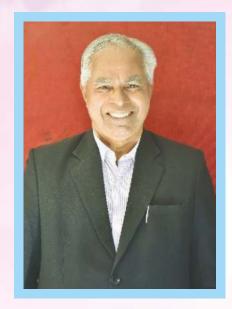




Faculty, Department of English (from Left to Right): Dr. Sarita Pareek, Dr. Ranjit Kaur, Dr. Rama Hirawat, Mr. Mohit Joshi, Dr. Atiqa Kelsy



From
Rector's Desk

It gives me immense pleasure to behold this new edition of *Literati*. The magazine is truly a reflection of the inquisitive

mind, immense creativity, elaborate thought process, and agog nature of our students.

I shower all my love and heartfelt blessings to the entire team for their collaborative effort and determination. In these trying times, when the world is dealing with a pandemic, the team worked, adjusted, and adapted to the continuously changing situations – showing the true character and competence of Xavierites. This magazine is a blend of intellect and joyous colours highlighting distinct art forms, poetry, intriguing write-ups and detailed event reports. Opening the treasure of memories, it is a reminder of the past year's achievements, present year's growth and an inspiration for the future. The magazine indeed weaves a beautiful picture in our hearts and surprises the reader at every turn.

Congratulations to the entire Literati team!

Rev Fr Varkey Perekkatt, SJ



From Former **Principal's Desk**

Words flow, dreams enchant, and the bird of creativity takes flight. Over the years, I have watched the

Department of English provide a platform for students to realize, explore, and expand the limits of their minds.

This year, despite the coronavirus-induced lockdown and other difficulties, the team calibrated themselves according to the changing tides, bringing out yet another edition of *Literati*. It is a moment of great pride to see *Literati* allowing the students to reach beyond their walled-gardens and forage out into the world. I extend my sincerest wishes and blessings to the entire team who have collated all the write-ups, reports, articles, artworks and brought-out a unified marvel!

Best wishes and blessings galore!

Dr Sheila Rai



From **Principal's Desk**

It is our attitude at the beginning of a difficult task which, more than anything else, will affect its successful outcome. There is but one cause of human failure. And that is man's lack of faith in his true Self.

These words of the American philosopher, William James still ring true more than a hundred years after he is gone. During these critical times of COVID-19 when the world is trying to get back on its feet and when traditions, both old and new, are under severe scrutiny, our attitude becomes the sole tool with the capability of propelling us towards our ultimate success.

An attitude that seeks to improve the existent conditions, that nurtures creativity and ingenuity, that builds upon the old with the light of the new, and that works to alleviate the suffering for the fellow human beings, has the indefatigable power to promote change. It is not enough to merely prescribe the change and expect it to happen; creating change within an organisation takes hard work and an understanding of what must actually take place to make the change happen.

I congratulate the Literati team for capturing this spirit in the pages of their magazine and commend them wholeheartedly for the hard work and efforts they have put in to bring this creative work out. May this seventh edition prove to be yet another stepping stone to make our lives more creative and worthwhile. I look forward to hearing the creative responses from the readers!

My best wishes to all! May God bless you always!

Rev Dr A Rex Angelo, SJ



From Vice-principal's Desk

As I hold the seventh edition of Literati, it brings me extreme joy to see the dedication and hard work of the entire cell.

The year has been loaded with a plethora of activities exploring varied ideologies, worldviews and concepts. I feel proud of the many themes and views that the department has assiduously worked upon but I am proudest of the spirit they have shown in dealing with the present scenario using a technologically-strong hand. It truly shows how literature, creative minds, and intellect can work hand in hand to impact our everyday lives.

I congratulate the team and wish them all the best!

Rev Dr Sherry George, SJ



From Administrator's Desk

Life is a fast-paced journey; if you do not stop and look around, you might just miss it. However, from the depths of the Styx, a devouring-monster rose to engulf the world this year. Society as a whole halted and an interregnum was enforced from without. I am proud of the students of this college who rose to the challenge, in the likeness of Orpheus, and endeavoured to bring from the dead their love for art and the senses. This academic year, I have witnessed the students putting their blood, sweat, and hardwork into organizing and curating various events, and it gives me immense joy to see their labour come to its fruition. Literati accomplishes the task of encapsulating this past year and garnishing it with a creative cherry on top. I congratulate the whole team on this milestone.

Rev Fr Jose V K, SJ



Message from the Head of the Department

When your mind is liberated, your heart floods with compassion.

iterature, along with all other forms of art, is the most convenient and appropriate means to liberate the mind. It is the only means of opening up one's mind to infinite possibilities while sitting in the closet of one's room. As a consequence, it also allows rivers of compassion to flood the heart, necessary for creating a

better world. Literature opens the windows of a closed mind to see multiple facets, brings to light myriad possibilities that could not be perceived earlier, creates enough space in our little hearts to accommodate the entire universe, let alone the earth.

The department of English at St. Xavier's college, Jaipur is passionate about providing that small opening to its students that has the potential to expand continuously for a lifetime. Throughout the year, the department provides numerous opportunities to its students besides regular textual interaction within classroom walls to expand their malleable minds chasing the horizon of knowledge like a sinking star, in the words of Tennyson. With ample opportunities where students can express themselves creatively, explore the labyrinths of their minds while debating, discussing in groups, reviewing movies, writing scripts and short stories besides poems, sketching and painting verses in colour, researching thoroughly for presenting papers in conferences and symposiums, the students wrestle with their cocoons and by the time they graduate from the portals of our esteemed institution, they have turned into individuals of brilliance with unique prospects and capacities.

Literati is the annual creative culmination of that liberation and the ensuing compassion that flows resultantly when the mind is properly ventilated. Ever since its beginning, we see Literati as a proud platform where every page is splashed with the mindscape of our students while capturing the buzz within the department all through the year. This year too, Literati comes before you with a platter of assorted ideas, artistic expression, creative articulation to treat your senses and titillate your intellect. May you have a liberated reading this time and may our hearts be filled with compassion, both being the absolute need of present times. God bless you!

Dr Atiqa Kelsy



Editor-in-Chief's Message

Some changes look negative on the surface but you will soon realize that space is being created in your life for something new to emerge.

— Eckhart Tolle

In such precarious times, the greatest danger for most of us is not that our aim is too high and we miss it, but that it is too low and we reach it! That's not me the way, that's what Einstein had to say on the insidious peril of mediocrity in education. However, there is as the poets iterate, hope at the end of this song, dark

tunnel. Though our entire system of education is being revamped and going through a difficult transition, our eternal optimism or should I say, ephemeral sense that there are good times ahead. When our readers go through this edition of Literati, they might acknowledge the truth of my statement; for, within these leaves the young brains have yet again brought to amazing fruition, the joys and tribulations, the triumphs and disappointments that they internalized in the year gone by. This glorious discovery reminds me of a few lines by Christopher Logue:

Come to the edge. We might fall. Come to the edge. It's too high! COME TO THE EDGE! And they came, And he pushed And they flew... God willing, *Literati* will always make our students fly!

Literati is a forum for all those interested in the distinctive nature, uses, and pleasures of literature. It seeks to develop a healthy environment for academic literary study and for the literary culture that extends beyond the academy. It has always been a mouthpiece for our young minds and much of this burning of ideas and opinions has found itself into these pages.

Literati as always remains a ready platform not just for the myriad expressions that demand attention, but also as a mirror that reveals the mesmeric kaleidoscope of an eventful year gone by. I am grateful to the editorial team, student coordinators and contributors of the magazine.

I hope you will enjoy reading this seventh edition of the Literati.

Happy Reading!

Dr Ranjit Kaur



It is with humility and burning passion I've realized the goals of being a Xavierite.

Hello Readers! How you doing?

Hi, I'm Divya. I entered this world with an ardent want to explore my capabilities, to enunciate my love for speaking, and yes, it delivered. I gave myself fully to every experience, to every opportunity and now I exit with an outpouring of memories that I will hold dear for a lifetime.

Writing, speaking, editing, and researching, these seem trivial to a younger self, but are of paramount importance in one's life. The Department of English or as I like to call it "My Department" provides you with a plethora of opportunities to help you grow as an individual. It gives you a platform to create, to express, to innovate. Coming to Literati Club, it has been an absolute honour to be elected as the President. It's been an eventful journey, a roller coaster ride full of giggles and tears. It really does whip up the crazy in you!

And now, a word to the newbies- stepping in a new territory may

Message from Literati Cell's President

give you the heebie-jeebies but everything will come under control, those butterflies in your stomach will come to rest once you give in yourself to this experience. Let go of the fear of the unknown, don't be afraid of the uncertainties and most importantly be ready for the unexpected.

Now onto the memory lane!
"To be able to look back upon one's past life is to live twice"

Nothing exemplifies this better than the nostalgic feeling one gets while leafing through one's college magazine. If you are looking to wend your way down the memory lane, LITERATI is your ticket to the snows of yesteryear. I invite you to read and immerse yourself in this vibrant chronicle.

Heartiest Congratulations to the Editorial Team, and to Dr. Ranjit Kaur, I express my heartfelt gratitude.

Thank you for always believing in me. Cheers to crazy yet amazing three years!

I will miss it is an understatement of the highest order.

Divya Sharma

President, *Literati* Cell B.A. Eng. Hons. III



he pen is mightier than the sword. Not because wielding a sword would be frowned upon, it would be, but because holding a pen opens up an avenue of multiple opportunities. To begin, let us look at the humble etymology of the word 'Literati.' It comes from the Latin word 'literatus' which means 'acquainted with letters.' And that is precisely what the Literati Club is—an acquaintance with letters that later blooms into a love affair. And what is not to love when words are so gratifying, so empowering, and so harmonising. When your voice finds the right words and when those words are penned on a paper, something magical happens. Suddenly, your voice is no longer muffled by the crowd, and words get preserved. Something ephemeral becomes a permanent dent in the discourse of

time—that is the power of writing—our magic, if you will. We here at Literati believe that the act of writing is no longer limited to prose or poetry; it is protracted to the domains of photographs, sketches, and even memes. How can memes and pictures not be writing when a picture is worth a thousand words and memes are the inheritance of thoughts? In our inclusivity, we had shed away our snobberies, not all, but enough to better enact the act of empathy—the soul of all arts and crafts.

Through the brief history of this college, Literati has become an institution in itself fostering youthful tenacity and ideas. It has become a melting pot for students' different passions which amalgamates them into an iridescent and vibrant collection of works that is the Literati magazine. A vanguard of a few foot soldiers that one might refer to as the 'aditorial team' always works to bring the words to their best health

soldiers that one might refer to as the 'editorial team' always works to bring the words to their best health by surgically removing bad grammar and nursing flamboyant phrases back to their robust original

thoughts. Literati is a magical creature of sorts; it is both a memory maker and a memory keeper. The experience of a collective effort always brings with itself pleasant memories and the magazine is where we preserve them, word by word, smile by smile. To define Literati would be to limit its importance. At the end of it, it is one of those things that make St. Xavier's what it is, a home. So, dwell yourself in this year's edition.

We present to you: The Literati Magazine.

Somitra Somendra

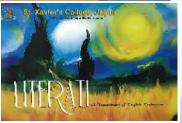
Literati

B.A. Eng. Hons. II



Literati

Literati





My Biopic's title will be 'Mood Swings Ahead.' Sweet and Sarcastic. Lost in the chaos of her thoughts. Always giggling and goofing around. Also, did I mention mood swings ahead? — **Divya Sharma**

This magazine began in a world where Coronavirus was not a life-influencing phenomenon. It was meant to be a celebration of the art, literature, and aesthetics; it was a log of the memories of the year, a cornucopia abounding with fruits of the labour of our fellow students in the noblest of pursuits. Literati is a symbol ofgregarious aspect of the creativespirit which lies at the root of all tradition and culture. — **Ashutosh Sharma**

As a writer, I've always believed in the strength of my 'ink sword' as it gave me an edge and identity. Right from an early age of 10, I started composing poetry, articles and write-ups. I have ardent interest in writing on unorthodox and off the beat agendas. I've got my poems published in numerous anthologies and share all my work on my Instagram page, 'Poorvi says'. Panache is my forte and I exude the same with my content. — **Poorvi Singhal**

It is rare to see literature find space, rather the whole of it in a magazine. Penning down the events organized in the year in words, giving a deserving space to the inked voices with a perfect presentation wasn't an easy job, undoubtedly, but an interesting one. I hope you like it and let literature take you deep into itself, until you explore yourselves inside-out. Living through the panorama of observation and imagination, I pen everything which is felt by all but noticed by none.

— Harshita Agarwal

I'm a man consumed by wanderlust, all what I've visited, I can't draw it over the canvas, so to portray, I write. Working for such an amazing treasure trove with an amazing team and for the most amazing department, has been one of the best parts of being a writer. Literati has been one of the best magazines to work for. Loved it and so will you. — **Eakanch Jain**

Literature has always been, for me, a safe haven - a place to escape from the troubles and problems of everyday life, and experience 'something more' that I'm constantly searching for. Working in Literati, documenting the events of the past year, reliving the memories and also coming across other people's perspectives, had a different kind of joy and magic, and I hope that you, the reader, would also be able to experience that wonder of memories and lives past. — **Nihar Vyas**

Orientation Day Alumni Interaction Movie Screening Group Discussion-Super 30 Department Picnic & Investiture Ceremony 25 26 Letter Writing Competition The Enlightened Echelon



39 Student Exchange Program

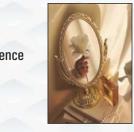
42

















Abhyudaya Debate by Jaipuria College of Management





Kanoria College's Saga fest

College Debate

Veethika by Maharani

Internship Program

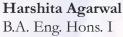
Welcome to the World of Literature

Orientation Day
18 July 2019

Il the world is a stage and so, when we complete one scene and enter another, guidance is what each one of us needs. To fulfil the purpose of the same, the Department of English organised an Orientation Programme on 18 July 2019, to guide the newly joined, enthusiastic youngsters with high hopes and big dreams.

