, it's a women's card but for some, it's an integrity wall.

A big, big question mark on all of us.

Some come up as biggest

Supporters; but the same some

Becomes the biggest offender behind
that big scene.

What is FEMINISM all about?

It's like a battle between some good or bad which is used for that.

This title looks like a never-ending
chaos or eternal law.

Which is used to serve and survival
for others.

The so-called feminism;

Is all about us.



Amesha Sharma
BA English Honors-I

Heartbroken, with love

To tell you how broken I am,

My soul aches to scream!

But to realise that you already know

Makes me swing back and forth,

Forth in comfort that you knew,

And still loved yourself enough to let it go,

And back, in knowing that my ever-expanding pain would take a

backseat,

Screaming silently, as I see you win,

But feel myself lose.

And as the wheel of time passes,

I promise you this,

I will burn myself a hundred times over,

if it meant that you would stay warm.



Mahir Baksh
BA English Honors-III

Falling Leaf

Today, I saw a leaf falling on the ground,
Instantly reminded me of life,
But Hades in my face frowned.
How fragile, faint, and frail life is,
Yet it crowns itself with glories and pleasures,
Blinding sights, curiosity, and riches.
I looked up at the tree,
And saw infants cloaking in the bosom of mother,
But a turbulent wind set them free.
Rustling and fluttering through the breaths,
Soaring and plummeting through the journey,
Till it reaches its death.
Life is a journey with a plethora of episodes,
With milestones to achieve,
Till it implodes.
Though I meet the inevitable end,
There are bounties and beauties to be felt,
And a lot more to mend.

Ananay Vishwas
BA English Honors-I

Untitled

I thought some things are easy
Because they come to exist -
of love, passion, hunger of fulfillment.
Like a movement in your body
happening involuntarily -
No commands, no obligations - just happening...
Well, I believed so, until recently
A realization seeped in-
Effort,
Consistency,
Solitude,
a ticking coarse reminder-
of all of it slipping off
While the world holds your fingers to not clench!

Harshita Agarwal
BA English Honors-III

It's not Worth it

“Its not worth it,” said EGO!!
“Its impossible,” said PRIDE!!
“Its pointless,” said REASON!!
“Its risky,” said EXPERIENCE!!
“Its noxious,” said brain!!
“Maybe everything gets ok all over again,” said
HOPES!!
“Give it a try”, whispered the heart...

And the heart won!!



Harshita Rathore
BCA – III

Untitled

Oh pretty dawn
Complexion so pale on your cheek
Your mind filled with doubts
Have you lost the way you seek

The dark is yet to fall
Will you stay a bit long

You bring your companion
To shine upon this dirt
They call the glorious earth

Enchanting the chime
Of the chirping birds that rhyme

Oh pretty dawn
Your crimson hue so sweet
The fewly awaken eyes it please
Too far this moment goes
The world is delighted with that rose

Pulkit Agnihotri
BBA-2-C

I used to think about you,
Since the day I saw you,
The day we met the second time,
I saw my happy face in your eyes,
Sorry but I don't remember when we met the third time,
Cause I was lost in the way u smiled.
The fourth time we met,
My heart told my mind that u r the best person my soul
ever met,
But I do remember when we met the very next time,
Your hands, they were holding mine.
Now, the last time we met,
I never thought that this will literally be the last time we
will ever have.

Radhika Vashishtha

स्वपरिचय

अपने पैरों पर है खड़ा उतरना
कुछ ऐसा है लोगों का कहना ।
खेलना, कूदना, गाना तथा बजाना
बस यही तक सीमित है मेरा कल ।
पर कल को गुजरे वक्त ही कितना हुआ है,
जो मेरा आने वाला कल मेरे सामने खड़ा है ।
इतनी बड़ी दुनिया में अपनी पहचान बनाना चाहती हूँ मैं,
निकलीं हूँ ढूँढने खुद को मैं ।
अपने आने वाले कल के बारे में ख्वाब बुनती हूँ मैं,
उड़ती हूँ उन्हीं ख्वाबों के बादलों पर मैं,
पर आखिर क्या है मेरा भविष्य ?
क्या है मेरा अस्तित्व ?
इन्ही सवालों के जवाब ढूँढती हूँ मैं ।

