Salesian College
SONADA & SILIGURI

NAAC Accredited 'A' Grade (3rd Cycle) & twice UGC certified College with Potential for Excellence (CPE)

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Sparkle 2020

Environment and Us

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Volume X

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ISSUE X

Sparkle 2020

Environment

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Rector's Message

Dear Friends,

Our world is fast changing in every sphere. As we begin a new year with a new *Sparkle 2020,* there's something we need to ask ourselves: *Am I changing?* I find it appropriate to use the reflections of the blogger "Nharshakumar" for our own reflections as he was an ardent observer, analyst and critic of politics and current happenings.

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"Days slip into weeks, weeks turn into months and months transform into years. Calendars are changing and so am I.

Yes, I am changing. After loving my parents, my siblings, my spouse, my children my friends, now I have started loving myself.

Yes, I am changing. I just realized that I am not "Atlas" and the world does not rest on my shoulders.

Yes, I am changing. I now stopped bargaining with poor vegetables and fruit vendors. After all, a few rupees more is not going to burn a hole in my pocket but it might help the poor fellow save for his daughter's school fees.

Yes, I am changing. I pay the rickshaw / cabbie and walk away without waiting for the change. The extra money might bring a smile on his face. After all he is toiling much harder for a living than me.

Yes, I am changing. I stopped telling the elderly that they have already narrated that story many times. After all, the story makes them walk down the memory lane and relive the past.

Yes, I am changing. I have learnt not to correct people even when I know they are wrong. After all, the onus of making everyone perfect is not on me.
Peace is more precious than perfection.

Yes, I am changing. I give compliments freely and generously. After all its a mood enhancer not only for the recipient, but also for me.

Yes, I am changing. I have learnt not to bother about a crease on my shirt or a spot on my skirt. After all, personality speaks louder than appearances.

Yes, I am changing. I walk away from people who don't value me. After all, they might not know my worth, but I do.

Yes, I am changing. I remain cool when someone plays dirty politics to outrun me in the rat race.After all, I am not a rat and neither am I in any race.

Yes, I am changing. I am learning not to be embarrassed by my emotions. After all, it's my emotions that make me human.

Yes, I am changing. I have learnt that it's better to drop the ego than to break a relationship. After all, my ego will keep me aloof whereas with relationships I will never be alone.

Yes, I am changing. I demand for whatever is due to me. After all, accepting injustice is almost as bad as doing injustice.

Yes, I am changing. I've learnt to live each day as if it were the last. After all, it might be the last.

Yes, I am changing. I am doing what makes me happy. After all, I am responsible for my happiness, and I owe it to me."

And I'm loving the new in me.

God bless each one of you. Hope the above examination of the changes in you has helped you.

Your affectionate Father and Friend

Fr (Dr) Mathew Pulingathil SDB
Rector, Salesian College Siliguri

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Principal's Message



Words are All I Have

"Words are all I have.." is part of a song by Boyzone released sometime in 1996. Yet even words fail sometimes when it comes to capturing the experience or sharing the truth of the moment. No verbal expression ever unveils fully the Truth of the Reality attempted to be communicated. One could go even further and say that 'no expression' in whatever form - be it dance, music or poetry - is ever a perfect and complete communication of what the author intends to convey. This is a philosophical truth but a truth that philosophy goes on to assert because of human experience. The experience of the limitations in capturing the truth of Reality. I guess you have had such moments. One such moment is when you come across multiple expressions of words in texts and poetry, essay and story, all in one place, like in a college magazine. Reading and attempting to enter into the minds and hearts that shaped those words and even more attempting to access the feelings that surrounded those moments, elude expression. It is 'such a feeling that is coming over me' - as the words of another popular song of an earlier generation by Lyn Anderson released in the early 70s Album, 'The Carpenters', expresses.

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There is so much to comment on, critique and reflect upon given the manner in which social pressures are mounding and the ethical actions are sliding through widening cavities of fear ever reducing freedom.

There is so much to comment on, appreciate and delve into if you take seriously the authors who feature in these issues of Sparkle and SCSpeaks. Young minds coping with a new world unveiling before them in and through their reading, study and discourses around themes and ideologies.

There is so much to comment on if you look at the turn the world is taking from pre-Covid-19 to Covid-19 shutdown and lockdown, probably to an ever expanding post-Covid-19 realignment staring at us from a distance not so far.

There is so much to comment if you look at all the students and faculty to whom one is writing and intends to speak and feel responsible for - in these times and situations: of the world, college, country; not to speak of what transpires in each one's personal lives.

Do words ever succeed to capture or convey the truth? Yet words are all I have to tell you, that we care for you. As you try to find your way in these times, we can only say, we are with you: to those who are yet to officially graduate, we say, you have been on our minds every day, even as you are figuring out 'what next?' To those who are moving from one semester to the next, yes we are with you online and awaiting the time for the real re-connection.

Piecing together this online eVersion of the College Magazine has been indeed a unique challenge to the editorial board. They have borne it magnificently well, taking much care to beautify the sentences with 'words' - shaping the textures of the text with editorial precision.

I am grateful, immensely, to everyone in the team.

Thank You.

Fr George Thadathil sdb
Principal
Salesian College, Sonada - Siliguri

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Vice-Principal's Message



We seek education and knowledge in order to make our life meaningful through selfless service of others. True education consists in the simultaneous and balanced development of the intellectual and spiritual faculties of a person. It is education alone that imparts knowledge and learning to a person and enables him/her to discharge his/her duties efficiently and effectively thereby making his/her own life qualitatively better and making this world a more congenial place to live in.

Jean Piaget's puts it rightly "the principle of education is to create [wo]men who are capable of doing new things, not simply repeating what generations have done – [wo]men, who are creative, inventive and discoverers."

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Today education has become an exercise of information gathering, competition to achieve high grades and a search for a secure career to make a living. In the process there is a strong tendency to disregard the quintessence of education that is learning to love and forgive, to be honest, to be kind, to be grateful, to be polite and to be selfless. The need of the hour is formation of individuals. A formation which focuses on men and women making to create for the society responsible parents, cordial spouses, better siblings and children and makes individuals truly competent to differentiate between right and wrong. It emphasizes on removing all corrupt practices and unjust systems from the society. It makes him or her perfect citizen, searching constantly for truth, beauty and goodness. It grants one true freedom and makes one self–reliant and self–sufficient. True education enables students to overcome negative tendencies like cruelty and replace them by positive, constructive tendencies and values. If education does not kindle love and fellow feeling in a person, it has been a futile process. Education does not consist in mechanical assembling of facts in one's mind. It is a process of self–purification and upliftment.

Dr. S. Radhakrishnan once said, "Any satisfactory system of education should aim at a balanced growth of the individual and insist on both knowledge and wisdom. It should not only train the intellect but bring grace into the heart of man. Wisdom is more easily gained through study of literature, philosophy and religion. If we do not have a general philosophy or attitude of life, our minds will be confused, and we will suffer from greed, anxiety and dejection. Mental slums are more dangerous to mankind than material slums."

My heartfelt gratitude to the editorial team for "Sparkle 2020" bringing together creative artistic imagination and erudite ideas of students and faculty.

Happy reading!

Fr Aju Kurian SDB
Vice Principal





Editorial Message

This year our much anticipated college magazine, *Sparkle*, is based on the theme of environment. At this juncture of anxiety when the world has turned inwards, confined to limited spaces, following the protocols of a prolonged hibernation, our students explore "wilderness" and the spaces outside. They engage in an opulent odyssey of the nature at a time when simple human pleasures like taking a stroll in the afternoon or going to meet our friends seem unlikely and implausible.

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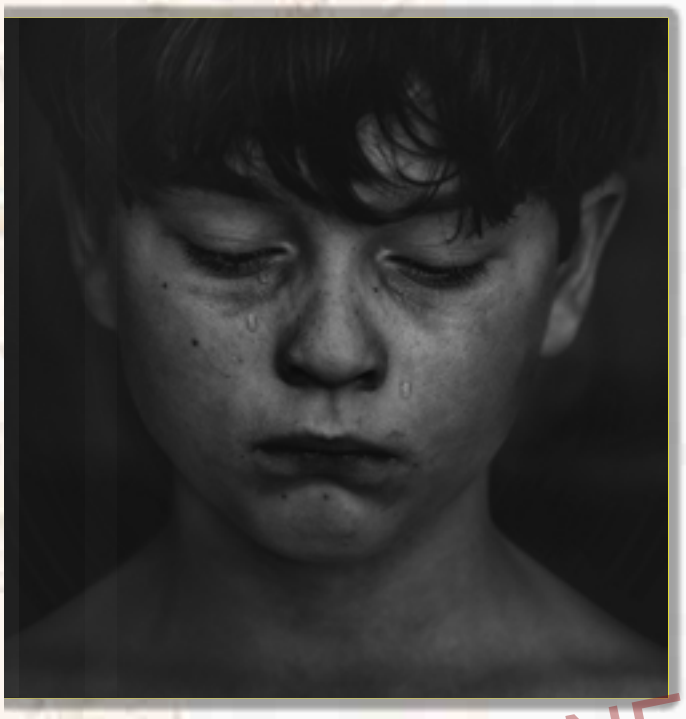
The pandemic has suspended many certainties but undoubtedly on the other side of this suspension, this world (that we are certain we know) will not remain the same. Systems, relations, concepts, policies - all our previous notions will undergo certain qualitative, if not quantitative, transformation. It is indeed necessary then, to look back at our relations with the environment, to understand what we know of it now, what we can do about it and what we cannot–in consideration of the unforeseen that can arrive as an existential threat any moment, if we are not careful of our treatment.

The effort needed to rebuild our system, from the unprecedented crash has to be collective and participatory, just like how many contributors come together for an edition such as this, and accumulatively work towards its fruition. The confinement that we are now subjected to may have its own share of suffering. Nonetheless, it has also allowed us to work on our talents, as many young thinkers, story tellers, poets, artists and photographers have utilised the time, developing their skills and contributing to this edition of Sparkle. In these strange times, we explore our connections to the natural world, the roles, experiences, desires, necessities and our short comings - in an attempt to reconsider our positions, re-evaluate the ways in which we can approach our habitat, strengthen our bonds and proceed towards lending a hand to those who actively work in favour of the environment.

Dr Suvradip Dasgupta,
Assistant Professor
&
Mr Anik Sarkar,
Assistant Professor

Bullying Among School Children

Ranita Chakrabortty
Asst. Professor, Dept. of Education
Salesian College, Siliguri



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Adolescence is referred to as a transitional stage of physical and psychological development that generally occurs during the period from puberty to the age of legal adulthood. In other words it is a period of "Storm and Stress" in the life of an individual. It is in this period that an adolescent tries to establish a sense of identity which in turn helps them to avoid any form of role confusion and ultimately lead to the development self concept. Adolescents gradually start craving for independence which causes them to create distances from their parents and create stronger social bonds with their immediate peer circle. It is under such circumstances that they come under the influence of peer pressure in order to fit in the group and engage in such activities which ensure them as a part in their respective social circle. Thus adolescents under the pressure of their peer group may involve in various negative and high risk activities and peer harassment becomes an integral part of these activities.

Peer harassment or bullying in India is by far one of the serious issues that are being faced by students going to school every day. A recent survey conducted by IMRB a top Indian marketing research company in 2018, indicates that 'every third child' was harassed in Indian schools. These may be in the form of verbal insults, teasing, name calling, mockery, physical assault, sexual assault, hurtful gestures, social exclusions or cyber attacks.

Peer harassment is one of the most prevalent issues that cause academic and social problems for students which ultimately lead them to feeling isolated. As a result students are scared of going to their schools or spend more time thinking about their safety rather than their performance. Fear of harm or embarrassment creates a threat which shuts down the learning process. Connection through proper interpersonal relationships is an important component for a safe school environment where learning takes place to the fullest and each and every student can develop their potentialities. However harassment in schools works against creating a healthy and safe learning environment.

Students who are targeted or harassed not only show various behavioral problems but also show poor school functioning which ultimately leads to increased physical and psychological problems, sleep disorders, poor academic performance, depression, anxiety that can ultimately lead to suicidal tendencies. Harassment that is faced by students in most cases usually reflects certain common patterns which include: aggressive or intended to harm; carried out repeatedly over time and occurs in an interpersonal relationship where a power imbalance exists.

On the basis of the intervention program developed, some aspects of the ways students in a group or classroom may react to acute bullying episodes can be elaborated. One can also see this as a description of various roles students can occupy in relation to bully or victim problems in a class or school. These roles are illustrated and briefly described in the conceptual scheme presented in Figure 1 below commonly referred to as, "The Bullying Circle".

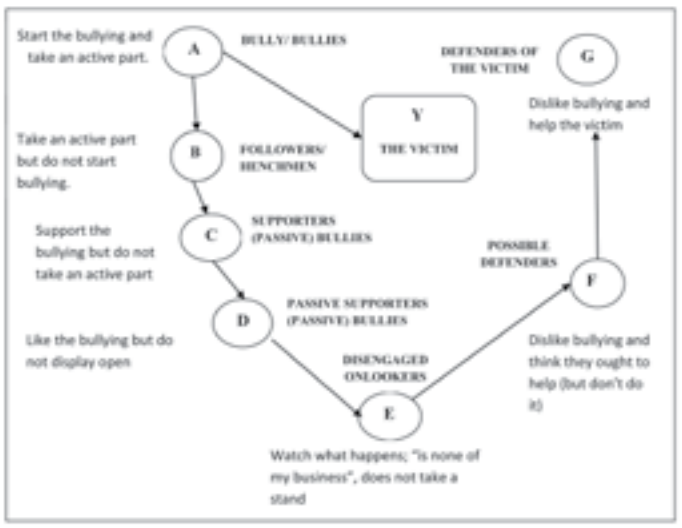


FIGURE 1: Reaction/Roles Acute Bullying Situation. (Olweus, 1999b; Juvonen, J and Graham, S. (2001). *Peer Harassment in School: The Plight of the Vulnerable and Victimized.* Guilford Press: New York.)

The scheme represents the various roles or ways of reactions which represent different combinations of the student's basic (inner) attitude to the bullying (positive–neutral/indifferent–negative) and his or her way of acting or not acting in a bullying situation.

When it comes to harassment, bullies can also be categorized into various types based on the patterns they show while inflicting harassment upon their victims. Barbara Coloroso (2001) in her book *The Bully, the Bullied, and the Bystander* has provided a detailed description about the various types of school bullies:

- **Confident Bully:** Ones who have a very high opinion of themselves and feels a sense of superiority over other students.
- **Social Bully:** They are the ones who use rumors, gossips and verbal taunts to insult others. According to Coloroso, social bullies are typically females and possess low self esteem and therefore try to bring others down.
- **Fully armored bully:** They show very little emotion and often bullies when no one will see or stop them.
- **Hyperactive bully:** These have been categorized as ones who typically have problems with academics and social skills. Such students usually bully someone and put the blame upon others.
- **Bullied bully:** These are the ones who have a history of being bullied and therefore tend to imitate those bullying patterns upon other victims.
- **Bunch of Bullies:** More often referred to as a "gang of bullies" and includes either a group of friends who gang up on others. Usually members in such gang are drawn together due to their desire for power.

Apart from the above mentioned traditional bullying practices, and sexual bullying is also becoming quite prevalent. Cyber bullying is an extension of the traditional bullying practices and includes the use of electronic or digital media by individuals or groups to communicate hostile or aggressive text messages or emails, embarrassing pictures and rumors posted on social networking sites and distorted profiles intended to inflict harm or discomfort on others. It differs from the traditional forms of bullying that the aggressor often remains anonymous. Sexual bullying on the other hand refers to any bullying behaviour, whether physical or non physical, that is based on a person's sexuality or gender. It is when sexuality or gender is used as a weapon by boys or girls – although it is more commonly directed at girls. It can be carried out to be a person's face, behind their back or through the use of technology.

A passive stance against bullying can instill fear in students that they'll be the next target. The emotional well being and physical safety of students are an integral part of a successful learning environment. A student's sense of belongingness to school along with the development of positive peer to peer relationships can impact educational outcomes. In such case it is essential to curb bullying as it interferes with the healthy social emotional development of students creating an unhealthy environment which will ultimately affect the academic performance of students.

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Rediscovering Shangri-La



Texts and Images By Barun Roy[1]

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If words could have portrayed our emotions, like colours in the hands of a painter; if words could have latched on to the reality of moment like a nestled dream in our mind…I would have been happy. I would have danced around the meadowed green like a cur training to catch a butterfly, like an unborn child trying to wiggle his way out from the womb of his mother. But alas, my words fail me… They leave me alone in the midst of battle surrounded by enemy, unarmed and baffled. Only to stop beyond the lines to look back and mock at the General, they once served well. True, I am a man of words, and just words. True, I am a man moist in the deluge of dreams and imagination. But still, I can't make it. Words fail me, when I need them the most today…

Emerald green, divine blue, visions of dream perhaps…

I began my journey without much planning like most Indian travellers. By experience perhaps, of having travelled in Africa, Nepal and more so having survived in the interiors of Andhra, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar there was not much that I was expecting in the backyard of the land I was born. How far is Kalimpong? How far is Pedong? What more can be expected beyond cheap hotels and monasteries visited time and again? Rude questions that I had levied upon those who were to accompany me. There was reluctance on my part. Bhutan would have been a much better destination!

Possibly, my big mouth was to blame. On an earlier visit to Kalimpong, I had walked over the crest of fearsome trans-Himalayan streams – unchangingly hostile - cold, grey, icy and menacing in the typical profile of the Teesta and Rangeet, their several headwaters that drain the Terai and beyond. What more lies above the forests – lured into them as Kipling was, I had decided to venture beyond the ravaging rivers in search of an ancient specimen – a genuine Lepcha Heritage, almost invisible in the rest of Mayel Lyang. The journey was part of a scouting exercise for a documentary film but who would have known that we would experience

[1] Barun Roy is a traveler, author, documentary film maker and a professional volunteer. As a member of the VSO, a UK based INGO, he worked in Kenya, Uganda and South Africa. In Nepal, he was associated with Panos South Asia, a part of the family of Panos Institutes worldwide that encourage and facilitate public discourse and debate on a wide range of issues. Presently, he teaches History at Salesian College, Siliguri Campus and is a PhD Research Scholar at the Central University of Sikkim. He has so far authored seven books and edited three monthly news magazines and a weekly newspaper.

something from beyond, something from Shangri-La.

Far yet near

To show how much close and yet far removed from the hustles of the chaotic town of Kalimpong, it took only 52 minutes to transport the crew to Pedong, packed liked sardines, in a can people gloriously call 'The Commander Jeep'. Yet, immediately, the slopes of Pedong summed up the lyrical appeal. The terrain was more beautiful than dramatic and the poetry it conjured up was that of Rudyard Kipling's – *The Jungle Book* – an intense fragment of the psychic state most of us come near to owning but lose when common reality and the out turned mind reassert their thrall.



A farming house in a village near Pedong

Pedong occupies an area of about 45 sq km and slices right through the crest that divides India, China, Sikkim and Bhutan. The medieval Lepcha Kings administered the land but lost much control to the Bhutanese who later expanded during the 14th Century taking over much of Pedong and Kalimpong. The Sikkimese Rulers themselves, ardent Buddhists and sharing traditional legacy with the Bhutanese Royal House enjoyed much freedom and access to the region. Regular trade was carried out between these Kingdoms and Tibet and the Silk Route that existed operated until the 1960s. In fact, our guide and host Sebastian Pradhan was good enough to surprise us by pointing out that the road we had travelled such uncomfortably was no other than the ancient Silk Route itself.

I confess I have never been so turned on by history than I was at that moment. The crew disembarked from the can much relieved to be humans again and more so to stand where centuries ago people much like ourselves but less complaining travelled covering almost 500 miles to Lhasa, the capital of Tibet. A short descending trek, thence, thank God, took us to Sebastian's house at Kashyone village, our base camp, a lone sentinel surrounded by hectares of greenery.



The silk route – Pedong was connected with Sikkim and Tibet through Jelep-La and Kupup. The route offers an enchanting and surreal experience being perennially covered with moss, ferns and creeping vines.

Unlike in urban settings where it is each one for himself (or as T. S. Eliot put it – people live together not because they love one another but because they can make money from the proximity of others) the rare settlements in Pedong are pragmatically humane and helping hands are extended cheerfully to all strangers. It was usual on climbing up during the trek and frequent hiking to experience the oasis mood of a thriving little community occupied with small but abundant holdings and giving off that flavour so rarely met with in more advanced societies – contentment with their lot. Barley is a bumper crop yielded in the lower Teesta and Rangeet valley. It is the world's most ardent fermentor. Chang may not compare with whiskey but their parentage is common. If one is lucky and we were, a vintage Chang, is a treat for the palate, a marvellous sensation indeed that stays for the rest of many days. A bit, like rafting over the Teesta River. I felt rejuvenated by a decade – a considerable blessing to an already ancient mariner across the threshold of 30.

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The discovery!

We left Kashyone, the next day, ready to rediscover a forgotten paradise, one that had already enthralled me. As our convoy of scribe travellers made way up towards the Cross Hill, a light drizzle dampened much of our spirit. The clouds themselves, likes nymphs in hurry covered much of the surroundings and soon there were none that could be seen except hear the heavy breathings of us, heavily laden dorks, making way towards the unknown forests.

Our guide as for the entire trip was Sebastian Pradhan and the entire success and the pleasure of the trip was due to his fluent knowledge of the land and the conditions. "Don't worry, Roy," he would frequently cry from the top of a hill scampering over them like a mountain goat, while, I, a man half his age stood down panting already convinced that the journey was ill timed and the effort, wasted. Surprisingly, enough, our guide never missed a prediction or a chance to explain about the birds, plants, trees and animals. We reached the top to find the sky clearing rapidly and the drizzle now a distant dream. The day turned into a glorious afternoon with scenes of women beating off husks from rice in the distant terraced fields.

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Suddenly and remarkably out of nowhere, then, a most fascinating structure stood out in the fore – a 10th Generation Lepcha Heritage House built during 1700 A. D., and today still in its magnificent best. So much so that apart from a fresh coat of distasteful distemper on the walls and a Maruti Omni trying desperately to navigate the road a furlong above, the house would probably have looked exactly the same during the advent of the Honourable British East India Company in India in the reign of Mughal Emperor Jahangir.

Sebastian quickly set out to explain the fascinating aspects of the Lepcha Heritage House. Still inhabited by the ninth and the tenth generation Lepcha family, the house is built over huge stone pedestals, the foundation columns directly standing over them without a paste or a glue to bind the two. The cross beams themselves dissecting and intersecting without a nail, joint or a binding agent. No equipments except an axe and a scratcher were said to have been used. The thatched roof was bound with the inner frames of bamboo laces and the partitions thereof made entirely of bamboo woven mats covered by mud paste.



The Lepcha Heritage house with the free standing foundation



The Lepcha Heritage House with elephant grass roof and Sebastian Pradhan fondling a dog in the porch



A free standing foundation column with a typical wooden hunch





Eight free standing foundation columns over a circular stone



Sebastian Pradhan explaining the theory behind the free standing foundation columns



One of the four main free standing foundation columns with a vintage carved out staircase

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The house is roughly 68 ft long and 33 ft broad. A typically one storied affair, the free standing foundation columns acting as a store and a barn with domestic animals tied to them and wood and grass stored for domestic uses. The main living quarters consists of a huge hall covering more than 1200 sq feet. An open kitchen is attached to the hall. Upon direct entry through the main door one comes across a corridor with two living quarters and then the Kitchen and the Hall. The roof holds a cozy attic where the family sleeps during the chill of the winter or else during the summer use it as a 'warm room' for fermenting home made concoctions and ripening of fruits. A verandah faces the slopes at the end of the hall and is the most peaceful place to enjoy a cup of tea.



A doorway and a row of neat windows leading to the veranda; interestingly, there were no doors or windows and the doorway was always very low in height. When asked about the reason behind the same, we were told that when one entered one always entered by bowing his or her in essence offering his or her respect to the spirits living in the house. When one left, one left bowing again, thus offering his or her respect to the spirits of outside world

The house has survived more than 300 years without a scratch or a column or a plank or beam being displaced or a pedestal being moved. It has survived because it incorporates a simple and an effective design. The free standing columns are truly free and not rooted. Like twelve legs the free foundation columns are capable of reacting and reinforcing pressure independently and collectively through ingenious use of interlocking columns and cross beams. As Sebastian pointed out, while buildings collapsed and people died during the massive earthquake of 1985, the Lepcha Heritage House stood ground, dancing like village maiden over a minstrel's bard yet not a single beam or a column or a pedestal being displaced. A miracle indeed! Who could ever imagine that a 300 year old Lepcha House which is basically a glorified hut incorporates a structural design which even today being accepted as probably the safest still is thought of to be possible only in the future; where 'intelligent' structures would react to surrounding change of space and based on that reaction remodel itself, preventing structural damage and stress. Well at least for the Lepcha's; the future, it seems, came 300 years ago.

The house is pleasantly placed in the heart of the Kashyone village on the slope overlooking Sikkim and Tibet. The soil quality is good and contains great amount of iron. The ground is strewn with formation of clastic sedimentary rocks and is very stable. Tropical vegetation surrounds the house and a ground carved out of the slope facing the house acts as a courtyard which does not seem to be an integral part of the house.

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The origin of the house can be challenged as Lepcha's do not have a tradition of written accounts. Their histories are scattered and based on fables and folk tales. However, since Lepchas were part of the ruling bureaucracy both in the Sikkimese and Bhutanese Royal Houses, excerpts of their history can be found in records of these Royals Houses. One such record is observed in an appeal sent to Captain Lloyd by Kazi Gorok of Ilam in 1828. The Appeal essentially, an invitation to mediate the internal feud leading to the flight of King Namgyal Phuntso from Sikkim to Sinchel, Darjeeling and his reign being subsequently taken over by Changzod Tamdring. Kazi Gorok requests the Honourable British East India Company to support him to oust Changzod Tamdring and reinstate Namgyal Phuntso. Proving his credentials as a Lepcha of ancient Karwang lineage, he offers names of his forefathers who had been Kazis of different places. He particularly identifies the following Karwang Kazis, as his direct ancestors - Den-sa Kazi of Barmiok, Chogthup Kazi of Phedong (Pedong), Yogdra Kazi of Enchay (Gangtok), Kazis respectively of Rumtek, Tathang, Majong, Norzang, Gyengjong, Kotra Kungha Kazi of Illam, Dallam, and Bolot Kazi of Tateng. Since all the Kazis were appointed by Sikkimese King Chakdor Namgyal and Chakdor Namgyal himself

being crowned in the year 1700 and his reign only extending to the year 1717; the origin of the above Lepcha Heritage House which by tradition belongs to Chogthup, a Tibetanized name of Choo.thu could be safely placed during the tumultuous 17 years of the Chakdor Namgyal's rule. After the ousting of Chakdor Namgyal in 1717 and Gyurme Namgyal coronation, all of the former King's nobles were forced out from the Kingdom. Kazi Gorok's appeal to 'Shaheyeb Llo… dd' (Sahib Lloyd) being the only present Lepcha written statement preserved at the National Archive, New Delhi is of great significance to Lepcha history and in this case to the Lepcha Heritage House. Kazi Gorok's appeal is also presently the oldest Lepcha written document preserved for eternity.

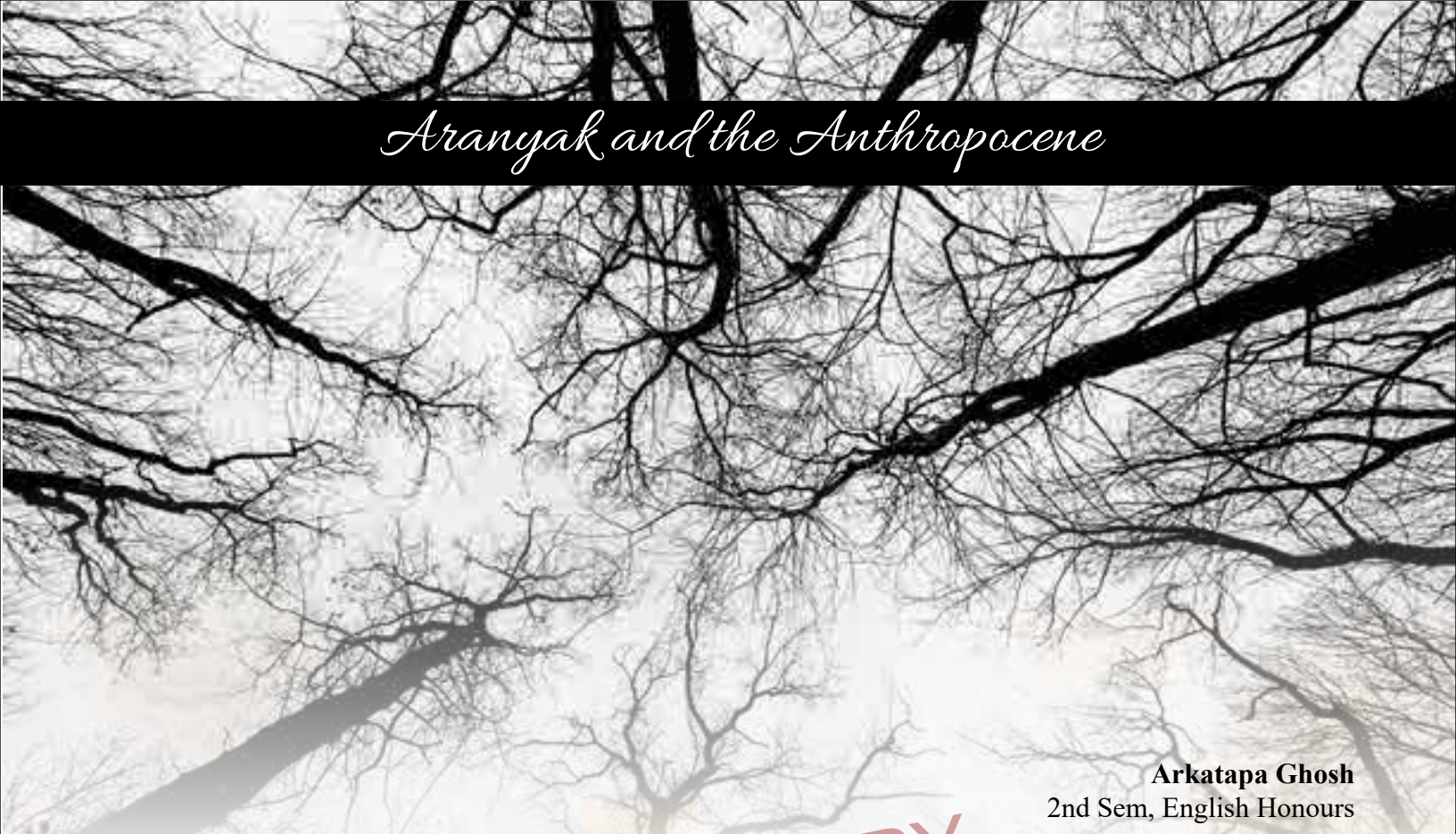
The question of history and architectural ingenuity settled, our crew quickly set on a photographing spree when the plight of the owners surfaced most dramatically. Nothing had been done for the protection, preservation, maintenance and the general upkeep of the historic house and the owners themselves owing to the scarcity of fund were desperate for financial help. An interaction between the owners and the crew mediated by Sebastian Pradhan ended up with my promise for financial help towards the protection, preservation, maintenance and the general upkeep of the historic site. The predicament resolved and a hot Lepcha brew set us up for yet another journey of discovery. The indomitable Damsang Fort built by the spirits, according to Lepcha legends, was our next stop. But drenching my throat with hot Lepcha brew that reminded me of Chaang, I wondered, sitting on the porch staring towards Sikkim and Tibet; what must have it been like 300 years ago…..Lepcha houses dotting throughout the slopes and valleys and people living in association with the nature not as a consumer of its resources but as a guardian. There was a great wisdom and power in their simplicity since they were able to redefine spaces not just in its physical terms but most importantly in psychic and purely spiritual terms. A house to a Lepcha, I realized, is a simple 'living' space. There are palaces more opulent and older and there are architectural structures more elaborate and unnerving but none as simple, as unique and as futuristic as this simple Lepcha hut which was built possibly during the reign of Emperor Jahangir by a small tribe of peaceful people who lived by the land as its guardian and protector. The land which they called Mayal Lyang and the world, Shangri-La!

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The author (centre) along with his friends Vicky Labar (left) and Umesh Labour (R) raising a Lungta – a prayer flag in respect of the spirits of the land and as a thanksgiving to the people of Kashyone village – May peace prevail and Gods continue to live amongst us.

Aranyak and the Anthropocene



Arkatapa Ghosh
2nd Sem, English Honours

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I would like to begin with a quote by Naomi Klein:

"Climate change isn't an issue to add to the list of things to worry about next to health care and taxes. It is a civilizational wake up call."

A powerful message – spoken in the language of fires, floods, droughts and extinctions, it clearly tells us that we need an entirely new economic model and a new way of sharing this planet. It tells us that we need to evolve. Literature has shared a very close relationship with nature down the ages. This intimate relationship between literary works and the nature have been portrayed by many poets, author, and composers in their brilliantly crafted masterpieces.

Novels penned down by Bibhutibhishan are usually nature harmonised. He admits "I love not man the less but nature more". *Aranyak* magnificently depicts the man nature inter-relationship in a very authentic manner and demand a universal approach. Etymologically, *Aranyak* means "Of the Forest". This novel written between 1924-1930 narrates the journey of the protagonist, Satyacharan, in the dichotomy of the urban and jungle lives. During his protracted and onerous years in the North Bihar he comes in contact with a part of the world that even now remains unknown to most of us.

Satyacharan, a city based Western educated individual, when finds himself in that alien nature-scape is initially frustrated by loneliness and isolation but gradually enamoured by the fascination of the Forest. He is assigned with the job as an estate manager and was expected to provide homeless inhabitants some land for settlement and cultivation. He resents on the act of deforestation and instead is found planting trees all around with one of the villagers therefore encouraging environmental preservation.

According to Barry Commoner's first law of ecology, "Everything is connected to everything else". So every organism, living or dead has a specific time to play to keep up the balance. Bibhutibhishan through this novel clearly aims to develop ecological literacy among the readers. In *Aranyak*, Bibhutibhushan weaves a visionary poetry with a stark and uncompromising documentation of the beauty of nature and life amidst the nature. Though initially Satya was not a match for the jungle life but as time passed by the mysterious enticement of Lobtulia automatically made him a deep lover of it. He says "while coming to destroy this wasteland I've fallen in love with this impeccable heroine". But he had to destroy the Forest land against his will for earning more revenue as his master had assigned him to do so. This brings in the capitalist approach of humans in today's world.

Capitalism is associated with unfair distribution of wealth and power, imperialism, repression of workers and most importantly the exploitation of nature to feed the greed of humans today. The main aim is profit maximization which can be achieved by cutting down on expenditure. When the capitalist pays a worker a wage they are not paying for the value of a certain amount of completed labour but for labour power hence paying less. Usually cheap tools, equipments and machines are used making the work more labour intensive and also leaving out pollution. For example industries dump the liquid waste into ocean without treating it so as to save in the expense. Therefore capitalism is a direct damaging impact on our environment. Karl Marx's theory shows the crises and catastrophes into societies are driven when these resources of wealth are squeezed into the narrow channels of capitalist exploitation.

Aranyak exhales both exploitation and celebration of nature. The exquisite beauty manifested in the backdrop of the vast sky. The quietude, solitude, dense vegetation which spreads up to the horizon leaves the author enthralled and doesn't wish to perform ecocide he is assigned with as a part of his duty. He grows a maddening passion for the Forest. This is exemplified by the way he describes the moon on the full moon day. He says, "What I saw enthralled me so much that I stood rooted to the spot. I was overwhelmed by the indescribable light of a full moon night." He had also begun to enjoy horse rides in the forest and started a diet in vegetarian even after he could kill the birds and feed on them. He showed his disdain in killing of animals to feed his appetite. In the novel the protagonist was not considered the main character rather the Forest is crowned with that position. The Forest is a presence which cannot be denied. It is not one of the characters in the novel; rather it is the character before which all have to bow.

Aranyak deals with human nature interconnection which is the true spirit of ecocriticism. According to Rueckert, ecocriticism applies ecology or ecological principles into the study of literature. In his book "The Environmental Imagination" Lawrence Buell defines ecocriticism as a study of the relationship between literature and the environment conducted in a spirit of commitment to environmentalist's praxis.

Sustainable development is a burning issue of contemporary times, as it provincializes the idea of development. It is these indigenous people portrayed in the novel that practices sustainable development in their daily life. They live in the lap of nature and are reluctant to hand over their godly abode in the hands of the imperialists for exploitation but are bound to in the need of money. Satyacharan asks at the very end of the novel "What does man want- Development or Peace of Mind?" "What will anyone do with development if one doesn't gain happiness in the process?"

Through his novel Bibhutibhushan brings into light the eternal saga of human life living in close proximity with nature. It is surprising how the people today and the policy makers fail to understand what we are losing whole trying to impose Development. That the not so educated Bibhuti understood with a BA in history degree about a hundred years ago! Lastly, on concluding note, I would like to say one can always be an armchair critic and present their grand narrative but if they can't find a solution and then deploy the same their criticisms are nothing but simply rhetoric. It is always the small actions that is the meta-narratives that matter; that are really instrumental in making a change.

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Eco-Feminism: Constructions of 'Nature' and 'Gender'



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Eco-feminism came up as a branch of feminist studies that sees environmentalism, and the relation between women and earth, as foundational to its analysis and practice. Eco-feminist thinkers draw on the concept of gender to analyze the relationships between women and the natural world. Eco-feminist analysis explores the connection between women and culture, religion, literature and iconography, and addresses a parallel between the oppression of nature and oppression of women. This parallel includes but is not limited to seeing women and nature as property, seeing men as the curators of nature and how men dominate women and the overall human domination of nature. Eco-feminism lays grounds for a respectable stance towards both women and nature.

We may begin our discussion with the mention of the book *Eco-feminism as Politics: Nature, Marx and the Postmodern* by Ariel Salleh. This work is now considered a classic, being the first work to offer a joint framework for green, socialist, feminist and postcolonial thinking, showing how these issues have been held back by conceptual conclusion over gender. Originally published in the year 1997, it argues that eco-feminism reaches way beyond contemporary social movements, ideologies and practices, by prefiguring a political synthesis of four-revolution-in-one: ecology is feminism is socialism is postcolonial struggle. Ariel Salleh addresses discourses on class, science, the body. Culture and nature, and her innovative reading of Marx converges the philosophy of internal relations with the organic materiality of everyday life. The work mentioned features foreword by Indian eco-feminist Vandana Shiva and the US philosopher John Clark, as well as recent conservations by Salleh and young scholar activists, thereby adding multiple perspectives to the seminal work.

Tracing the origins of eco-feminism

The modern eco-feminist movement was born out of a series of conferences and workshops held in the US by a collation of academic and professional women during the late 1970s and early 1980s. They met to discuss the ways in which feminism and environmentalism might be combined to promote respect for women and the natural world, and were motivated by the notion that the historical precedence of associating women with nature has led to the oppression of both. They noted that women and nature and often depicted as chaotic, irrational and in need of control, while men were fre-

quently characterized as rational, ordered, and thus capable of directing use and development of women and nature. Eco-feminists contend that this arrangements result in a hierarchical structure that grants power to men and allows for exploitation of women and nature, particularly in so far as the two are associated with one another. Thus, early eco-feminists determined that solving the predicament of either constituency would require undoing the social status of both.

Early works of eco-feminism consisted largely of documenting historical connections between environment and women, and then looking for ways to sever those connections. One of the early figures of eco-feminism, theologian Rosemary Ruether, insisted that all women must have knowledge of, and work to end, the ways of domination of nature if they were to work towards their own liberation. She urged women and environmentalists to work together to put an end to patriarchal system that privileges hierarchy, control and unequal social relations. Ruether's challenge was taken up by feminist scholars and activists, who began critiquing not only ecological theories that overlooked the effect of patriarchal system but also feminist theories that did not interrogate the relationship between women and nature as well.

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By the late 1980s, feminism had grown out of its largely academic environment and become a popular movement. Many scholars cite the feminist theorist Ynestra King, who wrote an article *What is Eco-feminism?*. There she challenged all Americans to consider the ways in which their belief systems allow for the exploitative use of the earth and the further oppression of women. With the help of King's article, the concept of eco-feminism grew both in support and philosophical scope.

Radical Eco-feminism and Cultural Eco-feminism

As eco-feminism continued to develop, it witnessed the first of several splintering that were to come. By the late 1980s, eco-feminism had began to branch out into two distinct schools of thought: radical and cultural eco-feminism. Radical eco-feminists contended that the dominant patriarchal society equates nature and women in order to degrade both. To that end, radical eco-feminism builds on the assertion of early eco-feminists that one must study patriarchal domination with an eye toward ending the association between women and nature. Of particular interest to those theorists is the ways in which both women and nature have been associated with negative or commodifiable attributes while men have been viewed as capable of establishing order. That division of characteristics encourages exploitation of both women and nature for cheap labour and resources.

Cultural eco-feminists, on the other hand, encourage an association between women and environment. They contend that women have a more intimate relation with nature because of the gender roles (e.g. family nurturer and provider of food) and their biology (menstruation, pregnancy, lactation). As a result, the cultural eco-feminists believe that such association allow women to be more sensitive to the sanctity of nature and the degradation that nature is rendered to. They suggest that this sensitivity ought to be prioritized and prized by the society insofar as establishes a more direct connection to the natural world with which humans must co-exist. Cultural eco-feminism also has roots in nature based religion and goddesses and nature worship as a way of reminding both the spirituality of nature and women's instrumental role in such spirituality.

Not all feminists favoured the bifurcation of eco-feminism as such. Some feminists, for instance, worried that cultural eco-feminism merely enforces gender stereotypes and could lead to further exploitation. Others wanted great emphasis on nature based religion, while still others insisted that a celebration of western organized religions could accommodate nature based worship. Some also differed with regard to romanticization of nature and the roles that various practices (such as vegetarianism or organic farming) ought to play in the application of feminist principles. As a consequence, the movement continued to grow and expand in order to accommodate those variations, and most self-identified eco-feminists celebrate the myriad definitions and applications available under the general rubric of eco-feminism.

Eco-feminist Framework

According to eco-feminism, there are important connections between the domination of women as a social group and the domination of nature, within patriarchal societies. In order to overcome domination, one of its forms cannot be addressed without simultaneously bringing into play the others (Warren 1996, 1997, 2000). Eco-feminism is an action oriented phi-

losophy, a theory in progress, as well as in practice (Laher 1996). Its goals are to deconstruct oppressive and exploitative social practices, and to reconstruct entirely viable social and political communities (Laher 1996). The liberation of nature requires the liberation of women, and vice versa (Gardner 2006).

Eco-feminists understand the relationship between human and the non-human nature as one of respect, based not only on reason, but also on emotional values of love, friendship, and care (Plumwood 1996). The relationship is one of inter-relatedness and inter-connectedness, with an appreciation for difference and distinctness (Plumwood 19996; Warren 1996; Glazedbrook 2004).

What makes eco-feminism a feminist movement is that its starting point is a woman's experience. And, its analysis starts with gender considerations. What makes eco-feminism an environmental ethics is that it acknowledges that non-human nature warrants human moral consideration. The conceptual analysis that makes eco-feminism a philosophy holds that all forms of unjustified domination in the west are based on the same western, patriarchal logic of domination. According to Warren (1996), this logic holds that female is associated with nature, whereas the male is associated with culture. Nature is regarded as the opposition of culture.

Various concepts of Eco-Feminism

Modern Science and Eco-feminism

In eco-feminist works by authors like Vandana Shiva and Maria Mies, there is a view that dominant streams of modern sciences are not objective sciences but a projection of western male's values.

Vegetarian Eco-feminism

The application of eco-feminism to animal rights has established vegetarian eco-feminism. It asserts that omitting the oppression of animals from feminist and eco-feminist analysis is in consistency with the activist and philosophical foundation of both feminism and eco-feminism.

Materialistic Eco-feminism

In this, connections are made between the subjects like labour, power and property because of the values of production and reproduction. This dimension of eco-feminism may also be referred as social feminism, socialist eco-feminism or Marxist eco-feminism.

Conclusion

The basic idea of Eco-feminism comes from France, particularly from the feminist thinker Francoise de Eoubonne (1974). It was further developed by the feminist Ynestra King in 1976. It deals with the interconnected condition of women and nature in the social domain. Famous authors such as Karen Warren have also worked profusely on eco-feminism.

The idea of eco-feminism is to bring to fore the condition of nature, by relating it to the condition of women in the society. It also explores how environment is treated and is continually being harmed and exploited. Therefore, the idea behind bringing this concept was to make the social animals more aware of their own exploitative nature and its vicious impact on nature. And the word ecology is connected with feminism here because they believe that women can more relate to the conditions of nature or environment than the men. And hence the term 'eco-feminism'.

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Establishing Eco-Centric Education in Educational Institutions

Anirban Barua
4th Sem, B.A Education (H)

We all must be aware of what education has *given mankind throughout its history.* Our volutionary history from being barbarian to being civilized is fascinating, which has been primarily regulated by education in its multiform.

Basically, Education is defined as an art and science of learning-teaching process taking place between the individual and the society. It goes on throughout one's life experience. Considering school, college or any other educational institute as a miniature society - covering individuals of different customs, caste, creed, beliefs, etc. Educational Institutes have a major role of spreading right knowledge and practices among the people.

In the present day, modern world the progress of Civilization through the aid of capitilisation, science and technology, neglect of the sustainability of environment is widely felt. Consequently, we witness so many major issues with regard to the environmental imbalances and degradation.

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Education & Environment - A Cohesive Force For Development:

ntrism is a term used in ecological political philosophy to denote a nature-centered system of values and education. It focuses on biotic community as a whole and strives to maintain ecosystem composition and environmental processes.

Further there are many other fields of ecocentrism: ecology, social ecology, biopolitics, sustainable design, environmentalism, ecocriticism, ecopoetry, etc.

Rachel Carson, a Marine Biologist has explained how humans are self-deteriorating the environment by excessive use of fertilizers and pesticides in her classic book on Ecocriticism *Silent Spring*.

In addition, Rabindranath Tagore, a great educator of India has vehemently protested against the human attitude of ignorance to nature in his poem *Fruit Gathering* and the evil uprising of Capitalism & Industries in his play *The Waterfall*.

Centering the curriculum framework of education to eco-centric perspective which emphasizes on inter-connection between the nature and all living beings can be an innovative approach.

Subsequently the anthropocentric approach of education should not be inflicted and rather move cohesively along with ecocentric approach of education.

Hence the promotion and awareness of Ecocentrism within the educational institutes must be emphasized by making books, articles, journals, etc. available for the students to read and realize the relevance of environmental wellness.



Feminist Criticism of Sigmund Freud's Theories



Samridha Gupta
3rd Year, English Honours

This student cannot claim to offer feminist criticism on Freud's theories since she is not, in fact, a feminist despite repeated attempts to align to the ideologies of feminism because a fundamental basis of Feminism is the belief in equality for all sexes and sexuality and this student does not and cannot find in her heart the magnanimity to believe in equality for able-bodied heterosexual cisgender males due to life experiences, historical records of the failures of patriarchy and their catastrophic result on today's environment, and ideological differences with the representatives of that demographic documented through the ages like the unduly revered gentleman whose theories this assignment critiques. Instead, this student humbly offers her viewpoints on the issue keeping in mind the understanding of and familiarity with Feminism she has gained in her unsuccessful quest to accede to it.

Chronological criticism of Freud's Theories about females:

The main features of Sigmund Freud's *Theory of Femininity* (1931), focus on the Pre-Oedipus and Oedipus complex, Castration complex and penis envy as the events which are the 'natural' process, according to Freud in 'becoming' feminine. Feminism believes in equality for all sexes and sexualities precisely because people are born that way. Freud's suggestion of 'becoming' feminine abets the heteronormative and homophobic groups as they demand that people change their sexuality; as though they can; according to religious or social expectations and 'fit in' and change an imperative part of their very gender identity to prevent any inconvenience, discomfort, embarrassment, or even scandalization of said groups because their narrow minds can't handle it.

"...psychoanalysis does not try to describe Chronological criticism of Freud's Theories about females:

> "...psychoanalysis does not try to describe what a woman is—that would be a task it could scarcely perform—but sets about enquiring how she comes into being, how a woman develops out of a child with a bisexual disposition."
>
> -Freud (1968)

This student would like to challenge the insinuation preceded by the pseudo humility that before the development of gender identity, children are bisexual. Granted, all human beings posses masculine and feminine physiological and psychological traits ever since the advent of the Id, whether children are aware of them and how they affect their identity and life before puberty hits is a whole other matter. Also, if anything, the child could be of neither a binary disposition, nor a bisexual one since far from exhibiting sexual behaviour of a bisexual, it exhibits a lack of adhering to femininity or masculinity.

In the aforementioned *Theory of Femininity* lectures, Sigmund Freud categorises femininity as 'passive', contrasting the 'activity' of masculinity. Femininity is not equivalent to being passive or submissive, it rather denotes the maturity to realise that their ego isn't bigger than the issue at hand and pragmatically compromising for the sake of productivity or to prevent counter-productivity or a pointless waste of time and resources.

> "His fundamental concept is equating femininity to passivity, that "women's desire actually runs parallel to the question of power"
>
> -Jessica Benjamin (1986)

She sees these as placing women as the object of desire and domination in both societal and family relations.

Hence, rationalizing and perpetuating sexual discrimination at an institutional level.

> "How the mother reacts when she discovers her child has..." (inevitably) "...found her clitoris and started to masturbate..." (be it reprimanded, accepted, shamed etc.) "...will be a crucial point in the girl's sexual development."

This member of the female demographic protests against the presumption that a child would promptly start to masturbate as she found her clitoris. We are not creatures of unbridled desire or curiosity who would immediately indulge in masturbation in the absence of any regulatory inhibitions. Humans are intellectual, sentient and sensitive creatures. Besides, one could argue that the primitive need for sex in the Id develops after puberty.

The castration complex is according to Freud, the turning point in a girl's sexual development. She realises she does not have a phallus (that compares to a boy's) and on realising this she holds the mother responsible for putting her at a disadvantage. This is the point where passivity supposedly comes 'like a wave' (Freud, 1973). A dissatisfied child who holds her mother responsible for the so called lack she feels is far more likely to react to that dissatisfaction with animosity (directed to the mother; or all the people who possess a phallus) rather than passivity. This is not only misogynistic in it's premise but is also flawed in its logic.

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He goes on to elaborate that subordination needs to take place to clear the path for femininity to arise. This isn't just inaccurately equating femininity with subordination, or just defending male-chauvinism by trying to pass it off as the natural order of things; this is inducting a young innocent female child into the misogynistic demeaning system of patriarchy trying to snuff out the possibility of her trying to speak up against it and getting empowered.

According to Freud, the phallus is a symbol of male power and patriarchy which takes place in both the boy and the girl on realisation of the girls 'lack' of a phallus. It is within this realisation that the debased value of the woman comes into awareness in both the boy and the girl's perception of themselves and their social world. It is the realisation of the debased condition of women in society that the girl experiences social envy, a logical lifelong reaction to the preference given to boys, and not "penis envy". This is prevalent even today when girls repeatedly observe the preference, power and freedoms given to boys in all stages of

growth. Most women, by the time they have reached adulthood, resign to this bleak reality since any effort for change or activism would take too long to create a tangible change to make a difference in their lifetime.

The Oedipus complex serves only to support and perpetuate a patriarchal hierarchy at the expense of both male and female innocent children. Penis envy represents women as broken or deficient men. What Freud misconstrues as Penis Envy is not because of the lack of a phallus but because of socio-cultural reasons and in no way a necessary and fundamental part of a girls evolvement to sexual maturation/ femininity.

He says, in 'healthy' femininity the girl subsequently establishes penis envy which brings about a losing of interest in the clitoris and a turn of attention to the vagina and towards her father. This abandonment of clitoral stimulation signifies her surrender to passivity. There is nothing remotely healthy about choosing a part of your own body; which has been deemed to be in service of someone else's sexual pleasure centre and for reproduction purposes which is used by society to reduce your individuality and your right to be an equal member of the dominant species of this planet.

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He claims that the development of a powerful masculinity complex presents as a refusal to accept the 'wave of passivity' and instead remain 'with' attention on the clitoris. (This is where homosexuality develops, according to Freud.) It is important to note that female bisexuality is seen by Freud as a regression to the masculinity complex as a woman fluctuates between masculine and feminine expression. He somewhat vaguely calls bisexuality: the 'enigma of women'. He reduces the sexuality of an entire demographic to the symptom of a psychosis. Also, it is interesting to note that he thinks that the natural behaviour of a woman to assert her sense of self and refuse to be passive to men and focus on her pleasure center rather than the part that facilitates a male partner's pleasure is a "masculinity complex". As though independence, dominance, or even masculinity itself are the exclusive right of penis possessors.

The third possible development from the castration complex is supposedly into 'normal' femininity in which 'the highest feminine wish', being the desire to have a baby presents itself. The envy for the penis needs to shift focus to the desire to reproduce and then true femininity, according to Freud, is established. No one is denying that motherhood is one of the greatest joys that womanhood brings, but it's by no means, "the highest feminine wish" or the end all and be all of a woman's life.

In reference to Freud's concept of idealized motherhood, Jessica Benjamin[1] argues that this psychoanalytic framework:

> "…idealization of Motherhood,…can be seen as an attempt to preserve the power of the apron strings…united by the tendency to naturalize woman's desexualisation and lack of agency in the world."

It is appalling that the realisation of one's sexuality and gender identity and a profound self awareness that transcends illogical backward narrow minded social dictates is seen as an abnormal behavioural manifestation of a "psychosis". Further it obliterates one's sense of self to become nothing more than a maternal servant servicing her children, husband, and society at large being seen as the resolution of the castration complex into 'normal' femininity.

Other Established Feminists' criticisms to substantiate my viewpoints:

Freudian theory worked to perpetuate sexual difference and reinforce the belief that inferiority was an inherent quality of the female. His discussions on sexuality referred almost entirely to men, and considered women in negative terms — as lacking, the 'other" and as having penis envy— which reduced female development to a frustrated desire for masculinity. His ideas were employed by conservative neo-Freudians to persuade unhappy women that their social fate was biologically determined.

Shulamith Firestone, in her *The Dialectic of Sex* had called Freudianism as "the misguided feminism": both inquiring into the nature of sexual difference, but Feminism telling women to change society, and Freud telling them to change themselves. In North America, in particular, Freud came to be known as the "most

1. Benjamin, Jessica. *A Desire of One's Own: Psychoanalytic Feminism and Intersubjective Space*. Feminist Studies/Critical Studies. Ed. Teresa de Lauretis. Bloomington: Indiana UP, 1986.

famous enemy of women's liberation."