The orientation programme began by welcoming the guests followed by lighting of the lamp and a welcome address by the Principal. Then, the department teachers were introduced, along with a series of glimpses of all the events conducted by the department in the previous years, including the Department Exchange Programme, a visit to the JLF, Group Discussions, the annual department fest-INKA and the Pre-INKA event—The Enlightened Echelon.

Theatre being an intricate part of English Literature, could not be neglected on the English Literature Class' Orientation Day. So, the senior students performed a comedy play scripted and directed by themselves, outlining the differences between good and bad literature. Dr Atiqa Kelsy delivered the vote of thanks, inducing the feeling of belongingness, support and motivation among the students and thus, the event came to a beautiful end.

















Rendezvous with Experience Alumni Interaction

Alumni Interaction
18 July 2019

he Orientation Day for the Department of English held on 18 July 2019, was marked by the presence of Ms Arpita Karwa, an alumna of the college. She was in conversation with Divya Sharma, addressing the variety of questions that students of literature have. Embarking upon the vast journey into the world of literary discourse, it proved to be a boon for the students to have an accomplished senior help them make informed choices and also guide them to a path of





their choice. Ms. Karwa has successfully cleared NET and now shares her expertise to a greater audience through the platform of social media. As an academic, she exemplifies the virtual aspect of andragogy.

Through her self-curated website and her YouTube channel, she reaches out to a hoard of ambitious literary scholars in pursuit of a career in Higher Education.

In her tête-à-tête with Divya, she addressed the apprehensions students face with the choice of literature. She carved a pathway to develop a regular habit of reading and its further development. Keeping in mind the vast scope of literature, she advised the students against limiting themselves to the curriculum. She vividly described the intricacy of analytical reading, and how subscribing to it fetches greater reward as a scholar.

Her expertise in creating a mark in the competitive arena was assuring. She talked about a career in the creative field as a viable option for students of literature. Pivoting further from academics, she discussed the impact of literature in other domains of life. She also highlighted how being a Xavierite gives one a cutting edge over others in the real world.

She talked in great detail about the counterintuitive classification of literature as a response to the myriad questions that our curious students had for her. Divya expressed her gratitude to Ms Karwa for accepting to talk to the students and giving them the much-needed head-start in the right direction.

Living Life, 24 Frames Per Second...

Movie Screening – Super 30 01 August 2019

inema is not only about adaptations and entertainment but also includes contexts and narratives beyond what is shown on the screen. To bring this idea into the students' minds and to explain to them what film studies actually include, on 01 August 2019, the Department of English, St. Xavier's College, Jaipur, organised a movie-screening, at INOX, Crystal Palm, of the film 'Super 30'. It is a remarkable movie as it touches some very sensitive, social and educational topics in a very non-controversial form. Overall, the movie-screening by the department was a great experience, and also offered a way to know more and to broaden our perspectives.

Khushbu Ramchandani

B.A. Eng. Hons. I



Group Discussion on Super 30: Hegemony of Language, Class, and Caste 03 August 2019

group discussion was held on 03 August 2019 on the topic'Super 30: Hegemony of Language, Class and Caste'. This
activity was proposed by the department in order to let the
students explore the depths of Indian cinema and scrutinize the
Indian sub-contexts by reading the film as a text. Nearly forty
students participated in the activity. The discussion began with
contemplation on motifs and symbols beyond the script, and what
the director wanted to show by these. This was followed by the
question— Was the movie more about class or about caste? Several
students opined on this question and gave instances from the movie
to prove their statements. The discussion progressed towards
language and capabilities—How language is a means of creating gaps
as well as bridging differences? The question of epiphany, and how

it was depicted in the movie, was also raised. The whole discussion of around one and a half hour was filled with the critical analysis of the movie with topics such as the historical trajectory of class, the politics of failure, language as a tool for creating rift as well as to bridge differences, and how real the reel was.

Eakanch Jain and Nihar Vyas B.A. Eng. Hons. I





Department Picnic at Tao Experience 17 August 2019

he Department of English organised a picnic for its students on 17th August 2019. The main motive of the excursion was to build relationships over literature and life and to interact with the freshers while having fun. The picnic took place at Tao Experience which is a well-known adventure centre located in the outskirts of Jaipur. The place provided us with around 10 adventure sport activities, including Paintball, Zipline, Bungee elastic

run, Bubble bash, Land Zorbing, Archery, etc. The location was full of greenery and the day became more special by the beautiful weather and constant drizzling. While we played and danced around, our teachers couldn't help themselves from joining us and clicking our pictures. Most of the afternoon was spent dancing, and clicking pictures of the beautiful location while enjoying the various kinds of adventure sports. Every student wanted to explore more and more of the place and try every activity of the itinerary with utmost enthusiasm. The picnic became a memorable event for everybody as they rejoiced and made new friends. At last, while making our way back to the buses, we all realized that it was a day well-spent with beautiful weather and fun adventures.





Investiture Ceremony 18 September 2019

n 18 September 2019, the Investiture Ceremony for Literati Club, of the Department of English, St. Xavier's College, Jaipur, was organised. The ceremony was graced by the presence of Rev. Fr. Varkey Perekkatt, Rector, Dr. Sheila Rai, Principal, Rev. Fr. Sherry George, Vice-principal, Fr. Jose V.K., the Administrator. Students from all three years were conferred badges corresponding to their respective posts, as decided by the teachers, based on their aptitudes and contributions to the department. Divya Sharma was elected as the President and Suchitra Sharma and Gayatri Singh as Vice-Presidents. The Literati Council is known for innovative initiatives and intellectual and ingenious activities, giving students a new platform for honing their skills and gaining experience, along with aiding society in the process.

Nihar Vyas B.A. Eng. Hons. I



Words of Wisdom

Expert Lecture Series

Expert Lecture on Rewriting the National Narrative: Postcolonial Constructions by Prof. Sudha Rai

26 August 2019

n 26 August 2019, the Department organised an expert lecture for its students on "Rewriting the National Narrative: Postcolonial Constructions," by Prof. Sudha Rai, Professor Emeritus, Department of English, University of Rajasthan, Jaipur. Prof. Rai discussed postcolonial constructions and some crucial aspects of the repercussions of colonialism which have led to a metamorphosis of the critical field over the years. She also pointed out some important works like Orientalism by Edward Said, Midnight's Children by Salman Rushdie, and Wide Sargasso Sea by Jean Rhys.

Post colonialism has always had a reflexive touch to it, as the narratives have more or less strived to be a response to an age of repression and "artlessness". But, with increasing maturing critics and literary minds, more and more facets have been attached to this once unidirectional field. Postcoloniality is not just a reflex but, a state of being, and the incorporation of every realisation of atrocity into that state of being, which has lent this field a vibrancy it once lacked. To understand more intimately the psychology which lays the foundations of the postcolonial texts, we ought to understand the trends and the







undercurrents of the past that led the largest empire the world has ever seen. This necessity was more than pointed out and emphasised more than once by Prof. Sudha Rai when she discussed Eurocentrism which prevailed in the culture of the west and lubricated the imperialist ideologies.

Furthermore, not only imperialism but the foundations that were necessitated by this were also brought into light by Prof. Sudha Rai, a primal one being racism. Racism was not intrinsic to the western consciousness but catalysed by the need of an Imperialist ideology. This

"othering" ideology, sadly, is prevalent till now and has crept up to its roots into anthropological narratives, the whole of it is a fallacy, though widely believed in. Prof. Sudha Rai was quite indulgent and helmed the narrative towards the rise of contempt that resulted from the above genesis of racism, stereotyping, and cultural erasure. The reflexive action of the last being the reclamation of a lost cultural identity exemplified by Prof. Sudha Rai by some famous works such as "Exit West" by

Moshin Hamid. Colonialism is not just a conspicuous period on a historical time graph. Colonialism is a state of being, a mentality. And sadly, realistically, it is as prevalent even today as it once was, though not as conspicuously as it once was because horridly enough, colonialism has left that "conspicuous" mould and exists in shapes less defined



though more devastating. Today the world suffers from this parasite called neo-colonialism, a practice of the "developed" countries to direct the flow of wealth underneath the charades of capitalism, globalisation and labour. To understand such contemporary trends the field of

postcolonial studies needs its limbs to extend to the present political-cultural scenario, a fact and a necessity that was more than emphasised by Prof. Sudha Rai. We expect many more lectures from her and expect her to guide these young minds towards that understanding and curiosity that is necessary for the growth of such critical studies that concern the analysis and re-formation of a definitive and unifying culture.



Joytirmoy Joshi M.A. Eng. (Final)

Expert Lecture on Formulation of Identity and Difference in Feminist Theory Prof. Sudha Rai

27 September 2019

he Department organised an expert lecture on "Formulation of Identity and Difference in Feminist Theory." The lecture was delivered by Prof. Sudha Rai and her erudition encompasses a wide range of understanding and knowledge of the subject. She made the students analyse the nature of gender inequality and gender stereotypes through various classical and seminal texts by eminent feminist writers such as Simon De Beauvoir. She discussed texts like Virginia Woolf's A Room of One's Own and Mary Wollstonecraft's A Vindication of the Rights of Women.



Prof. Rai simplified the complexities by analysing hidden nuances of the feminist theory and the large history that backs its existence. The contribution of writers like Elaine Showalter who described a new literary project that constructs a female framework to analyse women's literature was discussed. The entire session was highly interactive and engaging where the students learnt the relevance of deconstructing texts in order to separate it along the structural "fault lines."





Nitika Singh

B.A. Eng. Hons. I







Expert Lecture on Kalidasa's Meghdoot by Dr. Prashant Dharmadhikari

Expert Lecture on Bharata's Natyashastra by Dr. Prashant Dharmadhikari

06 November 2019

he reading and comprehension of a classic is the most critical aspect of English Literature. In view of the same, the Department organised an Expert Lecture on 06 November 2019 which was delivered by Dr. Prashant Dharmadhikari, Asst. Prof. in English, Joshi-Bedekar College, Thane.

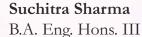
In his trademark deliberate style, Dr. Prashant gave an insight into why Meghdoot is considered a classic. He brought to light its history,

He brought to light its history, cultural and literary paradigms while not forgetting the symbolic meaning of the text, and highlighted its literal as well as indepth meaning; the beautiful and the essential relation which man and nature share, as described by Kalidas. More than forty students from both, UG and PG attended

the session. The session turned into an interactive one and marked its success, as students indulged in discussions, helping them to improve both observational and analytical skills.

o introduce students to the realm of translation literature and to ignite a sense of interest in the same, the Department organised an expert lecture by Dr. Prashant Dharmadhikari. Students

from UG and PG attended the lecture collectively. During the lecture, Dr. Prashant introduced the students to various Indian literary theories such as Rashadhyaya from Natyashastra by Bharat.









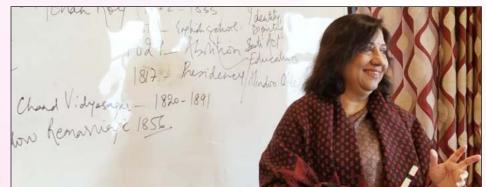


Expert Lecture on Society, Family and Gender Sensitisation in collaboration with Gender Study Cell by Dr. Mini Nanda

18 December 2019



n 18 December 2019, the Department in collaboration with Gender Study Cell, organised an expert lecture on 'Society, Family and Gender Sensitisation' delivered by Dr Mini Nanda, Former Head, Department of English, University of Rajasthan. Dr. Nanda touched upon many important historical and contemporary events. She went in detail about the discourse of Feminist movements and their spread in India. From Raja Rama Mohan Roy to Savitribai Phule and Pandita Rama Bai, she spoke in detail about their role in the feminist movement of India. She introduced various important texts to students like Catherine Mayo's Mother India and Judith Butler's Gender trouble. She highlighted the importance of Indian





Feminist writings. After her lecture, she answered students' questions which further broadened the perspective of the lecture. It was an interactive and enriching experience.

Soumitra Somendra B.A. Eng. Hons. II







Imaginary Homelands by Dr. Mini Nanda

10 January 2020

n the view of providing wholesome and comprehensible lectures on two very controversial and complicated texts in the field of literature, namely Imaginary Homelands by Salman Rushdie and The Empire Writes Back by Ashcroft, Griffiths and Tiffin, the department of English organized expert lectures on 10 & 13 January, 2020. The two combined lectures were taken by Dr. Mini Nanda, former Head of the



Department, English, University of Rajasthan, Jaipur. While talking about Rushdie and Imaginary Homelands, the class was notified with certain keywords that one cannot do without when reading the very text and/writer, namely 'Exile', 'Diaspora' and 'Chutnification'. The lecture was delivered on two levels. Firstly, the idea of what constitutes a 'homeland'- the physical boundaries of nation(s) or the mental boundaries that Rushdie managed to shatter when he talks about India,

both through memory and imagination. Secondly, what happens when we look at India from the eyes of an "Imaginary Homeland"? Since India witnessed many invasions by various monarchs, empires and dynasties, the idea of what is Indian and what constitutes Indian-ness is blurred out with the amalgamation of so many cultures throughout the centuries.