Tanya Parwani
BA English Hons II

Creative Canvas



*Anushree Sharma
BA English Hons.II*

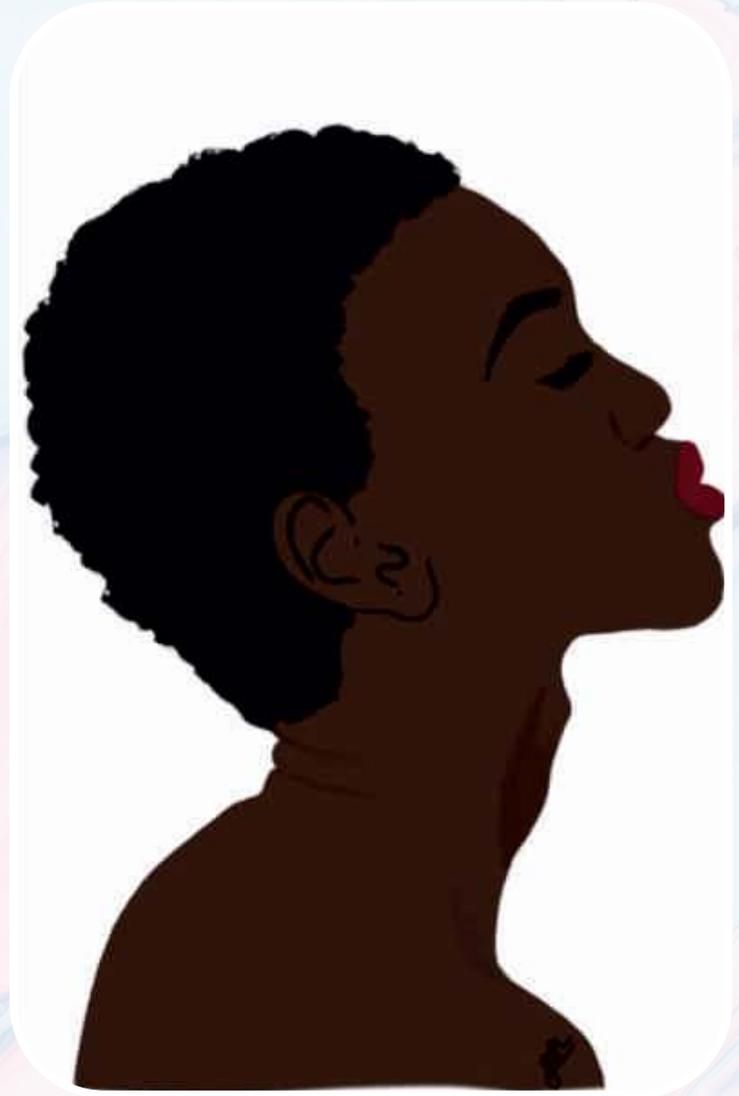


*Ananya Kaushik
BA English Hons.II*

— Creative Canvas —

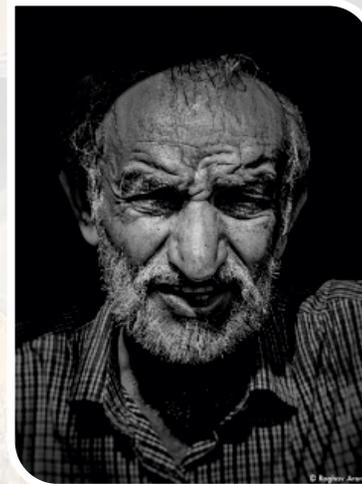
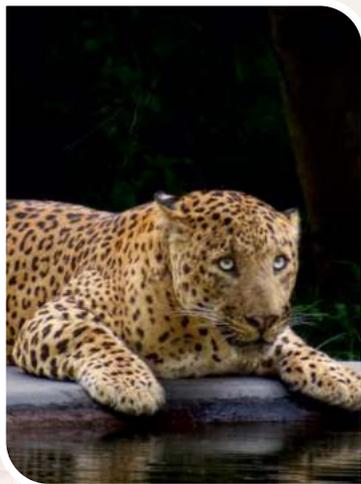


Yashasvi Jangid
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Garima Sharma
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— Picturesque —



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— Hamlet & Haider “Inteqam” —

Movie Review

Haider (2014) is an eponymous adaptation of Shakespeare's greatest tragedy, Hamlet, but with a more poignant political angle to the film. The film is set in the valleys of Kashmir and holds a mirror to the realities and struggles of the people of Kashmir. The film is a concatenation of the spirit of Shakespearean tragedy along with the political rift in Kashmir. Its main plot is built upon “inteqam” that is, revenge of his Father Dr. Hilaal Meer who had disappeared somewhere in the detention camps after their home was burned to ashes.

