



From the Chairman's Desk

It is my pleasure to address the students and staff of Maharaja Agrasen College through its annual magazine - Agranika.

First of all, I extend my greetings to all the students and staff of Maharaja Agrasen College for being ranked amongst the best colleges in India by the National Institutional Ranking Framework of MHRD. As it enters its 25th year, the college is already recognized as a reputed college in the country. This could not have been possible without the hard work and commitment of the students and staff. The college is now well-positioned to take the next leap and be ranked among the first five colleges of the country.

This is the mission of the Governing Body for the next twelve months. In this endeavor we seek the cooperation of all the students and staff of the college. The task is not easy, but half the battle is won when collectively we decide to take the first step in that direction.

The only way to reach that goal is when each one of us tries in our own way to do our best to help the college reach the highest level of institutional quality. I invite each student and staff member to come forward and put in their best efforts to take Maharaja Agrasen College to new heights in the coming year.

My best wishes to all.

Siddharth Verma
Chairman
Governing Body



राष्ट्रीय मूल्यांकन एवं प्रत्यायन परिषद

विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग का स्वायत्त संस्थान

NATIONAL ASSESSMENT AND ACCREDITATION COUNCIL

An Autonomous Institution of the University Grants Commission

प्रो. धीरेन्द्र पाल सिंह
निदेशक
Prof. D. P. Singh
Director

F.19.26/EC(SC-17)/DO/2016/50.1
19th September 2016

The Principal
Maharaja Agrasen College
Vasundhara Enclave
Delhi - 110096

Dear Principal,


Greetings from NAAC!

I am glad to inform you that the outcome of the Assessment and Accreditation (A&A) exercise of your institution has been processed and approved by the Standing Committee constituted by the Executive Committee to examine the peer team reports and declare the accreditation results. Your institution has been **Accredited** with a CGPA of 3.02 on a seven point scale at **A Grade** valid for a period of five years from 16/09/2016. The result is already uploaded on NAAC website. The original certificate of accreditation with the quality profile will be dispatched to the institution in due course. I am sure that the detailed peer team report handed over to you during the exit meeting along with the quality profile will enable the institution to initiate further quality enhancement measures.

As per the new guidelines of NAAC, it is mandatory for institutions to retain the Self-Study Report (SSR) uploaded on the institutional website for A&A by NAAC until the completion of validity period of A&A. The SSR should not be password protected and accessible to all the stakeholders. Institutions are also requested to take note of the mandatory requirement of submitting Annual Quality Assurance Report (AQAR) and uploading them on the institutional website on regular basis. Failing to submit the AQARs annually, institutions will not be eligible for the next cycle of accreditation. For details on the revised guidelines, please visit our website: www.naac.gov.in from time to time.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,


(D. P. Singh)

पि ओ वाक्स नं. 1075, नागरभावी, बेंगलूरु - 560 072, भारत P.O.Box No. 1075, Nagarbhavi, Bengaluru - 560 072, INDIA

दूरभाष Phone : +91-80-23210267, 23005112, 114, 115, फेक्स Fax : +91-80-23210268

ई-मेल e-mail: director.naac@gmail.com वेबसाइट Website : www.naac.gov.in

Former Vice-Chancellor, BHU, Varanasi, Dr.H.S. Gour University, Sagar & Devi Ahilya Vishwavidyalaya, Indore



From the Principal's Desk

Maharaja Agrasen College as a constituent college of the University of Delhi has seen significant changes in course structure and content in recent years. From Semester System to Four Year Undergraduate Programme to Choice Based Credit System, the teaching learning process has gone through rapid transition. These changes became necessary because of the impact of fast changing global economy and technology and the requirement of interdisciplinary and applied knowledge.

During the academic session 2017-18 Maharaja Agrasen College was able to keep pace with the changes in education policy and achieve good ranking in National Institutional Ranking Framework 2018 and India Today-AC Nielsen Survey 2017 which followed the 'A' grade awarded by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council in 2016.

During the current academic session all the 10 courses/departments in the college and more than 15 activity committees together organized over 100 seminars, conferences, workshops, invited lectures, and educational visits with the objective of letting the students go beyond class room learning and explore the wider horizons of practical knowledge. Apart from this thirty-four faculty members and eleven administrative staff members participated in training workshops and academic conferences in India and abroad. These activities helped hundreds of students to experience hands on learning in diverse fields.

The achievements of our students in academics, sports and extra-curricular activities are based on this ongoing stream of activities that kept the Maharaja Agrasen College campus bustling with creative activities throughout the year. I am confident that collaborative work of students, staff and Governing Body of the college will take the institution to greater heights of success in the coming months.

Dr. Sunil Sondhi
Principal





संपादक की कलम से...

सांस्कृतिक वैविध्य से परिपूर्ण भारतीय समाज मौजूदा समय में सामाजिक, वैचारिक, राजनैतिक व डेमोग्राफिक आलोडन से गुज़र रहा है। भारतीय समाज में युवाओं की संख्या में वृद्धि के साथ-साथ तकनीकी साक्षरता और तकनीकी नवप्रयोगों में भी इजाफा हुआ है। समाज अपने व्यवस्थापरक मूल्यों एवं उनके संचार क्रम में बदलाव को तत्पर है। इस तरह के बदलते सामाजिक संदर्भों में अकादमिक जगत और अकादमिक संस्थानों की भूमिका अति महत्वपूर्ण हो जाती है। दरअसल राष्ट्र निर्माण की प्रक्रिया उसके मूल्यों, सामाजिक सरोकारों की सार्थकता और अकादमिक गतिविधियों की दिशा पर निर्भर करती है। इन गतिविधियों में अकादमिक संस्थान, शिक्षक व विद्यार्थी समान रूप से सहभागी होते हैं। इनके संयुक्त प्रयास ही किसी राष्ट्र को एक ऐसा मुकाम दे सकते हैं जिसमें 'नैतिक मूल्यों', 'सामाजिक सरोकारों' और 'नैसर्गिक न्याय' का समावेश हो।

सिर्फ पठन-पाठन को ही इन मूल्यों का उद्गम स्थल मानना उचित नहीं होगा, क्योंकि सूचना प्रवाह के नए स्रोत और 'वैचारिक अनुभूतियों के नव प्रयोग' भी आज अकादमिक वातावरण में अपना महत्वपूर्ण स्थान रखते हैं, जिनका असर व्यक्तित्व निर्माण पर खूब पड़ा है। अकादमिक संस्थानों की भूमिका इसलिए भी बढ़ी है कि इन अनुषांगिक क्रिया कलापों का विस्तार हुआ है और शैक्षणिक वातावरण निर्माण में इनका हस्तक्षेप बढ़ा है। आज अकादमिक जगत इन नवाचारों को न सिर्फ अपना रहा है बल्कि समावेशी विकास के लिए इनमें नव प्रयोगों के साथ आगे भी बढ़ रहा है।

इसी समावेशी दृष्टिकोण के निर्माण-क्रम में महाराजा अग्रसेन कॉलेज ने वर्षपर्यंत जो भी प्रयास किये, उनका लेखा-जोखा अग्रणिका के प्रस्तुत अंक में आपके सम्मुख है। इसमें सही-गलत, उचित-अनुचित, विचार वैविध्य, 'जो कुछ जैसा है-वैसे ही' के तर्ज पर आपके सम्मुख है। पत्रिका को मूर्त रूप देने में संपादक मंडल के सदस्यों- डॉ. चारु आर्या, डॉ. आभा शर्मा, श्री विनय राय, डॉ. जितेंद्र कुमार भगत, डॉ. के. न्यूमे, डॉ. गुंताशा तुलसी, डॉ. शशि पी. टिग्गा, डॉ. इन्द्राणी मुखर्जी, सुश्री रचिता कौलधर एवं पत्रिका प्रकाशन समिति के अन्य सदस्यों का हृदय से धन्यवाद ज्ञापित करता हूँ। इनके अथक व सतत् प्रयासों के बगैर पत्रिका का प्रकाशन संभव नहीं हो सकता था। छात्र सम्पादक मंडल के सदस्यों- उत्कर्ष रोशन, शालिनी कुमारी, मोना व अन्य विद्यार्थियों को धन्यवाद क्या दूँ, इनकी तत्परता किसी निर्देश की मोहताज नहीं रही। महाराजा अग्रसेन कॉलेज के उन सदस्यों का भी धन्यवाद, जिन्होंने 'हर जरूरत-साथ' का धर्म बखूबी निभाया।

सम्पादक मंडल के सभी सदस्यों की तरफ से आपको NIRF रैंकिंग में कॉलेज के बेहतर प्रदर्शन के लिए हार्दिक बधाई,

शुभ कामनाओं सहित।

सुधीर के. रिन्टन
संयोजक एवं संपादक
अग्रणिका 2018



Editorial, English Section

Greetings!

Our world is painted all over with beauty and serenity. When we were brought in this world, we experienced gift of love, affection, purity, togetherness, affection, care, concern and many other feelings. We loved that we were privileged to be born, to be part of the most beautiful creation in the nature, Human Being! Every time we realized we were humans it made us feel divine, we could think, dream, imagine, cry, laugh, hold hands and walk, wow, we had a rational mind! We understood everything before we acted and experienced. This was amazing! Yes, we were humans!

Rationality, that made us different from all others, started transforming into an alien form. Today we dream selfish, we live to fulfill only our desires, we love only ourselves. Unknowingly, very slowly we became different from humans. We changed completely. A new visage more of an evil, horrifyingly ugly, roamed on our human soul! This was not human at all.

How is it possible that the most beautiful creation of nature is destroyed in the womb! Small children treated brutally, harassed and kept hungry and confined on the name of labour! Women and children sold and purchased, they are not objects, they too breathe! On the name of honour, revenge, nationality, caste, religion, race, gender and endless reasons Women are being burnt, killed, raped, mutilated, humiliated. Men are killing men. Surrounded with violence, fear, tear, trauma, we are in the urgent thirst of a society of humans, casteless, fearless, painless and a society which has humanity as its highest religion. Love for everyone and the birth of passion towards being human.

This need in today's time is taking us towards the struggle with everything that surrounds us, every emotion we live with, every human we deal with. We need a newer world, full of compassion and recovered veil of humanity.

This team effort is to present an overall picture of multiple facets of our personality and understanding of aesthetics. All that we still believe in, those mixed emotions and further educational prospects have been reflected seamlessly in our creative writing section. Each and every expression in our college magazine AGRANIKA is our quest for that society, that environment which will create that world of humanity for us. A journey towards that path, searching those humans that we all were created as!

Best Wishes to all!

Dr Charu Arya

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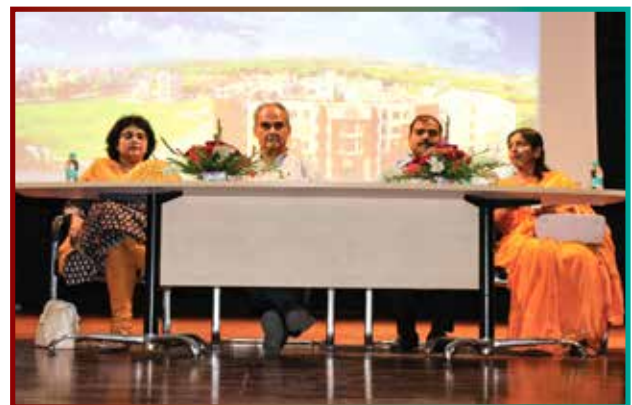
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ORIENTATION DAY

Orientation Day was held on 17 July 2017 to welcome the new students. This programme was held to acquaint them in detail with their chosen respective courses along with their different pedagogical systems. The students were apprised about different committees of the college during the orientation. The auditorium was full of new faces with fresh zeal and spark. A power point was shown introducing the college, its infrastructure as well as different facilities being available for the benefit of the students in the college.

After a stressful admission procedure, when a student joins college, it is like a whole new world full of confusions. A right orientation does a great deal in directing the students and guiding them about their next action. And thus, the college organizes this programme every year because it feels that it is paramount to enlighten the young minds so that they can make wise choices. The Orientation Day informs the students the course they have opted for, about the college and the University. This event holds great importance because it is specifically meant for the students so that their problems can be addressed to their utmost satisfaction.

The event was to make them aware of the need to understand the importance of discipline, education and their responsibilities towards the college. The occasion culminated with the Plantation Drive where the students were introduced to different plant species in the college. Our college has always aimed at promoting greenery in and around the campus and it has now become a legacy. The main aim of the Plantation Drive was to encourage the students in planting trees so as to positively contribute towards the preservation of our environment. And with this, the very first event of the academic year 2017-18 concluded with a pledge to protect our environment.



SARDAR PATEL MEMORIAL LECTURE

Vallabhbhai Jhaverbhai Patel (31 October 1875 – 15 December 1950), popularly known as Sardar Patel, was the first Deputy Prime Minister of India. He was an Indian barrister and statesman, a senior leader of the Indian National Congress and a founding father of the Republic of India who played a leading role in the country's struggle for independence and guided its integration into a united, independent nation. A commemoration of Sardar Patel, held annually on his birthday, 31 October, known as the Rashtriya Ekta Diwas (National Unity Day), was introduced by the Government of India in 2014.

Maharaja Agrasen College also joined in the celebrations last year as the Sardar Patel Memorial Lecture was held on 31 October 2017, under the aegis of Annual Activity Committee led by the convenor Dr Abha Mittal. The Chief Guest on the occasion was Shri K. G. Suresh, Director General, IIMC. He has been an eminent media personality as well as an illustrious public speaker. He spoke on the role of media in transforming the dynamics of political, social and economic relations in the contemporary global world. He also motivated the students to follow the ideals of Sardar Patel in leading a principled life to achieve their and nation's ideals. The inspiring words of Shri K. G. Suresh and our respected Principal, Dr Sunil Sondhi, were enthusiastically received by the students.

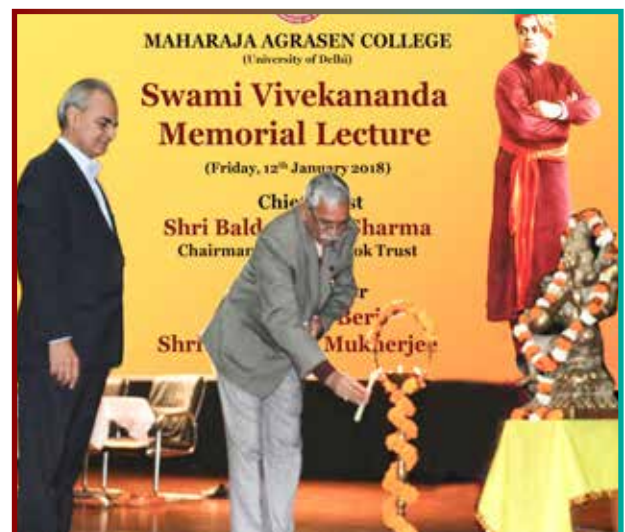


SWAMI VIVEKANANDA MEMORIAL LECTURE

Swami Vivekananda, originally named Narendranath Datta was born on 12 January 1863 in Calcutta. Vivekananda founded the Ramakrishna Mission at the monastery of Belur Math on the Ganges River near Kolkata. His ideals of self-perfection and service continues to be celebrated and practiced by the Mission. He adapted and made relevant to the 20th century the very highest ideals of Vedantic religion, and left an indelible mark on the cultures of East and West alike.

Swami Vivekananda has always been an ideal for everybody and his achievements have inspired many. He was not only famous for his oratory skills, wisdom, spirituality and personality but also, because he was an obedient student. Although he died at a very young age of 32 years, his contribution to Indian philosophy and political thought has been immense. Keeping this in mind, every year, a lecture is organised in his memory to pay him a tribute. The lectures are always enriching because it teaches lessons of life.

The college thus organised Swami Vivekananda Memorial Lecture which was held on 12 January 2018 under the aegis of Annual Activity Committee led ably by Dr Abha Mittal. The Guests of Honour included Shri Baldev Bhai Sharma (Chairman, NBT), Shri Ashok Beri (Eminent Member- RSS-ABP) and Shri Debashish Mukherjee (Value Education Resource Person at R. K. Mission). The event was also graced by our respectable Principal, Dr Sunil Sondhi. Swami Vivekananda's injunction to the youth to serve humanity was extolled and his teachings to value the rich and diverse culture of our country was appreciated. The speakers inspired the students to excel at all fronts and to follow Swami Vivekananda's principles to promote peace and brotherhood in everyday life.



CONSTITUTION DAY

National Council for Promotion of Sindhi Language organized Constitution Day on 26 November 2017 in collaboration with Maharaja Agrasen College. Prof. Ravi Prakash Tekchandani, Dr Sanjeev Kumar Tiwari, Prof. Rajendra Pandey, Prof. Rajvir Sharma, Shri Bhogendra Pathak and Dr Suresh Bablani participated in this event. The students were made aware about this important day through events like quiz competition and lecture. Prof. Ravi Prakash Tekchandani stated that everyone must keep a copy of the Constitution the way they keep the holy books at their homes. Prof. Ravi Prakash highlighted that Constitution imparts equal rights to each and every individual. He stated that no one is above the Constitution and also highlighted how Sindhi language became the integral part in the 8th Schedule of the Constitution.

The convener of the programme, Dr Sanjeev Kumar Tiwari highlighted that the Constitution is the medium to fulfill aspirations and demands of the individuals. Everyone look towards the Constitution to address their grievances but there is an urgent need to pay attention to the duties prescribed in the Constitution. Prof. Rajendra Pandey of Jamia Hamdard University stated that the Constitution was born out of a year long struggle. He also gave his valuable comments on how the Constitution was framed over the years. Prof. Rajvir Sharma, Vice-Chairman of IIPA, Delhi Regional Branch stated that we celebrate Constitution Day to remember those who gave their life and time in framing it. The National Convener of Sanskar Bharti, Dr Suresh Bablani highlighted that there is a need to revisit Constitution with reference to Preamble. Senior journalist Shri Bhogendra Pathak highlighted the different features and the way they served as a vehicle of social, political and economic transformation of the country. It was well attended by more than 150 students who were made aware about their rights and duties. They were also asked to study the Constitution and understand their rights and duties towards the nation. There was a question-answer session and prizes were distributed to the winners of quiz competition. The programme concluded with the singing of the National Anthem.



ANNUAL DAY

Annual Day celebrated in the month of April saw a variety of events. Our Hon'ble Chairman Prof. J. S. Virdi graced the occasion with his benign presence. Our Principal, Dr Sunil Sondhi, formally welcomed our Chairman Sir and all present. He emphasized on the importance of Higher Education in building careers and grooming children into successful adults in all fields of life. Principal Sir presented Annual Report for the Academic Year 2016-17. Power point presentation accompanied his presentation. Various achievements at college level, faculty's achievement and contribution in research and publications and Ph.Ds, various Conferences organized by different departments, Student's Council, remedial classes by SC/ST Cell, result analysis, list of meritorious students and students who acquired various scholarships were the highlights of Annual Report. Hard copy of Annual Report was distributed to all present.



An occasion to felicitate the academic excellence of our students was celebrated by distributing first, second and third prizes to all our students who held these positions across courses. Certificates, mementos and scholarship of cash prizes contributed in supporting their further education and boosting their morale.

Making history for the first time, Best Student of the College Award, Best NSS Volunteer and Vidyottama Award to the Best Hosteller was won by Anshu Singh, student of B.A. (Prog) course, inspiring students to move in the path of victory with humility and perfection in everything you do.

Annual Magazine of the college, AGRANIKA was released on the occasion by our guests and the convener Dr Rajhans and his team.



YOUTH PARLIAMENT 2017-18

John F. Kennedy once said, “Without debate, without criticism, no administration and no country can succeed - and no republic can survive.” With this thought, the stage was set on 6 April 2018 for the 14th Youth Parliament, supported by The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, Government of India. The college hosted the Youth Parliament for the 4th time and was among the 15 colleges to qualify for the finals of the 14th Youth Parliament.

The preliminary round of the 14th National Youth Parliament was held on 12 November 2017. Topics like Train Derailments, Swaccha Abhiyaan, GST, Rohingya Crisis, Security of Journalists, Aadhar Data Link and other relevant issues were debated upon. It undoubtedly had a strong script and the performance of the students was appreciated by everybody. The ministers had witty replies for the questions raised by the members of opposition. Six students were awarded for being the best speakers, namely, Mauli Joshi, Divyani Rai, Rahul Singh, Sudhanshu, Ambika Thakur and Madan Mohan. The efforts put by the students and faculty proved to be fruitful because the college was selected for the final round. The college had received fourth position in the 13th National Youth Parliament. So, this time, with the previous experiences, the team worked more on the scripts.



In the final round of the Youth Parliament, the esteemed judges called for the event were Shri. Kumar Sanjoy Singh, a renowned journalist and Shri. Rajan, Member of the Ministry of Parliamentary affairs. Both the judges were felicitated with a potted plant by the Principal of the college, Dr Sunil Sondhi. In his address, Dr Sondhi urged the students to actively participate in such events and through this develop a positive outlook towards the society. He added that universities must support such

events and also emphasized on the need of discussion in a student's life.



The Youth Parliament begins with an oath session where the newly elected delegates from different constituencies take oath and affirmation, respectively. The Prime Minister then introduces the nominated ministers, followed by the beginning of the Question hour session. A huge number of people had gathered to watch the students performing. Debates and discussions made the environment very lively. Some of the important issues like GST, fund allocation to the Nirbhaya fund and expansion of inland waterways were covered in a tense question hour where the ministers answered the much intimidating questions of the opposition with ease. During the Zero Hour, the parliament discussed about the crisis in Maldives and how India should help in resolving it. Moreover, the burning issues involving bank scams were also raised in the parliament, where the opposition wanted an answer from the ruling party on the ever increasing scams in the country. The opposition appealed to the ruling party for coming up with some strict measures and changes in the protocol. The performance was appreciated by the judges and they also had a few suggestions and corrections.

The parliament also came up with the issues of air security after which, the opposition leaders highlighted the difficulties faced by the farmers and appealed for a better action. The finance minister and the prime minister gave some cracking answers to the opposition and also showcased the need of cooperation with the people of India and the opposition party.

After the discussion got over, the best Eight delegates were called out by judges, namely, Abhyudaya, Divyani Rai, Shalinee Kumari, Mauli Joshi, Ambika Thakur, Rupanjali Rana, Himanshu and Shweta Verma. There are still a few colleges left for evaluation after which the results would be declared. The convener of the event, Dr Sanjeev Kumar Tiwari gave the concluding remarks along with the vote of thanks to the judges, all the participants along with the teaching and non-teaching staff and gave mementos to the judges, as a token of gratitude. The event concluded with the rendition of the National Anthem.



ALUMNI MEET

The Alumni Committee has been consistently working for bringing the alumni closer to the College. This is done by way of regular updating of database in order to have better communication with the alumni. Today, we have sanitised database of over 6000 students. The Committee is in the process of putting together a dedicated website/web link through which the alumni can update his/her contact and profile details on a regular basis.

The Committee has drafted a Memorandum of Association for the formation of Alumni Association of Maharaja Agrasen College. Once registered, all activities pertaining to alumni shall be jointly coordinated with the Alumni Association and the College.

Alumni Committee organised Annual Alumni Meet on 12 February 2017 which was attended by over 150 members. As a departure from past years, this year's meet was held during daytime. Main highlights of the Meet were a cultural programme presented by *Natraj* - the dance society of the college, tug of war and lemon and spoon race for the alumni coordinated by the Girls' Hostel volunteers. Another attraction was the Prop Corner which was well stocked with masks, wigs and props of various types. The Alumni Meet ended with cake cutting ceremony and lunch.

The Committee has decided to start 'Meet your Alumni', a monthly programme where established alumni would share their experiences with the College community.



National Conference

INTEGRAL HUMANISM A VISION AND A MISSION

The Department of Political Science organised a **National Conference on Integral Humanism: A Vision and A Mission** on 5 - 6 January 2018. In the Inaugural Session of the conference, **Shri O. P. Kohli, Hon'ble, Governor of Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh** was invited as the Chief Guest and **Prof. Ashok Gajanan Modak**, National Professor at Mumbai University, as the Chief Speaker. Prof. Ashok G. Modak talked about how Capitalism and Socialism both, have not proved to be governing principles at par.



At a time of such crisis, the need for Integral Humanism is the highest. When on one hand, Europeans, Britishers to be specific, were trying to “Christianize” India, pioneers like Swami Vivekananda and Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyay emphasised on “Indianness” and Indian ethos. He highlighted the significance of Welfare Society over Welfare State in the scientific thought.

Shri O. P. Kohli gave an enlightening lecture on the different perspectives of Integral Humanism. He talked about the four main principles of the ideology, that are, Dharma - moral duties, Artha - Money, Kama - satisfaction and Moksha - salvation; and how they are still relevant in today's social and political world. He also stressed on the role of spirituality in the lives of people and how it represents the eternal and the universal in its true sense. Shri O. P. Kohli talked about how harmony with nature reflects harmony within ourselves. Despite the backwardness imposed on us by the Europeans, Deen Dayal Upadhyay has given the world great ideas like “Antyodaya”, “ArthaNiti” and “Non-duality Principle” in his philosophy of Integral Humanism. He concluded by stating that in an era of advancements, the thought of Integral Humanism guides India to go back to its roots.



There were ten Technical Sessions in the Conference which had the following themes - **Social and Political Journey of Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay, Philosophy and Social Thought of Integral Humanism, Democracy and Political Parties, Indian Economy, Poverty and Concept of Antyodaya, India's Defence and Foreign Policy.** All the technical sessions focused on various issues of the life, philosophy and teachings of Pandit Deen Dayal

Upadhyay. There was also a separate session for undergraduate students presentations where seven students successfully presented their papers.

There were atleast 35 paper presenters in the National Conference belonging to various Universities and Institutes of different parts of India. These academicians successfully deliberated and discussed on various issues of Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyay's philosophy. Some of the important ideas talked about in the two day conference were - Integral Humanism and the idea of modernity, Vedic ideologies and the existing ways of learning, comparison between Deen Dayal Upadhyay and Mahatma Gandhi's philosophy, Radical Humanism vs Integral Humanism, contemporary relevance of Deen Dayal Upadhyay's philosophy, *Chiti* of the nation, the ideas of Citizenship, Freedom, Democracy and Nation in Integral Humanism, Role of Political Parties in the thoughts of Integral Humanism, theorizing the Concept of 'Antyodaya', relevance of Deen Dayal Upadhyay's thoughts and ideas on Diplomacy and comparison of the concept of NAM with the ideas of Integral Humanism.



6TH NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE



The 6th edition of the National Conference on Biodiversity and Climate Change was held from 8 - 10 February 2018, organized jointly by the departments of Economics, Electronics and History of Maharaja Agrasen College, University of Delhi. Unlike the previous conferences, this time the conference was of three days, one of these days was completely dedicated to Film Screenings, discussions and Exhibitions. This year the theme of the Conference was *Wildlife Ecology, Conservation and Iconography*.

The Inaugural Session brought in some of the most dynamic players of Wildlife Conservation and Iconography. The Chief Guest, Ms. Renu Singh (IFS), Director, Delhi Zoological Park and our Keynote Speaker, Sh. Nila Madhab Panda, National Award-Winning Filmmaker (Kadvi Hawa) gave illuminative talks about our role in conserving Wildlife. We also had as our Guest of Honour, Dr B. C. Sabata, Sr. Scientific Officer, Govt. of NCT of Delhi, who was a constant support bridge between our initiatives and the Government. Our Book *Academic and Activist Perspectives on Biodiversity and Climate Change (Vol. 1)* which constituted of the hard work and studies of the researchers who have graced our past conferences, also released by our Chief Guest.

The next session saw researchers extraordinaire in their field of Wildlife. Prof. S. D. Biju of Department of Environmental Studies, University of Delhi talked about *The Story of the First Land Vertebrates* who is world-renowned Amphibian Expert having discovered over 150 new species of amphibians. Dr Sumit Dookia of School of Environment Management, IP University brought up *Bats of Delhi and their Conservation Issues* discussing at length the the probable reasons of the declining Bats population in Delhi. Dr Debanik Mukherjee of CEMDE, University of Delhi threw light upon "*Reptiles of Aravali Biodiversity Park*" talking fondly about his encounters with some of the deadliest snakes in the world. Dr Priya Gupta of Dept. of Computer Science, MAC along with her former student, Jaskirat Singh Saini also present their paper on their *Sustainable Path to a Pollution Free Future*. Dr S. Bala Bawa, Former Principal, Maharaja Agrasen College was the Chair of the Session and she uprightly concluded the session.

The conference saw immense student participation as compared to the previous years owing to the student-engaging activities involved as a part of the conference such as Poster making Competition, Inter-College Quiz Competition and Paper Presentations by students from across Delhi University. Our neighbouring school, East Point, was also invited to the Film screening session of the 2nd day of the Conference which they thoroughly enjoyed and enriched themselves with intelligent conversations with NDTV's Senior Editor and News Anchor, Sh. Sushil Bahuguna and National Award-Winning Filmmaker, Sh. Gurmeet Sapal. Both of these eminent filmmakers presented their production on *Should big dams be built in the Himalayas?* and *Nagaland is changing, but..* respectively. The session after, saw



undergraduate students presenting their research paper in front of our eminent guest and faculty. The students belonged to varied disciplines from colleges like Daulat Ram, Kamla Nehru College apart from our own. These sessions were chaired by Dr Anupama Jaidev and Dr Saumya Shukla respectively.

The 3rd Day of the conference focused on the Cultural Practices, Politics and Policies concerning the Wildlife. Dr Tanuja Kothiyal of Ambedkar University opened the day with her talk on *“Thar: The Making of an Ecological Frontier”* followed by Dr Meenakshi Khanna of IPCW, University of Delhi, dissertating about *“Imagining the Emperor as Mahawat: Akbar and the Construction of the Royal Pikhana”*. Both of them connected Wildlife to various historical and geographical discourses. Sh. Wasim Akram of Wildlife SOS, who works regularly in conserving not just the wild animals but also undertaking projects in the rehabilitation of the related tribal communities talked about *“People’s participation in Wildlife Conservation”*. The session was chaired by Dr Sangeeta Mittal, Organizing Secretary of the Conference Committee.

The post-lunch session was chaired by Dr Pratibha Rai. She was accompanied by Dr Anupama Jaidev of Maharaja Agrasen College, University of Delhi and Dr Govind Singh of IPCW, University of Delhi. Dr Anupama Jaidev presented on the topic *Jab Laad Chale Banjara: Communities, Animals and Politics* while Dr Govind talked about *Role and Relevance of Zoological Gardens in Contemporary Times*. The valedictory session was edifying due to the presence of Dr Koustubh Sharma and Dr Faiyaz Khudsar. Dr Koustubh is a Field Biologist at Snow Leopard Trust, Seattle, USA and has dedicated more than 25 years researching about Snow Leopards across the World. He discussed extensively on *Snow Leopard Conservation: Scaling up action from Frontlines to International Co-operation*. Similarly, Dr Faiyaz who has been associated with the CEMDE, University of Delhi and is also the Scientist In-Charge of the Yamuna Biodiversity Park and has done tremendous work in *“Rejuvenating River Yamuna Floodplain”*. Dr Amit Pundir chaired the session and befittingly concluded the session. Dr Niraj K Singh, the Convener of the Conference Committee delivered the Vote of Thanks.

As a precursor to the Conference, the Committee also organized the Soup and Salad Party for the Faculty Members of the college and its student volunteers as a crucial step to promoting organicism. The vegetables used were completely grown in the college with no use of chemical pesticides or manures by a dedicated team of students and gardeners led by Dr Niraj.