The Empire Writes Back by Ashcroft by Dr. Mini Nanda

13 January 2020

n 13 January 2020, an expert lecture was held in St. Xavier's College Jaipur by Dr. Mini Nanda on The Empire Writes Back: postcolonial constructions discussing crucial aspects of the repercussions of colonialism and the metamorphosis of this critical field that has happened over the years as it has spilled over on to other similarities. Dr. Nanda started her lecture with the very meaning of



colonialism and the forever disturbed waters it leaves in its wake. She then proceeded to the nomenclature history of postcolonialism. Literature, though, has been, according to Dr. Mini Nanda of the primal importance in the legitimisation of the colonial endeavour in not only the minds of the colonised but the colonisers even. Then Dr. Nanda let us wet our feet in the vast knowledge system and cultural perspective developed by Gayatri Spivak and her very known subalterns; thus,

Edward Said. To understand such contemporary trends the field of postcolonial studies needs its limbs to extend to the present political-cultural scenario, a fact and a necessity that was more than emphasised by Dr. Mini Nanda at the end of her lecture.

Joytirmoy Joshi M.A. Eng. (Final)

Teach India Program: English for Employability

(A Social Initiative of the Times of India)

each India Program is based on one simple principle: If you have the desire to teach, we will put you in touch with people who are willing to learn. With the British Council as its knowledge partner, the initiative is implemented on the ground through the partner NGOs. The program ensures the students get employment in different sectors. Before commencing the program, Teach India conducted a training program in the premises of St. Xavier's College, Jaipur for 25 students from 31 August 2019 to 15 September 2019, lasting for three weekends, six days in total from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The trainees learnt skills and teaching techniques that were customized to suit the needs of a major chunk of the population that struggles to converse in basic spoken English in day-to-day life. The trained students, who were now the teachers, were provided with batches of 25 to 30 students each in the various institutes. This program helped the students to not only overcome the language barrier that held them back but also, aided them in shedding their inhibitions, gain confidence and develop certain personality traits which are sure to help them conquer the outside world that is predominantly governed by the English language.

Dr Ranjit Kaur

Course Coordinator

Teach India: Education for Needy

each India conducted a training program for the students to learn the skills and teaching techniques, fit to teach to those who still struggle to converse in English. Each teacher was assigned a few learners from a particular institution. All the learners were above 18 years of age., either studying or employed in a particular department. After 45 days of rigorous teaching and various activities, the evolution of students was conspicuous. From hesitating to even utter a single word in the classroom to now greeting each other and indulging into conversation in spoken English with flair, Teach India helped these students to not only overcome the language barrier but also empowered them to explore beyond status quo.

Charu Datta

M.A. English (Final)



Teach India: Education for All

n 1 October 2019, after completing six days of mandatory training under the British Council's Teach India Program, I began teaching at Govt. Mahila ITI, Jaipur. The arrangement is symbiotic – the learners, by the end, gain the skill to communicate in English and the teachers, who are college students, acquire teaching experience and knowledge. I joined the program as a teacher and I expected to gain some insights into the role of an educator, and, of course, a helpful certificate. The reality turned out to be more cinematic than I had anticipated; for I learned more about myself and human beings in general than the duties of a teacher in a classroom. When one sees growth and improvement first-hand - the continuous problemsolving on the part of pupils as well as the teachers, the same problemsolving mind-set which, when sustained over long periods gave rise to civilisations and cities - one gazes at the reflection, in the depth of inexplicable human emotions, of the core principle of cooperation and brotherhood that separates us from other primates and animals, and makes us truly human.

Ashutosh Sharma

B.A. Eng. Hons. II



Teach India: Chance to Contribute to Society

each India came to our college, as an internship partner. We had classes for three weeks on the weekends from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in which we were taught how to teach English to those who couldn't communicate effectively. In our workshop, we were provided with books by The British Council and taught the new methodology for teaching communication skills in English with the usage of both, practical and theoretical approach. We had games, quizzes, debates, real classroom sessions in which we became the teacher our-selves and taught our fellow volunteers while considering different classroom layouts, use of elicitation for teaching grammar and the vital role that 'instructions' play in the teaching field. After the completion of the workshop, few of the volunteers were selected by the head to teach in Government schools, colleges, etc. for 2 hours every day. Thus, by being a member of such a great programme, we got a chance to contribute our skills to society.

Aayushi Sharma

M.A. English (Final)



Teach India: Promoting Social Contribution

ot everyone has the opportunity to achieve their dreams. For some, the hindrances may be financial, sometimes family pressures or maybe, just the lack of confidence in one's own ability. St. Xavier's College, Jaipur in collaboration with Teach India, an initiative of The Times of India and British Council organised a teacher-training workshop. The selected students from the department attended this workshop, where they were given professional training with the help of various techniques to improve their teaching skills. The workshop proved to be really fruitful as we participated in numerous activities related to diverse genres to upgrade our skills (as trainers) by performing some practical and theoretical activities such as different classroom layouts, use of elicitation for teaching grammar, different types of free and controlled practice activities, group discussion. The expert, Mr. Noor Alam, offered us a wide range of practical and aesthetic aspects of language teaching and managing the classroom. The session came to an end with a feedback segment where everyone shared their experience. The workshop was interactive and successful in promoting volunteerism.



B.A. Eng. Hons. II





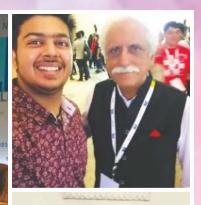
































The Media Mania!

Talk Journalism #TJ2019 — The Biggest Media Festival!

20-22 September 2019

n 20-22 September 2019, Jaipur witnessed the sixth edition of Talk Journalism at Fairmont Hotel, Kukas. It is an Initiative of the Vox Media Foundation which aims at bringing the media dialogue. In three days of exhilarating talk shows, 100+ speakers enlightened the audience with their innovative and optimistic approach towards online and offline media, technological advancement and reflected on the truth behind each fact. Nearly 40 students of St. Xavier's College, Jaipur attended this exquisite and impressive three days' gala talk where they

listened to some of the finest voices from all around the world, which offered a rare insight into the practical and aesthetic aspect that had never been brought up before. The speakers came forward and discussed different facets with the youngsters on various issues/topics such as 'Shrinking space for dissent', 'State of satire', 'Speaking Truth to Power', 'Restoring Faith in Journalism', 'Dateline Kashmir', 'Collaboration among media houses: can Indian media follow suit?', 'The Significance of regional media', 'Perils of being an editor', which were all very informative.

Apart from the interactive sessions, students also very enthusiastically participated in numerous workshops related to diverse genres of journalism and media which aimed at withholding power to awaken and celebrate the spirit of being a young Journalist. TJ2019 was truly an inspiring experience for all the students and was successful in forwarding the quest of untold stories and twisted facts.

Ajay Vardhan Singh B.A. Eco. Hons. III



Letter to Our BAPU...

Spandan - Letter Writing Competition

01-02 October 2019

L. Xavier's College, Jaipur organised a National workshop on "Mahatma Gandhi and Nation Building" celebrating the 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi on 01-02 October 2019. In order to give an edge to the program, the Literati Cell organized a very engaging event during the workshop, called "SPANDAN- Letter Writing Competition" where the participants had to write letters to Gandhiji stating their concern over the present scenario of the nation. The event unfolded itself in two rounds: Samvedna and Santulan which basically translates to writing suggestions "to" Mahatma Gandhi and responding to them "as" Mahatma

Gandhi, respectively. The events were conducted smoothly as on the first day, the students were asked to write letters to Mahatma Gandhi and on the next day, they were asked to respond to the same letters which were distributed randomly among them. The students were judged on the basis of accuracy, knowledge and language skills. All the students proved to be promising and the results of the competition were announced in the closing ceremony of the main event. The overall exercise was exhilarating as the participants had to mull over the present challenges that they think our nation is facing and then, they had to put on the Gandhian thinking caps to answer another problem that the other participant has written about.













The Enlightened Echelon: An Antecedent to Inka 2019

A visit to Navchetna Maansik Divyang Vidyalaya, Jaipur

14 November, 2019



he Literati Cell of the Department of English organised the 6th edition of its annual literature fest INKA on 16 November 2019. To send down a word and to initiate a story for an opus, team INKA organised a visit to the 'Navchetna Maansik Divyang Vidyalaya' managed by the Nevchetna Mansik Viklang Evam Mook Badhir Vidyalaya Samiti (a non-profit organisation for the betterment of the specially-abled) on the occasion of Children day, i.e., 14 November 2019. A pleasant interactive session was convened with the students, constituting a series of activities like storytelling, singing songs, learning pieces of poetry and colouring handmade paper bags. The handbags with the precious artwork of the students were collected and later used for presenting mementos to distinguished guests of the fest. The volunteers spent quality time with the students, conversing about their lives and gifted them with treats, encompassing the feelings of togetherness. The day inculcated a sense of affection and delight in everyone's heart, spreading glee all around.

Srishti Chulet

B.A. Eng. Hons. II











Inka 2019

16 November, 2019

ou are just like a coin. There are two sides to you: the duality of your nature. The darkness of ink gleams brighter than the moon's eternal shine. Come and take a swim in the pensive of words.

Darkness is the necessary evil; without it the light would not exist. It is iterated in the grandest of tales, where the hero would cease to be one in the absence of the villainy of the villain. Search in for your vices and let the light within triumph over your Far Side.

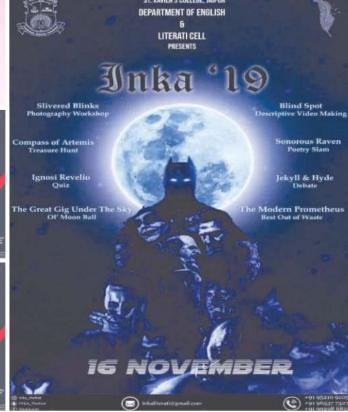


























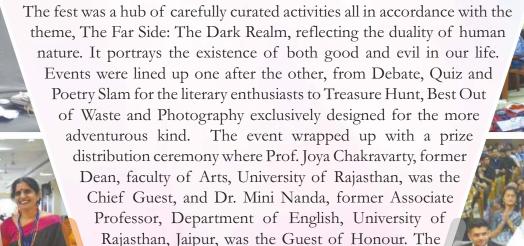
National Annual Literature Festival Inka 2019

The Far Side: The Dark Realm

he Department of English, St. Xavier's College, Jaipur organised the 6th edition of Literature Fest - INKA on 16 November 2019. The fest commenced with a grand ceremonious inaugural session comprising music and a musical monologue. It was graced by the presence of Prof. Sudha Rai, former Dean, faculty of Arts, University of Rajasthan, Jaipur, as the Chief Guest while Prof. Rajan Mahan from Haridev Joshi University of Journalism, Jaipur, was the Guest of Honour. The inaugural ceramony was immediately followed by a very interactive Author Session - 'Moon Lit Quill' where two contemporary authors, Arjun Gupta and Vinati Bhola, engaged with the audience on

the importance of understanding mental health accompanied by some heartwarming poetry, and at the same time discussed their journey as author and poet,

respectively.



fest came to an end with the melodious notes of Ol' Moon Ball, a near perfect end of this delightful journey of unfolding stories and heart-warming episodes.

Moon Lit Quill: Authors' Session

16 November, 2019

uthor's Session was conducted by Soumitra Somendra, student of BA English (Hons.) II, who began with the brief introduction of both the authors- Ms. Vinati Bhola, a corporate lawyer and an internationally published poet who has been writing since the age of 13. Her first collection of poems includes- "Udaari" (an unbridled downpour of emotions through chaos and calm that gradually sweeps in at the end) and Mr. Arjun Gupta, a mental health activist, currently pursuing a degree in Applied Psychology. His books "A-Z of Mental Health" and the recent one "Shh! Don't Talk About Mental Health" (informs as well as engages readers to think about mental health more seriously). Mr. Arjun told us about how we are conditioned to 'avoid the idea' when it comes to mental health and how it is also true for things like IGBT and reproductive health, which seems out of place in Indian households. And Ms. Vinati Bhola told us about her works, how most of her poems are in a conversational tone, which is a way of reaching out to people, to make them listen to what they didn't know, they needed to. And how those extensive use of metaphors in her poetries are the manifestation of her love towards poetry.



Sonorous Raven: Poetry Slam

16 November, 2019



Poetry is the robe, the royal apparel, in which truth asserts its divine origin. Sonorous Raven, was one such competition celebrating poetry, inviting the budding poets of the Pink City, in INKA'19, on November 16, 2019. Witnessing an enthusiastic participation of about 40 students and more, the event was graced by Aparajita Dev and Manchit Kaur as the jury panel. It started off with an orientation by Awaaz Studio, the sponsors of the event, which have been providing a platform to budding artists. Continuing the same, they came forward to help us conduct this competition. The participants were allowed to present their poetries in both Hindi and English Language within the time limit of two to five minutes. The presented poetries revolved around themes like –Personal struggles, Feminism, Society, Nationalism and Love. The ambience created by words, was no less than a spring of colourful thoughts and a spoken word performance by the judge Ms. Aparajita Dev added more colours to it. She also advised the budding poets with writing as well as performing tips. Three winners were announced at the end. Poetry being the most essential part of literature couldn't be neglected and thus, INKA celebrated it with grandeur.