Here, Haider who is Hamlet is absent in the first few scenes of the film away to Aligarh Muslim University for his studies. When he comes back, he is reunited with his childhood love, Arshia who plays Ophelia. Arshia, a little unlike Ophelia takes a stand for the sake of her love towards Haider, although she too is deceived into giving away Haider's plan by being fooled by her father, Pervez and brother, Laertes. The film starts on a tragic note, the first deeply painful scene that the protagonist feels is when he stands between the ruins of his once happy home, where he had spent his childhood. While already in despair with the news of his shattered home and the disappearance of his father, his anguish deepens when he finds his mother, Ghazala romancing his uncle Khurram.

Ghazala who is Gertrude is played beautifully by Tabu, although in the movie there is more dimension to the character of Ghazala than in the original play. Originally, Gertrude dies accidentally drinking poison, while in the movie Ghazala commits suicide, taking agency for her actions. In the movie, she is responsible for instigating a chain of events that ultimately lead to the death of Khurram while also convincing Haider of the futility of revenge.

While Khurram makes for the perfect villain in the movie with a deceitful smile and intentions lined with menace and malignity, other characters like Roohdar, the ghost add a lot more dimension to the film.

The core of the plot remains the same while the movie has some departures from the original play. The movie is set in mid-90's of Kashmir. The movie is not only the tale of Haider but also carries with itself a backdrop that very strongly voices the torment of countless innocents that pay every day for a war between Pakistan India rift of Kashmir.

The movie in the end is left open-ended where, unlike Hamlet, Haider survives and realises that revenge only instigates further revenge.

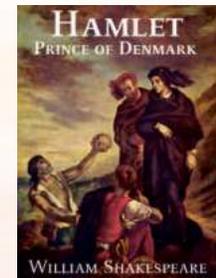
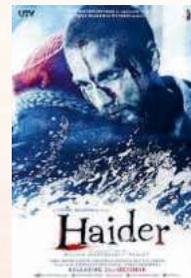
The music score of the film has been kept in mind and does full justice to the profound and melancholic nature of the film.

The song 'Jhelum' represents the cries of the innocents paying the price of an unknown war. The song agonises the pain of the people, as the river cries for help and wants the endless agony to come to an end.

The song 'Bismil' is a beautiful lyrical adaptation of Mouse Trap, the play within the play where along with the twist of Bollywood, the song is performed with theatrical technicalities and portrays the story of deceit and vengeance.

The movie also captures the famous grave digger's scene with the play track 'Aao Na' where the song talks about eternal sleep. The famous lines, “to be or not be” and Hamlet's soliloquy is delivered beautifully by Shahid, moulding the lines into “jaan loon ke jaan doon, main rahoon ke main nahin” portrays the dilemma of Haider and his deepest thoughts of contemplating suicide and sparing the life of the killer of his father.

Haider, rather than being a strict adaptation of the film has been blended into a unique story that captures the tragedy of the protagonist while blending it with the tragedy of Kashmir, along with a blend of praiseworthy cinematography, amazing music, and actors that did their part beautifully, this cinematic piece definitely sets a benchmark for the



Devangna Yadav
B.A. Eng. Hons. I

— Tuesdays with Morrie-Mitch Albom —

“A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops.” – Henry Adams

What if we could have lessons on how to live? Lessons from someone who has seen the highs and lows of life, from someone who has gained love and lost love. From someone who could share the best of their learning, from all of their life experiences? That is what Tuesdays with Morrie by Mitch Albom was to me.