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महाराज अग्रसेन कॉलेज, दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय ने भारतीय सामाजिक विज्ञान अनुसंधान परिषद्, नई दिल्ली से वित्तीय सहायता प्राप्त कर दो दिवसीय राष्ट्रीय संगोष्ठी का आयोजन 19-20 फरवरी, 2018 को किया। इस संगोष्ठी में देश के महत्वपूर्ण विश्वविद्यालयों से आये विद्वानों ने अपने विचार रखे।

प्रथम दिवस के प्रथम सत्र में आदरणीय प्राचार्य डॉ. सुनील सौंधी ने अपने विचार रखे और संगोष्ठी की उपयोगिता को रेखांकित किया। प्रो. मंजू राय ने स्वाधीनता आंदोलन में हिन्दी की भूमिका को साहित्य के रूप में देखने का प्रयास किया। विशेषकर हिन्दी कविता और स्वाधीनता आंदोलन को विविध उदाहरणों से सिद्ध करने का प्रयास किया। प्रो. विभूति नारायण राय ने राष्ट्र राज्य के बीच देशभक्ति की भावना पर जोर दिया। इसमें भाषा की महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका को रेखांकित किया। भाषा को एक औजार के रूप में माना। राष्ट्र राज्य को एक रखने में भाषा की एक महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका है। गांधी जी ने इस देश की लड़ाई को भाषा के माध्यम से लड़ा। डॉ. हरेन्द्र प्रताप सिंह ने छात्रों की दृष्टि से हिन्दी की भूमिका को सामने रखा। हिन्दी जनमानस का भाषा है। हमने हिन्दी के साथ ठीक नहीं किया है। हमने हिन्दी को अनुवाद की भाषा बना दिया है। डॉ. सुधीर कुमार सिंह ने हिन्दी का वैश्विक महत्ता पर जोर देते हुए भारतीय समाज और राष्ट्र की एकता के लिए भाषा को महत्वपूर्ण माना है। उन्होंने कहा कि हिन्दी हमारे दिल की भाषा है। भारत सरकार के कामकाज की भाषा है। हमें निरंतर इसका दायरा बढ़ाना चाहिए। प्रो. सदानंद साही ने अध्यक्षीय भाषण में आजादी के बाद पनपे परिस्थितियों को सामने रखकर हिन्दी की भूमिका को रेखांकित किया और विभिन्न राज्यों के मातृभाषा को उदाहरण के तौर पर रखकर उनकी विविधताओं को सामने लाया।

प्रो. पूरनचन्द्र टण्डन संगोष्ठी के द्वितीय सत्र के मुख्य वक्ता थे। उन्होंने स्वाधीनता आन्दोलन में भाषा की भूमिका पर जोर दिया। उन्होंने कहा कि हमें चिकित्सा भी, न्याय भी अपनी भाषा में मिले। हमें



सार्वभौमिक रूप से हिंदी को स्थापित करना चाहिए। हमारे यहां 29 राज्यों की अलग भाषा है। महाराष्ट्र में मराठी, तमिलनाडु में तमिल, उड़ीसा में उड़िया, आंध्रप्रदेश में तेलुगु महत्वपूर्ण है। अपनी भाषा की उपेक्षा करके हम हिंदी का विकास नहीं कर सकते। नवजागरण के विकास से जोड़ने की बात हिंदी करती है। हिंदी की आज कई चुनौतियां हैं। इन सभी चुनौतियों के मूल में अनुवाद है। जबतक हम विश्व ज्ञान को हिंदी में नहीं अवतरित नहीं कर पायेंगे तब तक नयी ऊँचाईयों तक नहीं पहुँच पायेंगे। डॉ. पुनम कुमारी ने अपने वक्तव्य में मातृभाषा की उपयोग पर बल दिया। किसी भी समाज और देश के विकास में भाषा की महती भूमिका है। किसी भी भाषा का संबंध आर्थिक व्यवस्था और देश से होता है। विश्व का कोई भी ऐसा देश नहीं जहां प्राथमिक शिक्षा मातृभाषा में नहीं दी जाती हो। प्रो. श्यौराज सिंह बेचैन ने कहा कि आज के समय में ज्ञान का व्यावसायिकरण हो गया है। हिंदी को अगर स्वस्थ रूप से विकसित करना है तो उसे बुनियादी तौर पर सुधार करना होगा।

राष्ट्रीय संगोष्ठी के दूसरे दिन के प्रथम सत्र के मुख्य वक्ता डॉ. संजीव कुमार और डॉ. रामकिशोर यादव थे। प्रो. निरंजन कुमार इस सत्र के अध्यक्ष थे। डॉ. राम किशोर यादव ने स्वाधीनता आन्दोलन और हिंदी कथा साहित्य पर अपने विचार व्यक्त किये। उन्होंने कथा साहित्य में प्रेमचन्द के योगदान को रेखांकित किया। तत्कालीन समाजसुधारकों को उद्धृत किया। हिंदी ने भारत के लोगों को स्वाधीनता आंदोलन में एक साथ जोड़कर रखा है। स्वतंत्रता सैनियों तक अपने विचारों को पहुंचाने के लिए हिंदी पत्रकारिता को अपनाया गया जिससे लोगों में राष्ट्रीय चेतना और देशभक्ति की भावना बढ़ी है। डॉ. संजीव कुमार ने विद्यार्थी शोधार्थी के संदर्भ में हिंदी की भूमिका पर बल दिया। प्रसाद की कविता के माध्यम से बताना चाहा कि कितने लोगों ने आजादी के लिए लड़ाईयां लड़ी है। कोई भी रचनाकार अपनी रचना के माध्यम से समाज में योगदान देता है। उन्होंने जैनेन्द्र कुमार की कहानी पत्नी की उदाहरण देकर स्वतंत्रता संग्राम में हिंदी की भूमिका को रेखांकित किया। प्रो. निरंजन कुमार ने हिंदी पत्रकारिता के दृष्टि से स्वाधीनता आंदोलन में हिंदी की भूमिका पर प्रकाश डाला।

राष्ट्रीय संगोष्ठी के द्वितीय सत्र में सर्वप्रथम प्रो. जगमोहन सिंह राजपूत ने हिंदी के रचनाकारों के माध्यम से स्वाधीनता आंदोलन की स्थिति का वर्णन किया। हिंदी को राष्ट्रभाषा बनाने में अहिंदी भाषियों का योगदान है। आज 50 प्रतिशत स्कूल अंग्रेजी माध्यम के हैं। अंग्रेजी स्कूलों में हिंदी में बात करने पर पाबंदी है। प्रो. चन्द्रदेव यादव ने स्वतंत्रता आंदोलन में हिंदी के विविध आयाम पर प्रकाश डाले। प्रो. महेन्द्र पाल शर्मा ने कहा कि भारत में मुंबई की हिंदी, तमिलनाडु की हिंदी, बंगाल की हिंदी, गुजरात की हिंदी है। पर उनका रुख थोड़ा बदला हुआ है। हमें उसी को मान लेना चाहिए। हमें जबरदस्ती करके दक्षिण पर हिंदी

नहीं थोपना चाहिए। उन्हें मन से अपनाने देना चाहिए। हिंदी तभी अपना रास्ता बना पायेगी। प्रो. रमेश दीक्षित ने अपने वक्तव्य में हिंदी की विरासत की बात की। हमें हिंदी की उपनिवेश की भाषा नहीं बनानी चाहिए। वर्चस्व की भाषा में जिसे कोई स्वीकार नहीं करेगा। संगोष्ठी के समन्वयक डॉ. चन्द्रशेखर राम ने उपस्थित छात्र-छात्राओं एवं हिंदी विभाग के सभी प्राध्यापकों के सहयोग के प्रति आभार व्यक्त किया। इस प्रकार दो दिवसीय राष्ट्रीय संगोष्ठी सफलतापूर्वक सम्पन्न हुआ।



BUSINESS ECONOMICS

The Department of Business Economics aims at inculcating the spirit of managerial decision making, resource management in general and business managerial capability in particular, as well as overall personality development through interactive classroom lectures, seminars, presentations, group discussion, industrial study tour, case study & simulation modeling.

During the academic year 2017-18, teachers and students were actively involved in various inter and intra college extra-curricular activities which facilitated learning beyond the classroom. It not only inspired students to reach their true potential but also, trained them to become responsible citizens.

The new academic session began with the admission of First year students through centralized admission process based on online Joint Entrance Test in BBE-BMS-BFIA conducted for around twenty odd colleges under FASSH by University of Delhi.

With great respect for their teachers, students celebrated Teacher's Day on 5 September 2017. During the celebration, poems were recited, songs were sung and various other activities were held. The teachers extended their blessings and warm wishes to the students.

The Department conducted a seminar on 16 October 2017 on 'Digital Stories' by Dr Anubhuti Yadav, Head of the Department, New Media and Information Technology, Indian Institute of Mass Communication, New Delhi. She elaborated on the role of digital media to reach masses as a cost effective tool, a very pertinent subject for the students of business economics. The seminar witnessed massive attendance from the students of various courses, as it was a great learning opportunity for all.



The next important event was the one-day visit to National Stock Exchange Delhi, Regional Office on 31 October 2017. It was an initiative of the Department to promote interactive and applied knowledge of discipline specific elective papers. At NSE regional office, through an extensive presentation led by NSE experts, students got to know about the real time functioning of stock market as well as different aspects of financial markets of India.

The students' society of the Department of Business Economics, BEA (Business Economics Association) has always been instrumental in honing the skill of our students by giving them a simulated environment of the corporate world they are about to enter. Following the grand success of its Departmental Academic Fest 'ENTREUZEST 2017', the Business Economic Association of the Department organized the 5th edition of Annual Fest 'ENTREUZEST 2018' on 20 February 2018. It was a one-day management colloquium embracing an exuberance of business and management facsimile to provide an enriching environment for the young students. Thus, providing them a platform to showcase their managerial potential and serving as a boost for those who are willing to nurture different business skills.

The Department fest ENTREUZEST 2018 was initiated by 'Master Chef' a management decision making & budget optimization task, followed by business, marketing, planning and economics related events namely 'Venture Roulette', 'Capture the Flag', 'Buzzingo' and 'Sherlocked'. Judging the participants on a plethora of aspects ranging from innovation, crisis management, strategy and operation, it tested the participant's ability to Storm, Norm and ultimately PERFORM! Having participants from colleges all over Delhi, the event met with great success. Our students have brought laurels to the college in various inter-college events and Manmeet Kaur & Shreya, won the first prize in Bajaj Capital Workshop. The students actively participated in various inter-college events as well viz. Roister, Ranbhoomi ranging from conference to quiz to sports and so on.

We, faculty as well as students of Department of Business Economics keeping in tandem with ethos of Maharaja Agrasen College believe in working hard and reaching many more milestones to engrave success story in the time line of the college history.



COMMERCE

The Department of Commerce has been growing over the years and the academic year 2017-18 had a great start. The students not only participate to excel in academics but also, managed to organize events, seminars and trips.

In August 2017, a seminar 'GST Talk 2.0' was organized by the Department in order to dispense information about the new GST regime amongst the students. The students showed great interest in the subject and participated in large numbers in this event. C. A. Navya Malhotra was invited to talk about the implementation of this taxation system at the ground level in our country and to share his observations in this context.

Another seminar 'Startup and Innovation' was again held in the month of August, in which eminent guests like Mr Saumyajit Guha, Mr Yuvraj Bhardwaj and Mr Vijay Rathee were invited. The two seminars were a grand success.

'CricMAC Friendly- Season 3, a sport event was organized which boosted the sporting spirit among the department members. Just like IPL, an auction of the best cricket players of the college was conducted, who then competed as teams. There were 4 teams of 11 members each & the event was organized and headed by Keshav Mudgal, Akshay Devgan, Abhishek Singh, Manu Shrey Tuli, Abhyuday Tandon, Suvid Sharma, Rishabh Aggarwal and Ayush Aggarwal. This event lasted for about 2 weeks and successfully ended with the win of 'The Blazing Warriors.'



Another grand event to be organized by the department was the Annual Commerce Fest, “CRUSADE”. It was a two-day event that took place on 24 and 26 of February 2018. It was an enormous success, where students from various colleges and departments participated with zealous fervor. Crusade was a great platform for them to use their skills in different ways. The ten different sub-events tested their practical application of the theoretical concepts. The whole event was supported and organized by the Core team of MCS which had 11 members, Akshit Gupta & Megha Arora of third year being the Head Coordinators; Kaustubh Kholi, Neda Nawaid & Sahil Kumar- third year coordinators; Ritika Sachdeva, Rudr Pasricha, Manu Shrey Tuli & Keshav Mudgal –second year coordinators; and Vidushi Gupta & Ashwat Rastogi- first year coordinators. This fest carried forward the legacy of excellence.

Apart from these events held within the premises of the college, the Commerce department also conducted two educational trips. The first trip was to Shimla in March 2017 & the second one was to Manali in December 2017. About 40 students had joined for each trip. It was a great exposure for the students of the department.

Our students not only shone in academics and extra-curricular activities in inter and intra- department but showcased their talent in other colleges, too. Anushka of First year won the title of Miss Fresher 2017 in the ‘Freshers’ of Maharaja Agrasen College. Shweta Sharma, a student of First year bagged the 3rd position in Hindi debate in the Annual Cultural Fest of Janki Devi Memorial College. Along with all these achievements, many students of B. Com (Hons.) have been active participants of different Extra Curricular Activities Societies of the College.

The Commerce department has also planned an International Conference on ‘Digital Economy’, which will be held on 20-21 April 2018. Goals have been set high and we believe the best exposure will be given to our students in all the upcoming events & upcoming years.



ELECTRONICS

Faculty – Student Interface Programs: The Department conducted Induction Programme “AAGMAN–2018” on 17 July 2017 for the students admitted to the course in the year 2017-18. The induction program is organized to identify and analyze the gaps between the skill set of the students admitted and those required to attain the specific learning outcomes of B. Sc. (Hons) Electronics course. On the basis of this analysis, students are provided 'Zero Lab Sessions' to overcome the gaps.

Club/Societies Activities: To enhance academic attainments of its students, an environment is built through academic clubs in the department. The students’ society “TechTitans” was formed through election held on 24 August 2017 for the academic year 2017-18. Various student clubs and workgroups were subsequently formed.

The TechTitan society, organized its annual festival “ElectroZeal - A Culmination of Talents!” comprising of both academic and cultural events which was held on 26 February 2018. The ElectroZeal–2018, comprised of eight formal and informal events to bring to fore the various dormant potential of students. The event attracted more than 200 teams in various events of the festival from different colleges of the University of Delhi. About 350 students from various colleges across the Delhi- NCR region showcased an amazing array of talents.

Workshops and Seminars: The department organized a seminar-cum-workshop on the topic “Image Processing using Open CV& Python” so that the students receive knowledge by listening to the experts and gain exposure beyond their curriculum.



A one-day seminar on “Recent developments in Electronics and Industrial Applications” was held on 15 March 2018. The students interacted with academicians and industrialists and shared their real time experiences related to the current developments in the electronic industry.

Extension Activities:

A workshop-cum-demonstration of “Precision Agricultural Techniques” was organized by the students of the department from 19 - 21 January 2018, at Village Baroji, Haryana for the benefits of the farming community. All the prototypes exhibited at the village were designed and developed by the students. The workshop witnessed large participation from the farmers of village Baroji.

In an attempt to make our students more sensitized towards environmental issues and conservation of wildlife, the department in collaboration with History and Economics Departments of the college organized a National Conference on “Biodiversity and Climate Change - Wildlife Ecology, Conservation and Iconography” from 8 - 10 February 2018. The conference got an overwhelming response from a large number of experts from different parts of the country. There were in total seven technical sessions along with seventeen keynote/invited/plenary talks addressed by various eminent speakers.



ENGLISH

The Department of English had yet another eventful academic and extra-curricular calendar in 2017-18. The plethora of activities and events testify the exceptional zeal and involvement of teachers and students of the Department.

6th Annual Lecture, held on 15 September 2017, has been this academic year's addition to the ongoing Annual Lecture Series. The lecture was held in collaboration with SPEEHA (Society for the Preservation of Healthy Environment, Ecology and Heritage of Agra). The guest speaker, Professor Savita Singh from School of Gender and Development, IGNOU, gave a talk titled "Ecofeminism: Battling Environment Degradation" wherein she explored connections between ecology and feminism. The informative and energetic talk drew great enthusiasm from teachers and students alike.

English Proficiency Workshop was conducted by Dr Guntasha Tulsi on 11 October 2017. The workshop focused on diverse areas of language proficiency through innovative presentation strategies and use of audio-visual medium. This workshop was delivered in two sections. Section 1: 'Applied Grammar and Vocabulary' familiarised the students with distinct components of vocabulary and grammar. In section 2: 'Writing and Speaking', the focus was on guided writing and improving speaking skills. The workshop was widely appreciated by the students.

Educational Excursion to Udaipur was organised from 30 January to 4 February 2018. Students visited City Palace, Lake Pichola, Fateh Sagar, Kumbhalgarh Fort, and Ranakpur Temple. The trip to City Palace and Kumbhalgarh Fort was full of learning and discovery through witnessing and experiencing archived history. Apart from these historical landmarks, visit to Jagdish Temple and Ranakpur Temple further illuminated the wealth of tradition and cultural heritage. This trip was not only a great learning experience but also a truly unforgettable one.

'LITERATI' - The annual literary and cultural fest of the Department of English, was held on 20 February 2018. With events like Slam Poetry, Short Story, Haiku, Debate, Pick-a-Word, Photography, Literature and



Cinema Quiz, this literary bonanza provided a forum where collaboration, deliberation and dialogue between students of different disciplines, colleges and teachers facilitated a fresh perspective on literary and social values. The fest was a great success.

Film Screenings have been a regular tradition in the Department. Since learning cannot be solely confined to the classroom and works in tandem with visualisation of social and cultural experience, a selection of films were screened for the students. They include Joe Wright's adaptation of *Pride and Prejudice*, Baz Lurhman's *Romeo+Juliet*, Chandraprakash Dwivedi's *Pinjar*, Terence Young's *From Russia with Love*, Vishal Bhardwaj's *Maqbool* and *Omkara*, along with Francis Ford Coppola's *Apocalypse Now* and Charlie Chaplin's *The Tramp* were some of the films screened.



Centre for Performing Arts and Cultural Studies (CPACS), Department of English has been actively engaged in exploring the nuances of courses like Media and Communication Skills, Text and Performance, Modern European Drama, Indian Classical Drama etc. The Centre organized a two months long activity of scripting, shooting, editing and distribution of a short anti-ragging feature film titled *Shabad Sambhale Boliye* to create awareness against verbal abuse and micro-aggression on the campuses of higher education in India. The Centre is also a hub for guidance and counseling in the myriad fields of theatre, film, vocal and instrumental music. This year, Bharatmuni's *Natyashashtra* was the focal point as students and faculty engaged with it proactively. The Centre also organized 'Visits to Performing Spaces' for students. Students and faculty visited Ambedkar University to be part of a performance directed by Deepan Sivaraman, a world-renowned scenographer earlier this year.

Meet the Author, as the final event of the Department, was conducted on 10 April 2018. It consisted of a panel discussion on the topic, "Biography and Popular Imagination". The panelists included renowned journalists and writers Sheela Reddy, Vijay Lokapally and Yasser Usman. It led to an enriching discussion followed by a question-answer session.

This year, thus, has continued the rich tradition of interaction, involvement and learning on the part of both teachers and students to make the best of mutually shared time in a meaningful, constructive and resourceful manner.



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साहित्य जीवन दृष्टि होता है। जीवन के विभिन्न आयामों का अनुशासन साहित्य के माध्यम से होता है, इसलिए यह अनिवार्य हो जाता है कि पाठ्यक्रम के स्तर पर विद्यार्थियों को साहित्य के ऐसे स्वरूप का अध्ययन कराया जाए, जिससे उनकी सफलता और सार्थकता सुनिश्चित हो सके। इसके लिए साहित्य के सैद्धांतिक मानदंड के साथ ही साथ जीवन और समाज का व्यावहारिक ज्ञान अर्जन करना आवश्यक होता है।

महाराजा अग्रसेन महाविद्यालय का हिंदी विभाग समय-समय पर इस प्रकार के कार्यक्रमों का आयोजन करता रहता है, जिससे विद्यार्थियों को उनकी परंपराओं से परिचित कराया जा सके और उनके ज्ञान की वृद्धि की जा सके। दिनांक 13-14 सितंबर 2017 को विभाग में नवचेतना परिषद् की सहभागिता के साथ हिंदी दिवस का आयोजन किया। इसमें 2 दिन के कार्यक्रम का आयोजन किया गया। पहले दिन सृजनात्मक लेखन का आयोजन किया गया, जिसमें विद्यार्थियों ने बढ़-चढ़कर हिस्सा लिया तथा दूसरे दिन प्रश्नोत्तरी प्रतियोगिता का आयोजन किया गया, ताकि विद्यार्थियों में विभिन्न प्रतियोगी परीक्षाओं के लिए जागरूक किया जा सके। 14 सितंबर 2017 को सभागार कक्ष को आयोजित कार्यक्रम में नीलोत्पल मृणाल, राज देहलवी और राहुल शेष ने अपने गीतों और गजलों से सबका दिल जीत लिया।

इसी कड़ी में विभाग ने संस्कृति कला केंद्र के सहयोग के साथ भारतीय परंपरा को याद करते हुए 22 जनवरी 2018 को वसंतोत्सव का आयोजन किया। इसमें लोकनृत्य प्रस्तुति, लोकगीत गायन, कविता प्रतियोगिता के साथ ही साथ प्रश्नोत्तरी प्रतियोगिता का भी आयोजन किया गया। समय-समय पर विद्यार्थियों को ज्ञानात्मक उद्बोधन करने के लिए संगोष्ठी का



आयोजन करना आवश्यक होता है। अतः हिंदी विभाग ने दिनांक 19–20 फरवरी 2018 को दो दिवसीय राष्ट्रीय संगोष्ठी का आयोजन किया। इस संगोष्ठी का विषय 'स्वाधीनता आंदोलन में हिंदी की भूमिका' था। इस संगोष्ठी के लिए प्रथम दिन दो सत्र का आयोजन हुआ, जिसमें अतिथि विद्वान जगमोहन सिंह 'राजपूत' के साथ प्रो. सदानंद शाही, डॉ. मंजू राय और डॉ. हरेंद्र प्रताप सिंह ने ज्ञानवर्धन कराया जबकि द्वितीय सत्र की अध्यक्षता प्रो. निरंजन कुमार ने किया तथा साथ में डॉ. संजीव कुमार, डॉ. सुधीर कुमार ने विद्यार्थियों को संबोधित किया। इस संगोष्ठी के दूसरे दिन के प्रथम सत्र में प्रो. श्यौराज सिंह 'बेचैन' की अध्यक्षता में प्रो. पूरनचंद टंडन और डॉ. पूनम कुमारी ने व्याख्यान दिया तथा दूसरे सत्र में प्रो. रमेश दीक्षित की अध्यक्षता में प्रो. महेंद्रपाल शर्मा और डॉ. चंद्रदेव यादव ने विद्यार्थियों का उद्बोधन किया।

इस प्रकार हिंदी विभाग ने तीन कार्यक्रमों का सफलतापूर्वक आयोजन किया ताकि विद्यार्थियों के ज्ञानात्मक संवेदन को मजबूत किया जा सके।



JOURNALISM

The Department of Journalism will mark the end of the academic year 2017-18 with great stories to narrate and ideas to deliver. The Department has played a significant role in providing important facilities to the students of B.A. (Hons) Journalism and Advanced Diploma in TV Programme and News Production which will be beneficial to face the tough media world outside.

The academic performance of the department can be recorded with the superb placement of two of its Third Year students Janani Krishnan and Kanishka Pandey. Also, the last batch has added credentials as the students either got admission in good post graduate colleges such as AJK Mass Communication and Research Centre, Jamia Millia Islamia, St. Xaviers Institute of Communications, Asian College of Journalism and many more or bagged key roles in major news channels. Some students even managed good internships across various news channels and newspapers.

The Department marked the beginning of this year by welcoming and fostering the bubbling enthusiasm of the newly admitted under the Three Year degree and Two Year Diploma course in Journalism and Advanced Diploma in TV Programme and News Production respectively. The freshers were welcomed with a cordial event where the young journalistic minds displayed their talents to win the titles.

The Department has been working towards enhancing key skills required by students to become a competitive journalist and also motivate them to take up practical projects. The students have contributed to magazines, radio shows and good short films and documentaries in keeping with the demands of the industry. The Department also delivered its in-house magazine 'Mac Voice' which has articles, poems and photographs from the students of the department. The Department not only encourages practical learning, but also extra-curricular activities to help to enhance the talent of the students adding glory to the department in various fields such as acting, dancing, singing and much more.

The Department organizes various workshops from time to time to boost student's minds and to make them learn about the professionalism required in the market. It provides the students with the exposure of the real working environment by introducing them to the top most journalists and motivational speakers of media industry like Sahil Maghnani (CNN), Sakal Bhatt (Republic TV), Neeraj (Sahara Group) and Sarvesh Tiwari (I.P. University).

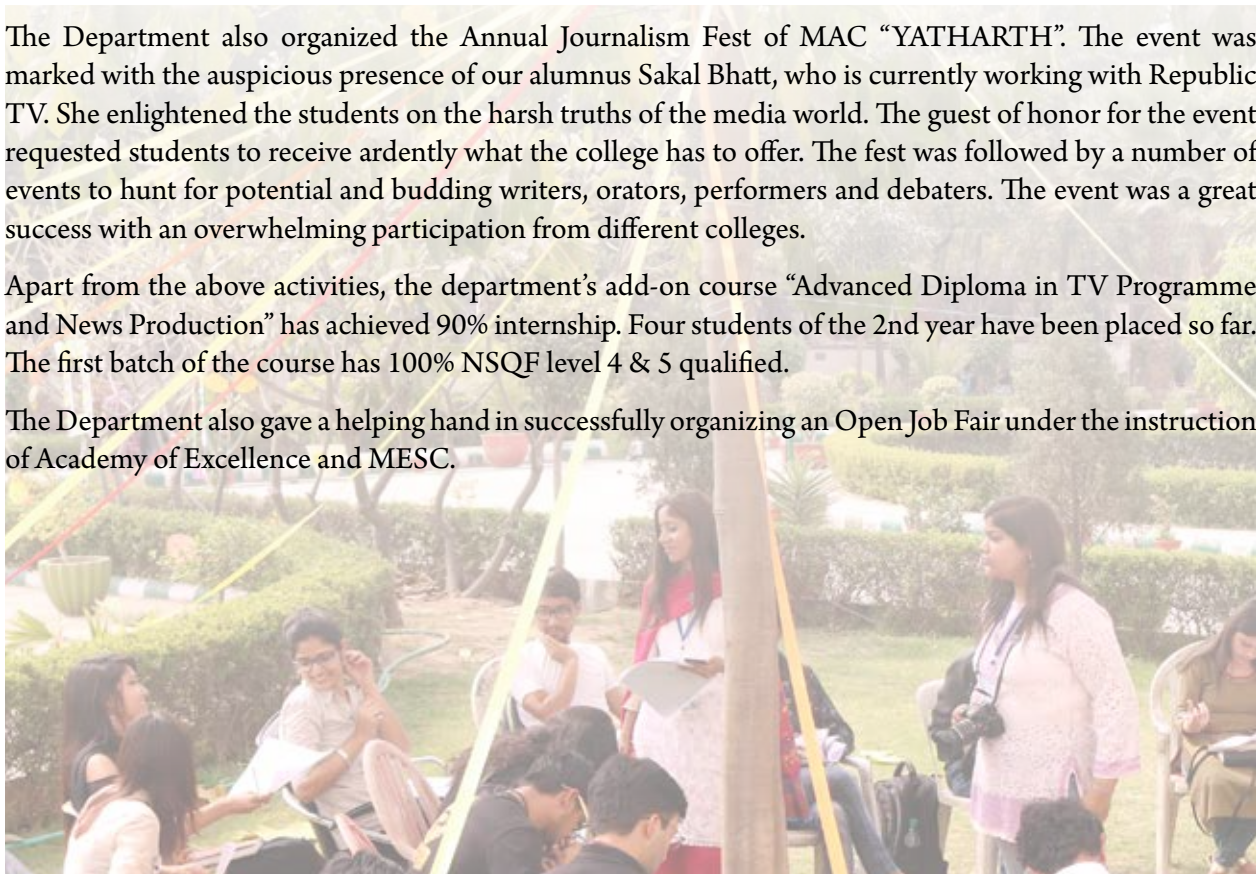


This academic year was also student-centric as various programmes and events organized by the department focused on the personal growth and development of students. An educational trip of three days to Mussoorie was organized which was marked with complete fun and frolic. With great enthusiasm to see the various mountain ranges ahead, the students trekked to Gun Hill to explore what nature could deliver to its humankind. The day was also enjoyed with a visit to the Kempty Falls and in exploring the Mall Road. The students also visited Dhanaulti - the paradise on earth and trekked to the Surkhanda Devi Temple through which they also learnt human values of teamwork, companionship and much more. The final day of the trip included a visit to the Robber's Cave which was a good learning experience. On the way back, we stopped by Roorkie for our final meal and we bid adieu to the hills.

The Department also organized the Annual Journalism Fest of MAC "YATHARTH". The event was marked with the auspicious presence of our alumnus Sakal Bhatt, who is currently working with Republic TV. She enlightened the students on the harsh truths of the media world. The guest of honor for the event requested students to receive ardently what the college has to offer. The fest was followed by a number of events to hunt for potential and budding writers, orators, performers and debaters. The event was a great success with an overwhelming participation from different colleges.

Apart from the above activities, the department's add-on course "Advanced Diploma in TV Programme and News Production" has achieved 90% internship. Four students of the 2nd year have been placed so far. The first batch of the course has 100% NSQF level 4 & 5 qualified.

The Department also gave a helping hand in successfully organizing an Open Job Fair under the instruction of Academy of Excellence and MESAC.



POLITICAL SCIENCE

The Department of Political Science began its new academic session 2017-2018 by welcoming its new batch of students. The whole academic year was very eventful for the Department. A Symposium was held on 22 August 2017 on the topic, "Kashmir Problem: The issue of Article 35A". Shri Ashutosh Bhatnagar, Executive Director of Jammu & Kashmir Study Center was invited as the Chief Guest and Shri Yashraj Bundela, Advocate, Supreme Court of India, was invited as the Guest of Honor for the Symposium. On 21 September 2017, the department also organized a lecture on "The life and Mission of Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay". The lecture was delivered by Shri Ashok Moadak, National Research Professor, University of Mumbai.

"Chanakya", the Student society of Political Science Department organized a one-day fest of academic activities on 26 February 2018. Various events on several important and relevant themes were held on this day like "Rajneeti" (impersonating any Indian or International politician), "Sketch-o-Politics" (Political Caricature), Extempore, "DilKholKe" (a self-composed poetry reading session), "Vaad-Vivaad", Colours of India, etc. Students took a new initiative and organized a new event called "IT'S A PARTY" wherein students had to design their own party logo followed by a speech where they had to explain and justify their party logo and symbol. The department is also planning to organize an educational trip for the students in the future.





PHYSICAL SCIENCES

The B.Sc. Physical Science Course for the academic session 2017-18 started functioning under the Convenorship Dr Nibedita Khuntia, Assistant Professor, Department of Biology. The committee worked sincerely during the whole session by conducting several programmes and organising various events for the benefit of students while enriching the vibrant corporate life of the college. The Convener received full co-operation and support from the Teacher-in-Charges of the constituent Departments, such as, Dr Asha Gupta (Physics), Dr Vandna Soni (Chemistry) and Dr Latesh (Computer Science).

Orientation Programme of the Department

After the admissions were over, the first and foremost responsibility of the Committee was to formally welcome the newly admitted First Year students into the institution by conducting Departmental Orientation Programme and in the process, familiarise them with the courses, facilitate peer group exchanges, provide platform for interactions with senior students and faculty members of the department and make them feel comfortable in the higher education environment post-schooling. After the programme, the students also planted trees in the campus to mark an auspicious beginning to the academic session 2017-18.

Library Orientation

The college boasts of a very good Library System which contributes towards building knowledge. A library Orientation Programme was conducted on 10 August 2017 by the Library Committee, for the First Year B.Sc. Physical Science students to acquaint them with the existing library facilities. Students visited the various sections of the library, such as the Reading Hall, the Text Book Section, Computer Room, Issue Section, etc. and were given guidance with respect to accessing these facilities.





Cricket Match

India's most popular team sport, Cricket is a great source to create bonding among the members besides promoting the spirit of sportsmanship. Keeping this objective in view, the First Intra-Departmental Cricket Match was organised on 17th-19th September, 2017. The students participated with full enthusiasm by forming different teams. The team members, however amateur they might have been, gave their 100 per cent as players and played the game in good spirit. Prizes were also distributed to the Winners and Runners Up.

Workshop

The Department of Computer Science organised a one-day workshop on 9th November, 2017 on "Android Application" by Mr Sourabh Taneja and Mr Sonu Prakash from APTRON Solutions Pvt. Ltd., Noida, U.P. for Computer Science students with the objective to create awareness about the importance and means of 'Mobile Android Technology and its Application'.

Scintilla

The Annual Cultural Meet of B. Sc. Physical Science, named "Scintilla" was organised with lot of fanfare on 20 February 2018. The meet was an amalgamation of various activities such as Debate, Quiz, Web page Making, Computer Games and Fun Games. Scintilla is an open cultural meet. Students from all the different departments of the college participated in the competition. It should be mentioned that the students of B.Sc. Physical Science did very well in all these events.

Along with the prize distribution to the winners, the students of B.Sc. Physical Science felicitated all the laboratory staffs – Mr Bhagwandas, Mr Pramod, Mr Ashish, Mr Vinod and Mr Dungdung without whom the event could not have become a grand success.

Annual Sports Meet

The Annual Sports which included Basket Ball, Cricket, Kabaddi, Volley Ball, Long Jump and Relay Race was organised on 26th February, 2018. Students from various departments of the college participated in different events thus making it a big success. Here also, the student participants from B.Sc. Physical Science did very well in all the events and received accolades from faculty and public in general. The proof of their success is listed below:

- Winners in all the team events such as Basket Ball, Cricket, Kabaddi, Volley Ball.
- Runners Up in Women Basket Ball
- Winner and Runners up in Long Jump, Winners in 100m Race, winners in Shot Put and again winners in Chess, which were individual event

Students' Representatives

Students of B. Sc. Physical Science performed their duties and responsibilities in a satisfactory manner in the various fields. The names of students who did their bit as representatives to various Student Bodies of the college are listed below.

Student Body	Name
Gender Champion	Surbhi and Archit Sharma (3 rd Year)
Class Representatives	Disha Choudhury and Vikash Pal (1 st Year)
	Kirti Dedha and Anshu (2 nd Year)
	Archit Sharma and Surbhi (3 rd Year)
Representatives to Central Council of Students' Union	Abhinav Pawan and Shashank Jain (1 st Year) Anshu and Alok (2 nd Year) Ayush Pathak and Sonal (3 rd Year)

Conference

Department of Biology actively participated in organizing the 6th National Conference on "Biodiversity and Climate Change". The theme of the conference for this year was "Wildlife Ecology, Conservation and Iconology". As it is an interdisciplinary conference, students of B.Sc. Physical Science students took an active part in volunteering and attending the conference in large numbers. They learned about animal poaching. Why and how, it is happening; and the organisations that protect and conserve these Animal Reserves in India.

Lecture Series

Department of Physical Science hosted its **First Lecture Series**, which gave an opportunity to the students to understand some new and important concepts related to science and technology, on 27 March 2018.

Three guest speakers were called to enlighten the students on certain interesting and valuable topics associated with different spheres of technology. The event started off with the lighting of the lamp and



Saraswati Vandna to seek the blessings of the almighty. The inaugural lecture was given by **Dr Sunil Sondhi, Principal, Maharaja Agrasen College**, where he stated the need for understanding new concepts and their applications in our daily life. He also urged the students to actively participate in college projects with a sense of curiosity and zeal.

The first speaker for the day was **Professor Vijay Gupta, Department of Physics, University of Delhi**. He spoke on the topic, **Energy Harvesting**. The professor said that accuracy is a must while carrying out a science experiment. He added that with developing technology, we are able to find better outcomes. He emphasized on Pyroelectric materials, Multiferroic materials, hydroelectric materials and piezoelectric materials. He also explained some of the tough concepts like PSLV- the acoustic sensor, where the calibration curve and threshold level is considered. He further showed some live demonstrations on how energy can be generated when there is no electricity. In the end, he answered the queries with patience.

The second speaker was **Prof. T. V. Vijay Kumar, Mathematics and Computer Science Department, JNU, Delhi**. The topic was **Big Data**. He discussed Centralized Database Systems and Distributed Database Systems and explained the difference between them. He also said that data accessing varies from place to place. He further added, "Dimensions of distributed databases depend on the architectural models that exist in the network". Prof. Vijay Kumar stated that data mining and classification also play an essential role in publishing and the entire management of the quantity of the data. He also stated, "classification is a data mining technique that assigns items in a collection to target categories or classes". He explained about complex topics like Data Stream Management, Clustering, Association Rules, Sources of Big Data, V's of Big Data and the concept of wisdom and knowledge. He concluded the speech by explaining the 5 analytics which are Descriptive, Diagnostic, Predictive, Prescriptive and Decisive.