Huffsa B.A. Eng. Hons. I









Jekyll and Hyde: Debate

16 November, 2019

or good ideas and true innovation, you need human interaction, conflict, argument and debate. Debate is certainly a time where the containers of power named words are opened and explored. JEKYLL AND HYDE, was once such a debate in INKA'19. The debate witnessed a good number of participants from different colleges and schools around the city and was graced by Ms. SONAL SINGH, the judge for the competition. The debate was like a parliamentary form of debate and had three rounds – two individuals, one in teams. Round 1 was an individual round on the topic – "The abrogation of Article 370 strengthens the sovereignty of the nation".

The topic was revealed a few days prior to the competition for the participants to prepare but the sides were informed on the day through chits. Out of all the participants twelve qualified for round two. Round two was a team round and the participants were divided into four teams each of 3 members. The teams were then given on the spot topics and sides by the core committee. Team A & B and Team C & D had a face off, respectively. The given topics were — "The Term Feminazi is problematic" and "Reservation for women ensures equality". Each team was given ten minutes to prepare and three to speak. The teams were allowed to make interjections but first to be approved by the core committee for its validity. Moreover, the core committee too asked a bonus question and marks were awarded accordingly. Round 2 was indeed more interesting and exquisite than the conventional debates.

Out of four teams, two teams qualified for round 3, where the debaters had to speak individually and were given on the spot topic. and side – "The house believes that this age will be known as the Age of Plastic". The participants were then given fifteen minutes to prepare and two minutes each to speak. The results were calculated and a very close difference was found between the winner and the first runner up but as it is rightly said – only the best wins, so did it happen. This hybrid form of debate was not only disparate but also left a mark on each of the participants and visitors.

Harshita Agarwal B.A. Eng. Hons. I



Ignosi Revelio: Quiz

16 November, 2019

n 16
Novemb
er, 2019,
the Department of
English, St.
Xavier's College,
Jaipur, organised
the annual literary
fest Inka. As a part
of this fest, the
quiz, titled Ignosi



Revelio, was held that attracted many participants from various schools and colleges.

The event occurred parallel to the second round of Treasure Hunt, and included six teams in total. The participants were from Kanoria College, Maharaja College and St. Angela Sophia School, Jaipur.

A little delayed, the event soon commenced. The difficulty level of the questions was above average, but the participating teams



participants. The final round, Rapid Fire, raised the bar higher, with the participants

having only 60 seconds to answer ten questions, along with negative marking on every wrong answer. Finally, the quiz ended, with Kanoria Girls College, Jaipur, emerging as the winner.

answered several

tricky ones

brilliantly. The

dialogues from

several famous

movies and TV

shows, was the one

most loved by the

audio round, that included iconic

The victorious team was awarded their prize during the closing ceremony of Inka '19.

Nihar Vyas B.A. Eng. Hons. I



Compass of Artemis: Treasure Hunt

16 November, 2019

hrill and drill of one is the most loved and read fiction series which fascinated almost every age group of readers to go with the novels full of wizardly stuff and imagination of J.K. Rowling. So, the Harry Potter series was kept together to let our guest students or much precisely Potter heads, experience their favourite, Compass of Artemis – Treasure Hunt in the Mega Annual Fest of Department of English & Literati Cell, INKA'19.

The game was divided into three rounds one after the other and first of all was 'Questionnaire round' of 30 questions which was conducted amongst 25 teams of three participants each. As the game started from the college auditorium, the place was full of people recalling their favourite characters, their belongings and others from the novels and those who relied only on the movies were confused, as questions were from deep down the books.

After commendable performances of all of those amazing contenders on the paper, six teams got a chance to step into the college quadrangle, which was our Quidditch ground for the day. With amazing soundtracks and an amusing host in the background all those 18 potter heads from 6 teams competed, in the finely recreated Quidditch ground.

Finally, for the last round, qualifier teams of the previous one, which were stepped forward to collect their flaps and then stepped out of the

premises, as they finally made it to the final round, 'Treasure Hunt'. All the participants ran out of the college to collect their remaining clues hidden at the various spots in the city around the college confined in the range of 5 km. Collecting all the clues from all around the range set for the game, teams returned from the battlefield to the college for their final one hidden in the college.

Through the highlight event of the day we came across several deliberate potter heads and crazy fans of every mega or miniature thing from the book and as they say may the best one wins, one team made through it but those who didn't still grew their love more firm for Potter family and had the same smile and joy for the chance to play their favourite sport.

Eakanch Jain

B.A. Eng. Hons.



A Great Gig under the Sky: Ol'Moon Ball

16 November, 2019

he Department of English, St. Xavier's college, Jaipur organised the sixth edition of its literature fest – INKA'19 on 16 November 2019. The theme for this year's fest was, The Far Side; the Dark Realm, which was perhaps quite out of the ordinary, an anomalous affair of events. The ballroom dance or popularly known as the Ol' Moon Ball; marked a beautiful end to an engaging day. The stage glittered through the beau monde of couples waltzing across the hall. The ball dance was the last of all the events that epitomized fun, elegance and frolic. The happiness of the hour did not end as after heartily dancing people went in for the elaborate banquet organized for them. The ball dance like every year signalled a perfect end to a glorious evening. INKA is the most awaited fest for the brilliance that is involved in its creation. From the intellectual insights that it provides to the amazing ball experience, it is an assurance that one will show up the next year at INKA as well.



Nitika Singh, B.A. Eng. Hons. I

































Laying Foundations of A Strong Career

Career Counselling Seminar in Collaboration with RAU's Study Circle

22 November 2019

areer Counselling Session was organised on 22 November 2019, in collaboration with RAU's Study Circle. The seminar was a post Inka activity with the motive of spreading awareness about preparation for Civil Services Exams. The event was presided over by the Vice Principal Rev. Fr. Sherry George and the keynote speaker was Mr. B. L Vohra (Retd. IPS), a post-graduate in Economics from Delhi University. In his address Mr. Vohra shed light on the experience and the prestige that comes with being an IAS officer. He also talked about the scheme of the exam and the effort and habits that are required to excel in such competitive exams. In his interactive session he introduced the students to the world of Civil Services and elucidated on what it takes to be successful in this field. He enlightened and encouraged the students to work harder to achieve their goals and realise their dreams. The seminar was attended by more than 100 students of different streams who enthusiastically asked questions related to the preparation for these exams.









Cross-Culture Communication. Connection

Student Exchange Program

22 November 2019

n international student exchange program was conducted in collaboration with St. Xavier's College, Kathmandu, Nepal from 26th November 2019. The program was sketched in such a way that it gave students a great exposure, which broadened their minds, academically as well as culturally. It was also an amazing chance for them to taste multiculturalism and strengthen the bonds with another sister institution. A group of ten students, accompanied by Dr. Rama Hirawat attended this thoughtful and mesmerizing growth-oriented program. It was introduced to them with an aesthetic reflection of the culture of that place. The students got ample of opportunities and exposure to taste and experience the food, attend lectures delivered by the professors of St. Xavier's College, Kathmandu followed by visiting religious shrines - Swayambhunath Stupa, Buddhist temple and Pashupati temple and a lot more. The trip to Kathmandu concluded with the closing ceremony on 1st December 2019 where the students presented a powerpoint presentation on their experience in Kathmandu and showcased the Indian culture through stunning performances. The student exchange programme was a great exposure for all the students to broaden their perspective with a lot of memories and experiences to share and brag about their visit to Nepal.

Vartika Maheshwari

B.A. Eng. Hons. II



The Haven of Literature

Jaipur Literature Festival' 2020

20 - 27th January'20

aipur Literature Festival, popularly known as the JLF - the greatest literary show on Earth, also expounded as the 'Kumbha of Literature' is indeed the beat, the feel and the vibe of the Pink City. The festival, in 2020, made its way into the lawns of the resplendent Diggi Palace set amidst the heart of the city. It was a five-day-long literature festival held from 23rd January'20 - 27th January'20. JLF is a haven for artists coming from all walks of life, with a goodie-bag brimming with multifarious experiences, maxims and something for everyone. The 14th edition of this erudite fest brought together revered personalities like Dr Shashi Tharoor, Mr. & Mrs Vidhu Vinod Chopra, Sachin Pilot, Dia Mirza, Sonali Bendre Behl, Elizabeth Gilbert and Prasoon Joshi, to name a few. The event witnessed prompt participation of lakhs of Literature enthusiasts who came all geared up to lend an ear to some 400 speakers. There were scholarly discussions on intriguing agendas like climate change, women empowerment, mythology, Indian and Global Politics and so forth. The event also saw singers and music composers perform melodiously at the Jaipur Music Stage, held at the Clarks Amer. Beyond literature, the festival also offered sumptuous food, trendy fashion stalls and fun and frolic workshops. The event hosted participants from all across the globe who were spellbound by the rich heritage, vivacious culture and

regality of the city. JLF has truly given an edge to 'Gulabi Nagri' and has marked it on the world map.

Poorvi Singhal B.A. Eng. Hons. I











Student Volunteers at JLF 2020

Tom 23 January to 27 January 2020, students from the Department of English volunteered at JLF, the greatest literary show on Earth and gained rich experience of interaction with writers and media celebrities. Besides volunteering, the staff and students of the Department also attended all the five days of this Kumbha of Literature to bathe themselves into the transcendental light of words spoken, written and even set to music. Revered personalities from different genres graced the festival. The event saw lakhs of participants coming in, to gain knowledge and experience. There was something for everyone in terms of art, literature, music, food etc.



Akshata Katara B.A. Eng. Hons. III





As Service Provider at JLF 2020

his year too, I worked as a Service Provider in Jaipur Literature Festival. It was my second time as the festival crew. It is always a fruitful experience to be a part of this festival. Being a Xavierite and also being a literature student comes very handy at this place because we're always a priority. This year was more special because I got to attend the session of the Organisation that I was working with as an intern, I got to meet my co-workers and also some of my seniors from the Delhi Office. We had a great learning time together. I also met my teachers and friends, so it was a wholesome experience. I had many insightful conversations with people that I know and don't know. It is a

vibrant place with lessons obscured in every nook and corner. I always look forward to this time of the year because where else would you want to be when almost everyone from around the globe is here.

Madhuri Saraswat B.A. Eng. Hons. III







ICSSR Sponsored Multi-Disciplinary

International Conference on Rethink, Restrict, Restructure and Reinvent: The Sustainable Development Perspective

7-8 February 2020

Technical Session on Socio-Cultural Sustainability

he Department of English invited papers for the sub-theme Socio-cultural Sustainability. The response was overwhelming. Out of 33 paper presentations, two keynotes and seven paper presentations on myriad topics were made by our department faculty and students in three technical sessions. Prof. Joya Chakravarty, Former Dean, Faculty of Arts and Head, Department of English, University of Rajasthan presided over the first session as the chairperson. Dr. Ranjit Kaur struck the right chord with her well-researched keynote on Culture, Ecology and Colonialism in Amitav Ghosh's The Hungry Tide. The paper touched on the most relevant and contemporary aspects of ecocriticism and postcolonialism.

For the second session, Prof. Sudha Rai, Former Dean, Faculty of Arts and Head, Department of English, University of Rajasthan, presided as chairperson. The keynote was delivered by Dr. Atiqa Kelsy on The Whirling Dervish: An Eco-critical Perspective on Sufism. Dr. Kelsy traced the development of Ecocriticism and brought to light the love for nature that has been reflected over the ages in Sufi Poetry. Prof. Urmil Talwar, Former Joint Director (RUSA) presided over the third session and the keynote was delivered by Prof. Supriya Agarwal, Professor in the Department of English and Dean School of Humanities and Languages at Central University of Rajasthan, Ajmer on Grounding Ecofeminism: A Spectrum of Ideologies. The papers presented covered a vast range of topics and the sessions had been beneficial as it not only widened the spectrum of our knowledge but created in us a truthful awareness for our environment so that our knowledge is indeed translated into action.







Taking Care of Mother Nature...

Research Paper Presentations Department of English

n 7th and 8th February, 2020, St. Xavier's College, Jaipur, organised the ICSSR sponsored International Conference on Rethink, Restrict, Restructure and Reinvent the Sustainable Development Perspective. Several students as well as faculties presented papers in six sessions. It was a great opportunity for the students to stand on a platform equal to senior lecturers and faculties from universities all over India, which not only boosted their confidence, but also encouraged them to take up research as a career path. There were seven paper presentations from the Department of English, most of which were done from moving works in literature, myths and lore and epics.

The first paper was presented by Nitika Singh who showcased the lop-sidedness of climate activism. How bigotry and prejudice are practiced against people of colour, which results in lack of diversity in climate movements. The paper was titled- "A lop-sided dialogue on climate crises".

The second paper was presented by Nihar Vyas who analysed five different poems on nature which belonged to different eras. The paper showcased a connection between the poems as well as the thoughts of the poets through the ages. Thus, the paper was titled- "Dancing with the Daffodils, Environment Conservation: A Literary Perspective".