Many years after his college graduation, Mitch learns that one of his favorite professors, a man named Morrie Schwartz, has ALS, or Lou Gehrig's disease. This means that Morrie will soon be unable to move his muscles, and his condition will slowly deteriorate until he can no longer breathe. Morrie and his wife are forced to change their lifestyle. But instead of dwelling on his fate, Morrie opens up his Boston home to all his friends and family. He shares a world of knowledge in the mere 192 pages of Albom's book.

Mitch, the narrator, and author of the book decides to visit Morrie one Tuesday afternoon. These visits soon become weekly rituals in which Mitch learns life lessons from his old teacher. Eventually, Mitch decides to record their meetings on tape so that he can go back and write down Morrie's words of wisdom. Together, Mitch and Morrie uncover the mysteries surrounding the meaning of life, spirituality, happiness, education, and compassion. The book — or Morrie — talks as much about death as about life, if not more. Because after all, the nature of life lies in death itself. In some moments, the book might seem to be preaching too much. But for me, that feeling never lasted, because the book is a short read that is filled with wonderful anecdotes, gentle humor, and emotional sensitivity.

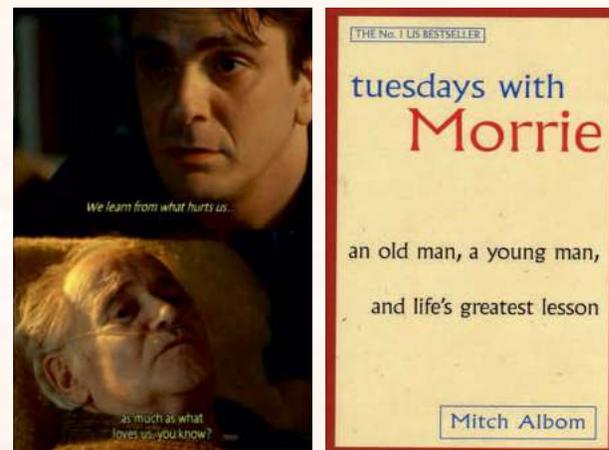
But “Tuesdays with Morrie” is more than just a book about education. It is also a sympathetic discussion of illness, and how we can learn from those who are sick or dying. How ironic it is that at the end of our lives when we begin to deteriorate physically and sometimes mentally, we have the most to offer those around us. For Mitch, this is a comfort. Morrie inspires him to change his daily routine to get more out of life so that one day he can be as fulfilled as Morrie is at the end of his life.

Whatever is currently on your “To Read” list, I highly recommend placing “Tuesdays with Morrie” on top. Albom's true story is an impactful read. It might make you reach for the tissues, but it is definitely worth your time.

Although these themes have been the topic of conversations among authors for years, Albom has a unique way of using his talks with Morrie to reveal similarities in all of us. He speaks a lot about Morrie and his condition, yet Mitch is mindful that this is his story. He is the one who is gaining knowledge through Morrie's teachings.

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Shreya Garg
BA English Hons. I

Blankspaced

Each day is a new journey, no matter how that journey ends, everything in the process matters, good or bad, success or defeat but what matters the most is that you enjoy every bit of that journey. Every day isn't going to be happy or sad but you can choose to make it the way you want it to be. And if someday everything seems to go wrong and giving up feels more alluring, pause for a moment – Breathe and once you start catching up, give in your all whatever the result may be, then at least you tried. Each day is an opportunity to feature a new page in your life story, you being the author of your story you owe it to yourself to spill the ink all over the blank pages and to fill each day with the most beautiful thoughts in your life. Create something new, to no longer let the past limit you from experiencing a limitless future. The past only knows where you've been and not where you'll go. You cannot control what's in the past nor can you control what is yet to come, all you have is today – make the most of it. All you need is the courage to pick yourself up and put back the broken pieces again because the sun will rise regardless and so would you.