Shulamith Firestone, in her *The Dialectic of Sex* had called Freudianism as "the misguided feminism": both inquiring into the nature of sexual difference, but Feminism telling women to change society, and Freud telling them to change themselves. In North America, in particular, Freud came to be known as the "most famous enemy of women's liberation."

Feminists argue that Freud's developmental theory is heteronormative and denies women a mature sexuality independent of men; they also criticize it for privileging the vagina over the clitoris as the center of women's sexuality. They criticize the theory for privileging heterosexual sexual activity and penile penetration in defining women's "mature state of sexuality".

In Freud's theory, the female sexual centre shifts from the clitoris to the vagina during a heterosexual life event. Freud believed in a duality between how genders construct mature sexuality in terms of the opposite gender. Feminists reject the notion that female sexuality can only be defined in relation to the male. The clitoris, not the vagina, is the mature centre of female sexuality because it allows a construction of mature female sexuality independent of the penis.

Karen Horney—a German psychoanalyst who also placed great emphasis on childhood experiences in psychological development asserted the concept of "womb envy", and saw "masculine narcissism" as underlying the mainstream Freudian view. Misogynist responses to it included claiming that this experimentally observed, surveyed, peer reviewed, and scientifically derived and presented theory was a copycat vindictive reply to Freud's "Penis Envy" which in actual fact possessed none of the above qualities. The typical male-chauvinist immature response one would expect from them on being given a mild taste of their own (bitter and harmful) medicine instead of the maturity required to recognize the unfair treatment received by the original victims of such propaganda. This student salutes all those who find the tremendous courage and fortitude in themselves to actually be Feminists and believe in equality for all, even heterosexual males, under such circumstances.

> "What Freud calls 'Penis Envy' is actually social envy for the trappings of the (then) dominant gender, a sociological response to female subordination under patriarchy."
>
> -Kirsty Hawthorn

Betty Friedan referred to penis envy as a purely parasitic social bias typical of Victorianism and particularly of Freud's own biography, and showed how the concept played a key role in discrediting alternative notions of femininity in the early to mid twentieth century: "Because Freud's followers could only see woman in the image defined by Freud – inferior, childish, helpless, with no possibility of happiness unless she adjusted to being man's passive object – they wanted to help women get rid of their suppressed envy, their neurotic desire to be equal. They wanted to help women find sexual fulfilment as women, by affirming their natural inferiority."

Conclusion

In Sigmund Freud's lecture on "Femininity", while discussing the "riddle of femininity" (Freud 1968 [1933]) or of sexual differentiation, Freud's rhetoric impeaches women as "the problem" and excuses members of his audience from this indictment by offering the hope that they are "more masculine than feminine" curtailing and diminishing the diversity of individual women's experiences into a restricted and unvarying formula that will fit within its own theoretical parameters. One cannot but conclude that his theories were simply observations of a presumptive male point of view under the prevalent patriarchal and extremely male-chauvinistic mentality of the time.

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Nature's Wail in Children's Literature: Analysing Panchatantra through an Eco-critical Lens



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Our planet earth can be said as the only home storing many useful materials. It does its best to support us, humans, as the inhabitants. Unfortunately, the more knowledgeable humans got their aggressiveness towards earth rose equally. This then resulted in many forms of so-called technology. These so-called technologies have a tendency to make humans' life more comfortable than before. So, they started using natural resources around them in order to achieve this. Afterwards, what their actions left behind are the things that pollute our environment the most. Indeed, this makes sense when as observed the more innovative humans are, the more they can destroy their surroundings. The destruction of environment continuously makes us realize the issues of environmental crisis. Because of this destruction, some of us have already taken the first step to act. Some created tool to raise the awareness. Mass media such as social media and television are used to raise the awareness regarding deforestation, smuggling protected animals, the melting of ice and polluted rivers. Yet, not all can be expressed in the social media or televisions. It can also be expressed through writing. This method used some of the picture books in order to increase the consciousness about the issue. The process of raising awareness of the environmental issues requires to act from the root. As the next generation, children are the best object to teach about this. Children always have high curiosity towards their surroundings. There are several ways to build children's attention toward the environmental crisis.According to the study conducted by *Children and Nature Network* in 2012, "the children's outdoor activities with the "wild" nature will encourage positive attitude and behaviour towards environment when they grow up. A research done by Makwanyna and Dick concluded that "children's literature promotes environmental consciousness, appreciation, knowledge, and stewardship of the children. In addition, in order to inculcate long lasting impression on environmental stewardship, it has been concluded that catching them young

is the best method. Children's literature has many forms, one of them being picture books. Bader said that a picture book is a text, illustration, a total design; an item of manufacture and a commercial product; a social, cultural, historical document; and foremost, an experience for a child (Bader, 1976). Clearly, from this statement, the picture book indeed has great values for children. Similarly, W.J.T Mitchell stated that the name "picture books" evokes images of brightly coloured, beautifully illustrated books that beg to be read (W.J.T Mitchell, *Picture Theory: Essays on Verbal and Visual Representation*, University of Chicago Press, 1995). No matter what our age, most of us still enjoy reading them because of their vibrant pictures, rich and evocative language, and poignant and meaningful themes. Picture books speak to us in the same way photographs do. Mitchell's statement of picture books vividly gives us the reason why picture books could be used as an important tool to promote environmental literacy. The children of different ages could learn many sides of their surroundings and they could get the better understanding of the relation between human and nature through the picture books. The young children could develop their idea personally, socially, culturally and aesthetically through their experience from reading the picture books. The children, who newly socialise, can get a great help from book to explore the human motives towards nature. Through picture books, children meet new surroundings, new families, and of course the new environment that is similar or different in some way of their own. This resulted in the contribution of picture books towards children's awareness. Thus, all these reasons make children's literature play a vital role in their lives and learning process.

From the beginning of the century, children were always entertained by the adult with tell tales, fables, folk tales and so on. The forms of these stories were conveyed orally in the beginning. But along the time these forms developed to the written forms. Nowadays, the genres of children's literature have shifted to multiple genres and draw many interests from everyone and every age. Irish folktales could be traced back from 400 BCE, while the *Panchatantra* could be categorized as the earliest written folktales. It came from India and written around 200 AD. As for Aesop's fables, the earliest version, appeared around 400 AD (Masters, 2012). In Asia, especially in China, the emergence of children's literature was similarly in oral form. The storyteller reached its glory during the reign of Song Dynasty (960-1279 AD). Nowadays, these stories are still used to instruct the children in their school.

In 1978, Rueckert used the term Eco-criticism in his writing entitled *"Literature and Ecology: An Experiment in Ecocriticism"*. Unfortunately, ecocriticism has not gained any popularity after this. Glotfelty was the one who made it known among the scholars. He used the term as part of his critical approach to analysing the nature of writing. It was published under the title *"The Ecocriticism Reader"* in 1989. Glotfelty explains: Ecocriticism is the study of the relationship between literature and the physical environment. Just as feminist criticism examines language and literature from a gender-conscious perspective, and Marxist criticism brings an awareness of modes of production and economic class to its reading of the texts, ecocriticism takes an earth-centered approach to literary studies (Glotfelty: 1996). Later 1992, the popularity of Ecocriticism in literature world caused the Western Literature Association (WLA) form a new association especially for study in literature and ecology namely, Association for the Study of Literature and Environment (ASLE). This association aimed to promote a new approach to writing in the relationship between nature and literature so that people can have new choices in writing about literature. Hopefully, it could also improve the idea of human and nature relationship. With this goal in mind, Patrick Murphy in 1993 finally composed a new journal, ISLE. ISLE or *Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment* is a journal used as a forum for critical studies in literature and nature.

Ecocriticism's main topic is the issue of environment on the earth. This can be seen from the relationship of human and their surroundings, the role of nature in the story, how to preserve the nature, the

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balance in the environmental system and so on. The use of ecocriticism as the study for this writing will be the best choice. All of these issues will be the most interesting motif to analyse in literary works. One of the important tasks of ecocriticism is raising the awareness from an early age. According to Lankford, the tie between children and environment emerged primarily because of John Locke's belief in the existence of a true nature in the child. He implies that nature is at once definable and real while it also mirrors the pure and simple nature of child (Lankford, 2010)[1] . There are many benefits that can be gained using ecocritical texts to raise children's awareness of environmental issues. The appearance of nature will encourage the children to get back to it. Currently, the improvement of technology seems to discourage the children to play out of their home. They feel more comfortable inside the home. This will cause them many disadvantages especially with their health. Parents should try to persuade them from buying picture booksrelated to nature for their reading materials. Through the representation of nature in these picture books, their curiosity will make them want to explore their surroundings.

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In his classic 1975 essay "Travels in Hyperreality," Umberto Eco asks a question still waiting for a good answer after twenty-five years: "Where does the truth of ecology lie?" Eco suggests that the double nature of the Zoo is a definitive instance of how our desire for the real can give rise to the hyperreal, to a culture in which imitations are the dominant form of reality. As his essay makes clear, the hyperreal is not just a bad idea or the product of a lapse in taste, but a full-blown cultural condition. You cannot escape the hyperreal by wishing things could be more authentic than they are. It is too substantial to be dealt with that way. Applying ecocriticism in children's literature in this study aimed to seek how the children's literature could help the children to get close to their nature. The nature of representation is one of the chief concerns of literary theory. Lawrence Buell's *The Environmental Imagination* attempts to lay the groundwork for environmentally aware readings of literary texts, and to suggest the shape that the Eco critical research program might take in the future. He argues that there is a need "to refine and revaluate some of the basic analytical premises used by 'trained' readers of literature," and that "an inquiry into the environmental imagination forces us to question the premises of literary theory while using its resources to expose the limitations of literature's representations." The principle to which he appeals most strongly is not a literary one. "Environmental praxis" is the solvent that allows ecocritics to undo the paradoxes engendered by a conflicted world of texts and readers of texts. Buell writes: "'Ecocriticism' might succinctly be defined as study of the relation between literature and environment conducted in a spirit of commitment to environmental praxis. As mentioned before, the type of children's book used in this study is picture book. The book is Panchatantra. Panchatantra instils a sense of eco-awareness attitude towards nature among readers. The Panchatantra discuses varied topics like philosophy, psychology, politics, music, human relationships etc in a simple yet elegant style. This attempts to illustrate how to understand others and our environment, how to live in harmony with plants and nature. Moreover, these stories provide the children with morals. These are the very objective that the composer of Panchatantra, *Pandit Vishnu Sharma,* wanted to accomplish in order to provide maximum knowledge to three young princes through stories and examples. In fact, not just the Princes, this unique book which is also a colourful picture book is for children to find it attractive and has enlightened millions of readers and listeners for centuries. *Panchatantra* consists of 84 tales out of which almost all have an eco-criticism aspect. These tales in which animals, birds, and every other animal are representative of humans with animal bodies. They are very much like humans. This is clear because we see their lifestyle and the Kings and his supporters and friends and enemies are all so human-like. We see all the other animals working for the King. This is not natural for an animal-life. Here is where they are representing human nature and human-life. They

1. https://www.researchgate.net/publication/325011433_Children%27s_Literature_As_a_Way_of_Raising_Environmental_Consciousness-A_Study

also have human-like names and language. They have particularly Indian names. This too is not seen actually in a real jungle. Animals do not have particular names to address each other. They again are representing human life.Then comes the idea of family in Panchatantra tales which is again very human-like. Animals do have families but they do not behave the way we do and *Panchatantra* tales depict this family idea in a more human form. These tales also have a superego aspect. One of the tales of *Panchatantra* of a lion and camel where lion is the King of the jungle. Fox, crow and leopard being his ministers. One day a drought fell on to the jungle and the King too was deprived of food that is when the crow gives the information about the lost camel who was brought to the Lion. The clever camel started singing songs of bravery of the King and the King gave him shelter and did not eat the camel. This story clearly proves that this is not animal nature. Animal nature would be to kill the camel and have a feast but lion's morality aspect is shown here and he does not kill the camel. First, they would never have a Council with members in them. This does not happen in a forest. This is human behaviour. So, we gave them our feelings and superego. In these tales, animals were used as tools to show human behaviour. These tales serve as a tool for morality too.

Fair enough to think, but still why study the Panchatantra? Why should a work composed for kids be studied by children and adults alike? How is this ancient book of "fables" relevant to "modern" Indians today? Well, the truth is that we people are exactly like the students of *Acharya Vishnusarman:* "over-opinionated and under-informed". What we actually need here is Niti (Practical Principle and Wisdom) which is the aspect of our culture but is absent today. Not all individuals are inclined to study, let alone study deeply. *Niti* can be grasped most readily by works by aphorisms and maxims such as *Saamethas* or similar traditions in other languages. In fact, a famous one involving a son named *Somalingam* clearly took its inspiration from a Panchatantra tale, *"Dhobi kakutta, nagharkanaghatka"* is one such celebrated examples. This is because a single saying offers many layers of wisdom that can be peeled off as a child grows older. The individual is exhorted to not be *dhobi kakutta* and so in the process learns to pick and stick with a side instead of having no place of his own. Hence the tales of *Panchatantra* becomes most useful to the younger students.

But in this era which rejects 'morality', what value can the Panchatantra have? That's why the term *Niti* here is best translated not as moral or policy but 'lesson'. The *Panchatantra* is amoral, and is focused on giving lessons in practical principles for the wise conduct of life. The great genius of this work is that, while it is a great expository on the importance of *Niti* over Vidya, it also inculcates and creates curiosity in various branches of knowledge.

Tales of Animals capture their attention, and stories within a story allow individual lesson to be teased out and separated. So too can basic *Niti* be separated from more sophisticated Statecraft. That is the brilliance of Panchatantra, for while it affords basic behavioural lessons to children, useful for later in life. The *Panchatantra* is an excellent work not only emanating and expounding our culture, but giving a glance of history.

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The evolution of Environmental Protection in India

–Role played by Emperor Ashoka in legislating first Environmental Laws



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Environmental Protection has become the buzz word among intellectuals and laity today. Even Governments' have begun leading the path by codifying environmental laws. International organisations like the United Nations, European Union etc., have codified various laws, States have come together and charted a new path for environmental protection, the Kyoto Protocol, Bonn Agreement, Cartegena Protocol on Biosafety etc. There have also been various conferences where nations have met and thrashed out important issues on environment. Codification of laws nationally and internationally is important because the protection of environment is not merely an individual responsibility but also social, national and international responsibility. India as one of the emerging economies and superpower in the world has an important role to play in environmental protection. It has also the added responsibility of sharing its experiences in the protection of environment because India has the long tradition of environment protection and animal and nature friendly traditions.

This study was aimed at ascertaining the evolution of the process of codification of environmental laws in India and the role played by Emperor Ashoka in the codification of the first environmental laws.

The Methodology that was applied in this research was historical in nature in which both primary and secondary sources were used. These included the codes inscribed on various Ashokan pillars and Rock edicts as well as the various books since the times of Chanakya including Arthasastra and Manusmriti.

South Asia: an environmental history by CV Hills deals with Ashoka and Ecology and offers interesting insights into Emperor Ashoka's role in protecting the ecology (Hill, 2008). In Protecting the environment from pollution: A review of India's legal and institutional mechanisms, a paper submitted by OP Dwivedi and B Kishore to Asian Survey, that shows that he various pronouncements made by Emperor Ashoka went a long way in establishing environmental consciousness among the people in the Indian sub-continent (OP Dwivedi, 1982). In "Towards Buddhist Environmental Ethics" a paper submitted by RM Gross to *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* sug-

gests that Emperor Ashoka's codification of the environmental laws was actually the result of Buddhist Environmental ethics (Gross, 1997). In the book *To uphold the World,* B. Rich adds that the Mauryas including Chandragupta Emperor Ashoka's grandfather were dedicated lot when it came to the conservation of environment (Rich, 2008).

History of the Codification of Environmental Protection laws

Codification of laws in order to govern mankind had started right from the first formation of the organised society. The first King to set up the first laws was the Babylonian King Hammurabi. The laws are referred to as the 'code of Hammurabi'. The code is dated back to 1754 BCE had been recorded in various stone stele one of which exists to this day. The code contains 282 laws ranging from slander to murder. Interestingly, the code does not include anything involving environment protection or care for animals. The later codes include Assyrian code framed during the reign of Tiglath-Pileser I as well as Code of Ur-Nammu, king of Ur (c. 2050 BC), Laws of Eshnunna (c. 1930 BC), Codex of Lipit-Ishtar of Isin (c. 1870 BC), Babylonian laws / Code of Hammurabi (c. 1790 BC), Hittite laws (c. 1650–1100 BC), Code of the Nesilim (c. 1650-1500 BC), Law of Moses / Torah (10th-6th century BC) among others.

In India, the first laws can be said to have been codified by first Mauryan Emperor Chandragupta's minister and teacher Chanakya in the form of Arthasastra. However, in Arthasastra, Chanakya himself says that the treatise is essentially a compilation of various laws set by ancient sages during various stages of Vedic and later Vedic periods. Arthasastra deals with various laws including the responsibilities of the King as well as laying down civil and criminal laws. However, what is most interesting is that Arthashastra states that forests should be protected and recommends that the state treasury be used to feed animals such as horses and elephants that are too old for work, sick or injured. This is probably, the first instance in human history that any effort on the part of an administration to protect forests and animals was suggested. Though Chanakya falls short of codifying it as a law. In topic 35, the text recommends that the "Superintendent of Forest Produce" appointed by the state for each forest zone be responsible for maintaining the health of the forest, protecting forests to assist wildlife such as elephants. The part of forest earmarked for elephants was referred to as hastivana.

However, it was only Emperor Ashoka who codified the laws and since he ruled a large part of Indian subcontinent starting from parts of Afghanistan to present day Assam and Bangladesh, his law became standard law for all the citizens. Ashoka also took primary interest in the preservation of environment and ecology. He had his laws inscribed in Ashokan pillars and the rock edicts which has survived to this day and are the major source of history in the codification of environmental laws.

Some of the laws that were laid down by Ashoka include:

- Ban on injury to animals and animal sacrifice.
- Ban on killing of "all four-footed creatures that are neither useful nor edible", and of specific animal species including several birds, certain types of fish and bulls among others. (Rock edict)
- Ban on killing of female goats, sheep and pigs that were nursing their young; as well as their young up to the age of six months.
- Ban on killing of all animals, fish and castration of animals during certain periods such as Chaturmasa (holy period of four months) and Uposatha (period kept aside for cleansing of mind and soul). In Sikkim it is observed as Pang Lhabsol where for one month, all kinds of animal slaughter is banned by the government.
- Abolition of the Royal hunting parties.
- Creation of veterinary hospitals
- Animals treated as citizens with rights (one of the first and rare occasions in the Human history)

The sources of the above laws are Pillar edicts, major and minor rock edicts of Emperor Ashoka.

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Emperor Ashoka was arguably the first ruler to view Animals as citizens with rights and privileges certainly a unique and rare instance in the course of entire human history unparalleled to this day. He was greatly concerned about both humanity, animals and plants in his Empire and looked upon himself as their father and guardian thus, he had his laws codified and standardized for all across the entire Empire which can be observed today through the spread of the Ashokan pillars, minor and major rock edicts. Emperor Ashoka's views may have been influenced by his grandfather and his minister and teacher Chanakya as well as Buddha's teaching but as a King who ruled over a diverse population to make a uniform code of laws and to enforce it strictly is truly a feat worth intense study.

Images



Minor rock edict clearly mentioning the name of Emperor Ashoka as 'DevampriyaAshoka' – the beloved of Gods and saying that slaughter of animals are hereby banned. (Minor Rock Edict at Maski, Karnataka)



The first known bi-lingual inscription of Ashoka found at Kandahar in Afghanistan. The inscription in Greek and Aramaic mentions about Emperor Ashoka and his rule of the subcontinent and the preservation of all life and maintenance of peace and order

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The Changing Contours of Siliguri

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4th Sem, History Honours

India is the second most populated nation of the world. The present population of India 1,210,193422 (Census,2011) ; among them 68.8 percent are living in the rural areas and 31.16 percent are dwelling in urban centers. This nation is made up of varied landscape. Each landscape has its own distinguishing feature and thus India has evolved as a multi-ethnic, multi-religious country with different cultural practices and their concerned norms and customs.

North Bengal is situated in the North Eastern Himalayan belt. It is a region of varied landscape, terrain morphology, economic and socio-cultural characteristics. It is broadly divided into hills, Sub-Himalayan foothills and plains. Siliguri Municipal Corporation acts as the dream destinations to everyone for a better tomorrow. People flock in from the states of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Assam. There was also a major influx of business communication from other parts of the country such as Rajasthan and gave it a cosmopolitan character eventually. But more often than not, their dreams are fragmented with the problems like lack of affordable housing, lack of availability of clean drinking water, lack of cleanliness, sanitation, and other civic amenities. The rapid urbanization leads to the expansion of a volume of urban population which needs a number of facilities which are essentials to spend an urban life. Since the urbanization process is proportionately related to the developmental opportunities and inversely related to the environmental sustainability, hence some environmental as well as some socio economic problems is procreated due to urbanization effect. The basic objectives of this paper are to analyze the rapid growth in the population of Siliguri Municipal Corporation, causes behind it and to highlight the allied problems related to growth of population of the corporation.

Study Area:

Siliguri is situated at the base of the Himalaya untains in the plains of Darjeeling District by the side of River Mahananda. It is the 2nd largest city in West Bengal and known as the gateway of North-Eastern India. The strategic location of the place makes sure that travelers to the North-East has to pass through Siliguri. Many also regard it as the commercial capital of the region. The Sub-Division is bounded on the North by the Sub-Himalayan ranges and on the South by Bangladesh, Uttar Dinajpur and Bihar on the East lies Jalpaiguri District and Kalimpong Sub-Division and bounded on the West by Nepal. Siliguri got its Sub-Divisional status in the year 1907 and presently it has got four (4) C.D. Blocks, namely, Matigara, Phansidewa, Naxalbari and Khoribari and one Corporation area – Siliguri Municipal Corporation under its administrative jurisdiction. The Sub-Division comprises of 7 Police Stations and 22 Gram Panchayats and presently 3 Assembly Constituencies. 1) 25 – Matigara-Naxalbari 2) 26 Siliguri 3) 27 Phansidewa-Kharibari (ST), all under no. 4 Darjeeling Parliamentary Constituency. The geographical area of the Sub-Division spreads over 837.45 sq. km and the rural population is around 5,33,979.

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The Sub-Division has got a long 19.32 km international Border with Bangladesh. Siliguri is not a very old city but it has seen the waves of significant immigration over the course of years. It is cosmopolitan city with a wide cross section of people living peacefully upholding the traditional spirit of diverse India. The city is situated at 122 meters above sea level, having an average annual rainfall of 323 cm. it is considerably cooler than the Southern and Central regions of West Bengal – summer temperature rarely exceeds 38 degree centigrade and winter mean minimum temperature rarely falls below 4 degree centigrade.

The whole region is popularly famous for three T's i.e. Tea, Timber and Tourism. There are forty five tea gardens which spread over the Blocks of Sub-Division. The two important adjacent areas, Mahananda Wild Life Sanctuary and Baikunthapur Forest contribute a lot in the micro-climate of the town. Siliguri has the best communication network in the region. The nearest important Railway Station is at New Jalpaiguri under

Northeast Frontier Railway just 3 km away from the heart of the city. Bagdogra airport, at a distance of 12 km, is the only international airport which also caters to the need of Sikkim. The NH31 and NH55 connect Siliguri with other major places of North-Eastern India.

Population:

As per 2011 India census report, the total population of Siliguri is more than 5 lakhs in an area of 41.9 sq. kms. The population of the town has continuously increased from the very beginning of Independence.

History of Siliguri:

Almost a century ago, Siliguri was nothing but a small village with lesser population. It was in the year 1907 that Siliguri was declared a sub-division (Mahakuma) by the British administration. It is interesting to trace the growth of the small town into one of the largest cities in the entire North East of India. The original village of Siliguri was towards the south of where we have the Saktigarh Colony today. The area is under Jalpaiguri District and Rajganj police station. Phasidewa bandor was quite important during that time. The government activity was mostly conducted from the area where the Haskhoa Tea Estate is located now. The Siliguri Municipality was established in 1949. After the Partition into India and Pakistan in1947 and the creation of Bangladesh in 1971, the city of Siliguri became a crucial space for migration. Siliguri Municipality attained the status of Corporation in 1994. Till 1994 Siliguri Municipality had 30 wards under it. After the declaration of Siliguri Municipal Corporation in 1994, 17 new wards are added. Siliguri is a unique city as 15 out of 47 wards of Siliguri Municipal Corporation falls in neighboring Jalpaiguri district. Today it is arguably the second most important corporation in the state after Calcutta Municipal Corporation.

Causes of Population Growth:

The various factors contributing to the constant growth of population of Siliguri are as listed below.

Migration:

Siliguri has always been regarded as a migrants' town and which witnessed massive immigration over the years. However, the nature and profile of migration have changed considerably over the years. The Rajbongshi community, who were the natives of the place, has lesser population today. The prominent communities are the Bengali, Bihari, Gorkha, Marwari, Punjabi and Nepali. The easy infiltration of immigrants from Bangladesh and Nepal is a major problem in this area. In addition, Siliguri has also witnessed influx of people from Bihar and other parts of India in search of livelihood and sustenance.

Centre of Trade of and Commerce:

Siliguri is the hub of trade and commerce in the region and houses the headquarters of the Federation of Chamber of Commerce and Industry of North Bengal (FOCIN). It has great prospects for consumer goods industries like bakery and confectionary, biscuits, sports, goods, incense sticks, mineral water, soaps, chalk and pencils, digital clocks, etc. can have a huge market and even small entrepreneurs can take advantage of this opportunity. There is also a good market for steel utensils, leather shoes, ready-made garments, tin containers, plastic articles, kitchen wares, electrical accessories etc. As a result the surrounding rural area is being changed by the urban appendages from the center.

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Strategic Location:

The strategic location of Siliguri connect state, international boundary (Bangladesh, Nepal) which is rare evidence on the map of the world. Siliguri is the junction point where various accessibility dominated. Thus people dreamed about this type of location, which ultimately has led to an increase in population concentration.

Economic Hub:

Siliguri is arguably the most significant economic hub of the region. The market of Siliguri caters to a large hinterland of Dooars, Darjeeling the entire state of Sikkim, parts of the Kingdom of Bhutan as well as parts of the North East India. It is the point of location from where the cargo must be transferred from one carrier to another. The town witnesses daily commuting from outskirts of Corporation area.

Satellite Towns:

Apart from spreading of town, there are some notable big settlements like Dabgram II, Champasari, Matigara, Shivmandir, Naxalbari and Phansidewa on the outskirt of the town has significant expansion

phenomena which would ultimately merge the neighbor's settlement with the town in near future.

Education Hub:

As a place of education center or hub of this region large number of people come and settle in this area, not only the surrounding region but also influx of students from the neighboring countries of Bhutan, Nepal and Bangladesh.

Environmental Problems Associated with Urban Expansion:

The key problem originated with the expansion process of Siliguri Municipal Corporation. There are some kinds of concern regarding environmental issues in SMC. Those are as follows:

Water Pollution:

Siliguri Municipal Corporation has a tremendous threat related to the water pollution and the water supply management system of the town. This town became a class-I category town of India and dwellers of the town faced a terrific problem related to the water pollution and the drinking water supply management system. The river water and sub-surface water are vulnerable to be polluted which is used by the consumer thereby creating intestinal disease.

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Solid Waste Management:

Solid waste is dumped in the dumping ground without any treatment. There are few dustbins in SMC area which is why there is no proper disposal of garbages. The poor drainage system and water logging in lowland area becomes a major problem during the monsoon season. There is lack of covered vans for the collection and transportation of the solid waste. The staff lack proper training and knowledge of latest technologies used for SWM.

Sewerage:

There is no proper sewerage network in the city. Since the city doesn't have proper sewerage system, contamination of ground water is one of the biggest threats. There is no treatment plant to treat the sewerage before disposal. The collected waste is manually disposed in the open dumping ground. There is no accountability of the quality of the service provided, as exact number of house-holds served is not available.

Slum Pollution:

In SMC, slums are found along the river beds of Mahananda, Fuleswari and Jurapani as well as along the railway track. These slum dwellers have very much amounted to river pollution. In all probabilities, Mahananda River is the dirtiest river in the entire Siliguri region.

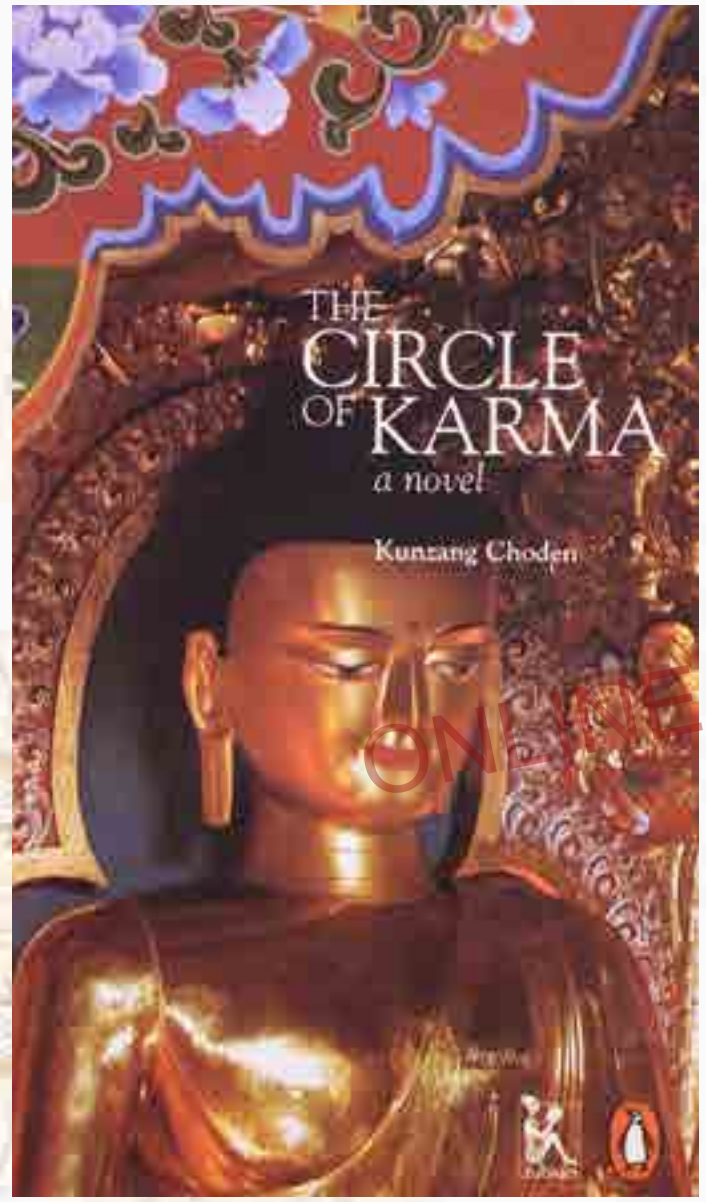
Basic Suggestive Measure:

The relocation and rehabilitation of the people of slum areas from river bed is important. There should be proper management of underground sewerage system in SMC and adjacent areas. The Green Fencing Programme and other programmes associated with Environmental Sustainability can be implemented within the town area. A restart of the Mission Mahananda Action Plan for supply of clean drinking water can serve useful in the long run.

By virtue of being the second largest city in West Bengal, Siliguri has the potential to be one of the metropolis in India because of its strategic geographical location. However, the uncontrolled boom in population and pollution has wrecked havoc on its environment. A balance between industrial development, economic expansion and ecological preservation and environmental protection has to be urgently sought in order for the region to thrive.

An Eco Feminist reading of the novel The Circle of Karma

Mimansa Subedi
4th Sem, English Honours



Eco feminism is an attempt to outline new utopian horizon, address the environmental issue from the categories of patriarchy, sexism and gender. Critical Eco feminism advocates free determination over your body, a basic right. Francoise d' Eaubonne used the word 'Eco feminism' for the first time in 1974 in his essay 'Feminism or Death' and argued that the over-population of the planet an ecological concern was the result of patriarchal domination and it's refusal to give woman a basic right over her own body, the will to decide over her own body. (What is Eco feminism? Alicia. H. Puleo).

Cultural eco feminism sees an important connection between domination and oppression of women and domination and exploitation nature by masculinist force, methods and attitudes (Alicia H Puleo). It is a mentality which is built on the bed rock of ownership or possession. This gives them their male right as owners to do what they want with what they own. The ownership can be viewed at two levels – The ownership of Nature and the other is the ownership of the female body. This leads to exploitation, disturbance and misbalance both in nature and environment.

The novel *The Circle of Karma* has explored the areas of critical eco feminism and radical eco feminism. With a female protagonist born and brought up in a patriarchal society it sets forward an example of a woman who is not only a producer and a provider but also a staunch pillar of silent resistance who endures all the oppression yet remains resilient to the patriarchal forces and finally finds her way out of the crushing forces to pursue higher motives – the path of spirituality.

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The word 'environment' can have many different connotations. Environment may also refer to the landscapes or the biosphere at large or it may refer to the immediate environment that is for me one's social, personal, religious space in which one is brought up. My close reading portrays how the female body resembling the environment had been exploited as well as how one gets uprooted from one's environment to get further exploited.

Environmental abuse and the abuse of the female body can be paralleled in many different ways, the abuse is enacted primarily because masculinists force consider themselves superior both to environment and women and secondly because the reaction or the consequence of abuse and ill- treatment of both women and environment is not feared by man. This gives man an unprecedented control both over a woman's body and Environment. The abuse also takes place because of lust, selfishness and greed .This greed motivates man to harness and extract utility and benefits

to optimum level possible without bothering to return anything back to the provider neither to the environment or the woman.

This kind of lust is exactly evident in Tsomo's second husband Lhattu to whom Tsomo becomes a symbol of 'motherhood environmentalism' (Lawrence Buell, Ursula K Heise, Karen Thronbern), where a woman is viewed as a bearer of children, caretaker and provider. She strongly resembles motherhood environmentalism to him except for the fact that she is issueless. She is viewed by him as a provider from whom he can extract to the maximum without the obligation to return anything except the name of a husband. He drains her financially, emotionally, as well as leaves her with deep psychological scars. He exploits her labours and skill of weaving handloom bags to squander her money in gambling and drinking. In the end he leaves her for a sixteen year old girl proving once again that like her first husband he too is exploitative by nature. Thus he exploits her when she is resourceful and abandons her when she is drained of all her resources.

Again, bringing back the concept of critical eco feminism, the novel highlights the domination meted out by masculinity on a female body.

Wangchuk, the protagonist's husband who is already a father by his first marriage consciously enters Tsomo's bed taking advantage of her solo trip, the wilderness, as well as the dark of the night. He seduces her instead of her frequent refusals. This action repeats itself which leaves her pregnant and at last, Wangchuk deserts his first wife and children for the sake of a new woman Tsomoor, more precisely, a new body. We can say that there is a quest in him, a quest for firmer bodies, untouched skin which later forces him to do the same with Tsomo 's sister Kesang, much younger and attractive than Tsomo.

Wangchuk represents the 'patriarchal domination' which refuses to hear 'no'. His desire to exploit the untouched can be paralleled with the force of man exploring the unknown landscapes, the pristine vegetation, virgin environment and setting up industries, factories and towns. This is the point, I believe, where the novel draws connections between ecology and feminism and can be viewed as eco feminist. Tsomo is treated like a piece of land on which Slash and burn or 'Shifting agriculture' is practiced that when the piece of land looses it's fertility it is abandoned in search of a new piece of land. She indeed loses her fertility as her first child is a still born and her belly swells which do not subside.

As the valuation of a land is set by its fertility, it seems a woman's valuation is measured by her youth, attractiveness and more important fertility as we see in TSOMO'S case she is abandoned because she is no longer fertile. Thus we can say as a land is hunted for it's fertility of soil and pristine vegetation similarly a woman's body is hunted for its chastity, to exploit virginity. As land gets deteriorated by continuous cultivation and different activities and is finally abandoned similarly a body like Tsomo's too is discarded after it loses it charm. This can be viewed as an example of radical eco feminism.

While Tsomo got physically weak and withered after her baby was a still born, her husband's attention turned toward Kesang who was in the peak of her youth and beauty. He seduces her but he has her consent. She is young, radiant, virgin and charming which he cannot resist. Thus he discards Tsomo and prefers a new body after the old has lost its fertility. The author writes - "How could he (Wangchuk) or any other man be impartial when Kesaang was as radiant as a sunflower ready to bloom with the first rays of the sun while Tsomo was withering".

While eco feminism advocates a clear stance in favour of women's access to free decision making power in demographic matters (Alicia H Puleo) , the decision of becoming mother is however in certain societies and cultures heavily dependent upon a man, where the consent is not asked.

I would like to refer to the practice prevalent in Wangleng where the man enters a girl's bed whom he likes while she is guarding the buckwheat fields from wild animals, he probably seduces her and after a certain period of time when she gets pregnant and the society asks for a father, the same man refuses to be accountable for his actions and the entire burden falls upon the mother for raising the child. These kinds of practices ate accepted only in a patriarchal society which further boosts men to exploit whom they want. I essentially see a nexus between patriarchy, these

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practices and exploitation where women are victims. This free decision of becoming a mother or not is a very integral part of eco-feminism and this free decision making is lacking because of the subjugation of the patriarchy.

The novel has also addressed the issues of radical eco feminism from the categories of sexism as well as objectification. Diki Choden is physically exploited by the construction officer when the boulders are blasted using dynamite. The earth shudders, the birds and animals are frightened, there is pollution and smoke. Taking advantage of this deafening noise she is violently raped behind the huge rocks so that her screams can be suppressed. We see the exploitation of the female body as well as the Earth and the environment. One is a victim to the patriarchal forces and the other to urbanization. Here violence is carried out at two levels – at one level, it is the suppression of a young female body, while at another level, it is the exploitation of the environment.

Diki Choeden's case is an example of extreme exploitation in occupations because she is a victim of sexism and objectification. According to Philosopher Martha Nussbaum there are seven properties related to objectification and anyone can be objectified if more than one property can be applied to them. The first property is instrumentality where Diki is treated as a tool to satisfy the carnal desire of the officer. The second property is 'denial of autonomy' of Diki as after being exploited, she can be denied the right over her own wages if she rebels. The third property that can be applied to Diki Choden's 'ownership' is that, she is treated as a tool which is at the disposal of the exploiter and can be used to satisfy one's needs whenever it arises. We can conclude that she is indeed objectified. She becomes a victim of objectification because her occupation is primarily a male dominated space where women are at the lowest rank in the occupational hierarchy. Next she is easily objectified because she, other than being a female possesses such physical features which are alluring to the officer. So is it Diki Choden's fault that she possesses such charming features which are inborn? Her physical features become an excuse for the officer to exploit her. The charm that her young body posses makes her vulnerable while Tsomo remains safe from being exploited because she is neither charming nor young, nor does she have those features which matches with the patriarchal idea of beauty. Thus it seems that only those people in society, and landscapes and areas in environment become vulnerable to exploitation, which is resourceful. Beauty and youth is seen by some opportunist men as a resource that can be exploited in females, in a similar way like how flora and fauna becomes a resource to exploit in nature.

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The Lion King: A Critical Reading

Surabhi Pakhrin
2nd Sem, Salesian College Siliguri

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The world must learn to work together, or finally it will not work at all

- General Eisenhower

The movie "The Lion King" (1994 and 2016) is a movie that provides delight in general. However, the broader aspect of the movie highlights the present day scenario of the world. The movie can be divided into three parts; first the rule of Mufasa, the rule of Scar and finally the rule of Simba.

The jungle is well protected by king Mufasa who keeps the jungle clean and green with peace and unity and outcasts those who disturb such an environment, turning certain species against him. When Mufasa is murdered, Scar takes over and disturbs the environment of the jungle with the help of hyenas. He simply destroys the jungle. His greed makes him go against his own species. However when Simba comes back to the jungle with the help of Nala he manages to drive away Scar and his companions and restores the jungle again.

This story provides us with an opportunity to compare the world ages ago and the world today. How human greed and industrialization (the entry of hyenas) has changed the picture of the world. Scar can be considered as a capitalist figure in the entire movie. The restoration of the jungle shows how a single person's initiative can save the world. According to latest scientist predictions, human species just have less than three years to save the world from the present day problems. The phrase "Hakuna Matata" can be used as a metaphor for the mentality of the society in the contemporary world. Parallels can be drawn between every element of the movie with the present day world. The movie merely being a fable depicts some realities of the society.

About the Lion King

The recently reproduced movie The Lion King can be clearly recalled by every 90s kid. It was first produced in 1944 and the screenplay is credited to Irene Mecchi, Jonathan Roberts and Linda Wolverton. The movie was again reproduced in 2016 and displayed on screen

in 2019 and the screenplay is credited to Jeff Nathanson. The movie was first produced during the time of Disney renaissance i.e. in between 1989-1999. However Disney gained its glory soon after, unlike Greek tragedies which never gained its glory back after the closing of theatres' by the Puritans in approximately 1642.

The Rule of Mufasa vs The World before Industrialization

The movie is set in the Pride lands of the jungle which is ruled by a lion king Mufasa. Their jungle is clean and green, peaceful and harmonious. The world that we live in was not like its present state. Our ancestors lived in a clean and green world but now that former beauty is long lost. I can say this statement because I grew up hearing stories about the past from my grandfather. Industrialisation can be largely held responsible for the shape of the world today.

The rule of Scar vs The Industrialization

Scar turns out to be a hypocrite and kills Mufasa, a plot that he cooked up with the help of the hyenas and makes little Simba believe that it was only because of him that Mufasa died and tells him to flee far from Pride land and never to return. Scar then tells everyone that their former king and his son are dead and thus steps in as the new king. The hyenas during the rule of Mufasa were outcasts of the land because of certain clashes. However, with the rule of Scar came the new ideals of ruling.

He comes into an agreement with the hyenas and decides to live together. We can say that Mufasa applied the principle of Marxism proposed by Karl Marx and Scar can be called as a Capitalist.

Scar as Capitalist

To understand how Scar is a capitalist figure we should first understand who is a capitalist. A capitalist is one who invests his wealth for profit and uses the principle of capitalism. He uses his power and wealth for himself and is not concerned about the common people. His greed and jealousy can be held largely responsible for him turning into a capitalist figure.

The entry of the Hyenas vs Industrialization

As the hyenas enter the jungle they also changed the environment of the jungle. They have turned the green jungle into a drought stricken area. In short the ecology of the jungle is badly hampered. In the same way, industrialisation which has both pros and cons have affected our environment adversely. Global warming has become a world issue today. Recently, Chennai faced a lot of water crisis because of two consecutive years of scarce rainfall. On 19th June 2019, the officials declared it as "Day Zero" with almost zero drinking water left. In 2018, East Africa faced heavy rainfalls causing flood, death of people and livestock causing shortage of food.

In the movie, Scar has commented that the stomach of hyenas is something which can never be filled, similarly industries are never satisfied with the profit they make which leads to increase in industrialisation. This increase in industrialisation increases the rate of industrial waste which contributes towards increasing global warming.

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The use of the Phrase Hakuna Matata

When Simba is found by Timon and Pumbaa he goes and lives with them. He lives and grows up following the principles of Hakuna Matata which means "there are no worries". When Nala, his childhood companion finds him and tells him about the situation of the land he hails from, he is least concerned about it and tells her to live with him by following the principle of Hakuna Matata.

This phrase Hakuna Matata is a metaphor for the mindset of the people in today's world. Just because we have place to live, food to eat and water to drink we think we have gained the elixir of life. However, we are not aware about the dirty environment we live in, whether or not the food we eat is healthy or the water we drink is clean. Simply because of this attitude we are very close to a drought stricken future.

The Scene of Forest Fire

The scene of forest fire in the movie can be linked with the world's biggest tragedy- The Amazon Forest Fire. In the movie the fire was caused because a lightning struck the barren land. The barrenness of the land was

because of the hyenas. But in the real world can we blame the hyenas for the Amazon forest fire?

According to The Amazon Environmental Research Institute the recent increase in the number of fires in the Amazon is directly related to deliberate deforestation. The rate of deforestation has inncreased by about 278% in July 2019 as compared to July 2018. The Amazon forest known as the lungs of the earth is on fire because of human activities. Everyone's mind is at ease because currently the forest is experiencing rainfall however we are still unaware of the fact of how the fires are going to affect humanity.

There are certain assumptions that the fire was started by the people themselves for commercial purposes.

The Restoration of the Jungle

Simba upon realizing his responsibilities goes back to the jungle defeats Scar and with the help of others drives away the hyenas and bring back the glory of the jungle. The ending gives a very important moral lesson to all the viewers, that a single person's initiative is enough to light the flame of duty in everyone's mind. Its better late than never, as the inhabitants of the earth it's our responsibility to save it from the dreadful predictions of the future.

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The Circle of Life

In the movie the circle of life has been discussed which according to me is the most important message for us. According to Mufasa the circle of life meant that, "Everything you see exists together in a delicate balance, what we give to earth the earth gives it back to us.

Chief Seattle a Native American Chief (of the Suquamish tribe) has written a letter to the President of Washington around 1854 when the President wanted to buy their land for commercial purposes. In his letter he explains, how all organisms and environment are closely related. He says a very important statement – "Will you teach your children what we have taught our children? That the earth is our mother? What befalls the earth befalls all the sons of earth."

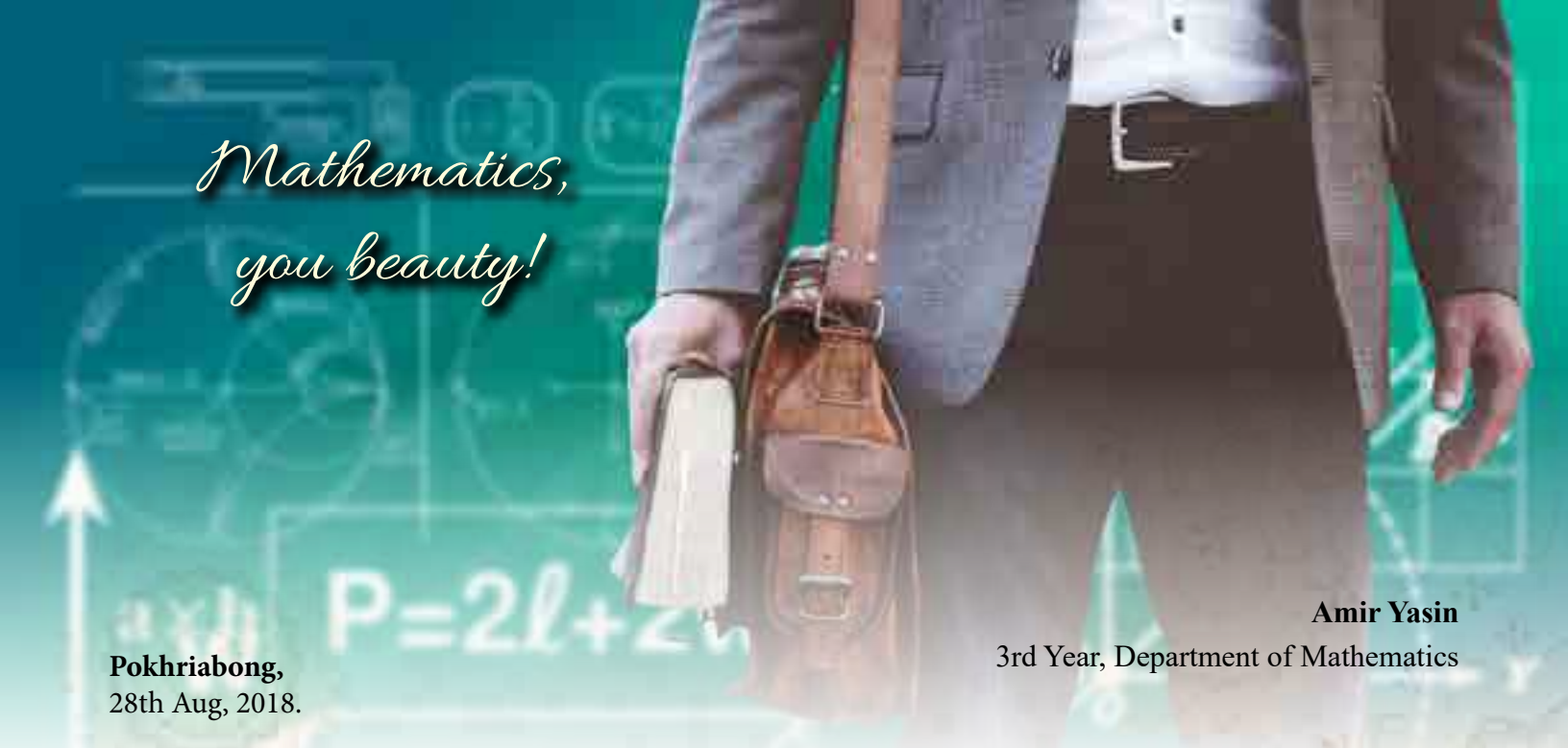
He further adds that earth doesn't belong to humans but the humans belong to the earth. Lastly, according to the circle of life if we give earth a sapling the earth will give us a plant but if we give earth a plastic it will unmistakably give us back pollution.

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Mathematics, you beauty!



Amir Yasin
3rd Year, Department of Mathematics

Pokhriabong,
28th Aug, 2018.

Professor Yashwant Gurung sat relaxed on his arm chair with a lit cigarette in his right hand, gazing through the window glass of his study. It had been raining since 5:30 a.m. and now it was nearly 8 in the morning. At 8:00 a.m. exactly his butler opened the door of his room. Before he could say a word, Professor Gurung said, "I guess you are here as always, to call me to my breakfast table."

"Yes, Sir," the butler replied.

"Then I wish to tell you that I have no inclination to have it now. I am fine right here and I would not like to be disturbed until noon."

"As you wish, Sir," the butler said obediently and left the room.

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Yashwant resumed his seemingly disinterested gaze at the hills outside through the window glass dotted by raindrops. Yashwant's study was a dark room in a corner of his mansion house that allowed a fantastic view of Kanchendzonga. There were tall pinewood shelves that housed books and novels on various topics ranging from mathematics to sociology to books on theology as well as atheism. The room smelt of tobacco which he had been smoking all morning.

II

It was 4:00 p.m. in the evening and Yashwant was playing Chopin on his piano. The music could be heard in the halls and corridors below. He often played the piano before sitting down to work. Earlier in the afternoon, he had received a fax from The Forest Department of Sukhia-Pokhari block. It read thus-

To,
Professor Yashwant Gurung,

The recent poaching of black deer in the woods around the Sukhia-Pokhari region has left the forest department at the end of its wits. There has come in our hands no such evidence that will lead us directly or indirectly to the individual(s) responsible. The department would be pleased if you could assist us in any way possible. The other fax contains a map of the woods of the surrounding regions with the places where the deer carcasses were discovered marked with crosses.

From,
The Forest Department,
Sukhia-Pokhari Block.



The Forest

Yashwant had been thinking about the problem since he had received it through fax in the afternoon. With an abrupt and dramatic pause he rang the calling bell. A minute later his butler arrived at his door.

"I expect some guests this evening. Give them my compliments and ask them to wait in the hall. Tell them I do not want any disturbance while I think."

"Yes, Sir," said the butler humbly and left. The evening gave way to dusk and the first stars had begun to appear in the sky. It was then that officials from the forest department came to meet Yashwant. They waited as per the directions of Yashwant in the hall downstairs. They would at times look impatiently at the clock or look at the starry night sky or hear Yashwant speak to himself in his room upstairs.

Finally after a long wait Yashwant appeared in the hall at 7:15. One of the officials stood up and asked - "Why did you..."

"I am sorry to have kept you waiting gentlemen but I have narrowed your area of search this evening by about 25 square km."

"But how could you do that? "asked one unbelievingly.

"Kim Rossmo's formula, Sir, Kim Rossmo's."

"What is that?" asked the same officer.

"It says that if you divide a map into several equal grids and know where each crime scene is in the map then the probability that the grid in the i-th row and j-th column is the home of the criminal, is given by,

$$P_{ij}=k\Sigma^{n}\ {}_{1}¿$$

"Very good sir. Thank you so much."

"We've got no time to waste gentlemen. I've a hot zone in a copy of the map that you gave me where the poacher must be right now. We can expect the poacher to be there, for it is night."

III

The men reached the hot zone which had been generated by a computer program, in the where the officials Forest Department's jeep. It was a place deep in the woods had never checked. There beneath the thick canopy of tall pine trees was a lone wooden hut. The men armed themselves in the jeep before surrounding the hut. There was most certainly someone there for the lights were on and the door was unlocked. One of the

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officers barged into the room to find to everyone's surprise a huge collection of deer skin, rare beetles bottled in jars filled with formal dehyde and butterflies kept in plastic boxes. But there was no one there. However Yashwant's guess was correct for they had found the residence of the poacher. They left things as they were and silently moved back to the jeep waiting for the poacher to come. A little while later, they saw in the distance a small flash of light which grew in radius every minute.

"This must be the poacher", whispered one.

"Yes", whispered another.

The man carrying the light was draped in a black shawl. As soon as he entered the door of his hut the officers surrounded him with their guns poised. The man understood that he had no hope left and submitted without hesitation.

"I must inform you that whatever you speak could be used against you..." Yashwant could hear in the background. He grinned and lit a cigarette in the dark of the woods and thought to himself, "Mathematics, you beauty!"

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The Sound of the Wild

Surabhi Pakhrin
2nd Sem, Department of English

Being a botanist Professor Frederick loved exploring the wild and admiring the beauty of wild flowers. It was during one of the summer vacations that Frederick visited his grandmother's cottage. As a child he loved going there for the wonderful surrounding of the place which gave his soul an immense tranquility. The cottage was situated near a small pond which was adorned by white lotuses, giving it a crystal look. The back door of the house opened to a small forested area which was full of beautiful wild flowers. Granny was fond of gardening so the house was surrounded with flowers and plants which doubled the beauty of the place and made it look magical.

Professor Frederick would often tell his students about his extreme fondness for the wild world, "It's the smell and the beauty of the wild that attracts me towards it, when you study about plants you have to go to many areas for collecting plants but when you venture in the wild for your study once, eventually wanderlust leads you towards it again and again. The beauty of the wild flowers brings out the child in me; I would grab it all at once".

During one of the hot summer days Professor Frederick thought of having a walk in the forest near the cottage. As soon as he had stepped out of the back door and taken few steps in the wild, he felt his heart rejoicing. The air was filled with freshness and mixture of aromas which made his heart and soul rejoice. The sweet song of the birds, the stridulation of the insects,the greenery of the jungle and the beauty of the colorful wild flowers was extremely calming and relaxing. Professor Frederick thought to himself that he would spend all his life here amidst the beauty with no luxury at all rather than in the well-developed cities where greenery has been long lost. When he was in the middle of the forest, his eyes fell upon a beautiful flower. The flower was the size of a hand, its deep pinkish hue with a tinge of yellow which looked like its veins with its imbricate aestivation looked wonderful and moreover the flower was totally of a new kind. Professor Frederick had never seen or read of one of a kind, it was a new discovery but that did not make him as happy as the beauty of the flower did. Being a scholar he knew most of the wild flowers were poisonous and it wasn't a sane idea to smell the flower but he had a strong desire to do so and eventually had to relinquish his desire. The flower had a strong smell which immediately captured his brain. Slowly things started blurring out and the sounds of the birds started diminishing. Darkness and silence filled the surrounding.