The last guest speaker for the day was **Dr Indu Tucker Sidhwani, Associate Professor (Retd.), Department of Chemistry, Gargi College, University of Delhi**. The guest speaker had a fruitful interaction with the audience where she discussed about the positive ways in which chemical industry affects us and also shared a lot of useful anecdotes. She spoke on "**Green Chemistry**" and stated that many records show that chemical industries are the reason for industrial effluents in the surroundings and release of toxic materials. In order to give more depth and weightage to her speech, she gave examples from the past like: River catching fire, Cuyahoga River and chemical snowfall in Bangalore. She also discussed some case studies about the infamous occurrences in India, for example, Bhopal Gas Tragedy (1984) and about DDT in America, due to which Bald Eagles were dying as a result of the thinning of egg-shells.



MATHEMATICS

The Department of Mathematics started its new academic session 2017-18 by electing the office bearers of “Ramanujan Society”. It organized a talk on “Optimization Techniques” on 21 September 2017. The talk was delivered by Professor Amit Bardhan, Faculty of Management Science (FMS), University of Delhi, South Campus. Students and teachers of the Department attended the lecture and interacted with the speaker. The speaker appreciated the quality and number of questions asked by the students on Optimization Techniques. The students of the Department actively participated in the two days’ workshop on “Digital Marketing and Information Security” on 23 and 25 September 2017, organized by the Computer Science Department for the students of B.Sc. Mathematical Science course. “INFINITY’18”, a one-day fest was organized on 24 February 2018. Various events like Debate, Brain Cruncher, Mini-Militia, Balloon Pyramid and Nut Stacker were conducted during the fest. The students participated in all the events with a lot of enthusiasm and won many cash prizes. The students of the Department actively participated in the annual college festival YUVAAN and competitive events organized by other departments of the college and won several prizes.

Our faculty members Dr Sushil Yadav and Dr Awadhesh Kumar Poddar presented their research papers in the National Conference on ‘Advances in Applied Mathematics and Statistics’ organized by Department of Mathematics, Mata Sundri College, University of Delhi, held on 7-8 September 2017.



B.A. PROGRAMME

B.A. (Prog) started its new academic session 2017-18 with an Orientation Programme for the newly inducted students. During the orientation, students were welcomed and apprised about the structure and working of B.A. (Prog) course. B.A. (Prog) students remained involved throughout the year in various academic and co-curricular activities.

In the month of September 2017, elections for office bearers of "LAKSHYA SOCIETY", a society of B.A. (Prog) students were held. Only one nomination was received against each post and all office bearers were elected unopposed. The following students were declared elected unopposed: President - Suraj Sharma, Secretary - Sakhil Khan, Treasurer - Nishant Vyas, Vice-president - Rajat Yadav, Joint Secretary - Akansha Kumari Pandey. Five executives, two from each year were also elected unopposed. B.A. (Prog) committee conducted the process for electing and nominating two students from each year to the Student Council.

"LAKSHYA SOCIETY" started its functioning by organizing a debate competition on "SOCIAL MEDIA HAS LOST IT'S CREDIBILITY" on 27 September 2017.

"LAKSHYA SOCIETY" organized the 3rd edition of Annual Fest 'Aaghaz' from 19-20 February 2018. It was a two-day festival, which showcased the talent of B.A. (Prog) students. Students from all the departments participated and contributed enthusiastically. In these two days, eleven events were held successfully.

Students of B.A. (Prog) also volunteered and participated in various other events organized by the college such as the workshop conducted by the Department of Computer Science and the 6th "National Conference on Bio-diversity and Climate Change".



Students of B.A. (Prog) also participated in Annual Sports Meet with a lot of enthusiasm, where they won three trophies. Last but not the least, students of B.A. (Prog) not only participated but also played a key role in organizing the college festival "YUVAAN".

The academic session 2017-18 proved to be quite an eventful and successful year for the students of B.A. (Prog).



ECONOMICS

The Department of Economics has always been a front-runner in Academic exercises. This Department has been instrumental in organizing the annual conferences on “Biodiversity and Climate Change” for the last six years. Carrying forward its old tradition of participating in various activities at college level, the Department played an instrumental role in organizing elections for B.A. (Prog) Students Society. Through this electoral process, the department also sought to familiarize the students with their rights and responsibilities. The Department was also instrumental in organizing the festival of B.A. (Prog) titled “Aaghaz” which was well attended not only by the students of our college but also of other colleges affiliated to University of Delhi. Through these multifarious events and competitions we have tried to create a vibrant and energetic atmosphere for the students to excel not only academically but also socially.

Faculty members of the department have been involved in various research and academic activities. Two of the department faculty members, Dr Soumya Shukla and Dr S.N Rao have been awarded Ph.D this year. In this academic year, Dr Soumya Shukla co-edited two books, first, “Spiritual Ecology and Sustainability: Practice and Confluence” and second, “Academic and Activist Perspective on Bio-diversity”. She also attended a weeklong faculty development program on “R programming”. Mr Rakesh Kumar got two research papers published in a reputed journal and attended a two days’ workshop on “Analytics with R Environment”.



HISTORY

The department of History has been abuzz with curricular and co-curricular activities round the year. In order to promote a sense of historicity among the students, the department of History has been organizing various activities for its students and is enthusiastically supported by the faculty. In this pursuit, the Department organized a visit to the National Gallery of Modern Art and Lodhi's Tomb and Lodhi Garden in the month of September in which over 50 students of B.A. Programme (History and other courses) participated. During the visit to National Gallery of Modern Art, students came face to face evolution of art during the modern period of Indian history. Of special significance was the evolution of Company School of Art as well as developments of indigenous art forms during colonial and post-colonial period.

After visiting the glorious treasure of National Gallery of Modern Art, students also visited the iconic Lodhi's tomb and the Lodhi Garden which has been an architectural marvel of the medieval period. The lush green surroundings added life to the majestic Lodhi's Tomb.

The department has been pioneering the cause of environmental awareness by successfully organizing National Conference on Biodiversity and Climate Change for the past six years. This year too, the department, in association with departments of Economics and Electronics organized this annual show titled "6th National Conference on Biodiversity and Climate Change: Wildlife Ecology, Conservation and Iconography from February 8 – 10, 2018. The Chief Guest for the Conference was Ms. Renu Singh, Director, Delhi Zoo. The keynote address was delivered by Mr Nila Madhab Panda, national award winning film maker famed for his films like I Am Kalam and KadwiHawa. Other eminent speakers during the Conference were Prof. S D Biju, the Frogman of India, Dr. Sumit Dookia, Dr Debanik Mukherjee, noted documentary film maker Gurmeet Sapal, Environmentalist and News Editor from NDTV, Sushil Bahuguna, Dr Tanuja Kothiyal, Dr. Meenakshi Khanna, Dr. Priya Gupta, Dr. Anu Jaidev, Dr. B C Sabat, Dr. Faiyaz Khudsar and Mr. Wasim Akram. The valedictory address was delivered by Dr. Koustubh Sharma.

The Department is in process of starting an INTACH Chapter in the College to promote heritage conservation among the college community. For this student volunteers would be enrolled and trained by INTACH and who in turn would act as ambassadors of heritage conservation.





खूँ दक एजक वुँको

'गांव' शब्द सुनते ही मन में एक मनोहर सी तस्वीर उतर आती है— लहलहाते खेत, स्वच्छ वातावरण, सीधे—साधे निष्कपट लोग और नए—नए किस्से। ऐसा ही कुछ हाल मेरा था जब मुझे मेरे पिताजी ने बताया कि इन छुट्टियों में हम गांव जा रहे हैं, पर जब 30 मील का सफर तय कर गांव के स्टेशन पर उतरे तो वहाँ *गोदान* वाले गांव की छवि कहीं नहीं थी न ही स्टेशन पर थे *राग दरबारी* वाले तांगे और ना ही *गबन* में वर्णित रौनक। यहां ऑटो रिक्शा थे, टैक्सी थी, धुआं उड़ते ट्रैक्टर थे। कहां थी वह *तमस* की बैलगाड़ियां, जिनमें हिचकोले खाते हुए गांव की ओर जाने का स्वप्न सजाए मैं आया था। चलिए कोई बात नहीं, हमने सोचा अनुभव कभी और सही। पहुंच गए भैया हम दादा के घर पर। यहां भी मेरे हाथ निराशा ही लगी— न फूस का छप्पर था ना चौड़ा बरामदा, न घर के सामने नीम का पेड़, न कदंब का। फिर भी जो आशा का साथ छोड़ दे वह अफसाना क्या लिखेगा। इसलिए हमने उम्मीद लगाए रखी। दादा—दादी का प्रेम तो खैर हमारी सोच से बढ़कर ही निकला पर घर के अंदर पंखा, बिजली देखकर जाने क्यों मैं दुखी सा हो गया। अरमान लेकर आया था कि *बारामासी* की तरफ फैलकर, खटिया डालकर छत पर तारे गिनते हुए सोएंगे, पर छोड़िए। शाम को गांव के लोग पिताजी से दुआ—सलाम के वास्ते आए। ना जाने क्यों मुझे उनके चेहरे में *होरी* नजर नहीं आया। किसी के चेहरे पर वह निष्कपट दीनता न थी। हां, वह कांड़यापन जरूर था जो शहर के लोगों को भी शर्मिंदा कर दे। शाम को निकले हम घूमने पर गांव में अब *कायाकल्प* वाली पगडंडियां कहां? हां, सड़कें अवश्य ही टूटी फूटी थी, सब बदला हुआ था। प्रेमचंद का *बेलारी* मुझे इस पूरे परिदृश्य में नजर ना आया। हर चीज बदली हुई थी। ना ही कोई धोती पहने था, ना कंधे पर गमछा था। सब पैंट बुशर्ट पहनकर चुस्ती महसूस कर रहे थे। कुछ बदलाव पसंद भी आए, जैसे अब कोई *हरखू चमार* को प्रताड़ित नहीं करता, ना ही *सिलिया* को कोई छेड़ता है, पर किसी के दरवाजे पर बैलों की वह गोई ना दिखी है जिसके बिना *होरी* असहाय हो गया था। हां, घू—घू करते ट्रैक्टर कई जगह थे। न अब *पंच परमेश्वर* रहे हैं, न ही *जुम्मन* और *अलगू* अब दोस्त हैं। न अब *ईदगाह* में वह तीन पैसे का चिमटा मिलता है और न ही गांव में कोई *हामिद*, *होरी*। उनकी जगह अब *वैद्यजी* और *रूपन* ले चुके हैं। किसी के द्वार पर अब चिलम नहीं है पर बीड़ी—सिगरेट जरूर है। खुश लोग अब भी नहीं है तब भी नहीं थे। खेत तब भी बंजर थे अब भी बंजर हैं। गांव का *साह* तब भी चोर माना जाता था अब भी चोर माना जाता है। बदला है तो तरीका बदला है, नजरिया, हालात नहीं। चलिए गांव का भ्रमण कर निराशा के बादलों में डूबे हम स्टेशन जा रहे थे, तभी हमारे सामने से गरु माता अपने अवशिष्ट समर्पित करते हुए निकली, आशा की किरण जागी, चलो कुछ तो ऐसा है जिसे कोई नहीं बदल सकता।

—अभिनव जैन
बी.ए.(ऑनर्स) अंग्रेजी



t g l u e

वो दुनिया जहाँ हर दिन हादसा और हर रात जलजला है
ये उस एक ही जमीन से जन्मे दरिदों और मासूमों का सिलसिला है।

पेशावर की उस दोपहर
उजैर को आतंकवादियों ने भूखे पेट ही मौत की नींद सुलाया था
उस रात भरे हुए टिफिन ने उजैर की अम्मी को बहुत रुलाया था।

मौत से भागते हुए, एक रोहिंग्या बहन, हामिदा ने अपने चंद-दिन की औलाद को खोया
जिस दिन समन्दर ने उसकी नन्ही जान को निगला, उस दिन वो समन्दर भी उसके साथ रोया।

26/11 की उस रात जब गजेंदर सिंह पर कसाब बेहिसाब गोलियों से वार कर रहा था
उसी की उम्र का उनका बेटा घर पर बैठा उनका इन्तजार कर रहा था।

अपने पहले दिन पर
लंच का डब्बा लिए मार्टिन घर से ऑफिस की तरफ निकला था
एल्फिंस्टोन पर किसी कुर्सी वाले की गैर जिम्मेदारी ने उसे कुचला था।

कल कॉन्सर्ट में गए दोस्तों का बेजान जिस्म लहु-लुहान है
उनका वो अड्डा सुनसान और माएँ बेजान हैं।

पिछले महीने पंजाब से हरियाणा तक हर वो घर जला जिसपर अन्धविश्वास का साया है
क्योंकि आखिर भगवान को कभी कोई 'ना' कह पाया है?
जिसे हम इस जमी की जन्नत कहते हैं,
वो कश्मीर हर रोज जहन्नुम की तरह जलता है,
वहाँ का हर बच्चा गोलियों की गूँज और नफरत की निगरानी में पलता है।

अब तो ये हाल है कि
अगर एक भाई किसी हादसे का शिकार हुआ बेखबर कब्र में सोता है,
तो दूसरा हर रात तकिये पर सिर रख कर नींद की तलाश में रोता है।

इस दौर में
हर वो इन्सान जो घर से जाता है, वो लौट कर आता तो नहीं
शहादत के नाम पर खुद को शहीद करने वाला हर वो इन्सान पछताता तो नहीं।

अखबार में एक तरफ जन्नत है, घर का खाना है और घर के नर्म बिस्तर का सुकून है
अखबार में दूसरी तरफ जहन्नुम है, और सिर्फ धर्म के पहरेदारों का जुनून है।

लेकिन इस खून-खराबे के पीछे कोई खुदा या देवता तो नहीं
जो जन्म देता है, वो ही जान लेता तो नहीं।

सोचने वाली बात ये है
क्या जैसे खौफ भरी, जिल्लत भरी इस दुनिया में हमारा गुजारा होता है,
बिल्कुल वैसे ही जहन्नुम का भी नजारा होता है ?

— अलीना काजमी
बी.ए. (ऑनर्स) अंग्रेजी, तृतीय वर्ष

I ož u fgrk & l ož u l qkk

1

दुनिया से थक हार कर
सर के तीव्र फटनी से परेशान,
आँखों के नीचे उग आए प्रत्याशाओं के
'डार्क सर्कल' से हताश
चूर-चूर हो
खुद को समेटता होगा,
वह
क्या सोचता होगा ?
कि पिछले चक्के के दाहिने डायल ने
बड़ी तकलीफ दी दिन भर,
और डीली पैडल से चढ़ान पर हो रही असुविधा पर
खेद प्रकट कर रहा होगा,
या पीठ पर बहे फोड़े से
दागदार गमछे को निहार रहा होगा .
उसे नहीं पता कश्मीर में क्या हुआ,
उसे क्या पता गंगा में कितनी पानी है
और कितनी पेशाब
उसके जिंदगी की चूड़ी,
डीली हो चुकी
गद्दी के बोल्ट को बेतरह कसने में,
गुमशुदगी का तमगा लिए, ढूँढ रही है
बूढ़े बरगद की छाँव,
जिसकी मटियामेट मान्यताएँ, जड़ देना चाहती हैं
अट्टहास करती भीड़ पर जोरदार तमाचा,
और
पेट पकड़कर कहना चाहती हैं
'सिर्फ हँसने का नाम नहीं है जिन्दगी'

2

मिट्टी की तश्तरी में,
आटे सा गूथा
पर नहीं बन रही कोई चिड़िया, न ही मुरैला
बन जा रहा एक सवालिया निशान
जिसे आँच में रख भूल गया है सर्जक,
आह ! अनवरत आँच
और वो आटा ?
जिसके शब्दकोश में
बेसूद, बेशर्म और
थूक कर चाटने को कहते हैं जीना
वो अकेला है और
एकाकीपन भी किसी विद्रोह की मानिंद
होता है एक जंग, मरती हैं आत्माएँ,
टूटते हैं सपने
मैंने देखा है व्यक्ति से व्यक्तित्व पर होता 'सर्जिकल अटैक'
बर्फ होता अस्तित्व और
मौत नितांत खूबसूरत नजर आती है,
लो, तैयार है तुम्हारे साथ तपने को
ओ सूरज ! बढ़ा मत अपना ताप
हे बादल ! जरा फैला दे चादर अपनी
चढ़ाई थोड़ी ज्यादा है
खींच रहा है वो
आजाद भारत के स्वतंत्र नागरिक को,
जहाँ अट्टहास करती गूँगी दीवारें
बयाँ कर रहीं हैं पर्दे के पीछे का सच
जिसपर मोटे मोटे काले अक्षरों में अंकित है
सर्वजन हिताय, सर्वजन सुखाय .

– सुधांशु शर्मा,
बी.ए. (ऑनर्स) हिंदी
तृतीय वर्ष

uxjo/kw

भीमकाय चट्टान टूट कर बन गए हैं रेत
 रेत का जर्जर जर्जर फिसल रहा है
 मेरी भींची मुट्टी से
 जैसे फिसलता है कदम
 जमी काई पर.
 किसी रोज मैंने उसे ये बताया था
 पर वक्त आज दिखा रहा है
 मुझे सच.
 हर मोड़ पर पूछते हैं मेरा गुमनाम पता
 उन संकरी गलियों के घरों की खिड़कियों को बन्द करके
 कि कहीं खुल न जाये उनके
 गुप्त राज.
 वो छुप कर आते हैं
 मेरी ओट में
 तलबगार बनकर.
 निर्लज्जता के ऊपर लज्जा की चादर ओढ़कर
 और मैं कर लेती हूँ
 अपनी बेजान चमड़ी पर श्रृंगार
 मेरा कोई दुःख नहीं दिखता
 दिखती है तो बस मेरी निराश नजरें
 जिसने मुझे और पुख्ता कर दिया है
 आखिर हूँ तो मैं एक 'फिनिक्स'
 मैं तलाशती हूँ खुद को
 होने न होने के बीच
 कहीं दलदल में धँसी
 तो कहीं इस सभ्य समाज के थपेड़े खाती हुई
 मेरा पेशा भी नहीं दे पाता
 मुझे सार्वजनिक पहचान.
 अंधेरे और उजाले का फर्क तभी दिखता है मुझे
 उस बंद कोठरी में
 रिरियाता, बेचौन, अकुलाहट से भरा हुआ

मेरी आत्मा खुद में विचरण करती है
 उसे कहीं और ढाँव नहीं.
 उस रात भी यही हुआ था
 वो आए थे नकाब की ओट लेकर
 और गए भी नकाब की ओट में
 बड़ा दर्द है
 विशेषणों के दुखने का.
 मेरी देह चित्कारती है
 करती है बार-बार प्रश्न कहाँ है मेरा अल्हड़पन?
 मैं केवल एक भोग्या और पण्य-क्रेता स्त्री
 जीवन-मरण में
 मेरा कोई आँकड़ा नहीं.
 हद की पीड़ा होती मुझमें
 व्यवसाय भाव से कातर मैं
 मैं तवायफ.
 शिक्षित वर्ग बड़ा ज्ञानी
 आध्यात्मिक चिंतन शून्य उनका
 मेरी ओर कोई न ढरका
 मेरी पीड़ित आँखें कोई न पढ़ सका
 मैं वैश्या, गणिका, लोकांगना, नगरवधू
 मैं पत्नी, बेटी, बहन नहीं
 मैं नगरवधू

— निधि रानी
 बी.ए. (ऑनर्स) हिंदी
 तृतीय वर्ष

, d Qy dh pkg

एक बार एक बड़े गांव में एक परिवार रहता था। वह परिवार गरीब वर्ग से संबंधित था। गांव में महामारी की बीमारी प्रचंड तांडव कर रही थी। उस परिवार में सुखिया नामक 8 वर्ष की एक बच्ची अपने पिता के साथ झोपड़ी में रहती थी। उसके पिता प्रतिदिन जब साहूकारों के गांव में सफाई के कार्य हेतु जाते तो उसे समझा कर जाते कि सुखिया बाहर खेलने मत जाना, महामारी का प्रकोप अपने चरम सीमा पर है। सुखिया प्रतिदिन अपने पिता की बातों को सुनती परंतु पिता के चले जाने के पश्चात वह पुनः प्रतिदिन की भांति खेलों में अपने बाल मित्रों के साथ खेलने लगती। सुखिया के पिता महामारी के डर से प्रतिदिन उसे सचेत करते लेकिन बालमन कहां मानने वाला था। वह तो और उसी ओर भागता जहां उसे मना किया जाता।

एक दिन जब सुखिया के पिता घर आए तो उनका दिल बैठ गया, मानो चारों ओर अंधेरा छा गया। सुखिया खटिया पर लेटे कराह रही थी। उसका हाथ तथा पूरा शरीर ज्वर से पीड़ित था। सुखिया के पिता को समझ आ गया कि यह महामारी का लक्षण है। उसने सुखिया की सारी इच्छाओं को पूरा करने का निश्चय किया, आखिर परिवार में सुखिया के अलावा अपना कहने को और था ही कौन? उसने सुखिया के सिर पर हाथ फेरते हुए पूछा— क्या लाऊं तेरे लिए? सुखिया एक क्षण कुछ न बोली, फिर धीरे से बोली— 'पिताजी वो मंदिर देवी मैयावाला है ना, उसका एक फूल कल ला दो।' सुखिया की यह मांग सुनकर वह डर गया, उसे पता था उसे कभी फूल लाने की अनुमति नहीं प्राप्त होगी। मंदिर जाने का तो वह स्वप्न ही छोड़ दे। यही सब सोचकर वह पूरी रात नहीं सो सका। वह यही सोचता रहा कि किस प्रकार अपनी बेटी की एक फूल की चाह को पूरी करे। भोर होते ही वह खड़ा हुआ और मंदिर की ओर चल दिया। इस वक्त वह इधर-उधर देख रहा था परंतु कोई भी दिखाई नहीं दिया। मंदिर पहुंचकर जल्दी-जल्दी सीढ़ियां चढ़कर मंदिर में पहुंच गया। उसका कलेजा कांप रहा था, हाथ-पांव थरथरा रहे थे। उसने देवी मैया को प्रणाम किया और झट से फूल को उठाकर अपने फटे कुर्ते की जेब में डाल लिया। वह मंदिर के अंदर से निकलने लगा तभी पुजारी जी की नींद खुल गई और उसने उसको पकड़ लिया। अब तो मानों उसके प्राण ही उड़ गए हो। तभी गांव के अन्य लोग वहां एकत्रित हो गए। सबने मंदिर के पास रखी लाठियां उठा ली तथा उस पर लाठियों की बरसात करने लगे। लोगों ने उस पर मुकदमा दायर कर दिया। दो दिन का कारावास काटने के पश्चात जब वह घर जा रहा था तब मन ही मन यह सोचने लगा कि जिस माता ने हमें बनाया क्या वह भी यही चाहती थी कि हम अछूतों को एक फूल भी ना मिले? वह अपनी इस अवस्था को घर में सुखिया को नहीं बताना चाहता था इसलिए रास्ते में अपनी हालत को सुधारता है और आंसुओं को पोछकर घर की तरफ और तीव्र गति से चलने लगता है। वह फूल को अपने हाथ में निकालकर कभी रखता, कभी उसे हृदय से लगाता। घर पहुंचकर वह आवाज लगाता है— 'सुखिया देख तेरा फूल लिए आया हूं।' घर में सिर्फ उसकी ही आवाज गूंजती है। उसका हृदय धड़कने लगा। वह घर के बाहर उसे ढूंढने निकला। पड़ोसवालों में से एक ने बताया कि जिस दिन तुम पर मुकदमा चला था, उसी दिन सुखिया की मृत्यु हो गई। एक दिन हमारे गली के कुत्तों को उसको घेरे देखा, तो हम वहां गए। पता चला कि सुखिया पहले ही अलविदा कह चुकी है, तुम्हारे रिश्तेदारों ने दूसरे दिन उसे श्मशान घाट में जला दिया। यह सुनते ही सुखिया का पिता श्मशान घाट की ओर भागा। राख अभी भी उड़ रही थी मानो वह उसी फूल का इंतजार कर रही हो। सुखिया के पिता ने वह फूल वही चढ़ाया और ऊपर देखते हुए बैठ गया....

रिचा तिवारी
बीए (ऑनर्स) हिंदी, द्वितीय वर्ष

dkbZ

था कोई जो चाहता था
कि कुछ जमीं मिल जाए
थे जो बादल आसमाँ तले
उनसे उसे भी नमी मिल जाए

जमी की चाहत गोया
जान की आफत हो गई
दिन ढले रात बीती
और एक दिन पूरी उसकी इबादत हो गई

जिस जमीं को सदियों से
उसने अपने पसीने से भिगोया
जिसकी मिट्टी में हँसा वो
जिसकी मिट्टी में रोया

उसी जमीं का आज वो जमींदार है
जमीं तो जमीं है, दो गज ही सही
कल जब गुजरा था उसके घर से,
उसकी बेगम ये कहा
कि आज तो वो बहुत बीमार है ।

— अभिनव आनन्द
बी.ए. (ऑनर्स) अँग्रेजी

xqkg

कुछ लोग जाने अनजाने कूद पड़ते हैं
दूसरों को अत्याचार से बचाने
गुनाहों के सौदागर आते हैं
मददगारों की दुनिया उजाड़ जाते हैं
लोगों की आँखों के सामने किसी की जान ले ली जाती है,
किसी का सुहाग उजाड़ दिया जाता है,
किसी के बेटे की जान ले ली जाती है
किसी की बेटि की इज्जत सरेआम उछाली जाती है,
किसी की बहन पर सरेआम तेजाब उछाला जाता है
लोग जमा तो हो जाते हैं इस तरह के घटनास्थलों पर,
पर कोई कुछ बोलता नहीं
विरोध का कोई स्वर सुनाई नहीं देता
अपराधियों की हिम्मत होती है बार-बार सरेआम अपराध करने की
क्योंकि हम चुप रहकर उनके गुनाहों में उनका साथ देते हैं
चुप रहना भी एक गुनाह है,
ये जानकर भी हम चुप रहते हैं
इस चुप्पी को तोड़कर तो देखो
अपराधियों का बच पाना मुश्किल हो जाएगा
सड़क पर इकट्ठी भीड़ में एकता लाकर तो देखो
गुनाहों का मंजर खत्म हो जाएगा
दूसरों की खुशियों में शामिल होते हो,
दुःखों में शामिल होकर तो देखो
जमाना बदल जाएगा,
गुनहगारों को सरेआम कत्ल करके जाने नहीं देंगे,
ये प्रतिज्ञा करके तो देखो
जुर्म का होना बंद हो जाएगा ।

— श्वेता बंसल

eMjrk gwçæ l s

मैं डरता हूँ प्रेम से !
मैंने कहा था – 'मुझे तुमसे प्रेम है'
एक बार एक रात ने चंद्रमा से ऐसा ही कहा था
उस रात के बाद चंद्रमा बदला नजर आने लगा
रात वहीं ठहर गई
ठहरी रही शताब्दियों तक
उस रात का चंद्रमा कभी नहीं निकला.

एक बार एक चिड़िया ने प्रेम किया एक जुगनू से
उसके बाद जुगनू कभी नहीं चमका
चिड़िया हर शाम झील के किनारे वाले पेड़ पर बैठी
ताकती रहती झील के पानी में
किनारे पानी पर हिलते हैं दरख्त, हिलता है उसका
घोसला
बीच में हिलता है चाँद
पानी के तारे आसमान के तारों से अधिक टिमटिमाते हैं
चिड़िया तारों में खोजती है एक जुगनू.

जिस पर्वत को मेरे नाम किया गया था
उसकी तलहटी सूख चुकी थी
हर क्षण पर्वत देखता
अपने पाँवों को पत्थर होते हुए
उसने प्रेम किया दूर बहती एक नदी से
उसी क्षण नदी ने अपना धारा बदल दी
पर्वत के सपने में शामिल है चट्टानों में नमी
और देह पर हरियाली

रात की प्रतीक्षा,
चिड़िया की आस,
और पर्वत का सपना,
प्रेम की एक पवित्र जिद है
पवित्र उतनी जितनी अंडों से निकले नवजात बच्चे
जिद एक नवजात चिड़िया है

जिसके रोएँ तक नहीं उगे होते
बचाकर रखना पड़ता है इसे पंख आने तक
ऐसी जिम्मेदारी उठा सकती है एक माँ
नए संबंधों में सबको माँ बनना पड़ता है.

बारिश की पहली बूँद चूमना चाहती है पृथ्वी को
लेकिन बादल से निकली पहली बूँद
पृथ्वी तक कभी नहीं पहुँचती.

मैंने प्रेम करना चाहा था समय से
लेकिन जानता हूँ मैं
एक दिन मेरी घड़ी रुक जाएगी
एक दिन रुक जाऊंगा मैं भी
एक दिन रुक जाएंगे सब
वे सारी वस्तुएँ, जो चलायमान हैं
एक दिन हमेशा के लिए ठहर जाएंगी
अपनी उम्र के बाहर हर कोई ठहरता है
पृथ्वी की उम्र अभी लम्बी है
एक दिन आएगा
जिसके बाद पृथ्वी की कोई उम्र नहीं होगी
दुनिया की आखिरी घड़ी उस दिन रुक जाएगी
आखिरी बार सुइयाँ, जाने कहाँ ठहरेंगी.

फिर भी कुछ है जो जीवित रहेगा
शाश्वत होगा,
प्रेम.

यज्ञ की आहुति में जला दी जाती हैं
दुनिया की सभी पवित्र वस्तुएँ,
नहीं जलाया जाता है तो सिर्फ प्रेम.

फिर भी
मैं डरता हूँ प्रेम से.

मुझे
स्मरण में भी गुदगुदाती हैं
मेरी हथेलियों पर गोल-गोल घूमती तुम्हारी उंगलियाँ
और मेरे अंतर्मन को चूमता है तुम्हारा स्पर्श !

रात जब सो चुकी होती है
थके हुए बच्चे की तरह,
मेरे अहाते में
दबे पाँव उतरती है चाँदनी
खामोशी से मिलने को
सो चुकी होती हैं धरती की तमाम विषमताएँ
नींद की शांत परतों में
पंख रगड़ते हुए, जागते हैं झींगुर
जागता हूँ मैं भी,
मैं जागता हूँ
मेरे माथे पर चिपकी तुम्हारे होठों की परछाईं
तोड़ती है मेरे 'अविश्वास' को
चोट करती हैं मेरे 'संशय' पर

धीरे से कहती है—
'तुम्हे प्यार करने से बेहतर होगा अगर
खुद को प्यार करना,
तो भी मैं चुनूंगी तुम को !'

सोचता हूँ कि मैं तुमसे प्रेम करता हूँ
फिर भी
मैं डरता हूँ प्रेम से !

— स्वप्निल राय, बी.ए. (ऑनर्स)
हिन्दी, तृतीय वर्ष



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आज एक पिता घबरा रहा है,
ना जाने क्यों—
फिर भी वो मुस्कुरा रहा है।
ना जाने क्यों—

आज एक पिता हाथ जोड़े द्वार पर खड़ा है,
अपनी संजोई हुए संपत्ति दूसरों पर लुटा रहा है
ना जाने क्यों—
फिर भी वो मुस्कुरा रहा है,
ना जाने क्यों...

आज एक पिता लोगों की तारीफों पर हरषा रहा है,
ना जाने क्यों—
लोगों के तानों पर भी मुस्कुरा रहा है
ना जाने क्यों...

आज एक पिता रोती हुई माँ को समझा रहा है,
उसे दिलासे दिए जा रहा है
उसे मुस्कुराने को कह रहा है
ना जाने क्यों—
खुद भी वो मुस्कुरा रहा है
ना जाने क्यों...

जब उसने अपनी जान को किसी दूसरे के हाथों में सौंपा,
एक पल के लिए उसने अपनी सांसों को रोका
अंदर ही अंदर वो टूटता जा रहा है,
ना जाने क्यों—
फिर भी वो मुस्कुरा रहा है
ना जाने क्यों...

वो कुछ कहे या ना कहे,
उसकी आँखें सब बर्राँ करती हैं
आज एक पिता अपने आँसुओं के आगे बाँध सजा रहा है,
ना जाने क्यों—
फिर भी वो मुस्कुरा रहा है
ना जाने क्यों...

बेटी को पराया कहता पिता
आज ना जाने क्यों इतना घबरा रहा है,
वो खुश नहीं हैं फिर भी खुशियाँ मना रहा है,
ना जाने क्यों—
आज एक पिता इतना मुस्कुरा रहा है
ना जाने क्यों...