Tanya Parwani
BA English Hons II

Jar of Gratitude

On the left of my study table is a gratitude corner. It has a medium-sized jar with a sticker “Jar of Gratitude” and my journal laying beside it along with a pot of lavender. It is healthy to embrace things and people and moments you are grateful for, as said. So every night, I pen down at least one thing that I am grateful for, and in the journal, I teach myself ways I can do so, ways that would help me embrace everything - the food, the room, the bed, the gift on my last birthday, even if I am not if I don't want to. Anyways, the journal has failed every day, yet the jar is half-filled because gratitude is the consolation that makes you look away from the loss that is still there. I am carrying a memory of yesterday that I am grateful for into each new day with its significance diminishing. So yesterday when I was upset about not achieving what I labored for, I took out an empty paper chit, and wrote “I am grateful for all the achievements so far” instead of “I will try again tomorrow” and slept, half-awake!

Harshita Agarwal
BA Eng Hons III

Mobile Phone

Lucknow's Indira Nagar is as famous for its kitty parties as Jaipur is for its pyaz kachori and mirchi vada, both adding spice to one's life. Indira Nagar's ladies gather at pre-decided restaurants for monthly gatherings celebrating all these endeavours, from theme-based decorations, well pondered upon games, and masaledar gossip to exotic food and saris.

Tambola, card games and pick the chit are evergreen entertainers but what makes Chanderi lane's kitty party unique is its tough "competition" among the mid-aged women. Thirteen out of twenty-one ladies are middle-aged. Others belong to the retired group or the newlyweds. I happen to belong in the mid-aged category. But the competition I mentioned before isn't one of age, seeing most of the women don't even like their age being mentioned. It's the competition of who has a fancier bag, hairclip, shoes, sari or any other accessory that their tussled-in-income-bringing-jobs husbands can get them, either to beg forgiveness for small mistakes or just spoil their wives. This competition might seem ridiculous to a third eye but believe me when I say, it determines your reputation and hierarchy in the clan. Nobody mentions this competition directly but the unsaid preparations start a week before the ultimate get-together. The hosts of each party are decided by chit picking and seven days before the event, they steadily but cleverly start indicating the object of attraction. January's kitty party was hosted by Mrs Bose and Ranjana Agarwal, who started talking about the new sunglasses each of them has been gifted by their husbands, a Ray-Ban and a Daniel Wellington. This seems like a normal boasting of things, right? But mark the pain with which I say, Priti Rathore was quite mercilessly abashed and taunted by these middle-aged women at her simple non-designer sunglasses bought from the nearby Kumar Chashmewala. Priti did not attend the next kitty party and no one expected her to come either. It's a tough lot.

Although these themes have been the topic of conversations among authors for years, Albom has a unique way of using his talks with Morrie to reveal similarities in all of us. He speaks a lot about Morrie and his condition, yet Mitch is mindful that this is his story. He is the one who is gaining knowledge through Morrie's teachings.

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Whatever is currently on your "To Read" list, I highly recommend placing "Tuesdays with Morrie" on top.

Albom's true story is an impactful read. It might make you reach for the tissues, but it is definitely worth your time.

This month's kitty party was to be hosted by Sadhana and Mrs Rekha, the absolute opposites. Sadhana is a good friend of mine and becomes my support each time I'm down, as you'll see later. She has been married for two years and her husband is a manager at an investment firm. She often boasts about how smart her husband is, easily clearing the interview and exams in one go. Sadhana lives two houses across mine, with her in-laws, husband and a baby of seven months. Being an ordinary Indian housewife, she has few expectations and demands but it is thanks to her husband who is clearly obsessed with her simplicity and beauty that she gets a weekly dose of expensive gifts. She isn't as cunning as the other women like Mrs Rekha but she is good at recognising what's right and what isn't. Mrs Rekha, on the other hand, used to be a known columnist in Bombay some eleven years back. But since her divorce from her cheating husband, she has been simply spending her alimony treating herself with all things good and expensive, but dare you call her a spendthrift.

She is divorced, yet likes to be called Mrs rather than Miss in a pursuit to keep men away under the false salutation of being married. Her trust in men and marriage had become weak. She lives in a house too big for a single woman with a never used swimming pool but takes pride in her exotic lifestyle. With a tongue of a serpent and an ego the size of a mammoth, she never lets anyone diss her. The problem of these two opposites coming together as hosts isn't exactly with their personality types, the problem is with me.

Sadhana's husband recently gifted her a new phone, a One Plus. Mrs Rekha had to step forward so she bought herself a new iPhone of rose gold colour and made sure to attend fake calls in front of the ladies to establish this month's entity of attraction. The ground was set and the fighters had already started pressing on their husband's weak nerves to get a new phone.