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After some time Professor Frederick could see a faint light and he also heard some strange sound. He tried to figure out the sound and he realized that it wasn't any humanely sound but it was the actual sound of the wild. The sweet songs of the birds, the stridulation of insects were accompanied by some other sounds as well. These were the sounds no human civilization had ever heard. The trees, plants, flowers and even the tiniest grass made some kind of a strange sound. The trees sounded rough and deep just as their size, the plants were calm and content as them, the flowers were peacefully humming sweet tunes just the match of their beauty and the tiny grass just like children were in their play. Professor Frederick was exulted by the sublime beauty of the world of the plants. They lived in a world like ours where they were happy and had their own way of living and also had their own language. This is the beauty of creation- every element in their own state has a world in which they live and enjoy. He wondered how much pain did it cause when the trees were chopped down or when the plants were plucked; yet no human ever heard their pain. Professor Frederick didn't realize it was dark until he heard a distant voice of his grandmother. He wanted to return but something kept holding him; the beauty of the wild, the sounds and the feelings.

Professor Frederick was startled when he felt a hand on his shoulder, he turned around to see his grandmother's helper boy, " Sir what are you doing here this late, Granny is worried about you". Without any further word they started moving towards the cottage. After dinner Professor Frederick kept thinking about the day's incident. He knew that whatever he saw was a hallucinatory thing caused by the wild flower but he still couldn't get rid of the sound of the wild and the feeling he got which deeply ached in his heart.



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Golden Jubilee Celebration of Religious Life



Simon Bara
4th Sem, M.A. English

The air was filled with great joy and thanksgiving on the morning of 12th November, 2019, as Fr. (Dr.) Mathew Pulingathil sdb, the Rector of Salesian College Siliguri celebrated his Golden Jubilee of religious life in the presence of Bishop Clement Tirkey (Bishop of Jalpaiguri Diocese) and Bishop Vincent Aind (Bishop of Bagdogra Diocese), with the large gathering of priests, nuns, teachers, students and the faithful from the hills of Darjeeling, Kalimpong and Mirik where he has rendered his service as a Salesian priest.

The Holy Mass was celebrated in Don Bosco Shrine, Siliguri. The church was fully packed with the people who came for the joyous occasion. The candidates of Missionary Sisters of Mary Help of Christian added a prayerful atmosphere with angelic voices. Father Rector himself was the main celebrant and gave an excellent homily touching upon every sphere of life. His trust in God, his belief in divine providence, his unshakable faith in God, his joy and happiness as a religious were well reflected in his homily. It was noted and appreciated by everyone who heard his homily.

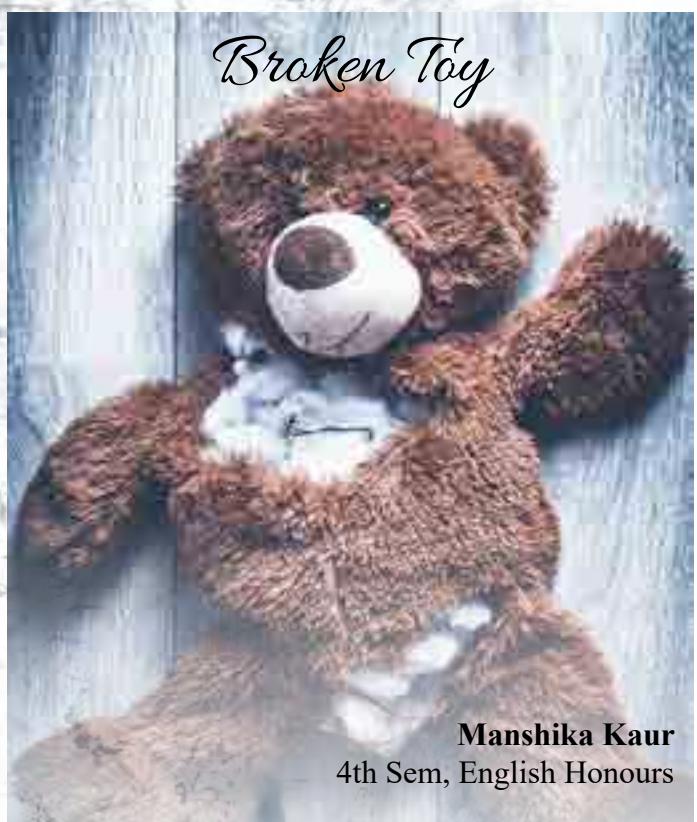
A Golden Jubilee is always an occasion of thanksgiving and celebration. After the Holy Mass a short felicitation programme was commenced at Killian Hall with an instrumental act and a group dance by the students. Fr. (Dr.) George Thadathil Sdb, the Principal of Salesian College Siliguri and Sonada, gave a brief sketch about Fr. Rector's life and his contribution towards the service of the young people and the needy, and his years of dedication to the college, while reading a paragraph from his own writing in ***Salesian College: A History that Speaks Today,*** released the same day by his uncle Mathew Pulingathil sdb (Sr). Fr. Mathew was born in Kerala who left his home to follow the religious order in 1962. After seven years of studies he became a Salesian in 24th May 1969 in Shillong, Meghalaya. After completing his philosophical and theological studies he was ordained as a priest. He completed his B.Ed from Calcutta University. He further went to complete his Ph.D from Pontifical University, Rome in 1968.

Fr. Mathew Pulingathil sdb treasures his union with the Lord and will not miss his daily celebration of the Eucharist, the recitation of the Rosary, his Breviary and the reading of the scripture. He has always been very close to people and empathetic to their joys and sorrows. It is only because of this reason many people from the hills of Darjeeling, Kalimpong and Mirik came to show their love and affection to Fr. Mathew Pulingathil. In this way he has been able to touch the hearts of people wherever he went. His sharp memory assists him to remember the names of the families and the individuals therein. He has pastor's heart and has helped innumerable youth to complete their academic and professional studies. He is ever ready to help the needy and poor youngsters for their studies. He is a prolific reader and uses the time available to him to read books and scripture. He lives a very simple and abstemious life, straight forward in expressing his views and corrections.

Fifty years of religious service in the mission to serve the young people especially the poor ones is a great grace of the Lord and we thank God for having gifted us with such an exemplary priest to imitate. We pray that God may extend to him many more years of fruitful service, good health of mind and body and a peaceful and joy filled life.

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Broken Toy



Manshika Kaur
4th Sem, English Honours

The store was brand new.
And it was finally time for my queue.
My maker proudly said that I would bring joy.
No one knew but maybe I was a broken toy.

Everything felt right to me about myself.
Maybe not the time when I attempted to jump out of the shelf.
My left eye started glitching which I didn't enjoy.
So, it was proved that I was indeed a broken toy.

There was a problem with me but I was still happy.
The smile plastered on my face didn't allow me to be snappy.
People looked at me with disgust but I didn't let it destroy.
Now everyone else but I knew that I was a broken toy.

I didn't wait for anyone to come pick me up.
Along with the glitching and the fixed smile, I just stayed there in my own cup.
When I finally came out of my cup being all coy;
It seemed that the outer world like me were nothing but, a "broken toy".

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Life Line

Manshika Kaur,
4th Sem, English Honours

She was having a really bad day.
To make it better, she couldn't find a way.
She had a huge argument, her car broke down.
Seemed like she was wearing 'the worst day' labelled crown.

Emotionally disturbed and unexplainable responses.
It wasn't just one day and so she decided to quit
Giving destiny second chances.
She cried a bucket which didn't help.
Decided to keep quiet about her decision and not yelp.

Distressed, reckless, broken she walked home with a blade.
It was night; no sunlight, yet someone provided her shade.
At the doorstep she was with the weapon clutched tightly.
"Hey that piece of writing about life last year was amazing, good job",
Said her neighbor politely.

Small smile played on her lips as she went inside.
Her face definitely showed a hint of pride.
That night, one could see a lot of the colour red.
But instead of her wrist, it was her pen that bled.

(Small compliments and appreciations can save lives)

Colour Blind



Manshika Kaur
4th Sem, English Honours

Red, blue, green, purple..
I used to see these colours even in a plain round circle.
Colours added life to things...
It resembled the face of a common man who magically found out a ton of golden rings.

I used to love the colours and spitted on black and white..
Those are boring, no one cares, right?
Today I saw a poor sketch of a girl drawn on a wall with just a dot of red colour on her dress.

It was a drawing of a child, his mother came in and said, "sorry he's colorblind, he makes everything a mess".
For the first time I felt like the colour was a stain..
It's then that I realised that my eyes were washing away the so-called "coloured rain"..

And now I could see the colourless rainbow which not only added life but soul too.
And the ones who can't see that,
Well, they are all just bloody fools.

Hope Nirbhaya is never born again

Disha Jaiswal
2nd Sem, Economics Honours

Groaning in pain, I was lying blood stained amongst Delhi's hushed lane
If you remember 16th December, 2012 I'm sure you could recall me as well
Appalled, assaulted and almost dead and there was nothing worse, which could happen next .
When taken to the hospital and I got a bit of my sense back,
I realised the last bus journey has torn my me apart
Agitated and hopeless lying on the hospital cot, with tears rolling down my cheeks
I question myself, "what's the wrong that I did ?"
I was forced, robbed, drubbed and molested multiple times and when I tried to refrain
A rod was pushed in tearing much of my intestine
My survival was non-viable, I knew it but all I wanted was justice
I wasn't alone, the nation stood for me.
But yes, to the advocates fighting against me,
"I feel you have no notion of what humanity is"
7 years of long, harsh struggle where my mom and dad still fighting for me, amidst all the taunts and support of the society
Yes, this girl won the war by making sure the convicts reach the gallows
You call me NIRBHAYA right?
The fearless one
Honouring me with the '2013 International women of Courage Award'
But the cost paid by me was very large
I wish I was just Jyoti Singh
Known by only few of my friends
People call me their inspiration
But I hope I don't hear about
Another NIRBHAYA again

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Reasons



Sangita Soren
4th Sem, English Honours

Walking through the passing time
Feeling so burned as if I'm dipped in lime;
A voice inside of me says it will pass by
Don't want to, but it makes me put on a lie.

People makes me tumble down often
But there are reasons for me to soften,
Holding on my pain I'm still going on
With the hope that I'll have someone to hold upon.

My head getting messed by all the worries
I wish I could have someone to give me a promise;
To be by my side all way long
Not to rely on, but to become a part of my life song.

All day dreaming
Keeps the light in my mind beaming,
Somewhere deep within me I know
There is always sunshine after snow.

With that hope within me
I get a beautiful vision to see;
And knowing that I'll be there one day
Give me reasons to live each day.

The ache I feel through my bones

Sophia Sumi
4th Sem, English Honours

The ache I feel through my bones
have definitely helped my growth,

How numb have I grown...?
Maybe I myself could be used,
to define it.

No, these thorns don't prick me anymore,
Because lately, I've been growing into one.

These Eyes have seen ample pain and shed enough tears,
Now it feels like it was all they were meant for.

These lips have prayed,
These knees have knelt.

And If at all I was to be answered,
By now I should have been!

The hollowness...?
No, they don't unnerve me anymore.
Because embracing them is still a harder fight.

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A Wolf Within

Subhradeep Sharma
2nd Sem, English Honors

Look into my eyes and you will see;
A cold hunters gaze, a spirit so free.
Lying still, under blanket of snow;
Prey unaware, down below.
Warmth and rest is needed now;
"Stay here," a stern, low growl.
Although hungry, thirsty and cold,
The pack obeys, do as they're told.
Rested well, all wolves awake
Snow fireworks, as they shake.
Yawning, huge fangs, exposed;
Steel traps, down to the bone.
Follow the leader, heads hung low;
All in line, crushing deep snow.
Anxious for meat, bellies are bare,
They must kill, forest beware!
Soon they spot a way to survive;
Using their skills to stay alive.
Running fast, each takes a route;
When beside, upon it they mount.
Death is quick, no more fight;
Feasting all throughout the night.
Leaving melted crimson snow;
Moon is full, they all must go.
The highest rock they climb atop;
The pack united and strong.
They howl in blended harmonies,
Strengthening their bond.
Some feel very close to the wolf;
A sense deep down inside;
A wilderness soul, out alone;
Temptress full moon high.



सार

Subhash Saha
3rd Year, Political Science Honours

तेरी जुल्फ़ों में दिल आजा
उलझा है ऐसे,
के दिल बाग़ बाग़ हे।
के दिल आज गुस्ताख़ हे।

के तेरी मासूम सी हंसी में
दिल बिस्मिल हे ऐसे,
के मेरी हर शाम
अब बदनाम हे।

के तेरी आँखों में,
के तेरी नादानियो में,
के तेरी हर लफ्ज़ में,
हफ़-दर-हफ़,

मैने खुद को
ही खोया हे
और खुद को
ही पाया है।

उलझा हूँ ऐसे,
बिस्मिल हु ऐसे,
के दिल बाग़ हे।
के दिल गुस्ताख़ हे।

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यथार्थता

रोबिन राई
कलेज अफिस

अम्बरमा उड़ी रहने मेघ सरि
बर्षा ऋतुको यो सावने झरी
प्रतिभेश खोज्दछु, केही अक्षर जड़ी
सूर्य-बर्षाको यो अदभूत दृष्य हेरी।

इन्द्रेणीको रंगको अलौकिक छ मेल
भाग्य विधाताको यो अबुजन खेल
मोहले बाधिएको असाय धीर मनुष्य
हर क्षण चिन्तन्, वर्तमान भविष्य।



प्रेम, भय, मर्कालें सुसज्जित यो जीवन धन,
न जाने भो बिलाई यो अशान्त मन,
निस्पट अन्धकार छाउँछ, प्रकाश छाउँछ फेरी
अचम्बीत निशतब्ता आउँछ, पशु-पक्षी हेरी

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न त कर्म, न त धर्मले नै छ बेरी
न कर्तव्य, न सुख-सम्मानले नै छ घेरी
स्वतन्त्रता, सन्तोषको परिभाषा सिकाँउछ मलाई
भन्न खोज्छ, मानव यहीमा छ भलाई।

इच्छा, आकांक्षाका हुन्न कुनै आकार
अनेकौं सपना हुन्छन्, हुन्छ एक साकार
दुवै हातमा उठाऊ ... उठाऊ मानव जन
यही हुन् छरिएर बसेका सुधा धन।

प्रसारिदैछ ग्यान्पु विशाणुको त्रास यहाँ
सजीवताको प्रत्याभूति कसले लिनसक्छ कहाँ ?
अधुरो नै रह्यो यहाँ असङ्ख्येय सपनाहरू
द्वेश, डाहा, अभिमान त्यागि स्वातन्त्र हुनू वेश बरू
ईश्वरीय उपहार यो जीवनी, यर्थाथमा जीउने प्रयास गरूँ।।



Re-reading Camus: Meursault as an Outsider

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Meursault is a character from the novel, "The Outsider", by Albert Camus. Meursault is the outsider to which the novel's title refers. He is a distant, detached character who has led an unremarkable life in a small, north-African town. However, everything changes when he murders an Arab youth on a deserted beach. He is put on trial by the society that considers him so alien, and is eventually sentenced to death.

He is an outsider, alien because he recognises the absurdity of life. In the eyes of the society Meursault is an outsider, peculiar and detached man, who does not understand how everything is supposed to function around him. Meursault does not understand why events, such as marriage or death of a loved one, usually have a sentimental value for people and this is what makes him appear as numb and disconnected with them. When Meursault is first introduced in the novel, he has to attend his mother's funeral in Marengo. As he talks about the funeral he almost seems indifferent towards the fact that his mother had died, he even said, "it's still a little as if Mama hadn't died." One can understand the apathy he felt towards his mother's death, since she had been living in a retirement home for years, Meursault was disconnected with her, he was used to her absence, so his reaction could be justified. However, in the eyes of the society, this kind of behaviour is regarded as bizarre and the fact that he did not show any kind of emotion in his mother's funeral contributes to the strange image of Meursault.

As the novel progresses Meursault finds himself in a perplexing situation when he commits a murder without any clear motive. It emerges that the only reason he can give for murdering the youth is that the sun got into his eyes, disorienting him. As he is being interviewed, Meursault tries to convince his lawyer that he did not know the man he killed and that he shot him for no particular reason. The lawyer is a representative of the society, a 'normal' man and he does not understand Meursault's way of thinking. Also when the judge interrogates him he kept asking him why he shot the Arab five times even though he was dead with the first shot but Meursault didn't have a concrete answer to his question because he actually didn't know why he had done so. He tells the magistrate that it was by chance that he happened to have a gun in his possession. During the trail the jury are horrified not by the crime but by his outlook of life. They gasp when they learn that he had put his mother in a retirement home, and had not cried at her funeral. The prosecution outline that they will prove premeditation with "the blinding evidence of the fact to begin with and then by exposing the dark workings of this criminal soul." The former establishes the crime but the latter condemns the man.

Later, the prosecution demands the death penalty based not on the severity of the crime but rather in the repulsion they feel towards the character. The prosecutor remarks, "though in the course of my long career I have often had occasion to demand capital punishment, never before have I felt this onerous task so fully compensated and counterbalanced, not to say enlightened by a sense of urgent and sacred duty as well as by the horror which I feel at the sight of a man in whom I see nothing but a monster."

Before the sentence is carried out, Meursault has a conversation with a priest:

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"He was expressing his certainty that my appeal would be allowed, but I was burdened with a sin from which I must free myself. According to him human justice was nothing and divine justice was everything. I pointed out that it was the former which had condemned me."

Regardless of the circumstances in which the crime occurred, Meursault is happy to take responsibilities for his actions and sees no reason to appeal to higher authorities to relieve himself of that responsibility. He tells the priest:

"I told him I didn't know what sin was, I'd simply been told that I was guilty. I was guilty and I was paying for it and there was nothing more that could be asked of me."

It is only on the second last page of the novel that Meursault expresses his true absurdist nature. The priest tells him "I am here for you. But you cannot understand that because your heart is blind. I will pray for you." But Meursault does not want or need the priest's prayers. He explodes in rage:

"He seemed so sure of himself, didn't he? But not one of his certainties was worth a single strand of a woman's hair. He wasn't even sure he was alive because he lived life as if he were dead. I may look as if I had nothing but I was sure of myself, sure of everything, sure of my life, sure of my impending death. Yes, that was all I had. But at least I had a hold on that truth as much as it had a hold on me."

Meursault is honest about his own mortality, and so is free. It is not much of a freedom but it's the only freedom we can have. Any other freedom is an illusion. All we can do is live a whole life, no matter how short or tortured it may be, and be true, not to any "human nature", but to our actions, and not shy away from taking responsibility for them. We cannot avoid death but as Meursault says, we can embrace it as much as it embraces us. The absurdity of life is not that it is meaningless, but that its meaning is arbitrary. In taking responsibility for our action, we draw out a meaning as we move onward.

There is another very striking characteristic of Meursault which is he doesn't lie, no matter what situation he is in or no matter what situation his words may put him in. There are many instances in the novel that show us this aspect of the character one of which is when he doesn't lie to his boss when he asks him how old his mother was and tells him he doesn't remember, he could've lied but he chose to tell the truth. He had his own set of principles according to which he led his life even though he didn't follow the norms of the society he stayed true to his own set of principles and followed it with utmost sincerity.

To conclude, Meursault is obviously an outsider to the society, since his behaviour is regarded as bizarre and amoral. Even though he is aware of the norms of the society he refuses to change in order to become accepted by the society, as it is against his principles to act like somebody you aren't just to please someone else, it is insignificant to him. Lastly, he is not an outsider to the natural environment as he is so familiar with it, it even started to affect his emotions and mood. One can say that Meursault is an outsider to the society but not to the environment and himself as he was the only person who completely understood him and even though he didn't have a place in the society he was in harmony with himself.

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Philip Larkin and the Movement Poetry



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Discussions about poetic groups and movements are often confusing and misleading. Some critics have a tendency to approach literary history with simple formulas or convenient labels, thereby effacing the complex social and cultural dimensions of particular literary works. Philip Larkin (1922-1985) is always pointed out as one of the well-known English poets of the 1950s, if not the major one. As a poet his reputation rests most on his *The Less Deceived* (1955) which brought him to recognition as an important poet, and also on his association with the Movement. In case of Philip Larkin, a good deal of critical debate has been concerned with the existence- real or imagined- of a group of writers known as the Movement. The common assumption is that the Movement was largely a reaction against the inflated romanticism of the 1940s, a victory of common sense and clarity over obscurity and mystification, of verbal restraint over stylistic excess: in short, the virtues of Philip Larkin over those of Dylan Thomas.

The term was coined by the J.D. Scott to describe the works of a group of poets. "The Movement that dominated the literary scene of England in the 1950s refers to a mode of writing shared by a group of poets, including Kingsley Amis, Robert Conquest D.J. Enright, Tom Gunn, John Holloway, Elizabeth Jennings, John Wain and Philip Larkin" (Swarbrick, 69). Conquest's anthology, *New Lines*' set the agenda for the group. Donald Davie is another poet included under this category. "These poets rebelled against the modernist tendency, exemplified by TS Eliot and Ezra Pound, to make poetry pedantic through the use of allusions, mythology and intersexual references. They also blamed the critic for deliberately preferring and popularizing difficult poets." (Nayar 367) Larkin attacked the cunning merger between poet, literary critic and academic critic.

While modernists embraced experimentation of form, The Movement embraced the forms and conventions of previously established poetic genres, embracing structure in reaction against the Modernist's abandonment of structure. In addition, while Modernists adhered to anti-realism, The 'Movement' reflected the reality of the mundane commonplace that was more realistic than the realism begun in the Romantic period. Whereas Wordsworth, the founder of English poetic Romanticism, laced his realism with metaphor and what might be called low poetic diction, The 'Movement' eschewed literary devices, strived for plain, direct language devoid of simile, metaphor, symbolism and other literary technique. The Movement poets sought to simplify poetry by writing in the language of everyday life - even using foul language and the slang of the streets - so that it appealed to everyone.

The origin of Movement Poetry may be traced to a series of events in the years that followed the death of Dylan Thomas. To begin with, on 1st October 1954, there appeared an anonymous article in "The Spectator", the purpose of which was apparently to ring out current poetic norms and usher in a new era in poetic fashion. With this aim, the article spoke at length about the changing times and how, change being the law of life it is but desirable that literature, too, should change accordingly.

The writers of the new, Movement thus emerged as a reaction to the older generation of poets. They were described as taking on a stance antithetical to that of T.S. Eliot in that they were sceptical, robust, ironic, prepared to be as comfortable as possible in a wicked, commercial, threatened world. Today when we speak of the Movement, we generally refer to this group of

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loosely linked poets. It is a reactionary movement in the sense that these poets share a mutual dislike for their immediate predecessors in poetry, T.S. Eliot, Auden and Dylan Thomas etc. .

The Movement poets were antagonistic towards Eliot because much of his work is too clever and too allusive to be understood by the common man. As for Auden, his works, again, are intellectually demanding although in a manner different from Eliot's. It is political in the sense that it speaks of the conditions between the two wars, the insecurity, the hardships and the growing mechanization of life. Dylan Thomas, too, went out of favour with the Movement, but for entirely different reasons. There was protest against Thomas's excesses. His poems were too spontaneous, too full of emotion to be considered mature. Some common features of the Movement Poetry are-1. It was largely a reaction against the inflated romanticism of 1940s. 2. It was the product of specific views about literature and society. 3. The use of wit and irony is a prominent feature and this often produces a poetry which seems defensive and guarded. 4. Much of this poetry surely strives for clarity and intelligibility. 5. The prevailing tone of the poetry of the Movement is urbane and academic; and many of the poems are too neatly prescriptive and look like pieces of versified literary criticism. 6. Some of the titles provide an indication of bookish or middle brow attitude. 7. The cool ironic aloofness or intellectual detachments in some poems are shocking.

With Philip Larkin and the Movement poet, the identity of the poet is stripped of its glamour and the poet becomes an ordinary man talking about ordinary things in a language that though versified sounds quite prosaic. Kingsley Amis rightly comments- "Nobody wants any more poems about philosophers or paintings or novelists or art galleries or mythology or foreign cities or other poems". (qtd. in Morrison 61) Further another scholar says- "The main thrust of Larkin's poetry lay in a realistic representation of mundane problems of daily existence." (Niazi Abbas 101) As a human being, the poet is in no way special, nor is there any reason to glorify his life. This is Philip Larkin's attitude in poem after poem. Even childhood, which is traditionally depicted as an ideal, golden period, is portrayed as dull and uninteresting. Larkin is not like the romantic poets who celebrate the innocence of the child and the intimation of immortality during childhood.

The poem *"Church Going"* was published in his poetic collection *"The Less Deceived"* in 1954. Blake Morrison has shown how well a poem such as *"Church Going"* fits the Movement "programme" by carefully balancing agnostic dissent with a susceptibility to tradition and belief; it appears to be both reverent and irreverent. In keeping with Movement preferences, the poem has traditional iambic structure and a lucid, rational argument, its speaker is presented as an ordinary fallible and clumsy individual. It is a poem which testifies to the persistence of both the English church and the English poetic tradition. (Morrison 225-237) Samuel Hynes in reviewing Morrison's book claims that Larkin's work is more expansive and wide-ranging than that of other Movement poets.

"Larkin's *"Church Going"* echoes the circumstances and inclinations of post war England. Not only does this poem honestly reflects the war weary sensibility but also coalesce the poetic strings of the Movement group with which the poet got associated time and again." (Niazi Abbas 106) An everyday concern of the common man is religion. This is the subject Larkin takes up in *"Church Going"*. However there is no direct treatment of the subject. Larkin himself says that in the poem he is concerned with going to the church, not religion. But the Church becomes a representative institution, and when Larkin speaks of it, he is at the same time concerned with religion. The opening lines of the poem are important for what they imply –

> "Once I am sure there's nothing going on
> I step inside, letting the door thud shut."
> (Church Going)

The narrator probably would not have entered if some religious activity had been going on inside. He would have felt uncomfortable, embarrassed, and ill at ease. He belongs to an age that is in ferment, the old being obsolete and the new not yet fit to take its place. Hence values that were believed in earlier no longer provide spiritual support.

The dilemma of the twentieth century man, as Larkin sees it, is what to believe in if not religion. *"Church Going"* has been described by G. S. Fraser as "The

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Movement's prize poem". It presents a true picture of the post-war welfare state Englishman: "Shabby and piety not concerned with his appearance; poor—he has a bike, not a car; gauche but full of agnostic piety; underfed underpaid, overtaxed, hopeless, bored, and wry". (Alvarez) In other words, the protagonist of *"Church Going"* is another variation of the "unknown" citizen that Auden spoke of in the thirties.

Philip Larkin's "At Grass" is also taken from, The Less Deceived' is essentially a Movement poem which depicts Larkin's close scrutiny of life, its maturity and death. It is realistic in every detail. When Larkin speaks of superannuated race-horses in *"At Grass"* the idea that Larkin tries to get across is that old age, like youth, is a necessary part of life and one must accept it calmly when it comes. *"At Grass"* is a serene picture of old age, the heyday of youth having gone by and the shadows gradually lengthening in the sunset of life. We are told that the poem was probably inspired by a newsreel film on Brown Jack, the racehorse in his retirement (Timms). The horses that Larkin speaks of have enjoyed glorious times, but now have slipped into oblivion.

"Almanacked, their names live; they
Have slipped their names, and stand at ease…"
(At Grass)

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The poem belongs to Movement poem, and underneath its simplicity it identifies the poet's mentality which is stripped of its glamour and the poet becomes an ordinary man speaking in ordinary language which sounds prosaic. What Larkin tries to bring home is that like youth old age is a necessary part of life and we must accept it calmly when it apprehends us. *"At Grass"* is a serene picture of old age. The bright days of youth have passed on and the sunset of life is approaching.

Blake Morrison reads the poem as a political allegory, the race horses in old age symbolizing England's loss of power and glory. It is a "post-imperial" poem and uses the language of imperial achievement and imperial loss (Morrison 225-37). *"At Grass"* is an apparently simple poem that is open to several interpretations. Perhaps it would be best read as a poem that reiterates the main concern of Larkin, for instance, that expressed in "*Toads,*" or "*Toads Revisited.*" It advocates a harmony with nature, and agreement with the pace of time, and also preparedness for the approach of death. This, according to Larkin, would be the sensible attitude towards life.

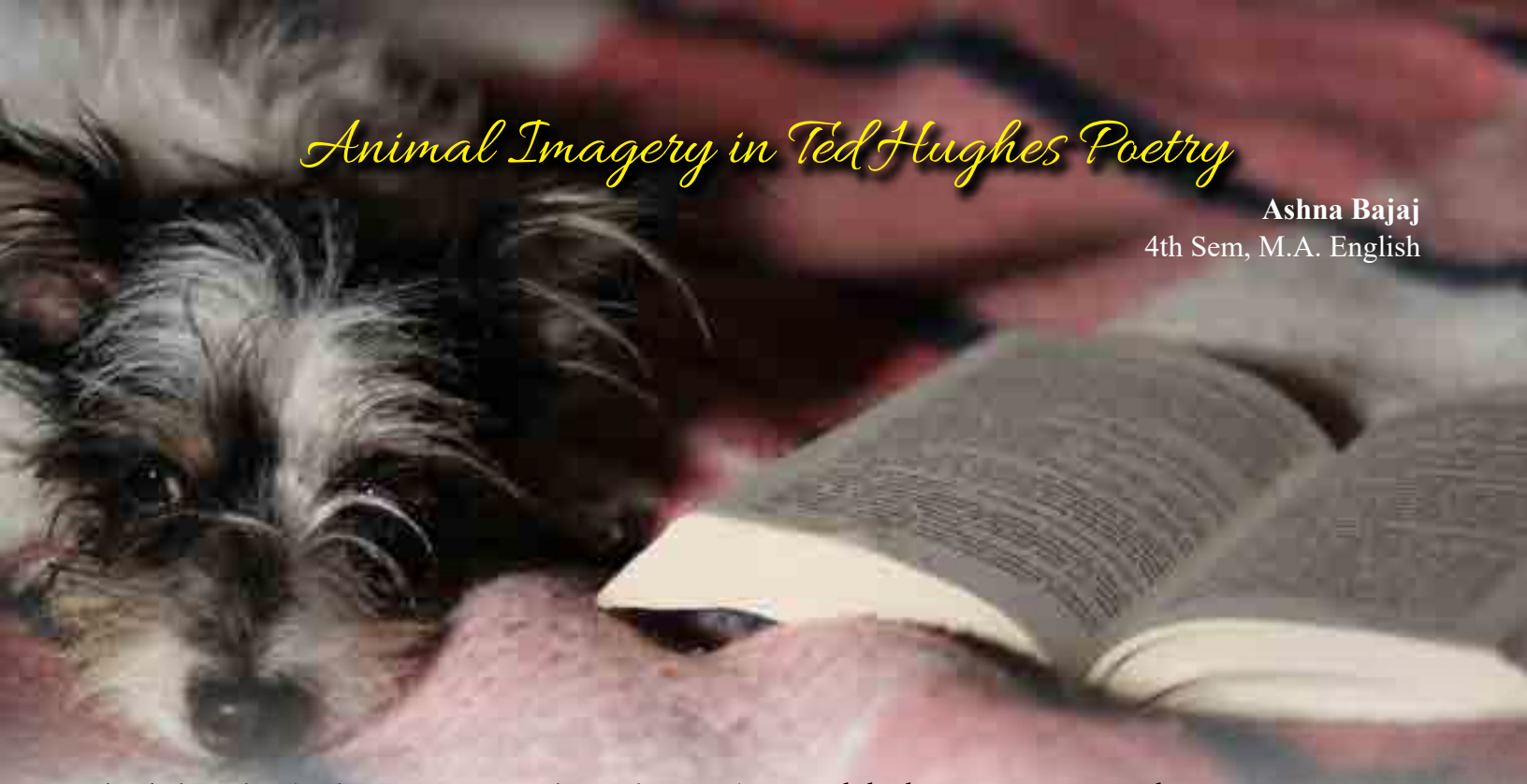
Summing up, from its uncertain beginnings in the 1950s, the Movement, reified in anthologies and bestowed a canon of its own, has come to define a prolific era of poetry. One should keep in mind that the Movement did not start as a proper literary group with a clear manifesto, that is, there is no an intricate pattern of alliances, or a precise set of principles acknowledged by these poets. To complicate the matter further many of the poets associated with the Movement claimed to have no sense of belonging to any literary groups or schools of poetry. Thus, the characteristics of the literary movement are explored through the analysis of individual poets. Accordingly, the Movement poetry has been defined through the poems, interviews and private writings of Philip Larkin. Eventually, Larkin's poetry was a response to an increasingly urgent need to represent the sensibilities of the post-war English society. He was attracted to the sense of provincialism that dominated the post-war era and wrote many poems depicting scenes from English provincial life. The strong sense of provincialism and anti-modernist principles in his poetry help establish a link between Larkin and the poetic style that came to be referred as the Movement.

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Animal Imagery in Ted Hughes Poetry

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Ted Hughes (17th August 1930-20th October 1998) is one of the most prolific poets of the Twentieth century in English literature. Hughes shattered the ironic placidity of The Movement and revived romantic concept of inspiration based in the instinctive and the primitive. His poems were filled with pastoral images of the decaying way of life as Britain moved farther from the rural and more towards the urban. Hughes harsh jagged and abrasive style rejected urban effects in favour of the turbulence of nature. An interest in archaeology and anthropology drew him towards the primitive, the exotic and the mythical traditions that lie in his animal poetry. The imagery in Hughes animal poetry is very appealing and highlights Hughes enormous powers of observation and exceptional capacity to embody his own observation in words. It is graphic and realistic. The language employed in describing the animals show originality, felicity and vivacity which further accentuates the vitality, fierceness and violence of the animal world. This preoccupation with violence and destruction has largely contributed to his notoriety as a poet specializing in the poetry of violence. However, in an interview publication in 1971, "*Ted Hughes and The Crow*" he opined that:

> "My poems are not about violence but vitality. Animals are not violent; they are much more completely controlled than men;"
>
> (Gifford and Robert, 13)

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While the primary purpose his imagery is to convey to the readers Hughes visual impression of the animals his symbolic purpose is to use them as metaphors of physical violence that reflects the inner violence of human beings. Most of his animal poems are collected in his collections *The Hawk in the Rain* (1957) and *Lupercal* (1960).

The Hawk in the Rain is a collection of forty poems dedicated to Hughes first wife, Sylvia Plath. She had typed out almost all his poems and submitted them to a competition being run by the Poetry Centre of the Young Men's and Young Women's Hebrew Association of New York. The book received immediate acclaim in both England and America, where it won the Galbraith Prize and was acknowledged by W. H. Auden, Stephen Spender, and Marianne Moore for its brilliance. Many of the poems imagine the real and symbolic lives of animals, including a fox, a jaguar, and the hawk.

The Thought-Fox is a brilliant poem in which the movements of a fox are compared to a process of writing poetry. In this poem instinct replaces intellect. At first the idea is seen but not felt. The task of a poet is to transform an idea into a poem. The movements of the fox are metaphor for the stages that are followed by a poet in writing a poem. The poem is about conflict of sensibilities.

"… Something more near
Through deeper within darkness
Is entering the loneliness:"
(Hughes, The Thought-Fox)

The title of the poem itself suggests the imagery of a fox being compared with the thought process of a writer before composing something great. Both the fox and the thought that is unreleased needs silence and solitude to ensue. The measured and quick steps of the fox is the process of contemplative writing, and the use of 'now' for the four times focuses on the careful steps of a fox which is a metaphor for the painstaking process of finding the right words to put that thought into words.

"…then now
And again now, and now, and now."
(Hughes, The Thought-Fox)

The Thought-*Fox* was the poet's way of permanently safeguarding his imagery by combining the two worlds in one poem. He accepted this creative impulse from his subconscious and captured it before it disappeared. While the fox is a symbol of inspiration and creative impulse and the jaguar in *The Jaguar* is a symbol of energy and freedom.

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In the poem *The Jaguar* is a striking contrast to the other animals in the zoo. The apes are yawning and adoring their fleas in the sun. The tigers and the lions are fatigued and indolent. They are bored and lethargic. In juxtaposition, the Jaguar has eyes which are sharp, penetrating, and which are almost blind because of the fire of rage in them. All other animals look as if they are painted on a wall, but the crowd is mesmerised at the fierce movements of the Jaguar. The Jaguar is deaf of ear because of "the bang of blood in the brain". He whirls about in his cage which is no cage to him. His stride is indicative of his feeling that he is absolutely free even though the bars of the cage do not allow him to move out of his prison. He feels so free and strong that the world seems to roll like a ball under the thrust of his heel.

"…His strides is wilderness of freedom:
The world rolls under the long thrust of his heels,
Over the cage floor the horizon come."
(Hughes, The Jaguar)

His inner freedom and monstrous spirit is not dampened with the bars of the cage. His imagination can't be restrained. Here is an example of Hughes's visual imagination, and his capacity to record his impressions in striking words and phrases like "by the bang of blood in the brain"; "the drills" of his eyes, "his stride is wildernesses of freedom". This poem is not just about observation but also of longing and affirmation. The Jaguar can be understood as a beautiful and a powerful maniac. The Jaguar in this poem symbolises all the visionaries of the world who kept alive the desire for freedom.

'Hawk Roosting' was published in his second collection *Lupercal* (1960). This poem is a sort of an internal monologue. The words of this poem flow through the mind of a hawk. The poem depicts a hawk sitting on a tree and "rehearsing perfect kills and eats". The hawk thinks about its power, its arrogance and its superiority. He is a megalomaniac and symbolic of the greed and tyranny of an oppressive dictator.

"It took the whole Creation
To produce my foot, my each feather:
Now I hold creation in my foot"
(Hughes, Hawk Roosting)

The beginning of the poem with first person 'I' is a sign of supreme ego of the hawk. It emphasises on the fierceness and cruelty of the hawk. The hawk can kill as he pleases because he thinks the whole world is his domain. He thinks himself to be the arbitrator of life and death. The allotment of death is his privilege. However, if we look at it from a different perspective it is humans who came up with the concept of violence and the hawk itself is only doing what is in his primitive nature. It is in his nature to tear off heads and he cannot be held guilty for it because nature has made him to be carnal and unapologetic. According to Dyson:

"Violence, for him is an occasion not for reflection, but for being; it is a guarantee of energy, of life, and most so, paradoxically, when it knows itself in moments of captivity, pain or death"
("Ted Hughes", 220)

His masterpiece *Wodwo* (1967) and the subsequent volume Crow: *In the Life and Songs of Crow* (1970)

stand as brilliant examples of Absentist poetry. *The Crow* was among Hughes's later poems, and it was published between 1967 to 1971.The collection *Crow* exemplifies portrayal of the horror of creation resembling a Beckett like grim and sardonic vision.

The themes of lack of faith in religion and absurdity help him develop a distinct imaginative world of animals and nature. In this mytho-poetic work Hughes very effectively portrays the crow as an invisible creature as the culprit of all creations. Hughes idea of absentist poetry was that the roles of humans are secondary to animals, thus dismissing the notion that humans have a prime position on earth. God is seen as a father figure who is imperfect and friendly and the crow as a quasi-human figure who continues his own journey of exploration into the human psyche and alternative sense of consciousness.

In this cycle and through the figure of the Crow he sought to explain humanity. Crow is a trickster, a bringer of chaos set at once against both God and his creation. He takes the role of mankind attempting to seek and dominate all that he sees. Sex is not a creation of God but the Crow who splits Gods son into two and implants half in each man and woman. Thus the sexes are drawn inexorably together so that the worm can become a whole new human child. Sex is a cosmic joke, inflicted by trickster Crow while God was asleep.

The Crow identifies as God in *The Childish Prank* and creates impulses and desires in mankind. The Crow infuses man with sexuality and animal lust. He also identifies as Satan. The Crow tries to help Adam and Eve because they are without souls and their life is dull and boring. When the severed part of the worms get back together, Adam and Eve are acquainted with a strange feeling and are confused. The Crow' slaughter is bitter, harsh and farcical. The Crow is beyond human needs and mocks the perplexity of mankind.

Hughes writes about the "absolute ego of survival" as the will to live. His heroes are monsters of destruction. His animal poems symbolise the degradation of modern man and the dreadful dimensions of mankind... Violence, horror, terror in the animal poems throw light on the dark side of mankind. It is also a implication of Darwin's theory of "the survival of the fittest" that influences it further. Dyson observes:

> "No poet of the past has quite managed to internalise the murderousness of nature through such brilliant objective meaning and with such economy…he has a gift of presenting image and thoughts in context of hurtling action; there is strong narrative and dramatic element in all his projections, and the pacing is of the varied, shifting kind employed by skilled narrator impatient of any description or comment that is in any way inert."
>
> (Dyson, Three 125)

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Death, Memory And Madness In Norwegian Wood

Samjhana Rai
4th Sem, English Honours

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"In the midst of life everything revolved around death."

There is a "field well": deep and dark. How would it feel to be stuck at the bottom of this well with no hope of escape or rescue; with no one but the remains of those who fell into the well before you? Their bones are littered around you and you can do nothing but wait there alone to die slowly. Sure, it is a terrible way to die and maybe that is why people choose to die on their own, to end their misery quickly, before they fall into the *"well"*. Because no matter what the people from outside the well will never know what it really is like there. Most of them won't even see the *'well'* but it does exist and people do fall into it. Naoko feels that she is on the verge of falling into the *'well'* and it all started when Kizuki died or perhaps even before that.

"People leave strange, little memories of themselves behind when they die."

Something that is dead is dead. Nobody can do anything about it. Yet people keep the grief and sadness within their hearts for a long, long time. It's not the dead that bring sadness to the living but the memories that are left behind by them. Memories make wo/man. What would we be if we had no memories? But it is also the same thing that makes a person miserable. Haruki Murakami in dealing with the lives of Toru, Naoko, Midori, Reiko, etc. 'Norwegian Wood' also deals with their losses and madness that comes along with such a grief. To lose something very dear to oneself is so painful that it drives people crazy. With every precious thing that we lose we lose a little bit of ourselves.

Naoko loses Kizuki and her sister; Toru loses Kizuki and Naoko; Reiko loses her dream and Midori loses her family. Each of them, however, approaches these losses in their lives differently and deals with them in different manners; some do it better than the others but with equal difficulty.

Kizuki and Naoko have been friends and lovers since childhood. Kizuki and Toru have been friends since schooldays. Kizuki dies at the age of seventeen leaving behind Naoko and Toru with an enormous emotional gap in their lives. Kizuki's death puts Naoko in an unstable state of emotions. She slips into de-

pression which is always bordering around madness and she is very well aware of it.

After Kizuki's death the link between Naoko and Toru is also lost but they meet after two years and Toru falls in love with her. But Naoko has changed. When Toru sees her, he says,

> *"No one who had known her at school could have imagined her like this. Back then she had dressed in real flair and surrounded herself with a million friends."*

This statement is a contrast to what she has become now. She keeps to herself and barely talks to anybody. Her talks are incoherent. She is always talking about things that others have a hard time understanding like the time when she talked about the *"field well"* to Toru. Nevertheless, Toru still falls in love with her. Naoko accepts Toru, to some extent, as well. However, she is not able to let him into her dark and gloomy world entirely.

Naoko is never truly able to let go of Kizuki's presence from her life: *"I feel like Kizuki is searching out for me from the darkness, calling out to me..."* nor is she able to get over her sister's death, who had died in a similar way to that of Kizuki. She feels like her sickness has far deeper roots than what is apparent. And although she says that no matter what Toru does or how long he waits for her she can no longer come back from the place that she has reached, she believes that Toru is her only link and support to sanity. As long as she sticks close to him, she will not fall into that "well" she talks about which represents the world of darkness and insanity to her.

But Naoko dies. Toru is devastated, a second time. Unlike Naoko what Toru loses when he loses the two most important people in his life is not sanity but his sense of belongingness. One's sense of belongingness is extremely important in order to survive.

> *"In the ten months between Kizuki's death and my exams, I was unable to find a place for myself in the world around me."*

This is not only the case when Kizuki dies but also when Naoko dies. Toru tries to fill the void left behind by Kizuki with sexual gratification. He dates and has physical relationship with one of the girls from his school which is hardly helpful. He finally leaves his hometown to get away. When Naoko dies, he loses all senses. He enters into a frenzied trance and goes around random places like a madman; eating, drinking(whiskey) and sleeping everywhere, not knowing where to go or what to do, losing all sense of belongingness and purpose. It was the same when he lost Kizuki and it is the same when he loses Naoko, only its magnitude of impact seems much greater.

> *"My memory remained fixed on the dead rather than the living."*

All this sadness, all this darkness, all these loneliness stem from but one place: memories. Memories of the dead that keep a person tied to the world of the dead makes it difficult to stay in the land of the living. However it is not just the death of a person that makes someone lose his/her sense of self but also the death of one's dream and that which makes one's self can break a person and lead him/her to that darkness.

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Reiko has been practicing piano ever since she can remember. She is an excellent pianist and it is her dream to be a concert pianist. But she is not able to take the opportunity when it comes to her. This puts her into depression and finally, madness.

> *"Take the piano from a girl who's grown up like that, and what's left? So then, snap! my mind became a complete jumble. Total darkness."*

Reiko meets Naoko in a sanatorium, and they become each other's walking stick in the dark and gloomy world where they are now living.

Death is one prominent theme in the novel and has been mentioned all throughout it. First Kizuki dies, then Naoko dies too. Also Midori, who studies with Toru and they share a kind of intimate relationship, faces a lot of deaths around her. Her mother dies first and then her father. She also mentions her relatives dying of sicknesses. She has a different view of death altogether. She isn't really sad when her parents or relatives die. She doesn't hate death nor is she scared to die. What she is most afraid is the slow process of dying, especially of illness where people become such that *"you almost can't tell whether the person is alive or dead."* She hates it the most.

"That's the kind of death that frightens me. The shadow of death slowly eats away at the region of life, and before you know it everything's dark and you can't see, and the people around you think of you as more dead than alive. I hate that. I couldn't stand it."

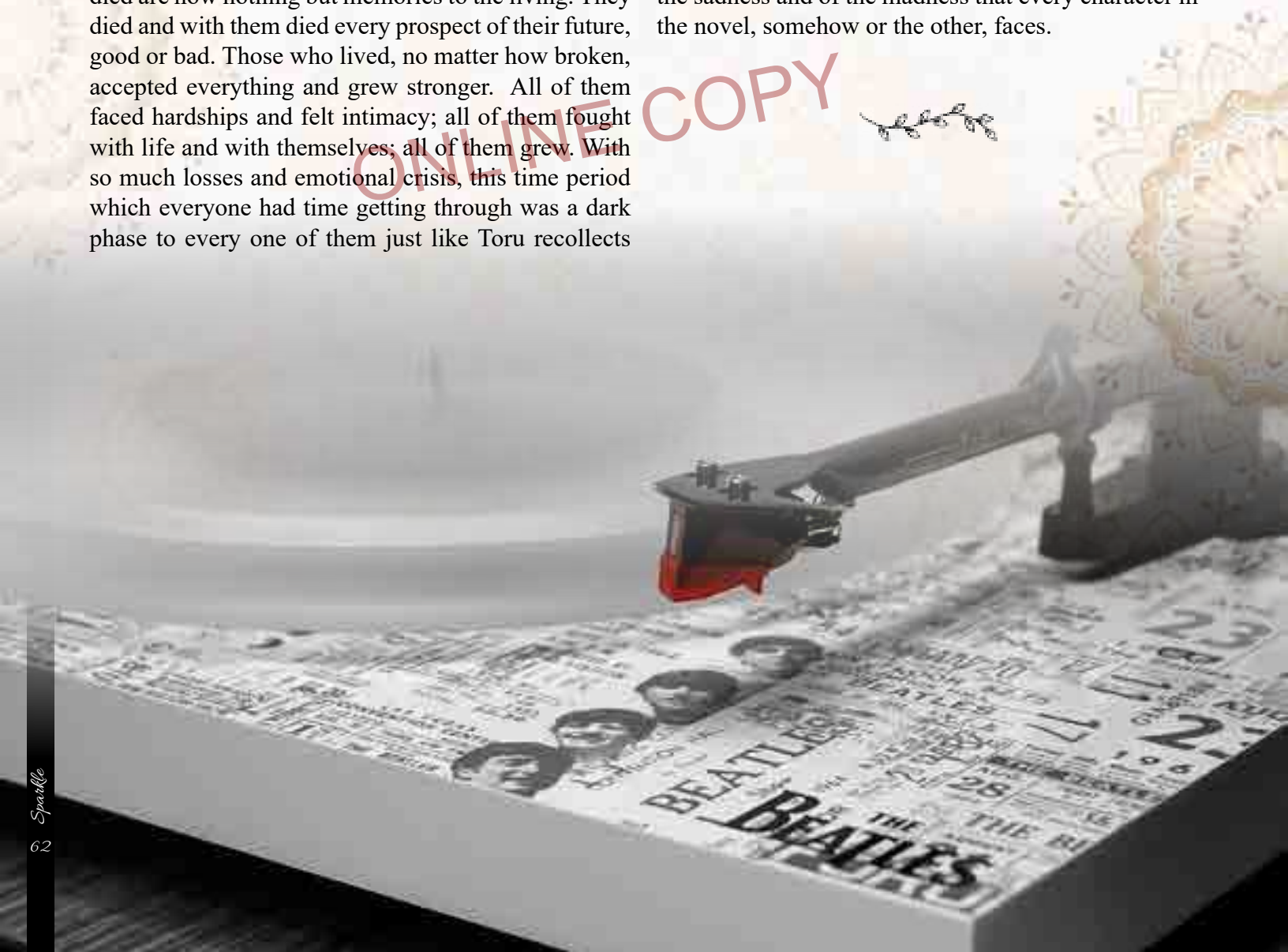
Unlike the rest of the characters, she might not have been intimately attached to the people around her and who died in front of her eyes that she would miss their presence to the point of driving her crazy but her insensitiveness and her indifference in feeling for them also stem from love and memories of the deceased people. Although in her case, it was 'love' that was never given and memories that were never fond. When asked by Toru if she hadn't been loved enough, she answers, *"Somewhere between 'not enough' and 'not at all'. I was always hungry for love."*

Life is unkind to all the characters. Some make it through while some give up halfway. Those who died are now nothing but memories to the living. They died and with them died every prospect of their future, good or bad. Those who lived, no matter how broken, accepted everything and grew stronger. All of them faced hardships and felt intimacy; all of them fought with life and with themselves; all of them grew. With so much losses and emotional crisis, this time period which everyone had time getting through was a dark phase to every one of them just like Toru recollects years later:

"Thinking back on the year 1969, all that comes to mind for me is a swamp - a deep, sticky bog that feels as if it's going to suck off my shoe each time, I take a step. I walk through the mud, exhausted. In front of me, behind me, I see nothing but the endless darkness of a swamp."

All these, the story of Kizuki, Naoko, Reiko, Midori and the rest has been a memory recollection of a thirty seven year old Toru Watanabe when he hears the nineteen sixties popular song 'Norwegian wood' by the American band *'The Beatles'* on a plane as he travels to Hamburg and it transports him back in time when this particular song had invoked memories of some other times and when this song had been connected to the lives of many people as they faced their darkness and sadness while growing up and old. The song "Norwegian wood" which is also the title of the book is symbolic of the memories, of the deaths, of the sadness and of the madness that every character in the novel, somehow or the other, faces.

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Earn while you learn: Relevance of basic education in the present day context

Ankur Boiragi
2nd Sem, M.A. Education

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"Earning while learning" can be considered to be one of the many purposes of education. Viewing education from this point, one may think that the purpose of education is only the development of one`s status, especially financial. To a certain extent this is true, but as mentioned above it is only one of the many purposes. All-round development that is physical, mental, social and spiritual is the main purpose of education. However, one cannot delink education and its productivity in the short and long term.

According to Gandhi, education must fetch the cost of education and this will be possible if and only when education is integrated with productivity. It is practically impossible to invest the needed amount of finance for the sound education of the entire population of our country. This is specifically true in respect of the developing and under developed countries. Ghandi felt that any scheme of people's education would require huge amount of investment and it was not possible at that time when India was still under the British rule. Gandhi realised this fact and proposed a new type of education suitable to the socio-economic needs and conditions of India.

Basic education also known as *Bunyadi Siksha* or *Nai Talim* was a departure from the then existing knowledge centred, elitist system of education. It is described as basic because it was expected to form the basis of our national culture. Gandhi, being an ardent follower and a staunch advocate of the *Swadeshi Movement*, insisted on an education system which originated from the Indian soil, catered to the Indian masses and sustained the Indian economy. He advocated his novel scheme of education based on the idea of economical self-support, the most important feature of which was to equip the boys and girls to earn their bread with some support from the state. To achieve this, the curriculum of basic education included manual productive work through industrial vocations and rural handicrafts chosen with due regard to the environment of the child.

As has already been discussed above, productivity is one of the purposes of education. The relation between education and productivity is cyclic in nature. Education helps to augment national production, national income and again, if national income increases it can be invested for the qualitative improvement as well as quantitative expansion of education, thereby, bringing about human resource development of the nation. Thus, one is supplementary to the other.

The Indian Education Commission (1964-66) on productivity of education observes; 'Education and productivity can thus constitute a rising spiral whose different parts sustain and support one another'.

The Indian Education Commission (1964-66) on productivity of education observes: 'Education and productivity can thus constitute a rising spiral whose different parts sustain and support one another'.

In meaningful and challenging programme of community service and national reconstruction should be accordingly an integral part of education; emphasis in these programme should be on self-help, character formation and on developing sense of social commitment.'

Along this line, the *National Curriculum Framework (2000)* further brings forth the following: 'education should be linked with life skills, it must prepare children to face the challenges of life, and the curriculum must be intimately linked with the different life skills.'

National Education Policy (2019) Draft notes: 'professional education will become an integral part of the higher education system'. It further states 'the school education will cover children of 3-18 years, instead of present 6-14 years, under the right to education act (RTE). It covers 3 years under early childhood care and education (ECCE) and 4 years under secondary education. ECCE would facilitate play and discovery based learning for children of that age group'.