— पम्मी शर्मा
हिंदी (ऑनर्स) तृतीय वर्ष

दिसंबर में तुमसे प्यार होता है
दिल्ली की सड़कों पर सर्द हवाएँ
मेरे खयालों के साथ भागती हैं
गिटार सीखना शुरू किया है मैंने
अंगुलियों की सतह उधड़ने लगी है
हेयर कट कराया है तुमने
मैंने क्लीन शेड रहने का सोचा है
दाढ़ी रखना कम सॉफ्ट लगता है न
मेरे गांव के बगल से अब भी वो नदी गुजरती है
नदी के किनारे बंधी नाव तैरती रहती है
कदम भर के पानी में
दिल्ली में रात को आसमान पीला हो जाता है
सड़कें भी तो स्ट्रीट लाइट की रोशनी में नहा जाती हैं
अब ज्यादा बुझू हो गया हूँ या पहले था पता नहीं चलता
बढ़ रही है हौले हौले मुस्कुराहटों की लंबाई
छुट्टियां खत्म होने का इंतजार है भी और नहीं भी
कोई प्यारी सी फिल्म रिलीज हुई है इसी हफ्ते
देख आया हूँ अकेले दुकेले
पुराना साल बीतता है और नया आ जाता है
कुछ नहीं बदलता
फरवरी आती है और तुम पूछती हो
क्या किसी से कुछ कहना है मुझे
मैं देखता हूँ लफ्ज पीछे छूट गए हैं
और मैं जरा भी मुड़ना नहीं चाहता
सर्दियां लौट जाती हैं सबसे गहरी स्मृतियां देकर
फिर वक्त उड़ जाता है
मैं यादें संभालने लगता हूँ

एक्वेरियम की दीवार के इस पार रखी मेरी उंगली से
उस पार की मछली कुछ बतियाती है
ढलते हुए सूरज को देखता हूँ
कॉलेज की सीढ़ियों पर बैठे हुए
गर्मियों में सूख जाता है सामने वाले घर की बालकनी में
रखा हुआ पौधा
बारिशों में भी पूरा कहाँ दिखता है दिल्ली का आसमान
पूरा देखने के लिए उड़ना होगा
पर कोई भी तो नहीं जाता ऊपर, बूंदें भी नीचे ही आती हैं
एक नदी होनी चाहिए थी दिल्ली में भी
यमुना के किनारे का जंगल उतना घना नहीं है
मेट्रो की खिड़कियों से शहर के तापमान का
पता नहीं चलता
दिल्ली की हिस्ट्री भी पढ़ कर सोचने पर खूब लगती है
मैं टाल देता हूँ गालिब की हवेली जाने का प्लान
भरोसा कर लेता हूँ अनुवादक का
गालिब की गजलों के भाव के लिए
मुझे अंग्रेजी भी तो सीखनी है
कविताएं लिखना छोड़ देना है अब
सोचता हूँ किसी बारिश में धुल जाऊँ अभी
भूल जाऊंगा फिर नवंबर तक यह सब
कि शायद फिर पिघलेंगी सर्दियां
और दुहराव का इंतजार लिए लौटेगा दिसंबर

— मधुराज, तृतीय वर्ष,
बी.ए. (ऑनर्स) पत्रकारिता

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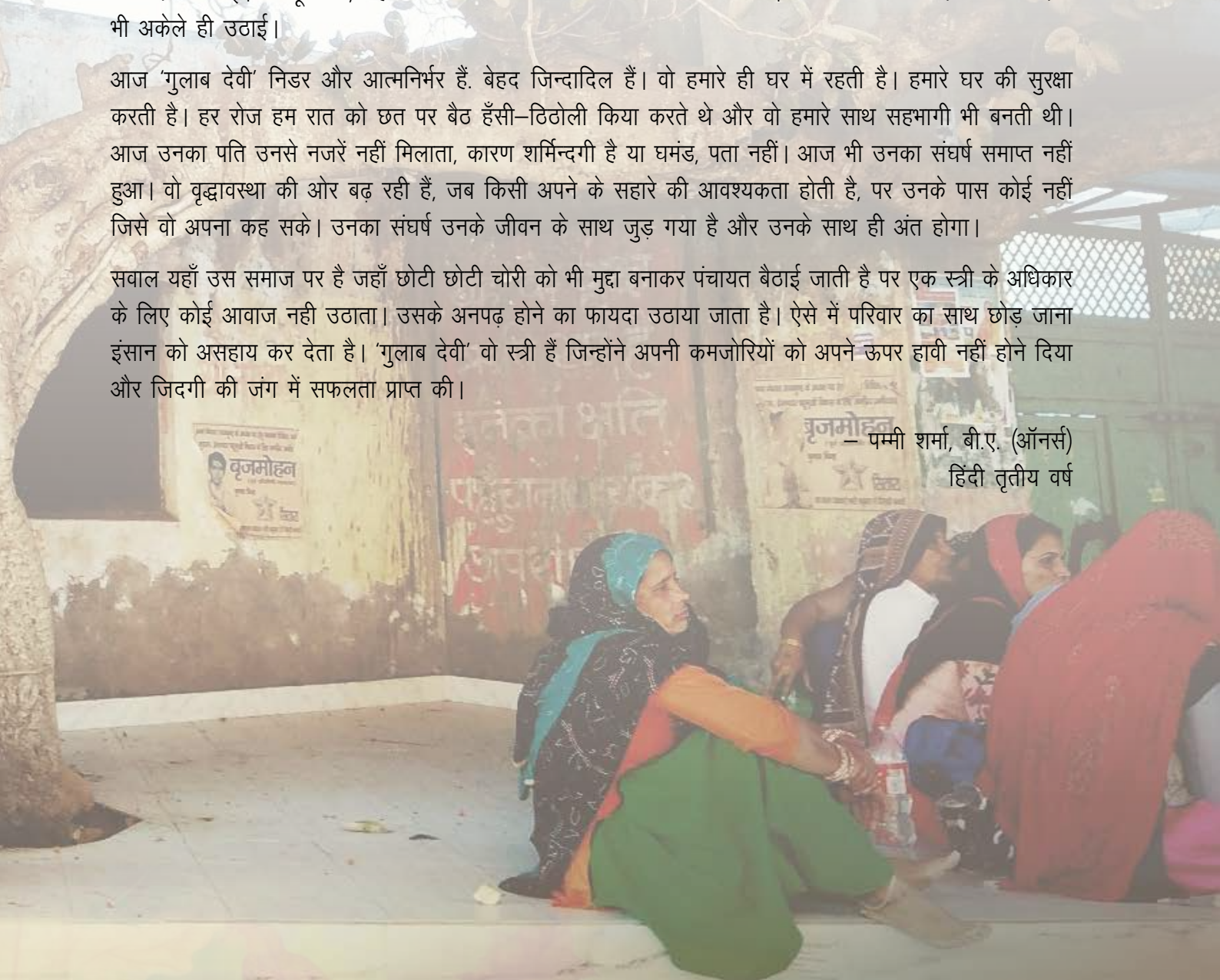
(‘गुलाब देवी’ ना कोई प्रसिद्ध चरित्र और ना ही मेरी कल्पना का कोई पात्र है. वो मेरे गाँव की एक साधारण सी स्त्री है, जिसके व्यक्तित्व ने मुझे बहुत प्रभावित किया। उसके प्रभावशाली व्यक्तित्व का कारण है उसके द्वारा किया गया संघर्ष।)

बचपन में ही उसने अपनी माँ को खो दिया। सौतेली माँ के भय में बचपन बीता. किशोरावस्था के आरंभ में ही विवाह के बंधन में बाँध दी गई और किशोरावस्था के अंत से पहले ही माँ बन गई। तीन बार अपनी संतानों को अपने गर्भ में रखने का सौभाग्य तो मिला परन्तु उसे अपनी गोद में खिलाने का सुख नहीं। चौथी संतान के रूप में एक प्यारी सी बेटी हुई। अभी संतान सुख का आभास भी नहीं हुआ था तभी उसके पति ने उसके समक्ष एक ऐसी इच्छा रख दी जो किसी भी पत्नी के लिए स्वीकार्य नहीं होती। वो दूसरा विवाह करना चाहते थे। गुलाब देवी ने परिस्थिति के साथ समझौता कर लिया। समझौते का कारण बेसहारा होने और बेटे के भविष्य की चिंता थी। कुछ ही समय के बाद उसके पति ने उसे अपने घर और जीवन से बाहर कर दिया। उसके बाद बेसहारा गुलाब देवी ने अपनी बेटे के साथ कई दिनों तक गौशाला में आश्रय लिया। कुछ दिनों के बाद वो भी छिन गया. उसके बाद गुलाब देवी ने अपनी और अपनी बेटे का जिम्मेदारी उठाई। मजदूरी की, मेहनत की और संघर्षों के साथ समय भी कट गया। अपनी बेटे की शादी की जिम्मेदारी भी अकेले ही उठाई।

आज ‘गुलाब देवी’ निडर और आत्मनिर्भर हैं. बेहद जिन्दादिल हैं। वो हमारे ही घर में रहती है। हमारे घर की सुरक्षा करती है। हर रोज हम रात को छत पर बैठ हँसी-ठिठोली किया करते थे और वो हमारे साथ सहभागी भी बनती थी। आज उनका पति उनसे नजरें नहीं मिलाता, कारण शर्मिन्दगी है या घमंड, पता नहीं। आज भी उनका संघर्ष समाप्त नहीं हुआ। वो वृद्धावस्था की ओर बढ़ रही हैं, जब किसी अपने के सहारे की आवश्यकता होती है, पर उनके पास कोई नहीं जिसे वो अपना कह सके। उनका संघर्ष उनके जीवन के साथ जुड़ गया है और उनके साथ ही अंत होगा।

सवाल यहाँ उस समाज पर है जहाँ छोटी छोटी चोरी को भी मुद्दा बनाकर पंचायत बैठाई जाती है पर एक स्त्री के अधिकार के लिए कोई आवाज नहीं उठाता। उसके अनपढ़ होने का फायदा उठाया जाता है। ऐसे में परिवार का साथ छोड़ जाना इंसान को असहाय कर देता है। ‘गुलाब देवी’ वो स्त्री हैं जिन्होंने अपनी कमजोरियों को अपने ऊपर हावी नहीं होने दिया और जिदगी की जंग में सफलता प्राप्त की।

— पम्मी शर्मा, बी.ए. (ऑनर्स)
हिंदी तृतीय वर्ष



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सफर जो दूर का है,
तो थकता है वो,
गिरता है कभी,
तो टूटकर काँच सा,
कभी बिखरता है वो।

फिर उठता है और
बटोर खुद को आगे बढ़ता है वो।
विजयी एक दिन होना है उसको, क्योंकि
सब कुछ सहता है, पर
नहीं रुकता है वो।

ठण्ड जो कड़ाके की पड़ी है,
तो ठिठुरता है वो,
सँकते हुए आग लोगों को कुछ
ताकता है वो,
फिर गर्मी उस आग की,
आँखों में लिए आगे बढ़ता है वो।

विजयी एक दिन होना है उसको, क्योंकि
सब कुछ सहता है, पर
नहीं रुकता है वो।

मौसम जो गर्मी का आया,
बिना पानी, दिनों पलता है वो,
हुआ चलता आसमाँ की छाँव में,
धूप से जलता है वो,

फिर चाहत अधूरी लिए मन में,
और आस लिए पूरी,
आगे बढ़ता है वो।

विजयी एक दिन होना है उसको, क्योंकि
सब कुछ सहता है, पर
नहीं रुकता है वो।

आना बाकी था जिसका,
वो बारिश भी आई,
बुझाने प्यास नहीं उसकी,
आई उसको बहाने।
इस बारिश तूफानी से भी,
नहीं डरता है वो।

विजयी एक दिन होना है उसको, क्योंकि
सब कुछ सहता है, पर
नहीं रुकता है वो।

तुम भी हार न मानो कभी,
मुश्किलों से डरकर किसी,
जो कहा नहीं अब तक,
वो बात है यही,
सब कुछ सहता और लड़ता,
विजयी होता है वो.... विजयी होता है वो....

—विष्णु कुमार, बी.कॉम. (ऑनर्स), द्वितीय वर्ष

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यह वर्ष बहुत बुरा है
हरपल आँखों में आँसू है
दिल में, अजीब—सी बेचौनी
मन में एक अनदेखा वीरानापन
संतुष्टि का भाव नहीं
होठों पर खुशियों का गाँव नहीं।

तड़पकर हर पल रह जाती मैं
अपनों से ही, आँसुओं को छुपाती मैं
हर जगह अब मेरे लिए अनजान है
मेरे भीतर, मेरी व्यथाओं का तूफान है
मेरे ही दिल पर, मेरा राज नहीं
पलकों पर, खुशियों की सौगात नहीं।

किसी से कुछ न कह पाऊँ मैं
चुपचाप ही, सब—कुछ सहती जाऊँ मैं
मालूम है, कोई न देगा साथ
शायद, सबसे टूट गया विश्वास
अब मुझे किसी की चाह नहीं
अब दिखती मुझे न राह कहीं।
यह वर्ष बहुत बुरा है।

—पूजा कुमारी

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ये बात पुरानी सही,
पर बात अनजानी नहीं ॥

अग्निपरीक्षा के बाद भी,
सीता क्यों घर आई नहीं ?
रोज जलती है मरती है बहुएँ यहाँ,
दहेज की फिर क्यों मनाही नहीं ?

जो बसता रहा हर कण में,
क्या उसकी मूरत बनाई नहीं ?
नीच-अशुद्ध भी होते हैं लोग,
क्या ये बात दिल में बिठाई नहीं ?

सड़कों पर माँगते हैं भीख बच्चे,
क्या इस बात में सच्चाई नहीं ?
क्या मरता नहीं जखमी रास्तों पर ?
क्यों हर बात पर सुनवाई नहीं ?

चार लोग कहते हैं क्या,
यह बात समझ आई नहीं ?
अब जरा कहकर दिखाओ,
समाज में कोई बुराई नहीं ?

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नाराजगी, खुद से ही है
खुद को न समझने की
धुंधली-सी रात में,
एक नया सवेरा ढूँढने की
कोशिश बहुत की, खुद को बहलाने की
पर शायद खो गयी, जब हिम्मत की थी खुद को तलाशने
की
वो सूनेपन की गूँज, कानों को भाने लगी है
काले अँधेरे की चमक आँखों में बस गयी है
जब खुद के लिए ही अल्फाज कम पड़ गए,
तो तुम्हे क्या समझाएं
इस बेबसी को अब खुद की रूह से कैसे हटाएँ
जितनी शिद्दत से दूसरो को चाहते है हम

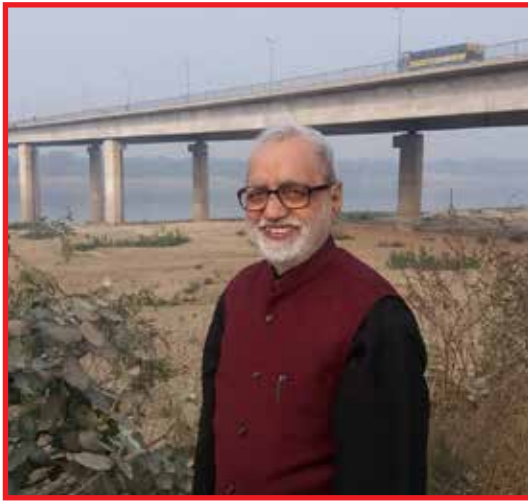
काश उतने ही जूनून से खुद को प्यार कर पाते सब
शान्ति ही तो चाहिए हर इंसान को
अब जब खामोश हुई, तो सवाल हजारो खड़े हो गए
वो पुराने चेहरे, अब नए से लगने लग गए
खुद से ही हार गयी हूँ
ओझल दुनिया के पन्नों में, एक साथ ढूँढ रही हूँ
तुमसे? तुमसे कोई शिकवा नहीं है
क्योंकि नाराजगी तो खुद से ही है!

—रश्मि जायरा

बी.ए. (ऑनर्स) पत्रकारिता, द्वितीय वर्ष

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दूधनाथ सिंह जी (जन्म -17 अक्टूबर, 1936) की जीवन-यात्रा उत्तर प्रदेश के बलिया जिले से शुरू होती है और साहित्यिक यात्रा इलाहाबाद से। वे इलाहाबाद आते हैं, 1957 में हिन्दी से एम.ए. करते हैं और फिर कलकत्ते चले जाते हैं। वहाँ अध्यापन शुरू करते हैं। वहीं 'चौतीसवाँ नरक' शीर्षक से एक उपन्यास-अंश और 'बिस्तर' कहानी लिखते हैं। दो साल के बाद वे नौकरी छोड़कर इलाहाबाद लौट आते हैं। यहाँ उन्हें इलाहाबाद विश्वविद्यालय में तदर्थ प्राध्यापक के रूप में नौकरी मिलती है। रचनात्मक कार्य को वे इस बीच लगातार जारी रखते हैं। अपनी शुरुआती कहानियों के साथ वे हिन्दी में साठोत्तरी पीढ़ी के प्रमुख हस्ताक्षर के रूप में उभरते हैं। सत्तर के दशक में दूधनाथ जी आ ठहरते हैं निराला पर और देर तक ठहरे रहते हैं।



आलोचना में कदम यहीं से रखते हैं, अपनी आलोचना-पुस्तक 'निराला: आत्महंता आस्था' के साथ। इस यात्रा में अगला डेरा वे कविता और कहानी पर जमाते हैं, फिर उपन्यास और लंबी कविता पर भी। आपातकाल में जोखिम उठाते हुए जन-पक्षधरता की ओर जाते हैं, जनवादी कविताएँ लिखते हैं।

वे इलाहाबाद में जमकर बैठते हैं और मानते हैं कि श्रीधर पाठक के बाद बालकृष्ण भट्ट ही 'शुद्ध इलाहाबादी दूसरे लेखक' थे।

साहित्यिक आवाजाही के इसी क्रम में वे बहुत तन्मयता से शमशेर की ओर लौटते हैं। उनके साथ खूब बातें करते हैं, उन पर खूब बातें करते हैं। इसके बाद शमशेर से लौटकर

मुक्तिबोध की ओर उनका जाना होता है। मुक्तिबोध की ओर उनका जाना फैशन के हिसाब से जाना नहीं था, जैसा ज्यादातर आलोचक किया करते थे। वे योजनाबद्ध तरीके से जाते हैं। मुक्तिबोध के लिए वे आलोचना की अपनी पुरानी धार को और पैना करते हैं।

आलोचना में निराला, महादेवी, शमशेर और मुक्तिबोध से अपने को तुष्ट करते हैं और महादेवी पर डॉ. कुमार विमल के बाद हमें दूसरी सबसे बड़ी और महत्वपूर्ण किताब देते हैं। इस बीच वे संस्मरण की ओर भी बढ़ते हैं और अपने अनुभवों को साझा करते हैं।

सामाजिक-राजनीतिक मसलों पर उनकी निगाह सजग और पैनी है। अपने समय को वे इतने कोणों से पकड़ते हैं कि

अपनी कविताओं में वे शब्दों को पाठकों के लिए खुला छोड़ देते थे, उनके पीछे भागने और पकड़ने के लिए। पाठक थोड़ी दौड़ लगाकर शब्दों को उनके भाव के साथ पकड़ लेता था जैसे—
 "जीवन को दुहराना अपवित्रता है
 दो बार दो स्त्रियों से कैसे कह सकते हो कि
 'मैं तुम्हें प्यार करता हूँ।'
 कैसे जी सकते हो दो बार
 जिया हुआ जीवन !
 कैसे वरण कर सकते हो वही स्मृति दंश
 कैसे सह सकते हो शब्द और अर्थ की आवृत्तियों को दो बार
 कौन करता होगा ऐसे असम्भव को सम्भव ?
 कौन दुहराता होगा भूली बातों का अनर्थ
 ध्वनि के अन्दर बार-बार अन्तर्ध्वनि पैदा करने में
 कौन होता होगा अनथक समर्थ
 नरक के आगे नतमस्तक कैसे कोई हो सकता होगा !"
 ('जीवन को दुहराना अपवित्रता है' कविता से)

उन्हें पढ़ना एक युग के आर-पार गुजरने की तरह है। सन् 2003 में प्रकाशित, बाबरी मस्जिद ध्वंस पर केन्द्रित 'आखिरी कलाम' को बार-बार पढ़े जाने की जरूरत है, जिसकी भूमिका में आया यह वाक्य जैसे हमारे समय पर सबसे सटीक टिप्पणी है –

'हमें इस बात का डर नहीं कि लोग कितने बिखर जाएंगे, डर यह है कि लोग नितांत गलत कामों के लिए कितने बर्बर ढंग से संगठित हो जाएंगे।'

अपनी लिखी कहानियों में बड़ी सहजता के साथ कलम का इस्तेमाल करते हैं और सहज शब्दों-वाक्यों का प्रयोग करते हुए भी पाठक के मन को झकझोर दिया करते हैं। जैसे 'अम्माएँ' कहानी (जो कहानी कम, संस्मरण ज्यादा लगती है) में दूधनाथ एक वीराना खोज लेते हैं, जहाँ सारी धरती बंजर है, सब सूखा है, सिवाय एक पाकड़ के पेड़ के, जो वहाँ धरती के नीचे बचे हुए रस पर अकेले जिन्दा है। उसी पेड़ की तरह एक खंडहर भी बचा हुआ है, जिसमें बच्चे हैं नंगधड़ंग और तीन अम्माएँ भी। एक समय पर खंडहर से एक ही औरत बाहर निकल सकती है, क्योंकि पूरे घर में साड़ी एक ही है। बाकी तो अनुमान लगाया जा सकता है कि कितनी दरिद्रता होगी वहाँ। इनकी कहानियाँ अधिकतर यथार्थवादी कथा परंपरा की अच्छी मिसाल हैं। यह भी एक कारण है कि कहानी, कहानी न लगकर संस्मरण लगने लगती है। एक बात और उनकी रचनाओं में देखने को मिलती है कि वो चमकीले, भड़कते वाक्यों से ज्यादातर परहेज करते थे। अपनी कविताओं में तैरते वक्त वे शब्दों के भँवर से, उनके ज्वार-भाटे से बचते हुए नजर आते हैं। यानी, कम और उचित शब्दों का प्रयोग। अपनी ज्यादातर रचनाओं में वे ऐसा ही करते हैं। जैसे –

"स्मृति लौटी फिर किसकी

ठगा हुआ मैं

हुआ तिरोहित

पछतावे के अन्धे

तम में।" (‘धीरे-धीरे बीती साँझ’ कविता से)

(कई बार इस बचाव में कविता की धारा बदल जाती है और इधर-उधर बह कर प्रभाव-विहीन भी होने लगती है)

लेकिन इसका मतलब यह नहीं कि वे हमेशा ऐसी ही कविताएँ लिखते रहें, उन्होंने ऐसी कविताएँ भी लिखी हैं जिनमें गद्यात्मकता बाकी कविताओं से अधिक है, जैसे – खुश होना अनैतिक है इस समाज में

अपने लिए मात्र ठौर ढूँढना घोर अपराध है

भारतीय दण्ड-संहिता की कोई धारा होनी चाहिए बाकायदा इसके लिए घृणा और छि-छि का विधान होना चाहिए लोगों के दिल में पत्थर डले हैं और तुम्हें अपनी पड़ी है विनोद जी,

आप और हम अपराधियों की निकृष्टतम कोटि में आते हैं।"

(‘खुश होना अनैतिक है इस समाज में’ कविता से)

फिर कभी-कभी प्राचीन ज्ञानवृक्ष बनकर विचारों के अनेक स्तरों से गुजरते हैं, जीवन को सूक्ष्मता से समझते और समझाते हैं। जैसे –

"सभी मनुष्य हैं

सभी मर सकते हैं

सभी मार नहीं सकते

सभी मनुष्य हैं

सभी अमर हो सकते हैं।" (‘सभी मनुष्य हैं’ कविता से)

जब आप दूधनाथ सिंह जी को पढ़ेंगे तो लगेगा कि आज उनके कृतित्व का भी अपना एक पूरा इतिहास बन चुका है और उसकी कई परम्पराएँ अलग-अलग दिशाओं में फूट रही हैं।

उन्हें भारत भारती सम्मान, भारतेंदु सम्मान, शरद जोशी स्मृति सम्मान, कथाक्रम सम्मान, साहित्य भूषण सम्मान आदि से सम्मानित किया गया।

उपन्यास, कहानी, नाटक, संस्मरण, कविता, आलोचना, संपादन, हर दिशा से लौटकर वे एक ऐसी दिशा की ओर बढ़ गए जो किसी को रास न आती और न ही आई। किसी देशकाल, किसी परिस्थिति से आजाद। (12 जनवरी, 2018 को उन्होंने इलाहाबाद के फिनिक्स अस्पताल में आखिरी सांस ली।)

– स्वप्निल राय

बी.ए. (ऑनर्स) हिन्दी, तृतीय वर्ष

dj os dk pkn

आसमान में लटका चाँद
निर्मोही, निर्द्वन्द्व, निशाचर
सरक रहा था पश्चिम की ओर।

मुझे खिड़की से बाहर झांकते देख
यकायक पूछ बैठा—
कहाँ है वो?

मैं हँसा, रुदनयुक्त
कहा—

‘हे चंद्रमा!
आप इस दुःख में न परिहास करें!
एक निर्जन खेत में
अपने पुत्र और महत्वाकांक्षाओं समेत
है डटी हुई अनवरत!

उसकी बिखरी जुल्फों
और तेजहीन ललाट पर
आज
आपने भी शीतल रौशनी
बिखेरी होगी...

कभी अशोक वाटिका में
सीता को भी आपने
व्यथित देखा होगा,
और चिंतामग्न राम को भी
वन में विचरते देखा होगा।

हे चंद्र! तब तो आपने उनके लिए
मार्ग प्रशस्त किया था
अब क्या ये उचित है कि

उसे वहां

और मुझे यहाँ

देख आप ठिठोली करें!

कहा चंद्र ने हंसकर—
‘मैं जहाँ हूँ
वहां से देख रहा हूँ तुम्हे भी
उदास, उद्वेलित!

और उसे भी देख रहा हूँ
परेशान, संतप्त!

और तो और
समस्त पृथ्वी पर देखता हूँ
तुम जैसे लोगों को
कभी खुश तो कभी व्यथित!

जो तुम नहीं देख सकते
उन ग्रहों की दशा से भी मैं
अवगत हूँ
उनकी गति
परिणति से परिचित हूँ

पुरुषार्थ पथ है कर्म का
मगर सही दिशा का ज्ञान ही
वास्तव में है निर्वाण...!’

‘हे चंद्र! ज्ञान की ये बातें
मुझे अरुचिकर लग रही हैं!
सब मर्म ज्ञात है मुझे
पर अभी विरह से व्याकुल हो रहा हूँ
कर्म पथ पर हूँ
किसलिए
अनवरत?
क्यों ये पीड़ा सह रहा हूँ

व्यर्थ इतना प्रेम
ये स्नेह सब व्यर्थ गया

जब उसे पास रखने का सामर्थ्य गया

अब इतना निवेदन आपसे
जब वो नजर आये
सन्देश मेरा देना ये कि
चाँद कितना दूर है देखो
मगर साफ नजर आता है...
धरा पर तुम हो कर भी
नजर क्यों आती नहीं!

हे चंद्र! दूत कर्म के लिए
मैं कृतज्ञ रहूँगा सर्वदा।’

यह सुनकर चंद्र ने सस्नेह कहा—
‘वत्स! तुम्हारा प्रेम सच्चा
खींच लाएगा उसे एक दिन!

उस ग्रह को मैं देख रहा हूँ
जो दूर अब है हो रहा!

ये मैं आश्वस्त करता हूँ अभी
अगले साल इस सांध्य बेला
तुम दोनों साथ मिलोगे यहीं!

भावपूरित नयनों से
निहारेगी तुम्हे
आशीष मेरा है तुम्हे
और उस पल का साक्षी
तब बनूँगा मैं.....
(करवाचौथ, 8 अक्टूबर 2017)

डॉ. जितेन्द्र कुमार भगत
(असिस्टेंट प्रोफेसर, हिंदी विभाग)

मुझे काट कर भरते हैं लोग अपना खजाना,
 इन्हें क्या पता मेरे बाद पड़ेगा इन्हें भी पछताना,
 गर्मी में ये तो मेरे नीचे ही चाहते हैं सिर झुकाना,
 मुझे मारने के बाद इन्हें भी पड़ेगा मर जाना,
 मैं तो हूँ प्रकृति की एक कला,
 उत्पन्न हुआ है जो करने के लिए सबका भला,
 फिर भी देते हैं ये मनुष्य मुझको जला,
 और देते हैं जिसके कारण प्रदूषण फैला,
 इन्हें पता है मेरे बिना है मुश्किल पानी,
 फिर भी क्यों करते हैं ये अपनी मनमानी ?
 ये लोग चाहते तो हैं हरियाली,
 फिर क्यों काट देते हैं मेरी हरी डाली ?
 प्रकृति ने बनाया है सुंदर जंगल,
 उसमें क्यों ये मनुष्य मचा देते हैं दंगल ?
 इन मनुष्यों को मैं देता हूँ फूल, पत्तियाँ और फल,
 फिर भी ये लोग मेरे साथ क्यों करते हैं छल ?
 मुझमें भी है जान, पर नहीं मनुष्य की तरह चल पाता,
 क्या यही है मेरा कसूर जिसमें मैं हूँ कट जाता ?
 मैं कुछ ज्यादा न कहते हुए यही चाहूँगा कहना कि
 पेड़ काटने के बजाय, पौधे लगाते रहना ।

– सुशीला कुमारी
 बी.ए. (ऑनर्स) हिन्दी द्वितीय वर्ष

तृतीय & अक्षर

d; ker

ये पतझड़ का मौसम भी
क्या कयामत लाता है..
जो दो पत्र,
तरु पर कभी मिल ना पाते
वो झड़कर,
जमीं पर एक हो जाते.

vk; us

मुस्कुराना सिखाया आपने
हमराज बनाया आपने
भरें, जिन्दगी में
कुछ नए रंग, नई उमंगे
और नया उत्साह
अपनी दोस्ती देकर हमें
गैर से,
कुछ खास बनाया आपने ।

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प्यार के मौसम में, हजारों फूल खिल रहे हैं।
पर एक मुस्कुराहट पर ही, ये पत्थर दिल पिघल रहे हैं।

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लोगों की ये अदा भी, हमें खूब भाई।
बाहों में भरकर हमें, भीतर की सारी साजिशें छुपाई।

dkVs

काँटों ने भी बड़ी उल्फत की हमसे
कभी दामन को छूकर
तो कभी
पैरों को चूमकर

पूजा कुमारी

; kna ; kn vkrh gā

वो बीते हुए लम्हें, वो गुजरा हुआ कल,
आखिर याद आ ही जाते हैं वो बीते हुए पल ।
बीते कल में माँ की डाँट और दुलार,
माता-पिता दोनों की सूझ और वो सीख ।
हाथ थाम कर जब सीखा मैंने उनकी बदौलत कदम बढ़ाना

और जब बार-बार दुहराने पर तुतलाया था मैं ।
गुजरा हुआ कल बन जाती है जीवन की एक याद
आखिर याद आ ही जाते हैं बीते हुए पल
यादें याद आती है ।

रवीश कुमार पर्वत
बी.ए (ऑनर्स) पॉलिटिकल साइंस
द्वितीय वर्ष

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तू इस शब्दों का मतलब नहीं .. तेरे होने से इस अक्षरों में जान है
तू ख्याब सी लगती जरूर है .. पर मेरी हकीकत की पहचान है
तेरी परछाई का हिस्सा भी मैं न बाँटू
तू मेरी दुखों में भी .. उभरता एक मुस्कान है

मन्नत जैसी है तू .. जो बिना मांगे पूरी हो गई मेरी
तेरे होने से ही तो जिन्दगी आबाद है मेरी
माँ का मतलब किसी पन्नों में नहीं पर
हर उम्र मैं तेरी कीमत समझता आया हूँ ..
तेरा सजदा उस भगवान् से पहले करता आया हूँ

जिसने दुनिया बनाई वो ईश्वर का दर्जा जरूर रखता होगा
पर मेरी दुनिया तो तूने बनाई है
तो क्या तुझे खुदा कह कर कुछ गलत करता हूँ

किस्मत तो मेरी तेरे होने से ही बन पाई है
वरना माँ के बिना तो हरबादशाह भिखारी है

दर्द में पता है .. सबको माँ ही क्यों याद आती है
क्योंकी हमारा दर्द सबसे ज्यादा वही समझ पाती है

अंधेरों का डर तो नहीं .. पर
बहाने से तेरे आँचल से लिपटना आज भी अच्छा लगता है ..

जब जमाने का दुःख सताता है
तो सबसे पहले तेरा ही गोद याद आता है ..

तेरे सर पे हाथ पिराने से
हर मुश्किल का हल मिल जाता है
माँ तेरी बांहों से ज्यादा सुखी
और कही नहीं खुद को पाता हूँ ..

तेरे दूर जाने के सोच को भी मैं सह नहीं पाता हूँ
सपनों में भी तू न दिखे तो दर्द से रो देता हूँ
बच्चा तो नहीं रहा मैं .. माँ
पर तेरे ना होने का खौफ आज भी बर्दाश्त नहीं कर पाता हूँ

पहली और आखिरी
हर सजदे में तू ही होती है
तेरा दिल मैं कभी ना दुखाऊँ यही कोशिश रहती है

तेरे जैसा प्यार कोई कर नहीं सकता
माँ तेरे जैसा कोई और हो ही नहीं सकता छ

मौसम नंदन

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'पापा-पापा' कहते हुए ना जाने कब इतना बड़ा हो गया
 सुन-सुन कर डाटें आपकी आज इस काबिल हो गया
 ऊँगली पकड़ कर चलाया, कंधे पर घुमाया
 माँ की पड़ी डाँट तो कम्बल में छुपाया
 मेरी उन बदमाशियों पर गुस्सा भी जताया
 लेकिन रोने पर बाहों में भर जोर से हँसाया
 रात को देरी से आकर प्यार जताया
 माथे को चूमकर, जादूभरी उँगलियों को फिराया
 साइकिल के डंडे पर बिठा, लोहे का पुल पार कराया
 हनुमान मंदिर के बाहर, स्वादिष्ट हलवा भी खिलाया
 स्कूल में बिठा, आगे बढ़ने का रास्ता दिखाया
 खुद डोर बन मुझे पतंग बना आकाश में उड़ना सिखाया
 कंधे पर बिठा, मुझे अपने से ऊपर उठाया
 दुनिया में अपनी पहचान बना अपने पैरों पर खड़ा होना सिखाया
 अपने नाम को मेरी पहचान बनाया
 मेरे सपनों को सच कर, आज मुझे इस काबिल बनाया।

– विवेक (एडवांस डिप्लोमा, पत्रकारिता, द्वितीय वर्ष)



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मैं देख रहा बैठे मुंडेरों से
अफलातून इन मौसमों का मिजाज
की है मुझे देखने अभी छुपे इस जहाँ के कई राज ।
मैं देख रहा बैठे मुंडेरों से
अफलातून इन मौसमों का मिजाज ।
ये सुनसान पड़े रास्ते मौसमों से खफा है,
क्या इसलिए कि होता बहुत मुख्तलिफ इनका हर अंदाज
बिखर-बिखर के टूटे थे पत्ते और पड़े रह गए थे
नासाज ।

और मैं देख रहा मुंडेरों से
अफलातून इन मौसमों का मिजाज ।

मुझे याद है बसंत में होता था हर दिन सुहाना
कोयल भी बेबाक गाने को ढूँढ लेती थी कोई बहाना
पर खो गया वो मदमस्त सवेरा और ना रही वो झिलमिल
सांझ
और मैं देख रहा बैठे मुंडेरों से
अफलातून इन मौसमों का मिजाज ।

नजर जो थोड़ी आगे गयी
तपती धूप का नजारा था
होता था कभी छाया वहाँ भी
जो मुसाफिरों का सहारा था
वीरान पड़े इस मंजर में
बिखर गई सारी आवाज
बस मैं देख रहा मुंडेरों से
अफलातून इन मौसमों का मिजाज ।

बीता सावन, आई सर्दी
तन में सिहरन उठती थी
संग जागती थी रात काली
जब नींद मेरी मुकरा करती थी
वो यादे ओझल हो गयी
और बस बच गया थोड़ा एहसास
मैं देख रहा बैठे मुंडेरों से
अफलातून इन मौसमों का मिजाज

मौसमों से कई ज्यादा
बदल रहा है ये समाज
बदल रहे इंसान यहाँ पे
और साथ में उनके रिवाज
सबको फिक्र है बस कल की
ना कोई देख रहा अपना आज
बस मैं देख रहा बैठे मुंडेरों से
अफलातून इन मौसमों का मिजाज ।

— शुभम कुमार

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कल सड़क से गुजरा
तो एक शख्स
फकीर को खाना खिला रहा था
दिखने में तो इन्सान था
लेकिन सोचने वाली बात ये है
वो हिंदू था
के मुसलमान था?