The third paper was a dual research by Ashutosh Sharma and Manas Thakur. The paper presents a Psychoanalytical approach from the study of a "dystopian" novel. It dissects the constructs of the set façade which lie in propaganda- conditioning that ultimately morphs into the myth of stability. The paper was titled- "The Myth of Stability in Huxley's Brave New World".

The fourth paper was presented by Divya Sharma and Dhriti who brought out the concept of environmental education through their literary reading of Daniel Defoe's classic Robinson Crusoe. The paper brought out accounts of the existence and cultural activity of the







environmental values present in the text. The paper was thus titled "Ecological Sustainability in Literature through the study of Robinson Crusoe".

The fifth paper was presented by Suchitra Sharma and Vishnu Nayak who discussed the role of literature in building the insight of human beings. Through the study of literary texts of two different centuries, the paper evaluates the characters putting their context and sub-context in regards to nature. Thus, the paper was titled "Preservation of Nature: Through the study of Tess of D'Urbervilles and Lord of the Flies".

The sixth paper was presented by Cyrus Derek Edwin and Charu Datta. The paper presenters inspired by a child activist and the play Death and the Kings' Horseman by Wole Soyinka brings out the degradation of the economic, social and environmental condition due to unethical and unplanned exploitation by the previous generation. The paper aims to explore the intensity of degradation done by the older generation, and the consequences that befall upon the coming generation. The paper was titled- "And they wailed "Not-I": The generational plunder of boomers and the consequences faced by millennials".

The seventh and the final paper was presented by Jyotirmoy Joshi who took up a postmodern attempt by Francis Fukuyama, the end of history and the last man, to finally endow this seemingly indiscernible linearity of human history with some order and explicability with the view of contemporary liberal democracy as the finality of events. The paper was titled-"Theory of evolution and the postmodern idea of the end of history".

Suchitra Sharma

B.A. Eng. Hons. III









Read. Rivet. Research

Research Project

he aim of the Research Cell is to establish founding stones for budding researchers and provide them with a platform to showcase their research projects and studies. These projects are published by the College in the form of print magazines giving solid shape and form to the works of these dreamers and researchers. Two students from the Department of English volunteered to be part of the research cell. Prachi Sharma and Aayushi Sharma of M.A. English, presented their project on the topic: "Study of The Forest of Enchantments by Chitra Banerjee through the lens of Feminist theory." This topic studies the work of Chitra Banerjee and analyses the marginalized characters in the Ramayana through Feminist theory. The main aim was to study identity crisis issues of the female characters. The researchers conducted a survey of questionnaires in the age group 18-45 and came up with the result that more than half of their sample agreed on the question that Ramayana deals with gender inequality. The projects strongly question certain beliefs and ideas which have been circulated from ages. The research brings out answers to certain questions to which society and culture always side-lined, it includes - why Ram and other male characters are kept higher on the pedestal than the female ones? What is the role of women in society? The project wishes to raise questions about man's perception towards women and to contribute on the road to social change. Being a part of the research project was a delightful experience because it not only helped us to study on such a debatable topic but also helped us to present our views and be a part of change.

Aayushi Sharma Prachi Sharma



Hands on Experience

Internship Programs
24 July to 21 August 2019

Psychiatric Centre, Jaipur. It was more or less, an observational training, where all the interns used to sit with the professionals and observe the entire work. But I was lucky enough that I received an opportunity to handle a patient by myself—this was a very different experience because despite listening to their problems and how difficult it was for them to live, our field of study always told us not to get attached or have any kind of personal emotions with them. We used to assemble in the seminar halls, two days a week accompanied by several

experienced and learning doctors, and used to discuss a patient, his history, followed by symptoms and then the problems and its treatment. This part of the internship for me, personally was a very difficult task because we had to speak regarding the above and it was rather a theoretical exam than a real-life assessment. Overall, it was a wonderful experience and I am thankful that I had such a chance.

Suchitra Sharma BA Eng. Hons. III

Internship Details

Witbox Media : Alina Yasrub Khan-Content Research and Video Production Divyadarshni Singh – Social Media Outreach Program

Princess Diya Kumari Foundation (PDKF)
Harshita Agarwal – Content Writer

UTKAL TODAY

NJT Network Pvt. Ltd. Madhuri Saraswat – Connected with ETSY.com

> Iksula Services Private Limited Prachi Sharma – Content Writer

Digital Musketeerz Pvt. Ltd.

Jaipur Buzz



















Namekart Private Limited: Prachi Sharma - Entrepreneur in Residence (EIR)

Department of Psychiatry, SMS Medical College, Jaipur Suchitra Sharma – Observational Trainer

Department of Mental Health and Behavioural Sciences at Fortis Healthcare, along with Sukoon Healthcare BMVSS Jaipur Foot: Tanu Shree Sharma

Meraaki Kitchen: Paridhi Pareek

White Sage Cafe

Setters and JOVI International: Poorvi Singhal-Freelance content writer She is presently working with both the firms

JOVI International

Abhyudaya - National Debate Competition

22 November 2019

Jaipuria Institute of Management, Jaipur organized a National Debate competition on November 22, 2019. The proposition before the house was "the social responsibility of business is to earn a profit." The competition witnessed enthusiastic and frantic participants, speaking in proposition and opposition of the motion. In the rebuttal round, a volley of questions was answered confidently by both the sides, inviting counter questions which were aptly answered by witty and vivacious speakers. The debate was a kaleidoscope of opinions, thoughts, ideas and perspectives that enhanced the knowledge and understanding of the topic among the students, also serving the purpose of the competition, which was to hone public speaking skills of the

The distinguished judges, in the end, shared their experience and advised students on how they can become an ace in a debate. The competition was a fair learning experience that embedded a strong sense of competitiveness, forthrightness and spontaneity in participants. The debate was impeccably organized and executed by the staff of Jaipuria College, Jaipur. Two participants from St. Xavier's college bagged the winning trophy. The participants were provided with a national platform where they could raise their opinion and voice their concerns regarding the recent political and economic developments happening in the world.

Nitika Singh

participants.

B.A. Eng. Hons. I



Veethika - National Debate Competition

University Maharani College, Jaipur 29 January 2020

'It's better to change an opinion than to persist into the wrong one." - Socrates

The afternoon of the 29th January was monumental as the entire campus of the University Maharani College was dwelling in the spirit of competition as they held their annual competition "VEETHIKA". The students of Xavier's Debating Society participated in a debate competition at the five-day-long celebration of literature, dance, fashion and fine arts. The competition was divided into two rounds – the group discussion and the debate. For the group discussion, 3 groups of 4-5 people were formed and were given topics on the spot. All the topics focused on the sexual assault cases from different perspectives, be it the role of media in reporting these cases or the strengthening of laws against sexual assault of men. The participants who qualified for the debate round were given the topic 'Capital Punishment for Rapists' a few days before the competition while they were allotted their stance on the topic on the spot. After the debating round came to an end, keeping the

true spirit of the competition alive, the participants along with the judges and coordinators of the event, discussed the possibility and scope of capital punishments in our nation. The discussions also measured the gravity of strong legislation to bring down the crime rate in our nation. "It was a beautiful sight to witness: to see the youth of the country

talking to find the solution for a major problem of our country", as quoted by one of the judges.

Finally, the results of the competition were declared where Alina Yasrub Khan of St. Xavier's College and Charush

Khurana of Rajasthan Law College tied for the first place, Harshita Kapoor of Kanoria College bagged the second place, and Kanvika Sharma of

St. Xavier's College secured the third position.

Beyond their competitive spirits, the participants along with the judges of the event proved that the power lies in questioning and it is this power of questioning which gives rise to informed individuals and some of the most important legislation.

Alina Yasrub Khan B.A. Eng. Hons. I



Kanoria College's Fest: Saga 2019

08 November 2019

n 8 November 2019, Kanoria College, Jaipur, organised their annual literary fest, Saga'19. The programme was attended by several students of St. Xavier's College, Jaipur. The fest commenced with a play titled "Break the Walls", performed by the students of the college. The theme of the play dealt with right and wrong, along with topics such as remorse, repentance, pride and guilt. It also addressed numerous sensitive issues, including poverty, rape, corruption, casteism, racism, etc. The students' acting was impressive, and the dialogues were very well-written. The play managed to move the audience deeply.

After this, the Author Session, "Inception Saga", took place, with Prof. Rajul Bhargava as the panellist and Prof. Lakshmi Kannan as the guest author. Parallelly, an event titled "Catch-22" was also held, wherein the

participants were provided with five random words, and they had to create a story or a write-up, integrating those words in their composition. Two hours were given to the participants to complete the task. This was followed by many other events, namely "Cross of the Leads", "Vox Litterae", "Pathetic Fallacy", etc.

Overall, the programme was a fun experience, which also strengthened inter-college friendships and provided a platform for students to express themselves.











Bidding Adieu

A Fond Farewell to the Final Year Students 20 February 2020

ebruary made us all juniors a little emotional as we had to bid adieu to our beloved seniors. But it couldn't have happened without a grand gesture. A beautiful evening was organized by the juniors with a theme of 'Back to the 90's: The last batch' to give our seniors a feeling of nostalgia from their childhood. The farewell took place at Zarza on 20th February 2020. All the seniors were given scrolls and gifts and all of us danced all evening, creating everlasting memories. Emotions soared high as we all realised that it was time for us to say goodbye towards the end of the night. It was an overwhelming and moving night for each one of us.

Bhumika Gaur BA Eng. Hons. II











Award of Excellence and Sports Achievements / Awards

	*
Award of Excellence	Names
Special Recognition for Academic Excellence (NET Qualified)	Cyrus Derek Edwin (M.A. English-Final)
Pride of the Department	Suchitra Sharma (B.A. Eng. Hons. III)
Award of Excellence for Leadership and Organisational Skills	Divya Sharma (B.A. Eng. Hons. III), Chetna Shekhawat (M.A. English-Final)
Award of Excellence for Public Relation	Navdeep Singh (B.A. Eng. Hons. III)
Award of Excellence for Regularity Maximum Attendance	Devanshu Tanwar (B.A. Eng. Hons. III), Jeny Johnson (M.A. English-Final)
Award of Excellence for Technical Creativity	Gayatri Singh (B.A. Eng. Hons. III)
Award of Excellence for Marketing	Malvika Batar (B.A. Eng. Hons. III)
Award of Excellence for Research	Suchitra Sharma (B.A. Eng. Hons. III), Cyrus Derek Edwin (M.A. English-Final)
	Jyotirmoy Joshi (M.A. English-Final), Charu Datta (M.A. English-Final)
Award for Best AICUFFer	Aakriti Andrews (B.A. Eng. Hons. III), T. Charis Divya (B.A. Eng. Hons. III)
Award of Excellence for Editing	Divya Sharma (B.A. Eng. Hons. III), Namrata Karamchandani (B.A. Eng. Hons. III)
Award of Excellence for NSS	Abhishek L Oomen (B.A. Eng. Hons. III)
Award of Excellence (Literati Cell)	Gayatri Singh (B.A. Eng. Hons. III), Janmeyjay Jyani (B.A. Eng. Hons. III)
Award of Excellence (Debate Club)	Divya Sharma (B.A. Eng. Hons. III), Gauri Nair (B.A. Eng. Hons. III)
Award of Excellence (MOC Club)	Rajshree Agarwal (B.A. Eng. Hons. III)
Award of Excellence (Dance Club)	Payal Vatwani (B.A. Eng. Hons. III)
Award of Excellence (Music Club)	Sharon Blesson (M.A. English-Final)
Award of Excellence (Fashion Club)	Aanchal Sharma (B.A. Eng. Hons. III)
Sports Achievements / Awards	Names
Sports Secretary (Session 2019-2020)	Navdeep Singh (B.A. Eng. Hons. III)
Xavier's Pride (Female)	Molika Mathur (B.A. Eng. Hons. I)
Player of the Year (Basketball & Handball)	Paridhi Pareek (B.A. Eng. Hons. II)
Player of the Year (Badminton)	Molika Mathur (B.A. Eng. Hons. I)
Player of the Year (Shooting)	Shambhavi Kumari (B.A. Eng. Hons. II)
Player of the Year (Shooting)	Mritunjai Singh (B.A. Eng. Hons. II)
Player of the Year (American Football)	Lakshya Dua (B.A. Eng. Hons. II)
Player of the Year (Athletics & Football)	Navdeep Singh (B.A. Eng. Hons. III)
Special Token of Appreciation for Badminton	Molika Mathur (B.A. Eng. Hons. I)



























Be A Sport. Play A Sport.

"It's not whether you get knocked down; it's whether you get up." — Vince Lombardi

eing a member of the Student council (CORE), 2019-20 as the Sports secretary of the college, I got numerous opportunities to prove my mettle as a sportsperson and captain. I was assigned as the Manager of Neymar Jr's five, a sports event in Zest 2020. I am the captain of St Xavier's college, Athletics team. I bagged the second position in the inter-department 200 m race in 2018 and first position in the inter-department 200 m race in 2019. I was also the captain of the winning team in the Futsal tournament organized at Jaipuria Institute of Management, Jaipur. I represented our college in Rajasthan University in Football and Athletics. I was also a finalist in Long Jump (male) in Rajasthan University, 2019. I managed the captaincy of the Athletics team of St. Xavier's College, Jaipur in sports fests like BOSM (BITS PILANI) and IIT Kanpur. I was also a part of the winning team in the 4x100 meter relay category in inter- department Sports meet, 2019. I captained the BA/BCA/All PG sports team and Athletics winning team in the inter-department tournaments, 2019. I was also a semi-finalist in BOSM'19 (BITS, Pilani) Football competition and I bagged the 4th position in Long Jump (male) in BOSM (BITS, Pilani) 2019.