The above discussion makes it clear that throughout the ages education has been closely linked with productivity. In this regard it is good to mention, it does not matter what subject one studies but it matters how efficiently one is able to do so, it does not matter how popular the academic subject is or what is the demand of the academic discipline but what matters is the experiences that one gains through these. If academic disciplines provide us with the vast sea of knowledge, then it is experience that provides us with the practicability of that knowledge, as it is said experience teaches us the best. Even through basic education we find that Gandhi laid emphasis on both knowledge and experience. He insisted on practical based learning which would increase the productivity of an individual and this in turn would influence the national productivity and growth. He never alienated the all-round developmental aspect of education and so he emphasised "by education I mean all-round drawing out of the best of a child-body, mind and spirit"—the productive development.

In the present day context, the relevance of the practice of earning while learning cannot be ignored. The rate at which change and development is taking place around the globe, both competence and competition have become an integral part of one's life. In order to cope with this it has become imperative to include the element of 'earn while you learn' into to every discipline, curriculum and higher level of education. It not only takes care of the financial aspect but also garners interest and motivation among the learners. Adding to the rich experience that the learners gain through this system which provides them an edge over those who do not have an access to the 'earn while you learn' system.

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Female Labor Force Participation and its Impact on Housing Value and GDP

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Aditya Singh
2nd Sem, Economics Honours

One of the important indicators of economic growth and development is the participation rates in the labor force. Even though the efficient use of production is measured on the basis of economic development, the distribution of labour (labour force), yet another crucial factor is the question of taking into account the gender inequality problem.

Men and women are not represented equally in the global labor force. Despite representing just over half of the adult population worldwide, women are underrepresented in the workforce—women are working at a lower rate than men in nearly every country.

There are a range of reasons that women may opt against, or be prevented from, pursuing formal employment opportunities, including taking care of children or family members and other productive activities that are outside of the formal labor market, discriminatory laws and practices, and social and cultural norms that limit female employment opportunities. Research has found that increased gender parity has several potential positive outcomes. For example, The World Bank has suggested that improved gender parity increases political stability and reduces the likelihood of violent conflict. Increasing female labor force participation rates creates an opportunity for countries to increase the size of their workforce and achieve additional economic growth.

McKinsey observes that if women contributed to GDP at the same pace as men it could add $28 trillion to global GDP by 2025; however, McKinsey acknowledges that complete gender parity within a decade is unlikely. For a more realistic estimate, McKinsey assesses that if female labor force participation rates in each country increased at the same pace as the most rapidly improving country in their region, global GDP could increase by $12 trillion over the course of 10

years. This is equivalent to adding 1 percentage point per year to global GDP growth (11 p.p. over the course of the decade). Similarly, the International Labour Organization estimates that reducing the gender gap by 25 percent would increase global GDP by $5.8 trillion by 2025, with much of this growth being attributed to emerging economies where the gap is the widest.

Female labor force participation (FLFP) and household wealth are two main topics of interests to economists for long time. The objective of this study is to investigate the response of housing values, household wealth, to female labor force participation using panel level data in the U.S. states. Static and dynamic estimation models using state-level data in the U.S. from 2005 to 2013. The results show the FLFP rate and per capita income have a strong positive effect on housing values, while the number of units per capita has a negative effect on housing values in the state. It was found that a 10% increase in FLFP will result in an increase of about 12.5% on housing values. Additionally, increasing per capita income by 10% on average will cause housing values to rise by 9%, however, a 10% rise in the number of units per capita will decrease housing values by 30%. The results assist economists and policy makers in assessing policies to optimize decisions in labor market and housing market.

India's female Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR)—the share of working-age women who report either being employed, or being available for work—has fallen to a historic low of 23.3% in 2017-18, meaning that over three out of four women over the age of 15 in India are neither working nor seeking work. (The age of 15 is the cut-off used for global comparisons by the International Labour Organization.) This would imply that they are most likely running the house and taking care of children. Among men, caste and religion make no real difference to workforce participation rates. But among women, Muslim women have the lowest LFPR while among Hindu women, forward caste women have the lowest LFPR, implying that social norms and religious conservatism might play a role in women being "allowed" to work.

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Innovation and Startup In India



Karan Gupta
3rd Year, B.Com Programme

India may have become the third-largest start-up ecosystem, but it lacks successful innovation.

Notwithstanding the fact that market valuation of Indian start-ups has grown significantly over the past four years, a recent study by the IBM Institute for Business Value and Oxford Economics found that 90% of Indian start-ups fail within the first five years, and the most common reason for failure is lack of innovation – 77% of venture capitalist surveyed believe that Indian start-ups lack new technologies or unique business models.

Other reasons cited for failure include lack of skilled workforce and funding, inadequate formal mentoring and poor business ethics, according to the study.

It's well known that most Indian start-ups are prone to emulate successful global ideas, by and large fine-tuning an existing model to serve local needs. There's Ola for Uber, Gaana for Spotify, OYO Rooms for Airbnb and Flipkart for Amazon.

India doesn't have meta-level start-ups such as Google, Facebook or Twitter. On the other hand, China, with which India often compares itself, built its own Google named Baidu and Alibaba displaced Amazon. Unsurprisingly, in 2016 Asian paints was the only Indian organization in Forbes' 25 most innovative companies, and Gillette India was among Forbes Top 25 Innovative Growth companies.

"Since 2015, as many as 1,503 start-ups have closed down in India. And the major reason is due to the replication of Western business models, and not lack of subsequent funding from the investors. The highest number of failures was in logistics, e-commerce and food technology.

Initiatives such as Make in India, the Start-up India program, the establishment of the Ministry for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, the Intellectual Property Facilitation Centres and other incubation programs may have spurred growth, but it's no secret that innovation remains the biggest missing piece of the Indian start-up puzzle.

"Many new high net worth individuals [HNIs] without proper due diligence invested in start-ups having flawed business ideas, which led to massive failures in the last two years. Even in evolving AI technology, Indian entrepreneurs are not pioneers.

"AI and ML technologies have been adopted in retail and banking as well, but India is a follower market -- what you see in the U.S. today will start appearing here tomorrow.

Undoubtedly, India's start-up ecosystem needs top notch technical talent and global business skills. India is not investing in R&D through international cooperation between different countries that helps in establishing links between local companies, multinationals and academic institutions. In 2016, a survey conducted by the Information Technology and Innovation Foundation (ITIF), a U.S.-based think tank, ranked India near the bottom of a list of 56 countries on glob-

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al innovation. The ITIF study revealed that the country's poor performance in developing human capital is mainly because of its failure in investing on education. The IBM report cited another study that said as many as 80% engineering graduates in India were "unemployable."

Also, if a yardstick of innovation is the patent, then India is miles behind its Asian counterparts. India filed 1,423 international patents in 2015-2016, while Japan filed 44,235, China 29,846 and South Korea 14,626 , according to the World Intellectual Property Organization. Over 70% of the patents filed in the country are by MNCs; Indian companies and academia share the remaining 30%.

Currently, India ranks 66th on the Global Innovation Index (GII).The GII report said India has the ingredients needed to become a global driver of innovation, including market potential, talent pool and an underlying culture of frugal innovation, but "relative weaknesses exist in the indicators for business environment, education expenditures, new business creations and the creative goods and services production."

Emphasizing innovations on societal problems, I believe that start-ups need to focus on healthcare, sanitation, education, transportation, alternate energy management and others, which would help deal with the issues that India faces. Not just to copy the western ideas.

However, it's not all doom and gloom because we believe that the efforts of the government and strong willingness of entrepreneur will make start ups successful in India. But for this we require a key term to be implemented; and that is "Innovation".

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Study Tour to Goa

Vivaan Agarwal
6th Sem, Management Studies

On January 7, 2020, eight students accompanied by Mr. Rupam Majumder, Assistant Professor, Department of Management Studies, went for a study tour to Goa. The group boarded Kanchanjunga Express from NJP Railway station at 8 am and reached Sealdah station at 20:08 hours. From Sealdah the group reached Howrah Junction by taxi at 9:30 pm. After having dinner at Jan Aahar inside Howrah Junction the group boarded the train Amravati Express at 11:30pm. After around forty hours of travel and reaching Vasco Da Gama at 6:20 pm on January 9, a Travellers' Bus took the group to Saligao, North Goa, around 8:30 pm. A villa with swimming pool near Saligao was the residence for a few days. On January 10, the group visited Baga sea beach and enjoyed the beauty of the sea till 6pm. On January 11 a visit to Vagator Beach in the peaceful ambience and later a visit to Chapora Fort were arranged. On January 12, a visit to Don Bosco High School near Saligao was also arranged. A church near the villa was also visited. On January 13, a visit to the Snow Park and later a visit to the local market were enjoyed by all with a little shopping. They also visited Saligaon Church, Emerald Lawns and the famous Mae De Deus Church. The trip was very educational in nature and on January 14, they reached Siliguri by air after a happy and memorable trip.

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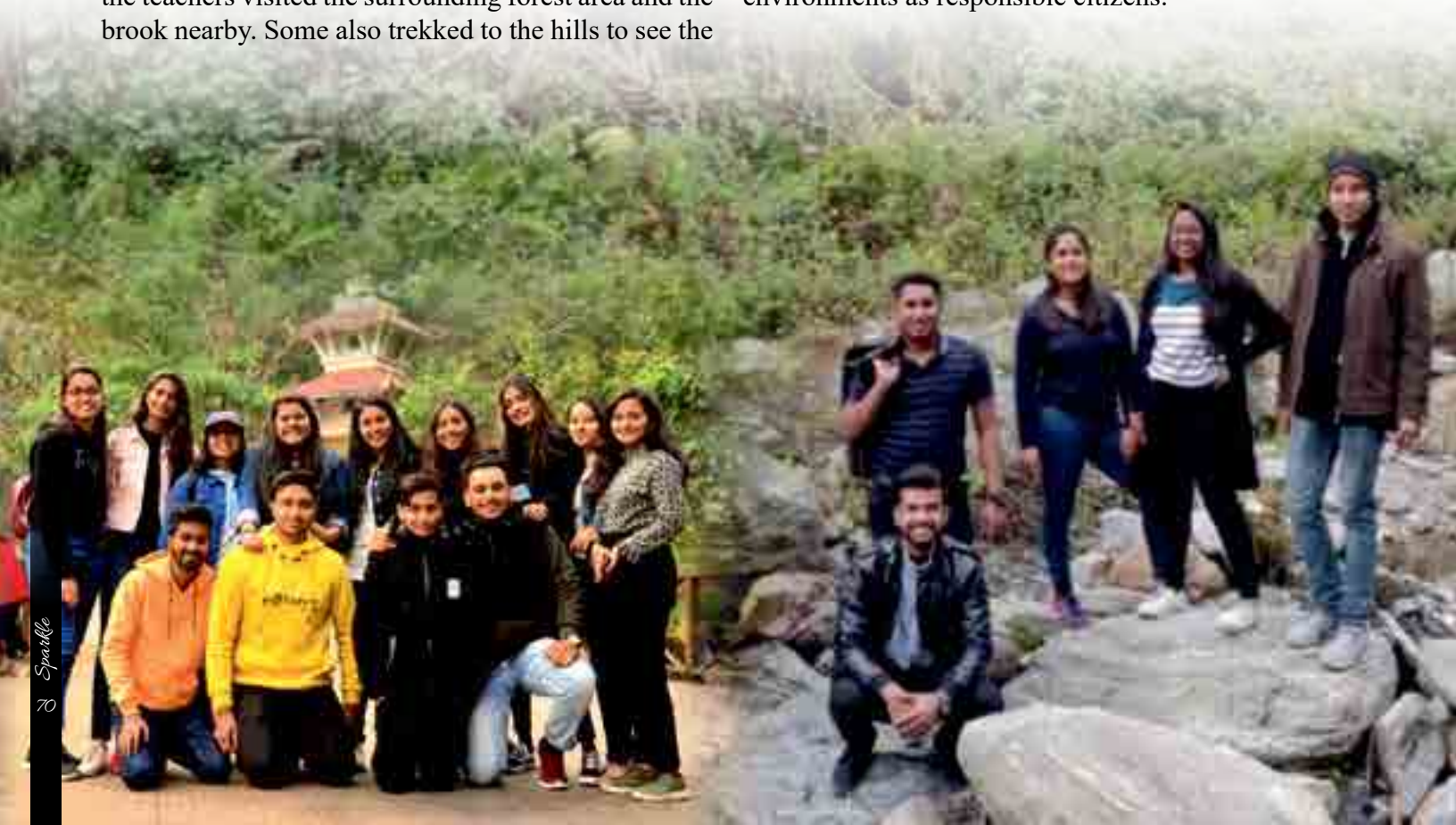
Field Trip to 'Muktidhura'



Anirban Ghosh
Dept. of Management Studies

The annual departmental field trip of the Department of Management Studies was organised on January 24, 2020, to Muktidhura above Dhudhia. Sixty five students along with three faculty members left for the trip at 8:30 am from the college campus. It was an hour's drive to the spot. On reaching the scenic spot breakfast was served by the pre arranged caterer. Having had their breakfast the students along with the teachers visited the surrounding forest area and the brook nearby. Some also trekked to the hills to see the flora and fauna of the area. The students also went to the nearby villages to study the economic conditions and the means of the villagers' daily livelihood. Lunch was served at 2pm. Post lunch all gathered around the nearby temple and took photos. Having enjoyed the day the group left for college at 4:30 pm. The students enjoyed the trip gaining knowledge about the environment and the importance of protecting such green environments as responsible citizens.

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Industrial Visit



Sheetal Parak
4th Sem, Management Studies

The Department of Management Studies had their industrial visit for the third Semester students to Sapphire Paper Mill Pvt. Ltd, Bidhan Nagar, on 3 October 2019, accompanied by Mr. Rupam Majumdar and Dr. Dipankar Rudra. It took an hour's drive to the location, whereupon the factory manager welcomed the students for the factory visit. The mill was manufacturing 100% writing and printing papers, which was evident from the heaps of waste paper consisting of books, magazines, newspapers, exam papers, banners, brochures, other documents bundled up at every step inside the factory. The mill provides employment to over 350 people. The employees, despite being engaged in their work, were actively interacting with the students and answering their queries. The students learned about every process in the manufacturing of papers and the samples of by-products formed at every step in the recycling process.

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The visit was informative and students observed that special attention was given to the working conditions. One of the employees said, "The ventilation system was improved on our demand, during summers, to reduce the temperature inside and more fans were installed."Proper delegation of authority and management was evident. Capital intensive techniques dominated the labor intensive work. There was proper utilization of manpower and machines.However, one drawback was that they had no proper disposal plans for plastic waste segregated in the process. The waste plastic extracted is simply dumped in nearby areas.

The industrial visit ended with a group photo followed by refreshments. The students were appreciative of the college and the department for organizing such an informative trip, which is crucial to develop practical knowledge about functioning of industries.











Social Outreach Programme

Lydia Dichen Bhutia
BBA 3rd Year

Students of the Department of Management Studies, Salesian College, Siliguri Campus, visited Siliguri Bhawana Society, an orphanage in Rajib Nagar close to Darjeeling more, on the occasion of Childrens' Day 2019. Sixteen, third year student volunteers from BBA with Anirban Ghosh, the campus coordinator visited the project. The Society was established on 5 February 2013. Presently there are 6 girls and 7 boys between the age of 1 to 13. The children were very excited to receive the group and greeted them with great enthusiasm. The student volunteers interacted with those children and the caretaker. Everyone introduced themselves and talked about their hobbies. After getting themselves familiarized there were action songs, games and cake cutting. The programme ended with a prayer conducted by Ms. Lydia Dichen Bhutia, member of the students' council. After the concluding words the stationery items, sports equipment, food and clothes which was bought by the student volunteers with the fund collected from the students were handed over to them. It was a satisfying experience for the students as they could bring smiles to the faces of the destitute children. They volunteers experienced the joy in taking up social responsibilities.

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Gallery



Aditi Pradhan
2nd Sem, English Honours



Aditi Pradhan
2nd Sem, English Honours

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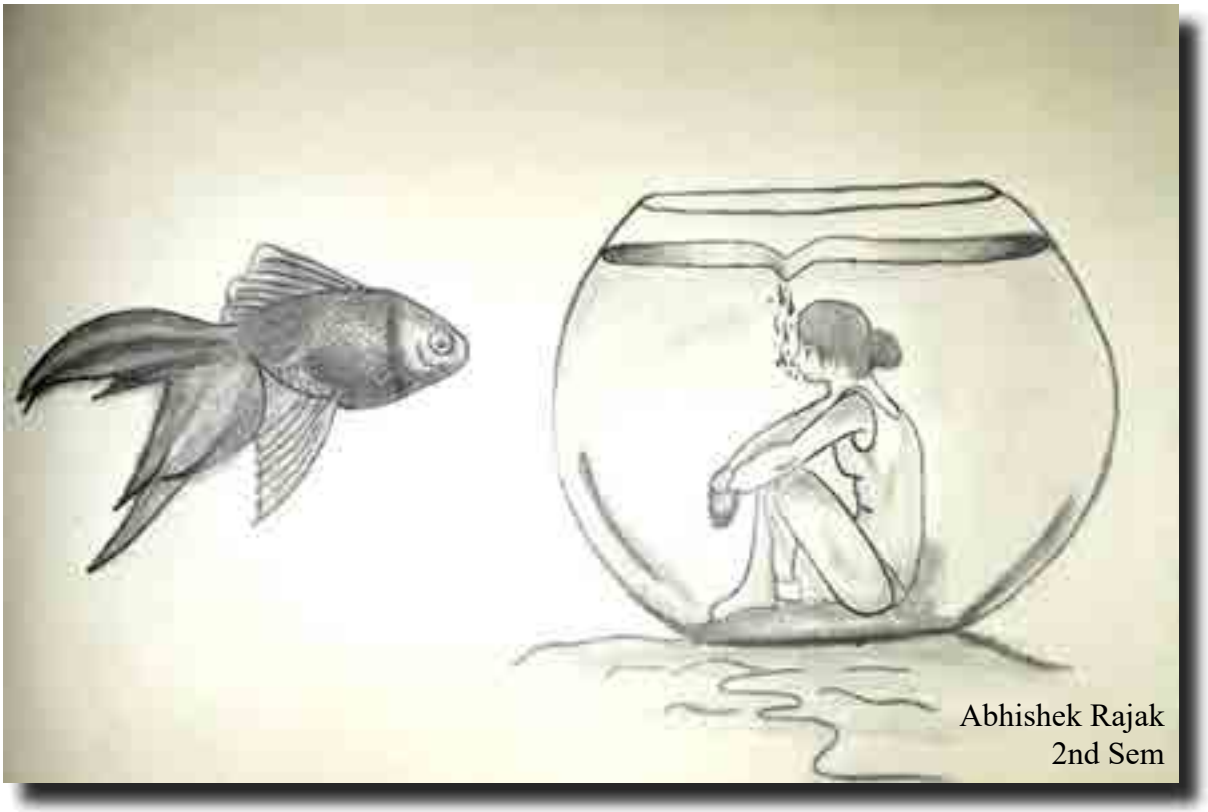


"You've loved people, even sacrificed so much; But do you ever spend time, thinking about your own family and compare their "love" for you?"

Irene Walling
2nd Sem, English Honours



Sonia Mukhia
2nd Sem, English Honours



Abhishek Rajak
2nd Sem

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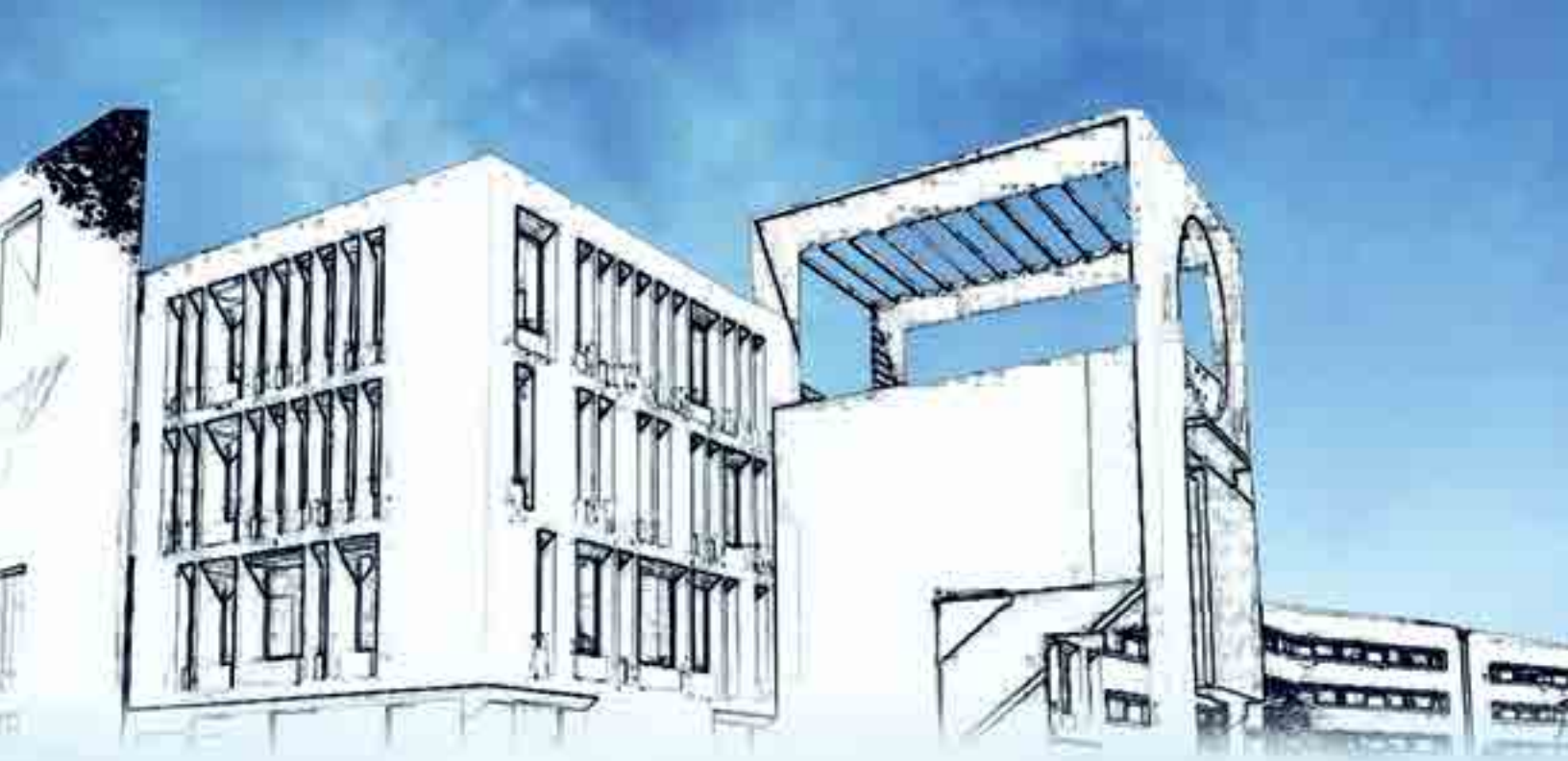
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Volume 20 Issue 1

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From the Rector

I am happy to know that SCSpeaks is coming up with another issue, and pleased to be invited to share my thoughts with the readers. At the outset let me congratulate the budding writers, poets and other contributors to this issue. A special word of appreciation is due to the editorial team who put together in a coherent and engaging manner the various contributions they received. The design and layout too is appealing. So hearty congratulations to the contributors and the editorial team of the current issue.

In our country the Buddhists were one of the first to engage in educating the masses and open urban centres of learning like the Universities of Taxila (600 BC), Nalanda (500 AD) Vikramshila (800 AD) and Udantapuri (800 AD). The Buddhist training emphasized three important aspects – *Samyag Drshti* (Right Perception), *Samyag Vak* (Right Speech) and *Samyag Karmanata* (Right Action). They are part of the eight fold path (*Ashtanga Marga*) of the Buddhists.

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Right Perception of reality and life determines one's attitudes and priorities in life. One's understanding of reality influences one's relationship with God, people and nature. The Bible says, "The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are healthy, your whole body will be full of light." (Mt.6:22) Right Speech means not only speaking what is true but also speaking what is pleasant. Bible adds, "Do not use harmful words in talking, but only helpful words, the kind that build up and provide what is needed, so that what you say will do good to those who hear you." (Ephesians 4:29) One's thought leads to words and one's words to actions. Right action is extolled in Hindu, Jain, and Buddhist scriptures. The Bhagavat Gita urges one to devote oneself to the fulfilment of one's duty (*svadharma*) selflessly (*nishkama karma*). Bhagavat Gita states, "*niyatam kuru karma tvam, karma jyayo hi akarmanah*" (Perform your obligatory duties, action is superior to inaction). (BG:2:8) The Bible enjoins one to work as well as to rest, "Six days you are to do your work, but on the seventh day you shall cease from labour so that your ox and your donkey may rest, and the son of your female slave, as well as your stranger, may refresh themselves". (Exodus 23:12). Samyagdrishti, vak and karmanata determine one's thoughts, words and actions. When these are right, the person may consider himself/herself educated.

It is my fervent hope that the time you spend in Salesian College assimilating knowledge help you to acquire right perception, right speech and right action so that you do not become a mere degree holder but educated and enlightened in the true sense of the term.

Fr Tomy Augustine, sdb
Rector



From the Principal

Why do we publish? The 20th edition of the College Magazine is in your hands. Why this publication even amidst the raging 'killer virus' and the havoc and wreckage it is leaving behind for those surviving. Because Words heal even as words can wound. The power of the written word is not only symbolic when compared to a sword, that too, a double-edged sword, that can cut, but also, literally so, because words wound and can leave scars that last a life time.

If it is so, even so, it is equally true of the soothing comforting power of words. Poetry does this healing and soothing the best. In this year's SCSpeaks there is a profusion of poetry. In a way its rightly so! These are times to take to poetry or have recourse to poetry or philosophy as they take you beyond the present woes into some sense of there being for us a 'somewhere beyond'. Poetry soothes, heals, empowers, displays the great sense of wonder, brings something new in every line: surprise of a new emotional peak being climbed, a feeling of being on a pinnacle, looking, at yet another to follow.

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SCSpeaks in 2020: each issue, over the years, has been recording the little and big accomplishments of the year-past; each issue, in the making, has been a peak experience. Especially for those who worked on it: be it by way of nudging a friend to come with a story or report, or a write up; or be it in editing and re-editing; be it in searching for the ideal colour combination and visual composition, by way of assisting the designer at his/her task.

The perspective of "curating" - a word used rightly by the editors - deserves our attention as readers. They were like curators of a museum – constantly picking up objects or articles in the museum called the college Magazine: dusting and cleaning, curing and filling, making it display worthy - one of the meanings of the word "curate". The other and the older source of the word goes back to the curate, the pastor and the priest who mended souls, took care of the spiritual needs of the people in a parish, a village or a rectory.

This brings us to where we started, that is, if we curate the words and place them before the discerning eyes and ears of those who read and are read to, they are healed – the 'curated words' do 'cure' – an association not all unfounded. Reading it and, even more, watching the curators have been a healing and ennobling, strengthening and humbling experience. Congrats to them and to everyone behind this process. Students, faculty and management.

May SCSpeaks keep on taking a turn towards the next pinnacle even if the way there has to trace the steps through the covid-valley of 20-21.

Yours in Don Bosco,
Fr Dr George Thadathil, sdb
Principal



From the Vice Principal

Dear Friends,

Covid edition of the SCSpeaks 2020 is finally out. It was conceived at the start of Covid it developed during Covid and is being delivered when Covid vaccine is round the corner.

I want to specially congratulate and thank the chief editors Mr Rahul Pradhan and Mr Samip Sinchury and the other faculty who have edited the original contributions multiple times to enhance their quality. Thank you to all those who wrote and those whose articles have made it to this issue of SCSpeaks.

During my management classes one of the oft repeated quote which keeps buzzing in my years even today is one attributed to Charles Darwin that says "It is not the strongest or the most intelligent who will survive but those who can best manage change". I did not understand all the implications of that quote then but today it's meaning is loud and clear. In human history probably people never understood the meaning of change and adaptation as much they did these past 6 months. How many of us in the beginning of March 2020 would have ever imagined the situation we are in now and even fewer would have believed that we are capable of such adaptation and change to life and work.

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It is also true that all are not coping with changes in the same manner. We hear of show blitz people, business honchos, the rich & the famous getting depressed, developing mental disorders or even committing suicide. We also hear of the non-descript auto rickshaw drivers and jobless labourers turning vegetable vendors or learning new jobs to provide for their families. Much of the whining and complaining about the distress caused by the Corona virus come from the elite and the well-off while the poor try to eke out a living by finding some new work to survive and feed their families. In my own conversations with the people, again it's the well-off who are grouchy about the hardships they are forced to face due to Covid-19 whereas the poor, in spite of facing more privations and miseries are dealing with the situation much better. We have seen a similar pattern in Europe and the US where people were dying in thousands where as the number of deaths in the poorer countries were much smaller. The difference lies in the resilience and the ability of the poor people to adapt and cope. Covid has brought to the fore a valuable lesson for all of us that if we want to survive in difficult situations, it is imperative that we learn to adapt and manage change or else stress and pressure will get the better of us.

The fact that we have survived these months is a proof that human beings when faced with a serious crisis can cope and survive. Those among us who can handle change better will not only manage better but also offer hope to others. While our collective wish and prayer is that this dreadful pandemic comes to an end soon, it is also a test of our endurance, grit and survival strategy.

Br Jose Puthenpurackel, sdb
Vice Principal

From the Editors





Mirror, Mirror on the wall, who is the fairest of us all? Silence…. There is no answer. I notice a little fracture on the mirror, it is stained, unkempt and unclean, there's a reflection of someone who resembles us, and it stares right into the abyss of our eyes.

As COVID-19, the infamous pandemic lurks around, there are also locust invasions, arsons, mob lynching's, racial slurs, disputes on the lands, quarrels on the mountains, the burning of the rainforests, the melting of the ice caps.

Living in the times when the 'Fair is foul, and the foul is fair', doesn't outbreaks like COVID-19 hold a mirror, to show us, where we are and how we've been, to ourselves and to our Mother Earth? 2020 definitely has been uncertain and unkind. It has socially distanced us, physically secluded us from our everyday people & spaces. While we wear our literal and figurative masks and soak into the sanitizers of time. What have we done? What have we realised? Will everything be the same again? Will we persist to disregard what is left of us, our lives and our homes? As these questions perdure, with hope, we yearn for a better tomorrow, while we also learn from our yesterday, and SCSpeaks attests to both, like a mirror, reflecting on what is gone, what still remains and what is yet to come.

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It fills our hearts with pride & joy, to have been able to curate this special 20th edition of the SCSpeaks, even in these difficult times when everything seems fragile and bleak. The amalgamation of every letter, every word here, weaves a tapestry of strength and resilience as it tells us to carry on with grit and laughter. The assorted musings and memoirs from the students and the teachers adorns the magazine, encompassing the themes of love, war, politics and everything in between.

We are forever grateful to the Principal - Fr Dr George Thadathil, Rector Fr Dr Tomy Augustin, Vice Principal - Br Jose, Director Radio Salesian - Fr C.M. Paul, Bursar - Fr Jagjivan for their love and guidance.

We would also like to express our gratitude to all the teachers, HoD's, Design team (Mr Alfred & Mr Bruno), Co-ordinators, Dean, Office staff, and the entire SCS Family for extending their constant support.

We hope you'll enjoy the feat.

Mr Rahul Pradhan
Assistant Professor,
Department of English

Mr Samip Sinchuri
Assistant Professor,
Department of Sociology



Articles

Chapel holds artistic legacy

Fr. C. M. Paul, sdb
Director Radio Salesian & Salesian TV
Founder, HoD of Mass Communication & Journalism

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Architecture of the college chapel and its colorful glass windows lend an awe-inspiring feeling, not to speak of the unparalleled wood work it has.

The eye catcher in Salesian College chapel is a series of nine large colored acrylic sheet representations of significant episodes from the life of Jesus of Nazareth, that is visible on a bright and sunny day, which is rare in Gorabari, two kilometers before Sonada town en-route, Kurseong to Darjeeling.

The chapel building which has no central pillars was designed by architect Mr Ajay Burman and built under the supervision of Fr M.D. George (Madathett). The edifice is a part of a cluster of buildings, perched on the pine forest hillock on NH 55 called the Hill Cart Road, built by the British in the 1860s to ply bullock carts.

At an altitude of 6,500 feet above the sea level the iconic world heritage Darjeeling Himalayan Railway built by the British between 1879 and 1881 covering a distance of about 90 kms from New Jalpaiguri to Darjeeling, snakes its way right in front of the college gate.

The present chapel commissioned in the year 1986, hosts the academic year inauguration and can seat some 150 people on each of its 80 year-old pews. An additional 100 people could be accommodated on chairs.

The engraved altar, hand carved wooden chapel and sacristy doors, and the pews are all from the old chapel (1938), executed by Italian carpenters Br Ernest Ferraris and Br Tarcisius Sona at the carpentry situated under the present college library and generator room.

The eye catching acrylic window art work of the chapel is inspired by an Italian modern surrealist artist Late Salesian Signor Guerino Pera of Elle Di Ci Torino, in northern Italy. He had studied Art and Painting at the University of Bologna, Italy.

Incidentally, Salesian Lay Brother Pera who had developed his own typical style of art which played with the bright colours juxtaposed in contrast, had visited Kolkata twice.

When this author interviewed him at Don Bosco Catechetical Centre Calcutta (now Nitika Don Bosco Kolkata) in 1977 Signor Pera explained his style of surrealistic art saying, "Notice that as one gets closer to the source of light or grace, the person is bathed in warmer colors (shades) while the person who is further away from the source of grace or light (read in sin) is in darker or grey shades."





The clear example of this concept is illustrated vividly in the story of the prodigal son who is bathed in bright orange colour when he is at home with his father and is painted in dark or grey shade when he is away from home in a far country feeding pigs.

The grill work for acrylic panels was done in Don Bosco Tech Krishnagar (Nadia Dt), based on the drawings provided by, the then Salesian College Dean of Studies Fr A.U. Thomas (Anjilikuzhiyil).

"Acrylic sheeting commonly referred to as plexiglass sheeting, is the most common alternative to traditional glass. With superior resistance to discoloration, impact, and chemicals, acrylic plexiglass sheet is ideal for any application," says Fr A.U. Thomas who grabbed the latest coloured glass substitute in the market in the 1980s. The first two acrylic panels on left side of the chapel narrates the Parable of the Lost Sheep told by Jesus Christ. The parable which appears in the Gospels of Mathew (18:12–14) and Luke (15:3–7) is about a shepherd who leaves his flock of ninety-nine sheep in order to find the one which is lost.

The two panels right behind the lectern in the sanctuary depicts Mary of Nazareth in prayer and receiving the word made flesh at the annunciation, the announcement by the angel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary that she would conceive a son by the power of the Holy Spirit to be called Jesus (Luke 1:26–38).

The acrylic art works in the sanctuary gives prime importance to the Bible, the word of God (left) and the Holy Eucharist (right) - the abiding presence of Lord Jesus in the tabernacle.

The panel portrays Mother Mary in prayer, while Jesus reads the scroll from prophet Isaiah which predicts the mission of Jesus (Luke: 4:14-16).The next two acrylic panels narrate the multiplication of bread from two loaves which a boy in the crowd had. "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish." St John (6:1-15).

The lone acrylic panel by the side of the confessional depicts the institution of the Holy Eucharist at the last supper during which Jesus takes up bread and wine and says "Take this all of you and eat of it… take this and drink



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it…" (Mathew 26: 26-28). Inside the confessional there are two panels to explain the meaning of the sacrament of reconciliation depicting Jesus pardoning the sinner woman (John 7: 53 – 8: 11) and the good shepherd bringing home the lost sheep (Mathew 18: 12–14 and Luke 15: 3–7).

The last set of two panels speak of Resurrection of Jesus and his message of peace to the world (John 20: 19).

The Sanctuary

The central pieces of acrylic art works are in the sanctuary. On the left side of the altar, the Holy Bible is enthroned while on the right side is the tabernacle signifying the abiding presence of Lord Jesus. The back drop for both the above primary symbols of Catholic doctrine and faith, the Word of God and the Eucharist holds elaborate acrylic art work.

Don Bosco of Sonada

A unique painting of Don Bosco dressed in black cassock, and white surplice with elaborate lace work, and wearing an ornated white stole with golden embroidery, points out to an Indian boy standing by his side, the vast north Indian wheat fields ready for the harvest.

In the distance one can see two missionaries in white cassock harvesting. As one priest lays the sickle to the





golden wheat stalks, another is carrying away sheaves of bundled golden wheat on his shoulder. Also in the back ground is a Temple and a Mosque.

The 5 ft by 3.3 ft oil painting on canvas was executed by Fr Leo Barattoni alumnus of Salesian College Sonada held in the British internment (concentration) camp at Shahranpur in Uttar Pradesh, during the World War II from 1939 to 1945. The painting is encased in a 10 inches broad handcrafted wooden frame.

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Our Lady of Sonada

Another oil painting on canvas of the same height and width encased in a hand crafted wooden frame of the same era is popularly known as 'Our Lady of Sonada'. In the painting Mother Mary is seated majestically like a queen on the Mughal throne holding baby Jesus in her left hand, and a sceptre in her right hand. Both the above paintings adorned the left and right side alters of the former chapel built in 1938, now replaced with a more modern and larger chapel commissioned in 1986.

Parquet Flooring

The entire chapel floor including the sanctuary raised at a higher level, has parquet flooring made of hard wood chips laid in a geometric, angular style and squares. Sometimes referred to as mosaic flooring, parquet flooring is appreciated for its decorative effect.

Re booting, Indian Education system

Br Jose Puthenpurackel, sdb
Vice Principal



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According to the 2011 Census data, nearly 41% of India's population is below the age of 40. At 315 million, India has the largest number of students in the world. But of these 50% of class 5 students can't read and 65% can't divide. Only around 10% of the students who enter class 1 complete their graduation and of these about 80% are simply unemployable because they have neither knowledge nor skill to deal with the real-life requirements of the job market. We are faced with an unprecedented situation.

Today we stand on the brink of a technological revolution that will fundamentally alter the way we live, work and relate to one another. Its scale, scope, complexity and the transformation it will bring about will be unlike anything humankind has ever experienced before. The first industrial revolution used steam power to mechanize production. The second used electric power to mechanize production. The third used electronics and information technology to automate production. Now a fourth industrial revolution is building on the third-characterized by a fusion of technologies that is blurring the lines between the physical, digital and biological spheres and it is evolving at an exponential rather than a linear pace. And the breadth and depth of these changes herald the transformation of entire systems of production, management and governance. The possibilities of billions of people connected by mobile devices with unprecedented processing power, storage capacity and access to knowledge are unlimited. And these possibilities will be multiplied by emerging technology breakthroughs in fields such as artificial intelligence, robotics, 3D printing, nano technology, Internet of Things (IOT), automatic vehicles, quantum computing and bio technology. These developments will profoundly alter the way we live, work and relate (K. Schwab, World Economic Forum).

Artificial intelligence is already eliminating millions of jobs across the world and creating new ones. Robots will replace humans in carrying out the most complex jobs with even more accuracy. Cars of the future will be electric and mostly driverless. If Virtual Reality (VR) helped us view things three dimensionally, Augmented Reality (AR) takes a step forward with the computer generating a real-world sensory input such as sound, video, graphics and GPS data. These developments are going to have an overwhelming influence on education, jobs and services. Are we preparing students in our schools and colleges to face these changes? Or are our educational institutions churning out students who have neither the knowledge nor the skills to navigate through the labyrinth of the challenges that lie ahead of them? It is a pity that the classrooms of 2020 where children sit in rows of benches and desks are just a copy and paste of places where in 1917 the British trained batches of Indians to be clerks for the British Empire. The British left India 73 years ago but our educational institutions have retained and perfected all the ingredients of the 'clerk making factories'.

During an educational conference that I was part of, we were challenged to ask our students whether they enjoyed learning in their present classrooms. If we did ask our students the answer would be a resounding 'no'. Why can't majority of students relate to what's going on in their classrooms? Because they find the classes boring and monotonous. Is it their fault or the inability of schools and colleges to adapt teaching-learning to suit the mental makeup of students of today? Why does India not have more inventors? How do the same Indians when they go to Europe or America become inventors? The answer lies in the fact that our schools and colleges don't give students opportunities to think or be creative but turn them into parrots that just memorize information from textbooks that too often without understanding. As late Sir Ken Robinson asks in the most popular TED talk, 'Do schools kill creativity'? How often have we seen little children enroute to school wandering off to explore a line of ants or a worm or something unusual oblivious of the bells or the call of

teachers? Children are naturally curious but what happens to their curiosity when they grow up? Do we kill their curiosity with our straight-jacketed curriculum and school/college rules?

21st century students need 21st century teaching methodologies. The students of today especially in schools are millennials or **Generation Y** which means they are born after the year 2000 (the digital age), while the teaching methods in most schools and colleges of today are those of the assembly line production age. Students of today are digital natives while school leaders and teachers are often digital immigrants out of sync with the mind-set of students. Do we need to cram our students' brains with information that is often outdated, irrelevant and which serves no purpose in life? What is 'knowing' today? How has 'knowing' changed with students having access to knowledge 24x7? How do we make our children enjoy learning?

We need to junk our outmoded teaching methodologies and embrace technology whole heartedly. Today's children adopt technology the way a duck takes to water. So why not harness it to their advantage? Today we need to ask not how much a student knows but how much the student and his/her phone together know. Today's students don't need teachers for knowledge (Google knows a lot more), but they need facilitators who can guide them to the correct source of knowledge. What about our examination system where children are made to memorize information? What is the use of mugging up information when it can be accessed on a phone or a smart device in a matter of seconds? Why not allow open book examinations where children in groups discus answers to meaningful questions? By doing this they not only learn but also understand the all-important survival strategies of team work and collaboration. Why not allow children to use the Internet during examination? The purpose of a curriculum is to help one reach from point A to point B. There may be a hundreds of ways to get from point A – B so why stick to a curriculum that often restricts?

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Some of the ideas mentioned above may disrupt our understanding of the curriculum, teaching and assessment but is there another way to give hope to the future of our children? Some of us might think that the educational crisis that our country is facing today is a problem of the rural schools – far from it. It would be interesting to ask the junior school students of our urban schools about subjects they like the most – the answer in all probability will be computer and physical education, why not english, history, science and mathematics? Not because they don't like these subjects but because of the uninteresting ways they are taught in. Studies tell us that the average attention span of a child (5 year old) is around 5 - 10 minutes. If this be so, isn't it absurd to torture them with boring lectures for 6 hours a day?

Today's students are not able to relate to the chalk and talk method. Technology needs to be used extensively if we want to get their attention. Students must be allowed to work in groups and taught to collaborate in their learning process. It might mean rearranging the furniture in the class and making the whole school tech enabled. This idea might sound utopian but we owe this to our students. Either we keep pace with the technology or become irrelevant in the field of education. If we don't update the content and method of knowledge delivery, we will be adding to the millions of already educated unemployables in the country.

We were always told of the famous **3 R's** of education – **r**eading, writing and **a**rithmetic; it is time to replace them with the 3 H's – **h**ead, **h**eart and **h**and (knowledge, emotion and experience) and some would say the 3 C's – **c**omprehension, **c**ommunication and **c**omputation. Schools and colleges today have to choose between assembly line production of students who will have degrees but will be unskilled and unemployable or use technology and skill training so that they are ready to take on the world with confidence.

We need to urgently introduce some skill training in our schools. Experts agree that skill training must be an integral part of our curriculum and the ideal age for introducing this is at the secondary level or in class 8. It should not only be made mandatory in all schools but also made attractive to students. The need for skilled workers in India and abroad will always remain. (**The National Education Policy 2020** has introduced Skill training in a big way).

Some of the ideas mentioned in this article might seem impractical or even radical but the challenge before us educators and future educators is to make education meaningful and relevant to today's needs. And if we are found wanting, the next revolution might well be caused by the frustrated educated unemployed.

Salesian, I Bid Thee Farewell

Ragini Chettri
3rd Year, Department of Sociology

The day was cold and murky, I was listening to 'In the Aeroplane over the Sea' by Neutral Milk Hotel.

"What a beautiful face,
I have found in this place"

I closed my eyes and recollected all the series of fortunate and unfortunate events that had led me to this place - Salesian College Sonada. As I do not consider myself to be a raconteur, I kept these events as stories to be told on some other occasion. Howbeit, I did write something.

Salesian,

I found you well concealed amidst the swivelling October mist when I first tread your grounds. It was probably lunch break, students were calling out to each other, some carrying their bowl of alu-mimi and heading towards their classroom, some using their mobile phones, and some enjoying a plate of scrumptious biryani. Oh! Only if you knew how tremendously anxious I was, as I had to meet the Principal. I gave him an account of why I was joining late and (in my head) the possibility of securing an admission seemed outrageously improbable. With all these thoughts weighing down on me, I entered the Principal's office, a room I would enter just about three to four times in the near future (for a variety of reasons), and met Father George Thadathil.

I have to tell you a little about Father George here (Although you know more about him than I ever will). We never interacted much but whenever we did he never made me feel uncomfortable. He was kind, patient, and verily inspiring. Every time he went to the stage to address the college, I was engrossed. He always had enriching and enlightening things to tell us and his warm smile is something that will remain etched in my heart forever.

I wish I could write to you about all the beautiful faces I encountered here. Brother Jose Puthenpurackel, candid, smart and stern but nevertheless the best. My go-to person, Father C.M. Paul, Cheerful and optimistic. Father Jagjivan, kind, kind and kind.

Sumina ma'am, Head of the Department of Sociology, she was more like an elder sister to me, her jaunty spirit and her beautiful smile and all the conversations we had are so close to my heart. She will continue to inspire me throughout my life. Ritu ma'am, I wish she had never left us, she was a brilliant teacher, I can never forget the theories of Karl Marx even if I wanted to. Nomu, ma'am, my true-blue comrade. Srijana, ma'am, gentle and helpful. Samip sir, innovative, charitable, and lively. Fatima Ma'am, always guiding us. Terence Sir, witty, benevolent and unforgettable. Bryan sir and his enthralling voice. Vasu Sir with his bottle, book, morning chai and stunning Instagram feed.

And also our dearest Pema aunty, I will everlastingly cherish her momos, thupka, coffee and love. My friends and juniors and everyone in college, each one taught me something and helped me grow. I shall be forever grateful.

Dearest Salesian, in the past three years I have grown to love you so much. Sitting underneath Don Bosco's statue and reading a book, basking in the sun, Bruno, the lemony fragrance lingering in Sheehy hall, I shall miss them all.

But do you know the best thing you've given me? Yes! It's Love.

"What a beautiful face
I have found in this place"

This love taught me to sway to Bob Dylan's 'Buckets of Rain', to sing 'Love is All' along with the Tallest Man on Earth, to read Albert Camus and Ayn Rand, to revel in the cool morning breeze as it kissed my countenance.

This love taught me that minor adjustments and minute changes are always possible. It's like the room at home which looks like it needs some changes in its arrangements. You move a furniture or two, add a carpet or maybe change the wall decor. You are at ease, until you feel like you need some adjustment again.

I have to go get myself a new carpet, therefore, Salesian, I now bid thee farewell.
Thank you for all the love and happiness.

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Reminiscence

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Swikriti Pradhan
3rd Year, Department of English

"Be brave. Take risks. Nothing can substitute experience."
- Paulo Coelho

College life is supposed to be the most interesting stage in a student's life, but the batch of 2017 was unfortunate as we made a disastrous start. We missed the first few months of the college life due to the ghastly 104 days of agitation. As if that was not enough, when we are about graduate, Covid-19 showed up. We don't know whether we will have our final examinations or how we can pursue our further studies. For sure, we are headed into a very uncertain future.

Regardless of all the troubles, I must say I loved my association with Salesian College. It wasn't easy in the initial days, sharing spaces with a group of strangers in its 'mighty infrastructure' where I knew no one, being an introvert didn't make matters any easy for me to get settled and blend with my classmates and professors. But gradually I gained confidence and awkward conversations turned into endless pleasurable exchanges. It was an awesome feeling. The never ending conversations, debates, senseless jokes and teasing became an integral part of my life at college. The best part was the college canteen which was filled with gossips and yummy foods, the fun was endless.

I was always fascinated by the novels for which I joined the English department and my experience in the college helped me to enhance my knowledge about a variety of literary genres and world literature. Reading the classics enriched my life in a way, I never thought was possible. The lectures stressed on the significance of critical thinking. I have had the privilege to be able to pursue my interest and to learn from the great minds. And the excitement while organising various college events was exhilarating. The planning, preparation and the execution of college programmes and the socials at the end was electrifying. But the memories are all that I have now.

Life was not just fun and frolic - the vast syllabus, the late night assignments, class presentations and of course the exams. I learned to explore new things, as learning is a never-ending journey. It gave me the space to visualise my paths towards my dreams. There were moments that carry a lot of emotional values, which are now reminiscences.

College life may have come to an end but I can't help but think about the bygone years. I am sure, the memories of the good times will come flooding back to my mind whenever I will come across Salesian and I also know for sure, it will break me into a smile. I am grateful to all those, who were a part of my journey.



Student Life

Shubankar Biswakarma
5th Semester, Department of History

Yes! student life is a golden life, but they also say every glitter is not gold. When I was a kid, I used to hate school, not only me, probably all my friends hated going to the school as well, but we slowly realized its importance.

With this realization, an unwanted burden knocks at our door. It would be wrong to call it a burden, I think the most appropriate word would be responsibility. But do we really take it is as a responsibility? Well, I did not take it, in-fact, I will not take it as my responsibility. I will rather consider it as my duty. There is actually a difference, Responsibility can be taken for granted, it is up to you whether you want to do it or not whereas duty is your shadow, you cannot neglect it, and wherever you go it follows you.

Enough of these duties and responsibilities, let us make this a little light. Do you know what defines a student? Perhaps, 'Beasts with Brains'. We cannot imagine a student to be only studious, it can only happen in stories. Students are naughty but at the same time they also make an effort to study. Wait a minute! they not only put their brains to work for studies but also has to think about some mischievous plans to make their school days fun. Every student comes up with some extra ordinary ideas every day and that's how we make every day a fun day. It would not be wrong to say that even teachers laugh because of the students and that extra-ordinary ideas are termed as 'talents'. Talent varies from student to student. It really does not matter what talent one possess, what matters is how one makes use of those talents. In school we all are taught to read and write but never to be liberal and relaxed, to discover and hone our talents. It is true that every student does not have the equal capacity to learn but it is also true that every student is unique and special. Some might be good in singing, some in painting, some in dancing and some in sports. You know what the main problem in our society is? It is that we are allowed to dream but seldom allowed to chase and live it. We are allowed to play football but we aren't allowed to be a footballer, we are allowed to sing but we aren't allowed to be a singer. Now, here the student's life lags behind. I think we are only getting literate but not educated. We are only bracing ourselves for a job, regardless of the happiness or satisfaction it might not give.

When I was 5 years old, my mother told me that happiness is the key to life. When I grew older my elders asked me what I wanted to be? Without hesitation, I said, I want to be happy. They thought I did not understand the question but I think they didn't understand my life. The point is, education involves everything including happiness and mental well-being. Yes, one might not make enough money from their work but he/she wouldn't regret their whole life thinking, they aren't happy.

Student life is an important phase, where one has to be happy, joyful and courageous and of course hard-working. One can obviously chisel their talents to shape it to their profession and live happily. Yes, we have to study, we have to be disciplined but to swim against the tide is equally important. Only focusing on studies and on the career might leave nothing to the memories of your college life and this is the time which everyone cherishes the most.

P.S - This is a personal perspective. It is not important that every student has to agree with this. This article does not encourage the students to be mischievous, many articles have been written concerning student's life. I being a student myself, my intention was to portray my point of view regarding my life. And it is also a small effort to change the mind-set of the people and its society. This work does not go against any educational institution and its policy.

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My Experience

Bikash Agarwal
3rd Year, Department of Commerce

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My name is Bikash Agarwal and I am about to complete my B. Com course from Salesian College Sonada. And right now, I am preparing for my term end examination in this lockdown. I would like to share my experiences as the representative of the Student Council of Salesian College Sonada. It really was a wonderful experience and I am also very grateful to all those who placed their faith in me.

One must possess leadership qualities to become a competent human being, also to lead and work, to strengthen our environment. Our backbones are our parents, our teachers and our elders who guide us in each of our steps. To lead others, is a very responsible task and I am thankful to all who felt that I was capable of it.

I was elected as the President of the Salesian Student Council on 31st August, 2019 (Fresher's Day). That day was very auspicious for me. It made me believe that my hard work had really paid off.

I often participated in different events of our college before getting elected as a representative, like Innovision 2017 which was held in Salesian College Siliguri Campus, where me and my friends participated in every event and had also won trophies and medals for our college. That was a proud moment for all of us. We even went to Sikkim Central University where we had participated in the social act competition where we stood third. We also organized successful events of Blood Donation Camps, co-operating with the NSS. Besides this, we also took initiatives for organizing Health Camps, Eye Check-up camps. With this engagement, I got to re-discover my capabilities which I was unaware of, I also gained a lot of experience by participating in many such activities, which I believed helped me to guide others.

Other Council Members also helped me a lot for the proper management of the college activities. Their active co-ordination with me made my journey successful as the Student Council President. With their support, we had successfully organized 'Ethnic Waves', Annual Sports and we also participated in the Inter-College Fest in Suryasen Mahavidyalaya, Siliguri.

As the students' representative, I never misused my powers. My experience as a President of the Student Council was outstanding, and now I would like to end this by conveying to all, that we all need to be flexible and exhibit the potential for leadership. Display positive classroom behavior, have a genuine interest in the welfare of others. And last but not the least, team synergy allows great team work.



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Quarantine & Contemplate

Bipashana Rasaily
3rd Semester, Department of Sociology

1st April 2020
Quarantine Day-16

2020, the decade begins with the outbreak of a pandemic, Covid-19. By now everyone is aware of the source, cause, symptoms & weird conspiracy linked to the disease.

Everyone is quarantined, isolated and locked down. Streets are silenced, the likes of us are at home doing everything to prevent this disease, taking precautions. Education has taken the upper hand of online classes so on and so forth. But I couldn't help but contemplate about few things that are going hand in hand with the spread of this virus which are not being given much importance as they are exaggerating the flashy news of the disease by leaps and bounds.

Racism has its roots in India since time immemorial (which preys on the people from the North Eastern states of India), Reports of the racist attacks all over the world have disseminated through the media after the outbreak of the Covid-19, sweeping through nations in the last few months, resulting to assaults especially on the people from China, which hosts the epicentre of Covid-19.

Unfortunately, a similar wave of bigotry has also seemingly engulfed an unconnected community here in India. The North-east Indians have been attacked across the country since the outbreak of the virus. The Cosmopolitans who hail from the North-eastern states of India have come forward to narrate the increased instances of hate-filled attacks and abuses, ever since the epidemic took over the airwaves.

Our own fears of contracting the disease are now tinged with the additional bitterness of people from other states deriding, is as receptacles of Covid-19 and blatantly

labelling us as Chinese, because of what? Our Mongolian features?