परसो दामिनी मरी
कल जुनैद मरा
लगता है मारने वाले को
अपने ख्यालों का बेहद ही गुमान था
पर ये तो बताएँ
वो हिंदू था
के मुसलमान था?

शबाना की हथेली पर चंद रूपये रखकर
उसकी मरती अम्मी को
एक बेनाम शख्स ने बचाया
शबाना के लिए तो वो ही भगवान था
लेकिन मुझे कोई ये तो बताये

वो हिंदू था
के मुसलमान था?

कल सरिता के कपड़े फटे हुए
और जिस्म लहू-लुहान था
बिन दुपट्टे के
उसका वजूद ही मानो गुमनाम था
लेकिन वो दरिंदा
हिंदू था
के मुसलमान था?

कल नफरत की आग में
जल रहा, लुट रहा, मिट रहा
मेरा पूरा मुल्क परेशान था
तेरा नहीं, मेरा नहीं
वो तो हमारा हिन्दुस्तान था
कोई अब तो बता दो
कि भड़काने वाला
हिंदू था
के मुसलमान था?

या एक काम करो
मत पूछो मजहब मारने वाले का

क्योंकि सिर्फ राष्ट्रवाद का फरमान था
कुरान की आयतों से
और गीता के श्लोकों से वो तो एकदम ही अनजान था
लाखों मासूमों का वो कातिल ना हिन्दू था
ना मुसलमान था।

ये इस जमाने की बात है
जहाँ मंदिरों में ना भगवान था
मस्जिदों में ना कुरान था
क्योंकि हर काफिर के जुबान पे
सिर्फ राष्ट्रवाद का नाम था,
सिर्फ राष्ट्रवाद का नाम था।

अलीना काजमी
बी.ए. (ऑनर्स) अंग्रेजी, तृतीय वर्ष

^eS@mBwK i Foh l es*

कठिन दिन आने वाले हैं
 बेहद लम्बे और निचाट दिन
 जब तुम्हारी साइकिलों से उम्मीद की जाएगी
 वे अपना संतुलन बनाये रखें
 कोई कवि कितना बड़ा है, यह निर्भर करता है कि उसका
 रचना संसार कितना बड़ा है. मुक्तिबोध के शब्दों में कहें
 तो 'विश्व दृष्टि', उस संसार में समाज का कितना हिस्सा
 समाहित है.

कवि केदारनाथ सिंह का रचना संसार उन सब को खुद में
 समाहित करता है जो अपने समय, भूगोल और संस्कृति से
 विस्थापित हैं। 'जो कुछ नया है उसमें क्या गड़बड़ है तथा
 जो कुछ बच गया है उसे बचाने की कवायद है'।

केदार जी का जन्म 7 जुलाई 1934, ग्राम— चकिया,
 जिला— बलिया, उत्तर प्रदेश में
 हुआ। बनारस हिन्दू विश्वविद्यालय से
 उन्होंने स्नातकोत्तर तथा पीएचडी की
 उपाधि प्राप्त की और जवाहरलाल
 नेहरू विश्वविद्यालय में बतौर आचार्य
 और अध्यक्ष कार्य किया.

एक कवि के वक्त में जो अनुचित
 है, कवि उसको घेराव में लेता है
 और अपने रचना से उस अंश पर
 चोट करता है, बेहतरी का इंतज़ार
 करता है।

केदार जी की खास बात यह है कि
 समाज की गंभीर से गंभीर बात को
 उन्होंने खिलदड़पने में किया है।

मसलन

"अंत में प्रभु अंतिम लेकिन जरूरी बात
 वहां होंगे मेरे भाई बन्धु
 मंगल या चाँद पर
 पर यहाँ मैं

आपका मुहलगा यह पानी

अब दुर्लभ होने की कगार तक

पहुँच चुका है

पर चिंता की कोई बात नहीं

यह बाजारों का समय है

और वहां किसी रहस्यमय स्रोत से

मैं हमेशा मौजूद हूँ ।"

(पानी की प्रार्थना)

बिल्कुल सीधी और सपाट भाषा में कविताई केदारनाथ सिंह

जी की विलक्षणता है। इन्सान जब अपने लोक संवेदनाओं
 से दूर, धीरे-धीरे अपने समय, भूगोल तथा संस्कृति से
 कटता चला जाता है, उसे एक अजीब सा डर घेरे रहता
 है। उस डर को केदार जी ने परिलक्षित किया है, वहाँ
 इशारा किया है. वो डर अपनों का, अपनों से जुड़ी चीजों
 के भूलने का है।

"यह तय है

मैं जाऊंगा तो माँ को भूल जाऊंगा

जैसे मैं भूल जाऊंगा उसकी कटोरी

उसका गिलास

वह सफेद साड़ी जिसमें काली किनारी है

"मैं एकदम भूल जाऊंगा"

(माँ, सुई और तागे के बीच)

हम सब कहीं न कहीं विस्थापित हैं।

"मैं एकदम भूल जाऊंगा" यह विधान
 को, रीति को परिलक्षित कर रहा
 है और ईमानदारी से देखें तो यहाँ
 हमारे-आपके भूलने की बात हो रही
 है जो कि हम भूल चुके हैं और जब
 याद आती है तो कवि को अकारण
 ही अपना देश अपनी भूमि याद आने
 लगती है। यह आगे मनोवैज्ञानिक
 धरातल पर पुष्ट होता है। कवि खुद
 से पूछता है

"तीन दिन हुए

मैंने बर्लिन में देखे नहीं कौए

लेकिन क्यों कौए ?

इस भारतीय कवि को क्यों चाहिए कौए

इस सुंदर शहर में

जबकि असमान उतना ही नीला है बिना कौओं के भी"

(बर्लिन की टूटी दीवार देखकर)

कवि अपने समय का सारथी होता है, भाषा उसका रथ.
 उसे हाँकता चलता है आदि से अंत तक। केदार जी की
 भाषा में जहाँ गाँव का सौंधापन है वहीं नगरी जनजीवन
 की भाषा का भी स्पेक्ट्रम देखने को मिलता है। नगर और
 गाँव की जटिलता उनकी कविता में सीधे-सीधे दिख जाती
 है। अपनी मातृभाषा के लिए संघर्ष करता हुआ एक व्यक्ति
 दिखता है जो चीखना चाहता है, अपनी भाषा में चीखना
 चाहता है. वो चीख रहा होता है पर जब गौर करता है तो
 चुप बिल्कुल चुप खड़ा उसी भीड़ की मानिंद तमाशबीन है।



अपनी भाषा को लौटते देखता है एक तमाशबीन की तरह.
अपनी मातृभाषा के लिए इतना स्पेस, उसे अपनी मुख्यधारा
में प्रवाहमान बनाना केदार जी की खासियत है

“ओ मेरी भाषा

मैं लौटता हूँ तुममें

जब चुप रहते-रहते

अकड़ जाती है मेरी जीभ

दुखने लगती है मेरी आत्मा” (मातृभाषा)

इनकी कविताओं में प्रवेश करना, अपने गाँव में प्रवेश करना
है. एक-एक पंक्ति पगडण्डी है, कवि उस पगडण्डी पर
उगी दूब . इसमें सबका मिलना जुलना है, रास्ता चलते
दिख जाती है ‘कुदाल’, बारिश में भीगती स्त्री’, दिख जाते
हैं ‘भिखारी ठाकुर’, ‘खेतों में जौ-गेंहूँ’, मिल जाते हैं सब
खुद-ब-खुद.

इनकी कविताओं का विषय स्वतः फूटा हुआ जान पड़ता
है, बिलकुल सरल जैसे चलते-चलते सड़क से या खेत से
उठा लिया हो, ‘पानी की प्रार्थना’, ‘मांझी का पुल’, ‘बाघ’,
‘तालस्ताय की साईकिल’ इत्यादि।

कविताओं के अतिरिक्त आलोचना तथा संपादन में भी
केदारनाथ सिंह जी का महत्वपूर्ण योगदान रहा है.

वर्ष 1989 में कविता संग्रह ‘अकाल में सारस’ के लिए
साहित्य अकादमी पुरस्कार तथा वर्ष 2013 में ज्ञानपीठ
पुरस्कार से नवाजा गया. इसके अलावा व्यास सम्मान,
मध्यप्रदेश का मैथिलीशरण गुप्त सम्मान, उत्तर प्रदेश का
भारत भारती सम्मान तथा केरल का कुमार अशन सम्मान
मिला।

हिंदी में ऐसे विरले ही होंगे जिनका पीएचडी का विषय
इतना विख्यात एवं प्रमुख कृति में गिना गया होगा, इनकी
आलोचनात्मक पुस्तक ‘आधुनिक कविता में बिम्ब विधान’
उन्हीं प्रमुख कृतियों में से एक है।

ताना-बाना (आधुनिक भारतीय कविता से एक
चयन), समकालीन रूसी कविताएँ, कविता दशक,
साखी(अनियतकालिक पत्रिका), शब्द (अनियतकालिक
पत्रिका) इनकी सम्पादित पुस्तक-पत्रिका रहीं।

हर काल में चाहे वह मध्यकाल रहा हो या आधुनिक काल,
कुछ है जो नहीं बदला – कवि की शक्ति और सीमा. सब
इसी दुनिया में होना है, कविताई भी मगर ‘कुछ’ बच रह
जाता है. वह ‘कुछ’ कवि अपनी किसी न किसी रचना में,
लेख में जरूर बर्यो करता है. जिसमें वह खुद को नितांत
अकेला और असहाय पाता है. उसे अपने कविता की शक्ति
का अंदाजा हो न हो पर सीमा का होता है.

“मुक्ति का जब कोई रास्ता न मिला

मैं लिखने बैठ गया हूँ

मैं लिखना चाहता हूँ पेड़

यह जानते हुए कि लिखना पेड़ हो जाना है

मैं लिखना चाहता हूँ पानी

मैं पूरी ताकत के साथ

शब्दों को फेंकना चाहता हूँ आदमी की तरफ

यह जानते हुए कि आदमी का कुछ नहीं होगा

यह जानते हुए कि लिखने से कुछ नहीं होगा

मैं लिखना चाहता हूँ”

(मुक्ति:केदारनाथ सिंह)

गौर करें तो कुछ ऐसी ही बात हमें धूमिल भी कहते नजर
आएंगे-

“कविता में जाने से पहले

मैं आपसे ही पूछता हूँ

जब इससे न चोली बन सकती है

न चोंगा

तब आपै कहा

इस ससुरी कविता को

जंगल से जनता तक ढोने से क्या होगा

आपै जवाब दो मैं इसका क्या करूँ?”

(धूमिल : कवि 1970)

कविता के प्रयोजन को लेकर सबकी अपनी अपनी चिंताएं
रहीं हैं मगर इसका मतलब ये नहीं कि हताशा में कविताओं
से मोहभंग हो गया अपितु और कविताओं की रचना हुई,
कविताएँ और विध्वंसक हुईं. हिंदी साहित्य में केदारनाथ
सिंह जी का योगदान अतुलनीय है, सिर्फ इस लेख से
वर्णित नहीं हो सकेगा। जबतक कवि की रचना से न
गुजरा जाए। एक कवि को समझने के लिए उसके वक्त
से गुजरना पड़ता है, उस परिवेश से गुजरना होता है।
केदार जी का जाना जीवन और मृत्यु पर विश्वास को और
पुख्ता करता है।

19 मार्च 2018 को केदारनाथ सिंह जी ने इस दुनिया को
अलविदा कहा। जीवन भर की रचनात्मकता उस अग्नि में
भभकती हुई जान पड़ रही थी। चिर निद्रा में जलता देख
ऐसा लगा मानो अभी उसी लकड़ी की कलम बना धुएं में
लिख देंगे मृत्यु पर एक कविता और कहेंगे :

आखिर छूट ही जाता है सबकुछ यहीं;

कविताई भी, समाज भी, हिंदी भी, चकिया भी सब !

“और एक सुबह मैं उठूंगा

मैं उठूंगा पृथ्वी-समेत

जल और कच्छप-समेत मैं उठूंगा

मैं उठूंगा और चल दूंगा उससे मिलने

जिससे वादा है

कि मिलूंगा।”

— सुधांशु शर्मा,
बी.ए. हिंदी (ऑनर्स), तृतीय वर्ष

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नारी तेरा पथ अग्निपथ है
अपने पथ पर तू अकेली बढ़ चली है
धैर्य का संबल तेरा है
नारी से भी लड़ना तुझे है
मां बहन बेटी में बंटकर रह गई है
खो गई पहचान तेरी
रुक जा जरा फिर सोच पथ पर
स्त्री तेरी पहचान क्या है
पति का घर तेरा नहीं है
मायका तेरा नहीं है
सासू ने तुझको जलाया

ननद ने ताने दिए हैं
धर्म की आड़ लेकर
समाज का साथ लेकर
पति परमेश्वर बन गया है
दासत्व तुझको मिल गया है
धर्म बंधनतोड़कर
अपनी नई पहचान रच कर
नव सृजन तुझको है करना
अपनी खुद पहचान बनना
एक नई उड़ान भरना।

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शाम का समय था आकाश निरभ्र एवं स्वच्छ था! धीरे धीरे हवाएं चल रही थी और शाम को सुहावना बना रही थी। मैं अपनी छोटी सी बिटिया के साथ मयूर विहार फेस 3 में गया। मयूर विहार फेस 3 का मार्केट सजा हुआ था। रेस्टोरेंट, दवाई एवम मिठाई की दुकानें सजी हुई थी। लड़के लड़कियां शादीशुदा लोग सभी लोग इस सजी हुई मार्केट का लुप्त उठा रहे थे। हम भी एक रेस्टोरेंट के पास पहुंच कर हल्का-फुल्का नाश्ता कर रहे थे। दुकानदार ग्राहक के अतिरिक्त एक और वर्ग वहां पर सशक्त रूप से अपनी उपस्थिति दर्ज करा रहा था— वह था भिखारी वर्ग। वैसे तो वहां पर बहुत से भिखारी भीख मांग रहे थे। अपनी अस्मिता अपनी अहम भावनाओं को तार तार करके लोगों से भीख मांग रहे थे, पर एक 4 साल की भीखारन बच्ची, जो मेरी बिटिया की उम्र की थी, सचमुच प्रोफेशनल भिखारी बन चुकी थी।

वह भीख मांगते मांगते मेरे सामने आकर रुक गई। मैं लोवर पहना हुआ था। उसने दैन्य भाव से अपना कटोरा मेरे सामने कर दिया। उस समय मेरे पास बिल्कुल भी पैसे नहीं थे क्योंकि हम लोगो के साथ हमारे साले जी भी थे जिन्हें हमने सारे पैसे दे दिए थे और वह सामान लेने के लिए कुछ दूरी पर मार्केट में चले गए थे। मैंने झंपते हुए कहा— बेटा मेरे पास पैसे नहीं हैं। इतने में मेरी बिटिया ने अपने पर्स से पैसे निकालकर उस भिखारी बच्ची को दे दिया। अपनी निश्चल बचपना से दूर अब वह बड़े लोगों की तरह गंभीर एवं धैर्यवान हो चुकी थी। 4 साल की अवस्था में ही उसका बचपन जा चुका था उसके अंदर कोई जिद नहीं थी और ना ही उसकी जिद कोई पूरा करनेवाला ही था। मैं अवाक स्तब्ध था कि वाकई मेरी बिटिया के उम्र की भिखारी बिटिया सयानी हो गई थी। वह अपनी अस्मिता जानने से पहले ही अपनी अस्मिता खो चुकी थी। एक भिखारी बनने के लिए अपने सम्मान और अस्तित्व को तार तार करना पड़ता है— यह समझना कोई कठिन बात नहीं है। इन सब गुणों से युक्त वह नन्ही सी बच्ची आज उम्र से पहले ही बड़ी हो चुकी थी।

मैंने एक दुकानदार से पूछा इतनी छोटी बच्ची भीख मांग रही है तो उसने बताया की ऐसी बहुत से बच्चियां यहां पर भीख मांगती हैं। मैं चुपचाप अपने विचारों में खो गया। अचानक से मुझे याद आया की मेरे एक मित्र बता रहे थे कि इनका एक गिरोह होता है जो इनसे जबरदस्ती भीख मंगवाता है। और पुलिस भी उससे मिली रहती है। एक टंडी आह के साथ मेरे मुंह से बस इतना ही निकला कि यही है मेरे भारत का भविष्य या मेरे महान भारत की एक और तस्वीर।

श्री अजय कुमार पांडेय
(असिस्टेन्ट प्रोफेसर, हिंदी विभाग)

?kj dh ; kn

(12वीं की परीक्षा पास करने के बाद एक लड़का दिल्ली रवाना होता है, आगे की पढ़ाई के लिए। उसके मन की ऊहापोह और बेचौनी यहाँ पढ़िए...)

राजा की 12वीं की बोर्ड परीक्षा खत्म हो चुकी थी और वह आगे की पढ़ाई के लिए काफी चिंतित था। परीक्षा के बाद की छुट्टियों में वह अपने घर पर ही था। मई के अंत तक परीक्षा का परिणाम आया। परिणाम लगभग ठीक-ठाक ही था। नामांकन के लिए उसने कई जगह आवेदन डाले, कहीं सेलेक्ट तो कहीं रिजेक्ट हुआ। अंततः काफी सोच विचार करने के बाद उसने दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय के एक कॉलेज में दाखिला ले लिया। दाखिला लेते समय वह बहुत उत्सुक था। दाखिला लेकर वह घर चला आया। जैसे-जैसे दिल्ली आने के दिन करीब आते गए, उसके मन की बेचैनी बढ़ने लगी। उसे अजीब सा लगने लगा, कुछ अच्छा नहीं लग रहा था। घर छोड़ने की बात सोचकर ही उसके मन में उदासी छा जाती, क्योंकि वह पहली बार अपने माता-पिता, यार-दोस्त, रिश्तेदारों को छोड़कर इतनी दूर जा रहा था। वह बेचारा भी क्या करता किसी तरह से मन मसोसकर अपने माता-पिता और भाई बहन के सामने मुस्कुराता रहता। ज्यों-ज्यों जाने का समय नजदीक आता गया, उसकी माँ बार-बार पूछती थी कि बाबू बोलो अगर कुछ खाने का मन हो तो बना देती हूँ। राजा भी मन मसोसकर अपनी इच्छा के अनुसार पसंदीदा भोजन बनाने को कह देता। पहली बार वह घर से इतनी दूर जा रहा था, इसलिए उसकी माँ बार-बार उससे पूछकर उसका मनपसंद भोजन बनाकर उसे खिलाना चाहती थीं। दिल्ली जाने के एक दिन पहले उसकी माँ ने कहा- बेटा बता देना जो भी सामान ले जाना हो तो मैं रख दूंगी और जो खाना होगा वह भी बोल देना मैं बना के रख दूंगी।

आखिर वह दिन आ ही गया। राजा सुबह उठा और फ्रेश होने के बाद अपने गाँव के मंदिर में गया और वहाँ बजरंगबली की प्रतिमा को पानी से नहलाया-धुलाया, मंदिर की साफ-सफाई की। खुद नहाने के बाद मंदिर में पूजा किया और घर आकर अपना बैग पैक किया और खाना खाकर तैयार हो गया। जैसे-जैसे घड़ी की सुईयाँ आगे बढ़ रही थीं, वैसे-वैसे राजा की घुटन भी बढ़ रही थी।

घर से निकलने से पहले माँ ने उसे दही में गुड़ डाल कर खिलाया। राजा अपनी माँ से आशीर्वाद लेने के लिए झुका तो उसकी आँखें नम हो गईं और गला रुंध गया। माँ का भी रो-रो कर बुरा हाल था। किसी तरह से खुद को सम्भालते हुए वह निकल पड़ा। उसके पिता जी उसको स्टेशन तक छोड़ने आए। स्टेशन पहुँचने के कुछ समय के बाद ट्रेन आ गई और वह पिता जी को प्रणाम कर ट्रेन में बैठ गया। ट्रेन खुल गई और वह तब तक पिता जी को देखता रहा जब तक पिता जी उसके आँखों से ओझल ना हो गए।

राजा ट्रेन में पूरे रास्ते मुँह लटकाए बैठा रहा। उसे अपने माता-पिता, घर, दोस्तों की याद आ रही थी। गाँव घर में बिताए हुए पलों की स्मृतियों में डूब गया। इन्हीं स्मृतियों में डूबे-डूबे कब उसकी आँख लग गई उसे पता भी ना चला। अगले दिन वह दिल्ली पहुँच गया। अपने कमरे पर पहुँचकर उसने अपने माता-पिता को फोन करके बताया कि वह दिल्ली पहुँच गया है। मम्मी से बात करने के दौरान उसकी आँखे डबडबा गईं। धीरे-धीरे समय बीतता गया। जब भी कोई पर्व, कोई त्यौहार आता तो वह अपने घर वालों को बहुत याद करता। 2016 की दिवाली उसकी पहली ऐसी दिवाली रही जो उसने बगैर घर वालों के मनाई। उस दिन भी उसकी आँखों में पानी आ गए जब उसके घरवालों ने दिवाली के दिन अपनी तस्वीरों के साथ व्हाट्सअप पर 'वी मिस यू' लिख कर भेजा।

2017 की होली घरवालों के बिना उसकी पहली होली रही। उस दिन उसे सबसे बुरा तब लगा जब मेस में उसे दोपहर के खाने में खिचड़ी मिली। उस दिन उधर गाँव में बैठी हुई उसकी माँ खाना बनाते समय अपने लाल को याद करके रो रही थीं।

आज दिल्ली में रहते हुए राजा को लगभग 2 साल हो गए हैं लेकिन आज भी जब वह अपने घर से दिल्ली का रुख अपनाता है तो उसकी आंखें नम हो जाती हैं।

लेकिन अब उसने अपने आप को सम्भाल लिया है। अब उसे अपने माता-पिता, भाई-बहन की याद से ज्यादा अपने भविष्य और पिताजी के सपनों को साकार करने की चिंता रहती है।

कभी-कभी वह दिल्ली की सुंदरियों के सामने आत्मसमर्पण कर बैठता है। क्या करिएगा, इसमें उसका भी कोई दोष नहीं है।

लेकिन घर से आए हुए फोन पर पिताजी की एक बात उसे हमेशा संतुलित और अनुशासित कर देती है— 'देखो बेटा! खूब मन लगा कर पढ़ाई करना। इधर-उधर और ढेर सारी यारी-दोस्ती के चक्कर में मत पड़ना। अब हमारे पास है ही क्या? ना गाँव में घर और ना सरेह में खेत। जो भी है सब तुम लोगों की पढ़ाई में लगा रहें हैं लेकिन तुम बस अपनी पढ़ाई पर ध्यान दो पैसे की चिंता करने की कोई बात नहीं है। बस तुम खूब मन लगाकर पढ़ाई करो और अच्छे व्यक्ति बनो।' और इस तरह राजा वर्तमान समय में अपनी तमाम इच्छाओं-आशंकाओं और अपने माता-पिता के अरमानों को अपने सिर पर रखी टोकरी में लिए हुए दिल्ली में धक्के खा रहा है। आने वाले समय बताएगा कि राजा कहाँ तक पहुँच पाता है?

— अनीष कुमार
बी.ए. हिन्दी (ऑनर्स) द्वितीय वर्ष

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अंतः मन में जलते
प्रकाश का
अंधेरे से साक्षात्कार
स्वाभाविक मिलन
जान पड़ना,
राहों के समूह
का दिखना,
और फिर
अचानक,
फूट जाना
रिश्तों के टूटने
के जैसे लगता,
चलती छूटती
दिशाओं का
पुनः निमंत्रण,
अंधेरी कोठरियाँ
खोज में निकल कोई
आकृष्ट करता—सा,

जिंदा लाशों
से मिलना—जुलना
स्वप्न में मिलते
सब अपने से लगते हैं
सबका होना
अपना होना है
बनते—बिगड़ते
अनजान चेहरे
दीवाल से छूटती पपड़ी
एक चेहरे का निर्माण करती है
जिसे मैं आदि से जानती हूँ
और नहीं भी

हाथों में मशाल लिए
आगे बढ़ते
कांपते हाथ
सीले पन्नों में
खोजते इतिहास,
कुरेदते चित्र
इतिहास की अपनी अलग ही गन्ध
होती है
चिपके पूर्वज
किताबों से
गला फाड़ कर चिल्लाते,
हाथ फैलाते
खींचते वर्तमान को
अपने अंधेरे में

अंधकार का
सीमाहीन समाज,
बन्द आंखों से दिखती
यथार्थ की दुनिया,
उसकी अनुभूति
नींद की यात्रा में
बनते विचारों के नोट्स,
सब जीवंत,
सब सजीव लगता—सा।

अंधकार में
छिपी लालिमा,
समंदर पर लिपटा
काला रक्त
रात का स्याह अंधेरा
मैं उतरती हूँ और गहरे में
ढूँढती हूँ ,कुछ टटोलती हुई
खुद को थाम लेती
दिल के किसी खोह में
बैठा है कोई
करता है बातें
जिनमें मैं नहीं ,
वो सब कुछ है
जिन्हें नहीं होना था

वृक्षों पर लटके
उल्लुओं का
साथी भी अंधेरा है,
सुदूर पुराने खंडहर
चिपकी चमगादड़, कीट पतंगों से
गहरी मित्रता
अंधकार का
मौन सम्प्रेषण है।

— अंकिता शर्मा
बी.ए. (प्रोग्राम), तृतीय वर्ष

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ये हाथ पकड़ना और
 छुड़ाना क्या है
 क्या है ये तेरा मुस्कुराना और
 रूठ जाना
 हर पल तेरा यूँ
 अलग हो जाना
 कभी पास तो दूर हो जाना क्यों
 तुम गणित के उस चैप्टर की तरह हो
 जिसमें साइन ,कॉस और थीटा
 कब, कहाँ और कैसे आ जाते हैं
 पता ही नहीं चलता
 सच कहूँ तो मुझे इसका फॉर्मूला भी नहीं पता
 फिर भी जानना चाहता हूँ इन्हें
 तुम्हारी तरह ..
 प्रयास करता हूँ दिनों—दिन
 हर पृष्ठ पर उकेरता हूँ तुम्हें
 ताकि जान सकूँ
 तुम्हें हल करने का एक बेहतरीन फॉर्मूला
 तुम मुझे कवि मत समझना
 मैं एक गणितज्ञ

की तरह हूँ
 जिसमें वह रखता है दो राशियों को
 कभी पहले खुद को फिर तुम्हें
 नहीं
 पहले तुम्हें फिर अपने आप को
 ये राशियाँ हो ही जाती हैं 'सार्थक'
 बिल्कुल तुम्हारी तरह.
 और रचतीं हैं
 प्रेम का नूतन अध्याय
 शून्य के भीतर
 चलता है अपना प्रेमी दायरा
 जहाँ उसे आरंभ बिंदु से लेकर ले जाया जाता है अनन्त
 की ओर.
 धुंध उजाले साये में भी गाढ़ा होता जाता है
 और रात
 अंधेरे में घुलता—मिलता सा चुप..

—निधि रानी

बी.ए. (ऑनर्स) हिन्दी, तृतीय वर्ष



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सफेद चादर से ढका, केवल धोती से लिपटा शरीर! सामने की खूंटी पर मेरा मफलर और टोपी टंगी है। पिछले हफ्ते ही खरीदी थी। सोचा था दो-तीन सर्दियां तो निकल ही जाएंगी! मैंने कहा भी था— 'देखो, हो गया ठण्ड का पक्का इंतज़ाम!' कई हफ्तों से घर की मरम्मत का काम चल रहा था। बेडरूम तोड़ा जाना था। मैंने कहा था मेरा बिस्तर सोफे के पास ही लगा देना! क्या पता था कि बाहर अर्थी पर सोना पड़ेगा!

मोहल्ले में एक लड़का है— प्रकाश, उससे काफी समय से दुआ सलाम बंद है। पार्किंग को लेकर कई साल पहले झगड़ा हो गया था! मैं उसे देखकर मुस्कराता, मगर वो अनदेखा करके आगे बढ़ जाता! अभी—अभी वो आया है, मेरे पैर की तरफ झुका है और कालीन पर लोगों के साथ जाकर बैठ गया है।

ओह! ये वही कालीन है जिसे मैंने बड़े शौक से खरीदा था। सोचा नहीं था लोग सोफा छोड़कर यहाँ बैठेंगे!

आज सुबह की ही तो बात है। पार्क जाने के लिए तैयार हो रहा था कि दे दिया दिल ने धोखा! उम्र यही कुछ 65 के आस-पास ही थी मेरी ! कल गार्ड से बात करते हुए और सुबह की धूप का आनंद लेते हुए मैंने सोचा नहीं था कि आज की धूप मेरे ठन्डे शरीर के लिए कोई मायने नहीं रखती!

लोग आते, दूर से प्रणाम करते और मेरे बारे में सोचते— कैसा था मैं, क्या जोड़ा, क्या छोड़ा? कौन-कौन इस अंतिम घड़ी में मुझसे मिलने आया, कौन नहीं आया और क्यों नहीं आया? कुछ नए चेहरे देखकर वे सोचते— इसे पहले तो नहीं देखा? मेरे बारे में अच्छी— बुरी सारी चीजें मुझे सुनाई दे रही हैं। आने वाले लोगों में कुछ लोग अंदर से खुश भी हैं और कुछ लोग उदास भी। खैर ऐसा तो होता ही है! वर्मा जी, जो कल मेरे साथ सुबह पार्क में टहल रहे थे, दिल्ली के चुनाव और पेरिस पर हमले की चर्चा कर रहे थे, किसी गहरी सोच में डूबे हुए हैं!

मुझे ले जाने के लिए एम्बुलेंस आ गयी है। आस पड़ोस के लोग घरों से बाहर निकल आये हैं। मेरी बेटी गश खाकर गिर पड़ी है। कुछ लोग उसे सहारा दे रहे हैं। आज मेरी पत्नी मुझे पानी की बोतल और टिफिन देते हुए समय पर आने के लिए नहीं कह रही! ठीक से खड़ा होना तो तब भी उसके बस का था नहीं! घुटने में दर्द जो रहता था! अकेले चलते-टहलते हुए उसे मेरे कंधे की कमी तो खलेगी ही! रो-रोकर सूजी हुई आँखें आज मानो कह रही हो— दूर जा रहे हो, दवाई समय पर लेते रहना!

निगम बोध यहाँ से काफी दूर है। मेरा बेटे ने ट्रैवलर बुक कराया है...साथ चलने के इच्छुक लोग उसमे बैठ रहे हैं। खास रिश्तेदारों के अलावा कुछ लोग हैं जो चल रहे हैं, जबकि कुछ लोग बिजली का बिल जमा कराने जा रहे हैं। आज लास्ट डेट जो है! हैरानी की बात है कि ट्रैवलर की पिछली सीट पर प्रकाश बैठा नजर आ रहा है....।

6 साल का मेरा पोता स्कूल में है। उसे पता भी नहीं कि मैं जा रहा हूँ! घर आकर पूछेगा कि कहाँ है दादा जी! मुझे उनके साथ खेलने जाना है... जाने क्या कहकर उसे बहलाएंगे लोग....!

डॉ. जितेन्द्र कुमार भगत
(असिस्टेंट प्रोफेसर, हिंदी विभाग)



CHANGING SPHERE OF INDIAN CINEMA

Jean-Luc Godard, one of the most well-known filmmakers of the twentieth century said, "Photography is the truth. Cinema is the truth twenty four frames per second." This quotation defines the nature of cinema. Cinema is also the only art form to accommodate all the other art forms, ranging from music to designing. And having said that, it must be kept in mind that making a movie isn't at all easy. On the contrary, making a film is one of the hardest jobs out there. Moreover, it is an expensive art where people are constantly gambling with every movie that comes out. This is precisely the reason why many people have come to associate filmmaking and cinema with money and profits. We are so much engrossed in the business that we don't care about the fact that above everything, cinema is still art.

In India, this art form took birth in 1913 with 'Raja Harishchandra', a silent film made by the pioneer of Indian cinema, Dada Saheb Phalke. On that day, we embarked on a journey of constant transformation of this art, which then changed its form to become entertainment. We reached another milestone when the first Indian talkie movie was made by the name of Alam Ara in 1931 and from there on we didn't stop at all. Films started to spread more and more and began to make a lot of money gradually. But even at this time, the main motive of films used to be to entertain people, which was still okay, considering that it is indeed an expensive art. As we entered the era of 50s, we came across one of the finest movies that not only made money but were also cinematic gems; one example would be Bimal Roy's *Devdas* and *Madhumati*. This was also the period when the world was introduced to a legendary filmmaker by the name of Satyajit Ray. His film *Pather Panchali* easily qualifies to be in the list of top 100 international films. Moving into the 60s, we saw films like *Anand* and *Guide* which not only made money, but are still hailed as classics of Indian Cinema.

But much was going to be change in the next few decades. With the advent of 90s, we witnessed a major shift in the kind of movies that people started to like. The movies which were now said to be entertaining were being made for the sole purpose of earning money. Art was being replaced by business in cinema. This was the time when we set out on a very different path because it was at this point that Bollywood got divided into 2 different factions of filmmakers – the commercial and the artistic. If, on one hand, we had David Dhawan making senseless movies like *Judwaa* and *Coolie No.1*, on the other we also had filmmakers like Gulzar, Ram Gopal Verma and Mani Ratnam who made films not just for business but for the sheer love of making them. This is one of the reasons why a film like *Satya* is even known to be a cult classic today, while the likes of Govinda's films are not much remembered.