All the spouses already knew their wife's tactics and the cause for this urgent 'need' but quietly complied. Soon, new phones with exuberant covers and chiming ringtones were seen in the ladies' hands, each better than the other. The competition was fierce and because I was one of those ladies, I was also subject to the competition. At first, I ridiculed the idea and questioned if it was really important to get a new phone after all. I also asked Sadhana if I can get a pass through this month's kitty party but she insisted on me coming as her only friend, binding me further to this barmy battle. The problem wasn't that I couldn't afford a new mobile phone, of course, I could, my husband was a businessman keeping his forefathers' business of furniture alive. The problem was to persuade my husband to get me a new phone.

— Prose & Stories —

I had been able to keep up with all the competitions till date because they all were about rather feminine products but for a mobile phone, I had to ask my husband. Unlike Sadhana, I was never allowed to call my husband by his name. It was mostly 'sunte ho ji'. Although he had a very charming name, Sudhanshu Chaurasia was a man whose affection was only for his parents and kids, never for me. It was an arranged marriage. I got married when I was twenty-one, having just completed my B.Sc. and aiming for PhD but my parents had something else planned for me. My husband had studied BBA and was twenty-five at that time, the perfect age to get a wife. He wasn't so good at business but he was a good talker. To compare, I was better at academics and had more chances of becoming successful in independent careers had my husband not had his family business. But he did and the patriarchy in the family killed my longing to get into the scientific field. The only thing that kept our marriage going was our commitment to our family. We had three kids-Aman, Shailly and Pritika. Aman was a high schooler while Shailly and Pritika were in middle school. For all I knew, I had to muster up the courage to ask for a new mobile phone. It was important for my reputation, Sadhana's reputation and well, I did need a new phone. My old gadget was a Samsung Galaxy A5 (2017 model) and seemed to be stable only by the means of a ventilator (always being connected to the charger).

It was two days until the kitty party and I decided to ask Sudhanshu (I always wanted to call him by name) for a phone. In the evening, when he came back from work, had dinner and consumed his daily dose of distressing but body-harming pan masala, I went up with my request. Circling my sari's pallu on my finger, clearly projecting my nervousness I sat beside him and said, "You know how every month ladies of this society gather for kitty parties? This month it is Sadhana's turn to host the party. She seems really nervous about it but I'm glad that she's paired with Mrs Rekha. She's a very confident woman, you know?" Sudhanshu kept his eyes on the TV screening the IPL match while churning his beloved pan masala. I continued, "Well, I got to know about it just today. Sadhana said she had messaged about the kitty party on the WhatsApp group but I guess I wasn't able to see because of the phone." He still didn't seem interested. And I don't even know if he was listening to me. If only he had cat years that would move to the sound and I could know that he is listening but ignoring me. Nevertheless, I got to the point, "My phone seems to be having some issues lately. I showed it to Aman and he said it has become old and the battery is dying and other technical issues. I even went to Karim bhai to get it fixed but he said it's useless now, just a bijli ka dabba. And if you think about it, Shailly and Pritika also get their school work on my phone and it is causing them trouble by shutting off anytime and getting hanged often."

I think the mention of kids got him interested seeing how he was lowering the TV volume. The next few words were to decide my fate at this weekend's kitty party. "I think I should get a new mobile phone". And his eyes stared right at me. I knew he wasn't happy with what I said. To my quick rescue, I said, "Please think about it. It's is greatly affecting our kids' studies and seldom calls get cut off when I talk to your sister as the phone dies off. Even grocery lists that mataji (mother-in-law) sends me over WhatsApp can't be accessed because of full storage. A new, better mobile will help me all these things." Sudhanshu narrowed his eyes at me and then centred them somewhere else. He was pondering, rather considering. I sat in silence hoping he would decide in my favour. A minute later, he went into our room (the TV was in the living room) and opened a drawer. It was the drawer in which he kept his fast cash. A hope lighted in my chest adjacent to my racing heart. He came back to the living room with a black cotton bag in his hand. He handed me the bag and walked to the dining table to get water. I could feel the object inside the bag and it didn't feel like the money I expected for the new phone.