We need not go far off to Italy and Canada for instances of racism related with Corona Virus. Young techie Hmingtei Chhangte, who originates from Manipur, narrated that when she visited a grocery store, few men teased her saying, "Corona virus *aa gaya* (has come)".

Are these, the same people who pledge: 'All Indians are my brothers and sisters', is this the future we've been striving for, where racism and identity crisis persist even during a pandemic?

Apart from the racist attacks the other thing which is of utmost concern is the plight of the people living in the rural areas during the lockdown. Therefore, I had mentioned the 'likes of us staying at home', to prevent the disease but what about the down trodden and poverty stricken people of the society? People who don't have a place to call Home?

Months of Social distancing and lockdown, is wreaking havoc in India, Where more than a quarter of its 1.3 billion people live below the poverty line. Daily wage labourers buy food with the money they make each day and have no savings to fall back on. Now along with the struggle for survival they have to fight the spread of the disease as well. Though the government realised the intensity of the situation and are taking measures.

On the brighter side, amidst the whole chaos and rants of the pandemic, The Mother Nature is reviving, with the absence of human activities for fulfilling their selfish demands, Nature has taken a different course.

The Coronavirus shutdown has had unintended climate benefits: cleaner air & cleaner water. This reminds me of an excerpt from Carl Sagan's book, *Pale Blue Dot - A Vision of the Human Future in Space* where he writes,

> Our planet is a lonely speck in the great enveloping cosmic dark. In our obscurity, in all this vastness, there is no hint that help will come from elsewhere to save us from ourselves. The Earth is the only world known so far to harbour life. There is nowhere else, at least in the near future, to which our species could migrate. Visit, yes. Settle, not yet. Like it or not, for the moment the Earth is where we make our stand. It has been said that astronomy is a humbling and character-building experience. There is perhaps no better demonstration of the folly of human conceits than this distant image of our tiny world. To me, it underscores our responsibility to deal more kindly with one another, and to preserve and cherish the pale blue dot, the only home we've ever known.

Therefore there are lessons to be learnt, people are now following the most basic health and hygiene methods with seriousness. "If we can think about how to prepare for climate change like a pandemic, maybe there will be a positive outcome to all of this", said Christopher Jones, lead developer of the Cool Climate Network, an applied research consortium at the University of California, Berkeley. "We can help prevent crises in the future if we are prepared. I think there are some big-picture lessons here that could be very useful.

And who would've thought that a day like this would come where we'd be saving our planet (Mankind) by staying at our homes.

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My space over a Cup of Tea

Ms Sumina Chettri
Department of Sociology

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Can the yearning for the things unknown be satiated by a simple cup of tea? This got me thinking. I'm stuck here with the virtual technology, depending on it even to have a simple conversation (which again is no conversation, but a series of imaginations). And I was struck with the realisation as to how this pandemic has curtailed my freedom of the subconscious yearning for knowledge and the urge to learn, which could only be feasible in the conversation and physical space created effortlessly, over a cup of tea.

If people were not yearning for that space, people would probably not be investing so much of time and energy over a simple cup of tea. It was Anthony Giddens who actually spoke about this space that is created over a 'cup of coffee'. In trying to make us understand what sociological imagination is, he mentions about how, when seen from a sociological perspective, it becomes more than a ritual adding to the social construct. In his theory of structuration, he mentions that 'the basic domain of social sciences is neither the experiences of the individual actor, nor any form of societal totality but social practices ordered through time and space' (Giddens 1984).

Now, coming from a place where every grandmother has played the role of a seed keeper, the nurturer of not just the family but of the whole community with her rigorous effort and hard work that comes with the process of becoming and working as a tea garden labourer and thus contributing over generations, in making Darjeeling known to the world for its tea production.

In Darjeeling, the space and ambience created over a cup of tea has always been of great significance. This space although dynamic is cultivated over a period of time and it differs from culture to culture. And like I mentioned earlier, we as a community are embedded with a feeling of pride to be surrounded by tea plantations and have been familiar with the process of production of tea which has been passed on to us through generations. One of the social practices that I have often noticed is people relaxing over a cup of tea, it is the time for them to have conversations on varying topics, ranging from politics to harvest, household chatters to societal problems and sometimes on the topics that makes no sense yet it provides them the energy to laugh and even discuss it later.

Culturally, we have the practice of offering tea to our visitors at any time of the day and we are more than happy to do so, probably also because we are looking for that space. But with the sudden call for alertness, to distance ourselves from each other, making us more conscious of our movements, somewhere it has disturbed the process of social construct of building relationships. It is a ritual for us to drink tea and have that space for interaction, learning, knowing, which subconsciously satiates our yearning for knowledge. But this has now changed into being more of a

conscious effort added with anxiety. The pandemic has therefore changed the existing pattern of interaction, communication and has disrupted the process of social construct.

The proximity that we enjoyed in the conversation, with expressions and body language being the filler, has now been replaced by robotic imitation such as emoji's that we use in most of the social media platforms, technological glitch is now filled with robotic gaps curtailing human expressions to be the substitutes in conversations, which have brought about some form of change. So, the question is how many of us have really adapted to the virtual communication without losing the essence of really understanding the emotions as we would do in person? This again directs me to the change that we have adapted in terms of educating our students. The mode of education has changed from classroom setting to the online classes which is a rapid change, where again we've have shown our ability to mould ourselves to the new normal. The inevitability of change is quite evident but how far have we been able to cope with it without disrupting the balance or without having any negative impact on the social construct of relationships and interaction is something to ponder about. We are so used to the existing pattern that the sudden change which the pandemic has brought, with no proper remedy for it, has definitely made people anxious. Also, there is always this yearning for knowledge and curiousness among humans which has been curved due to the change in the pattern of communication, and made a greater impact even to our simple act of having a cup of tea among our own friends.

All of us have a bent towards technology and are greatly dependent on it. We are equally fascinated with its multi-tasking ability. The technology today has thrived so much, that, without its support people face difficulty in coping with the situations such as the pandemic today. According to the Indian Express report, published on June 17th 2020, twenty-eight people committed suicide during the lockdown which again brings before us the question of relationship between the advancement in technology and it's contribution to the social interaction process for having better relationships. Factors could be many, but the ground reality of change in the pattern of social interactions also remains undeniable.



Since we are dealing with a pandemic which almost seems insidious (at least in my area which is a village) and my family members, cousins and relatives who live nearby and who often sneak in and out like rats from each other's houses have shown tremendous amount of anxiousness, followed by curiosity and finally some amount of calmness over this period of five months with a simple cup of tea to drink on. Interaction was evidently helpful as the whole of community got together in making the village COVID-19 free by making arrangements for people migrating to and from the village, by sanitizing whole of the village, distributing rations to the needy in a very organized manner taking all the safety measures which could only be possible with a certain amount of proximity.

When we look at it from the sociological perspective, even a simple cup of tea helps to build a web of social relationships which eventually helps us in understanding a person, the pattern it follows and finally contributes to the larger society. So next time, do not miss on any of the tea invites, you never know if it might turn out to be the kind of space you are subconsciously yearning for.

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Notable Alumnus Vatican Radio Broadcaster

Fr. C. M. Paul, sdb
Director Radio Salesian & Salesian TV
Founder, HoD of Mass Communication & Journalism

It is a lesser known fact that a Salesian College Sonada, alumnus has been a media man with the prestigious Vatican Radio for some 30 years now. He is currently working for the English language world program of what is the Pope's Radio. Kolkata resident, Mr Robin Gomes started his stint with Vatican Radio's Indian Section, whose four languages (Hindi, Tamil, Malayalam and English) were among the 47 - language daily broadcasts, back in December 1989.

A former student of Salesian College Sonada, 1977 batch, Gomes graduated with B.A degree in English Honors. He moved to Calcutta where he obtained a B.Ed degree to start a teaching career with St Augustine's Day School, Shyamnagar. Later, he qualified himself further with a Masters degree in English from the University of Burdwan.

After working for some 8 years as an English teacher in two schools, Gomes got selected for Vatican Radio's English language program for Asia. Recalling his job interview for Vatican Radio held in Calcutta in the year 1988, 64-year old Gomes says, "I was not nervous to face the interview, as I had ample opportunities in Salesian College Sonada to participate in inter-college drama and debates, of which I was always a team member." Co-incidentally, several of his batch mates were talented actors and debaters, often staging three-act dramas for the annual college concert, or other important feast days, as in those days there were no television and cinema in Gorabari, Sonada. As a student, Gomes had already mastered a distinct speaking style close to BBC (British Broadcasting Corporation) anchors and newsreaders, and he used this in Vatican Radio's news reports and interviews covering not only Asian stories but also other significant international issues.

Gomes, who is based in Rome, has served three Popes in his 30-year media career – Saint Pope John Paul II, Pope Benedict and Pope Francis. For what Gomes is today, especially at Vatican Radio, he says he owes much to two



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of his former teachers - Frederick Gomes (who is now in Australia) and Trophy D' Souza (who is now in the U.K.).

While Frederick Gomes, who developed a distinct English accent, gave Robin a head start in speaking English close to a native speaker, it also trained him and others to win recitation and dama contests in Don Bosco Bandel, and other Inter-collegiate Debate contests in Darjeeling.

Vatican Radio is the official broadcasting service of the Vatican and the Pope, set up in the year 1931 by the famed radio pioneer, Guglielmo Marconi. Today, the radio programs are produced by over two hundred journalists located in 61 different countries. Vatican Radio produces more than 42,000 hours of simultaneous broadcasting covering international news, religious celebrations, in-depth programs, and music.

Corona Virus : A Menace

Mr Pukar Tamang
Department of History



Virus is a microscopic piece of infectious agent that reproduces only inside the living cells of an organism. The world today is facing a menace of such virus - the Corona virus or COVID-19. The Corona virus or COVID-19 is causes, severe acute respiratory syndrome. The virus spreads between people in a way similar to influenza, via respiratory droplets from coughing. The time between exposure and symptom onset is typically five days, but may range from two to fourteen days. Symptoms are most often fever, dry cough, and shortness of breath. Complications may include pneumonia and acute respiratory distress syndrome. There is currently no vaccine or specific antiviral treatment, but research is ongoing.

Corona virus proved to be the deadliest virus of this century that took the lives of millions. It has been said that the Corona virus first emerged in Wuhan, China, when the first case of the novel Corona virus was traced back to a 55 year old man in Wuhan, Hubei, China, on 17th November, 2019. From there it spread to other parts of the world, affecting almost 182 countries. Considering the virus as a real threat to the world population, the World Health Organisation on 13th March declared the outbreak as a Pandemic, with Europe as the epicentre.

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The report says that from the time of its development the people who died from COVID-19 have been shown to be between 6 and 41 days, with a median of 14 days. According to the report most of those who died were elderly – about 80% of deaths were in those over 60 years of age and 75% had pre–existing health conditions including diabetes, heart diseases and so on. The first confirmed death was reported on 9th January, 2020 in Wuhan, China. The first death outside China occurred in Philippines and the first death outside Asia was in France. As of March 24, 2020, more than 6000 deaths have been attributed to COVID-19. The worst hit country after China was Italy where as of March 25, 2020, the total number of Corona Virus cases reached approximately 74,000, and of which 58,000 of which were active cases. Moreover, the number of people who recovered or were discharged from hospital after contracting the virus exceeded 9.3 thousands, while the number of deceased reached 7.5 thousand. As of march 19, 2020 the number of corona virus deaths in Italy exceeded that registered in China.

The whole world is fighting against the corona virus. The Indian Government too is taking every possible measure to fight the virus that includes, travel restrictions, quarantines, curfews, event cancellations, lockdowns. People have expressed their gratitude by clapping and lighting the lamps to honour the COVID warriors.

On the one hand we are fighting against the deadliest virus unitedly, but on the other hand, we are also getting divided, on the lines of racism and xenophobia. There were worldwide effects of the pandemic which include economic recession, anxiety, social exclusion. In India too, the racial slurs created havoc, when there were cases of racial stigmas against the north easterners in the metropolitan cities.

We need to be more cautious and more awareness is needed to fight against the COVID-19 especially in the rural areas. Above all the feelings of racism should immediately be put under the carpet. This is the only way to stand united against it. The early precaution is the best way to fight against it which includes self-quarantine, washing hands with soap at regular intervals, using hand sanitizers, social distancing and staying at home as advised by the experts.



A New Beginning

Mr Rakesh Saibo
Department of Sports Management

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In our lifetime, we have only 3500 days (9 years and 6 months) for ourselves. The World Bank had made this assessment assuming the average age of a person is 78 years, according to which we have only 9 years and 6 months for ourselves. According to this assessment, on an average, 29 years in sleep, 3-4 years in education, 10-12 years in employment, 9-10 years in entertainment, and 15-18 years in other daily activities like eating, travelling, daily work and so on. In this way, we have only 3500 days or 84,000 hours to fulfil our dreams and do something.

The most valuable thing in the world is time.

But currently most people are living a life of despair and they are waiting for a miracle to happen, which will change their destiny. Friends, that miracle will start from today and now and the person who performs that miracle is you, because no one other than you can perform that miracle.

What happens to us is what we believe.

Friends, according to scientists, the body of a bumblebee is very heavy, so according to the rules of science it cannot fly. But the bumblebee does not know this and believes that he can fly, so he flies. First of all, we have to change the false belief that all what happens to us is written in our fate: we are responsible for whatever happens to us (we are responsible for what we are), so being happy or sad, totally depend on us.

God helps only the one who helps himself.

If a person thinks that whatever happens to us is not in our hands, then that person should either change this misconception or do not read this article further.

Rules for life

Self Confidence

Confidence means, believing in oneself. Friends, having self-confidence in our life is as important as having a fragrance in a flower, without self-confidence, our life becomes like a living corpse. No matter how talented a person is, he cannot do anything without confidence. Self-confidence is the foundation of success, due to lack of self-confidence a person doubts his/her own deeds. Self-confidence is possessed by the person who is satisfied with himself/herself and who possesses the values of determination, hard-work, focus and courage.

1. How to Improve Self Confidence - Believe in yourself, set goals (make smart goals) and commit to accomplish them. When you meet the goals you have made, it increases your self-confidence.
2. Be happy / motivate yourself - don't loose your heart because of the failures but learn from them.
3. Think Positive - Be polite and start the day with a good and positive attitude.
4. Nothing is impossible in this world - the biggest enemy of self-confidence is the 'fear' of failure. Always try and complete the task that you're afraid of doing.



5. Tell the truth - get involved with nature, do good work, help the needy. Because such actions give you positive power, wrong actions and bad habits on the other hand, reduces our confidence.
6. Do the work that interests you - try to make a career out of your interest.
7. Live in the present - make good friends, befriend children and love yourself.

Independence

Freedom means independent thinking and self-reliance: dependence on others is the biggest enemy of our happiness, be self-sufficient.



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Others' opinion

Before doing any work, more than the work itself we seek for the validation of others or will simply ask ourselves "what will people say?" This delays our progress and the time like water, slips from our hands.

Hard work and Focus

Hard work does not mean, just physical work – it is both physical and mental. It is said that mental hard work is more significant than physical hard work. Some people set their goals too grand and too vague, but do not work hard and then keep changing their goals. Such people only plan. With hard work and dedication, the most difficult task becomes easy. If you want to achieve your goal, you have to overcome the obstacles that come in your path, you will have to work hard and try again and again.

Practical Efficiency

Character is the foundation of practical efficiency of a person, an individual without a character can never become courteous.

Freedom Fighters of Darjeeling

Mr Prayash Rai
HoD, Department of History

When we talk about the freedom fighters of India, one should also remember the freedom fighters from Darjeeling. The contributions by those, who sacrificed their lives for the sake of their nation are forgotten today.

Dal Bahadur Giri, a prominent freedom fighter, who had been jailed many a times was one such name. The British could do nothing about him. He often travelled to the remote places in Darjeeling preaching to the people to boycott foreign goods and use only swadeshi saman (goods made in the country). On 2nd October, he had organized a grand meeting at Gitange Dara (Chowk Bazaar) in Darjeeling against the British regime. He was accompanied by Agam Singh Giri, the great Gorkha poet. In those days, the British had enforced article 144, so that no one could assemble and organize any sort of demonstration. On 30th August 1922 some congress leaders were arrested, including Agam Singh Giri. Gandhiji's aide Helena Lepcha (aka Savitri Devi) was also arrested. They were shifted to different jails. Agam Singh Giri was kept in Hooghly but he was released later due to complications in health and was later shifted to Kalimpong on 1st November 1923. When Subash Chandra Bose learnt about his ill health, Bose had offered some financial help to Giri through Udaya Chatterjee but Giri had already passed away before the help could reach him. Gandhiji sent his condolences to the bereaved family. It was a great loss to the party and to the people of the hills to lose the great poet.

Bhagwati Bir Lama was another great patriot, who had also fought against the British. He had died in the prison, unable to bear the torments and punishments.

On 16th April 1925 Desbandhu Chittaranjan Das arrived in Darjeeling citing some health problems and stayed in Bhutia Busty. On his invitation, Gandhiji came to Darjeeling on 4th of June 1925 and had stayed for five days. During these five days, he addressed the people at Chowk Bazaar and had requested them to work as a team in the freedom movement. Many prominent people of the time, Jagdish Chandra Bose, Kalyani Devi, Prafulla Chakraborty, Annie Besant, Paras Mani Pradhan and Ratanlal Brahmin came to meet him.

Damber Singh Gurung, another freedom fighter, received a letter from Subhash Chandra Bose discussing the problems of the hills, especially safety and identity.

Digbir Singh Ramudam, who hailed from Kurseong, had joined the army and was sent to Malaysia in 1941. On 15th February after the fall of Singapore,



he was taken a prisoner of war by the Japanese. Captain Mohan Singh was preparing to form the Indian National Army (I.N.A) and Digbir too joined the camp and became Second Lieutenant of the I.N.A.

Netaji had declared war against the British and Digbir was given a charge of section number eight in Micktila, where he and his compatriot reached Kohima after a splendid victory. He was injured during the war, but soon recovered. He was taken a prisoner of war and brutally tortured in Burma Central Jail. He was brought to Delhi before the army court in Red Fort where he was court marshaled. He was then released in the year 1946, when he came back to Kurseong, he lived to see a free India and breathed his last in the year 1974.

It is impossible to give justice to all the brave sons and daughters of the hills who gave all they had for the sake of their motherland.

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An Inspirational Story

Ms Roshanara Khatoon
Department of Education



Helen Adams Keller, was born a healthy child, she was born in Tuscumbia, Alabama, on 27 June, 1880. Her parents were Kate Adams Keller and Colonel Arthur Keller. When she was of 19 months, Helen became deaf and blind as a result of an unknown illness, perhaps rubella or scarlet fever. As Helen grew from infancy, she became wild and unruly, when she was entering adulthood, her life changed after meeting Anne Mansfield Sullivan, who had come to Tuscumbia to be her teacher.

Anne believed that the key to reach Helen was to teach her obedience and love. Anne had got the permission from Helen's parents to take Helen away from the main house and live alone with her in the nearby cottage. They remained there for weeks. Anne began her task of teaching Helen by manually writing into the child's hand.

For example, by spelling d-o-l-l into her hand, she hoped to teach her to connect objects with letters. Helen quickly learned to form the letters correctly and in the correct order, but didn't know whether that word existed.

On April 5, 1887, less than a month after Helen's arrival in Tuscumbia, Anne sought to resolve Helen's confusion between mug and milk which Helen confused with drink,

Anne took Helen to the water pump outside and put Helen's hand under the spout. As the cool water gushed over one hand, she spelled into the other hand the word w-a-t-e-r first slowly, then rapidly. Suddenly, the signals had meaning in Helen's mind. She knew what water meant, the wonderful cool substance flowing over her hand. Quickly, she stopped and touched the earth and demanded its spelling and by nightfall she had learned over thirty words.

Helen quickly proceeded to master the alphabet, both manual and in raised print for blind readers, and gained facility in reading and writing. In 1898, she entered the Cambridge school. After completing school, she entered the Radcliffe College in the year 1900 and received a Bachelor of Arts degree, the first deaf and blind person to earn it.

The achievement was as much Anne's as it was Helen's. Anne continued to labour by her pupil's side until her death in 1936, after her death Polly Thomas took over the task.

Helen saw herself as a writer first, her autobiography, The Story of My Life has been translated into 50 languages and remains in print to this day. Helen's other published works include *Optimism, Teacher: Anne Sullivan, The World I Live In, Light in My Darkness* to name a few. She was also a frequent contributor to magazines and newspapers, her wide range of political, cultural and intellectual interests and activities ensured that she knew people in all spheres of life. She was honoured around the globe and garnered many awards.

She received honorary doctoral degrees from Temple and Harvard University in the United States, Glasgow and Berlin universities in Europe, Delhi University in India and Witwatersrand University in South Africa. She also received an honorary Academy Award in 1955 as the inspiration for the documentary about her life, Helen Keller in her story.

Helen Keller died on 1st June 1968. Senator Lister Hill of Alabama had given a eulogy during the public memorial service. He had said, "She will live on, one of the few, the immortal names not born to die. Her spirit will endure as long as man can read and stories can be told of the woman who showed the world that there are no boundaries to courage and faith."

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The Day that never came
Graduation Day 2020

Ceering Lama
3rd Year, Dept. of English

The best dress bought, long emotional speech memorized, waiting to bid cheerful goodbyes to the loved ones, even the dates were sorted for that auspicious day. Well, for the good or for the worse, that day never came. We might not have the memories of our graduation day but the college shall remember us as the unique batch of 2020.

Sometimes, I imagine myself giving a speech on the graduation day. I would have begun the speech by thanking everyone, from the fathers, to the teachers and friends for helping me grow in every possible way I could. Addressing the younger ones, I would have said, "Your time in the college will be challenging as well as fulfilled. Sometimes you may have to face failure or you may never fit in any of the groups as I never did, when you find yourself in the similar situation, look for the bright side, there will be always an alternative, other better option waiting for you." Make sure to have fun because *Zindagi na milegi dobara.*

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The Nightmare

Ignatius Mankhin
3rd Semester, BA General

One day I was traveling with one of my friends in the bus. I sat beside a lady who was carrying a child and the child kept looking at me and smiling. The lady gave me the child to hold for a while, probably because she was tired as she was carrying the child the whole day. I did not mind it at all, as I am fond of children.

The child was very happy sitting on my lap. As the journey was long, the child slept and I too might have dozed off with the child on my lap. I was jolted out of my slumber with a loud noise around me and I saw that the police had stopped the bus.

I was afraid and asked the fellow the passengers, "What was the matter?" by the time I realized what really was happening, I saw the police entering the bus.

I wanted to return the child to the lady, but she was nowhere to be seen.

I then realized that the policemen were looking for the child who had gone missing, suddenly one of the policemen saw that I was carrying the child.

They rushed to my seat and asked, "Whose child is it?"I told them that the child's mother was sitting right behind me and had asked to help her carry the child for some time.

I frantically looked for the lady, and to my misfortune, the lady was not to be seen anywhere. I explained the situation to the policemen repeatedly but they did not believe anything of what I said.

They accused me of being a child lifter and dragged me out of the bus and began to beat me up. They wanted to arrest me, then I told them that one of my uncle is a police officer and I wanted to talk to him. I pleaded with folded hands and finally they allowed me to make a call to my uncle. After a short while my uncle arrived on a motorbike and I narrated everything that had happened. My uncle being a senior officer, ordered the policemen to look for the lady child lifter, after that, my uncle took me on his motorbike to his home.

On reaching the house, looking at my condition, my aunt began to cry. I requested them not to inform my parents anything about the incident, or else, I would be beaten up again. After I had a very nice dinner, I went to sleep. While I was in a deep sleep, I heard somebody knocking on the door, I jumped out of bed with fear, thinking that the policemen had come again.

And as I opened my eyes, I saw my classmate, Br Adeep Tirkey asking me to hurry up, as it was already 06.30 am and I was late for the Morning Prayer.

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Poetry



Awake

Anidhya Thapa
3rd semester, Dept. of Sociology

Awake in the world,
I find myself in a place divided by a wall,
Where, to rise I have to fall and the only love is ball,
Where, everything is slowly leading to chaos,
Where, we enjoy every day in peace,
There are people, whom I miss,

Where, I find only nature is bliss, living like a drowning fish.
As the sky is changing its colour to red,
People are divided by different faith,
I'm being prepared, taking a deep breath,
As darkness dressed like a bride,

Consumes me from inside.
I'm still in my world divided by four corners,
Where a word can act as a burner.
But, somehow I'm falling for darkness
As it's a place to hide as well to thrive.

Demons in disguise

Deepnam Rai
5th semester, Dept. of English

I have seen hell with my eyes,
Not once but many times.
You can find the cruelest people in this place,
Hiding beneath a caring face,

They have a weird sense of sympathy,
Always ready to showcase their pity.
Their words are so assuring and intelligent,
Hiding the thoughts that are malignant.

These demons feed upon the human plight,
Doing everything that aren't right.
It is the demon in the disguise of man,
Controlling humanity by doing everything that he can.

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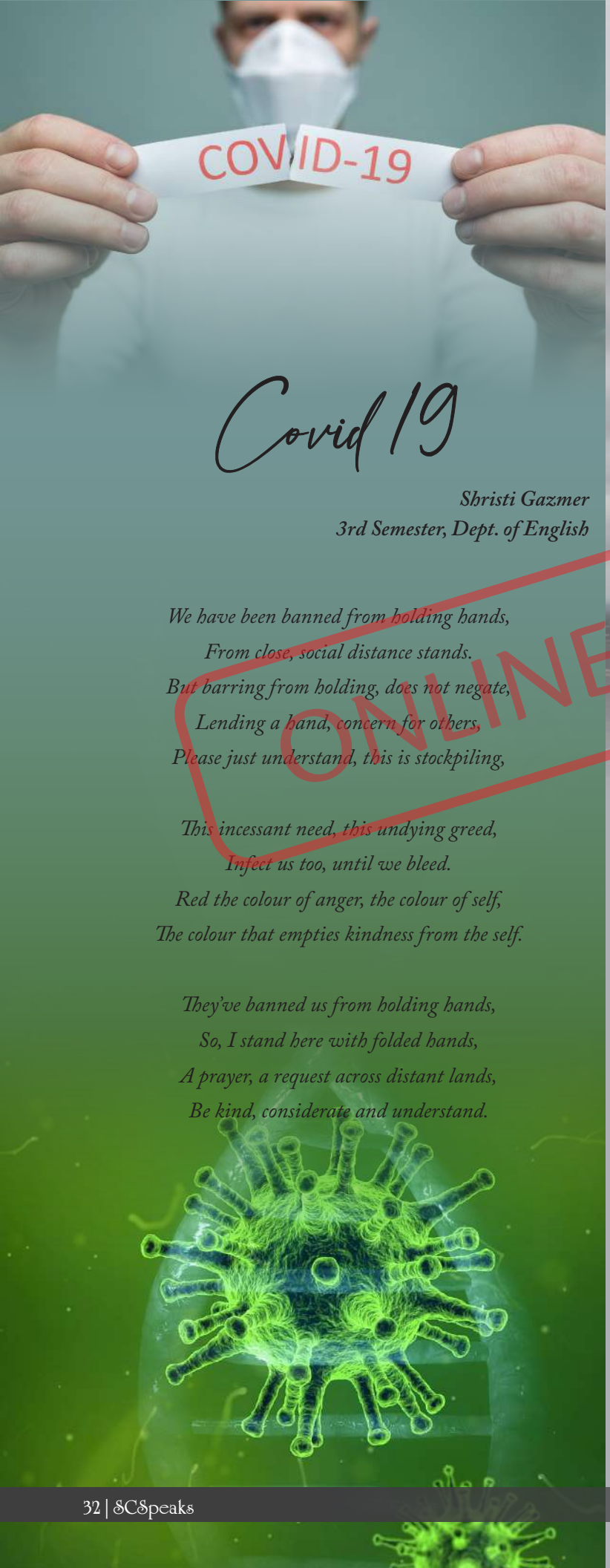
Covid 19

Shristi Gazmer
3rd Semester, Dept. of English

We have been banned from holding hands,
From close, social distance stands.
But barring from holding, does not negate,
Lending a hand, concern for others,
Please just understand, this is stockpiling,

This incessant need, this undying greed,
Infect us too, until we bleed.
Red the colour of anger, the colour of self,
The colour that empties kindness from the self.

They've banned us from holding hands,
So, I stand here with folded hands,
A prayer, a request across distant lands,
Be kind, considerate and understand.



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I BELIEVE IN ME.

Believe

Ms Deborah Shreya Khaiba
Department of Mass Comm.

I need to believe that only I can chase my dreams.
That, only I can light the fire in me.

That, no one can break me,
Unless I break myself,

And only God can help me carry my pieces.
I need to believe that I am different and I am full of love.

And if I live every moment believing in God,
Then the chaos in my heart will bear a beautiful meaning,

And the world will never cease to forget my name.
Therefore, I just need to believe.



Ode to Lockdown

Mr Niten Chettri
Ex. Student, SCS

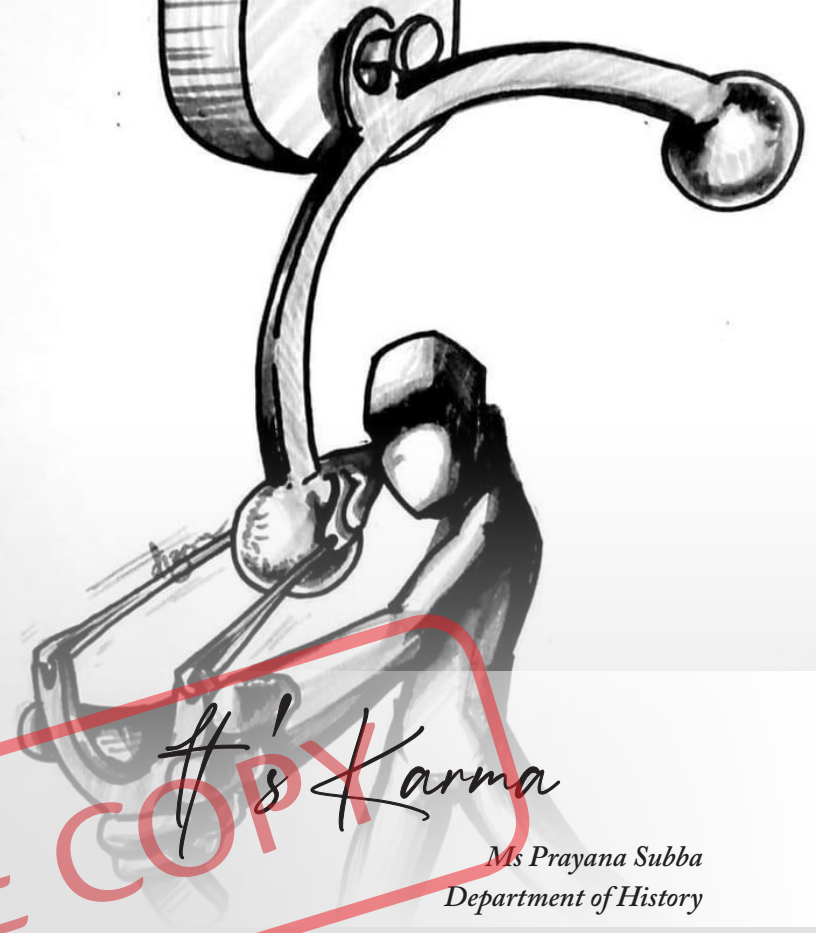
O! Lockdown.
When will you handover the key to open?
The lock within the four walls, it's taking a toll on me.
Now, I realise the pain of living in a Zoo.
The sufferings of Safari friends are crystal clear to me.

Yes! the lockdown has taught me every being is set to be free,
However, in a quest to be a superpower,
We have forgotten the pleadings of nature.
They cried, they requested, they pleaded to the deaf and blind human.
With all kind of innovation, we've betrayed our dear nature.

Now we are left with nothing but to blame ourselves.
Amelioration will take a time but my request to the world is not to damage the nature further.
Love to see the world proclaiming, "We have conquered Covid-19"
Arise, Awake, Sun has arisen in the East.

Let us pray to our dear nature to give back our routine life,
I Hope I will see the new sunrise and enjoy the sunset.
Anticipating, Some gentle [wo]men to proclaim,
'Yes'! we have arrested the Covid-19.

Got to hope that a day will blossom with a dawn free of Wuhan virus,
Till the time I hope you remain safe and sound,
Spending lovely family hours.



It's Karma

Ms Prayana Subba
Department of History

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I get what I give.
What I gave, was what had to be given.
So, where lies my independent will?
If everything happens, for it had already happened.

The biggest question however,
What has to be done, which was left undone?
And if it was left undone, why it needs to be done?
And even if it gets done, will it again be left undone?

You say it's Karma,
but who started it first? who gave the black ball,
to the wall? Am I not that another wall,
who'd retaliate to the same black ball?

Now, if I wish to change black into white,
what energy do I need to ignite?
Do I need to be that brightest light?
which absorbs all darkness and shines so bright?

Will it not hurt me taking all the pain?
You say my heart needs to be an ocean regardless of the rain.



Memories

Swikriti Pradhan
3rd Year, Dept. of English

Strangers we were then,
when we first met on a wonderful day.
The day is long gone but it feels like yesterday.
We started with an awkward conversation but have come a long way.

Now it seems to be the day when we part with beautiful memories.
The memories of never ending conversations,
debates and senseless jokes.
Those laughs and teasing, has now become a memory.
We had such a great time, all these days.

The time was ours and we were together,
But no one will be able to eliminate that from us.
The fact that the beautiful college days have ended,
will always cause me pain,
but the memories of the time, we've spent together,
will forever be in my heart, until we meet again.

Why?

Anjana Sharma
5th Semester, Dept. of English

Where do our lost feelings go?
The feelings that once resided in us,
Why bit by bit we lose control,
And major part of our trust.

What kind of humanity we're looking for?
That would bind us without words,
Where can we pour our miseries,
And the seasonings of our lust?

Why do we keep asking?
Sometimes we even beg,
We work so hard all our life
Yet forget to be proud of ourselves.

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Dilemma of Love

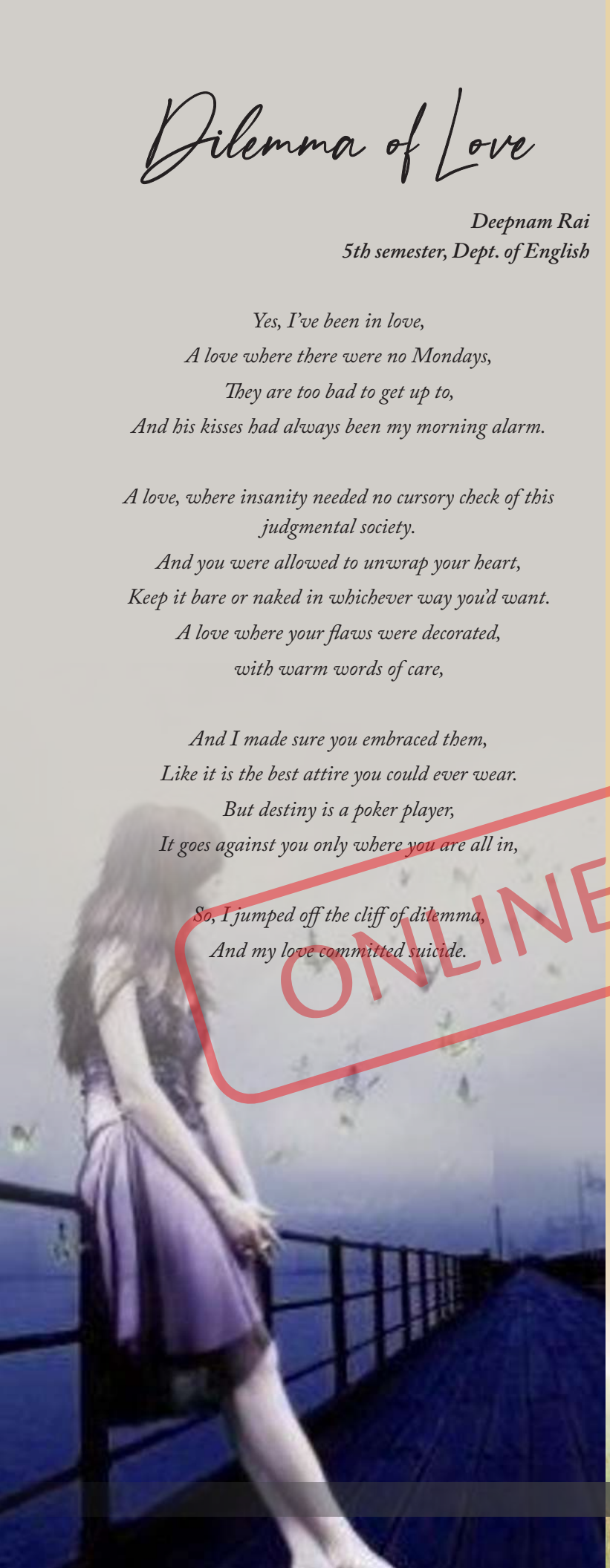
Deepnam Rai
5th semester, Dept. of English

Yes, I've been in love,
A love where there were no Mondays,
They are too bad to get up to,
And his kisses had always been my morning alarm.

A love, where insanity needed no cursory check of this judgmental society.
And you were allowed to unwrap your heart,
Keep it bare or naked in whichever way you'd want.
A love where your flaws were decorated,
with warm words of care,

And I made sure you embraced them,
Like it is the best attire you could ever wear.
But destiny is a poker player,
It goes against you only where you are all in,

So, I jumped off the cliff of dilemma,
And my love committed suicide.



I Surrender

Ms Prayana Subba
Department of History

There are times, unexpected and uncertain,
where my spirit crumbles.
There are moments unhappy and uncertain,
where my heart almost freezes.

Answers, my heart yearns for,
Reasons, my mind craves for.
My mind starts playing the blame game,
this person and that.

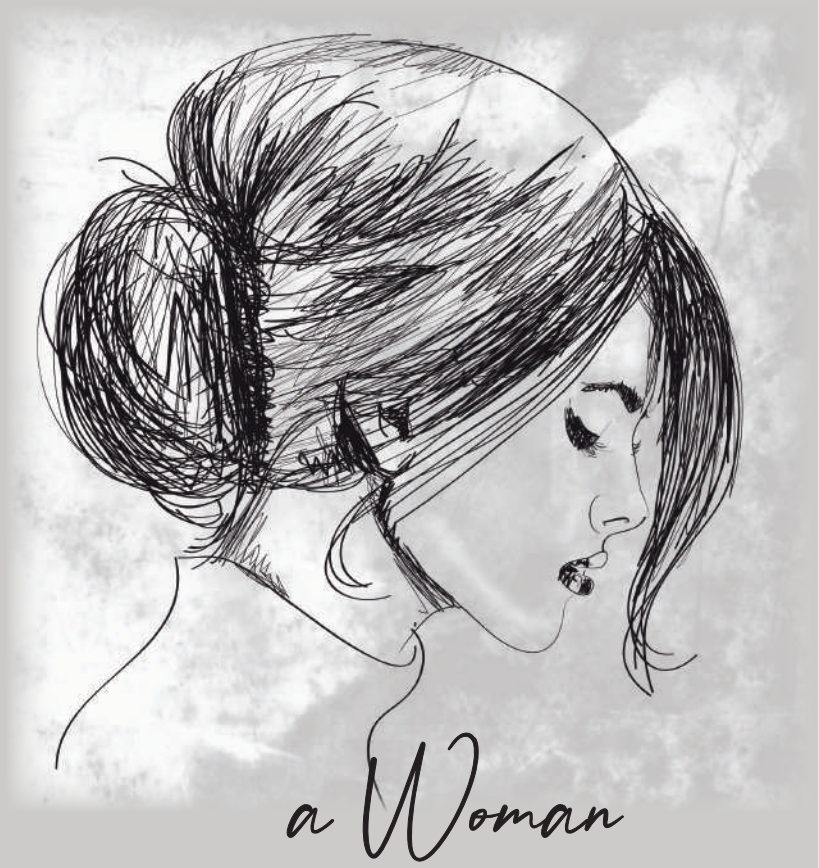
She starts giving me names,
why and who did what.
Deep down into my thoughts,
I am lost and hurt.

Unable to cope with the worst,
my heart is numb and burnt.
Then a voice comes, from inside of me.
The choice is yours, just trust in me,

I close my eyes, and think of thee.
I choose my destiny, and set myself free.
So, I do my best, leaving out the rest.
And, with the promise of forever, I accept and surrender.



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a Woman

Ms Sreha Agarwal,
Department of Commerce

Yesterday, she was avoided,
Yesterday, she was unwanted,
Yesterday, everyone wanted a baby boy,
Yesterday, she was born.

Today, she's looking after her family,
Today, she's the Lakshmi of the house,
Today, she's taking care of the household,
Today, she's wanted by all.

Tomorrow, she will look after another family,
Tomorrow, she will serve another family,
Tomorrow, she will lead the world,
Tomorrow, she will generate a new generation,
She's a woman.

Life Is a Journey

Lamin Bomzon
3rd Semester, Dept. of Political Science

The sun is shining bright,
It's rays and the light.
raising hope in every person's heart,
for a new day to start.

Every day begins with a mystery,
With a challenge to solve

The sunset is so lovely,
As the rays extinguish in the dark slowly.
Each day it is said to be the beginning,
but it is rather a step towards our ending.

Life, is such a limited time,
Hatred, is just a wastage of time.

Once death knocks at your door,
Do you think you can escape?
Life is a journey,
Some are surrounded with flowers,
Some are surrounded with thorns.

Everyone has to play a role,
Just don't forget yourself,
You, are your own goal.



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Child Labour

Seddhanta Pradhan,
5th semester, Dept. of Commerce

This harsh reality, burdens my soul,
I could do nothing.

But it only keeps me wondering,
Maybe for some money or the food,
He's going to do this just to be good.

Making some coins a day,
Just to support his family,
In his best possible way.

Tears roll down my eyes,
Maybe it's not the child labour,
But the fact that the child has to be laboured.

My head whispers, Why?
Can't you just go and help?
But something holds me back.

My inner voice says,
He understands the harsh world in this young age.
Maybe it's not the child labor,
but the fact that the child has to be laboured.

My head whispers, why?
Can't you just go and help
But something holds me back,

My inner voice says,
He is understanding the harsh world in this young age,
This will mould you into a better person for ages.

So, it makes me wonder,
should I really step forward to help?
or just watch him labour his pain away, day after day.



Isolation

Simon Bhusal
2nd Year, Dept. of English

The empty streets,
The deserted bazaars,
The tired eyes of a labour with no means to earn,
The street dogs sleeping, undisturbed on the main road.

The silhouette of a silent town which once lit with the bright city lights,
The solitary traffic constable,
The daily hubbub of rumours overfed by the news channels,
The people's faces laminated in masks.

The empty playgrounds with no merry laughs,
The smell of pungent sanitizers & disinfectants lingering in the stagnant room,
The echo of the distant sirens hampering the sound of silence,
Is cautiously whispering something,
Isolation.



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My Family

Sushmita Gurung
3 year, Dept. of English



Hush! It's been a decade, like the way she is,
Oh! My girl, why are you vexed and remorseful?
Come on, you'll get through, this is what they say.
Dumb! Lovesick lady why cry over the spilled milk?
"Will get you a drink" they say,
so I would forget that nut head man?

A long explanation, piled with a handful of tears,
and innumerable giggles they give me,
When dizzy, I get a good nurture like the baby saplings,
Ah! Such a lucky lad I am to have those super beings by my side,
I wonder sometimes if they are an angel disguised in human forms.
Or, maybe a fairy god mother, or elves and pixies like that in the fairy tales.

How can one be blessed with such mortals in this vile world?
Is it because, I am the chosen one, luckiest of all?
As the myth unfolds, do fairies really exist?
Who are they? who are they?
Fairies?or maybe best-friends? No! I correct.
They are my family, my forever beings.



Let you go

Ms Prayana Subba
Department of History

You were a blessing that I didn't even pray for,
My heart kept singing that melody it craved for.

You filled the colours of my life, became my favourite pink,
like my dearest toy, I wouldn't lose you for a blink.

We painted together, The sky so blue,
You did the clouds, I made the rainbows, anew.

When it rained, you held me so tight,
that the sun felt wrong and the pain felt right.

Of course time cannot favour always,
our pretty world,

Oh! Good times and memories forever remains,
our pretty world,

Oh! But if you've decided to step back,
I love you enough to let you go.

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We didn't

Dipty Tamang
3rd year, Dept. of Political Science

With the biggest blessings,
Amidst the darkness, beneath the pain,
we met.

With new aspirations,
amidst the joys and the happiness,
we flew together.

Half a decade has passed,
With the confession, beneath our realization,
we didn't meet, we didn't fly,
mad heart.

This mad heart, is not okay.
Always searching for the meaningful, with no identity.
What is this object? I do not know.

Everywhere it is walking, right in front of my eyes.
Where is it? I do not know,
Somewhere, I see the blurred face,
but I am shy.

It's melodious voice, is amazing,
but, why is it hiding? I do not know.
It's invisibility makes this mad heart the maddest,
making memories more appraising.

This mad heart, is not okay,
Beneath the darkness, I see the light.
Will we ever meet?
But when?



A bouquet of beautiful memories

Swikriti Pradhan
3rd Year, Dept. of English

A bouquet of beautiful memories,
sprayed with tears.
Wishing, God could have spared you,
If just for a few more years.

It does not take a special day,
for us to think of you.
The mass we sing,
the prayers we say,
are offered for you.

We cannot bring the old days back,
when we were all together.
Our family chain is broken now
but memories live forever.

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आज भी रहे हम डर

Ms Sreha Agarwal
Department of Commerce

वो चिखी थी,
वो चिलाई थी,
नजाने कैसे उन कुत्तों के,
कब्जे मै वो आईथी ?

इंसानियत की सारे हदों को,
उन हैवानों ने कुचल दिया,
एक मासूम सी जानको,
अपने हाथों से मरोड़ दिया ।

अनदेखी करदी गयी,
उस नन्ही बच्ची के तड़पते अंग ।
रक्तसे भर दिए गए,
उसके शरीर को लाल रंग ।

आज भी सुनाई देती है वो आवाजें,
फिरभी बंद है कानून के दरवाजे ।
आज भी हम में है इनका डर,
इन के डर में पलपल रहे हम मर ।

गरेर कसलाई देखाउने ?

निमा रिन्देन शेर्पा,
पाँचौ सत्र,
इतिहास विभाग

देखाउनु छ गरेर केहीलाई
उचाल्दै छु उनीहरूलाई अहिले
पछि थेचार्नुलाई।
के सोंचेका छन कुनि आफैलाई

भगवान ठान्छन कि आफैलाई,
देखाउनु सबैलाई भन्दा त
दिनु नी कुनै गरिबलाई ।

देखाउनु पर्छ यस्ता मान्छेहरूलाई
सिकाउनु पर्छ अरूहरूलाई
कस्तो व्यवहार गर्नु यिनीहरू संग भनी ।

अब अति भो यिनीहरूको,
आकाश बाट झार्नु पर्छ अब,
बादल को मात्र किन र ?
माटो को पनि स्वाद चखाउनु पर्छ अब।



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तिमी नारी होनि त।

गौरव सुब्बा,
तेस्रो सत्र,
मास कम्म विभाग

हेर्दा मुस्कान छ मुहारमा, तर मनमा ब्याथा ।
के सुनेर महशुस गर्न सक्छौ र उसको पीडा ?
उसको आवाज दबाउन खोजछौ किन ?

के उ नारी हो भनेर ?
हुनपनि महिनामा हुने दिनहरू को पीडा
तिम्रो लागी के पीडा ?
घर त्यागी छाव मुनि बस्न सजिलो
होला नी त होइन र ?

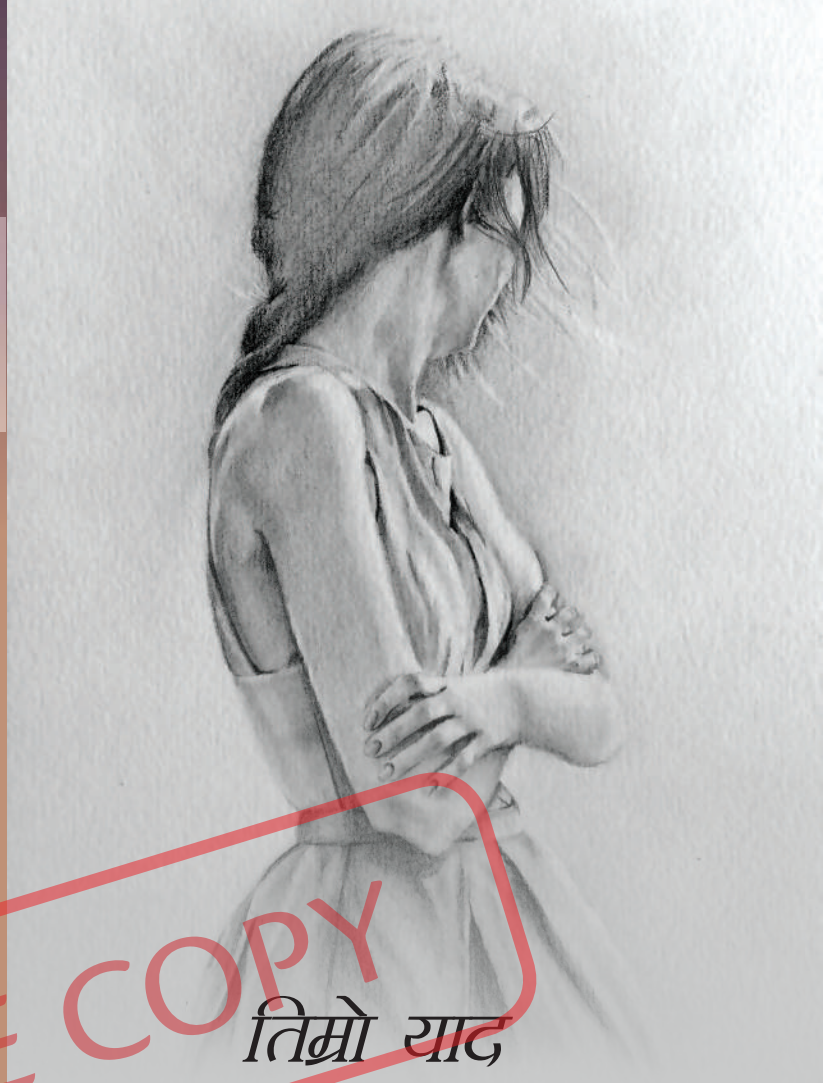
सजिलो नै होला नी त एउटा बालक लाई जन्म दिन?
सजिलो नै होला नीत आफ्नो परिवार लाई त्यागेर
तिम्रो परिवारलाई सेवा दिन होइन र?
पुरुष हौनी त होइन र?

हामीलाई कसले सक्ने?
एउटा नारीलाई दबाउन नै
पुरुष तत्वको चिन्ह होइन र?
आधुनिक समाज भन्छौ तर सोंच किन पुरानो ?

नारी माथि अत्याचार गरेर उसको जिवन
बनाँउछौ किन बिरानो ?
नभूल नारी पुरुष मा समानता नभई
संसार चल्न सक्दैन, नारी छ र तिम्रो अस्तित्व छ
नभूल उ हो जन्मदाता ।

नारीको आवाज दबाउन होइन बड्न देऊ ।
आफ्नो सोंच को ढोका खोल
उसलाई हात बढाएर अघि सर्न देऊ ।

सानो त्यों अबुझ छोरीलाई यो संसारमा
खुलेर बाच्न देऊ ।
पुरुषको अस्तित्व बुझेर, नारीलाई सम्मान देऊ ।
नारीलाई सम्मान देऊ ।



तिम्रो याद

आदित्य राई
पाँचौ सत्र,
साधारण कला विभाग

तिमीलाई के थाहा मेरो माया ।
तिमी मेरो थिएनौं ,
तरैपनि तिम्रो मायामा म डुबेको थिए ।

तिम्रो याद नै मेरो जिउने आधार भएको छ,
देखेर पनि तिमीलाई म किन बोलाउन सक्दिनँ
नदेख्दा फेरि किन यो मन चल्न गाह्रो हुन्छ ।

तिमी आऊ काँडा सरि , बिझि देऊ मेरो मनमा
बरु सही दिउँला हाँसी हाँसी ।

तर तिम्रो याद नै भइ दिएको छ यो माया,
आज तिमीलाई किन भुल्न सक्दिनँ ।

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Reports



Literary Initiatives of the English Department

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Dr Deepjoy Katuwal
Department of English

The Department of English, Salesian College Sonada, yet again witnessed an eventful year of academic success and co-curricular activities. Four of our students from 3rd semester (Aishwarya Mukhia, Amy Sinchuri, Larinzen Syangden and Sharon Lepcha) scored 80 percent or more in the university exam. Keeping up with our belief that classroom teaching and learning is not enough to fully develop the critical faculties of our young minds that they should be exposed to the ideas and people outside of the curriculum, guest lectures, workshops and student seminars were organized.

On 12th April 2019 a guest lecture on Creative Writing was organized. Mr. Ashish Rai, Assistant Professor (St Joseph's College) was the guest lecturer. On 26th July 2019 'Recitation Competition', in collaboration with Literary Club was organized.

On the initiative of the departmental faculty Mr. Vasudeva Naidu, a lecture entitled **The Colonial Anxiety and fear of a tropical river:** Production of a waterscape was organized on 9th November 2019. Based on his Doctoral dissertation, Mr Bikas Sarma, (Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Salesian College Siliguri), enlightened the crowd with his interesting analysis of the Colonial officers' anxiety and fear while dealing with the enormous waterscape of Brahmaputra.

On 23rd November 2019, a student seminar on **Nehru's Letters to his Daughter Indira** was held in the A.V. Hall (301). The Student attendance was meager but those that were present benefited from the papers presented and the subsequent discussion among faculty members.

A play, entitled *Twelve Angry Men* was performed on 16th August 2019 under the supervision and direction of Mr Vasudeva Naidu. The theatrical talent of the students delighted the audience.

On 19th September 2019, the students of English department took part in Socially Useful Productive Work (SUPW) organized by the department of Education. Swikriti



Pradhan, 3rd year made 'a cup and tray' with waste papers and plastic, whereas, Sanju Rai, 1st year, prepared a 'Trolly' with waste papers.

On 12th April 2019, a creative writing workshop was organized by the department in order to initiate the students into the world of creative writing. It was animated by Dr Deepjoy Katuwal, departmental faculty and a Nepali poet and High School teacher from Sonada, Mr Naresh Katwal. It was heartening to see the creative instinct of students flowing through many beautiful poems and short stories that they wrote by the end of the session. Some of their works were later incorporated into college magazine SCSpeaks.