I have dipped my hands in various activities other than Sports too. I was the Manager of the PR committees in two esteemed fests- INKA'19 and ZEST'20. I was also one of the organizers in ZEST 2020.

Navdeep Singh

Sports Secretary, Session 2019-20



Pearson MePro: An Online English Course







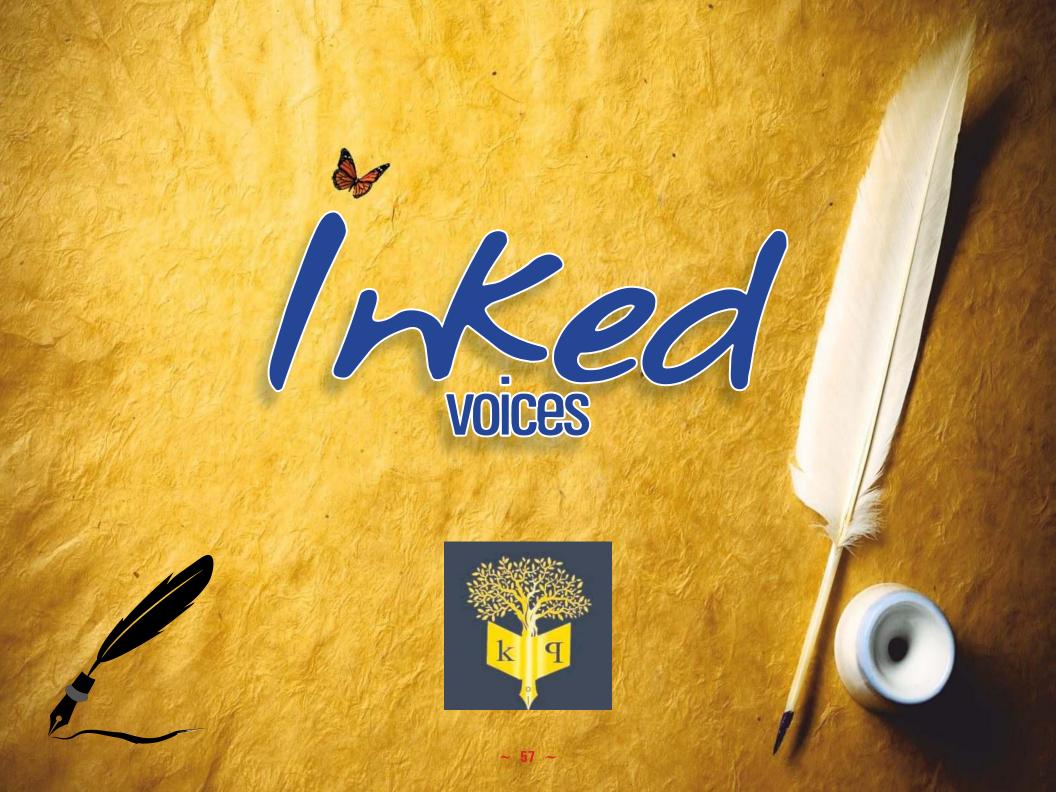
he department of English, St. Xavier's College, Jaipur collaborated with Pearson MePro-an online English course. The department found that the program is unique as it addresses the needs of an individual and then helps them to take their English Proficiency to the next level. The program is built on the Global Scale of English (GSE) framework. It consequently helps the learner to hone all the four skills of the language viz - Listening, Reading, Speaking and Writing. The program begins with the learner taking a Diagnostic Test for an accurate Level Placement, Based on the diagnostic test, the learner is placed within the range of 10-90 of GSE.Twelve students from different streams and teaching and non-teaching staff from St. Xavier's College, Jaipur enrolled for it as a part of the Faculty Development Program. The learners were encouraged to clear as many levels as they can within a year, as the enrolment was valid for a year from the date of the activation of the course. The learner has to go through continuous evaluation and assessment before moving on to the next level. The course was very productive as it helped the students to strengthen their communication skills and to become employable and be relevant in today's world.

Dr. Atiqa KelsyCourse Coordinator











Poetry



The Eternal Escape

I was watching out for her, She didn't come along. I got out of my bed, Put my slippers on, And went in chasing after her. On the secluded street, I was wandering in my stripped boxers, Delving into every nook and corner. She finds the sea soothing. Brooding over, I reached the beach. Slippers in my hands, Started walking on the sand, Casted an eye over, She was nowhere to be seen. Nevertheless, I caught a glimpse Of some people Singing and dancing around fire.



Contemplating she might be there,
Since she relishes music,

Like a guilt free narcotic. But my spirits dampened. I Inquired a few, nobody knew.

It was dawn.

I left the beach,
Started walking towards home,
Hoping she would come.
Returning I saw a tea stall,
She savoured chamomile I knew,
My head wanted to give it a fly.
What if she was there?
Still and all,
I was expecting high.
I drank tea, looked through,

Read some 10 pages, And she came all of a sudden. My sleep. At 6 in the morning. Without me realizing.

Payal Vatwani B.A. Eng. Hons. II

Made my way home.

Grabbed Murakami,

Retired to bed.

Make Me A Firefly

Nah, don't make me a bird, You'll cage me one day. Instead...make me a firefly...Glimmering in the world in dark,

Even if you hold me tight...Until I die!

I die out of my own light...

Attracting the blinds,

Healing them...of their dark.

Making that forest smile,

Who is being cursed for snatching

So many lives.

Make me a firefly;
I want to be a star,
Neither too high
Nor on ground,
Just flowing with the wind
For those needing me,
For those

Who need to understand That life in dark

Isn't that difficult

Than life in too much of light,

Attracting everyone

But no one to share the pain with.

So don't make me a bird...
Instead make me a firefly.
I don't want others to be the same as me.



I want them to be free,
In day and night,
Not like me...
Hiding myself in day
And alighting at night!
I want them not to be afraid of
the Sun
And not needing a firefly
anymore.
I want no darkness to prevail.
I want no sparkling light.

Harshita Agarwal B.A. Eng. Hons. I

Equally!

I just want the rays of happiness and hope

Running across the world



The New Mirror

"Mirrors are older realities" I concluded. Sitting on a tea stall At 6 in the morning, Looking for a taxi. I ordered a tea, meanwhile. As the man Served it to me Isaw Life fragrance-ing in those hot vapours. Happy children spilling out of their homes With heavy bags and bright eyes, Soothing breeze... As he kept the tea cup On the stool In that clatter I heard,

Life singing With the rings of cycles loaded with newspapers, Children laughing, The pious bells in the city. I took a sip And tasted them all Feeling a bliss Abiding over my tongue. Enjoying the same essence, I rolled my eyes Onto everything I could reach then Smiling... Until they stopped on a white roll Between two fingers, Fixed with love soon to betray the lover. All that with a dull face, the man sat, On the other tea stall



Puffing his decaying life.
Onto everything that my eyes could reach
They stopped at that unpleasant,
Vague,
White smoke.
And a smiling me got a frown on my head.
I saw his other beloveds
Cry,
Not just he
But that of the tea maker's too.

Thinking about the two soon to be laid

Into graves
One full of cries of guilt
Another of questions
And tears over them.
Thinking of that child
Enjoying his cookies
On the same stall
Glaring the white roll

Thinking to try it once in his life
For the man he is watching
Seems to be loving it
And so it might be something special.

One more closer look at the smoke Made me see
Me,
In a lapse of years
with some other cup of tea,
Eyes reaching out for things
Again stopping at some tea stall
Seeing the same child
Now a man
Enjoying as he did.

This time not the cookies But the roll.

And me,
Elapsing by the same thoughts
And images
Drawn by the smoke
In my mind
A dying smoker
A dying tea maker
And a child
Finding it special
Thinking to try.

But...
For now,
My cup of tea is empty,
The taxi is here
And as its none of
"my business"
To go and stop the smoker
To ask the tea maker
Not to allow them
To ask the small boy
To go away

I hopped in the taxi
And left.
Mirrors are older realities
Smokes are the latest
With a magic spell
Showing the future as well.

Harshita Agarwal B.A. Eng. Hons. I

And in the End...

"Some misunderstandings are so powerful that they break the most beautiful relations"

Today, I witnessed the most beautiful relation break in front of my eyes:

The relation between 'Life' and 'Death'.

When people die, and you're not expecting it,

You don't lose them all at once-

You lose them in pieces over a long time.

Empty handed we entered the world

Barefoot we leave it.

Our coming, our going—two simple happenings

That gets entangled.

It takes courage to soften the reality of impermanence.

If our dust helps one flower bloom

Then, that alone makes our life worthwhile.

Dying is a wild night and a new road

Maybe death isn't darkness after all,

But so much light wrapping itself around us.

Life is hard, that's why no one survives.

Sometimes it's okay if the only thing you did today was breathe.



What You See

From the showering clouds To the tiny droplets of water falling from the leaves, My eyes saw themselves in it.

With every blink, The crowd became a cluster and In the end, the play was left with only one character.

Living diaries converted into papers; Heavy sighs became the ink to my feather.

Let me write until I run out of these feathers,

Because here, at least my emotions matter.

Why does my face feel so hard? Why does the smile never leave? Is this really what you see?

Fatima Afa Khan B.A. Eng. Hons. I



What is Love? To describe it. Just with 'affection' Would be like A soldier thrown amidst destruction. It is the beauty of a rose With thorns below, The bright light of the moon With craters that follow.

Love is bliss which takes many a form, But for mankind, it is something That makes the heart, with Cupid, swarm. They see it not as an enemy to fight, But to catch it fast, as love at first sight. Ancient rulers and conquerors, None survived the test of time. But it was love That made history shine.

Love If it weren't for love, Romeo would have never Blushed for Juliet.

It was but a tickle in the heart That showed them the way, perfect.

But alas, love is not All sunshine and rainbows, The dissonance always Is ready to use its blows; But then again, What would a rose be Without its thorns. Or the sun without its rays, It is the challenges that make love A dangerously beautiful place.

Mahir Buksh B.A. Eng. Hons. I





Can we just give a minute and think about ourselves? Can you question yourself why you gulp all of that? Ever thought why happiness is a puddle of water

And stress, anxiety and overthinking are an ocean in our lives?

Why have we made our comfort zone in depression?

Why do we take all the blame on ourselves? Even though it's not our fault? Our low self-esteem has made us question that.

We've lost the thing called self-acceptance from our lives.

We cry every night before going to bed,

We don't sleep in our sleep.

We need to rise above and find the cause to give it an end.

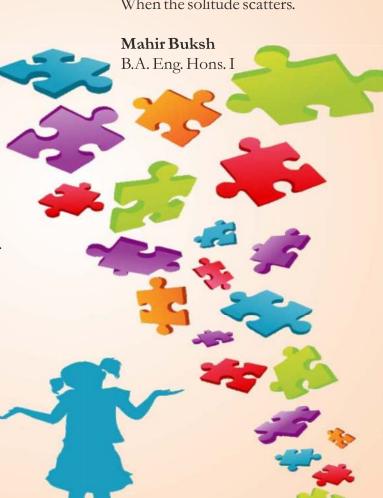
We need to change ourselves for the better, Or else, in the near future, A psychiatrist's will be the highest paid job.

Fatima Afa Khan, B.A. Eng. Hons. I

A Small Piece

Dedicated to my Friend-Solitude Not everyone understands This beauty of Emptiness, As all each of them wants Is constant busy-ness. But only a few Who understand what it offers. Can truly immerse into this? Vast, thoughtful multiverse. It is an ocean of thoughts Which swirls around the head, Sometimes battling The rifts in the heart. This state, as described by many, Is nothing but quiet and destructive But they know not how This makes one, the most productive. If looked into history, This beauty was experienced by few: Albert, Isaac and Galileo showed The world is something new. This state also resides In places far and wide: On distant planets that are lone, And on the star's side. Also found amidst the trees shade. As if it were in heaven made. It's found beyond The edge of nothingness, Or even in the fairy tales, like

The one of the monster of Loch Ness.
After all, it's the amount
Of time that matters,
As it is the lack of people
When the solitude scatters.



Mulberry Tree

For one last time with green foot, crunching dry leaves beneath, through the clear lake

I made my way to the vineyard
"come I'll show you a new berry"
he held my hand and Rested me
under the Mulberry tree

With all care he plucked the Berries, slowly he showed me all the colours, "like it?"

I clutched the Reds in my hand for home promising to accompany him tomorrow again

I rushed inside my room and let my Fingers free
They are stained, all of them. that's how Mulberries are, he said, they're sour and leave stains.

Sharon Daniel

M.A. Eng. (Final)

Corybantic

She refused to be strained, or tamed, or named. liberates each time she is framed.

and you thought you'll Sway her on your chords, tuned her strings until she cried Your Songs?

Until, only until she burnt your charts to ashes, soprano, alto minor and lowercases went out of rhythm and rhymes, and you realised She's a God damn free verse!