Finally, then, we entered the 2000s which resembled much to the 90's, but which also gave birth to many filmmakers, who would in the coming decade would rule the film industry, and would change its norms forever. This was the period when we saw films like Black Friday, Lagaan, Rang De Basanti, Gulaal, 3 Idiots etc., but also films as pathetic as Love Story 2050, Jaani Dushman and Drona. Interestingly, this was also one of the most joyous times for Bollywood as many filmmakers took our cinema on the global platform and after a long time, Indian Cinema was being applauded for standing out. Lagaan alone won 47 awards internationally with more than 60 nominations to its name. This period also brought to us a charismatic and a genius filmmaker by the name of Anurag Kashyap who, with his second film, Black Friday, represented India in the Cannes Film Festival where he got alotof praise for depicting the Mumbai serial blasts with utter reality. What he did, had never been done in India before and this gave hope to many other filmmakers to bring their talent forth and change the game again. And slowly a revolution started within Bollywood as we came in the 2010s. With films like Haider, Queen, Gangs of Wasseyypur, Udaan and many more, the bar was set much high up now and the audience started to love films which were totally content driven. For a brief time, though, even nonsensical films like Dhoom 3 made huge amount of money but soon enough, the audience matured and rejected films with no amount of storyline at all. Recently, films like Jab Harry Met Sejal and Tubelight have been bashed too for fooling the audience. There has been no better time for Bollywood. Films with content are earning fortunes like the Bahubalifranchise and Dangal, which became the highest grossing film, and earned about 1300 crore in China alone with its total income amounting to an approximate of 2000 crore. Bahubali 2 also came much close with a total income of about 1800 crore. Exceptional, isn't it?

While all this is very fascinating, we still cannot celebrate the victory of cinema, as even today commercial filmmakers are going around trying to slaughter the art in movies and finding business in them and its only our responsibility to stop this. The directors and writers which are taking Bollywood to new heights are not praised even today. Filmmakers still have to fight with the censor board to put reality in front of the audience and even at this time in India, producers are scared to invest in good scripts. Where a Hollywood film as good as Dunkirk is making huge amounts of money, we are forgetting that it is also our job to promote our filmmakers to take more and more of our films to the international arena. And I have faith, that if a film as exceptional, and as complex as La La Land, can get so much love from our audience, that day is not far when our filmmakers will be considered the best globally. All that we need to do is give a chance to the underdogs, and to watch amazingly talented directors like Dibakar Banerjee, Vikramaditya Motwane, Vikas Behl, among many others, rather than spending on the commercial no-brainer flicks. As it is, then, and only then, we will get the cinema that we need.

DIKSHIT JOSHI
B. A. (HONS) ENGLISH
II YEAR



IS OUR DATA SAFE ENOUGH?

Data mining and related aspects

This is an era of data explosion, the amount of data that we have generated since the dawn of digital age has been increasing rapidly. And with this much amount of data being produced everywhere through our online presence and other data sharing methods, it becomes paramount to be aware about everything that happens with our data or any data, as a matter of fact.

With the recent controversy of Cambridge Analytica, the debate on data mining has been triggered. Data mining is a practice or a process in which large data sets or existing data bases are taken into consideration. These databases are then examined properly so that any relationship among data can be identified and patterns are discovered in order to generate new information. Data mining is synonymous to data analysis.

This is a computer assisted process in which the computer tries to extract the hidden patterns within the data which helps to predict the impending behavior. The process uses several tools like artificial intelligence, machine learning, statistics and database systems to find correlation between data. Data mining is not really an easy task because there are a number of steps involved. It starts from the analysis of the raw data after which the data is pre-processed. There are several aspects that are being taken into consideration including the complexity of the data and the structure in which it is stored in the data warehouse. Data warehouse is a database used to store data. Data warehousing, however, is the process of compiling information or data into a data warehouse. The final step in data mining is, of course, online updating. Another related term in similar context is data farming. Data farming is different from data mining because it cultivates or grows data through designed computational experiments.

Data mining has been considered as a knowledge discovery process which is not only used in business environment but also in various other fields such as weather forecast, medicine, transportation, healthcare, insurance, government. The process has several advantages as it helps the marketing companies to build models based on the data. They interpret the behavior, preferences and historical data and then build their campaigns accordingly. It also helps the financial information by giving them information about loan and credit reporting. Governments of different countries are also benefitted as they can easily trace the criminal activities.

However, there is a dark side to data mining which is now coming into light. It has been a long time since the advent of target advertising and the internet users are getting inured to it. These ads are surprisingly aimed at the internet users. This type of advertising is a product of data mining. This is being used for commercial purposes. The nature or needs of the customers are being observed through their internet search pattern and marketing companies are using the details to generate more sale. This is nothing less than invasion of privacy.

The social media giant, Facebook has been accused of serious breach of trust. There are strong allegations over Facebook and Cambridge Analytica which states that the firm has swiped data from 50 million Facebook users which was later used to manipulate elections in the U.S and Britain. Cambridge Analytica is a political data mining company and they are generally hired for electoral processes.

A user unknowingly provides a lot of information to social media sites like Facebook and the unethical use of those details are a matter of serious concern. In the digital age, it would not really be a difficult task for the hackers to get their hands on these details. There are a few digital corporations as well who sell their data to third parties. These all lead to a conclusion that our data which also consists of our personal information is not safe. This might also lead to data theft which would be a nightmare for any country or its citizens. Disguised as surveys, mobile applications and a few social media sites gather all the information that a user can provide and then uses it to draw a detailed picture of the persona which is then used for micro targeting. There is a dire need protect to our personal data in this age of Big Data. The answer to the 'how' is a little difficult because we have already given enough of our details, unknowingly.

Facebook has decided to revamp its privacy policies as a compensation to the users and in order to rebuild the broken trust of the users. It has also decided to let go an advertising tool that pulls out the background details of the users. Apart from this, there is a lot that can be done to protect our data and sites like this, must look into it.

SHALINEE KUMARI
B. A. (HONS) JOURNALISM
II YEAR

AWKWARD AT BEST

It's a funny difference between
The things she's in her head
To the person she really is.
At the back, she sits quietly
Her fingers interwoven
In a nervous tangle.

She bites the corner of her nail,
Drawing up concoctions
Of intelligent arguments with
A hint of surreal disposition.
Back and forth she argues,
Polishing her each thought,
Presenting her notions amidst
An imaginary crowd

But she's half of the person
She had conjured back in her mind
When facing people
Made of flesh and blood
Laced with a hidden disapproval.

Their steady gaze
Makes her sweat through her sundress
She crawls deeper into her skin
Choking on thin air.

In people's whispers
She confirms her social incompetence
Running away from interactions
Yet her clumsy self, manages to
Stumbles into subtle confrontations.

At her worst
She's an anxious mess
And at her best you ask?
Well, she's awkward at best

OJASVI KALA
B. A. (HONS) ENGLISH
I YEAR

EXPECTO READERUM!

Is the last page of your notebook brimming with the Deathly Hallows symbols? Does an involuntary smile pop on your face on hearing the Headwig's Theme? Do you feel "RIDDIKULUS" when you hear someone insulting Harry Potter? Do you hate Dolores Umbridge more than Lord Voldemort himself? And finally, have you grown old awaiting a barn owl or snowy owl to deliver you your Hogwarts Acceptance Letter? (Sob sob, sad story).

If your answer to all/most of the above questions is yes, then Congratulations, YOU ARE A POTTERHEAD!

Twenty years ago, a young, blonde, beautiful single mother, struggling to make the ends meet for her daughter, decided to write children's fiction. The idea for which, struck her while journeying from Manchester to London. (That does not happen to you, does it?). On being rejected by 12 publishers and having to write the entire script manually again and again, little did she know that she was about to change the lives, perspectives and hobbies of many around the globe. When finally after all the struggle, "Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone" was published, it took the world by a storm. And so did "Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets". And so did the remaining five books.

Does the magic remain, even after all these years? ALWAYS!

Reading is passion. Reading is magic. Reading is adventure. And reading is exploring. A reader has access to even the remotest corner of this universe. It acts like an escape from the real world to a story which is far more interesting and adventurous than yours ever will be. So, for most of the book worms around the globe, Harry Potter was the first step into the vast world of reading. And why shouldn't it be? It has everything—love, magic, adventure, emotions, friendship, sarcasm, bravery, sacrifice. Be it Neville being threatened by Severus Snape or Hermione teaching Ron, "It's LeviOsa, not Leviosaa". It has all the ingredients mixed up in perfect proportions to brew a bestseller. That's why, the readers empathize with the fictional characters. Actually, they are not just characters, they are family. We grew up with them. The effect that they have on us is massive.

And so, on this note, I conclude by quoting Shri Albus Percival Wulfric Brian Dumbledore, "Happiness can be found even in the darkest of times, if only one remembers to turn on the lights." So, try to find your happiness in something constructive like reading. It will do you more good than you can imagine. Because it's our choices that show who we truly are, far more than our abilities.

"And Oh, I almost forgot",

STUDY LIKE GRANGER.

EAT LIKE WEASLEY.

LIVE LIKE POTTER!



ABHA RAINA
B. A. (HONS) JOURNALISM
I YEAR

I'M UNSEEN, UNHEARD, UNWANTED.

I am unseen, unheard, unwanted.
 Sometimes someone hurts you so bad,
 it stops hurting at all.
 Nothing was how it was supposed to be.
 And a heavy sadness filled my soul.
 Deeper and deeper I fell within myself
 And nothing could show me out.
 Trapped in the misery of my life.
 Lost in the sorrow of my soul.
 Unable to see the light.
 Unable to see the dawn.
 To feel,
 To hope,
 To dream,
 I found the darkest day of my life kept coming.
 The blackest night for my soul, never stopped.
 And maybe you wonder why,
 But mostly you try not to think about it,
 And try to get by, try to survive.
 And all the other stuff seems too much,
 Nothing compared to just wanting,
 The most important things back again.
 I know I'm helpless, dependent, desperate.
 When those you need the most,
 Threaten your very existence.
 I wish someone would tell me, it would be okay.
 That one day, maybe I'll feel normal.
 That I won't always be alone.
 I am lovable.
 I am worthy of care.
 And that glimmer of light,
 It makes all the difference.
 The glimmer of light gives me a hope,
 That someday, my summer will come.

ALKA SIMOLAY
ADVANCED DIPLOMA
II YEAR

MIND

**Mind is a melting pot
 of first-rate intelligence,
 A bunch of contradictions,
 It is both the slave and the master.
 Abstract yet concrete
 Silly and sensible,
 Moral with a tinge of immorality,
 Confusion blurring clarity,
 emotions barring normality.
 The only place where
 Experience coexists with innocence,
 sin coexists with virtue,
 love coexists with hatred,
 hell coexists with hell...**

AMRITA DEVRAJAN

HALF LOVE

In a universe filled with worlds,
 a world filled with literature,
 literature filled with poetry,
 poems filled with love;
 obsessive love, unrequited love,
 long lost love, long distance love
 toxic love, addictive love
 unconditional love, failed love.

But what about the half love?
 The love where you want to give it your all
 but can't?
 The love which you want to be whole
 with all your being,
 but all you can do is
 end up creating more holes
 The love where the only thing
 stopping you from loving
 Is you?

I read poetry about obsessive love,
 where you can't give up on them,
 because they run through your brain,
 like the synapse in the neurons.
 But what about the love,
 which a son wants from his mother,
 a mother- people think is quite okay
 but fail to see,
 the invisible light years' worth of distance
 in a small 4 BHK

I read poetry about unrequited love
 where a love with a person
 who doesn't love you back
 is the most beautiful thing in the world.
 But what about the love
 where the person's self-pity or helplessness
 pulls them down,
 that they can't even manage an emotion
 all on their own

I read poetry about long lost love
 where the things might be in the past
 but the past always manages
 to be in your present
 or even future.
 But, what about the love

which remains latent,
 out of the context of time or loss,
 an innovation of your demons
 and you can't even get a patent

I read poetry about long distance love,
 miles between them
 but not within them,
 Oh, how beautiful!
 But, what about the love
 where you sit beside your partner,
 trying to leap the unseen spaces,
 but all that you can hear is silence,
 and in your mind,
 the forgotten laughter.

I read poetry about toxic love,
 where they become the death of you,
 the cancer in your bones,
 the venom in your veins.
 But what about the love,
 where you consume the poison,
 kept on the bathroom shelf
 and despite having the antidote,
 you can't live for them
 because you want to die for yourself

I read poetry about addictive love,
 where you do anything for them,
 because you can't do anything
 without them.
 Soulful integration, right?
 But what about the love,
 that a martyr's wife has
 for the Nation he died for
 but can't detach from it,
 even when the meagre pension lags

I read poetry about unconditional love,
 a love beyond limits,
 a love beyond boundaries,
 a love without context.
 But what about the love
 of the Jack living on one side of the border,
 separated not by nature
 but by the nature of humans
 for the Rose living on the other?

I read poetry about failed love,
 where a person
 is either a partner or a teacher,
 and they either leave you
 with a story to tell or
 a lesson to learn,
 and though it failed,
 but at least it sailed.
 But what about the love
 of a dying woman,
 alone in a room,
 which existed only in her imagination,
 because it never got a chance to bloom?

The world writes about
 obsessive love, unrequited love
 long lost love, long distance love
 toxic love, addictive love

unconditional love, failed love
 and all the other
 appealing and legendary loves.

But here I find myself,
 writing about all those half loves,
 of all those half souls,
 whom the poets don't find interesting enough,
 who don't find anything to connect to,
 in a universe filled with worlds,
 a world filled with literature,
 literature filled with poetry
 and poems filled with love.

SAAVI SRIVASTAVA
B. A. (HONS) POLITICAL SCIENCE
II YEAR

...THANK YOU...

Thank you sir,
 Thank you world,
 Now I know...
 I know my place,
 I know my destiny,
 Thank you sir.

You told me what I am made for,
 I will wash the glasses,
 Never dream of classes,
 I will clean the tables,
 But never learn the tables,
 I will arrange the chairs,
 But never sing in choirs
 Thank you world.

You told me where I belong,
 I will make glass bangles,
 But never ask what is angle,
 I will wash your cars,
 But never complain of my scars.
 I will make paint colours,
 Different shades, some glittering, some glowing,
 But never dream of painting papers,
 You are right sir,
 I am a born labourer,
 Destined to live in shattered wooden house,
 With a hanging door,
 I am made to crawl in muddy streets,
 Filled with the stench of sewage,
 Thank you sir.
 Thank you world.

I promise,
 I will serve the best till the end of my day,
 No dreams and no time for play,
 I will serve you with my blood and sweat,
 Just give me a few cents.
 I will bake myself for your thousand dollar cake,
 Just promise me a square meal till my day is awake.
 Thank you world.

You told me what God sent me to do,
 I am sent to serve God's people,
 You are right,
 It is my karma that I am here,
 In these dingy cells working my eyes out,
 Inhaling that poison under the earth to take minerals
 out,
 I am paying for my sins,
 By losing my childhood
 My colours
 My twinkling eyes
 My blabbering voice
 My games and friends
 Thank you sir
 Thank you world
 For, helping me to redeem.

VAISHNAVI SRIVASTAVA
B. A. (HONS) POLITICAL SCIENCE
II YEAR

AFTER THE SUNSET

It was nearly 6:00 in the evening, and the moms were shouting for their kids to get back home. All this noise and chaos woke up Garud from his deep slumber. He suddenly realized that his mother was still not back home. He started to grow impatient as mother was never this late before. He heard a loud rumble. His stomach! He hadn't eaten anything for ages. It had been a long three hours since he last had lunch and his mom had lulled him to sleep. Why wasn't mother back yet? Was she stuck in traffic? No, it wasn't possible since there was no traffic in the skies. But even without traffic, life wasn't easy for sparrows. Garud's mother had to go out several times everyday to collect food for herself and him. All his brothers and sisters had already grown up and left the nest. But he was still very young, so he lived with his mother along with the other birds in the large tree which stood in the centre of Ravalgaon, a small village on the outskirts of Mumbai.

The tree was the home for many families of birds as well as it was the central meeting point of any village meeting or latest gossip. In the afternoon, young girls used to laugh and giggle among themselves after school and when, in the evening, it was time to go home, they said goodbye to each other and parted. The girls' gossip always used to impress Garud. At times, he thought whether the girls actually went to school to study or find out the latest news about practically everybody who resided in the village.

The sun had set, and the girls had left. And, now assembled below the tree the men of the village who had to discuss about current affairs and money matters, something which barely managed to impress some 'birdy' like Garud.

It was getting late.

Mother was still not back. He was getting worried since yesterday he had heard the girls talk about how the village headman's son, a brat, had got hold of an airgun and was spending the whole day shooting birds.

He instantly regretted thinking about it. The more he thought, the more he grew anxious. What if the brat had shot his mom? Would he capture her in a cage? Will Garud ever get to see his mother again?

The next moment he heard a deafening gunshot and everything went black.

"Is he alive?"

"I don't think so."

"Shush. Shut up and observe, he's moving"

Garud slowly opened his eyes. He was feeling weak and was barely able to get up. The world slowly came into view. He realized he had not reached heaven yet, and was surrounded by a bunch of crows.

"Tut, tut. Poor fellow's hurt his wing."

What? Instinctively, Garud looked at his right wing, which was badly injured due to the pellet he had been hit with. His normally mischievous eyes now brimmed with tears. Did that mean he never would be able to fly again? Even before he had learned it? And WHERE was mother all this time? Who were these strangers?

“Hey, hey, easy boy, there’s no need to cry”

“What...*sob* happened? What am I doing here?”

“Crazy boy hit you with gun, you lost it, and fell down.”

“Then how am I supposed to get back to my nest?”

Silence

“I guess you’ll have to figure it out by yourself , my boy. I’m sorry to say, but the sun has set and it will soon get dark. We have to return home, too. Hope you find help, See ya!”

There was a great flutter of wings;

The birds were returning home.

“Garud!”

“Garud!!! Wake up you sleepyhead!”

“Mom?”

“MOM!!!”

“You’re back! I thought you’d forgotten me!”

“What nonsense! I came back earlier as usual, even the sun has not set, yet! Were you dreaming?”

Dreaming? I wouldn’t call it a dream, it was almost a nightmare

“What were you thinking?”

“Uhh..? Nothing mom, I’m just glad you’re here.”

“I can’t wait to learn to fly.”

SOUPARNI PAUL
B. A. (HONS) ENGLISH
I YEAR

BALLADS OF FREEDOM

The strong winds blew
The overcast sky grew
They beseeched for a good omen
They sang the ballads of freedom.

We conquered their land,
Yet stayed free the smell of their sand
Our man, Dyer open fired
Ballads of freedom they aspired.

We deceived, we snatched, we looted
Their yearnings could not be diluted
We bowed to the great Queen
Soldiers singing ballads were seen.

Opium made their soil polluted;
But their belief stayed rooted
We slaved them for years
The ballads of freedom we feared.

They breakfree from the shackles
The last rebellion could not be tackled
They succeeded in their endeavor
The ballads of freedom stay forever.

MAULI JOSHI
B. A. (HONS) POLITICAL SCIENCE
III YEAR

BEEP

, **, *****, *****, *****

It would be really surprising if you don't know what these actually are. Let me give you a moment to think. What are the words that you utter when you are at your saturation point. How do you express it? What do you say when you forget something? Think about those enunciations that you perform when you are really mad at someone? What do you call your friends when they act stupidly? I think I do not have to elaborate further because I may have to beep these words here. But in the real world, people never think twice before using such words.

The prime reason people have for using cuss words also known as swear words is that it helps them release pressure and tension. This is justified to an extent but then we should not forget the fact that we humans like to define ourselves as social animals. And this swearing out just for the sake of venting out anger or exhaustion does not suit the high standards that we have set for human behavior.

It's amusing that while a number of people would agree that cussing is not necessary and some may even call it a bad habit they want to give up, yet it has become an integral part of people's lives, mostly amongst students. Most of the times students catch this habit purely for the sake of being called trendy, cool and popular.

One can easily find kids roaming in the streets talking to their friends in a manner we could have never imagined. And sometimes it's heartbreaking to see these kids developing this habit. This has now become a part of the popular culture and thus it's obvious why even the younger generation has got this exposure. At this tender age, most of these kids have no idea what any of these words mean but they use it with such ease as if it was always a part of their mother tongue. These swear words or cuss words have such derogatory meanings that if you sit and contemplate about them you'll find what unhealthy vocabulary we are promoting. And when you hear kids use such words, it's plain disturbing.

Also, if you look closely you'll find the patriarchy that is evident in most of the cuss words. It must have caught everybody's attention how these words revolve mostly around women. Patriarchy has subtly established the fact that the society can't resist itself from exploiting women through every possible medium. Today, when we are talking in great lengths about gender equality and feminism, we need to think that will we really achieve it through encouraging a practice that has 1000 years of patriarchy which is deeply rooted in our psyche.

From people having no educational qualification at all to the so called sophisticated elite, everybody has been found guilty of endorsing such vocabulary. There is only a vernacular difference that segregates these two types of people that we can find around us. This has resulted in giving way to the notion that cuss words in English are better and to some people it's even 'cool'. It's a belief of the majority that English makes it sound more decent while Hindi makes it far worse. We need to understand that no matter how it sounds the words draw the same meaning in every language and they are equally offensive and demeaning.

Language being an essential aspect of communication has a great role to play in delivering the messages and meanings. But, these cuss words have tainted the languages and their beauty. While it's necessary that humans should be allowed to express their feelings in whichever way they want but after over 2000 years of civilization, we can surely find a better way of doing it.

SHALINEE KUMARI
B. A. (HONS) JOURNALISM
IIND YEAR

HOLLYWOOD IS GREENER

"The grass is always greener on the other side" This is a very famous quote and can be used to describe many situations aptly. But, one situation it cannot describe is the love we Indians have for Hollywood. Hollywood is definitely greener. The Hindi Film Industry doesn't even come close, I mean for starters it has Hindi in its name. Let's just call it Bollywood, sounds better only because it rhymes with Hollywood. Both of these Industries have been around for ages. Over the years Bollywood has produced many films and Hollywood has produced many great films. The difference can be seen in the classics that Hollywood has produced over the years, right from 'Breakfast at Tiffany's,' 'Gone with the wind,' 'Casablanca,' 'Godfather,' 'The Usual Suspects,' 'Shawshank Redemption' and many more. I mean take the Godfather for example An American film made in the 1970's based on fictional American gangsters of the 1950s, now how can a teenager from India with absolutely no connection with America except of Hollywood not love this picture, it is just so relatable and also paints you as the cool kid in the group. And yes, Bollywood has also produced some classics such as 'Mughal-E- Azam,' 'Guide,' 'Mother India,' 'Pakeezah,' 'Saaransh,' 'Sholay,' 'Mera Naam Joker,' 'Dosti,' 'Nadiya Ke Paar', okay the list is getting longer, I must save my words to praise Hollywood.

Not only classics but Hollywood produces such great action films, Terminator, Transporter, Fast and Furious, Mission Impossible, Jason Bourne, XXX: Return of Xander Cage etc. My personal favourite is the Fast and Furious series, they have so many elaborate car stunts and also their story is more or less the same every time which means you can put all your focus on the stunts and not waste time looking for a story in the film. Some people may argue, in fact, No one would argue, but Rohit Shetty does a good job blowing up cars and doing elaborate stunts with great camera setup but we can't watch a film for just that, there needs to be a story. And also, all those crazy stunts are so unrealistic, they don't even obey the laws of gravity, now what kind of a film deviates from reality?

Then we have the romance genre, and yes Bollywood may inch a little ahead of Hollywood here. But then our stories are not relatable, I mean how on earth can two strangers travelling Europe ever fall in love? DDLJ is the answer. and then there's the iconic Shah Rukh Khan pose, I mean who stands with his arms wide open in the middle of nowhere? though given an opportunity I would love to that. But Hollywood, such realistic love stories, I mean look at 'Pretty Woman', A wealthy man falling for a prostitute, tell me that's something that does not happen every day. It's not just one film, take Notting Hill, a film star falling for a Book Shop owner, Classic. And how can we forget the 'Before trilogy', I mean two strangers travelling Europe falling for each other, it feels so familiarly possible.

Bollywood does a decent job sometimes, 'Manjhi: The Mountain Man', 'Waiting', 'Parched' and other such films, but then just look at their box office collections. With such low box office collection, why would I spend my money on them, I'll just torrent it. And then spend that money on watching Baywatch or something, it may not be that great but at least it has the numbers to back it.

And then there are the awards shows, they clearly set the two industries apart, I mean Hollywood have the Oscars, and we have (whoever the sponsor is that year) Filmfare. We plug in the sponsors so much; the whole award show feels like an advertisement. But the Oscars, they feel so classy. and yes, they are often accused of snubbing a whole group of artists based on their skin colour but at least they don't add their sponsors' name before their awards. I mean, we would choose racism over commercialisation any day.

So, I guess this settles the debate, Hollywood is greener. I mean they spent more money on making a film about Mars then we spent on sending a spaceship to orbit Mars. We can never match them. And why should we watch movies that are closer to us, our surroundings and many a times about us, when we can watch a story that has slight or no relativity with our life.

UTKARSH ROSHAN
B.A.(HONS) JOURNALISM
IIND YEAR

UNFATHOMABLE SCARS

In the dark hours, under the dark sky
Cursing herself she used to think why

Unlike other girls she wasn't pretty
And that's how she never understood the meaning of beauty

Scars all over her body, acted like a foe
Called by different names, it was vitiligo

Her unfathomable scars were not light
They proved not every white looking thing seems bright

In the era of development, evolution and progress
What she faces is rejection, criticism and untouchability

People today want to touch sun, moon and stars
But none of them liked her due to the scars

'Looks don't matter' - only books say
None to follow in real life in any way

The hardships and sufferings are not for her only
The fact is that she is not alone but lonely

Some people try to console her, motivate her and make her understand
But no one is there to decipher her and understand

Her white scars carried dark unfathomable feelings
Since years and years, with them, she has been dealing

People said, find someone of your kind
And accept this reality in your mind

This reality, cruel reality is the way she has to live
Trying not to mind and forgive people

Abandoned by others she is still trying to live
God is not biased is all she believes

She doesn't want these unfathomable scars
They put her behind some virtual bars

She hopes in a hopeless hope
That the scars blow away
Just like it's last three alphabets
Which repeatedly states
I Go...I Go...I Go...

ANMOL ARORA
B. A. (HONS) ENGLISH
II YEAR

FLOWS

So does women at first.

River flows within the earth,
Women flow in a month.

River's anger is what you fear,
Shout of a woman that you can't even hear?

Worship the Ganga and Kaveri,
Insert the iron inside Damini?

Pollution is what is killing the rivers, you say,
Not only rivers but our females at bay.

Washing hands in the waters,
While men rub their ones on our clitoris.

Assam has a son, Brahmaputra, that flows,
And 'Putris' are taken away by wind that blows.

Day by day vanishing rivers,
We are too, by misogynistic fever.

Used and re-used till they turn vapour,
No, Thanks! Marital rape isn't a favour.

Hear us! Why are we left?
Being a woman is a debt.

But all we can say is,
Women has to take blows...

And the river flows...

SAIMA DEBBARMA
B. A. (HONS) ENGLISH
II YEAR

HAPPY PEOPLE

Are we really happy?
Or is happiness just a facade
which is actually sadness
hidden in the veil of ignorance

Are we full of bliss when we smile
or the smile just fills up
the emptiness inside us
for the time being

Why do we constantly need reasons to be happy
but a single reason is enough to keep us sad?

Are we varying degrees of happiness
or just varying degrees of sadness?

What is the innate nature of humans?
Constantly dissatisfied
Always looking for something
God, love, material possessions
to generate peace within them

All through our life,
we keep looking for things.
Tangible or intangible,
real or unreal.

Can we exist on what we have now?
Can we stay at the place we are in the moment?
Maybe we can
but won't that be stagnation,
existing in one state forever?

Isn't peace stagnation?
Does goodness really prevail?
Does The Bible, The Qur'an, The Gita
guide us to the path
that always lead us to pious destinations?
Or is it us,
the humans,
who have believed that only positivity prevails
and God is the one who maintains it?

Is positivity even there?
Is it universal?

Maybe the truth isn't the truth itself.
Maybe there is no truth acceptable by all.
Maybe there's no good and bad, peace or unrest,
Happy or sad.

Maybe it's all relative.

Maybe the principle of duality prevails.

Maybe everything exists.

Or maybe nothing at all.

SAAVI SRIVASTAVA
B. A. (HONS) POLITICAL SCIENCE
II YEAR

FEMINISM? AH, NO!

FEMINIST. Aren't we all one? Well, no. 'Hypocrite' is the right word for us. I've been claiming myself to be a 'feminist' since I learnt about the existence of any such term until last winter. A shivery night of the last season has pushed me into this state of utter confusion. Confusion, regarding what I declare myself and what I really am. Let me now introduce my reader to the cause of my perplexion.

As long as I can recall, some urgent occupation made me decide to travel at the most inconvenient of the hours, that is, 3 am. Despite the dense fog and chilling wind, I reached the station with my luggage. It is now important to make my reader aware of the peculiarities of a train running in a short route like mine. It, often, has a separate women's coach (To be noted, only 'a' single coach. How impartial!). After surveilling all the coaches, my dad advised me to sit in any of the general coaches (dozen in number) as the ladies coach was overcrowded. Fortunately, I got the always-in-demand seat for a comfortable view of boundless fields and rivers. Seat right in front of me was occupied by a family of three and those on my side by two young boys. I was not very much satisfied with the ambiance (any Indian girl would never be, as they put it). Passengers hastily adjusting themselves on their respective seats followed by the customary siren indicated me that in a minute or so, I will leave my hometown for a minimum of a couple of months. I had nearly started to delve into my trail of thoughts when a group of three boys jumped into my coach. There, my unconscious self sensed the trouble. Let me assure you that there was no signal of danger but I think, an Indian girl never needs a reason to be defensive about herself. Without giving a second thought to it, I got up, adjusted my kurta concealing it from the ravenous snares of men (in my head) and rushed to the

"single women's coach" of that train. As soon as I bumped on it, the train started moving. Amidst women of all ages and all kinds, I managed to get a seat to insufficiently accommodate myself on. It was strange how comfortable (just mentally) I was to be away from the goons (as we are suppose to believe every strange man to be). That seat full of discomfort kept on reminding me of the equality I think, I believe in, the equality I failed to exhibit.

Throughout the journey, I kept asking myself, Do I really believe in equality of both the sexes? Am I really a feminist? The confusion itself conveyed to me, the answer. In that moment of self-developed fear, I considered myself inferior. I let the weak and vulnerable side of me take over my sane side. That was the moment I gave up.

Now, this is where my reader needs to be most attentive. What would be your first reaction if a group of strange men approach you? Why do you always ask a female stranger for help and not a male one? Why do you reciprocate a woman's smile and misunderstand when a man does the same? Maybe, because of some fears that we believe, exist. But isn't our generation known for doing things extraordinarily? In order to use the freedom that we actually have, we need to free our minds of this imaginary fear. In this episode, there wasn't any oppressor, there was just the victim, a victim of her own fears.

So, next time, will you think before passing by the general coach to step into your regular women's coach of metro?

ALINA KAZMI
B. A. (HONS) ENGLISH
III YEAR

*might want
her
beneath you
but
She
is the horizon.*

INEXPLICABLE

It is all blurred now, But the scars remain.
That unfathomable scar, An indescribable one.
Filled with time and memories,
Memoirs to wash away that dent.
Harmless was the relation between us,
Holding those trustworthy hands that led me to a world
A world of fear.
But with him Fear seemed nothing,
But a rattle to play.
23rd September was the day he touched me,
Like any other day.
23rd September was the day,
When his touch didn't seem like any other touch.
That touch of lust,
That was vicious than venom.
That touch which was enough for a scar,
To form and remain.

Silence was all I could speak,
No mention of it all.
His hands were not anymore what it was,
Hands of fire, the fire of lechery.
I could not escape the fate,
For he was my fate.
Those hands down by my legs and up my skirt.
Playing with my hair,
Like it was a 'rattle to play'.
Hands down the back when it opened the chain slowly,
Slowly minutes seemed like hours.
Not once or twice or thrice a day,
But innumerable was the count.
23rd September, seventeen years after the scar,
He would still say,

“HAPPY DAUGHTERS' DAY!”

SAIMA DEBBARMA
B. A.(HONS) ENGLISH
II YEAR

WHY ONLY FARMERS....?

Several farmers in India commit suicide each year. The national crime records of Bureau of India reported that the cases of farmer suicide in our country is higher than any other occupation. The cases in the states of Maharashtra, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka are comparatively higher than the other states. A number of factors are said to be responsible for these incidents. Some of the major reasons for farmers suicides in India include:

- Inability to pay debt
- Damaging of crops due to erratic weather conditions such as droughts and floods
- Unfavorable Government policies
- Inability to meet demands of the family

The Government has taken several measures to solve these problems. Some of these include the Agriculture Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Welfare Scheme (2008), Maharashtra Money Lending Act (2008), Relief Package (2006) and Diversity Income Sources Package (2013). Some states have also formed groups to help the farmers.

It is very unfortunate to see that in our country cases of farmers suicides are increasing at alarming rate, where about seventy percent of the population is directly or indirectly dependent on agriculture.

Here are some of the cases that need immediate attention:

- Agriculture activities in the country must be organised. Proper planning must be done for cultivation, irrigation and harvesting of crops.
- The government must see to it that farmers get fixed purchase price.
- Exploitation of farmers by the middlemen must be stopped. The government must make provisions for the farmers to sell their products directly in market.
- The government must ensure the subsidies and schemes launched reach the farmers.
- Selling of fertile land to real estate owners must be stopped.

Though the government has started many schemes and policies for the farmers but the incidents of suicide are still occurring. There is a need to focus on farmers' income and productivity to insure their prosperity rather than merely focusing on loan reliefs or waivers.

GITIKA PANDEY
B. A. (HONS) POLITICAL SCIENCE
III YEAR

THE ETERNAL GUESTS

'Athiti Devo Bhava' is one of the most popular saying associated with Indian culture. And we truly stand by it, we really treat our guests as gods. There are so many examples of it. One such example of it can be seen in the way we treat English language. English is a West Germanic language that was first spoken in Early Medieval England. But today miles away from England it has found its new home in India. India, a country with 1652 different regional languages has made English it's major lingua franca.