A guest lecture, entitled,The Social and Political Life of Photographs: **A Context of Colonial Darjeeling,** was delivered by Mr Binod Pradhan, Assistant Professor, Southfield College Darjeeling on 29th February 2020. An accomplished photographer, poet, researcher and an academician, Mr Binod Pradhan delighted the audience, comprising of students and faculty, with his insightful postcolonial take on colonial photographers of Darjeeling. He urged the students to be critical about the popular historical narrative that has been forced upon the post-colonial societies like ours.

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Faculty Orientation

Ms Sradha Pradhan
Campus Co-ordinator, SCS

The annual Don Bosco system of education seminar and faculty development programme was organized for all the young faculty of the college on 19th August 2019. It was directed by the Vice Principal, Br Augustine Joseph sdb, an educationist with years of experience in school and an earlier stint as Vice Principal in the college itself.

He guided the participants through the uniqueness of the Don Bosco way of educating the young people where they are enabled to feel being accepted, understood and cared for, in their own context and situation. The Don Bosco's mode of reaching out to young people through the ideals of 'rapport, reason and loving kindness' was shown in the short video clip of his life, and in the theoretical explanation of the same drawn from the life experience of being with the young people for nearly two decades.

The participants, the young faculty of the college, were introduced to and drawn to share their own experience of being with the college students and attempting to reach out to them beyond the classroom space. The role of free time and free space, where they are not alone but in the company of the educator, in a non-threatening and non-authoritative manner can bring about the best in each was shown through many examples.

The group discussions and sharing of notes on the input given by the participants and the chart work done enabled them to assimilate the thoughts and inputs of the day.



Disaster Preparedness Drill

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Mr Manoresh Thapa
Department of Commerce

The perception about disaster and its management has undergone a change due to the advance in technologies. The definition of disaster is no wall encompassing, which includes not only the events emanating from natural and man–made causes, but even those events which are caused by an accident or negligence. To prevent such disaster from being severe, it is a necessity to imbibe preventive and precautionary methods. Such catastrophes does not designate locations but can occur anywhere, be it at home, institutions, factories. Hence, to prevent such mishaps or to know the applicable measures to take after the aftermath of disasters, a disaster preparedness drill was conducted in Salesian College Sonada on 20th of February, 2020, by the fire fighters of Kurseong Fire Station. The programme was organized by the NSS unit of the institution in collaboration with the Department of Commerce.

The fire personnel enlightened every one of us about precautions and measures we need to take and about different types of fires, and how they can be prevented. They were well equipped with the necessary equipments. They also demonstrated the usage of each type of extinguishers, in which some of the student also volunteered. Thereafter, they briefed the students about the measures to be taken in case of an earthquake and pointed out the common negligence on our part that can lead to serious disasters. It really was an informative and educative session.





Painting & Sketching Competition

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Rewaj Thakuri
5th Semester, Department of English

An Inter-departmental painting & sketching competition was organized at Salesian College Sonada by the animators of the Fine Arts Club Mr Prayash Rai and Mr Samip Sinchuri on 15th of November 2019. There were a total of eleven participants from various departments. It was amazing to observe, how the young artists creatively portrayed various themes with their brilliance of painting blended with their perceptions displayed on the paper.



It was a day where we saw creativity exploding in every piece of art, with artists thinking out of the box. The competition also gave students a platform to display their vivid ideas and helped them to learn more by interacting with others.

The soft music in the background added to the beauty. Observing while the artists engrossed in their work in sync with the music. The finished products were amazing as the students had let their imagination run wild and create absolute magic. It was indeed a very successful event and a memorable one too.



College Welcomed Myanmar Cardinal

Fr CM. Paul, sdb
Founder, HoD of Mass Comm & Journalism

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Salesian College Sonada welcomed Salesian Cardinal, Charles Bo Archbishop of Yangon Myanmar on 7th November 2019 at a special assembly in the college auditorium. On his first visit to Sonada on 6th November the Salesian cardinal had his lunch at the Siliguri Campus and dinner at the Bishop's House Darjeeling.

Cardinal Bo is the third Cardinal to visit Salesian College. Earlier visitors were, Cardinal Valerian Gracias of Bombay (1950 to 1978) and Cardinal Telesphore Placidus Toppo of Ranchi (1939). On 7th November the Cardinal had Eucharistic celebration at the college chapel with the seminarians and college faculty.

For the special assembly for college students and faculty, the cardinal was accompanied by Salesian Provincial of Kolkata Dr Nirmol Gomes, Vice-Provincial Dr Joseph Pauria, and Secretary of the Office of Social Communications of the Federation of Asian Bishops Conference (FABC) in Manila Dr George Plathottam, an alumnus of Salesian College.

The programme started at 09:30 am, with a Don Bosco hymn and a solo Nepali dance by Neha Chettri from the English department, welcoming the guests. It was followed by a short felicitation by garlanding of the khaddas by the Student Council.

Fr. George Plattotham delivered a speech, which mainly focused on 'Who Cardinals are? and the policies and issues in Myanmar.' The Principal, Dr George Thadathil, stated how Salesian College Sonada impacted within these 81 years quoting, how alumni have impacted the college motto "Flamma Ardens et Lucens" rendering a post modern version in English as "Flame which flashes and flaunts".

Cardinal who is also president of FABC released a 450 page book entitled *Salesian College - A History that Speaks Today* and handed over the first copy to Fr Gomes.

An eight minute video clipping entitled 'Vision of Peace' showcased the current socio-political situation in Myanmar, especially under the military regime and controversial Rohingya refugee crisis.

The programme concluded with a speech by Cardinal Bo who addressed the policies, issues and turmoils of Myanmar's different ethnic groups. "Everyone is equal in the rule of law – May it be, both for the powerful or the powerless", he quoted.

After a short live interview on Radio Salesian by RJ Bryan, the cardinal met with the Catholic leaders of Darjeeling and Jalpaiguri dioceses. In the meeting, the cardinal shared news of Church in Myanmar and highlighted the involvement of lay people in the church.



Visit to an Orphanage

Chesang Sherpa
5th Sem, Department of Sociology

A group of NSS volunteers from Salesian College Sonada visited Kiwanis Noora Children's Home, a Shelter home for girls, at Rangbull on Saturday 27th July, 2019. The shelter home situated between Sonada and Darjeeling shelters sixteen female children along with five caretakers and a lady in charge. The age group of the children ranged from 5 to 17 years.

Faculty members, Mr Manoresh Thapa, Mr Samip Sinchuri and Ms Pinky Gupta accompanied the group of seventeen volunteers.

"The main goal of this child care orphanage is to make a home of hope for the children, working alongside with the government and civil society to make the children have a good foundation and a secure future," said the lady in charge Mrs Shradha Pradhan.

The children confidently introduced themselves to the Salesian team. Mrs Pradhan further stated, "We're committed to provide every child in our care with the education and training they need to succeed as an independent adult. Our kids are adapted to a community life, they learn all the skills they'll need to integrate into the larger population."

"Caring for orphans is one of the highest and noblest aspirations we can think of" said the assistant. Mr Manoresh Thapa reminding the students, that "the God's spirit dwells in a very real way among the poor, the oppressed, the orphaned and abandoned."

He added, "There is a special blessing for all those who give to help the orphans."

The student volunteers formed themselves into small groups and distributed food items, cold drinks, books, chocolates, and pens they had brought with them. Several students also joined the children to play indoor games, while many chose to sit and chat with the older girls. The volunteers, teachers as well as the students gave motivational talks with words of wisdom, and advice.

"After visiting the orphanage you start appreciating the little things in life when you see people who don't have them. Only at such times we tide over the insignificant and immaterial things and appreciate the bigger picture" said one of the student volunteers.

Another student volunteer shared, "After interacting with the children, we found out that everyone had some kind of joy and happiness within them despite dealing with so many issues at such an early age."





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Taverna Trophy 2020

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Ruben Basnet
3rd Year, BBA

Salesian College Siliguri, was bouncing with joy and activities for the Basketball tournament on 22nd February 2020. Comprising of 8 men's team and 4 women's team and among the spectators were our very own Salesians and other students from in and around.

Father George Thadathil opened the ceremony with his motivating words "Champions are not just made in the gym, but one also requires determination, vision and a mission."

Everyone was enlightened by his words and the players felt encouraged, all teams from the men's category played three games each and women's team played two games each, but only one team from both the categories would walk away with the trophy.

After the intense battle and devotion of each team, Salesian College Sonada and Salesian College Siliguri Campus managed to secure their position in the finals (both the women's and men's category).

The women's finals were held at first, where both the teams fought hard keeping in view of the sportsman spirit. In this high intensity final match, Salesian College Siliguri Campus won the title where Salesian College Sonada secured the runners-up trophy. The men's final began at 04:30 pm.

The scores were neck to neck where Salesian college Siliguri outclassed and won the match in a very close encounter, where as Salesian College Sonada secured the 2nd position.

Congratulations to all the participating teams and the officials who ensured the success of tournament. It was an all new achievement, even though Salesian College Sonada was not crowned the champions. The Sonada team is grateful to the sports co-ordinator for his efforts and his immense support to the team. Keeping in mind TAVERNA Trophy 2021 the teams are going to practice really hard to be crowned the champions.



Deciding on a Career

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Mr Prayash Rai
HoD, Department of History

On the 18th November 2019, the faculty and the students of Salesian College Sonada, gathered in the auditorium to welcome Mr Tshering Wangdi Yolmo, Director of Myntra & Jabong Pvt. Ltd. Mr Yolmo, a resident of Ghoom, Darjeeling holds an MBA Degree from the Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore. He started his professional career with Marico Ltd. as a management trainee before moving to Flipkart where he was promoted to a senior managerial post. The students as well as the faculty members were very interested in the short motivational speech by Mr Yolmo.

Mr Yolmo insisted on how young people should not be afraid of dreaming big and working hard towards fulfilling their dreams. He put himself as an example, a simple boy from the hills who achieved what he had never imagined. He also focused on maintaining a balance between physical and mental health. The session ended with Mr Yolmo fielding some questions from the students and faculty members.





Women Cell Report 2019 - 2020

Ms Nomu Sherpa & Ms Sreha Agarwal
Coordinators, Women Cell

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The Women Cell of Salesian College Sonada under the United Board's project, Anti-Trafficking Awareness among women and adolescent girls from the tribal communities of Darjeeling and Jalpaiguri districts organized three activities as directed under the 2nd phase of the said project. The objective of the project was to create awareness and organize programmes on life skills and personal development, women and child rights, hygiene and nutrients, gender equality, AIDS awareness, sexual abuse and child trafficking for the adolescent girls in the schools and poor tribal women of the concerned area. The following were the work plans: **i.** School level demonstration on concerns of the adolescent girls. **ii.** Campaigning through banners, leaflets and Community FM radio and **iii.** Organizing women empowerment awareness camps in the locality.

The first activity, i.e. school level awareness program on the concerns of adolescent girls was organized on 16th and 17th September 2019. The programme was held at Shanti Rani School and Green Hill School on 16th September and on 17th September at Sonada High School. The programme in these schools started with an introductory speech by Ms Pinky Gupta (co-ordinator) followed by an orientation on various issues by RJ Rejina, Prayanjali Rai (student), RJ Smriti and Subasna Rai (student) followed by sharing of the helpline numbers, Q & A session and ended with a concluding speech by Ms Nomu Sherpa (co-ordinator) and demonstration on the use of napkin vending machine (which were given to all the three schools). The whole programme was covered by three students from the department of Mass Com; Gaurav Subba, Subhankar Rai and Martin Rai, The duration of the programme was 2-3 hours in each school.

Under the second activity, the Women Cell along with Radio Salesian and NSS unit of Salesian College Sonada organized a rally on 25th October 2019 to create awareness on the need of child support, prevention of human trafficking and domestic violence. The objective of the rally was to spread awareness among the local people of Darjeeling in order to

prevent them from being the victims of domestic violence, child abuse and human trafficking.

Over 150 students from Salesian College Sonada took active parti in the Rally which started at 12:30 pm from Shiv Mandir to Petrol Pump (Sonada). The rally stopped midway at Sonada railway station, situated in the middle of the town, where the students distributed leaflets and shouted slogans to stress on the need for the prevention of child abuse and human trafficking.

All the students and the co-coordinators participated in the rally very enthusiastically, holding placards and distributing leaflets reflecting the message on the issue. The rally ended at 02:30 pm with the National Anthem. The rally was also supported by the Sonada Traffic Police who facilitated the smooth flow of the traffic, so that no inconvenience was caused to the public.

The third activity of the Project included organizing awareness camps in the local areas on women empowerment, concentrating on the remote villages of the locality.

Therefore, the Women cell of Salesian College Sonada along with the members of Radio Salesian conducted, a two day awareness campaign i.e. on 25th and 26th November 2019, at the center of Munda Tea Estate, a small village located some kilometers away from Sonada town. The co-ordinators of the Women Cell did a one day survey in the villages of Munda Tea Estate on 22nd November and had an interaction with the working and other women from of tea garden, the co-ordinators also interacted with the self help group members, to get an idea of the current situation of these women and to find ways to help them, in the most effective way. The main objective of the campaign was to create awareness, about human trafficking, domestic violence, women health and hygiene and child abuse, among the village people, especially women. The Women cell after the survey decided to provide help to the women living there, by handing over 10 stretchers to the Munda Sewa Samity so that it can be used at the time of pregnancy or other emergencies in order to prevent any kind of casualties. The co-ordinators also had an interaction with the members of self-help group, enlightening them with innovative ideas to expand their scope of work and increase the standard of living. All the members of the self-help group



assured to report, at provided helpline numbers, any issues related to adolescent girls or women in the locality, so that the necessary action could be taken by the concerned authority.

There were almost 200 people present in the program which included, tea garden working women, school children and other locals of the village. The secretary of Mundakothi Sewa Samity helped to facilitate the program by assembling the people on time. This Samity (committee) consisted of the representatives of 18 villages of Munda tea estate.

At the end of the programme, a student of the Munda High School gave her feedback on the campaign by saying that "women living in the society should raise their voices against the unwanted things happening to them". The members, who conducted the programme were, Ms Nomu Sherpa, Ms Pinky Gupta, Ms Sreha Agrawal, RJ Rejina, RJ Smrity and two students from the department of Mass Communications Gaurab Subba and Sanjok Tamang.

The programme started at 01:00 pm with the felicitation of the Women Cell committee by the villagers followed by an introduction and explanation of the objective of the programme by Ms Pinky Gupta and ended around 04:00 pm by a vote of thanks from Ms Nomu Sherpa.

All the three activities under the 2nd phase of the Project were conducted successfully by the co-ordinators of the Women Cell: Ms Pinky Gupta, Ms Nomu Sherpa and Ms Sreha Agrwal along with the help of RJ's of Radio Salesian, Ms Smrity Rai and Ms Rejina Rai, and also the students from the various departments participated in these activities very enthusiastically.

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A Day of Learning & Joy

Mr Dhirendra Newar
HoD, B.Voc

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As a part of their Skill Training, the B. Voc Department organized an Industrial / Institute visit to Mount Distilleries manufacturing industry, Sikkim on 5th March 2020. The students were divided into three groups and were assigned various responsibilities to collect data.

We started our journey from the college early in the morning and reached the factory at 11.20 am. Inside the premises, the students were shown different processing units and departments. Students keenly listened to the guides and supervisors and took notes. Once the visit to the distillery was over, we all gathered together for the final question and answer session at around 01.00 pm.

The visit came to an end with the vote of thanks proposed by students from each group. The host offered us refreshments after which we boarded the bus and reached the college around 07.00 pm. It was a wonderful day of learning and joy.





Remembering Gandhi

Martin Rai
3rd Semester, Department of Mass Comm.

The students of Mass Communication of Salesian College Siliguri and Sonada organised an inter-college seminar to mark the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi on the 30th September 2019.

Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi was born on 2nd October, 1869 in Porbandar, Gujarat. He was an eminent lawyer, anti-colonial nationalist and political activist, who employed non-violent resistance to lead the successful campaign for India's independence from the British rule.

The students from the Department of Mass Communication of both the Campuses, collaborated and celebrated Gandhi Jayanti at Salesian College Sonada. Many students from the Siliguri Campus had also come to cheer their presenters along with their teachers.

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More than fifty students and faculty members had gathered in the A.V. Hall. The program started with the offering of the *khadas* (ceremonial scarf) and lighting of the candles before the portrait of Gandhiji by the student representatives from both the colleges. Principal Fr George Thadathil gave the keynote address where he talked about how Gandhiji is remembered as a freedom fighter but his contribution as a journalist is overlooked.

Eight students made presentations on the following topics:

- **Gandhi's Contribution to Journalism** by Riwaj Diyali (1styear) Sonada;
- **Gandhi and Indian Opinion** by Anish Chhetri (1st year) Sonada;
- **Mahatma Gandhi as a Journalist** by Vivek Singh, (1st year), Siliguri;
- **Promotion of Ahimsa through Journalism** by Rakchana Karki Doli (1st year) Sonada;
- **Gandhi and Harijan** by Pratikcha Chettri (1st year) Sonada;
- **Gandhi as a communicator: a study of his autobiography, *My Experiments with Truth*** by Raksha Rai, (1st year) Siliguri;
- **Gandhi and Folk Media** by Ashwin Pradhan (2nd year) Sonada.
- **Gandhi as a Communicator: with special reference to the Quit India Movement** by Manavi Goyal, (1st year) Siliguri.

The presenters had really worked hard as it was evident from the quality of their presentations.

In the concluding part of the student seminar, the Principal who sat through the two hour event put two questions to the presenters, "Why the Vernacular Press must continue, and what were their views on Yellow journalism and Fake news?"

The students took turns and applied their minds in contextualizing Gandhi. And later on the organiser of the event, HoD Fr C. M. Paul thanked the students and faculty mambers for their efforts in highlighting Gandhi as a communicator, journalist and an editor.



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3rd National Press Day

Mr Pawan Rai
Department of Political Science

The students from the Department of Mass Communication marked the 3rd National Press day in collaboration with the Department of Political Science on 19th November 2019. The day was celebrated with a two hour panel discussion on **Media and Marx** moderated by Assistant Professors Mr Privat Giri and Mr Pawan Rai, defining the position of Karl Marx towards media. The panelists argued, "the mass media in classical Marxist terms, is a means of production which in capitalist society is owned by the ruling class."

They further stated, "According to the classical Marxist position, the mass media simply disseminate the ideas and the world views of the ruling class, and deny or defuse alternative ideas." This is very much in accord with Marx's argument that: 'The class which has the means of material production at its disposal has control over the means of mental production, the ideas of those who lack the means of mental production are subject to it.'

The panelists further explained, "According to this stance, the mass media functioned to produce false consciousness in the working-classes. This leads to an extreme stance whereby media products are seen as monolithic expressions of the ruling class values, which ignore any diversity of values within the ruling class and within the media, and the possibility of oppositional readings by the media audiences."

The Head of the Department of Mass Communication, Fr C.M. Paul, inaugurated the session with his opening remarks where he shared his own experience as the editor of *The Herald weekly* in Kolkata and as the director of Radio Salesian. He stressed on the right to dissent as the fundamental right of the citizens in any democratic society.



World Radio Day 2020

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Abilash Sharma
3rd Semester, Department of Sociology

The Radio Club of Salesian College Sonada and the journalist's from Radio Salesian came together to celebrate the 3rd World Radio Day (WRD) on 13th February 2020. The theme of UNESCO's 9th edition of WRD was: **Radio and Diversity**. The program held at the College auditorium began with radio club member anchors Bipashana Rasaily and Saloni Pradhan welcoming the audience for an hour long programme which started at 02.15 pm.



The program began with a 16 minute radio programme on the theme **Radio and Diversity** recorded by the Radio Salesian RJ Dikshit Tamang and visualised by Salesian TV program co-ordinator Mr Bruno Thapa.

The Radio station director, students and the RJs were involved in the formulation of the program. It was followed by a short power point presentation on 'Community Radio' by the radio club member Abhilash Sharma.

There were also interactive sessions with the audience, with the rounds of quiz on radio related themes conducted by the Radio Salesian Director Fr C.M. Paul and the club members Pravaker Pradhan and Nityam Pradhan.



27th Nepali Bhasha Manyata Diwas

Mr Prashant Rai
Department of Nepali

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The Department of B.A General and Salesian Translation Centre of Sonada Campus jointly organized the **27th Nepali Bhasha Manyata Diwas** on 28th August 2019 at the College auditorium from 01.30 p.m.

The Programme was presided by the Rector Dr Fr Tomy Augustine and guests of honour were Dr Jiwan Namdung (Eminent Nepali writer/ Member of Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi), Prof Ajit Basnet (St Joseph's College, Darjeeling) and Ms Monica Mukhia (Eminent Translator).

Cultural Programme: The Departments of B.A General, Education, Mass Communication, Political Science and History participated in the Cultural Dance and Songs.

Poetry Recitation: Two Students from each Department participated in the Inter Departmental Nepali Poetry Competition. Ms Monica Mukhia and RJ Samir (Radio Salesian) took the responsibility as the judges for the Poetry Competition. Mr Roshes Mukhia (3rd year history Honours) was declared the winner of the competition.

Dean of Humanities Dr Terance Mukhia, and Dr Jiwan Namdung presented a brief talk on the struggles of Nepali Language Recognition and the present condition of Nepali language and literature in India.

The Programme was conducted by Ms Shraddha Sharma (3rd year English Honours) and Ms Puravi Gurung (1st Semester MCJH) gave a welcome address whereas Ms Dipti Rai (1st Sem English Honours) presented the student note on *Nepali Bhasha Aandolan*.

The programme ended with a vote of thanks by the Rector Dr Fr Tomy Augustine followed by lunch with the guests.





Carols from the Hills

Alexius Minj
3rd Sem, Department of Sociology

A Christmas Carol competition organised by the Radio Salesian, under the banner Jingle Bells Season 4 had been packaged for Salesian TV (a video production wing of Salesian College Sonada).

The competition comprised of creating original Christmas Carol compositions in English or Nepali languages and rendering it for the Radio and Television. The audio and video recordings which started on 25th November ended on 14th December. The voting which started on 23rd December on YouTube ended on 28th December at 3 pm and the winners were declared on 1st January 2020.

Beside cash prizes, the winning teams also received trophies and certificates, of the seven teams in the competition, two groups consisted of Salesian Brothers (Peace Makers and Decatonix) followed by TDYC (Thapa-dhura Youth Centre), Anugraha (Gorabari, Sonada), Blessed (Mirik, Duptin), Salvation (Sonada) and Bethseda (Sonada).

The 28 minute English language program anchored by RJ Bryan was offered on a 'Free to Air' proposal to leading Christian Television Channels like Goodness TV, Shalom TV, Shekihna TV and Atma Darshan TV.

The Nepali language version anchored by RJ Moses was also offered to the local television channels in Sonada, Kurseong and Darjeeling. Some of the television channels that carried the English language version of Carols from the hills included Atma Darshan TV, Shekinah TV and Goodness TV.





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NSS Annual Camp 2019-2020

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Mr Manoresh Thapa
Department of Commerce

The NSS unit of Salesian College Sonada organised the NSS annual residential camp for the volunteers in collaboration with TIEEDI. The camp started from 2nd March and ended on 7th March 2020. A total of 12 students were selected from the NSS unit and they were accompanied by two faculty members, Mr Manoresh Thapa and Mr Samip Sinchuri.

The camp started with a brief introductory session at the college after which the volunteers departed for TIEEDI. On reaching the destination, the students were briefed about the guidelines and rules of the camp and received a first hand experience of staying in tents in the forest without mobile phones and electricity. They were provided with the torches to locomote. The group of 12 volunteers were split into 3 groups. Each group was given certain tasks and duties daily.

The important activities covered during the camp this year were:

1. Overview of the socio-ecological problems around us.
2. Introduction to Permaculture.
3. Village survey and brainstorming of the possible solutions.
4. Learning about building with natural, local and renewable resources. A hands-on-experience of building a natural bond and applying brushwood technique to stop soil erosion on hilly slopes.
5. Learning about composting and plastic eco-brick making.
6. *Shin-yin-roku* forest healing exercises – a guided set of mindfulness exercises that taught the volunteers about reconnecting to Mother Nature.
7. Implementation of the possible solutions in the society (based on brainstorming session after the survey).

The camp was very productive for the volunteers, as they were made aware about the waste being produced and its consequences. They gained experiences on the significance of regenerative living. Needless to say, the forest came alive with the infectious energy of these bright young folks who have now set off to be the change that they wished to see.



BCA Excursion

Mr Nikhil Pradhan
Department of BCA

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The departmental getaway started on the morning of 3rd October. The college bus had been provided for taking us to our venue, Jungle Camp, Bungkulung. Though the day was quite cold, we all were very excited for the upcoming event. We stopped for breakfast on Rohini road. On our way up from Dudhia we faced heavy rainfall, which worried us but thankfully the rain stopped when we reached our destination. It was a beautiful place, surrounded with lush green paddy fields, trees and colourful flowers.

We were accommodated in tents which was very exciting. We had our lunch as soon as we reached and then we relaxed for some time. Later we all headed towards Balasun River. Unfortunately, it started raining as soon as we reached the banks of the river, so we all headed back to the camp site. In the evening we had bonfire, which began with a short speech from our HoD, Mr Bryan A. Kerr, briefing the students about the objectives of the getaway. There was an interactive session for the students, each of the students of the final year (5th semester) and the second year (3rd semester), were given opportunity to share their college experiences with their juniors, and also to pass on some words of advice. After the bonfire, we all had the dinner, and the students headed back to their tents, and the faculty held a short evaluation and planned for the upcoming day.



The next day started with meditation session guided by our HoD, which was followed by the



breakfast. There are three groups in our department, Cybernauts, Alphatech and Technokrats. We had listed various games for the three groups. Soon, after we started with inter group games, in which the students participated with great enthusiasm. Their teamwork and their competitive spirit were clearly visible on the desperate efforts to win the ultimate 'Best Team' trophy. Everyone enjoyed the games session, which was followed by lunch. We then took a walk to Gyaman bridge. The bonfire started in the evening, with the prize distribution, in which the students were given medals for different criteria. The trophy for the best group of the year, was given to 'Alphatech'. We all enjoyed the warm fire, singing together till it burnt out, the dinner was served and the students were directed to go back to their tents. The faculty had a short meet, to discuss and evaluate the activities.

On the third day we had the meditation session, followed by the words of advice by the faculty and then later each one of the 1st Semester students were asked to share their experiences. We then had breakfast and we packed. The college bus came to receive us. The departmental Getaway was a great success, the students were motivated to work harder towards achieving better results, overall we shared a great bonding, we returned with a lot of good memories.

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Lessons on YouTube

Mr Samir Chhetri, RJ
Radio Salesian, 90.8 FM

In the wake of the extended and potentially prolonged lock down due to the pandemic, Radio Salesian and Salesian TV offers broadcast and podcast lessons prepared for the syllabus of the University of North Bengal's, Under Graduate and Post Graduate programmes.

The virtual launch of 'Radio Edu Pods', the mass education project for the college students, an initiative of Radio Salesian and Salesian TV was held on 1st May 2020 in the virtual presence of the Vice-Chancellor, Dr Subires Bhattacharyya, Registrar, Dr Dilip Kumar Sarkar, Secretary of the Under Graduate Council, Dr Nupur Das of the NBU and the Principal of Salesian College Sonada/Siliguri Dr (Fr) George Thadathil.

The radio lessons are available with free access on Salesian TV's YouTube Channel from 1st May 2020, a Radio broadcast from monday to friday at 06.00 pm on Radio Salesian and the web transmissions at 06.00 pm and 06.00 am on 'Listen2MyRadio' App, from 4th May 2020.

All the radio lessons for 2nd and 4th semester syllabus will be available on Salesian TV's YouTube Channel, as soon as they are submitted by the faculty.

"This no-cost mode of teaching and learning which reaches maximum number of the students at any given time is offered by the faculty members of the colleges affiliated to the University of North Bengal," says Director of Radio Salesian and HoD of Journalism & Mass Communication Fr C. M. Paul, inviting the faculties from the NBU colleges to keep sending the lessons for as many topics, as possible.

Departments currently featured in Salesian TV's YouTube Channel are: English, Bengali, Mass Communication, Sociology, History, Philosophy and B.Voc. More subjects and lessons will be available in the coming days.

"The digital technology of using radio lessons on Salesian TV's YouTube channel which allows 24x7 access to the lessons, is a boon to the student community both in the hills and plains," said Dr Thadathil who is also the president of All India Association of Christian Higher

Education, Complimenting Radio Salesian and Salesian TV Teams in offering this technology to the faculties and to the student community who have been suffering the suspension of classes since 16th March 2020.

"The procedure of preparing lessons for radio is very simple," explains Radio Salesian Program Director RJ Samir, "All you have to do is to keep the lessons simple and focused, short and crisp, breaking it down to the modules of 10 to 15 minutes duration and record it on a mobile phone's digital recorder, the secret of getting a clean and perfect audio," Samir adds, "is to record the entire lesson in a closed room (bedroom) which has curtains and minimum of ambient noise."

"In the plains, the summer heat and swirling noise of the fan will definitely affect audio quality, hence it is advisable to record in a quiet and cool corner," suggests RJ Samir.

"Other than the Language subjects," he says, "It was advised that the lessons to be delivered in English." The recorded audio file could be sent on WhatsApp to RJ Samir for packaging and broadcast.

Radio Salesian, 90.8 FM- the Voice of the Hills, established in the year 2016 is the only college campus radio in the North Bengal and entire Northeast India. There are 64 colleges (Darjeeling-Kalimpong - 30, Jalpaiguri - 16, Cooch Bihar - 4, Alipurduar - 12, Uttar Dinajpur - 2) affiliated to the NBU offering 169 courses in 11 disciplines with some 30 faculty departments and 20 specializations. Some 1.13 lakhs NBU students are spread over both the hills and plains in the six districts of North Bengal.



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Virtual Launch of YouTube Lessons on Salesian TV

Looking at the Pandemic through the Lens

This project was taken up by students of the 1st year, English Department. This collection of photos represent the collective and the individual expression and representation of the pandemic and what ensued from it in the hills and it's impact on life and nature.



We cannot control & predict all the what if's at least for now
God has his plan, we humans can just wait & see, what tomorrow brings.



Solidarity

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The mountains, the forest and the sea, render men savage:
they develop the fierce but do not destroy



Let it Heal

ONLINE COPY



Adopt the pace of nature, her secret is patience



Rinchen Tamang

ONLINE COPY

One can no more approach people without love than one can approach bees without care. Such is the quality of bees.



Choden

Life is at a stand still, as the lockdown stays and Corona virus still travels around the world through us



Whatever the situation maybe a woman always understands the pain of a child ...

- Phubu Lama

ONLINE COPY

Amidst this lockdown when the poor are starving, some people are coming forward to help

- Sanju Rai





Riya Thapa

Morning doesn't excite us anymore .We've been long lost for the survival, hoping that tomorrow might come to pass but what scares me is that if tomorrow might prove less important than yesterday. We all are longing to be free, Free from a different kind of war which sucks the blood of innocent humans. We've been walking here & there at the same space longing for the day when this war finally ends & may be the hope for tomorrow is what makes us await for so long!

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Asmita Gazmer

A virus has altered our daily lives and public spaces.



Shrishti

The world has slowed down, so you can rediscover yourself ...





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Strangers we were then, when we first met on a wonderful day.
The day is long gone but it feels like yesterday.

We started with an awkward conversations but have come a long way.
Now it seems to be the day when we part with a beautiful memories.

The memories of never ending conversations, debates and senseless jokes. Those laughs and teasings, has now become memories. We had such a great time all these days.
The time was ours and together we were. But no one will be able to eliminate that from us.

The fact that the beautiful college days have ended will always cause me pain, but the memories of the time we've spent together will forever be in my heart, until we meet again.

- Swikriti Pradhan







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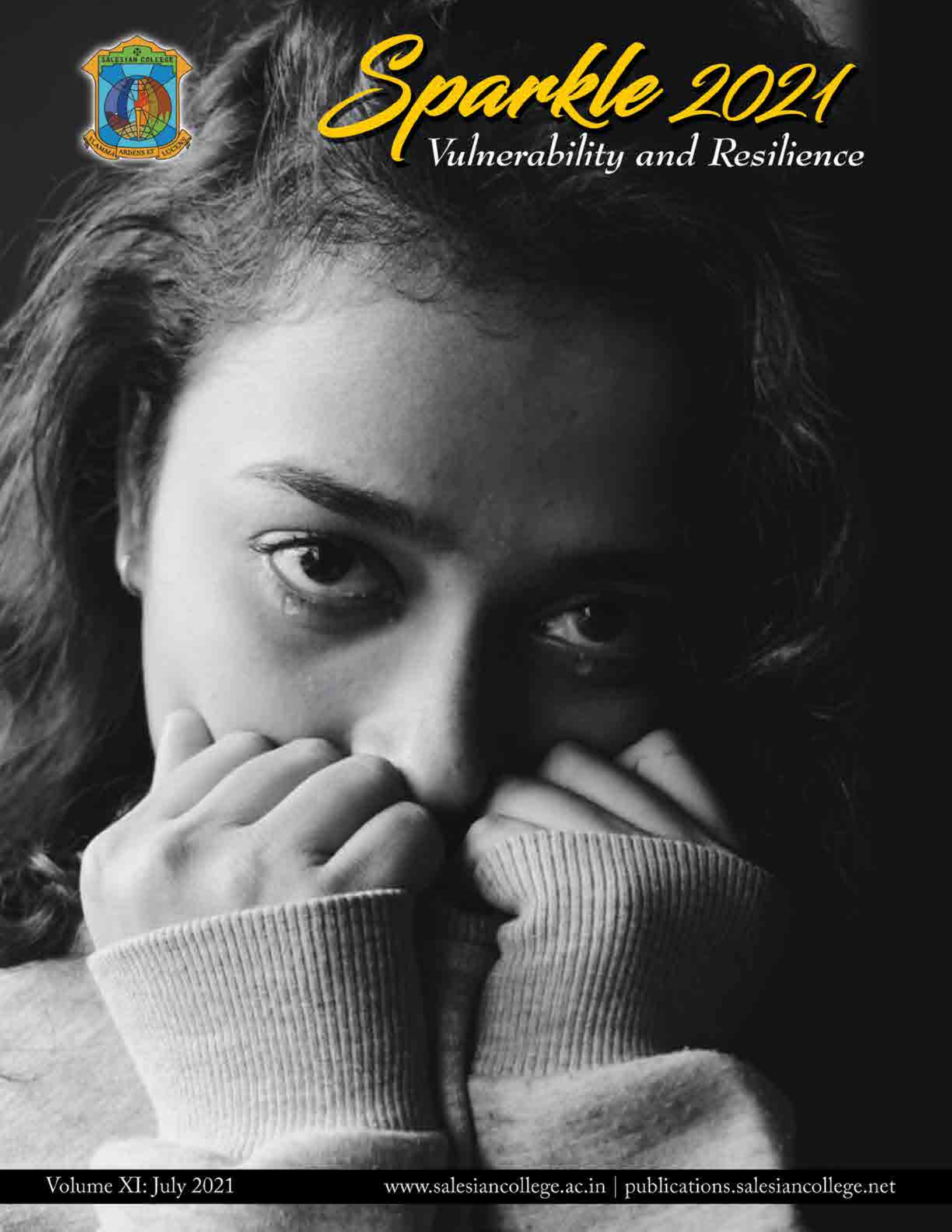
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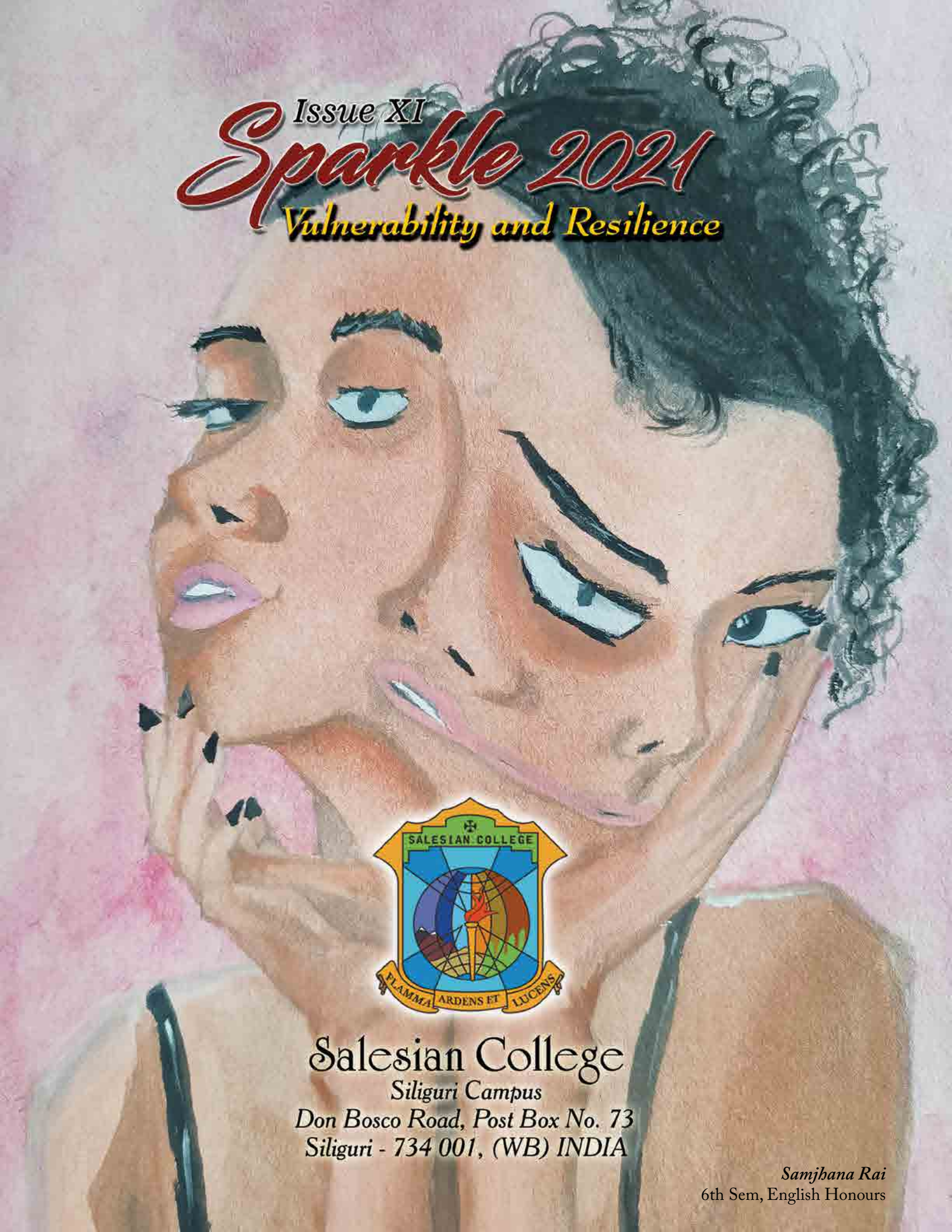
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6th Sem, English Honours















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Message from the Principal



Dear Reader of Sparkle 2021,

The editorial team has pooled together a major portion of this year's collage in the college annual magazine of Siliguri Campus around the theme - "vulnerability and resilience". Through this move, in fact, is captured the contemporaneous conjuncture of the mishaps and misfortunes befallen a sizable percentage of the population - directly on some and on others indirectly – having to suffer adjusting to the new routine and its impact. However, the theme has – as with all words – a life of its own and an imaginary of its own for people living int his part of the globe/planet in these times.

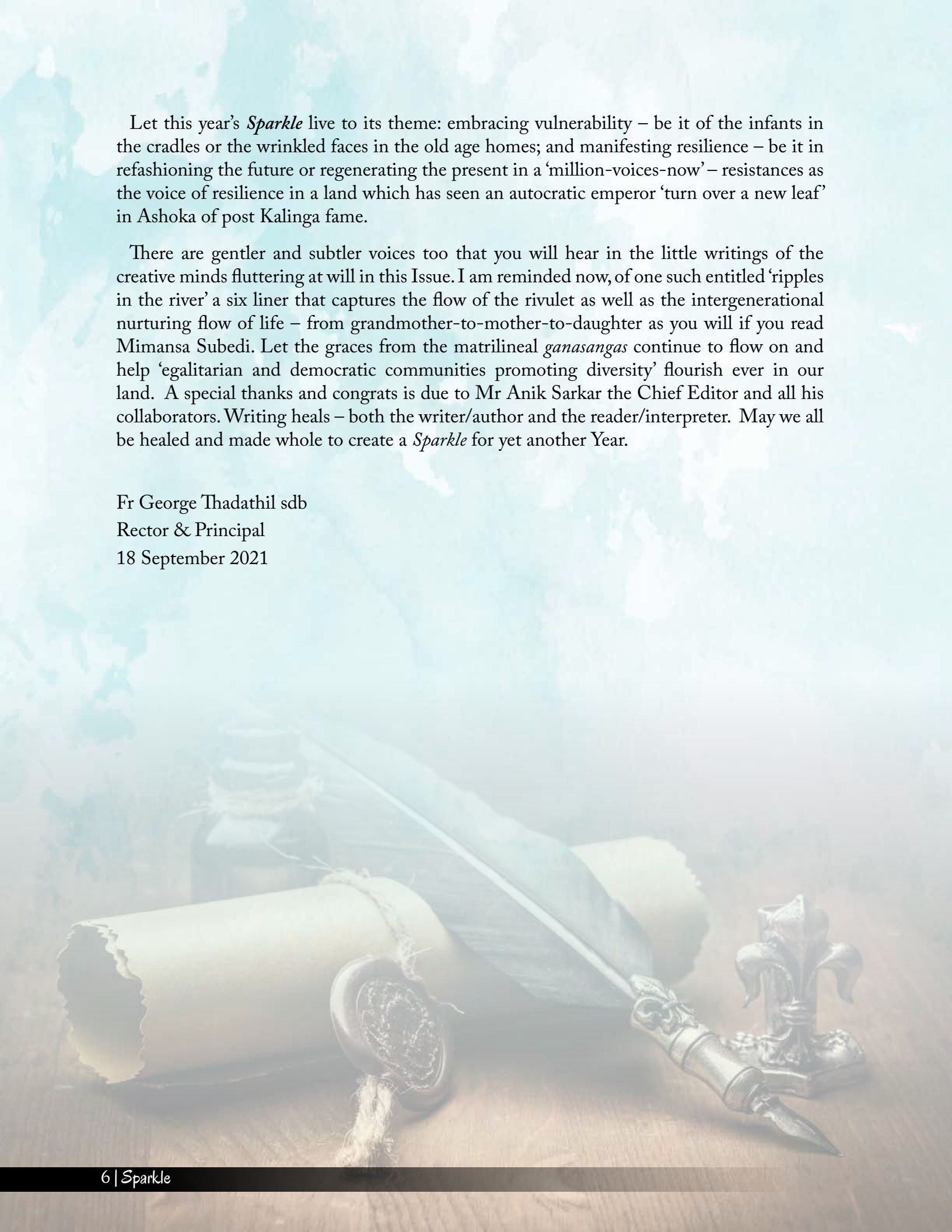
I for one would like to dedicate this issue – of the college annual – to the memory of Gail Omvedt: a valiant woman whom I have only encountered through her writings and is now no more, though continuing to live on, in her words – over a score of publications and the legacy of the activism she gave birth to for the empowerment of the marginalized. In the memorial webinar organized by the select departments – sociology, social work, history and political science – the theme of 'egalitarianism, diversity and democracy' were dwelt upon by her widower husband – Dr Bharat Patankar by taking the listeners to that far off ideal days of 'matrilineal ganasanga' that even predated the Buddha's sangas as precursor to the legacy of inclusive communities: in a way, on second thought - a true community was not necessitated to be qualified as 'inclusive' as there was none other than all inclusive communities, back then. A pre Harappa–Indus civilizational legacy of the life built around the matrilineal *ganasanga* existed one with the natural environs of the community inclusive of its flora and fauna. These idyllic tribal communities of the central India – the last vestiges of an ideal that is wilted away under the collective saga of a globalized class of people making way for a planetary economy – determined by the techno-digitized transhuman evolutionists ready to get on to the next-to-future intergalactic space shuttles.

Therefore, the vulnerability, we succumb to is the victimization of the majority on this planet as expendables and the resilience we need is to battle for preserving the egalitarianism of which we have a memory – kept alive by the likes of Gail and Bharat and innumerable others speaking from the margins and for the marginalized.

Let this year's ***Sparkle*** live to its theme: embracing vulnerability – be it of the infants in the cradles or the wrinkled faces in the old age homes; and manifesting resilience – be it in refashioning the future or regenerating the present in a 'million-voices-now' – resistances as the voice of resilience in a land which has seen an autocratic emperor 'turn over a new leaf' in Ashoka of post Kalinga fame.

There are gentler and subtler voices too that you will hear in the little writings of the creative minds fluttering at will in this Issue. I am reminded now, of one such entitled 'ripples in the river' a six liner that captures the flow of the rivulet as well as the intergenerational nurturing flow of life – from grandmother-to-mother-to-daughter as you will if you read Mimansa Subedi. Let the graces from the matrilineal *ganasangas* continue to flow on and help 'egalitarian and democratic communities promoting diversity' flourish ever in our land. A special thanks and congrats is due to Mr Anik Sarkar the Chief Editor and all his collaborators. Writing heals – both the writer/author and the reader/interpreter. May we all be healed and made whole to create a *Sparkle* for yet another Year.

Fr George Thadathil sdb
Rector & Principal
18 September 2021



Message from the Vice Principal



Fr. (Dr.) Saju Puthussery Devassey, SDB
Vice Principal
Arts and Humanities

I am delighted to see so many budding writers, poets, photographers and other contributors sharing their thoughts and experiences in this issue. Hearty congratulations and a deep appreciation to all the contributors and editorial team for the concerted effort to publish the current issue

We are still in the midst of the devastating pandemic causing distress and death. Life has become so vulnerable to killer virus with its various forms. Never have we seen humans so powerless, weak and fragile. Despite the technological advancement, modern medicines, super specialty hospitals, specialist doctors and rigorous efforts of scientists and researchers, none is able to find a permanent solution to this corona virus pandemic. People have lost faith in the credibility of World Health Organisation (WHO) as it has failed to resolve this covid-19 pandemic challenging the world.

People, however, have learnt to be resilient and adapt to the challenging and critical life situations. Covid has brought to the humanity a valuable lesson that if we seek survival in difficult situations, it is indispensable that we find new solutions to our existential crisis. Moreover, we can see new avenues for our life from this pandemic. After having gone through the pain and suffering caused by this unprecedented pandemic situation we have become more human and gentle in nature. This virus taught us many life lessons unlike other health ailments.

Siting a few lines from the poem on 'A Conversation with Coronavirus' by Dr. M.J.P, it says, 'I am only a messenger / neither killer nor avenger/ many see me as an evil/ but the wise will see my good will/ God sent me to help you to see/ powerless how you are and flee/ from all your sins; follow Gods way/ Then I will fly away as you say'.

Humans are the main cause of Coronavirus, as we need to remind ourselves that we have failed to love and care for the Mother earth/nature. Lamenting is not solution to our problems. It is imperative that we care for our homeland and live a harmless life. We have distanced ourselves from nature, which has caused the spread of various diseases mostly resulting from unethical and unhealthy lifestyles. Selfish and warped mentality has destroyed the equilibrium of nature/environment. A retrospective and introspective reflection can help us to love nature to live a healthy life. Hence, a gentle reminder for all, if you care for nature and nature will care for you; destroy nature and the nature will destroy you.

Whatever the ideas or knowledge that the modern world will provide, there is no greater knowledge than what nature can offer. We need to develop in our own selves a positive energy while being one with nature and its forces, eliminating distance between self and nature, absorbing in our consciousness a deep sense of peace and tranquillity.

We need to slow down and look around in an ever consuming digital age. Take a step back with the end goal of thinking how one relates to the world as a whole. By doing so we can create an ever growing awareness of how connected we are with one another.

We hope and pray that this horrific pandemic disappears soon and we become a better human being, loving and caring for one another.



Message from the Editor



Anik Sarkar
Assistant Professor
Department of English

Our experiences of life are replete with multiplicities — we walk in the shadows, as much as we wander in the glee hours of daylight; we encounter hurdles that jeopardize our planned well-being and likewise are greeted with accomplishments that push us closer to who we want to be. Often, 'vulnerability' is seen as a zone of weakness. Although, it may sometimes be dependent on how we have been *taught* to see. So, by probing into its structure, there surfaces the possibility of counter-engineering its cognitive framework, in a bid to (re)configure one's strength. We must outline our vulnerabilities, endorse the grey spots and harrowing gaps, chart them cartographically in our minds and vanquish our crippling self-doubts — all under relentless warzones, dictated by time. Rising up from moments of what intimidates us as a certain defeat, is an act of resilience. This year's theme for Sparkle is "Vulnerability and Resilience", where we come together to share our piercing *vulnerabilities* and celebrate our victories with the fragrant roses of *resilience*. Featuring themed as well as non-themed articles, this edition moves across discourses, engaging readers with vibrant perspectives.

Creativity is therapeutic and more so, in the wake of these terrifying times. It is a release for those who embark on the task of sharing and a warming relief for the wide-eyed spectators at the curious end. The sections featuring stories and poetry open up horizons of thought, taking us into unfamiliar spaces: exciting, shocking, inspiring and sometimes unsettling. The photographs and paintings allow us to see through others' eyes, be it glimpses of frozen memories, dreams captured in myriad shades or the visualization of experiences where words fall flat. The section on selected reports showcases some tasks successfully accomplished by the college in a year of uncertainty.

I wholeheartedly thank all the contributors who by letting us into their works have made it possible to widen the doors of our perceptions. I thank the Patrons, Reverend Fathers, College management, Students, Parents and Guardians, Staff members and Faculty, whose visible and invisible impressions whirl through these pages. Lastly, I thank the student editorial team — without their inputs, vision and tireless efforts, the magazine wouldn't see the light of day!

Messages from the Student Editorial Team



Shweta Mazoomdar
4th Sem, Department of English

Learning has always been associated with receiving direct education either from an eminent educational institution or through important figures focused on learning and determined to bring forward a change through their actions. Sparkle, therefore as such is a combination of the learning which will complete and reduce your soul's hunger and definitely inspire you for the upcoming ages to become the best version of you. I hope and pray that as you flip over the pages of the magazine you will not only find your fellow mate's name along with their article in here but also a generous amount of themselves present which will bring you even closer to the aspects of thriving needed by all of us. For to understand and be understood is one of the most desirable things needed by each one of us; thus, making us better beings in close touch with our resilience and vulnerability. Lastly, I would like to thank my teachers and other generous contributors without whom the magazine would not be satiable enough. Thank you for your efforts and increased faith needed for this magazine to be a major success. Love and light.



Manshika Kaur
4th Sem, Department of English

This year's Sparkle Magazine is all about Vulnerability and Resilience. The imaginative pieces in the magazine surround both the realness and the ability to overcome which is often hidden. So, we're bringing to you an educational and unique journey where you'll feel connected and strong. It has been such an interesting experience to review a different perspective and walk into a completely different world. I sincerely thank my teachers and everyone else involved in the issue of this magazine who worked hard to make it a success.





Samjhana Rai
4th Sem, Department of English

The shift is enormous.

The faultline runs deep.

We are experiencing changes at an unprecedented rate. These are changes that overwhelm us, shake us awake, challenge us and disturb us. What should we do? How should we react? Should we give up? Should we let ourselves get lost in these changes? Muddled in these questions, we live on.



Saloni Agarwal
4th Sem, Department of English

The past year has been rough on all of us. In these times of despair, in order to seek hope and optimism, we've all, in some form or the other, turned to words. Words and stories are at the core of every art form, from movies to novels to music. With this it is my utmost pleasure and honour to announce the release of yet another edition of our annual magazine, Sparkle.

It is my hope that Sparkle provides a platform for students to express themselves creatively and that it is able to enrich the lives of readers and provide them with optimism and strength that we require in times like these. Change can be daunting. However, if it occurs for the right reasons, it can bring new life to everything around us. Instead of fearing change, we must channelize our inner creativity to take the initiative to bring the change this world requires. There will be people who might tell us otherwise but then again in the words of Robin Williams, Words and Ideas can change the world! I believe in the power of words. I hope you do too.



Samden Bhutia
4th Sem, Department of English

Sometimes a reminder of a good life is often a need for the polar. The need for a polar bear is often just day dreaming. While the need to day dream, is, often overthinking.

Messages from the Parents

Congratulations on the successful launch of the college magazine - Sparkle.

We are grateful to be a part of it. Three years of college life in Salesian College, Siliguri have been a time of excitement, learning, adventure and challenges for my daughter. We would like to express our thanks and gratitude to the Principal and faculty for moulding and giving all the auspicious platforms vis-à-vis MUN, YI, Women Cell and Innovision to my daughter and prepare her to be more confident as she steps out in this competitive world. We as parents will cherish the memories of her years in Salesian College, Siliguri and would like to encourage the youngsters to make the most of the immense opportunities offered by the esteemed institute.

Best wishes!

Chipemmi Ningshen
Joyce Ningshen
(Parents of Themsorin H Ningshen, Sociology Honours, 6th Semester)

Hello Everyone,

This is Rekha Singhal, mother of Rajil Kumar Singhal of B.Com (H) 6th Semester. Firstly, I am very thankful to the faculty members and college management for giving my boy the opportunities to grow and turn into the man that he is now.

I have seen a transformation of a playful and not so confident boy into a confident and passionate young man. I am really happy that the college has molded him and made him capable enough to tackle the problems and difficulties he might face in his future life. To point one, through NSS he has learnt a lot, be it helping people, or the kindness that has come into him. I am really proud that he has become a good person with a never giving up attitude.

And regarding graduation day, I would request the college management to conduct it if possible because it's once in a lifetime experience for them.

Thank You.
Rekha Singhal
(Parent of Rajil Kumar Singhal, B.Com Honours, 6th Semester)

I am very thankful to Fathers and college management for being so helpful in this pandemic.

College has managed the academic activities very carefully.

Though offline interaction between students and teachers has decreased compared to pre-pandemic time, teachers have made sure that all the doubts and problems of their students are solved effectively.

Niva Jha

(Parent of Raj Kamal Jha, Mathematics Honours, 5th Semester)

Loving is a process to build up the nation, thus like a knowledge of torch power which enhances to characterize the young generation in a proper way.

Sujan Kanti Mazoomdar
Soma Mazoomdar

(Parents of Shweta Mazoomdar, English Honours, 6th Semester)

Being a part of Salesian family as a parent, I, Diki Sherpa Thami, value the insights and guidance provided by the entire management and faculty of Salesian College, Siliguri. As your management and teachers are taking every initiative to educate our children via online classes, webinar (often conducted) and online events. Thus, such events not only encourage them to participate but also play an active role for their personal growth rather than lying tediously in their home. In such a critical time of humanity, it has been an immense help towards their luminous career till date. I appreciate your hard work and I'm very thankful towards each and every person who has contributed on or off the screen.