Sharon Daniel M.A. Eng. (Final)



Life

The place rejoiced when I first cried Oh! It was the day when I first arrived For then started a series of moments Learning to walk and talk that too without opponents

Giggles, smile and laughter
School started thereafter
Projects, homework and games
Giving each other various nicknames
And then this beautiful phase ended
Various courses people recommended.
Oh then started a life of freedom and loneliness

Strangers around and nights sleepless
Phase changed from school to college
Doors opened wide to more knowledge
Soon, very soon life will change again
No matter what we lose or gain
Whether life will be of solitude or positive
Attitude

For now I shall not be able to conclude



Casualties of Love



It's one thing to walk away, but to never look back after you leave?

I don't think there's a greater testament to strength than to accept the fact that there are things that aren't just meant to be.

Despite all my struggles, I hold on to my sadness; all my roads have adopted a dead end.

There are no open skies for hurt people like you and me.

Maybe we should meet on the edge of that dark valley and have a long conversation on our way down.

No, it's not suicide.

It's a tale of love caressed by the gravity of the deep valley.

We were his recent victims

Malvika Chopra

B.A. Eng. Hons II

Uncertainty fills the air, And suddenly I'm not so sure. Nostalgia begins to decay, But why?



Heavy, heavier...

I inhale and sigh with, what, exasperation?

Gone are the days when going out to play was our only ambition,

Scribblings on the wall was the only mistake,

Eating whatever mom packed inside the tiffin box was the only difficulty,

Huge fights ended in loud waves of laughter and pinky promises,

Life was simple and beautiful.

Growing up fantasize a lot would be fun, we thought,

But nature had other ideas.

It brought two big words called maturity and responsibilities.

These were all mere distractions, To prevent me from colliding,

With myself,

With how I feel.

Emotionally traumatized,

Physically exhausted,

Mentally handcuffed,

But it does not leave us.

Nothing can leave us,

Nothing stays as well.

As quickly as you walked away from yourself,

Leaving all memories,

Engraved in brains,

Causing yourself to crumble in apparent pain,

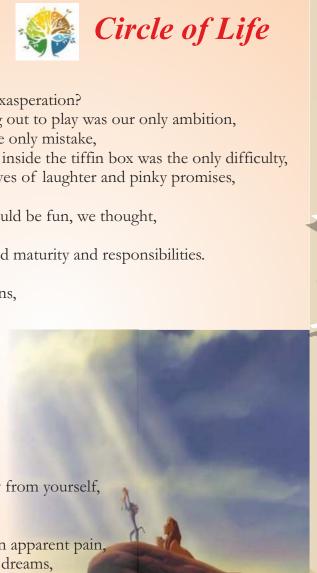
Stuck in reality, while living in dreams,

To syllabify silence, the brook starts,

As we die to become a child again.

Malvika Chopra

B.A. Eng. Hons. II



Letter to Emily Dickinson

Dear Emily Dickinson

You might have died for beauty but, I often lose my breath to the truths your pen unveils. I was sixteen when it happened for the first time.

Acquaintance with you was as random as yours with death, in an attempt to experiment with my voice's expressions by reading your poetries and your words made me stop in a moment of tranquillity. I had never thought of breaking my comfort-walls of prose and reach to poetry until I read yours. Since then, I have been trying constantly to use some of your favourite metaphors, none less dear to me, in my poetries.

I don't know if it sounds silly, but 'Hope' written by you seems life-like to me. Your 'Hope with Feathers' radiates warmth and positivity every time I stretch the arms of any book carrying the softness of your words on its skin. It is you who taught me to delve into each word and dazzle gradually. I even admit that I imitate you in Telling Truth but Slant. Fame is definitely a bee. It had both song & sting and also wings for you but those wings can never make you fly as high as your words do to all your readers with their soothe.

I wish this letter could reach you. Never mind, we will converse some other day, when I would recite your words out loud, as always.

Pardon me for bidding adieu to you for now, for; I am waiting to explore your words and un-layer the Moss over your Name.

Thank you.

One among many

An admirer of 'you' in your words

Harshita Agarwal

B.A. Eng. Hons. I

Literature in Translation: A Boon for Readers from Around the Globe

Without translation we would be living in provinces bordering on silence. — George Sterner

Walter Benjamin, in his essay "The Task of a Translator", describes translation as a service to humanity, because it is a task to narrow the distances created on the basis of linguistics. Translation is not simply a transaction between two languages but also two cultures. Even as readers, we would not have gone beyond the words written in the language that we understand had we not known the art of translation. Language plays a seminal role in translation because it is the depiction of a culture and reflection of a history that survived the test of time. Some translations fail to evoke the cultural inflection of the original, like the term 'Holy Ghost' was mistranslated for 'spook' in the 19th century, Northern India. Therefore, an idea innate to one culture might have an entirely different meaning to the other. On the other hand, the beauty of translation is that it creates



a bridge between two readers of opposite climes. Mirza Ghalib was made available to the readers of the west, and even the Arabian Nights for that matter. The reason why an American reader relates to a Korean writer when they both are culturally and linguistically different is because, though there is something intrinsic in every language and culture, humanity and human emotions bind us together with each other. This hidden common thread is woven by the translation. We might differentiate on the basis of our skin color or our language but our reactions and emotions as human beings do not dwell on individual idiosyncrasies or foibles. Our reaction to fear, love, hatred, death remains to be the same despite where we come from and what our national identity is. This is exactly what translation does, it makes us subtly realize that our emotions, our fears are, on a colossal degree, nothing but universal. The debate on race, gender and linguistic supremacy seems very pointless and underrated after realizing that if we do want to differentiate ourselves, these differences will only be materialistic. When we read war literature of different countries, we are tempted, or rather forced, to believe that the effects of a war in comparison to us are either similar or worse. All translated literature is an attempt to celebrate diversity, with a slight realization that all of humanity has suffered equally on all fronts just because they have failed to realize that the boundaries are nothing but superficial. Translation strings the emotions of readers from around the world. It offers them a common platform where

they speak different languages but experience the same thought, with the assurance that it not only has the capacity to be shared but also understood.

Nitika Singh B.A. Eng. Hons. I



A Thank You Letter to the Darkness of Night

Many fears you,

And many don't even like you;

But to me, you are that friend with whom I can share anything and everything. Whether it's a happy moment or sad, you have always been there to listen to me, no matter what, and lifted my mood in seconds.

I just wanted to say thank you for all those times when you were there for me, whether calming me down when I was angry, by blowing the gentle breeze so that I can let go of all my anger with the wind, or for increasing my happiness in my joyful moments by commanding the moon to smile, the stars to twinkle more brightly, and the trees to shower their flowers upon me and be a part of my happiness, or for those moments when I was sad and you cheered me up by bestowing the rain so that I can dance in it and forget my sadness by releasing all my pain and stress with those drops of water.

You are the only one with whom I can talk freely about anything and everything, without having any second thoughts in my mind. It's just because of you that this long journey of life has become a little bit easier. Thank you so much once again for being there for me whenever I needed someone to stand beside me and support me.

Good night and good-bye, until we meet for the next time.

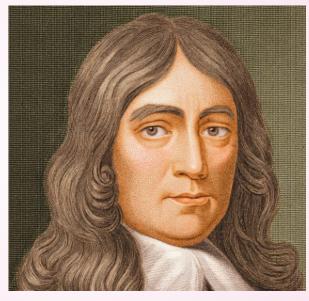
Rangoli Jain B.A. Eng. Hons. I

For John Milton

He who is blind from birth is yet more fortunate than one who becomes blind after spending some time in this beautiful world, for he hath no memory of the sights of this world. But he who lost his eyes to a worldly illness is truly ill-fated, for every moment his heart is broken apart by those memories of the green leaves and the brown dirt. Daily, he would curse his fate, and curse his God, for snatching away this privilege from him. Each second, he yearns for a single shade of colour to light up the

hateful darkness that hath engulfed his world, and has become his world. He yearns for that window of his soul, which is now shut, to open; he implores his Gods and even the demons that plague the fires of Hell. It is sad, and more than agonizing, to see such a man live his days with a torn soul and lost hope.

And yet, if he gazes into that abyss of darkness and finds, within him, whole



world is rich with life –that man is the one before whom, even the Gods bow for he, forgetting the hope of this world, has created his own hope from the eternal light which shines inside us all. He has risen up from the stature of humans and made his place among the Immortals.

Nihar Vyas B.A. Eng. Hons. I

Master of My Fate

This is what you must tell your anxiety right now: "I am the one who's in control of my life, for this is mine...

Not yours."

Talk to your anxiety. Say to it that it is just a phase of your life that will make you audacious. Tell it that it will never bend down your knees as a sign of surrendering in this life, nor even break your bones and turn them to ashes. Say that you won't let it know where your fragile points and your vulnerable joints are. Speak to it that it will always be deceived by your audacity to still pick yourself up, even if your world is crumbling down. Yes, you may have those tired hands, but they will never get exhausted of collecting your broken fragments in the ground, constellating your shattered pieces and making them whole again.

Dauntless indeed, you are for you know Anxiety is just a thought, and not the one who will dictate, nor teach you what to do. It does not hold the pen to write your story that is your responsibility. You are the author of your life's memoir and biography. It does not hold the brush to paint your life, you yourself, is a rainbow already. You do have distinct hues that will also light up someone's pitch-black-kind of living. It is not the captain of your destiny, for you are the navigator of your life's ship. And if it is like the ocean, its waves of loneliness won't damage or wreckages to your deck and keel.

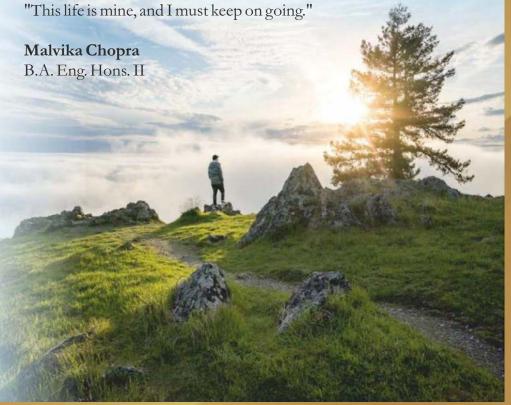
Speak to it that it will never get the chance to choke you on your throat and let you be drowned. Dearest, you know how to swim to the huge waves sent by Anxiety.

Anxiety may have the guts to knock you down, but remember it will never have the power over you. Realize that it is not a kryptonite that could make you weak, anxiety is a strain, a tension and an anguish that will make you stronger.

Tell your anxiety these things: "It will be a pleasure on my part to open the gates of my soul to you and show you the way out. It is an honor on my end to lead you through the exit doors of my life.

"Anxiety, do not make me a prisoner of my own being. I have a paradise in me, not a graveyard of dying hopes, nor a labyrinth of misery.

"Anxiety, this is my life, and it is not yours to keep.



Moving Out

Ladies and gentlemen, presenting to you the most anticipated, the most talked about, the most alluring yet, the most topsy-turvy phase of every student's life: Moving Out.

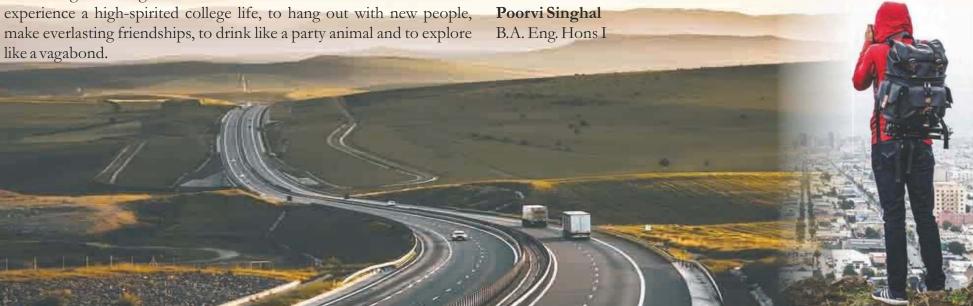
You burn the midnight oil to ace your board exams with a vision to:

- Move out of your hometown and be a 'Khulla Saand' (as we Indians like to call it) and live life on your own terms.
- Study in the colossal colleges of DU & Mumbai University, to make it to the top shot Business & Law schools or to be IITians or Medical Personnel.

Yes, the priority for the majority is to indeed move out of their parents' house, because they ardently crave the flavours of independence and want to be miles away from nagging and gate crashing. After all the head throbbing tasks such as the admissions and accommodation are taken care of, you try to wrap your head around all the emotional outbursts your family goes through; reluctantly stuff the laddoo and achaar your grandma gave you and are all set to launch yourself in the new city like a whooshing wheezing rocket. You are at the zenith of excitement to experience a high-spirited college life, to hang out with new people, make everlasting friendships, to drink like a party animal and to explore like a vagabond.

But let me pop your bubble. All this adventure comes with a sack-full of responsibilities thrown at your face with a jarring thud. It's a reality check. The money which had always flown like a perennial river from the glacier called 'parents' suddenly seems to become extinct. Sooner or later, you try to keep a hisaab. There is more water in the daal made in your PG than in the entire subcontinent. Eventually, you long for Ghar ka Khaana. Your hometown becomes very near and dear to you. Your new pals could be the greatest of companions; still you'll experience a newfound respect for your siblings. Your parents will truly become a priority for you. You'll be concerned for them more than they will be for you. You will experience a rollercoaster of emotions. It'll be a ride to remember, a bumpy one.