I opened the bag and found Sudhanshu's old phone, a Redmi 9i. A sudden gush of sadness, disappointment and anger came over me. Why was I sad, I didn't really know. This phone did not have any problems that my present sick gadget had. It was in good condition and I could use it for two years at least. "You can work with my old phone. I already bought a new iPhone last month and this one is my second backup phone. Kids will be able to work on this one. Aman also uses my old phone and your needs will suffice with this one", my husband told me.

A second-hand phone. I don't remember any dictionary saying 'new phone' means 'a second-hand phone' for your own wife. Giving your old phone, first backup phone, to your son is normal. No high schooler needs an absolutely new phone but to give it to your wife, it's ridiculous. I stared at Sudhanshu with frowns covering my forehead like dark clouds while he didn't pay attention and returned back to his IPL match. A promise from our early days of marriage came to my mind. A promise Sudhanshu gave me, that he will forever treat me as his equal. He was a good talker after all. In all the nineteen years of our marriage, I thought he belittled me, treated me with the least compassion, and talked to me once a fortnight because his mind was always clouded with work and its complementary stress. But I had only satisfied myself with excuses. I went on compromising my happiness and want for a romantic marriage only to not be treated equally every day. Looking at the phone in my hands, I calculated how right or wrong it was of Sudhanshu to treat me like a nobody. Maybe I was thinking too much. The kitty party was drawing close and the pressure to fit in the circle through the competition was probably taking over my head. Oh, to think how I gave myself

— Prose & Stories —

excuses not to believe myself. I grabbed the phone tighter in my hand and stretched it out saying, "I don't want this phone. I want a new one." That was enough to make Sudhanshu angry. I have always dodged or complied with his wants whenever he was angry, never revolting. But this time, I was angry too and in no mood to let go of my wish. Sudhanshu with a stern and dictatorial tone said, "This is the only phone you could get. Take it or break it. I'm not getting you a new phone and that's final." You know how sometimes two people fight and whatever they say simply acts like oil to their burning anger, that was happening then as well. I got so swelled up with rage that I instantly got up and threw the phone right across the wall.

It shattered just like my belief in my marriage. My husband was stunned to see his submissive wife act up. He didn't think I would really break it and was too surprised to do anything. I was breathing heavily and the rage just couldn't find enough matter to consume. My hands were trembling and tears were rolling down my cheeks, yet I didn't want to stop. I walked fast to the room, grabbed the locker's key and opened it, and fetched the only necklace Sudhanshu has ever gifted me. He gifted me the necklace on our ten years anniversary. A woman usually swoons over her husband after this act but I didn't. Neither did I like the necklace nor the way he gave it to me. Simply leaving it on the bedside to be discovered and thought of as a present. At first, I thought he is shy to give it to me directly but later I overheard my mother-in-law confirming to him if he had given me the necklace she bought for me. I grabbed my purse, stuffed the necklace in it and went out to the market. It was nice in the evening and some shops were still open. I ran as fast as I can to the nearest jeweller and sold the necklace. It had one diamond embedded in it which gave me enough money to buy a new phone. Within half an hour I sold the necklace, bought a new iPhone for myself and returned back to my husband's house.

The entire family was awake till now, waiting for their chaotic sleep-wrecker to come back. Sudhanshu looked upset, really upset. But I had decided to not concede this time. I walked over to him with the new phone in my hands and said with all my might, "You don't need to get me a new phone now as I got myself one. I sold the necklace you, rather mataji gifted me under your name on our tenth anniversary. That was my asset and I used it at my own will. So, you have no authority to tell me what I can get and what I cannot for myself. Today, you have broken the only thread that kept our marriage from breaking-respect. You disrespected me today by telling me that I'm only worth a second-hand phone. We both know we never loved each other and our marriage was more about our family than us two. But at least we respected each other which is now broken." My voice was trembling furiously and tears obstructed my mouth from letting out

all the hurt I had confronted myself with over the years. I sighed and with a numb voice uttered the last compassionate words to my husband, "We are only mother and father to our children now and married legally. We never united spiritually so how can we detach. But now I expect nothing from you and our marriage.