Diki Sherpa Thami

(Parent of Jeshika Thami, History Honours, 5th Semester)

When my daughter Shruti decided to join Salesian College, Siliguri for her graduation (BBA), we were a little apprehensive as she tries her hands on many other co-curricular activities along with her studies. But to our satisfaction, she was able to explore her areas of interest and in fact, learnt quite a lot from it. Thanks to the fantastic team of faculty and students for this.

Archana Tripathi

(Parent of Shruti Tripathi, BBA Honours, 5th Semester)

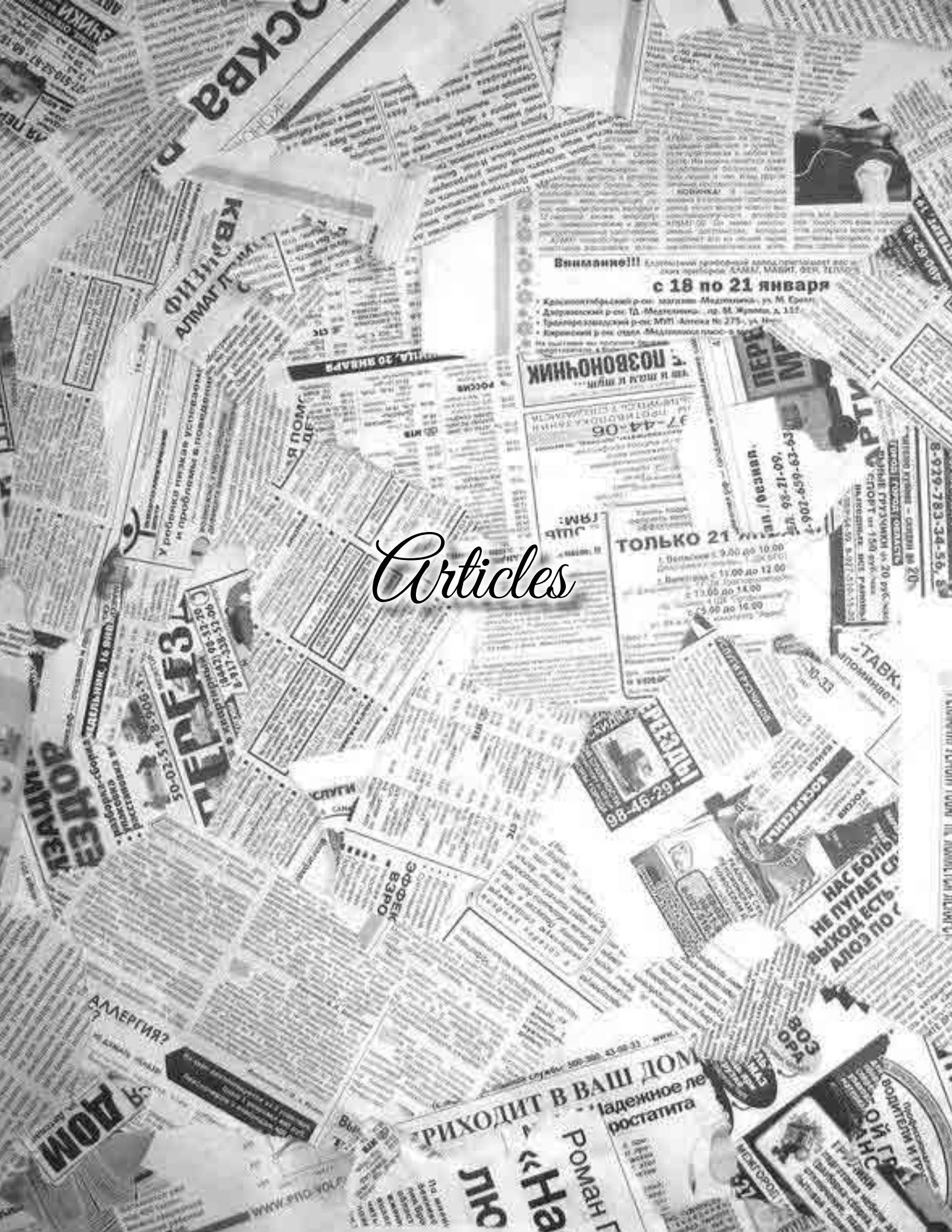
Living in the Present

The present pandemic world that we live in today has caused a global pandemonium with people living in uncertainties and despair. It has caused people to be very pessimistic and worrisome about the future. Media bombard our thoughts with foreboding news most of the time. We have around 12,000 - 50,000 thoughts daily and according to research conducted by the National Science Foundation around 80% of those thoughts are negative. And most of those negative thoughts never materialize anyway. So basically what's happening is that we're wasting most of our valuable and limited time worrying and thinking about things that don't bring any positive results. We forget to remind ourselves that the world we live in is actually a beautiful place the Creator has bestowed on humankind. We become so engrossed with the uncertainties of the future that we miss the beautiful "now" moment that's in our hands. However, when we strive to become more mindful and aware of the present realities and take pleasure in every single moment we have with us we'd be more prepared and focused positively to enjoy and to face the challenges life brings our way.

The Lord Jesus Christ put it succinctly, "Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own." (The Holy Bible, Matthew 6:34).

Reuben Pradhan

(Parent of Mahima Pradhan, BBA Honours, 5th Semester)


Articles

Is Covid-19 Pandemic Changing the Future of Education?



Priyanka Shaw
Assistant Professor
Department of Commerce
Salesian College Siliguri

On 30th December 2019, WHO informed about cases of pneumonia of unknown cause in the Wuhan city of China. Subsequently, it was identified as novel Coronavirus by the Chinese authorities on the 7th of January 2020; thereafter, nothing has been the same for the entire world. As time passed by everything has reshuffled. The concept of work from home has become an integral part of life in almost all professions. The Covid-19 has not merely changed the approach of the life of people but has tremendously influenced their way of living. The incessant usage of sporting masks, continuous carrying of sanitizer has become an indispensable part, and maintaining social distance even from their relatives has become the usual practice of the people. In addition, the education sector has been radically disrupted by the pandemic across the world. Shutting down schools and colleges to contain the impact of the pandemic has left more than 2 billion children out of the classroom.



However, the education sector has been fighting to survive and revive the crises with a different approach and digitalizing the challenges to wash away the threat of the pandemic. According to BBC News, COVID-19 is spreading around the country, with more than 167 million confirmed cases and 3 million deaths across nearly 200 countries. If we talk about India there was as on 25 January 2021, reportedly 10,667,736 confirmed cases of Novel Coronavirus (Covid-19). India and Brazil have seen the highest number of confirmed cases. Gradually, the State Government began to shut down all the Government bodies/schools/colleges/universities as a preventive measure. Initially, the schools and colleges were closed on 12th March 2020. This was a crucial time for the complete education system across the county. Many schools and colleges took the initiative of taking digital mode of classes to get rid of the abrupt barriers from education. There was an idiosyncratic increase in E-learning having an exaggerated perception for the education. In the field of education, there were many negative impacts of this unprecedented virus but along with that, some positive effects were also observed.

As per the analysis, online learning has enhanced the retention of information distinctively, additionally, it takes less time. It has encouraged many students to be motivated and deal with this epidemic that induces anxiety buoyantly. As per UNESCO, its prime priority is education, which is why several schools and colleges have taken the challenges of implementing online learning module and E-school as a way to ensure that education never comes to halt. In Asian countries, the University Grants Commission (UGC) has taken several steps as precautionary measures because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Considering the safety of the students, the University Grant Commission (UGC) requested that

Higher Education Institutions may keep the online examination and also avoid physical gathering. Most of the Central and State boards either deferred their exams or cancelled them because of the sudden hike in the variety of COVID-19 cases. Excluding this, teaching throughout the pandemic has been a new challenge for all the educators, getting ready with an influence purpose PowerPoint presentation or creating videos, using different applications. Along with these, different types of strategies are being used to form online classes more attention-grabbing for the learners. But still there is a gap. Be it from nursery-kids, or to the age of college-going students, how far is this online education going to assist them to create their long-term future. This is a prominent question as of now. A radical modification has been required in the teaching-learning process as this virus would possibly stay here for a longer duration.

As an educator, I can feel the stumbling block in education because of the abrupt shift from classroom learning to E-learning across the world. Students of remote areas who cannot access the internet because of the lack of technological progress, a significant question arises: what about their future? Several places don't have regular supply of electricity and because of this somewhere they are lagging behind. Despite bearing such an enormous amount of challenges of the web teaching-learning process, schools and colleges are offering Outcome-Based Learning for the students which will enhance their analytical and decision–making power. It has been one and a half-year that people are continuously trying to fight with coronavirus. All of us are now, no doubt, tired of facing the dingy situation of the second wave of COVID-19 pandemic prevailing all over the country. The provocation of online learning has additionally been increased. Curtailment of reliable internet access or due to a shortage of steady electricity supply several learners are still deprived and struggling to participate in the digital teaching-learning means. Many schools and colleges are striving to reach their students by any medium. Considering critical thinking is one of the vital elements to frame a stable and bright way forward for the students, schools and colleges have modified their traditional education method of teaching to skillful learning by way of enhancing their educational strategy. Gradually students are also enduring it because of the "new normal", that is, online education. But still, the gap exists between those who can use advanced technology with stable internet access "the privileged ones" and those who do not, on the other hand, the "unprivileged ones".

So, the question arises is online learning as effective as face-to-face learning? For all it has been observed that the students' readiness to study is growing day by day because they know this crush is going to remain for a prolonged duration. But how to refill this gap between the privileged one's and the unprivileged one's?

Nevertheless, the effectiveness of such a kind of education may be evident as the year will pass. While so much remains uncertain and unpredictable about what the future holds, mostly, the expectation largely depends on how the education institutions are going to deal with it.

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Criticality and Professionalism

Shweta Mazoomdar
6th Sem, English Hons



Any form of art, regardless of whatever the message, tries to bring forward an art within itself. Meaning, any form of art is art, without a doubt. Without the critic's involvement an art may not lose its credibility and the inner message it tries to bring forward, but it has a higher chance of getting a proper definition when a critic intervenes.

Through ages, the number of critics have been increasing rapidly. The critic is believed to be a strong form of mediator between the artist and their child, the art. Any form of intervention by any other third party is always considered to be unethical and that of a feeling which defines disgust. However, the sufferer or the person who takes in the treatment meted out by the third party (irrespective of however the treatment might be) is somewhat not in close relation to the child that is, defining art itself which needs to be nourished. Since the work done by the artist needs some outside influence as well to stir up their possibilities.

A wide range of effort and brainstorming is required in the critic's role in bringing out the wide range of professionalism in regard to the artist's work. The prevailing ideas, with different layers of various other ideas too, found with strong profundity in relation to the work of value upfront, is sometimes noticed or unnoticed by the audience which operates largely on the basis of professionalism.

The tactics and strength of professionalism is defined on the basis of how success can be found instilled within a form of art. Art is a sector which calls in for patience in its unconditional form and a wide range of uninvited callousness, which, of course, any form of art is supposed to hold within itself. In fact, the roots of professionalism are so deeply rooted within any form of living being that one does not feel the significance of diving deep into the waters of evolution bringing forward life and mind changing probabilities. Hereby, bringing forward a form of professionalism, this kills the originality dwelling within a human. The side effects of which take place in terms of unsophisticatedness and unexplained hypocrisy in terms of the critic's view of the art as Satyajit Ray had mentioned about the unsophisticated nature of the audience in terms of understanding real art (Junaid, 2020).

However, truth be told, criticisms currently, are mostly done in terms of plain professionalism in exchange for some luxury and many other materialistic conformities brought forward by the living aesthetics which are high level influencers. The idea of thinking critically and associating it with the form of an art is now largely based on the mere basification in favor of the greater public. Associating criticisms to the needs and variations of the assemblage has always been said to have a lot of added dignity in terms of defining the worth of the art and the artist afterwards. It is at this plane that criticality and professionalism meet and seem to exchange a wide array of varied nuances which, in the long run, are beneficial to the critics by and large factor.

The wind blowing through the leaves do so in the same form, yet are interpreted highly on the basis of the credibility and honesty of the person designed to define the criticality of it. The criticality, therefore, of the criticism in a text lies ardently not only in the wind blowing through

it but also calculative notes of the background, the situations which led to the particular description and arousing feelings associated the background. Not only, the background should be taken into account in regards to the artist's work but also a small percentage of association with the autobiographical quality of the work presented through the finery of the art is needed.

Professionalism done on the basis of just adding in a factor which invites further atrociousness to the criticality of the art not only seems to put the work in crisis but also the results associated with it. Therefore, the credibility of the person associated with decoding the critical appreciation in relation to the text is an important task with professional roots, but an addition to the soulfulness while bringing forward an interpretation is a much-needed outlet /inlet in terms of bringing a taste of authenticity in the artist's work.

Thus, the depth of professionalism engraved in the minds of every critic may differ but will always be welcomed generously by the upcoming generations. The works which will help generations to evolve out of the dark ages of mysteriousness like a seed which gradually breaks open from the shackles of limitedness and opens up shoots of knowledge attained by criticisms or keeps on expanding on the basis of every vein present in a leaf with each ounce of dedication put forward by the observant's side of story as the leaf falls. Thus, a perfect balance should be kept in observing the importance of criticality of the criticism of art and of creativity and professionalism in it.

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Minimalism in the Time of Corona



Ashish Tamang
6th Sem, B.Com. Hons

If you are one of those people who spends their time on the internet mindlessly, you must know what minimalism is or at least have come across this term.

One can say minimalism is a tool to create great output with limited input. It means to find more in less. If you search it up on the internet you will most likely be bombarded with images of urban homes that look pristine white and empty. Homes that almost look terrifying for a person viewing it for the first time in their life. Thanks to the misinformation via social media people now have a wrong idea of it. Its visual effect overpowers its technical strength. They think of it as minimalism when it is more like minimalism.There is much more to it apart from the aesthetic value.

Never did I think I would get into this cult. But during the lockdown when I was mostly at home surrounded by all the materialistic noise, I felt a need. A need for change. No, I did not break my bank account and turn my house into something like what you view in online pictures. Rather I went for a more realistic approach. As Marie Kondo, a Japanese organizing consultant, author, and TV show host believes, I got rid of things that do not spark joy.

Just like any YouTube video that tries to teach you on how to be a minimalist, I started my journey with my wardrobe and after around three days of meticulous judgment I ended up collecting a pile of clothes that constituted nearly 40% of my clothing and discarded them because they were either too small or had become too outdated. Being amazed by it, I shifted my focus towards other things like my stationery and ended up collecting a ton of unusable pens, colours, greeting cards since 2011 and so much more. Not to forget the 4 kilograms of used notebooks and old textbooks that were collected since class 7. I finally sold them and made a handsome amount of money as well.

Regarding my digital life, I went on my phone and computer and got rid of the applications, photos, and videos that had already served their purpose. I became more mindful of the time I spent with my gadgets.

To end with, I learnt that minimalism can be performed not only on lifeless objects but also on real-life humans. In simple terms, I got rid of people who did not add much value to my life. Meaning I reduced my interaction with them and reconciled with the ones that I had previously broken off terms with temporarily only to realize later that they were the most important people.

Even after reading up to this, if you're wondering whether or not should you adopt this practice, I would suggest "go for it." In 2021, we have come too far. We have acquired resources, information and people that are more than enough. I reckon that it is high time we cut down the excess and focus on the necessary. While I cannot guarantee that whatever I have incorporated in my life will work out for you exactly like mine, yet I know that it will help you to at least achieve a clarity of thought.



Invasion: A Different Perspective



Surabhi Pakhrin
4th Sem, English Honours

"One can resist the invasion of an army but one cannot resist the invasion of ideas."
- Victor Hugo

Invasion, also known as raid, has been a part of the world since forever. The accuracy of the history of the first invasion of the world is highly doubtful but that does not change the fact that the history was full of invasions. From great military invasions of history to invading privacy, body and mind, the idea of invasion becomes very subjective. Invasion Literature (1871-1914 approx) set its foot in the world of literature through the works of George Tomkyns Chesney's "The Battle Of Dorking: Reminiscence of a Volunteer" (1871) which is a reaction to Franco-Prussian War (1870-1871). Since then, a number of invasion literature can be found. It is a popular genre and is still relevant as it deals with the fears, facts, outcomes and ideas of invasion. Invasion literature does not remain confined to books but has also become an important category of pop culture. Numerous movies, songs and series on invasions have captured a great deal of audiences.

World has resisted the invasions of great armies but as rightly said the invasion of ideas is irresistible. The ongoing global pandemic has infiltrated the minds of humanity with an absurd idea of invasion. Besides the far reaching effects on the lives of the people, the pandemic has also made a huge economic impact. The hunger for both food and money has made such a drastic impact on the mind that we are, now, slowly turning into Parasite(s) and Nightcrawler(s).

Movies play a major role in public entertainment, but the message that's hidden within the movies often goes unnoticed. The Oscar winning movie released in 2019, *Parasite* by Bong Joon Ho and *Nightcrawler* (2014) by Dan Gilroy are two such movies which without any central theme of invasion brings out the idea of the greatest invasion



on human minds that the world is facing right now.

Friedrich Schiller has rightly said that, "The rich become richer and poor become poorer..." (Friedrich Schiller et al., 1877). Although the pandemic has made a huge economic impact, the accuracy of this quote has not changed. What has been said is being seen. The poorer sections of the society have to live a parasitic life where the host is the rich just like in the movie Parasite. The movie draws a close contrast between the rich and the poor class of the society. It revolves around the story of the Kim family who serves as the epitome of poverty. When their son gets a job as a tutor in the house of a rich Park family the tables turn for the Kim family. Although the son is not sufficiently qualified, he manages to get the job through a friend and his own trickery. One by one the entire Kim family manages to get a job in the Park household, thereby creating a huge parasitic web. Moreover, the hunger for basic necessities of life leads them to giving up their identity. In a world full of identity crisis, the struggle to keep one's identity intact is real. However, in today's world, man is ready to give up his identity as long as he has money. It is ironically portrayed that one of the supreme species of homo sapiens is living a life of parasites. The life of every character in the movie is intertwined in such a way that if one falls the entire web will get destroyed. The lives of the parasites are

so much dependent upon their host that they forget the meaning of hard work. An important remark made by Ki-taek, the parasite dad, explains the life of a parasite to a great extent. He says,

"With no plan, nothing can go wrong and if something spins out of control, it doesn't matter. Whether you kill someone or betray your own country." (Bong, 2019)

Here, the idea of the "survival of the fittest" has also been brought forward when the old maid is replaced by a new one, who is an unidentified parasite.

The movie starts in the Kim household which screams of poverty and ends in the same place. It is easy for rich people to gain more riches and equally hard for the poor ones to rise above their level. Although the parasites of the movies had all the intellect, yet, they couldn't change their fortunes as they were always dependent upon the host.

However, in hard times like this, the rich people are becoming richer. Their greed for money is making them Nightcrawler(s). A nightcrawler is an earthworm which is usually used as bait for fish and it is also used to refer to a person who is socially active at night. The movie Nightcrawler portrays the life of a thief Lou Bloom who takes up the job of a reporter and uses underhanded means to cover news stories. Similarly the richer section of our society is working on the darker side (black money) to make money. Just like Lou Bloom these rich people are using dirty ways to get richer. Coincidentally, both Lou Bloom and the rich are being successful in their operation. If the poor are the parasites then the rich are the earthworms that lay traps in the society. Lou Bloom lives by one motto:

"My motto is if you want to win the lottery you've got to make money to get a ticket." (Gilroy, 2014)

This quote may be inspirational in a way but on the other side it reveals the greed for money. It suggests that if you want to make money, you need money. This desire to make money and the need for money are the main reasons for the rise in black markets around the world.

The character of Lou Bloom is someone who can go to the extremities of anything as long as he benefits from it. The ending scene is particularly remarkable because ironically the nightcrawler Lou Bloom uses his own assistant Rick to capture a news story. Similarly in the cooperative world our nightcrawlers (the rich) are using each other as baits to rise in hierarchy.

Unlike the parasites these nightcrawlers do not have an interconnected web. They do live within a web but the web is like the web of spiders where they catch prey and not like the web of parasites where they are living as sycophants. Many times these nightcrawlers use the sycophants as their bait.

Money has always been an integral part of this materialistic world and the hunger for money has always existed. However, this ongoing pandemic has made people much more money centric. It is not just the world that has been inflicted by a virus but a virus has also entered the human minds, which is increasing the need for money. The virus that has invaded the human mind is more dangerous than a nuclear war. Invasion of ideas is irresistible. If the situation continues to be the same, the world will be full of parasites and nightcrawlers in the shape of homo sapiens

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Covid-19: The Much Neglected Brighter Side



Siddhanth Sharma
4th Sem, B.Com. Honours

I've seen my dad wake up with the sun and work until midnight in order to rake in more and more money, to be ahead in the game, neglecting all social norms, family gatherings and even personal health. However, with the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, I have seen a massive change in my dad's mindset; on a greater scale, the mindset of the society as a whole. Now he wakes up early, not to run to his office, but to meditate and perform yoga. Now he prefers spending his 'work-loaded evening time' with us, helping mom cook dinner, teaching us how to fly a kite and narrating his 'heroic childhood'.

The impulse of accumulating more and more money dates back as early as 33 CE, when Judas accepted to sell Jesus' life in exchange for 30 silver coins. Until Covid-19 happened, people continued this same trait of trading their mental or physical health, their peace of mind, their joy and happiness and even family-time solely for money and other worldly pleasures which, very ironically, they didn't even have enough time to cherish. However, it didn't take much time after the lockdown was imposed; the society started understanding the real meaning of life from a different perspective. Families who barely knew each other are now seen having dinners together, participating willingly in the daily chores of their household, which was formerly, always considered as the concern of the mother and her maids.

Young ones who used to feel aggravated by the thought of even entering the kitchen are now seen sharing recipes on social media. The elders who always seemed concerned with procuring wealth for their family are now seen spending quality-time with their loved ones, thus fulfilling their moral duties and responsibilities towards those whom they call "family." It is said that we are where we are supposed to be at this very moment. Every experience is a part of God's divine plan.

In the words of Pema Chodron: "No one knows yet how the pandemic will come to an end. But when it does, we must not forget the manners and etiquette that we picked up during the pandemic like spending quality time with our near-and-dear ones and pursuing our passion and practicing our hobbies; keeping in mind that our personal health and hygiene is our priority and making money is secondary."

Rise Up



Sidhant Pradhan
4th Sem, BCA Honours

We, human beings, have made many amazing technologies and have been a part of outstanding achievements over the course of time, but even with all these feats we aren't perfect. We still have many flaws in us, in our governmental and educational systems and in our hearts and ideas. Around the world, there are secret wars being fought over stupid reasons, millions of lives being lost due to poverty, children committing suicide due to depression and we are yet to prevent such things from happening.

We are in the 21st century - we just entered a new decade and this start hasn't been much good to us. Australia was on fire, Kobe Bryant and his daughter, alongside 7 other beautiful souls perished in a horrible helicopter crash, a global pandemic has occurred due to the Coronavirus, the stock markets have crashed, while we are all stuck and have been quarantined at home. The first five months were really bad. Gosh! Who knows what might happen next?!

But in between all this, people still have wrong ideas to share. In December, 2019, there was the outbreak of the virus in China, as it spread rapidly and in a few months' time the entire world was shut down, while some people had the conception to blame Asian ethnic groups - they saw in them the reason for the spread of the disease regardless of where they were situated. Hence, "racism" started making its way back into the headlines. Just because one sees an Asian doesn't mean that he or she has the virus as we see that the entire nation of China has been suffering too: they know how everyone is feeling at this point. Recently, it was the racism against Asians, and much before that (post 9/11), a lot of hate had been directed against Muslims and Middle Eastern ethnicities.

Apart from Muslims, other groups that have been victims of racism, for a much longer time are the black and African-American communities; having an atrocious history of slavery undertaken majorly by the colonialists, they weren't even given the rights that humans are born with, even in modern times. The atrocities and slavery went on for ages, as they faced day-to-day racism from the dominant groups, but even as the times changed some people never changed their opinions on the black community. We see a large number of cases wherein the black people are getting killed for absolutely no reason in America. Trayvon Martin, George Flyod, Sandra Bland, Ahmaud Arbery and so many more lost their lives because the general mentality still exists that anyone who is black must be a criminal. Everyone walking on this planet has a purpose and their lives matter - it's so simple to understand and yet so many just can't accept it.

It isn't just in America that racism happens. India is another country where there are things worse than racism: A young boy gave up his life when he couldn't handle the pressure of being falsely accused by a girl, while many others trolled him for it on Instagram. There have also been many cases of using false evidence/ accusations or taking unfair advantage of being

a victimized woman to gain public sympathy. We use social media as a platform to voice our thoughts and keep up with the daily lives of our friends and family but there are still people who misuse it.

In a web series on Amazon Prime Video, titled Paatal Lok, a derogatory remark against the Nepalese has hurt and angered the entire Nepali community. This dialogue alone was enough to show that Nepalese are still subjected to racism as people in India use Nepalese characters in movies as gatekeepers or receptionists or spa workers, and now even in such kind of scenes, which might leave a permanent impression on the viewers that the Nepalese are still a minority in many fields, eventually hiding the real beauty of this community. The voices of people who are affected and seek to destroy such racism are going around the world but there will always be people who will try to silence this voice. In the end all they need to realize is the fact that no matter what color, religion or race we belong to, we were all born as a 'human being'. So why have racism? Why can't we all just live together in peace and learn that every life on this planet matters?



Salesian's Step into Enactus: World of Social Entrepreneurship




Kshitiz Mittal and Diksha Jain
4th Sem, B.Com. Honours

In the minds of the students, difference grew, which eventually took shape in the form of 'Cassia Fistula' or Enactus Salesian College, Siliguri.

It is an arm dedicated to inspire students to improve the world through entrepreneurship. It is guided and supported by educators and business leaders. It aims to make students capable of taking an entrepreneurial approach by inspiring people to be a part of their success.

It aims to be an integral part of the initiative taken up by Enactus India to perform activities which alleviate problems such as environmental degradation, poverty and illiteracy. It has already begun its first initiative under Project Prarambh aiming to protect Mother Earth from the toxic plastic spreading its various forms of manipulations on the pretext of doing good. Through the usage of clay cups in Siliguri, it hopes to eliminate the existence of plastic cups. The initiative, taken up by Enactus Siliguri is one of the many that are to come in the near future.

enactus
Salesian College
Siliguri Campus

Official logo of Enactus Salesian College Siliguri Campus

PROJECT PRARAMBH

Official Logo of Project Prarambh



Some glimpses from the field work of Project Prarambh.

Zwischen Immer und Nie



Saloni Agarwal
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There's something terribly beautiful about winter evening in this town. You'd think that it couldn't possibly be any different from any of those innumerable twilights that poets have composed sonnets about and writers have dedicated volumes to and singers have bled the harmony of their hearts for, but you would be very wrong. There is just something about winters' evenings here. There are harmony and melancholy and joy that your heart want to explode from the weight of the emotions that awaken in you.





Picture courtesy Awaneesh Baibhav

It all begins unremarkably. A day has gone by, and you have survived it. No angels breaking forth in chorus from the heavens. No it's just another day and you've almost made it to the end and you're tired and hungry and thinking that tomorrow's another day and you will have to go through the motions again when all you want to do is sleep and sleep more because oh god you're so, so very tired.

And then, it happens…

Alright, maybe it's not quite that sudden. Maybe, first you merely notice that the sky isn't quite as blue as it was a second ago. You look at it for a moment. Pretty, then you walk on - head down, shoulders in. then something makes you look up again, and then... and then you believe in magic again. Because somehow, in the few beats between one step and the next, someone has stolen the sky. That same someone has

also replaced it with a giant canvas, and the angels have run riot with their paints.

You can hardly process the number of colours you see above you now. The sun is brilliant gold no, cherry yellow, no, blazing orange. And the sky? Oh, the sky! There are hues there, to do Monet proud. It's blue and it's purple and it's pink and vermillion and lilac and magenta and it's beautiful. It's so very beautiful.

And then, it's black.

The darkness deserves an ode of its own. It envelops everything so indiscriminately, so kindly, until all becomes one in that most beautiful of shades. Until there is nothing but black.

Maybe it's the transience of the moment that gets to you: the knowledge that every time the sky blushes pink, it will soon be overtaken by the inky blackness of night time. Maybe that's when you realize that perhaps that this is what life is meant for - revealing in the display of wonders that the earth loves to show to all the eyes that seek to see. For letting her silken spirit seek into your soul and becoming one with her; one with yourself. For feeling your broken parts rejoin piece by piece until you're like the lilac sky you love- beautiful, incomplete, infinite. Perfect. Maybe, just maybe, life is for living.

Believe me when I say this- once you've seen the birth, death and regeneration of a winter evening in this small town, you'll never leave this place, oh you might move on from here, there are more places to go, more things to see. But a part of you will always stay here. That part of you that truly lived. Suspended in time. Time space. Zwischen Immer und Nie. Zwischen Immer und Nie- Between always and never.



Picture courtesy Awaneesh Baibhav

Men Do Not Cry!



Ishika Gupta
6th Sem, B.Com. Honours

We have all grown up listening and adapting things that our ancestors have taught us unaware of the fact that what they considered normal was not normal.

Eight years ago, when my grandfather passed away, I saw all the women crying for the loss along with my little brother who loved him a lot. On the other side, I saw my father and uncles standing still. Not shedding even a drop of tear. In the meantime I heard someone whispering to my little brother that he should learn from his father, "Ladke rotey nahi hai." Men don't cry because women have monopoly over their tears and men are expected to be strong. I thought my father must have been taught the same thing when he was young.



"This structure of society that teaches men to "man up!" because men who are emotionally expressive, are 'weak', or are perceived as 'gay' is extremely toxic" (Poddar, 2019). For a very long time, men have been taught to control their emotions. They are expected to be strong and dominant. Men have always been taught to not be expressive and deal with their emotions.

"We must begin to stray away from this regressive idea of 'masculinity' and move towards redefining the term to promote the betterment of emotional and physical health…. Due to the stigma that surrounds 'emotional men', people are reluctant to open up about their struggles.... It is important for men to be given access to express" (Poddar, 2019).

"In order to create a more equal and happier society, it is imperative that we discuss how men are discouraged from crying and feeling…. Toxic masculinity affects people from across the spectrum and hence, we should encourage men to come forth with their problems and empathise with the same." (Majumdar, 2018).



Let us teach the upcoming generation to treat men as human beings rather than treating them differently because of their gender. Let us teach the younger generation of men and women to cry and be strong whenever they want to for the society is powerless in terms of controlling emotions. Crying as a form of expression should not be considered weak, rather it should be considered normal.

It is important to break such stereotypes so that no other person whispers "men don't cry" rather, support a man crying or breaking down because it is human nature.

MAN = WOMAN = HUMAN

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Student's Life Amidst Pandemic: "A Student's New Normal"



Jasmine Pradhan
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"A pandemic is an outbreak of global proportions. It happens when infection due to bacterium or virus becomes capable of spreading widely and rapidly." (Felman, 2020)

In this article, we will discuss the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic on the life of the students, how it affects students mentally and certain future concerns.

Life as a student does not only need the full capacity of an individual to perform well, learn a lot and pass the examinations, but a student must also possess a sense of responsibility and in order for us to do that it needs hard work and dedication - sleepless nights of doing assignments, waking up early morning to attend classes, going home fairly late due to several academic activities. On the other hand, if we look at the bright side, we get to expand our knowledge and skills while doing them. But on March 24th of 2020, everything changed as a nationwide lockdown was imposed. Since then the outbreak of COVID-19 has only worsened and the whole world is at risk.

Time flew by quite fast and our world has turned completely upside down, what was once normal became abnormal and what was not normal became our normal and now we call it the 'new normal'.

Thinking about all the challenges we experienced during the pandemic, it has greatly affected every individual and I, being a student myself, empathize with my fellow students - many could not afford to continue their education as the pandemic affected their family's source of income rendering them unable to enrol for their courses; or for other reasons like lack of teachers, access to internet and loss of interest on the part of the students. These factors are holding educational institutions and students back from achieving the benefit of equality and equity in education that all students deserve. Although some students have continued their education through online classes and modules, it has increased the feeling of isolation not only



from the social distancing but also due to the lack of face-to-face interaction. This has resulted in mental health problems like anxiety, depression and health concerns related to increased screen-time from using gadgets that causes fatigue, headache, lack of motivation and procrastination which ultimately leads to unproductivity, hopelessness and sometimes, unfortunately, to incidents like suicide. As Roy T. Bennett says, "Nobody is exempted from the trials of life but everyone can always find something positive in everything even in the worst of times" (T. Bennett, 2016). The quote reminds us that we should take difficult times in our lives as a test and an opportunity to better and strengthen ourselves, preparing for greater things in future, because if we let adversities in life

beat us to our knees without giving a fight then it is guaranteed to keep us there permanently, if we let them.

During these difficult times of the pandemic we certainly need resilience and, at the same time, flexibility to cope with the problems and changes. We should not let bad things or uncontrollable happenings get the better of us. I would specifically like to encourage my fellow students who feel hopeless and think little of themselves especially because of the 'new normal' in education through lines from the poem Desiderata by Max Erhmann:

"Avoid loud and aggressive persons; they are vexatious to the spirit. If you compare yourself with others, you may become vain or bitter, for there will always be greater and lesser persons than yourself.

Enjoy your achievements as well as your plans. Keep interested in your own career, however humble; it is a real possession in the changing fortunes of time.

Exercise caution in your business affairs, for the world is full of trickery. But let this not blind you to what virtue there is; many people strive for high ideals, and everywhere life is full of heroism.

Be yourself. Especially do not feign affection. Neither be cynical about love; for in the face of all aridity and disenchantment, it is as perennial as the grass.

Take kindly the counsel of the years, gracefully surrendering the things of youth.

Nurture strength of spirit to shield you in sudden misfortune. But do not distress yourself with dark imaginings. Many fears are born of fatigue and loneliness.

Beyond a wholesome discipline, be gentle with yourself. You are a child of the universe no less than the trees and the stars; you have a right to be here." (Erhmann, 1927)

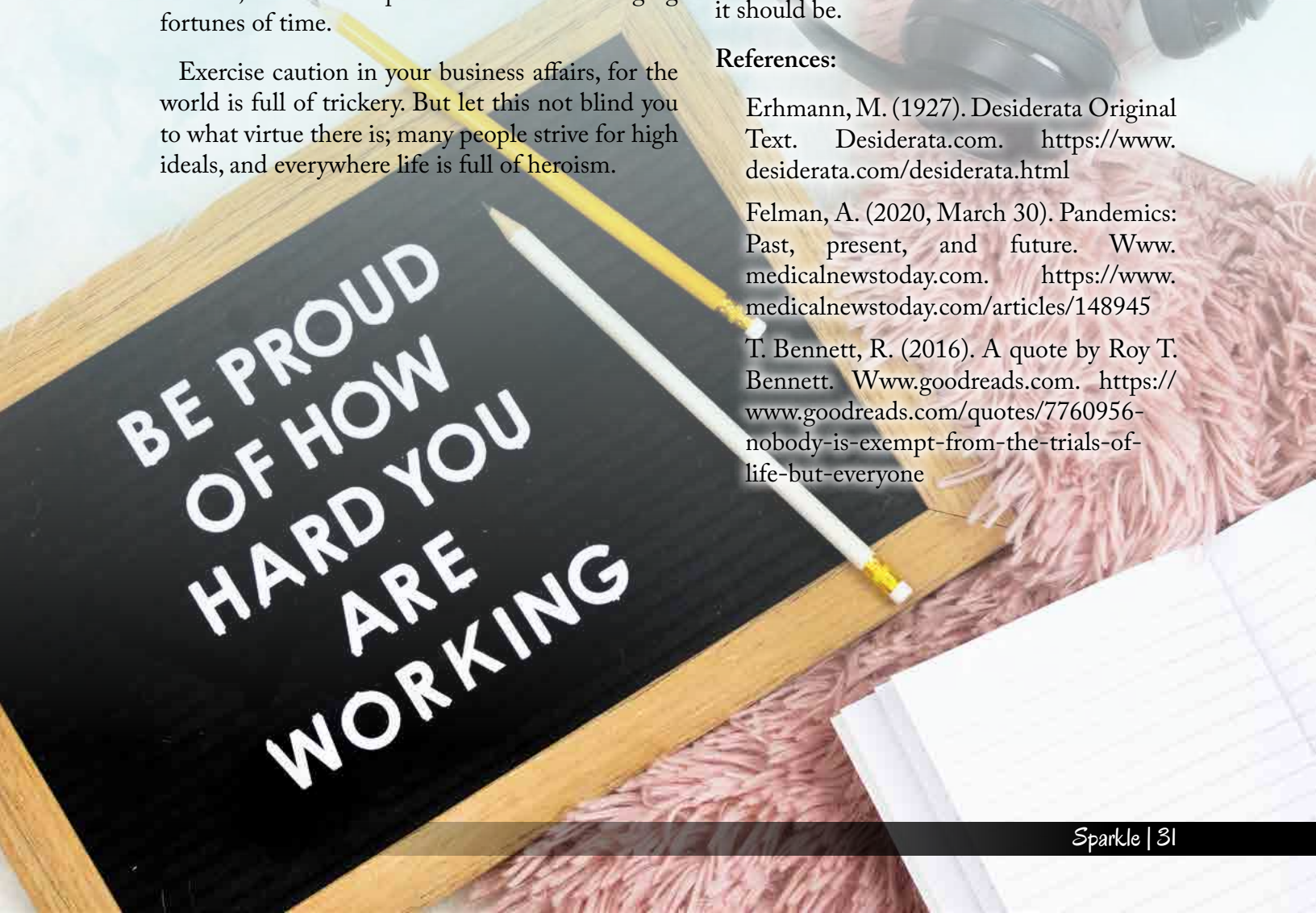
Even in this noisy confusion of life, it is still a beautiful world. Be cheerful and strive to be happy. We will get through this pandemic and hopefully everything will go back to how it should be.

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How NSS Changed My Life in Ways That I Could Never Have Imagined



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Corny title yet it's nothing but the truth. Becoming part of a social service organization called National Service Scheme (NSS) really changed my life in ways that I could never have imagined.

First up, what's my organization about?

NSS is a social service organization of students (called volunteers) which takes part in different community service programmes. Being an active member these student volunteers would have the exposure and experience to be the following: (1) an accomplished social leader, (2) an efficient administrator, (3) a person who understands human nature.

I remember the day; I enrolled myself as an NSS volunteer just for enjoyment and for friends. But the first few activities and camp was an eye-opener and after that I was hooked with the meaning and motto of NSS becoming clearer with every passing day. From that day my involvement with NSS increased and realized the amount of work we could do to help others. There is an inexplicable 'joy' in giving specially one's time and support that was far greater than the pleasure of receiving. NSS's motto "NOT TO ME BUT YOU" did a great job to develop my own personality through community service and teach me discipline, team work, hard work and punctuality.

At the start of 2020, I became NSS's new president. I was scared and insecure as I felt that I wouldn't be able to do a good job but everyone reassured me that I could do it. So, I swallowed my fear and decided to take the bull by the horns and do my absolute best in the role. Ever since then, I have become more proactive in the organization and I've proposed and initiated new ideas. NSS had successfully done 25 activities and events in 2020-21 and I played my part in making all these possible, but of course with the help of my team.

The programme aims to inculcate social welfare in students, and to provide service to society without biases. NSS volunteers work to ensure that everyone who is needy gets help to enhance their standard of living and lead a life of dignity. In doing so, volunteers learn from people in villages how to lead a good life despite the scarcity of resources. NSS aims to have relevant events where we want our volunteers to learn something new (like a new skill). We not only want to help widen their social networks but to also increase their social awareness. Our events last year ranged from tree planting to a cultural show and games. At these events I always saw volunteers genuinely smiling and happily interacting with each other. They seemed to really enjoy the service. Many students also let me know how much they appreciated NSS and are proud to be a part of it.

"I was humbled to hear that we had somehow positively impacted these lives."

As NSS's president I was able to do countless things. I met great people and I learned so much from them through their stories and experiences. I had the massive honour of working with an

amazing team and, I think, together we achieved our core goal.

For the past few months I've gained lifelong friends, awesome experiences and irreplaceable life lessons. Doors that I never thought existed opened up for me and I've become braver and more willing to take up new challenges. The most important thing that you should take away from this is: when life gives you lemons, make lemonade and sallons of it! Simply take up the challenge, no matter how daunting it looks. Passionately do your best and you will soon reap the rewards of your hard work. That's what I did and I can say that it has changed my life in ways that I could never have imagined.

For my peers who are still in college, or about to start college, I really encourage taking part in student organizations as it gives you valuable, real-life experiences of running something that you care about. Not only that, the skills you cultivate over time will translate well into your professional and personal life.



Seeing Like A Sublime Object of Apprehension



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The horrific outbreak of Covid-19 and the repressive instances during subsequent lockdown in India added to the monotony of everydayness. Everyone agrees that this period is the defining health crisis of our time and the greatest challenge we faced since World War 2. I completely disagree with various ideological positions who argue that now we are in the same boat as this unprecedented virus affects everyone. I say, at least not for the Indians. The artefactual and uneven demography in our society and the accentuated gap between the differential groups embody complex dimensions. So, the actual remark needs to be, 'We are all in the same ocean. Some of us have luxury yachts, some have boats, many are floating on life-savers, while most are drowning. This false equivalence is justified moreover to subtly veil socio-economic disparities and minimise intersectional oppression by the Savarnas, as they are mildly affected not enough to threaten their survival in this wide spread catastrophe.

Moreover, the culpability regarding the exacerbating spread of the Covid 19 virus and its diversification also perpetuated and further proliferated the already existing apprehensions about "Self" and "Others" in the socio-political and/or psycho-social spatio. Example could be given of the pre-conceived anxiety attributed to North-Easterns, immigrants, street vendors and others who are still tangled in a tension between their citizenship rights and self-determinism. Hegel argued that if self-consciousness demands recognition by another self-conscious person, then the other person has to have the authority to bestow that recognition. The very idea, for me, supplements the idea of State-citizen relationship and the former's requisite legitimacy from the latter. Eventually in Hegel's system, one becomes the master with the other becoming slave in which the former refuses recognition from the latter, setting up a contradiction.

When these types of representations are in its fall, attempts are executed to accentuate its basic framework by adding more complex and complicated notions/apprehensions. These apprehensions are preceded by the universal reference of psychiatry and as Benedict Anderson writes "imagined communities". What do I mean by 'Sublime Object'? Perspectives attributed to the subjugated and immigrants open up the complex organisation of the social hierarchies, with subtle representation of "Self" and "Others" to normalize our idea of psychic self. However, many of the categories and knowledge that we assume to have their ontological foundation in the current socio-political spatio, were however apparent by the State projects of Standardization, systematization and legibility [Pre-modern and/or Colonial State]. Be it standardization of language, creation of categories, representation of particular culture and tradition, uniformity in the means of measurement, cadastral mappings, permanent surnames or traffic regulations. This, I think, is appropriated through State's imaginations that are created initially in the private spatio to justify its future projects taking into account various categories of apprehensions. Moreover, to be that 'shaded' object currently

is to idealize and romanticize pre-pandemic spatio and politics, regardless of its ineligibility and bigotry. This concept of representation appropriates various strategies we use to portray ourselves to others and vice-versa. I like to bring here the concept of the "Looking-glass self" which states that part of how we see ourselves comes from our perception of how others see us. So, that very representation is accentuated heavily by the idea of social comparison which is succumbed even more through modern adjustments and print media. Primarily, it occurs on dimensions on which there are no objectives and correct accountabilities. This current episode of quarantine within/ from quarantine oddly labels the imagined "Others" as bodies of pathological carriers. These types of prejudices with the conflation of that very idiosyncratic State stupendously attributed as 'Nail on the Coffin'.

Many scholars even observed and analysed these ideologies that underpins the hitherto status quo. Ideology here can be a veil like Marx's "false consciousness" that works as a structure to maintain the status quo or like that of Foucault's "creation of docile bodies" which is more complex and subtle in this dimension. The following story from one of Slavoj Zizek's celebrated works will give a clue; - A friend of a quantum physician visited his house. He noticed at the entrance a horse-shoe hanging. He asked "Do you believe in these types of obscure superstitions being a scientist?" The scientist replied, "No! I don't believe in it. But I was told precisely that it works, even if you don't believe in it." This is the kind of ideology we are facing today. Even if we implicitly disagree, we are always grabbed by its invisible hands. This objectification (sublime object) is accelerated universally by the conflated post-modern spectre of capitalist-nationalism. What is perpetuated beneath the mask is a point of controversy.

The lesson we could draw from this current social context is that, our ideas and peculiarities are always appropriated by the implicit social cognition which often obstructs the actual complexity.

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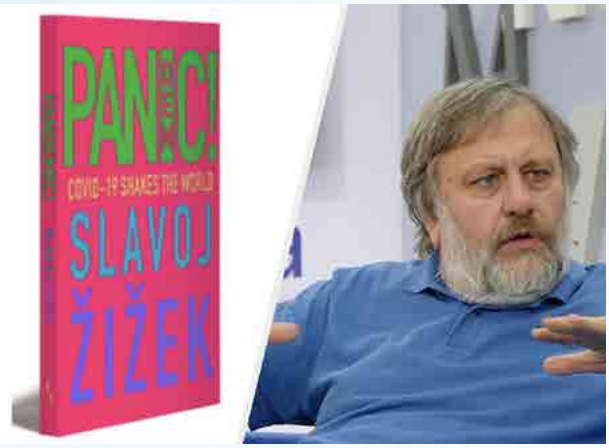
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The Unheard Voices of Plastic



Roshni Chhetri
2nd Sem, Accountancy Honours

Hi, I am plastic. Yes, you heard it right. Plastics that you see lying down on the streets, drains, surroundings, riversides drowning inside the deep ocean among the heaps of other disposables. Plastic is found in the cover of your favorite chocolates, drinks and above all in your daily life. I am the most versatile material in the modern world. Meaning you can mould me into pretty much anything from automobiles to washing bowls, utensils to toilet seats and toothbrushes.

Sometimes I boast about being familiar with you and being available for you for your convenience. But today I have something to tell you all. Initially, I felt quite happy being created by you according to your desires and needs. I thought that I could live up to my usage abilities and I felt quite happy about it. Since then, you moulded me into different forms, colors and designs that could satisfy your needs. Everything was good and you were satisfied with it. You deserve my respect for giving me birth into this world and baptizing me by the name of "plastic". Since then, my usage has increased exceedingly. I believe by now, everyone knows my name, be it a small kid or an old man. Thank you for the publicity.



There came a moment when I was thrown outside, among the heaps of rubbish. I heard someone sobbing beneath me and I looked. It was the Earth, I found it in a deep pain, suffocating and weeping. It whispered, "why do you cover my whole body with dirt?" Every part of my body is overcast by you, all my nerves were river, sea and oceans. All tainted and contaminated by you. Why?" it cried out.



So, I am plastic, bow down thee! You shatter my permanence, destroy me. Do whatever you want to but please don't regenerate me. I regret being created to satisfy your hunger of selfish interests. Earth is crying and you hear nothing. Mother Nature is crying and you do nothing. The climate is changing and you only notice but you won't take any preventive measures. The glaciers are melting and you are busy fulfilling your temporary desires. Earth is dying. These reasons make me want to burn



myself seeing that I have caused ample destruction to my Mother Earth.

I am helpless, Mother Earth, these selfish egotistical motives of the smart human beings have destroyed you. I am sorry. Never did I intend to hurt you. It is these humans who created me. I regret dear Mother. Neither do I want to bear this sin nor do I want to be produced anymore.

Please stop.
Mother Earth needs you.
Save her.



Mental Health During COVID-19



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"The Corona virus outbreak began in Wuhan, China in December 2019. The SARS-COV-2 infection caused a respiratory illness called COVID-19" (Giddyngenoh, 2020). It has now been reported on every continent. While Israel has become the first country to become "mask free", some countries have been devastated by the second wave of this virus. According to the BBC, India is struggling with the second wave, raising more fears about its overwhelmed healthcare system: "Crowds have been formed outside hospitals in major cities which are filled to capacity. A number of people have died while waiting for oxygen." (BBC News, 2021).



During this pandemic the frontline workers have been working rigorously day and night to serve the nation where their mental health stands as one of the major concerns. Along with our heroes, the people who are facing this hardship go a long way in dealing with their mental issues. Stress, anxiety, insomnia, depression, fear and anger are namely a few symptoms which have been common among people. The prominent reason for the same is the media itself and the supporting factors include time, solidarity, along with the news and rumours floating around. Due to an increased amount of time spent at home, individuals spend much more time than necessary on social media: "Overexposure to information relating to the pandemic can result in increased anxiety and distress." (Bennett, 2020).



However, there are multiple ways to protect and improve mental health during such times. Practicing a well-maintained routine can increase motivation and improve overall mood and well-being. Another way to improve your mental health is to be occupied. While you are self-isolating, learning a new skill can be a great way to improve your mental well-being and also to boost your self-esteem. Also feeling connected and having the opportunity to discuss any potential worries and positive experiences with others is also essential during the time of crisis.

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Heart of Darkness as a Text That Supports and Critiques the Project of Imperialism



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Joseph Conrad's novella *Heart of Darkness* is explicit with imagery that supports and critiques Imperialism. The journey of Marlow up the river Congo, is full of detailed impressions of the tyranny and torture that was inflicted on the Africans by the British. The use of words like black, nigger, darkness, devil a multiple time gives us the sense of debasing and degrading the natives and elevated the English by addressing them as white, vision, snowy. Africa just served as a backdrop to highlight the 'other' who is dark, exotic and savage in contrast to the superior, intelligent and authentic 'self' of Europe. The inhuman treatment, death and rottenness that runs throughout the novel assist us in understanding Conrad and his views of the Imperial rule in Africa. It was sheer greed, superiority of color and the 'idea' that gave the whites advantage and privilege to invade and empty the East. Conrad surely wanted to critique Imperial rule but in doing so, knowing or unknowingly, he dehumanizes the native Africans and promotes England.

Joseph Conrad himself, born of Polish parents, was exiled to Northern Russia and came to England. He was a seaman and himself went up the Congo River in 1890. He used the new technique of Modernism, with an adventure on sea to some far Eastern primitive land. The framed narrative of story-telling is full of his impressions. In taking the journey he explores his inner self through the external world.



In *Conrad the Novelist,* Albert J. Guerard called the novella "Conrad's longest journey into self" (Moore 5). Conrad uses his own experiences and observations to turn them around and by bringing out the best of what was happening in his age. He gives us an account of the West and the East. The West, considering themselves as being superior, gave themselves the authority to exploit and rule the East. The English felt that they were the torch bearers that needed to give dark Africa light and civilization. Instead, the opposite happened; they turned Africa into a darker place, as Victorian missionaries and explorers landed there looting, killing and exploiting them. Gene M. Moore writes in his casebook that: "The heart of Conrad's darkness lies not only in Africa or in ancient London, but also in the bosom of the beholder, male or female, black or white" (Moore,7).

Conrad begins with the two oldest rivers, Thames and river Congo. Even the rivers are contrasted in terms of its history. Thames is described in terms of its achievement:

> The old river in its broad reach rested unruffled at the decline of the day, after ages of good service done to the race that peopled its banks, spread out in the tranquil dignity of a waterway leading to the uttermost ends of the earth. (*Heart of Darkness*, 12)

The Thames is described in terms of civilization and progress which is tranquil and serves its people. Conrad, says at the beginning of the novella, that the Romans had invaded the British once and they were barbarians. However, "They were men enough to face the darkness" and came out into the light. While the river Congo is described in terms of primordial life which is dark and monotonous and savage:

> This one was almost featureless, as if still in the making, with the aspect of monotonous grimness. The edge of a colossal jungle. So dark-green as to be almost black, fringed with white surf, ran straight, like a ruled line, far, far away along a blue sea whose glitter was blurred by a creeping mist. (*Heart of Darkness,* 24)

Conrad's use of color binaries is very common throughout the novella. The play of colors black and white, light and dark. The colonizers have an entire description about them and are even called by their nationality and name. Like the captain of the steamer was a Swede or the Freslevan the Dane who was killed in the bargain or Kurtz the best European official living in the inner station. While the description of the natives was done only in terms of adjectives without a proper name, "A lot of people, mostly black and naked. Moved about like ants." Even the most dehumanizing descriptions are seen where Marlow talks about them without any connection and sympathy:

> They were dying slowly - it was very clear. They were not enemies, they were not criminals, they were nothing earthly now - nothing but black shadows of diseases and starvation, lying confusedly in the greenish gloom. Brought from all the recesses of the coast in all the legality of time contracts, lost in the uncongenial surroundings, fed on unfamiliar food, they sickened, became inefficient, and were then allowed to crawl away and rest. These morbid shapes were free as air - and nearly as thin. (*Heart of Darkness,* 29-30)

Chinua Achebe in his essay "*An Image of Africa: Racism in Conrad's 'Heart of Darkness" criticizes* Conrad heavily for dehumanizing the Africans. In his essay he crudely responded that, "Joseph Conrad was a thoroughgoing racist. That this is simple truth is glossed over in criticism of his work is due to the fact that white racism against Africa is such a normal way of thinking that its manifestation is completely unremarkable." (Achebe 6). Agreeing to Achebe I think that even Conrad was so accustomed to differentiating white and black that he too unknowingly or knowingly has supported and elevated the Europeans. Achebe even goes on to say that "*Heart of Darkness* projects the image of Africa as "the other world" the antithesis of Europe and therefore of civilization, a place where men's vaunted intelligence and refinement are finally mocked by triumphant bestiality" (Achebe 2). This being true as the Europeans have always shown themselves, to be the center and superior 'self' to the 'other' who is inferior and looked down upon. Europeans being the beacons of light and culture while the rest of the world is barbarous and dark.

If we just quit the racial factor of the novella then we are sure to trace the imperial rule. Also able to analyze to what extent Conrad had gone, to take the risk of criticizing the Europeans. Marlow the narrator acts as a mute spectator who gives us his impressions of the violence and horror that has been invoked in Africa. Marlow witnesses in the outer station the animalistic way the natives were treated to get profit out of the them:

> A slight clinking behind me made me turn my head. Six black men advanced in a file, toiling up the path. They walked erect and slow, balancing small baskets full of earth on their heads, and the clink kept time with their footsteps. Black rags were wound around their loins, and the short ends behind waggled to and fro like tails. I could see every rib, the joints of their limbs were like knots in a rope; each had an iron collar on his neck, and all were connected together with a chain whose nights swung between them, rhythmically clinking. (*Heart of Darkness,* 27-8)

All this torture was given to the natives only to make them civilized and cultured, but then the natives were not needed to be civilized. They had their own ways of living in the wild. They had different culture and rituals than that of the Europeans. We cannot blame the drum beating in the night or their dance or their black skin color or their nakedness. They are primitive people as Marlow describes them and they know how to live in the wild and dangerous forest of the Amazon. If the Europeans wanted them to be civilized, they would have done so but then they wanted to tame

the natives and loot them of all their resources, in *Heart of Darkness* it was ivory in regards to Kurtz. "Mr. Kurtz was the best agent he had, an exceptional man, of the greatest importance to the Company;" (*Heart of Darkness,* 37). The chief of the inner station, who is the root cause for draining out all the ivory from the inner forest of Africa and sending them back to Europe. Kurtz was part of the Imperial rule, a figure to represent Europe amongst the natives. He was part of a political agenda who was raised only to bring home ivory.