Despite all the odds, the experience will be something novel, something out-of-the-box. Let's take the risk, let's embrace the unknown. Let's trust the process, together.



Live Life, Your Style

We don't live, we simply exist. Amidst all the chaos, we strive hard to just survive. Proving our existence is our only motive; satisfying ourselves appears to be a myth. Working for one's own progress seems to be an imbecile, baseless idea, always overshadowed by the shine and lustre of this pretentious world. Talents are greased, not for perfection, but for attention. Hobbies left unheeded, unpursued in tussles and toils of humdrum education. Interests lie somewhere in the dump yard, ranks and grades taking an up mark. Professions, out of passion, dread coming up, and cringe when the society scoffs. We adore and consider what people think, our aspirations remain out of list.

Calm down! All you need to do is please and charm your own self. There's no one worthy of your endearment more



than your very own self. So, don't even deem giving someone else the ascendancy of making decisions for you. Your command is the best injunction for you. There'll be many ups and downs but, they only bring out the best in you. Hit the gear and go!

Poorvi Singhal B.A. Eng. Hons. I

A Letter to Mother India

Dear Mother India

Hey it's me your daughter. Where are you these days? Well hope you are not outside till late or speaking your will or dressing up "inappropriately" because there are monsters roaming around. I have so many complaints for you firstly why did you made me a girl? And secondly why did you give birth to this country? Just look at the way your people are treating your daughters they are raping us, killing us, burning us alive I mean what else is left? Also, they call themselves "bharat mata ke rakhshak" I don't think that you need security no wait I think you do because they can rape anyone you know whether it's six-year twinkle of Rajasthan or 70 years old woman, nobody is safe you see. I feel it's your entire fault because you made them "worship" you but you never taught them to "respect" you. Why you didn't teach them that devis and you are not meant only to put up on pedestal and worshiped, you are meant to be respected, honoured and cared. I don't want to be your daughter nor your son of this country because every day it is dwelling in blindness of rancour. Everyday about 90 cases of rape are registered out of which only few reaches to justice and don't even get me started on our "wonderful" politicians because 40% of the MPs face criminal charges including rape, terrorism and manslaughter. After reading the facts a fool would trust them. These people are infusing venom in the society. I am sorry if I said anything brutal because some of your sons are not even sorry for brutally raping and killing my sisters.

Regards - An unfortunate daughter.

P.S

Please don't stay outside after dawn because it doesn't matter if you are "Mother of India." As long as you are a woman you are not safe in this country.

Alina Yasrub Khan B.A. Eng. Hons. I

गरीबी : एक निष्प्रभ सत्य

गरीब मात्र वह नहीं जो निर्धन है, बल्कि वह है जो निराश्रित है, अनाथ है, और है तो वह भी जो निर्दयी है भले ही धनाट, सनाथ है।

पर उनका क्या जो सनाथ हैं या अनाथ हैं? कुछ पैसे वाले हैं कुछ कम पैसे वाले हैं, परिवार वाले हैं, वो जिन्हें न चाहते हुए भी वय से पूर्व विचार करना पड़ता है, वो मैं, मध्यम वर्गीय।

कई बार कहीं से गुज़रते हुए या चिकित्सा हेतु अस्पताल में होने पर, या रोज़ मर्रा की जरूरतें पूरी करने बाज़ार जाने पर, जब भी कहीं किसी लाचार को देखता हूँ, बीमार, परेशान को देखता हूँ, तो सहम जाता हूँ, कुछ पल ठहर जाता हूँ और फ़िर उनकी सहायता का एक मात्र ज़रिया, चंद रुपये उनको अपनी ओर से न दे पाने पर ख़ुद को उनसे ज़्यादा लाचार पाता हूँ, मैं खुद से नज़रें भी न मिला पाता हूँ। मैं ख़ुद को ख़ुद की किस्मत को दोष दिया करता हूँ, और विलाप करता हूँ। पर फ़िर एक रोज़ एकांत में बैठ कर सोचने पर बुझा की मेरी तरह सभी की किस्मत उनके साथ जुड़ी है और जो मैं दुर्भाग्य से किसी की सहायता नहीं कर पाया उसमे अगले का भाग्य भी क्षीण रहा होगा जो उसे लाभ नहीं मिल पाया।

ये एक वैश्विक सत्य है, पर इस सत्य की ढाल बना कर परस्पर प्रेम, वात्सल्य और अनुकंपा के सिलसिले को विराम दे देना लाचार मानविक मानसिकता, विचार हीनता, और कठोर हृदय की द्योतक शैली है।

ख़ुद से ऊपर उठ कर मानव/जीव मात्र की दृष्टि से सृष्टि का दर्शन करेंगे तो चंद पैसे बचाने हेतु गरीब से मोल-भाव, ईर्ष्या जननी व्यापारिक होड़, या स्वाद मात्र का सुखाभास, माँस सेवन स्वतः छूट जावेगा और उस रोज़ हम मनुष्यों का नारा, 'वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम्' सार्थक कहलावेगा।

किसी निर्धन को हीन दृष्टि से देख कर उसे भीख नहीं अपितु सहानुभूति की भावना से सहायता दें। क्योंकि ऐसा नहीं कि वो अमीर नहीं तो उसका ज़मीर नहीं, उसकी मजबूरी का पर हँस जाऊं तो शायद मेरा ज़मीर नहीं।

गरीब सब हैं, कोई धन से तो कोई मन से। पर दौड़ में सब धन से अमीर बन सकते हैं। दौड़ने से बेहतर सबको साथ ले कर मात्र चल सकें तो मन से रईस बन सकते हैं।

एकांश जैन बीए अंग्रेजी (ऑनर्स) प्रथम वर्ष

गुमगीन

खुशी जल्दी में थी रूकी नहीं, गम फुसृत में थे ठहर गए।

गम में इंतज़ार खुशी का

लंबा लगा, खुशी "टिक्ती नहीं" के बेचैनी में न जाने कब गुज़र गई |

खुशी के नशे में पल धुंधले से रह गए, गम के महमान-नवाज़ी पर न जाने कितनी कविताएं लिख गए।

शेरोन डेनियल एमए अंग्रेजी (फाइनल)



The Sparrow Flies South for Winter Book Review: Skulduggery Pleasant

There are few books seriesthat have the power to make you laugh till there are tears in your eyes, and also to draw out those tears, for the opposite reason, for its life-like characters. One such book series is 'Skulduggery Pleasant', by the Irish author-Derek Landy that tells the story of the titular skeleton detective (yeah, he's a skeleton), and his partner Valkyrie Cain (she's...relatively normal), along with a vast set of characters.

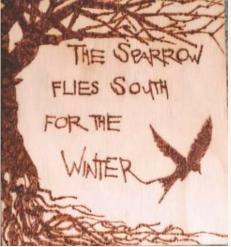
The first book, titled 'Skulduggery Pleasant: Scepter of the Ancients', begins the long tale that would keep you awake for many nights once you start reading, as it kept me. The story starts with the death of a famous horror writer— Gordon Edgely, whose niece Stephanie Edgely receives his estate and royalties after his demise. Stephanie is a



twelve-year-old girl who is bored with her mundane life. Her decision to spend a night alone at her uncle's estate draws her to circumstances in which she gets herself partnered up (by threatening him while keeping his hat hostage) with a skeleton who shoots fire from his hands and has an exceptional taste in cars and exquisite suits. She takes up the nameValkyrie Cain, and thus their adventures commence, wherein they frequently find themselves in deadly situations and encounter terrifying foes. While the first book is somewhat complete in itself, it is the second book which sets off an interconnected story arc that continues through the next four books. But till its conclusion, another arc starts that concluded in the last book, 'Skulduggery Pleasant: The Dying of the Light'.

The world that author Derek Landy portrays in this enticing ennealogy really makes us long for it to be true. To be honest, to this day, I click my fingers and pretend that there is a ball of fire in my palm.

In all the books, there are numerous scenes that are simply hilarious and keep you grinning



for quite some time. And then there are those scenes—the deaths of certain characters, for instance, that are so sudden and shocking that tears find their way down your cheeks by themselves. The writing style is such that it seems you are watching a movie or a TV show instead of reading a book. Everything seems as if it is happening right in front of your eyes. The negative aspects of the series are (a) that the deaths of some long-standing characters feel unnecessary, and (b) few of the scenes may seem boring, but these are quite minimal.

Ever since the first book's release in 2007, the series has won many awards, notably the 'Irish Book of the Decade' (2010) and the 'Red House Children's Book Award'. In 2014, the last book was released, but due to the massive success of the first nine books, a

second series was started in 2017 with the release of 'Skulduggery Pleasant: Resurrection'.

(I haven't read it yet, but I'm fairly certain that it is just as fun as its predecessors, if not more)

In addition to the nine books of the first series, two special books were also released. 'The Maleficent Seven' tells the story of Tanith Low (one of the prime characters) along with a number of other people (from the main series). The second one is 'Armageddon Outta Here'. It is a collection of tales from the Skulduggery Pleasant universe, the stories taking place before or during the events of the main series.

So, overall, this book series will keep you riveted from the very first sentence to the last page of the last book, and even after the nine plus two books, you will be asking for more. When I was reading 'Skulduggery Pleasant: The Dying of the Light', I was simultaneously enjoying the finale, and was melancholic because the saga was about to end.

For those who have read the series, or those who are about to, I'll say only one thing (and it is bound to bring a smile to your face, either now or when you read the books.

Nihar Vyas B.A. Eng. Hons. I

Short Film Reviews: Marzi (2019)

Marzi (2019), a film by Blush, doesn't teach but brings to light something called "Intikhaab: The Freedom to Choose" and blurs our thoughts and perspectives piled under layers of the dirt of prejudices over dresses we see people, specifically women in. Blur, because by the end of this 7-minute film, it compels the viewer to make it clearer.

It shows two young women, from different backgrounds of religion, family and profession, calling liberals to themselves but not to the other.

Two women, one an actor preparing for the role of a Muslim girl and a professor of English, meeting at a bus stop, strangers, having an unexpected random conversation about "Intikhaab", which the actor wasn't able to pronounce while practicing. The actor

is wearing ripped denim and the professor, a burqa.

Hearing her practice, the professor asks her about the same and the conversation begins.

The actor asks about reasons for wearing a burqa, of which she gets a reply she didn't expect - "I choose to wear it". Listening to this, she shares about her mother, wearing a veil since she is seeing her but didn't hear a complaint ever. She believes that her dress, the way she carries herself, shows what she is and aspires to be. But the movie isn't about it. This movie is about what the professor explained. The movie, through a reel character, differentiates traditions and choices, own and others' perspectives, free and caged, not in a dress but in the eyes of the onlooker.

Marzi, is a film, one of its own kind, clearing the prejudices in a

simplest way, in just one conversation between strangers about what true freedom is.

Being caged into the eyes of the onlooker, about how they want you to look OR being free even in a fully covered dress with liberal thoughts, defying the fake beauty standards!

The ending, where the actor calls someone to change the script she is to perform, is similar to the actions of the viewer who changes his perspectives over the same.

It indeed can bring a change.

Film by - Blush channel

Directed by - Shishir Rastogi

Featured - Donna Munshi and Kangan Nangia

Harshita Agarwal

B.A. Eng. Hons. I



Short Film Reviews: Painted (2020)

Painted, a film by Anvita Kamath, released on this Father's Day, screenplays a true story of a middle-aged family man, who have struggled to give a perfect life to them. However even on succeeding, he hides his profession out of a fear that his family won't accept it or if it embarrasses them. He plays a joker in the Rombo Circus for 20 years, keeping it a secret and pretends of having a proper job in a big city away from his home.

The movie very peculiarly draws the struggle the man of the family experiences but hides behind his smile to let others live a free life. Not only that, it also shows the other side of a happy face which often makes others laugh till their stomach aches, but hides an unsung pain in his eyes.

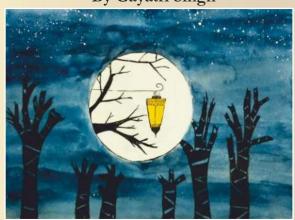
The actor Ashish Vidhyarthi has lived this character to the fullest. Scenes where he changes his expressions from tired to happy to pale to funny to disheartened, is just so perfect.



Expression on paper Artwork



By Gayatri Singh





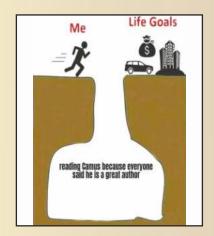




MEMES

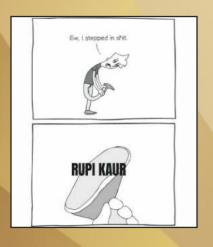
By Manas Thakur

Hail the Lit.
Meme Lord
#punintended















hamlet:

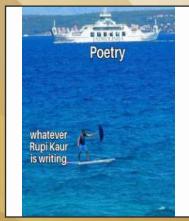


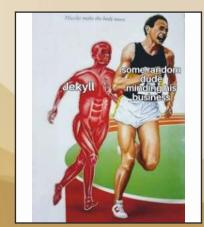
Copernicus: the earth revolves around the sun

the church:





















Our Speakers





