I'm disgusted to sleep with you on the same bed so I'll stay in Reshma's (sister-in-law) room from now on." Before anyone could get back from their surprise, I marched upstairs to my new room and closed the door. Over the next few days, my in-laws tried to get me back with Sudhanshu while kids questioned me about my uproar that night. Aman never said or questioned anything. I suppose he was growing up after all. Sudhanshu started drinking again and would cause a scene every night saying that I have messed up his life and killed his soul. I would cry often in my new room. "Rama? Are you there Rama?" said Mrs Dixit, my kitty party co-host. "Y-yes Mrs Dixit. I'm here. Sorry, the kids were saying something." "So what do you think we should create the buzz about for our kitty party?" Mrs Dixit asked in an exciting tone. She was a straightforward person. I had won quite some popularity with my iPhone at Sadhana's kitty party and now everyone expected me to turn up as the best competitor. "How about noserings. We can have a cultural theme and make everyone dress up nicely with noserings", I replied as I handed over my nosering, the nosering I wore on my wedding day, to the jeweller.



Vasudha Sharma

B.A. (Hons.) English Literature Part II

— RAJASTHAN —

— THE LAND OF ART, CULTURE, VALOUR & ROYALTY —

India is a vast country with different states, with varied culture and tradition. And one of India's colorful and royal part is Rajasthan. Rajasthan as the name denotes Rajaon ka Sthan that is the place of Royals, Rajwadas, Citadels and Palaces. Palaces that are still Alive and Lively with the presence of royal families still residing in them. Rajasthan is a land of Traditions and Festivals, festivals from Teej to Gangaur. Festivals that are still celebrated and Traditions that are still followed in the same manner as it used to be earlier, during the reign of the Kings and the Queens. It is a land of hospitality and bonhomie and its hospitality is famous with the quote none other than ' Padharo Mhare desh '. It is a land where the Prince Charming and their Princesses still exist, with the same Beauty and Charm in them as earlier. The Decorum and the Mannerism are still maintained gracefully by the Royal Families.

If we are talking about Rajasthan, how can we forget about the Cuisine of the Desert state? The Cuisine of Rajasthan is appreciated and talked about in the whole country, whether it is Dal Bati Churma, Gatte Ki Sabzi, Kair Sangari or Ghewar and yes how can we forget the most Delicious and famous dish that is ' Laal Maans ' of Rajasthan. So when in Rajasthan, pamper your tastebuds with the royal Delicacies of the state.

It is a state, where one can witness a combination of Royalty, Tradition and Culture with Modernism. Rajasthan holds a great history. History of Beautiful Queens and Great Kings, history of Battles and their Great Warriors. The state of Royals is also famous for its Sand Dunes in Jaisalmer, Kalbeliya Dance and Langa Manganhar the singers of Rajasthan who sing the local songs of the state. Talking about all this, how can we forget the famous Jutis, Mochris and Sanganeri print of Jaipur. And yes last but not the least, the famous silver Jewellery of Rajasthan.

This article is very short to describe the beauty of the state. In last I would just say a few words that describe this state beautifully and is also the slogan of this Magnificent state that is 'Jaane Kya Dikh Jaye ' as Rajasthan is a state full of surprises and amazement.

Apoorva Chandolia
BA. Honours English Part III







— Ode to Teachers —



"Be great in act, as you have been in thought."

- Shakespeare

She is a teacher by profession and a philosopher by heart.

She not only teaches us how to study literature but also shows us the path to self-discovery.



"Better than a thousand days of diligent study is one day with a great teacher."

Dr Ranjit Kaur is one of the most caring and supporting teachers, who always provides comfort and helps one to achieve one's truest potential.

Ode to Teachers



"A teacher is just like an artist who shapes millions of minds and hearts with the paint brush of knowledge and wisdom " She is an artist who knows how to bring life to a white canvas with her colourful perspective of wisdom.



“Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?”
what is right and what is wrong,
you tell this to us
what is the truth and what the lie,
you explain it to us
and when we are uncertain,
you make the ways easy for us.



Some days are just demanding
and frustration takes its course
That is when you come with your
sweet voice
Which becomes our force divine.

L.I.T.E.R.A.T.I



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