Our colonial masters have had a great impact on us, which is another example of respecting our guests. But their greatest contribution to our society is the gift of language. We are often called an intolerant country; now what kind of an intolerant country would take up a foreign language which was forced on them by their colonial masters and make it their own and practice it well after its independence.

The love that we shower on English is unimaginable. According to the 2001 census 12% of our total population could speak English and I know that sounds not that terrific but it makes English the second most spoken language in the country. And surely more people must have learned and adopted this prized language in the past decade. Someday it might surpass Hindi as the most spoken language in the country, a place it rightfully deserves.

Our love does not end here, just utter a grammatically incorrect statement or even mispronounce a word and our English enthusiasts would let you know what a sin you have committed by blemishing this pious language. For once, we can excuse you for speaking your mother tongue incorrectly but not English. That's one thing you don't do in this country. It's not yet considered illegal, but is nothing less than a crime.

English has its own charm. I mean most people won't admit but they know English better than their own mother tongue. And I admit that I know English better than my own mother tongue. You can also understand this since I'm writing this article in English itself.

Look at some other countries for example, China, Japan or the South-East Nations, most of their population still hasn't grown accustomed to English. They still prefer and even promote their own native languages and the world thinks these countries are more progressive and better than us.

Some people find it absurd that a foreign language gets more attention than our many homegrown languages, but I'm not some people, I mean, look at English, Its empowering, classy and cool. We as a country feel indebted to our colonial masters for giving us the privilege of knowing this language and our adoption of it is our way of paying back. That's the least we can do in return for the several years of hardships and exploitation they put us through.

So, the next time you see a 'Grammar Nazi', stop and thank them. Because if not for people like them, how would we be able to follow our colonial masters like we've always wanted to, I mean, that's why we wanted Independence, so that we can carry forward their teachings on our terms.

UTKARSH ROSHAN
B. A.(HONS) JOURNALISM
II YEAR

THROWING AWAY THE TIME

An old man had noticed a young man standing at the top of a small hill holding a piece of paper in his hand and tossing it into the air. The piece of paper gradually flew away from him. He would sometimes look sad and sometimes smile but he would stand there for the longest time possible and then he would walk away. This went on for quite some time. The old man watching the young man from a distance finally went up to him to find out what exactly the young man was up to and what was written on those pieces of paper.

He went up the small hill and approached the young man. "Hello, there!", he said as he got closer.

The young man looked at the old man and said nothing but nodded at him.

"I couldn't help but notice you here all the time" the old man said. "

The young man again looked at the piece of paper in his hand and then looked at the old man again. "Yes". He asked, "Why would anyone care?"

"Well, I was just wondering what exactly you were doing?" the older man said.

The young man again looked away into the distance and then tossed the paper with the word 'Today' written on it into the wind which carried it off until he couldn't see it any more.

The old man's eyes got bigger, pondering at the true meaning of this. He looked at the young man who seemed to not care. "Aren't you worried that you are simply wasting your time?" he asked.

The young man looked back at the old man and said, "I am young, I am going to live forever". He said and looked back at the horizon.

The old man looked at the young man with a tinge of sadness. He was once like that he thought. He slowly walked away and then reached into his shirt pocket and pulled out a piece of paper. On it was simply written, "Today". He looked at it lovingly. In his mind he kept it close to his heart. He put it back into his pocket and placed his hand on it to keep it safe.

"I hope he learns the lesson that today is all we really have and not just throw them away before its too late", the old man said quietly to himself.

**SAURAV SANSANWAL
ADVANCED DIPLOMA
II YEAR**

DOCUMENTING PATRIARCHY

21st Century has brought a lot of changes in our world. Apart from various technological advancements, it is our thought process that has gone through a profound change. With movements, such as Feminism and LGBTQ rights gaining momentum its can be said that the world is truly changing for the better.

But change is never easy, particularly when there's some 1000 years of history opposing it. Patriarchy is so deep rooted in our system that we sometime seem to overlook it because it has been that way forever. While we've done some splendid work to uproot it, there are still branches of it which we have never talked about.

In almost every Government document, be it the Pan Card, Voter ID Card, Bank Passbook, etc. in all these documents, you'll notice that the father's name is mentioned but not the mother's. Even when the father is no more the documents must bear the name of the father. It's as if mothers didn't do anything to give birth to the person. These documents are essentially an identity card which proves your existence. But it only has the name of the father. This needs to change, a child is a brought up equally by both the parents and mentioning just the father as a parent is unfair.

While the Boards marksheets have started to mention the mothers name as well, the same cannot be said about the other documents such as Transfer Certificate, School Leaving Certificate, Provisional, etc.

The other side of this patriarchal norm is that as soon as a woman gets married the father's name in the documents get replaced by the husband's name. It's as if a woman always needs a man to certify her identity. First, her father and then her husband ratify her existence. While this is the case for women, men don't need to follow the same as there's no column for men to mention their spouses name. Almost every document of a married woman bears the name of her husband except the PAN (Permanent Account Number) Card. Even when she has to open a bank account or get an LIC policy she has to give additional details if she's married. The LIC policy form has a column of questions termed as 'Question for female lives', where she has to state if she's married and his husband's policy details among other questions. There's no such column termed as 'Question for male lives'.

This patriarchal tyranny has been here ever since and over the time it has received acceptance. It needs to be realized that things like these help strengthen the patriarchal ideology and injects the minds of the newer generation as well. It has never been scrutinized but today in this day and age we need to look deeper into it and take some action as it is high time we did that. A person's identity is very important, and his/her parents play an important role in building their identity and bringing it into existence. The parents go through a lot to bring them up so why just mention only one parent's name and discredit the other.

UTKARSH ROSHAN
B. A. (HONS) JOURNALISM
II YEAR

THE LAST LEAF

Well, this is not a story, it's an experience, which I would like to share. What I am about to tell you can be a little... well, just a little, hard to believe, but, trust me, it really happened. At least I don't think, it was a figment of my imagination. So, here it goes:

It was a nice, Sunday winter morning. Most of the trees were bare. And, winter being my favourite season, I always loved to stroll.....It was just a normal morning with the winter breeze blowing gently and just about some sunshine to keep us going. It's true, there's not much "greenery" in Delhi, but of course there are a lot of trees and shrubs. Tired by the usual hustle and bustle of the streets, I went to a park for my morning stroll. I was walking in complete bliss when I suddenly heard a voice, "Happy, aren't you?"

Flabbergasted, I turned around since there was nobody around me, and nobody behind me either. I thought I must be hearing things, so I resumed my walk. Again, the voice spoke, "I'm up here!"

Instinctively, I looked up, to find a yellow leaf on a bare tree. It seemed like all of its companions had already parted, and it was the only one left. Poor, little leaf. (Another reminder: All this time I was thinking about these stupid thoughts, I was equally stupidly staring at that tree.)

Well, the leaf grew tired and said again, "Are you forever going to stare at me like that?"

"Who said that?", I said.

"It is me, you fool."

"I know it's you but it would really help if you were to tell me who exactly you happen to be."

By now, I had understood that a single leaf on a bare tree was talking to me. And I, a human being who thinks and probably by now even believes leaves can talk, was obligingly replying to it.

"I'm Nacho, and this is my home."

Cool! Even leaves have names! Pretty modern ones too!

"Nacho!", I tried hard to suppress my laughter. "Who on earth names a leaf Nacho!"

Nacho did not find this funny at all.

"Nobody did, I once saw a packet of Nacho chips lying below on the ground. I loved that particular word and decided to call myself, Nacho. Isn't it nice?"

"Yes, yes. A very nice name you have there, but I have a few questions to ask."

"Ask." Nacho seemed like a leaf of few words.

"Do you talk like this to everybody? Just because you're lonely and don't have anyone to talk to?"

"Of course not! Do I look like a chatterbox to you? It's just that it's Sunday and everybody is busy sleeping in their cozy homes, I was getting terribly bored. I usually don't talk to people, since this park is always full of them and I don't want anybody to know I can talk."

"You mean to say that the other leaves can't talk?"

"Of course we can talk! Why do you keep asking irrelevant questions? I can talk human language, that's all. It's not that the other leaves can't talk, we were very communicative in our very own Leafers."

"Uhh... Leafers?"

"The language of the leaves? Ugh. I was very wrong to choose you to talk. You rarely seem to be like that polite old intellectual I spoke to last Sunday. You're more like a silly teen who has no idea about what's going on in this world."

"Hey! I'm not silly! Not all teens are supposed to be silly."

I vainly tried to defend myself. Vainly.

"Okay then. Tell me more about yourself." I said.

"Well, I'm here, and that's all I have got to say. Soon, a strong gust of wind will come and take me away. Far, far away where I hope to meet my long lost companions."

As if in an answer, a strong wind came and blew Nacho away.

"Farewell, Dumbo!", It exclaimed, as the swirling wind took him away to a place where he would hopefully meet his friends. It seemed ethereal to me, those fifteen minutes when I spoke to a leaf, and failed to impress it as well. I never thought a leaf would call me a Dumbo!

I secretly laughed to myself. A light breeze came and I heard the rustling of leaves in a nearby tree, which was almost bare. Was that really rustling? I did not know. Probably I would never know, since nobody was going to tell me, for the last leaf had gone.

SOUPARNI PAUL
B. A.(HONS) ENGLISH
I YEAR

HOW I MET YOUR STANDARDS

Too thin or too fat, why does it hurt so much?
 We all are humans and that's even worse.
 They say orange is the new black and black is cool
 So when it comes to skin color, why only white people rule?
 Hair on her skin is strange, but now she deals with stranger things
 You don't love her because she isn't the 'sexy' type chick.
 You laughed at her thunder thighs and now she's at the edge
 Her soul is alive yet she is walking dead
 'No gap between your thighs? Oh! That's such a shame.'
 Her so called modern family thinks the same
 Her body should be perfect; perfect like an hourglass
 She doesn't wear short skirts because of her stretch marks
 She starved herself again to have the ideal body
 She is a pretty little liar but lying isn't her hobby
 She lost her wings when she wanted to fly
 And when she fell down, you asked her 13 reasons why
 Your strong words tore her world apart
 But she got thick skin and an elastic heart
 She isn't ugly but society surely is
 So why her ignorance is your bliss?

RASHMI JAYARA
B. A. (HONS) JOURNALISM
II YEAR

JEALOUSY

When she dwells in your heart
 When she finds an eminent place
 When she appears every time
 You find a prettier face.

When more fortune's found
 In the lap of another
 Or when the most beloved
 Loves you not, but some other.

Her persona is in your mind
 Beauty she has not
 Not an enticing maiden
 But, wouldn't leave your thoughts.

All it does is harm
 To the keeper of its own
 No other gets affected
 World is what one's mind makes.

And what could be the subject
 Of this grave deliberation
 No, it's not a ruthless lover
 Jealousy and its repercussion.

PRACHI SHARMA
B. A. (HONS) ENGLISH
I YEAR

“RIGHT”, WE NEED!

In the last few weeks, our Judiciary has been kind on a roll in handing out verdicts which were not just important, but what would be termed as ‘watershed moments’, a few years from now. Most of these verdicts and issues they covered were extensively debated and had an enthusiastic participation of people everywhere, from tea stalls to social media.

One of the most important decision, not just recently, but ever to have been taken by the Supreme Court was making the Right to Privacy a fundamental right. Right to Privacy, as the name states, grants the citizens the right to enjoy their personal preferences in private, and the Government isn’t allowed to intervene in the matter, as long as there is no criminal activity involved. This, in a way, gave even the people of LGBTQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer) community a certain amount of freedom which wasn’t otherwise guaranteed by the Government.

The general perception of the people, however, regarding the LGBTQ community is perhaps the most saddening part. We still hesitate to talk about them – even a mere mention often creates an uneasy environment with people shifting around uncomfortably on their chairs. And, when we do talk about them, we use derogatory terms to ‘joke’ about them, turning them into an object of ridicule. There are many people who think that this is a disease. It is appreciable therefore that this issue is now being discussed in the open.

What prompted us to talk about this, is the recent landmark verdict given by the Supreme Court last month, where it elevated a mere right to a guaranteed fundamental right. And this is the single most important reason as to why it is imperative for the judiciary to intervene right now to protect the LGBTQ rights under the Right to Privacy, when the topic is still active in all public forums. The SC had stated in its verdict, “Sexual orientation is an essential attribute of privacy. Discrimination against an individual on the basis of sexual orientation is deeply offensive to the dignity and self-worth of the individual.” It thus becomes almost a duty of the judiciary to build upon this statement further and come down heavily against article 377 and other forces which oppress them.

Interestingly, when I decided to look up on the web to find out the rough population of LGBTs in India, I couldn’t find any data to feed me with facts. There is some data from 2012 by the Government, where LGBTs are said to be about 25 lakhs; but even that is a very vague estimate. And, then it hit me, the sad truth that we’ll probably never know the answer to this question i.e. ‘how many’. It is already tough for them to come out of the closet and if you can be thrown into the prison for doing so it becomes virtually impossible to ascertain the number. Having to suppress one’s true identity and live a life under the wraps is what they have more or less already accepted as a way of life over the time, and perhaps judiciary is the best and perhaps the only institution that can bring about a change in this sorry state of affairs.

The judiciary also needs to come down heavily on the self-proclaimed protectors of culture and honor, whose terror has further not allowed the LGBTQ’s to come out openly; and this it can simply do by protecting LGBTQ rights and make it illegal for these moral security personnel to intrude upon an individual’s personal space.

Also, perhaps it is only the judiciary that can effectively and quickly do something to protect the LGBT rights. If it leaves the onus entirely on the government to introduce a bill and follow the whole legislative procedure, the result would be that LGBTs would never get recognized. Firstly, no government would essentially want to take the risk of potentially losing out on its popularity by taking on such a sensitive issue, when there are already a dozen more ‘spicy’ ones waiting in the wings. Secondly, the government might not understand the sensitivity of the issue and miss out on certain key points if it does not consider the marginalized voices. Therefore, the judiciary’s intervention is required.

In a country where LGBTQs are probably the biggest taboos and their rights practically amount to nothing, the judiciary just cannot wait for the public to wake up and form a majoritarian view first and then act. It needs to take the initiative and set a precedent to address this and do away with the obsolete colonial era laws immediately.

Irrespective of whatever number LGBTQ population constitutes in India – while I sincerely hope that more people can come out without having to feel ashamed anymore – the support to LGBT rights is still not large enough, either in magnitude or in impact, so as to cause an uproar and bang on the door of courts. The issue can very easily go under the radar in a country where there is a new drama arising every day, sooner than we know it. But it is important that the dignity of each individual is protected and should be given the freedom to live based on personal choices. Thus, the judiciary needs to show its might and the crucial role it can play, and step ahead to protect LGBTQ rights sooner rather than later. It is high time we give our fellow citizens their due.

ANMOL GUPTA
B. SC. (HONS) ELECTRONICS
I YEAR

TIME PASSES BY

*I looked up for you when times were bad
 I looked up for myself when I was sad*

*I always laughed when you were by my side
 To get back to you so much I tried*

*You helped me through bad times
 when people were so mean*

*And now that you are gone
 I feel out of sheen*

*I watch you walking away far and high
 You didn't even turn once to say goodbye*

*As you were going,
 Tears started to fall*

*I asked myself a million times,
 How did we lose it all?*

ANMOL ARORA
B.A. (HONS) ENGLISH
II YEAR

THE LAST BREATH

Gasp
(A long silence)
(Breathe in...breathe out...breathe in...breathe out...)
And if that breath doesn't come in
Woossh gone!!
The next breath doesn't come in
And it's over.
But I still feel I am alive
The muck is still there
I am panting
Trying to get my face clean
But my hands get dirtier
The air inside my lungs ache
Like cramps
Each breath feels more painful than death
But this muck, this filth, this dirt
Loves me.
It is a part of me, a part of my life.
It 'is' my life.
If I will have last breath to write something
About my life, it will be a haiku and
I will write,
The moment between
Welling up and gushing out;
of puke, is my life
Once the puke is out it's over.
The struggle ends there and so ends life.
What remains is
That foul smelling ideologies
That sour taste that lingers like worn out relationship
and that memory...
That yellow memory.
It's not my semen but my puke
My foul, sour, yellow puke
That gives my child
Its first breathe and probably its last...

ABHINAV ANAND
B. A.(HONS) ENGLISH
III YEAR

THAT NIGHT IN KASHMIR

Oh, that night. The night in the Valley.
 The night in the Heaven on Earth,
 The night in my village.
 When the moon crawled under the blanket of clouds,
 And left darkness for us to suffer.
 When the God we believed in,
 Shied away from saving us.
 When Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs and all the people,
 Failed humans forever.
 Oh that night. The night in our little world,
 How will I ever forget you?
 When everything was so awfully silent,
 I failed to notice the hurricane you brought.
 When the only saviours we hoped of,
 Were the ones to maim our souls.
 When the "great nation" of India,
 Lost the Valley forever.
 Oh, that night. The night in Kunan
 How will I ever forgive you?
 Tell me, how will I ever unhear that sound,
 Of our protectors stomping outside our gates.
 When they pulled us out of our houses,
 As if it were theirs.
 When they parted me from my pretty daughter,
 And my lovely wife.
 Oh, that night. That evil night,
 When will those screams stop?
 The screams of my family,
 Who stood in front of me stripped of their clothes, their dignity, their pride.
 When all the women were shown,
 The beast, men could become once they taste authority.
 How will I ever forget that face of my angel,
 That begged to be saved
 From those who listened to no God,
 But only to the Satan inside.
 Oh, that night. The night when I died,
 How could I witness all of it?
 I closed my eyes, paralyzed by the terrors.
 Attempting to ignore the monsters that raped my girl,
 And every other in the village.
 Attempting to put a veil on the sight of that pregnant woman,
 Brutally kicked in her womb.
 Attempting to not listen to the cries,
 Of the men who saw their family being beaten by our heroes.
 And attempting to forget it,
 Forget how one nation slaughtered the dignity of every villager.
 Oh, that night. The night in Kashmir.

DIKSHIT JOSHI
B. A. (HONS) ENGLISH
I YEAR

ABDUL KALAM RESEARCH CENTER

Taking the vision of the erstwhile Honourable President of India, Dr APJ Abdul Kalam, forward, Maharaja Agrasen College set up the Abdul Kalam Research Centre to provide support facilities to its students as well as faculty members for carrying out their research activities. The college has successfully completed twelve Innovation Projects in the years 2012-15 and nine in 2015-17 wherein our student researchers have shown tremendous creativity and have come up with some pilot products that have direct applications in practical life and can be converted into a marketable product. The enthusiasm of students is the major driving force behind the setting up of this Centre. Their performance in the past fuelled the college to provide them with better facilities and a conducive environment where they may use their latent capabilities to the hilt.

Abdul Kalam Research Centre is one of the key initiatives of Maharaja Agrasen College that offers logistics and infrastructure support to researchers, both faculty and students. A single point research oriented hub with infrastructural and software and hardware support, the Centre serves as a one-stop space for nurturing raw innovative ideas from students/ faculties into a well-defined research or practice.

At present seven Star Innovation Research Projects funded by University of Delhi are being run in the Center in which 18 faculty members and around 70 students are involved.

S.No.	Title of the Project	Principal Investigators
1	Culture and Communication in Global Organizations	Dr Sunil Sondhi, Principal
2	Cyber Security Help System	Dr Meena Mehta Dr Preeti Gupta Dr Vandana Soni
3	Develop a Strategy for the In-house Performance Appraisal and Management of the Employees in the University of Delhi	Dr T.N.Ojha Dr Kalpana Nigam Dr Priya Gupta
4	Developing e-Learning Materials for Information Management of Higher Education	Mr Sudhir K Rinten Mr Vinay Rai Ms Rachita Kauldhar
5	Strategic Management of Higher Education Institutions : A Case Study of University of Delhi	Dr Sanjeev K Tiwari Ms Sushmita Rajwar
6	Workspace Optimization for Communication and Innovation	Dr Niraj Kumar Dr Anshul Taneja Ms Sonia Sachdeva
7	To Design and Develop Low Cost, Self-learning Heterogeneous Swarm Robotic Ecosystem	Dr Praveen Kant Pandey Dr Maneesha Mr Sachin Kumar

NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON 'FOSTERING QUALITY RESEARCH IN HIGHER EDUCATION'

Abdul Kalam Research Center and Internal Quality Assurance Cell, Maharaja Agrasen College organized a two day National Conference on 'Fostering Quality Research in Higher Education' on 23-24 March 2018. The primary objective of the conference was to provide a forum to share the wide and varied initiatives and practices of student driven and institutionally supported research leading to pedagogical effectiveness and enhanced learning outcomes. This conference was organised to foster interdisciplinary research and to provide a platform for all Principal Investigators and their students to showcase the objectives and research outcomes of their respective projects through paper presentations and poster presentation sessions.

Dr Chandra B. Sharma, Chairman, National Institute for Open Schooling inaugurated the conference delivered the keynote address. Keeping in tune with the theme, the conference attracted more than seventy innovative and significant contributions to both research and practice across a wide range of academic disciplines and application domains out of which more than seventy percent were presented by the students. Eminent educators from University of Delhi and IGNOU, and famous media personalities captivated the audience throughout the span of two days of the conference by delivering highly informative lectures. The highlight of the conference was the participation of researchers from various parts of India and abroad through the use of technology (skype), and the resulting diversity in attendees.

The conference was divided into 4 technical sessions namely 'Pedagogy, Culture and Society'; 'Learning through Experimental Research'; 'Augmenting Research in Higher Education Institutes'; and 'Enhancing Pedagogy through Technology & Media'.

The first session 'Pedagogy, Culture and Society' was chaired by Prof. Prakash Narayan from Department of Adult, Continuing Education And Extension, Univeristy of Delhi. The session saw many interesting presentations based on the research outcomes of various star innovation projects. The first presentation was based upon the research findings of Star Innovation Project 'Culture and Communication in Global Organizations' and sought to address the issues arising due to emergence of global development in human society with respect to technology, management, culture and communication. The rapid development of communication and transportation technologies connecting people with different cultural backgrounds around the world demands a new way of communication in order to achieve competence in the process of intercultural interaction. During



the presentation, the project team mentored by Dr Sunil Sondhi emphasized to integrate the impact of global development on human society in terms of scope and scale through the examination of the relationship between global development and intercultural communication. The next paper showcased the research work done under the Star Innovation Project titled 'Workspace Optimization for Innovation and Communication'. The paper highlighted the crucial role of workspace management in promoting productivity in any organisation by supporting interactive work and autonomous work simultaneously, thereby leading to effective communication. The research concluded with some key recommendations that must be adopted by educational institutions in order to directly enhance student efficiency and productivity. Next presentation titled 'A Pilot Study on Performance Appraisal for Non Teaching Staff of University of Delhi' was presented by the team of students led by Dr T. N. Ojha and Ms Preeti Goel. The research presented a study about the performance appraisal system of Non- Teaching staff of University of Delhi based on a proper set of guidelines known as APAR. The pilot study for the same was conducted in 5 sample colleges of University of Delhi and analysis was done to find out the gap between the actual guidelines and the one which has been practically implemented. The main objective of the research paper titled ' Identification of the "Pandava Trail" in Karsog Valley of Himachal Pradesh and 'Influence' of Pandavas / Mahabharata Heroes in Local Culture and Folk Songs' was to identify the Pandava trail and various temples associated with Mahabharata and to document their influence on local songs and culture of Karsog Valley. The paper titled 'Impact of Surya Namaskar in socio- political context' evaluated the socio political effect of Surya Namaskar on youth.

Experimental methods have been used extensively for many years to conduct research in education. The next session 'Learning through Experimental Research' saw diverse range of presentations examining ways in which experiments can be used productively by higher education researchers to increase the quality and rigor of studies. The session was chaired by Prof. Suresh Chandra Rai, Head, Department of Geography in the Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi. The first





presentation was the design of a dual-mode robotic system for landmine detection presented by the team working under Star Innovation Project 'To Design and Develop Low Cost, Self-learning Heterogeneous Swarm Robotic Ecosystem'. The students discussed the causalities due to millions of landmines laid on the ground across the world and presented the design of a robotic system that can operate both in autonomous mode as well as remote mode for landmine detection using various sensors, accelerometer and gyroscope. The paper 'Augmenting Pedagogical Practices through Innovative Technological Interventions' presented a comprehensive research and analysis of the various educational technologies available addressing the concern for the flexible use of teaching spaces along with ensuring a quality learning experience for undergraduate students when on campus and off campus.

The paper 'Corrosion Combating Properties of Hydroxyl Based Compounds on Mild Steel in Assam Coal Mine Water' presented a cost effective and environmentally safe hydroxyl based phosphonium compounds that could be used for inhibiting the corrosion of mild steel in mine water environment from Indian coal mines. The use of such substances will simultaneously achieve the economic and environmental goals. The aim of the next presentation 'Celestia: The Construction of an 8 inch Dobsonian Telescope' was to promote astronomy, teaching the technique to build basic astronomy instruments, to make astronomical observations affordable to everybody and to appreciate the





night sky beauty and extraterrestrial objects by building a Newtonian-type reflector telescope fitted on an alt-azimuth mount for portability and comfortable observation. This project undertaken by the Third year students of B. Sc. Physics (Hons) at Kalindi College sought to promote a new genre of hobby amongst the young minds. The paper 'XRF: A Deterministic Tool for Elemental Contamination', a part of an under graduate project sanctioned by Kalindi College, University of Delhi aimed to quantify the contamination level in environmental samples (air, water, soil, plants) of Delhi and surrounding regions using a non-destructive and portable technique X-ray Fluorescence (XRF). The paper 'Resonance Problem in a Geo-Centric Synchronous Satellite Including Earth' Equatorial Ellipticity Parameter'

investigated the resonance in a geo-centric synchronous satellite under the gravitational forces of the Sun, the Moon and the Earth including its equatorial ellipticity.

The third technical session on the theme 'Augmenting Research in Higher Education Institutes' was chaired by Dr Gulab Jha, Regional Director, IGNOU. Dr T. N. Ojha and his team of students from Star Innovation Project SIP03 presented a detailed review of performance appraisal systems existing in different organisational structures. The paper 'Making India a World Class Research Destination' analysed the current state of higher education in the country while also taking into account the challenges and opportunities present in the field of research. The research paper 'Promoting Quality in Higher Educational Institutions in India: Role of Faculty and Students' examined the evolution of governance and management of Indian Higher Education and discussed the strategic management of faculty and students at the institutional levels in promoting quality. The paper also examined the concerns of access, equity, accountability and transparency in selection process as a pre-requisite



to quality. Another informative paper in the session explained at length the concept and role of research and researcher and analyzed the status of a doctorate degree holder in India. The highlight of the session was the presentation of research papers through video and chat communication tool skype. Paper titled 'Education for Employability: Industry Links in Teaching Pedagogy Prospective' was presented by Utsav Krishan Murari from Central University of South Bihar using skype in which he addressed the issue related to the current structure of higher education and further discussed various elements related to teaching pedagogy which hampers the employability. Abhishek Singh from Ministry of Higher Education, Sultanate of Oman, drew attention to the impact of research utilization in professional development of academicians in his paper 'Significance of Research in the Professional Development of Academicians, in special context to Higher Education System in India' presented through skype from Oman.



The last session of the conference 'Enhancing Pedagogy through Technology & Media' chaired by eminent media personality and political analyst Ram Kripal Singh saw very informative presentations. The research findings of the Star Innovation Project 'Cyber Security Help System' were presented through the paper 'Cyber Security – Assessing and Creating Awareness against Cybercrimes; Protective Measures for Social Media, e-mail, online transactions and e-Payments'. The paper identified some of the prevalent cybercrimes and highlighted key cyber security measures with a focus on social media and e-mails and served to create awareness about IT Act in a bid to empower the netizens in this digital age and further discussed protective measures to be adopted for social media, emails, online transactions and e-payments. The student members of Star Innovation Project 'Information Flow Management in Higher Education Institutions', led by Sudhir Rinten raised awareness of the significance, role and scale of media and information literacy and discussed the policies and professional strategies at international, regional and national levels in their presentations in line with UNESCO's mandate. Other papers in the session focused on the latest research results relevant to the theme of the session and led to enhanced and constructive dialogue between the paper presenters and audience.



The session was followed by Valedictory session where paper presenters were presented with certificates. Overall, the conference provided a valuable learning experience and an excellent opportunity to the academics and participants to gather together, interact and exchange their findings and views during conference sessions, tea breaks and conference lunches. The organizing committee plans to come out with a book incorporating select papers presented in the conference.



EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITY COMMITTEE

The wide array of activities held under the rubric of Extra Curricular Activity Committee (ECA) of Maharaja Agrasen College not only provides a platform for the students proficient in various art forms to express themselves but also, it nurtures and encourages cultural values amongst the students. The societies of ECA viz. *Nataraj*, *Septune*, *Samyantar*, *Abhinay*, *Chakraview*, *Srijan*, *Inquizitive*, *Markos*, *North East Society*, *Meraki*, and *Qissa* all pushed the boundaries of creative imagination while also honing the abilities of the students. Throughout the year, multifarious activities held by the various societies of ECA promoted a deeper understanding of cultural history and also, registered the value of aesthetic tradition in the contemporary world. The highly motivated team of students led by the Convenor of this Committee, Dr Deepa Sharma along with her dynamic team of faculty members including Dr Prabira Sethy, Dr Debosmita Paul, Dr Chhavi Bhatnagar, Dr Kingaule Newme, Mr Amit, Ms Indrani Das Gupta, Dr Preeti, Ms Sangeeta, and Mr Mahendra Yadav alongside her young Cultural Council team (Ananya, Ayush Mundhra, Aditi Agarwal, Raag Verma, Jalaj, Atul, Varun, Mona, and Suvidh) ensured that the success so earned in this academic session was merely a prelude to glorious times ahead. Several activities, events, and celebrations were lined up for this academic year:

Independence Day Celebration

The 70th Independence Day celebrations on 15 August 2017 began with the hoisting of the tricolour amidst the singing of the National Anthem. The celebrations laid importance on the relevance of freedom while encouraging the students to participate in the task of nation-building. The festivities were marked by brilliant presentations enacted by *Nataraj- The Dance Society* and *Septune- The Music Society* adding to the energy and fervour of the day. The main highpoint of the celebrations were *Inquizitive – The Quiz Society’s* ‘Quiz’ organized on India’s Constitution and nationalist struggle and the Kite Flying Competition held to represent freedom of thought and expression while also symbolizing the aspiration of the Nation and the youth to reach greater heights.



Prarambh 2017

Prarambh 2017 started the academic session with a bang to welcome the first years to the College. After the lighting of the lamp by the Principal of the College, Dr Sunil Sondhi, and faculty members, *Septune- The Music Society* gave a stellar performance much appreciated by the audience. *Meraki- The English Theatre Society* with their play 'Waiting on Trains' and *Samayantar- The Stage Play Society* with their drama titled 'Big Nose' then presented their acts. The wit and humour inherent in these two plays along with the compelling plots and the exhibition of exceptional acting skills was much appreciated by every member of the audience. The most promising fresher was chosen through a display of poise, wit, ingenuity and sensitivity to social issues. The program ended with a performance by *Natraj- The Dance Society* and *Abhinay- The Street Play Society*. The miscellaneous dance styles performed by the dance society demonstrated their immense talent and their versatility. *Abhinay- The Street Play Society* through their pulsating performance of their production - 'Rashtrawaad' highlighted the need for a deeper understanding of social issues for the growth of society. As a prologue to a wondrous journey Prarambh 2017, initiated the students into a world of fun, collaboration, creativity, and innovation.

SPIC – MACAY: Virasat Series

Maharaja Agrasen College- SPIC MACAY (The Society for Promotion of Indian Culture and Music among Children and Youth) Chapter was revived to educate the students and to engage them on matters of Indian heritage and culture. This academic year saw three brilliant performances by noted singers and musicians as part of the *SPIC MACAY: Virasat Series 2017-18*.

The first performance held on 16 August 2017 was graced by the distinguished Shehnai player, Pandit Daya Shankar, a Sangeet Natak Academy (U. P.) winner accompanied by his team comprising of Khemchand on sur shehnai, Ashwani Shankar on supporting shehnai and Anoop Ghosh on the tabla. His performance specializing in "bhava" aspect of music and systematic improvising followed with exquisite "gamaks", "tan" patterns left the audience completely spellbound.



The second performance held the next day 17 August 2017, saw the recital of celebrated flautist Pandit Ronu Majumdar. He was accompanied by Shri Pranshu Chaturlal on tabla and Shri Kalpesh Sachla on flute. Pandit Ronu Majumdar's fusion of modern music with that of classical music along with the sharing of personal anecdotes made this a memorable day of entertainment and musical deliberations.



The final performance held on 31 January 2018 ushered in the New Year with the recital of Gurbani by the eminent singer, Bhai Manohar Singh. He was accompanied by Bhai Gurinder Singh on harmonium and Shree Prabhjot Singh on tabla. Bhai Manohar Singh explained to the audience how Gurbani, which essentially means 'Guru ki Vani' is one of the most divine ways to connect with the Almighty. His rendition of Gurbani and the 'Kada Prasad' distributed to all at the end embodied the interplay of faith, divine truth and music.

Introduction of Two New Societies and Special Events

In collaboration and partnership with *Samyantar - The Theatre Society*, *Meraki - The English Theatre Society* made its first presence at the event of Prarambh 2017. It continued to captivate the audience with its next annual production, "Halfway House", an adaptation of an English translation of Mohan Rakesh's Hindi play – "Aadhe Adhure" showcased at the Annual Cultural Festival of the College, Yuvaan 2018. *Meraki* added a new flavour to the existing theatre society of the College by its inclusion of unconventional theatrical techniques.

Qissa- The Film Making Society inaugurated this academic session with the stated objective of not only moving our passions and intellect but also, contributing creatively in the expression of regional, national and international cultures. *Qissa* organized its first Film Festival **Roll In** during the three days of Annual Cultural Fest, Yuvaan 2018. The event was a great success anticipating a world where interpretation, signification, and images came together to 'open our eyes' to issues, lives, places, and languages in order to refashion a better world.



Maharaja Quiz, the first edition of the National level quiz organized by *Inquisitive - The Quiz Society* was held on 13 October 2017. It provided the students with an opportunity to be aware of the intricacies of quiz format while preparing them for future cognitive battles.

Ek Bharat Shrestha - Bharat Programme

Under the *Ek Bharat Shrestha - Bharat*

Programme, an initiative of the Directorate of Higher Education, India, Maharaja Agrasen College committed itself to promote national integration through the mutual appreciation of diverse cultures of our country. A common perception is that all the North-East states are similar. But the reality is that each one of the states is different in terms of ethnicity, culture, habits, cuisine and language. This time the focus was Sikkim, second smallest among the Indian states. *Inquizitive – The Quiz Society* organized an intra-college Quiz on Sikkim on 29 January 2018 and a Blog Writing Competition on 12 April 2018. Both the Quiz and the Blog Writing Competition saw enthusiastic participation by students belonging to different disciplines of the college. Also, a folk dance by the *North-East Dance* society was organized in February 2018, which was hugely appreciated by the audience.



North-East Society

Our North-East Society has been participating in every Annual Cultural Festival of Maharaja Agrasen College since its inception in the academic session of 2015-16. This year the society during Yuvaan 2018, executed the intricate 'Mao-Naga War' dance of Manipur, popularly known as *Kadedo*. The dance was an ode to their forefathers in striving for peace amidst turmoil and conflicts. It was well appreciated by the audience.

YUVAAN'18

Yuvaan, the Annual Cultural Festival of Maharaja Agrasen College was organized with great enthusiasm from 21 to 23 February 2018. Organized under the aegis of the ECA Committee, the event was a display of the organizational capabilities of the enterprising members of the Student Cultural Council, the enthusiastic associates of the various Cultural Societies and the members of the Students Union as they came together to put up this three days cultural bonanza. The festival began with lighting of the lamp by the representative members of the Students Union and the Cultural Council and the rendition of Saraswati Vandana to invoke the blessings of Ma Saraswati. The major attraction of this Inaugural session was the 'Naga Folk Dance' performance by the *North-East Society* of the college.



The first day competitive events started with music competitions under its banner, *Sargam*, organised by *Septune: The Music Society* of the college. *Nataraj: The Dance Society* organized its events spread over the first two days of Yuvaan, 21 February and 22 February 2018. The audience thoroughly enjoyed these diverse music and dance styles performed by the participants.

Samayantar - The Stage Theatre Society in collaboration with *Meraki – The English Theatre Society* successfully hosted its stage theatre competition, **Drishyantar**, on the second day of Yuvaan, 22 February 2018. *Meraki's*, first Annual production, 'Halfway

House', was much appreciated by the audience. **Aaina** - the Annual Street Play competition, organised by *Abhinay-the Street Play Society*, was held on the second day of Yuvaan, 22 February 2018. The event was marked by brilliant performances on various critical social issues ranging from transgender, rape, body-shaming and depression. The theatrical performances of **Drishyantar** and **Aaina** were not only highly entertaining for the audience but also, it embodied the confluence of art, culture and politics.

Srijan – Art and Craft Society organised its events on all the three days of Yuvaan. Apart from that, *Srijan* also looked after the decorations of the college during the three days of the festival. With competitions ranging from 'Kalakriti - Rangoli Making', 'Inked - Tattoo Making', 'Illusion – Face Painting', 'Deewarein Bol Uthengi – Graffiti', to 'Scissors, Imagination, Action! - Open Craft', 'Aankhon Dekhai - Live Sketching' and 'Wear-O-Paint T-shirt Painting', Yuvaan was richly decorated in imaginative and artistic colours visualized by the participants. **Jashn-e-Quiz 18** organized by *Inquizitive, The Quiz Society* on the last two days of Yuvaan, 22 and 23 February 2018, was a grand success. **Marketing Bravado V.20** – the second edition of Marketing Bravado was successfully organised by *Markos, The Marketing Society* on 21 February 2018. **Kurukshetra**, conducted by *Chakraview - the Debating Society*, hosted its events on two consecutive days of Yuvaan, 22 February 2018 and 23 February 2018. Debate, dialogue, cognitive skills, and creativity reigned within the portals of the college with these events.

Yuvaan 2018 emerged as a multifaceted space to display not only one's talent but also, it became the force to bring together the disparate ideas, perceptions and multiple art forms with passion and skilful organization on one common platform.



SPORTS ACTIVITIES

A week long Sports festival was organized by the Sports Committee in association with the Department of Physical Education.

from 19 February to 23 February 2018 followed by Annual Sport Day on 26 February 2018.

The festival comprised of various indoor and outdoor sports events for students of the college i.e. Chess, Carom, Table tennis, Badminton, Cricket, Volleyball, Basketball, Kabaddi, Football along with Athletics. Students from various departments of the college have participated in the week long sports festival.

Besides, inter departmental tournaments were organized in team games in various sports i.e. Football, Cricket, Volleyball, Basketball and Kabaddi.

A cricket match among faculties was also organized in the college to promote the sporting spirit for stakeholders of the institution.

Finally, Annual Sports Day of SPORTS-MAC was organized in the college play field. The day was full of excitement and joy for the entire college. On the day, Athletic events for students like 100m, 200m, 4x 100m races and competitions like Shot Put, Javelin throw and Long Jump were organized.

The college team has participated in various inter college events in the session. Korfball team secured fourth position. Football team was among the top eight teams of Delhi University. Two Korfball players (Sakshi and Vinay) of college have participated in all India Inter University Championship. Two Students (Badal in Baseball and Nageshwar in Ball Badminton) also participated in All India Inter University tournament from Delhi University team. Deepak and Ajay Pandey have represented Delhi team in National Championship in Ball Badminton and Softball respectively. Sarvpriya Gautam secured silver in Inter college Athletics Marathon and Bronze in 10,000m run. Sumit Chauhan won Gold in Inter college



Archery competition in 50m and 70m and Silver in Olympic round. College team performed well in Cricket, Basketball, Softball, Kabaddi, Volleyball and Ball Badminton.

The chief guest for the occasion was Dr Sunil Sondhi, Principal of the college. He distributed the prizes to the winners of the different sports events. Separate trophies for the Departments were awarded for their achievement in respective sports events.



INTERNAL COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE

Maharaja Agrasen College, University of Delhi has a ZERO tolerance policy against sexual harassment. Maharaja Agrasen College Internal Complaints Committee was constituted in 2015 according to norms specified in the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013. The committee comprising of Dr Gitanjali Chawla as Presiding Officer, Ms Puneeta Agarwal, Dr T. N. Ojha and Ms Manju Sharma as members with Prof Aparna Basu as external member followed due protocol in redressal of complaints. The committee worked proactively towards increasing gender sensitization by organising lectures by Lawyers and other experts to disseminate the finer nuances of the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013. It also sought periodic feedback from students and is committed to ensuring a safe environment for girls within the college. In the academic year 2017-18, the committee organised a 10-day self-defence workshop for girls in collaboration with the Special Unit for Women and Children, Delhi Police. The workshop commenced on 13 September 2017 and witnessed enthusiastic participation by more than 130 students. On successful completion of the workshop, the participants were awarded certificates of participation by the Principal, Dr Sunil Sondhi.

Subsequently, thirty-two girl students visited Ashok Nagar Police Station on 28 September 2017 with Ms Puneeta Agarwal and Dr Gitanjali Chawla for an interaction with the SHO, Mr Meena, who spent a lot of time with the students. Not only did he give an extensive tour of the Police Station but also familiarised the students with various procedures. Students learnt a lot from their visit and were very appreciative of the knowledge they gained.



STUDENT ADVISORY

The Student Advisory Committee of Maharaja Agrasen College successfully supervised the students' activities in the academic session 2017-18.

Democracy is the buzz word for the youths of Delhi University and Maharaja Agrasen College is not an exception. With the initiation of Students Union in the college from 2016, channelizing and utilizing the energy of the students has been a great challenge. The Student Advisory Committee with support from Administrative Staff and Teaching Faculty has successfully conducted the free and fair Students Union Election on 28 October, 2017 under the guidelines of Lingdho Committee recommendations. The students participated in good number to elect Mr Ayush Nagar of B. Com Second year as President, Mr. Rahul Dedha of B. A. Hons Hindi First year as Vice President, Ms Anjali Sharma of B. A. (Prog) First year as Secretary Women Welfare and Mr Brijesh Kumar B. Sc. Electronics Second Year as Secretary of Social welfare. The oath taking ceremony of newly elected Students Union of Maharaja Agrasen College was successfully conducted, Member of Parliament Sri Varun Gandhi was the chief guest of in this event.

The oath taking function was followed by the Fresher's Party organised by students union in support with the student Advisory Committee on 11 Nov 2017. More than 700 freshers and 1000 other students enjoyed the music and sound in the college ground.

The student Advisory Committee and Students Union jointly organised the Star Night event on 28 February 2018. More than 2000 students witnessed the star performance of Celebrity Deep Money (Punjabi Singer) in our college ground.

The student Advisory Committee had organised Career Counseling for students. A talk by Dr S. S. Pandey on "How to prepare for Civil Service Examination?" was organised on 12 March 2018. More than 150 students participated and had their queries answered by the resource person.



NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME

The NSS unit of Maharaja Agrasen College undertook the following activities during 2017-18 academic session.

Swachhhta Program:

“Zero Impact on Environment”- group of MAC-NSS organized weekly cleanliness drives in the College and nearby areas including the market for ‘four’ months. With a genuine concern towards the degrading environment and surroundings, it worked to mitigate the same through simple methods of keeping our surroundings clean. A very large number of volunteers participated and worked enthusiastically in these drives. The drives were organized ‘once a week’ after 2:30 pm. The team also organized ‘awareness hours’, where the volunteers interacted with peers about the necessity of keeping our surroundings clean. During the drives, inappropriate scribblings on the college property was reported to the authorities.

Project ABHI (Agrasen Baroji Help Initiative) :

The MAC- NSS unit has adopted Baroji village in the Mewat district of the state of Haryana. This year two visits were made to the village on 4 November 2017 and a three-day camp was organized from 19-21 January 2018. The objective of the visits was to interact with the villagers, hold plantation drives, workshop for villagers to apprise them about the government policies for them and educate the students about community service.

A ‘**Run for Unity**’ was organised on 31 October 2017 on the occasion of Rashtriya Ekta Diwas (the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel). Around 30 NSS volunteers participated in the ‘Run For Unity’ to spread the message of unity in the society. The Run circuit of 2 km, started from the college, then to Shaheed Rajguru College of Applied Sciences and continued through the lanes of Vasundhara Enclave societies and back to the college.

Syaahi - A Promenade to Reality (Writing Club, NSS-MAC), successfully established itself as the writing club of Maharaja Agrasen College. It was led by a 3 membered team and in seven months since it was





established as an online blog, it has already published seven editions with various write-ups from poems to opinion pieces. Syaahi, since its inception, has been receiving a huge number of write ups not only from the students of our college but from other colleges across the country.

Syaahi organized its first ever event- The Slam Poetry Competition. This bilingual poetry competition with the theme 'Spirit of Seasons' started on 04 November 2017 which was an online round. The participants had to submit their poems online to get themselves registered. The Editorial team then selected the best twenty poems for the final round which took place on 08 November 2017.

The judges for the competition were Dr Alok Puranik, Associate Prof., Department of Commerce and Dr Anupama Jaidev, Associate Prof., Department of English and the faculty editor of Syaahi.

Mesmerized with the success of previous Slam Poetry, Syaahi organized another bilingual poetry competition on 21 February 2018 during the three-day fiesta, YUVAAN. The event invited entries on three themes namely 'Men Don't Cry', 'Me and my Demons' and 'Villains of Indian Mythology'. The event was judged by Dr Mona Sinha, Associate Prof., Department of English and Ms Arunima Gururani, Editor at Youth Ki Awaaz.

Pedal Power:

Benefits of cycling are endless. Cycling can provide an emissions-free, affordable transportation option that is beneficial for the health of both people and for creating a pollution-free environment. MAC-NSS has a very active bicycle club with more than 40 members. Mr Amit Kumar, Assistant Professor, Department of Commerce has been managing the club for the last four years. This year in addition to the regular cycling in the college premises and nearby colonies the club organised the tours to the following places:

India Gate : 19 club members visited India gate to pay homage to the brave soldiers who died in the terrorists attack at Uri.

Raj Ghat : Students visited Raj Ghat with banners and posters to spread awareness about Swachh Bharat Abhiyan.

New Ashok Nagar: A seven-day program to spread awareness about harmful effects of pollution and need

for proper disposal of garbage like plastic bags, bottles, etc.

Okhla Bird Sanctuary : Visited Okhla Bird Sanctuary to learn about the importance of nature in our life and wildlife ecosystem.

Project Blood Group - "Drop of Life" :

A project based on blood group survey named "Drop of Life" has been initiated in the college. The 20 member team headed by Mr Ajit Yadav and with Ms Priya Vishwakarma as the project coordinator carried out an awareness program on one to one basis and asked the college students to fill a google form designed to provide and collect blood group related information. The work started in the month of October and till date around 1500 google forms have been filled by MAC students. The data collected will be processed and next year a MAC-Blood app will be designed. The database will be of great help for someone in need of blood.

Project "Akshar"

In Project "Akshar" the MAC-NSS volunteers provide quality education to the children belonging to underprivileged sections of the society. Approximately 90 students from nearby colonies like Dallupura and Kondli are enrolled in the project. Classes are held in the college premises from 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm. The Akshar team has designed all the necessary teaching aids and a highly interactive pedagogy to teach these children. The results have been highly encouraging.

Akshar, now is a very successful project, as cheer, happiness and excitement can be seen in the eyes of every child. Next year the MAC-NSS unit intends to enroll more students in the program. The stationery items are provided free of cost to the students. The money for the same was raised during the Annual Diwali Mela. On 14 November 2017 Akshar celebrated 'Children's Day' with more than 100 children from nearby slum and villages. A competition of dance and singing was also organized in which the students participated with great zeal and enthusiasm.

Akshar - celebrated Republic Day on 26 January 2018 with patriotic fervor and gaiety for the group of students who are a part of this initiative.



Diwali Mela was organized in collaboration with MAC INSERCH to raise funds for NSS ABHI Project. It was organized by the joint efforts of 25 volunteers. More than 32 vendors booked their stalls.

Project Farm Waste Decomposting: Keeping in view the problem of stubble burning as the main cause of pollution in Delhi-NCR region, the NSS team held workshops in villages to apprise the villagers regarding the various techniques available to decompose farm waste and recycle it.

Plantation Drives: Several Plantation Drives were organized by MAC-NSS in collaboration with MAC-INSERCH in and around the college premises.

Visit to village Jharoda: In collaboration with Department of Social Welfare, University of Delhi, a visit to village Jharoda was organized for the students.

Workshop on Stress Management: "Nitai Sound Yoga" workshop was conducted by anti-stress yoga experts for the teachers and students on 17 January 2018 in which more than 60 students participated.

Workshop on Community Sensitisation : This workshop was organized on 04 April 2018, to sensitize the minds of the students towards Visually Impaired Persons.

Constitution Day Celebration: NSS volunteers took pledge to abide by the Constitution and become better citizens.

Slogan Writing Competition: It was held on 12 January 2018 to commemorate Swami Vivekananda's birthday.

MAC INSERCH

Maharaja Agrasen College Initiative for Shouldering Ecological Responsibility by Conserving Heritage (MAC INSERCH) is an initiative by students, teachers and administrative staff of the college who are committed to the cause of environmental and heritage conservation and development. It is led by a strong team of over 25 teaching staff and 50 student volunteers who incessantly work throughout the year.

The activities of MAC INSERCH are divided into 5 distinct categories: Recycle and Reuse related activities, Green Initiative, Energy Conservation, Heritage and Culture and Organic Farming.

The activities of this body started from the Orientation Day itself with a plantation drive by the new batches and their departments. MAC INSERCH also organized plantation drive on various occasions of importance in association with civil society and institutions of Vasundhara Enclave. Dr B. C. Sabata, Sr. Scientific Officer, Govt. of NCT of Delhi, Sh. Rajeev Kumar, Councillor, Dallupura, East Delhi MCD and Dr Faiyaz Khudsar, Scientist In-charge, were among the dignitaries who supported our cause with their gracious presence.

MAC INSERCH lend a hand in various activities of NSS such as Diwali Mela, Agrasen Baroji Help Initiative (ABHI).

MAC INSERCH concluded the session with the 6th National Conference on Biodiversity and Climate Change held from 8-10 February 2018.



TEACHING STAFF ASSOCIATION

This academic year was of great significance for Maharaja Agrasen College Teaching Staff Association (MACTSA). In 2017-18, the Association carried out several key activities and campaigns, driven by active participation by the members.

We are relentlessly making efforts for getting permanent appointments as soon as possible to put an end to adhocism. We are also campaigning for putting an end to the uncertainty over continuation of services of the ad hoc teachers associated with the college in every new semester. We are committed to provide better amenities and facilities in the staff room. The Staff Association aims to protect and progress the interests of members by bringing them together collectively and democratically. In doing so, the Association seeks to:

- Assist members in enforcing their rights at work, including the right to: i) fair and equitable treatment at work; ii) reasonable conditions and a balanced working life; and iii) a workplace which is healthy, safe and environmentally sustainable.
- Represent and put forward views of the members to the institution's administration and make representations on behalf of the association to DUTA.
- The members collectively celebrated Diwali with great enthusiasm, and Diwali gifts were distributed to all the members. Holi Milan was also celebrated with a lot of zeal and fervour and was followed by lunch.
- The Association tirelessly pursued its aim of improving the facilities in the Staff Room by giving requisition for new lockers for teachers and a tea vending machine. The Association has got the approval by the Principal for both and the order has been placed.
- The Association participated in all the programmes and calls given by the DUTA.

Finally, we would like to thank our active members who helped in purchasing and procuring gifts for various purposes. Improving facilities and promoting fraternity among members will continue to be a priority for the Staff Association in the coming years. We must remember that we are union collectively and at our best only when we all reach out to support and encourage each other.

Dr Niraj Kumar
President

Dr Subodh Kumar
Secretary

Dr Abha Sharma
Treasurer

Dr Sanjeev K. Tiwari

Excutive Commettee Members

Dr Shashi Singh

Ms Sonia Suchdeva

Dr Geetika Jain



VIDYOTTAMA GIRLS' HOSTEL

Vidyottama Girl's Hostel has been 'a home away from home' for all the hostellers. With the commencement of the new academic session, new members were welcomed with a grand event held on 27 August 2017. The hostel has established itself as a platform for an explicit exchange of social and cultural traditions. Be it Lohri, Holi, Diwali or Eid, the occupants of the hostel have stood together and celebrated these festivals, irrespective of class, religion or region. The Hostel's Cultural Committee organized "Dandiya Night" during the Navratri season. The hostellers danced their hearts out to the tunes of Garba and Dandiya. Diwali has always brought happiness, prosperity and a feeling of togetherness among the people. The hostellers celebrated the festival of lights with great enthusiasm. Lohri marking the culmination of winter, was celebrated on 13 January 2018 with great enthusiasm. All the residents gathered together for the celebration. A bonfire was lit and popcorns and peanuts were offered to the bonfire seeking abundance and prosperity. The evening ended with hostellers dancing to Punjabi songs, celebrating the ethos of this festival. Holi has always been one of the most awaited festivals in the country. Vidyottama Girls Hostel celebrated the festival of colours with bright herbal colours and sweets.

Many of us have heard the adage, 'Health is Wealth' but we hardly implement it in our day to day living. Students are generally confused about their diet plans and also about their fitness. They do not know that their bodies suffer from many nutritional deficiencies. Therefore, on 23 January 2018, Vidyottama Girls Hostel Committee organized an 'Herbal Health Care Camp' which entailed a full body checkup and a lecture-cum-discussion for all the hostellers. The health camp helped the students to understand the importance of proper diet and nutrition as well as giving them inputs on the benefits of regular exercises. After an interesting but enlightening talk about healthcare, all students and staff had a free body checkup. All in all, it was an extremely illuminating talk for the hostellers.



Since its inception in 2011, the Hostel Committee has been making efforts to organize recreational as well as educational events for the hostel residents. A two-day educational trip to Kurukshetra-Chandigarh was organised from 16 to 17 March 2018. During the span of these two days, the hostellers visited a number of attractions such as Geeta Museum, Pinjore Gardens, Rock Garden, Rose Garden and Sukhna Lake. Everyone had a great time which was made possible by the endless efforts of the Hostel Committee.

Continuing the tradition of Vidyottama Girls Hostel, the 3rd Cultural and Sports Fest was organized during April 2018. But this time the Hostel Committee organized a series of inter-hostel competitions in which the hostel residents of the neighboring Delhi University College, Shaheed Rajguru College of Applied Sciences for Women (SRCASW) were also invited to participate. The sport events included Chess, Basketball, 100m and 200m Athletic races and Badminton. The sport festival ended with the distribution of certificates to the winners and the participants. For both the participants and the organizers it was a great learning experience with the exhibition of skills like sportsmanship, team spirit and leadership. It was followed by the Cultural Festival of Vidyottama Girls' Hostel during which a series of competitions were held like Western Dance and Singing competition, Rangoli Making and Painting competition. The judges also appreciated the hard efforts of the Hostel's Cultural Committee. The three days cultural event ended with a closing ceremony of Group Dance performance and the final distribution of prize money and certificates. The combined effort of the organizers and student volunteers led to the success of the event.



LIBRARY



Library of Maharaja Agrsen College, University of Delhi is well established with a good collection of more than 40,000 books and 47,000 National and International e-journals and other important e-resources related to Science & Technology, Social Science, Arts and Humanities. The library is well equipped with latest information & technologies managed by the qualified & dedicated library staff. Library is fully managed by ALICE FOR WINDOW (Library Automation Software). Library organized library orientation programme, book exhibition and workshops from time to time according to stakeholder's needs.

- **Library workshop :** The library organized a one-day library workshop on **20 April 2017** on the topic '**Information Literacy: Access & Retrieval**'.
- **Library Book Exhibition:** The library organized a two-day library book exhibition on **17-18 August 2018**, more than 30 reputed book publishers/distributors participated in the exhibition.
- **Library Orientation Programme:** The library organized a **Two-week Library Orientation Programme in August 2017** for First year students.



Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC)

The Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) was set up in Maharaja Agrasen College, University of Delhi on 03 October 2015 in response to the latest set of guidelines laid down by NAAC for the setting up of Internal Quality Assurance Cell in higher institutions. The MAC-IQAC is committed towards enhancing the academic and research environment of the college.

The IQAC 2016-17 comprising of the Principal as Chairperson and Dr Maneesha as the Coordinator along with teachers-in-charge and administrative officials work in tandem to prepare academic calendar prior to the commencement of the session. In accordance with decisions taken in IQAC in previous meetings, all departments have been submitting not just their calendar of activities in advance but also the budget for the same in the prescribed format in order to minimize time spent on approvals. The departments have been regularly analyzing paper wise results along with follow up remedial measures. The IQAC laid down norms for departmental activities and meetings and specified that all activities should be organized in the second half of the semester/month/day so that there is minimal disturbance of the teaching schedule. The IQAC was also emphatic that all such activities should be organized keeping students' needs in mind. It was emphasized that Student Feedback after any such activity must be sought in order to plan the next activity. Administrative Staff were encouraged to organize and participate in skill upgradation and training programmes.

The Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), organized a one-day seminar titled as "e-Procurement: A Step Towards Transparent Digital India" in January to create awareness and update the faculty members of the new e- procurement norms and procedures and the modification implemented in the procedure for purchase and procurement of goods in the College and University. Dr Vikas Gupta, Deputy Registrar, University of Delhi presented a talk on the purchase policies regarding Government e-market (GEM). Mr Sanjeev Kumar, Director, Communications & Information Services, JNU delivered a talk on the policies and procedures of e-procurement. More than sixty faculty members and non-teaching faculty participated in the seminar.

With an objective to provide a forum to share the wide and varied practices and initiatives of the student driven and institutionally-supported research at the undergraduate/postgraduate level, IQAC along with Abdul Kalam Research Center organized a two-day National Conference on 'Fostering Quality Research in Higher Education'. The keynote address was delivered by Prof. C. B. Sharma Chairman, NIOS, which was highly appreciated by the audience. The conference was divided into four technical sessions namely, 'Pedagogy, Culture and Society'; 'Learning through Experimental Research'; 'Augmenting Research in Higher Education Institutes'; and 'Enhancing Pedagogy through Technology & Media'. It was heartening to see that the conference attracted more than fifty-five innovative and significant contributions to both research and practice across a wide range of academic disciplines and application domains out of which more than eighty percent were presented by the students. The four technical sessions during the two days of conference included contributory papers/posters and four invited lectures. Eminent educators from IGNOU, University of Delhi and famous media personalities captivated the audience throughout the span of two days by delivering highly informative lectures. The highlight of the conference was the participation of students and teachers from various parts of India and the resulting diversity in attendees. The organizing committee plans to come out with a book incorporating select papers presented in the conference.

IGNOU

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

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

Under the direction of its Coordinator Dr T. N. Ojha, his dedicated team of Assistant Coordinators Dr Omkar Singh, Dr ChhaviBhatnagar, Mr Ritesh Verma, MrAmit Kumar, Mr Roushan Kumar and the administrative staff comprising of Mrs Monika, Mr Rajesh Kumar, Mr Jaswant Singh, Mr Naresh Kumar, Mr Ashok Kumar, Mr Ashok Atri, Mr Pramod Kumar Singh, Mr Harshvardhan, Mr Kishan Kumar,



Mr Naveen Chandra Chamoli, Mr Vinod Kumar Tiwari, Mr Manoj Kumar, Mr Anil Kumar and Mr Ajay Kumar, the IGNOU center continues to flourish.

The center aspires to integrate the community by providing quality education to all sections of the society. It is the only Centre in Delhi providing counseling to MSCMACS students.

Some of our students have joined prestigious services. Four of our Management students have passed C. A. examination and few students have joined Delhi University as Assistant Professors and others have joined banking sector and school teaching.

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



TRAINING AND PLACEMENT CELL

In the present world, competition is at its peak and creating a place for self in a professional field is a tough task. While the college provides the students with education and all the necessary skills to excel, the Training and Placement Cell of Maharaja Agrasen College does its best to give them the opportunities to flourish through a common platform, which is shared by both the students and the corporates. The primary motive of the TPC is to provide students with employment opportunities.

Apart from that, TPC also seeks to impart effective communication skills, management skills and all the necessary etiquettes which are of utmost importance. It becomes paramount to sharpen the skills of the students before they graduate because they would be stepping into a whole new world of competition. In order to fulfill the above mentioned goals, TPC keeps organizing interactive sessions for students including seminars, workshops and training sessions.

Recently, the Training and Placement Cell had organized a C.V. Writing Workshop keeping in mind the importance of writing a good C.V. within a professional context. This workshop was organized on 7 April 2018 in the Conference room.

The Placement Cell has been working hard to help the students to learn and acquire corporate knowledge and strategies. Students were sent to reputed organizations for internships in variety of fields ranging from Media to Banking to Management. It has provided them with internships so that they could gain some practical experience in their fields of interest. One of such events was the two-day Mega Job Fair that was organized on 10 February 2018 in the College. The College in collaboration with Media & Entertainment Skills Council and Academy of Excellence. Prime Focus, Vistara, Oyo, Yatra, Vibgyor, Genre 8, Go Air, Zee, DEN, Travel Triangle and other big companies were participants. A good number of students turned up for the Fair. Students were very keen to face the interview as it was a great learning experience. The fair was conducted smoothly.

The Cell has been working rigorously in planning out future plans and improving the structure of the committee so that it benefits the students in a far more informed manner. The Cell not only brings employers to college portals but also, prepares the students to grab the opportunities which otherwise is very slim. The students have not only been provided with internships and placements but also, they are motivated to derive more expertise from these openings and avail better opportunities.

The Training and Placement Cell is working towards organizing few more workshops, which would be an enriching experience for the students.



NON-COLLEGIATE WOMEN'S EDUCATION BOARD

Education is the best asset of a nation. Educating a girl is one of the best investment her family, her community, and her country can make. Educating a girl in particular can kick-start a virtuous circle of development. Women's empowerment is essential for economic development, growth, and results in eliminating poverty not only because of the income it generates but also, because it helps to break the vicious cycle of poverty. With this vision NCWEB started by Delhi University is an endeavor to contribute to Higher Education not only by enabling girl students to get a degree in relevant subjects but also inculcate in them the ability to think creatively and to possess good communication skills. Programs such 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao' would only be successful when institutes such as NCWEB blossoms to its full potential.

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

The Non-Collegiate Women's Education Board teaching center at Maharaja Agrasen College was started in June 2011 which was earlier functioning at different educational institutions of East Delhi. The academic session 2017-18 introduced online admission process which facilitated a hassle-free access to education for the students.

At present, the enrollment in Undergraduate courses at the Maharaja Agrasen College Centre of NCWEB is approximately 1342 and of which around 506 and 836 are in B. COM and B. A. (Prog) respectively. With around 44 teaching staffs and a dozen non-teaching staffs, the center has successfully completed the 52 days class schedule for the academic session 2017-18



The number and percentage of successful students in Annual Exams 2017 of the University is also encouraging. The results are far better than previous year's result. Out of 506 students of B. Com., 501 students were successful in the exam. The percentage of successful students is 99% which is very encouraging. Out of 836 students who appeared in B. A. (Prog) examination 819 students achieved success and again the passing percentage was 97.96% which is healthy and encouraging for the center.

The academic year of NCWEB, Maharaja Agrasen College Centre started with an orientation programme held in August 2017. During this interactive session, the students were informed about the various aspects of NCWEB.

Apart from the academic activities extra-curricular activities are also important for the over all personality development keeping this in mind an annual sports and cultural competition 'Spardha-2017' was organized at NCWEB, Maharaja Agrasen College Centre on the 26 December 2017. Cultural events like painting, creative writing, self-created poem, slogan writing, mehendi, rangoli, solo singing, group singing as part of Spardha 2017-18, in which the students participated in large numbers and displayed huge interest.

The students of street play team of the NCWEB, Maharaja Agrasen College Centre in collaboration with the Department of Social Work participated in a play/skit on 19 March 2018 organized by *Pahal* and *Care India* on women empowerment. They also bagged the second position in the competition.

Maharaja Agrasen College Centre is trying its best to provide every possible opportunity to the students of NCWEB in order to harness their untapped potential and prepare them to make their career and contribute in the process of nation building.



WOMEN DEVELOPMENT CELL

Under the successful guidance of Dr Anju Aggarwal, Convenor, Women Development Cell, various collaborative activities were carried out to motivate and empower girl students. In collaboration with National Commission for Women (NCW) two events were organized. Legal awareness programme on 'Women's Rights' and a quiz on the same subject was organized on 24 October 2017. About ninety-five students from across streams had participated in the programme and top thirty scorers of the quiz had qualified for the debate, which was organized on 30 October 2017. The topic for the debate was "Domestic Violence Act remains an Unfinished Task."

In collaboration with The Directorate, Family Welfare, various events starting from 24 October to 1 November 2017 were organized.

On 24 October 2017, class campaign to generate awareness on PCPNDT (Pre-Conception & Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques Test) among the students along with an interactive session on the same subject was organized.

On 25 October 2017, Poetry and Poster Making competitions on the theme 'Women Empowerment, Gender Equality and Save the Girl Child' were organized.

On 26 October 2017, pamphlets on 'Save the Girl Child' were distributed to sensitize minds.

On 1 November 2017, Panel Discussion on 'Role of all Stakeholders in Preventing Sex Determination' was organized. The panellists were Dr Satyajit Kumar, SPO, PC & PND, Dr Sunil Sondhi, Principal, MAC, Dr Sundaram Shukla, Associate Professor, KMC. At the end of the programme, prizes and certificates were distributed to the winners of the various competitive events.



UGC SC/ST CELL

SC/ST Cell in our college has been established to take care of the needs of students who have taken admission under these categories. This Cell has been working towards building support system for these students. Workshops and lectures are organized to inform these students about scholarships and funding provided by Government like scholarships provided by the Ministry of Social Justice and Welfare.



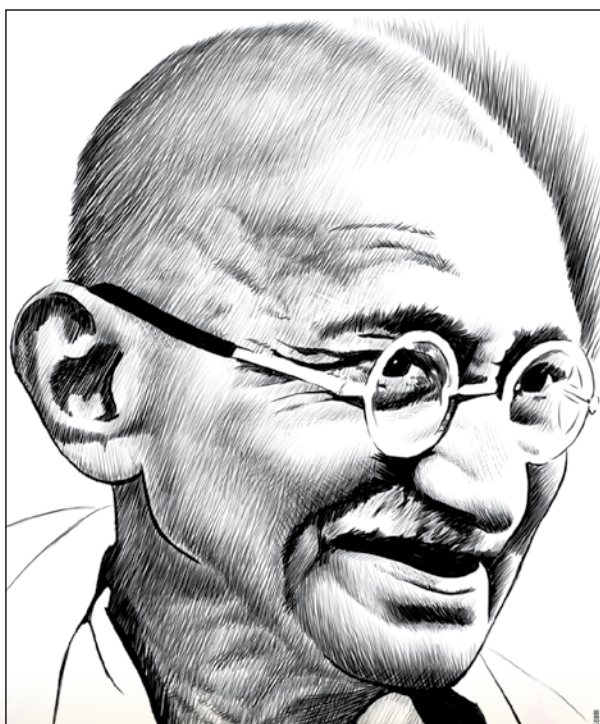
One such session was organized on 19 February 2018 in the college to give relevant information about these scholarships and aids provided by the government.

Students who were keen to appear for various competitive exams were informed about free coaching and scholarships provided by various coaching centers. Remedial classes were also conducted in the college by Mr Amit, Assistant Professor, Department of Commerce to various students across courses.

The Cell also looks into the needs and grievances of these students and it has been functioning under the supervision of the Liaison Officer SC/ST.

The college website has also given details regarding space for voicing any grievances by the staff and students.

GANDHI STUDY CIRCLE



Gandhi Study Circle under the convenorship of Dr Anju Aggarwal aims to carry forward the ideas of Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi, the Father of the Nation and practice his belief of 'ahimsa'. In February, 'Khula Manch' based on Gandhi's ideology was organized where one was free to present or express whatever one liked. About fifty students had enthusiastically participated in the event. Paper presentation, poetry recitation and quiz were held to emphasize the relevance of Gandhi's teachings in today's highly polarised world. At the end of the programme, prizes were distributed to the winners.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF









Graduating Batches

Advanced Diploma



BBE





B.Com (H)

English (H)





Hindi (H)

Journalism (H)





Pol.Sc (H)

B.A. Programme





Mathematical Science

Physical Science





B.Sc Electronics (H)

Teaching Staff





Administrative Staff