Kurtz was both violent in his treatment towards the natives and at the same time he could not resist the inner primitive life and calling of the wild. He could not resist and gave into his primitive and inner natural instincts as he was hollow and lacked values. He had become a part of the Africans which in return engulfed him and he breathed his last in the inner station. As described by Marlow about the condition of Kurtz when he had finally died:

> He looked at least seven feet long. His covering had fallen off, and its body emerged from its pitiful and appalling as from a winding-sheet. I could see the cage of his ribs all astir, the bones of his arms waving. It was as though an animated image of death carved out of old ivory had been shaking its hands with menace at a motionless crowd of men made of dark and glittering bronze. I saw him open his mouth wide - it gave him a weirdly voracious aspect, as though he had wanted to swallow all the air, all the earth, all the men before him. (*Heart of Darkness,* 90)

It was as if Kurtz had swallowed all that came his way, proving him to be the modern man who is hollow within the human body. He only desired power and material gain that drove him to the wilderness. Yet, he had to pay a price for it and could not go unaffected by it. He became a part of the natives and indulged in their rituals and primitive impulses. Yet Kurtz did not tolerate any rebelling natives and killed them by forcing them to get ivory. As a sign of terror in his rule he used the heads of the people he killed and hung them on the post in front of his station. He was a modern Faustus who sold himself to the natives to gain material wealth.

Whereas, Marlow was nothing like Kurtz. He was able to resist and survive and return to Europe. He was drawn by the drums and the noise yet he was able to escape. Marlow was not just a mute spectator; he was in the white man's party too. He did not do anything for the natives but simply gave us details of the tortures on them. The entire journey of Marlow was an enterprise to rescue Kurtz. The fact that the novella had no definite plot, just fragmented pieces, giving us a picture of the havoc that was created in Africa. In another way it is to show that the place is cursed and brought death to Kurtz. The moment Kurtz dies the narrative of the Africans end and Marlow is seen back in England. Conrad also tries to portray the shame Kurtz had brought to the Company by forgetting all his ethics and culture of Europe and to give in to the African way of living.

Another important aspect of colonial rule is the treatment of women. Women were suppressed even in England and twice suppressed in that of the colonized countries. Patriarchal men of England thought that it was fitting to keep women in their



own world and out of theirs. Gene M. Moore says that "Conrad was not only a racist but also a sexist, noting Marlow's patronizing and dismissive treatment of women" (Moore 12). Conrad portrays the native African lady with sexual bodily connotations who is exotic and ominous. While the Intended is described as, one who is unsexed and beautiful, fair and glorious in her suffering after the death of Kurtz. Here we see the essentialization of the white women. However, on a whole the western concept of women is infantilization. Where women need to be treated as a child, who are not mature enough as men.

The fact that Europeans justified their doing in the Eastern countries is adequate to prove them faulty and capricious. The very reason they did not leave the countries and made colonies all over the native land proved their greed and hunger for power and wealth. Even the fact that Conrad touches the



topic of cannibalism makes it one another reason to educate and enlighten the Africans. Keith Booker asserts that "the characterization of Africans as cannibals make the Europeans loss of life 'civilizing' the continent seem worthwhile, while at the same time it justified European rule of Africa by demonstrating the superiority of Europeans to their primitive African counterparts" (Guven, 83).

The entire novella is presented from the white man's perspective, without any voice or introduction of any native characters. They are just considered as a black, ominous creatures who are savage. Their surroundings are vengeful with no bountiful vegetation. The only proper characterization is given to Kurtz, who signifies the violence and destruction caused to natives which was cruel and unforgiving. Even Kurtz cries twice "The Horror! The Horror" before he dies. Showing that they had penetrated the pure virgin land and left it barren with no humanity left. The color white is not seen as pure, because the whites have raped the blacks. The white ivory was also not pure or holy, as people were willing to die for it. The pilgrims present were not praying to God, they prayed to the mammoth God of greed, i.e. greed of ivory. Only the stench of death and rottenness were seen left behind after the trade. John Brannigan in his book *New Historicism and Cultural Materialism* summarizes that the *Heart of Darkness* "enables to locate the novel in the complex system of power relations and cultural representations which form the discourse of colonialism" (Guven, 86).

Colonial rule was responsible for the death and dehumanization of other countries by thinking them to be inferior and using brute force to rob and murder the natives. Kurtz being one example of the Company's greed, demonstrating that both the colonizers and the colonized are harmed by this grave endeavor. With the use of color imagery Conrad helps us to understand that weightage is given more to the whites than the blacks. Black is considered savage and untouchable despite white being pure and glorious. However, it is not so, as *Heart of Darkness* successfully prints out that power relation between the colonist and the colonizers. Not forgetting the fact that the natives are inhuman animals, savage black creatures of earth who need redemption.

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Book Review

The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People
by Stephen R. Covey



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This book is known to be one of the most inspiring and impactful books ever written. It has transformed the lives of millions of people of all ages and occupations.

In *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People*, Covey argues that in order to change our results and situations, we have to first change ourselves. And in order to change ourselves permanently, we have to focus on building empowering habits.

Be Proactive

Proactive people control situations by causing things to happen rather than waiting to respond *after* things happen (*reactive*). A proactive person takes 100% responsibility for their own life. You might be thinking "But I can't possibly control everything that happens to me. What about natural disasters? Car accidents? Sicknesses? What about those?" Yes, you can't control absolutely everything that happens to you. I get that. But since you can control your thoughts and actions; no matter what happens to you, you can still control how you respond to the situation.

Begin With the End in Mind

Imagine you're at a funeral, but this one's different from all the funerals you have ever been to. You're standing over the casket and you see yourself. *What do you have to say about yourself?* This is one of the most powerful questions you could ask. Are you doing the things in your life, which are aligned with what you want to be able to say?

To begin with the end in mind means to start with a clear understanding of your destination. Once we have clarity about our end goal, we'll not only be able to pinpoint what exactly we want but more importantly, we'll be able to pinpoint what we *don't* want. That's when we can confidently say 'no' to things that don't matter.

Put First Things First

Now if you are asked, what are the most important things to you? Most common answers would be either your well being or your relationships – your family, friends, etc. You would never say watching T.V or playing games. But how many of us spend more time watching T.V and playing games, than planning our nutrition and going to



the gym or focusing on your goal. One of the most important steps is to prioritise what is urgent and what is not urgent.

Think Win/Win

If you want something to happen in your favour, you must first ask yourself "how could the other person benefit?." This question can drastically change the way you approach the other person. If you gain something out of someone, you must always keep in mind what the other person can gain from you in return. This increases the probability of your success. So, always think win/win.

Seek First to Understand, then to Be Understood

Everyone is different. Some of us are more logical while others, more emotional. Hence, to be able to really understand others is a challenge but it's not impossible. We just need to really want to listen. Listen with the intention of just understanding first, not to necessarily reply. Always keep in mind the other person's point of view first before giving advice.

Synergize

Simply defined, synergy is about the creation of "a *whole* that is *greater than* the simple sum of *its parts*" (Wikipedia Contributors, 2019). This is the highest form of win/win situation. In simple ways, five pieces of wood together is stronger than each piece separately. Teamwork is the key to any work done. You can't achieve synergy with everyone, but you should always be looking for opportunities to create synergy.

Sharpen the Saw

Sharpening the saw means to work on those small skills or habits that can eventually help you to achieve your goals faster. We don't tend to do the small efforts because we think it takes too much time off our busy life, yet we have the audacity to ask for success and complain if we don't see the result faster. If you want to cut down a tree faster you should first take some time off and sharpen the saw.

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Book Review

Rich Dad Poor Dad



Ruchi Agarwal
6th Sem, Education Honours

Rich Dad Poor Dad is the best book on finance that I have read so far. The very essence of the book revolves around: "Don't work for money. Let the money work for you." (Kiyosaki, 1997/2017). This is how the book taught me to think of money not as an end-goal, but as a tool for wealth creation.

If I talk about the title of the book, the first thing that comes to my mind is that it would be a story of two dads but it's more about thinking wisely on how to invest.

Money is one form of power but what is more important is financial education. Money comes and goes, but if we have the education about how money works, we gain power over it and can begin building wealth.

Kiyosaki (author of the book) elaborates on, "What the Rich Teach Their Kids About Money – That The Poor And Middle Class Do Not!" One of the most common dreams among humans is likely getting rich, but the majority of us never really make it. Kiyosaki believes that an individual's attitude towards money and their tendency to be richer or poorer can be traced back to the education they receive at home. Parents are responsible for teaching the fundamentals of finances as it's not something a school usually focuses on. Kiyosaki explains that this education at home is the driver behind the rich getting richer, poor getting poorer and middle class continuing to struggle with constant debt.

The author emphasizes the importance of sound finances for a better meaningful life. He argues that while one may be an academic genius, a topper, or a gold medalist; there is every possibility of ending up as a failure without financial know-how. The book teaches the difference between assets and liability in a way I had never imagined. "This book is a wakeup call to all of us to educate ourselves on money matters." (UKEssays, 2018)

Some of the pearls of wisdom from the book *Rich Dad Poor Dad* are:

- You are the image of your thoughts.
- Being an employee is a short term solution to a long term problem.
- A slave, even if he is paid a fortune, remains a slave.

Our thoughts and actions have a great impact on our lives. Our way of thinking, choices and decisions lead us to become either rich or poor. By presenting two contrasting mentalities, we get to not just accept one but to ponder on both and choose for ourselves how we will live our lives. The central and most important point presented here is in order for us to prevent money struggle, as early as we can. We should already be thinking, reflecting and directing our thoughts towards becoming rich. We should teach and use our minds to harness the power of money.

Some of the advice presented in the book is quite scary and risky but they do challenge us to exercise our mind and stretch our thoughts. In this book, Kiyosaki refers to two dads, his biological father and the father to his friend who loves him as well. The biological father is clearly portrayed to have made wrong decisions

and the other father has somewhat taken away the subject of his fatherhood. I admire the Rich Dad for being rich and for sharing his wealth of knowledge but he makes the poor dad look miserable and downright just wrong as how he has lived his life.

However, "It's not as simple as that"(Kiyosaki, 1997/2017) - most of the readers might share the same thought. It attempts to simplify some technical ideas to the less informed.

This book is the best seller as it sells optimism and markets self-esteem. Most of all, it offers hope and a lot of motivation. It doesn't only feed the mind but also nurtures the soul, promoting self-efficacy.

I would probably rate this book as awesome, as it truly was able to hold my interest and engage me in analyzing my financial situation. However, it left me asking more questions - probably a way for me to exercise my brain in applying the concepts. I think the right approach that the author proposed in the beginning of this book, to use our brain, make it fertile for ideas to thrive in it and to see both sides of the coin – to weigh the ideas that comes our way, take what we need, reflect for ourselves then choose which idea to live by.

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Stories



Photography by:
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Diviner



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6th Sem, English Honours

But on the ravish'd virgin vengeance takes,
Her shining hair is chang'd to hissing snakes.
These in her Aegis Pallas joys to bear,
The hissing snakes her foes more sure ensnare,
Than they did lovers once, when shining hair.

*

"Do you believe in God?" Twelve-years old Ena had asked this question to her grandmother. Her curiosity so childish and heart so naive her grandmother had laughed heartily before answering, "God is often called a myth. And myth is often based on the reality of things." Twelve year old Ena had been confused, scrunched nose and furrowed brows. "Perhaps, you will understand one day," her grandmother had said.

Almost a decade has passed, and so has her grandmother, but there are things Ena still does not understand. Her grandmother lived like an enigma, died like a legend, leaving behind imprints of her existence that would make people seek more. Know more. *But what? What is that more?*

As she sits with her laptop open on the table, a tall wall of Ovid's *Metamorphoses* scribbled on the bright screen, Ena wonders what led her mind wandering towards her late grandmother. Perhaps it is her heart yearning for the elder's warm hug? Or perhaps it is the ghosts of late October that roam the house in ungodly hours and make Ena want to believe in gods? Or perhaps, it is the epic poem gibberish that her grandmother was so fond of dabbling in, a reminder of which makes her not want to give up on her essay yet.

Spending most of her childhood with her grandmother, Ena grew up listening to lores about Greek heroes and gods like bedtime stories. The first time when she had mentioned Medusa, Ena was horrified. Disgusted even. *Cursed? Serpent hair? Grams, was she evil?* Ena had asked.

What defines evil? She had said in return.

Scorned and cursed and punished to death by a hero, how is Medusa any different from other demons in the tale of gods?

Heaving a sigh Ena reads through the verses again, pulls up a blank screen and starts typing her essay. Words spill out like ink from a tilted pot and before she knows it, the night has been smeared darker - it is way past the witching hour. Ena decides to finish the rest of her work the day after, convinced it is late enough for her to be in bed.

An awkward weariness settles in her bones when she lies down staring at the ceiling. Her eyelids feel heavy and she expects sleep to come find her but it doesn't. Seconds, minutes, hours later, she is still shifting around in her bed, uncomfortable and sweaty despite the chilly October air. Instead of the ceiling, she decides to stare at the tapestry instead, hung on a far side of the wall. It was a gift from her grandmother on her sixteenth birthday. *I made it for you. Weaved with my own hands, this one.*

By sixteen, Ena had got fairly used to her grandmother's peculiar admiration for Medusa. The tapestry is beautiful, gold threads crossing and intertwining to shape into a standing figure of a woman, a crown of serpents wiggling in her hair, eyes glowing with ferocity, and mouth stretched into a smile that looks cruel and almost sad. As if that smile knew kindness and devotion a long time ago, but with time has had its memories withered.

Resting on her side, Ena stares at it now. She stares and thinks of her grandmother. She wonders what made her revere the devil like a divine.

A sigh escapes her lips, fogs the air around her face. Ena goes back to staring at the ceiling. Sleep unyielding that refuses to come sweep her off reality.

And then, she feels it. Threads of warmth and light come to clasp her hand instead. *Is it already morning? How long have I been awake?* She looks to the side, out of the window, expecting to see dawn breaking through the clouds. What she finds instead is darkness thick and stretching. Senses suddenly alert and eyes now blown wide, they are warily drawn to the glaring source of light on the far corner of the room, where the tapestry is.

Ena gasps and stares. The golden threads flutter and come undone as a strange light emanates from the woven Medusa's eyes. It beckons her to come near, calls to her curious soul to come look at her. For a moment Ena thinks she sees the woman's smile widen a fraction. *Is this a dream?*

She rolls out of bed in a stupor, unsure foot taking small steps towards the glowing tapestry. She extends a hand, watches as the threads reach out to intertwine with her fingers. They meet midway, like two lovers separated for eons. Her eyes find Medusa's in the tapestry. She does not mistake the devotion in the depths of it that now glow.

And like a spinning top barely holding up on a needle, the ground beneath her topples. Ena falls into a darkness that feels infinite. Floating, drowning. Only the threads around her wrists remain to keep her anchored.

*

She tastes sand, gritty and wet, when the howl of winds wake her from slumber. Moisture sticks to her lashes as Ena opens her eyes, gaze running along the stretch of ocean before her. Waves breaking and pulling away, washing her senses in cold disaster.

Ena jerks to realisation and sits upright. The seaside looks empty of life save for the golden crabs digging its way underneath. The sun has melted, the air feels colder, and Ena tries to remember what happened.

At a far distance, the last rays of twilight reflect existing civilisation. Her mind tells her to move; hurry up and move. And so she does. Everything is so abrupt, so jarring, Ena doesn't have the time to question anything. There are strange, urgent whispers in her head telling her to walk. To keep walking. Closer to civilisation.

Night follows after Ena as she arrives at the front of a towering shrine. Silence and whispers had been her company throughout. But all of that shatters like brittle glass when a despairing cry plunges through air at her like rocks. The cries are weak, yet loud; hopeless and yet hopeful. They were cries for mercy, for help, for forgiveness. They were cries of shame.

There was thunder in the sky. It lit up in forks of two. And Ena witnesses the source of those cries in that brief flash of purple in front of the temple, at the porch.

A lovely maiden like you is surely for our taking.

Please, have mercy!

Rain pours and pounds the earth. It is wet and sticky and Ena wants to shake off the dirt. The sound of wind and thunder drowns out the woman's cries.

Ena thinks she hears her weeping and she weeps with her. She wants to go inside but her feet refuse to heed any command. Ena cannot tell how long she stands there but the night seems endless.

At the first break of dawn, Ena sees Poseidon leave the temple and approach her. "A priestess who defiles her goddess' shrine surely does not deserve to remain here."

Ena realises it is not a question. When she stares into Poseidon's eyes, she sees herself in the clear pools of it. Long hair braided and adorned, dress graceful and magnificent. Eyes that hold power yet not enough to protect. She looks like a goddess; feels like dirt caught in the ocean waves.

"What has she done?" Her voice barely a whisper.

"Your priestess, Athena, failed to uphold her vow of purity. Seducing the gods. Desecrating your temple. Why should you allow her into *your* place of worship."

Ena does not answer. Poseidon talks and reasons, negotiates and blames. Voice loud and thundering. Ena does not answer. For she knows what is expected of her. She knows the tale written in stone. She knows she cannot change the reality of myths.

Poseidon eventually leaves.

Inside, a broken body lies, naked and vulnerable under the sculptured frieze of Pentelic marble. Ena kneels down beside her, extending a soothing hand to wake the woman from her nightmare.

"*Hiereia*," she calls.

The woman lifts herself off the floor and turns around to face Ena. Hair dishevelled and the ink around her eyes smeared, she crouches down at her feet like the wreckage of a ship that has sunk into the depths after being ravaged by the sea.

"Please, I beg mercy," she cries, "please let me stay."

Ena touches her face and thumbs away the leaking tears. "The gods have left me with no choice."

"Athena, my goddess, I have spent a lifetime serving you. Worshipping you. Please do not send me away!"

"Medusa." Ena - *Athena* - whispers her name like a secret. "I may be a higher being than you but I cannot always protect you," she says. Leaning forward, she gently brushes her lip over Medusa's forehead. It is the kiss of a blessing; the kiss of a curse. "But I will enable you with powers so you can protect yourself when you step out of my shrine today."

"*Athena*-"

"Medusa," Athena says, "you must leave."

Medusa begs. She cries. Athena watches as her hair slowly darkens and thickens. Her crowning glory hisses and writhes.

"You're powerful, Medusa. You must protect yourself."

When Medusa opens her eyes again, they glow with the same devotion Ena had seen before. In the tapestry.

*

"*In Metamorphoses*, Ovid crafts a story where Medusa is the perpetrator, and Perseus is the protector of mankind when he kills her. However, a different interpretation of the same story reveals Medusa as the victim. Raped and defiled by a god, she was accused of seduction. Athena curses her with serpent hair that grants her the power to petrify men and protect herself. However, what if the curse was a blessing in disguise. Why would Athena, as the goddess of wisdom, curse and blame the victim.

Ovid pits woman against woman, Athena against Medusa, as a way for men to hide the fact that Medusa is the victim throughout the entire story, her entire life."

Ena finishes the essay in an urgent haste. She sighs and looks at the tapestry. The threads do not glow anymore, and Medusa looks just as deadly, just as beautiful.

Her grandmother had once asked, "What defines evil?"

Distortion of the unknown, she thinks. *Propaganda.*

Nomad



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2nd Sem, Sociology Honours

Once upon a time there was a lover who lived inside the deep marine blue ocean. The lover had only the moon in her possession. It was the only thing that made the ocean which was her home look beautiful even in the darkest hours of night. The moon used to make the ocean alive by making the tides swing, in its shimmer and shine. The moon was the heart of the ocean even though it has scars. The lover was lucky. She was not alone in the never ending ocean. She had a friend and that friend was a turtle. One day the lover decided to send the turtle with the moon on her back to her beloved, to portray how much the lover valued her beloved in her life.

The lover had whispered magical words in the ear of the turtle and the turtle was pledged to yell those magical words throughout her journey so that the beloved could hear and find what her lover had sent, in the name of love. The turtle had to make an endless journey all the way from the ocean to the sky and had to search further into the whole universe to find her beloved. It was hard and heavy to carry the huge moon and it was a long journey. The turtle hesitated to carry the flawed moon at first because it was nearly an impossible mission. Actually the turtle was worried and scared. The turtle was not sure if she could find her way back home because it was a journey from ocean to the universe. It was a whole new world for the turtle. But, the turtle surprisingly agreed with the lover to head for the journey.



(Painting by Roopashna)

The turtle couldn't say no to the lover when she saw the longing desire in the eyes of the lover to give the moon to her beloved. So the turtle made her decision to take it. The turtle was now ready to make an endless adventure of her life. The turtle had no clue where her beloved was and even if the turtle finds her, they did not know if her beloved would be happy to accept the moon. One thing that was certain to the turtle was that the turtle would see things which she had never seen and felt before. New energy, new place and most importantly new motive that she got in her life. Marvelous and fascinating experiences were awaiting for the turtle to be explored.

For the first time in her life the turtle stepped outside the ocean and started to flap her flippers against the wind and flew towards the sky. The turtle was exhausted after a few months as there was no place to rest in the sky. The turtle finally reached the galaxy and could find a star to rest. After resting for a few days, the turtle again headed to fulfill her mission. The turtle started to scream those enchanted words which the lover had whispered in her ears. The turtle really tried hard to find her beloved but failed and lost her way and sadly, the turtle couldn't return back to her home. Alas! The turtle became a nomad for the rest of her life.

Miss Iva



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6th Sem, English Honours

Miss Iva was very beautiful—the most beautiful girl in the village. She was the only girl of her age in the village though. All the others were boys. Here, everybody knew everyone else. All were distant relatives, one way or the other. They prayed, went to the church, helped one another in times of need and lived amicably. Envy hadn't found its way into the hearts of the people here.

Several young men came to visit the village asking for Miss Iva's hand in marriage. But none could move her heart. As Miss Iva grew older these visits became less frequent. The boys in the village got married and started their own families. Her parents were gradually getting worried for her. They pleaded with her to find someone suitable. They feared that she might not be in the right state of her mind. The whole village tried to persuade her to settle down. On this Miss Iva only said, "But I am settled" and she went back to her garden. At last, everybody left her alone. Her parents passed away and her brother went to the city with his wife and son. She stayed behind in the village, in their old home. She was like a fairy and nobody really understood her. She was kind, very kind, and cheerful - talking to everyone, laughing together and at times eating with them. She did that. Everybody liked her. The children especially loved going into her garden and helping her. But she felt distant and at times even mystical. It was as if she knew something, something that we did not.

She only gardened and gardened. She had always been fond of flowers—even as a little girl she used to take care of them and now when she is older, she grew and supplied the flowers to the whole village and beyond. Every Saturday, one could see a truck parked outside Miss Iva's garden being loaded with dozens of flowers: all of them roses, in different colours and varieties. The cold metal mellowed into warm sunset hues. The truck entered the village plain old and went back beautifully donned like a bountiful bride. This has been going on for the last forty years.

Miss Iva's garden was very special. At the centre of the garden was a fountain; not just a simple fountain, it was a Rose fountain. The water sprinkled down from the apex upon the rose plant and trickled down into the pool below. The sole rose plant at the centre of the fountain never bloomed. Miss Iva used the water collected in the fountain pool to nourish the flowers in her garden. Beautiful roses bloomed throughout the year in the garden: red, yellow, pink, blue, white, ombre. The roses were beautiful, the garden was beautiful. And Miss Iva took special care of her as though it was her love child. She could always be found there: always potting and re-potting, fertilizing and pest controlling. Everybody admired the roses in her garden but the best of them always only found one destination.

Mr. and Mrs. A.P. had come to the village some forty years ago. It was around the time when Miss Iva was about sixteen years of age and had only started commercially supplying the roses the previous year. The couple had bought land beside Miss Iva's house, built a house and had settled there.



Mr. and Mrs. A.P.'s courtyard was only a few yards from Miss Iva's garden. The couple were quiet and reserved and never talked more than what was necessary and the villagers left them in their quiet respite after a few futile attempts to befriend them. They were

peaceful people and never caused any trouble in the village and lived in their own space. When they first arrived, Mr. A.P. looked like he was about forty years old, distinct features with a remarkably handsome face and an authoritative look in his eyes. His wife on the other hand looked much younger than him, probably in her mid twenties. She was a petite woman with dark long hair. Miss Iva had neither seen a more beautiful woman nor man. It was from the very first day of their arrival that the best roses forever found their destination. Miss Iva never failed to send them over to her neighbours every single day and always the colourful ones. But there was never any response. This continued for the past forty years. One would think that through observation of several years one might understand someone but that was not to be the case here. Miss Iva's actions were never understood. There were only speculations – perhaps she was in love with the handsome older gentleman or perhaps she simply wanted to be a good neighbour. They are all mere speculations.

Mr. and Mrs. A.P. always had their tea in their courtyard and Miss Iva always looked at them from her garden. During the times she was seen staring in that direction, one could easily see the longing in her eyes. The villagers thought it might be for a family. Mr. A.P. smiled at his wife and she smiled back. They talked and looked happy. Nobody had ever seen him smile but he smiled at his wife. Miss Iva looked visibly dejected at the sight of it. She must have thought that Mr. A.P., that stern and expressionless Mr. A. P., must really love his wife. She wanted to knock off his hat with water from his watering can but the water would not reach that far off, no matter how hard she tried. She looked miserable.

She finally stopped sending flowers over to the APs. She gardened and gardened still. But now it looked like it was due to the force of habit more than anything else. One day, the rose in the centre of the fountain bloomed. Blue. Colours started disappearing from her garden and only blue remained. All the roses bloomed blue and no other colour.

A few days after her garden turned blue Miss Iva was not seen in her garden. Worried about her, the villagers went to look into her house. There were blue roses all around the house in vases: on the kitchen counter, on the drawing room table, near the staircase, on her bedside table. Miss Iva lay on her bed as though peacefully asleep. A little blue petal rested on her philtrum, equally peacefully. Everything else was still.



Consciousing the Conscious



Shweta Mazoomdar
6th Sem, English Honours

"The time awaits as one season after another begins. The same hope lies there of cuts and blemishes the shine is deprived of, yet the hope lives on. The hope lives on as seasons after seasons birds change the pattern of their flying, the manner they open up their lives. Irrespective of whatever pattern the storm comprises of, yet the ship goes ahead, putting all its strength for it should go ahead and if it should sink within the broad shallows of adversity and that of incoherence, so it shall be."

*

I don't remember anything. Yet, I believe if I start writing I will. It's not something that was etched inside me. Rather you can define it as something which has been injected to my brain time and time again. Injected in such a manner that when I look at myself with complete awe and a fear within (which I very successfully keep concealed) it questions me.

"Who are you?"

"What is your identity?"

My identity? What am I? Who am I? Am I just another human driving fast to come out from the shackles of capitalism? Or another human who is always deemed to be felt and thought of and finally led to the conclusion that I am nothing. Oh! to be nothing, absolute bliss engulfs me. But a prick of consciousness comes in. Rather a rude blow falls in. Some veins come out, some organs pushed, inward screams. Just for the sake of knowing one answer "Who am I?"

*

"The steroid works well, I suppose?"

"But it may be highly contagious as well."

"We need her alive anyhow, we can't afford to start everything back from the new again. Time wasted. Millions wasted. What for? Inject anything just bring life within her again."

"Shhhhhhhhhh. She's awake."

I open my eyes. My eyes! Are they really eyes? Or are they fed with some sort of a ridiculousness to find hope every time. Are they really eyes or am I just another human who wants to give up yet gives in to everything? What am I? Why am I? How are-

"It's time. Let's go home."

I feel as if a cloth is tied across my neck. My breath? Am I breathing? My arms? Are they moving? I don't feel anything. I just don't. How? Why? Mom, I… I don't know… what should I tell? Even if I should tell, what should I tell? Why am I feeling everything which is inclined towards living like a parasite? A parasitical mode of living. I open my mouth to cry, to wail but my tears? Where are my tears? Why am I smiling? A sudden darkness engulfs me. Not again. No. No! Have mercy please! Don't. Don't! I try to pull my arms and legs out. But nothing comes into my notice except some hurried, muffled voices and a sharp prick again, streaming a wide range of consciousness with varying wavelengths within me.

*

"All good, everything's good, do not think too much. Follow this mantra, that

will be enough."

"But, what if-"

"It's all in your head. Look around, there's the blue sky, birds flying all around, white clouds dancing with the music of the wind. Look dearest, look."

The sky. The sky. The sky.

Is it really blue? Or just forced to become blue?

Sighing, I look at my mom. I sometimes wonder. What would happen if she would just understand me… that she wouldn't force me to think that everything is as rosy as it appears, blush and sparkle, beautiful and shiny. Afterall, I am a grown up. A woman of twenty-one. But I also wish that she never understands me. If she does, then she will lose the soft pink blush of her cheeks, the smile on her lips and her face will be marked with lines of terror, suspicion, anger, resentment and incompleteness. She will begin questioning the ethics she once believed would blossom her little lady into a fine young woman. She will, as a whole, become like me….

"I am there, don't you worry. You are listening right?"

I look at her and try to bring on a smile. They say I look beautiful when I smile, that the sound of my laughter seems to bring on each and everything back in this world. So, I smile. I smile to look beautiful amidst all the destruction occurring within. I smile to smile and make others smile too. It isn't their fault anyway.

After all, who wouldn't love being part of anything beautiful?

Who wouldn't be filled with anger to just see something beautiful?

*

I went to the washroom today.

I washed my face.

I kept washing my face.

I saw something on my face. It was dark, deep and horrifying. I started scratching my face. The more I washed, the more it expanded. Its expansions were no wonder spine chilling. What's wrong? Why? A huge stream flows within. I look around. I try to reach something. But what is that something? Why is that something? How is that something? Why am I trying to get hold of that something?

"It's okay. Just a bad dream. But yes, you are improving. A little bit of self-control and oh yes! Some fresh air would do the thing."

My parents look at me. Proud they are, I guess? Or just pretending to be? They are quite happy though. Happy because I will be able to meet their expectations again. Meet up their dreams again. Dreams… What are dreams? Are they just like my dreams? If it is, I don't want to dream again. Is the air really fresh outside? or just a mixture of different fragrances sprayed by different people and their opinions? Will it really wipe out all my thoughts? Will I be normal again?

"Did you hear it? She wants to go to school again."

Suddenly, I feel a warm hug.

I remember being engulfed in a hug before. The soft bliss of just a hug. But I wonder if the hug is really warm? Or is it because of the mere rubbing of hands and pats on the back which makes it feel warm? What is a hug? How is it supposed to be warm? Can the coldness of the generation be felt with this warmth? Or maybe…

Maybe, people are just cold beings looking and searching for warmth in different forms and shapes.

"Oh yes, absolutely she can go to school. She will make up for all her lessons. She will do it."

"But what if she can't handle the pressure-."

"Our daughter is quite sensible now. She knows that either she can choose to drown in her stupid

dreams or thoughts, whatever or to make something out of her life. We can't feed her all her life. What about Carol?"

Carol… my sister Carol. I remember playing with her. Carol is the best part of my life. But now Carol does not play with me anymore.

She does not smile at me.

*

The sky looks wonderful today. I wonder how good it is today? Is it because they really are good today? If they are, I am glad. It had been a while since I had gone and had a talk with the plants in the courtyard. I wished to go ahead and talk to them but it was too late.

I saw them writhing in pain.

I fetched some water and tried to wash away their pain but didn't seem to go.

"They are dead", Carol whispers.

I look at her in disbelief.

"But I planted them yesterday how come they are dead?"

"You planted and watered them when you turned twenty. You loved them, you cared. But now you don't."

I looked at the plants. I looked at Carol. I kept exchanging glimpses till I realized that the destruction within myself manifested in the outward reality too. I looked around the dead world which was once a paradise to me. I felt a deep remorse. I sat down. I stared towards the empty hollow. How I wish I could change everything? How I wish I would not fall into the clutches of darkness the result of which stood out to be so lethal and dreadful now.

"But you know they are not dead completely. It's just the seasonal impact. Mom told me," Carol smiles.

I see her holding a daisy.

I look closely. I look more closely.

A tiny blade of grass comes up to my rescue.

To my surprise I see the courtyard to be more heavenly and more beautiful as compared to before. I look further to find butterflies flying around gleefully with all their glory.

The time awaits as one season after another begins. The same hope lies there of cuts and blemishes the shine is deprived of, yet the hope lives on. The hope lives on as seasons after seasons birds change the pattern of their flying, the manner they open up their lives. Irrespective of whatever pattern the storm comprises of, yet the ship goes ahead, putting all its strength for it should go ahead and if it should sink within the broad shallows of adversity and that of incoherence, so it shall be.

She smiles at me now and I laugh back.

Felicitously Heaven-Sent



Sanjida Rahaman
6th Sem, English Honours

Once upon a time, a boy named Alhaadi was born in a lower class family in a small village named Lamu in Kenya. At a very small age, when Alhaadi was just 12 years old, he had lost his parents in a bus accident. Since then he lived with his uncle and aunt in Malindi.

His life changed from a terrible to a happy life.

Alhaadi's uncle and aunt didn't treat him well and used to make him work whole day. Even though Alhaadi went to school, he didn't get enough time to study, his uncle and aunt intentionally would force him to work for them. Alhaadi's aunt would taunt him by saying, "You stay in our house, you are a burden for us! Therefore you have to follow whatever we ask you to do." Alhaadi lived a very miserable life, he was not given proper food to eat. Whatever he got to eat was the left overs of the dishes which his uncle and aunt had eaten.

Even though Alhaadi had to work the whole day, he would manage to study as much as he could. He didn't have any friends in school. None of the students in his class used to like to be friends with him. They used to taunt him saying, "You are an ugly person and no one would like to be a friend of an ugly person like you!" Alhaadi was bullied in his school.

At one point of time, Alhaadi was frustrated with his life. He felt nothing good could happen to him. He was tired of this cruel world which didn't treat him well. He just felt like ending his life as he couldn't find any good way to live. He used to miss his parents and would cherish those moments of happiness with them.

One day, being tired of his miserable life, Alhaadi skipped his school and made up his mind to give up his life. So he went near a sea shore to end it. Suddenly, when Alhaadi decided to jump, he noticed a huge dragon was drowning inside the sea. Alhaadi went to save that dragon from being drowned. He tried every possible way he could and finally was successful in saving the dragon. The dragon's wings were hurt and were bleeding quite badly, so Alhaadi took the dragon on a cart and decided to keep her in the store room. Alhaadi brought medicines and cured the dragon's wings.

Therefore each and every day, immediately after completing his work, Alhaadi would come to visit the dragon and would feed her properly. This continued for some days and finally one day when the dragon was fully cured, she was waiting for Alhaadi to come into the store room.

As soon as Alhaadi entered, the dragon grasped him and asked, "Who are you? Why did you bring me here? What do you want from me?"

Alhaadi replied, "I have nothing to do with you, I just saved you



from drowning inside the sea. Your wings were badly injured, so I thought of bringing you here and trying to cure you."

The dragon named Syrax, then being able to understand, apologised Alhaadi for being so rude with him at first. She became friendly with him and said, "Thank

you Alhaadi for saving my life."

Alhaadi then asked Syrax, of the place she lived and how did her wings get hurt. Syrax said she lives in a forest named Kaya where her whole family stays together and she got hurt while saving a little baby from an evil dragon named Zurden.

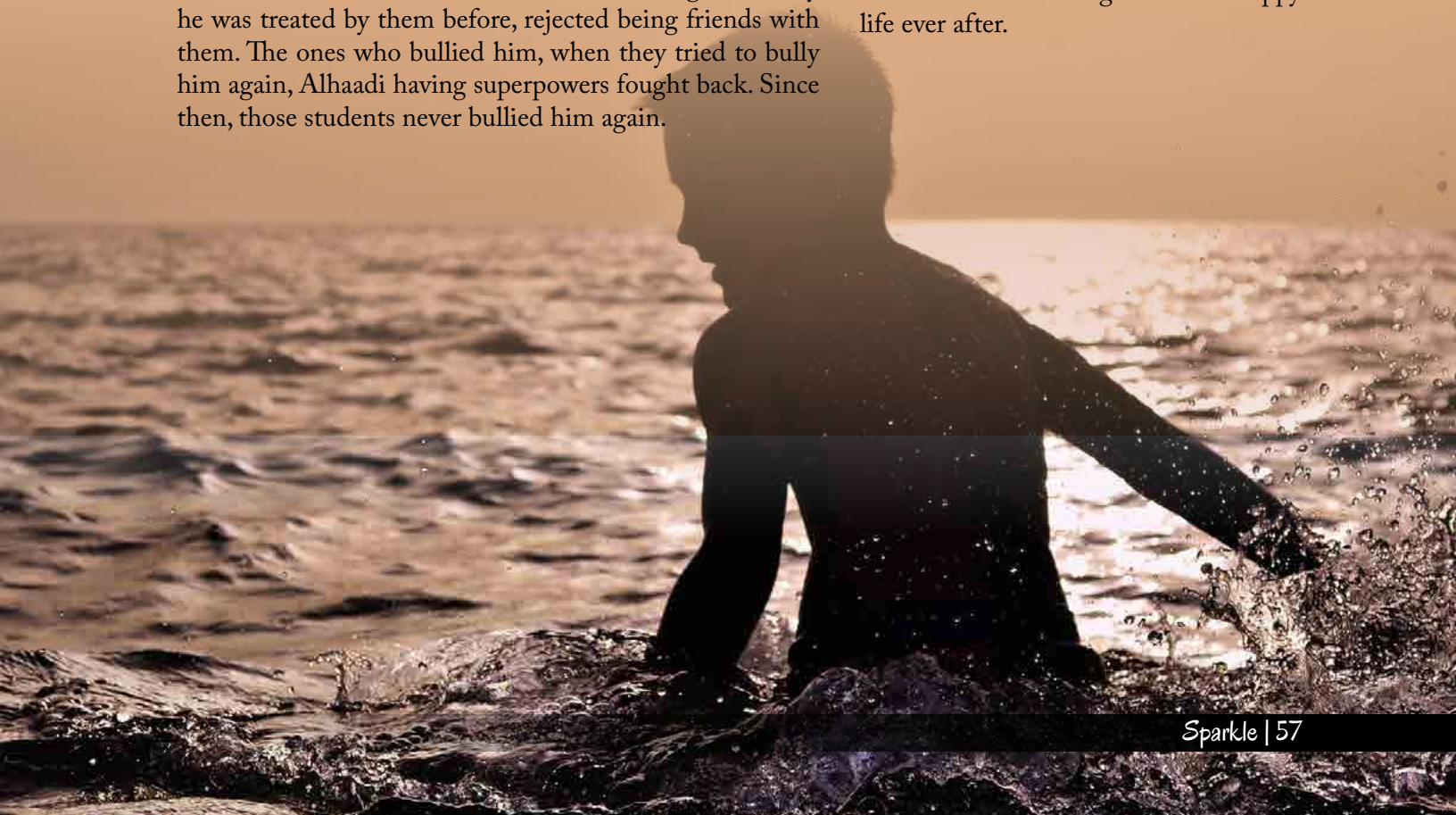
Syrax was properly cured now, so she took Alhaadi to her forest and showed her family to him and where she lived. As time passed by, Syrax and Alhaadi became good friends. Alhaadi told Syrax about his miserable life and if she would not be there in the sea, he would have ended his life that day. Syrax felt sorry for Alhaadi and came to know how miserable his life was.

One day when Syrax came to meet Alhaadi, she saw how badly Alhaadi's aunt and uncle beat him. Syrax got angry, so she came to save Alhaadi from them and warned Alhaadi's uncle and aunt by saying, "Don't you dare try to hurt him or else I will injure you both." Alhaadi's uncle and aunt, being frightened, ran away from Syrax. Syrax had many superpowers, therefore she made Alhaadi look the most handsome boy and gave some powers to him by which he could fight back if anyone would try to hurt him.

The next day, when Alhaadi went to school, everyone was surprised by his look. Most of the students then wanted to become friends with him. But Alhaadi, realizing how badly he was treated by them before, rejected being friends with them. The ones who bullied him, when they tried to bully him again, Alhaadi having superpowers fought back. Since then, those students never bullied him again.

Now, Alhaadi's uncle and aunt were not able to mistreat him anymore as they were frightened by Syrax and experienced how Alhaadi would fight back if they tried to hurt or mistreat him. Since then Alhaadi was no more pressurized with household works and got sufficient time for his studies. After some years he got admitted to a good University for his further studies. Alhaadi made some new friends and was happy enough to study there.

Alhaadi's life suddenly changed from terrible to a happy life just because of Syrax. Syrax and Alhaadi now roamed different places and always helped each other in every situation. Alhaadi frequently visited Syrax's family and enjoyed having a quality time with them. Alhaadi was very happy with his life and he had every reason to live in this world. He then realized how he should never give up and fight against every difficulty. Alhaadi told Syrax that he was lucky enough to get a friend like her. Alhaadi and Syrax's friendship remained forever and Alhaadi lived a good and a happy life ever after.



The First Kind



Manshika Kaur
6th Sem, English Honours

"3048, 3049, 3050! Don't you get tired Leo?!"

"Should I?" He laughed.

"Well just because you're stronger and are buffed up to your core, you don't have to show off. I'll do more than you someday", smiled Rio.

Both the twin brothers then sprinted off for a race in the forest.

As they talked to the wind, one could hear the twinkle beneath their bare feet and witness the sight of fireflies around the forest at dusk, struggling to catch up with them. Leo recklessly and effortlessly was closing in on his victory. He almost won when Rio activated his wind spirit. The wind howled along with him as he boosted off and crossed the finish line before Leo. "You cheated!" complained Leo. "Isn't it time you get your powers, brother?" asked Rio innocently. Leo cursed him and ran back to the orphanage.

The Christian orphanage in the Gorgeo village was a loving home for special kids with powers. They were loved and cared for under the elder Sister and the



High Priest. They lived on just plain rice and water scarcely. Ration was difficult to get since the market beyond the forest was filled with demons who fed on human souls. It wasn't necessary to kill humans if they wanted their soul but the demons killed them anyway just for fun. The kids knew about it and continued to train themselves in order to protect each other. "Rio, look! I can finally make these stones float", exclaimed the 4 year old Mini. Rio patted her head and smiled at her.

"Rio, Leo, did you both run off into the forest again?!" screamed Sister. The twins were the eldest in the orphanage. They were the most reckless too, but caring at the same time. All the other children had powers with them but none of them had a spirit except Rio. The twins had made a vow to make the orphanage a better place to live in and to provide good education and food to the rest.

Leo drew out his arms towards a few leaves, stared at them hard and started quivering his hands. "C'mon! Lift up!" he grumbled. The leaves didn't move. He shouted in frustration and felt hopeless. Leo was almost 18 now but he hadn't gotten any powers yet. He didn't really care a lot about this but Rio always kept pushing him. He wanted to protect his orphanage and was almost on the verge of giving up. "Don't worry brother. You'll get your powers soon", Rio came up from behind. Leo scoffed and said, "Huh! Easy to say, for the person being chosen by a rare spirit. Just yesterday, there was the news of some demons devouring souls in the neighboring village. Powers are not my cup of tea. I'll just destroy them with my bare hands when they come. Haiyaaa!" He imitates a karate move.

Leo knew that he was no match to others who were blessed with powers but he tried his best to fit in. "No doubt you're strong brother, but what are you going to do when they use their magic to bind you with an invisible rope? How will you use your hands or legs then?"

"You are there to save me, if that happens", replied Leo innocently. "Keep practicing your powers on the leaves", said Rio casually and walked out. The next month went on, as Rio

pestered his brother and while he reluctantly tried to manifest his power. By this time, the news of the demons nearing the Gorgeo village had already spread. Under the guidance of the High Priest, the children were improving their use of powers and were almost fully trained in case they had to fight.

On a usual training day, Leo once again tried to move the leaves in his room. The leaves started to levitate slowly and steadily. Leo's joy knew no bounds and he burste into big smiles but then heard a click and the leaves fell down. He snapped his head towards the door to find a couple of 14 year olds doing the job for him. They started laughing at his foolishness which angered Leo with every passing second. "Give up already Leo! You're useless and you'll never be able to protect the orphanage", said one of them. Leo felt the rage inside him bubbling up ready to culminate. His hands started trembling violently and it took everything in him to not beat the hell out of them. "Are you scared to fight Leo? C'mon show me the strength of your strong arms or have you lost that too?" said the same kid and the group started laughing again.

Leo clenched his fists and his nose started flaring. It was enough for him and he attempted an attack. Before he could charge, the group together used their powers to lift Leo up in the air and he was left struggling to break free. Leo started cursing on them and his own self because he now felt truly helpless despite having an excellent physical strength. He felt restless but he did not give up. His rage kept on increasing as he struggled to break free.

Hell broke out when he finally vented his frustration and a mysterious shadow busted out of his chest forming a silhouette of a dragon with horns and wings behind him. Leo broke free. The kids couldn't believe the scene in front of them. They started crying and trembling with fear when they saw Leo on the ground with speckles of flame surrounding his frame, the devilish dragon silhouette still behind him and his mouth hosting a smirk. It was as though he had been possessed. The kids ran out of the room crying hysterically and breaking the news to everyone. As soon as the kids vanished, Leo went back to normal at once and fainted.

The High Priest laughed as the children told



him what they saw and said, "I know you all bully him but don't just go around making absurd stories". Rio heard the news too but chose to ignore it. Leo woke up after a few minutes and assumed everything that happened had been a dream. The next day Leo decided to ask Rio to duel with him in the forest so that he could improve himself. Rio decided to go easy on him and attacked with minimal power which Leo managed to dodge and endure easily. After a few more attacks, Leo said, "Why are you holding back on me? Are you making fun of me? I work as hard as any of you! C'mon fight me properly". Rio gave him a slight smile and apologized. He then gathered all his power into one strong wind force and charged it towards Leo and in the course of dodging it, Leo's hand accidentally touched the power and it dissipated at once.

The twins felt silent. Rio's eyes went wide and Leo was left with his mouth hanging. He looked at his hands in disbelief, and then quietly asked Rio to try it again. When Rio attacked him, the same thing happened again, for the next five times. Leo then started crying and exclaimed, "I got my powers! I finally got them!"

Rio still didn't believe it but was happy for Leo. Out of excitement, he tried to test his powers and attempted to lift a few leaves. When nothing happened after a lot of tries, the twins concluded that Leo had the ability to just nullify magic but he couldn't perform any powers.

The twins, along with a few older kids, decided to go to the hills to train themselves. During training, Rio suggested Leo use some weapons since he doesn't have any powers to attack with. Leo tried using various weapons but the only thing that suited him was a sword. He started training with it but after some time, he realized that he was getting nowhere with this training. He just had the power to defend, not attack. Therefore, every night Leo sneaked out to practice and improve his skills. While everyone slept, he worked hard on his swordsmanship. One night, as he was burning the midnight oil by flicking his sword again and again with force, he started getting frustrated. He thought to himself, "What can I do to be stronger? Why am I so weak? Why don't I have the power to attack?"

With that last word, as he flicked his sword, it suddenly turned black. Before Leo could even blink his eyes, the sword turned normal again. He decided to bring it back so he closed his eyes, relaxed his mind and concentrated hard. As soon as he opened them, the sword had turned black again. Leo was excited to see what the sword could do.

The next day when he tested the weapon in duels with the rest, he discovered that the sword was nullifying the powers it was coming in contact with.



Soon, all of them realised that Leo can transmit his power to any weapon he holds.

After almost three months of training, everyone returned back to the orphanage only to witness a horrifying scene in front of them. They saw that their home was a wreck and everyone was dead. The kids, the elder sister, the High Priest were lying on the floor lifeless. The entire floor was covered with blood. The twins and the older kids with them broke down in tears and were filled with rage at the same time. Clearly this was the work of the demons. Seeing the blood of their siblings has now filled them with an unknown determination to kill every last demon. They were all set and ready to take their revenge as they headed towards the market beyond the forest.

The demons were in their usual routine of killing and consuming souls. They had a monster-like appearance. Some were three-eyed, some four and some with just one. It was heard that there was an army of lesser demons, superior graded demons and finally their master who could curse humans. They could also summon each other through their minds.

Rio, Leo and others quietly managed to reach the central area of the market and were soon discovered. One of the demons smirked and said, "We were waiting for you, Rio." The twins had a shock on their face when they took Rio's name. "Don't look so shocked. Rio is the only human with a spirit inside of him. So naturally our master wants his soul to uplift his magic. Why do you think he accompanied us to find Rio? When he didn't get what he wanted, he killed everyone just to throw a tantrum," said another one-eyed demon as he summoned his master with his mind.

During that time, the older kids brought as many humans they could to safety from the market. "Why don't you call your pathetic master up front then?" smirked Rio. "You lowly human! How dare you address me like that?!" growled a huge, bulky, six-eyed figure from behind. "Let's start then, shall we?" announced Rio with confidence. The ultimate war began.

With a little gesture of the master's hand, the lesser and graded demons already present there attacked them. One of the older kids lifted a lamp-post and threw it at the lesser ones since they had no power while the others used powers of fire and reflection to divert the enemy's powers back at them. The graded demons used

dark magic to bind their legs and hands which Leo tried his best to nullify with his anti-magic sword.

The kids were getting injured and the graded monsters were becoming too much to handle for the twins. As they struggled to fight, Rio activated his spirit and his eyes turned electric blue. The wind started howling and as he closed his eyes, and a pair of snow coloured wings appeared from his back.

His forehead got surrounded by a majestic golden crown and he had produced a sword in his hand. His entire appearance was that of a wind spirit. He lifted everything around high up in the air and flew towards the demons with an unimaginable force leaving the lesser demons dead and the graded ones unconscious. The market had now become a battlefield full of dead demons. This angered the master but he, still proud, now started mocking Rio.

He said in a jest, "Did you know how much I enjoyed killing your family? Ohh, your dear Sister was begging and crying me to spare their lives. You know how much I love hearing helpless cries, don't you Rio?" Rio's rage was building with every word. He looked down and clenched his fists and shouted angrily, "You monster!"

With this sentence, the entire surrounding was turbulent. The sky turned dark and the wind was blowing fiercely. "Those pathetic fools were no match for me. Seeing them asking for mercy gave me pleasure. Ohh and the little Mini asked me to give you a message before dying. She said she loved you. How touching!" said the six-eyed, dramatically. By now, Rio's rage made him completely lose his mind. He wasn't aware of what he was doing when he started shaking and soon dark clouds appeared along with thunder and lightning. Almost five tremendous tornadoes started forming at a deathly speed, one of which surrounded the master. Leo decided to help him and slash his sword on the six-eyed, which was proving completely useless. He soon realised that he had a limit and that he's only getting in Rio's way. He cursed himself for not being able to perform any power.

The master demon shouted in frustration as he struggled in Rio's tornado. "I cannot be defeated by this inferior child," he whispered breathlessly. Leo again tried to slash his sword through the tornado which added to an advantage for the demon and he escaped through the little space crawling weakly. Leo cried out in horror when he saw the six-eyed devouring the subdued graded demons in order to strengthen its power. He buffed up and sharp nails emerged from his fingers. He stood there mightily as he boasted, "I've reached the pinnacle of the demon race. Defeating me is out of the question now." The twins took a few steps back and their faces went pale but Rio wasn't done yet.

The demon quadrupled the size of his original body and used his curse power which had now become stronger on Rio. "Kill yourself," he whispered. Rio closed his eyes with his sword in front of him and started deflecting the curse with all his might. By this time the demon started laughing at his state, distracted from the attack Leo attempted from the side. The demon deflected it and continued to charge towards Leo which kept him busy. His curse power weakened a tad and Rio took this advantage to attack with everything in him. He jumped and brought his sword forward to cut through the body but before he could even touch it, the demon effortlessly pierced his fingernails straight through Rio's chest.

There was complete silence as Rio with blank expression looked down to witness his condition. He didn't even have time to close his eyes when the demon threw him across the ground. Leo fell down on his knees with his mouth open and his eyes full of tears. Leaving his sword he ran towards his brother and took him in his arms.

"Rio?" Leo whispered and the only reply he got was "I'm sorry I wasn't able to protect you and the others," stammered Rio. "Did you see that?! He should have never challenged me. Your brother was a lowly and pathetic fool. I'm so powerful now that I don't even need his damn spirit. I'll just take pleasure seeing him dead now," laughed

the demon.

Soon, Leo's cries died down and his body went cold. The air started getting heavy and an unnatural aura was emanating around him. His back was facing the monster and he looked like a stone as the ground started shaking. Leo then got up and turned his head slightly towards the demon. "You went too far," he said with an emotionless face. As the words left his mouth, his body started having a beastly transformation where every muscle became prominent and his skin turned white. Strange ancient markings started appearing on his back and with that, a pair of black featherless wings popped out. The master squinted his eyes as he said to himself, "I've seen those markings somewhere…." Leo started trembling in pain as his hands clutched his head tightly, he bent forward and screamed at the top of his lungs.

After a few seconds, he lifted his head only for the six-eyed to see a pair of black twisted horns. The master was perplexed at the scene before him and started questioning Leo's devil-like transformation. "No matter what you become, I'd still defeat you kid," he growled. Leo now turns fully to face his enemy. He wasn't aware of what was happening to him nor did he care about it. All he could see was revenge for his brother and his home. His eyes turned reddish black as he slowly proceeded towards the demon. The six-eyed huffed and paced for an attack when Leo opened his hand and his sword caught to him at once. He then swiftly cuts one of the demon's arms before the demon could even touch him.

Still proud, the six-eyed started laughing and said, "Do you think your mere sword can cut my arm? It's going to regenerate. I'm invincible!" 10 minutes passed and the monster started sweating when there was no regeneration. He exclaimed, "Magic nullification!" He closed his eyes and soon it was clear that he had summoned an entire army of lesser demons who were nearing Leo for an attack from behind. Leo's face, still blank, casually looked up, took a deep breath and flicked his sword to the ground with force. That massive force travelled with an improbable speed, annihilating every last demon.

Trembling with fear, the master demon now remembered the markings. They represented the markings of the first ever devil from whom their demon race originated. These markings are carved in their demon temple where they worshipped their first kind. "But… how? How can the devil possess a lowly human and not me?" stammered the six-eyed. "I don't know what you're talking about nor do I care", said Leo. Leo's entire body was covered with blood of his own because this form was too much for him but his eyes just reverberated death. Finally, with everything he had, Leo took a leap and slashed the master demon in half from head to toe. With that one last attack, he came back to his own self and fainted.

"Look! Leo's opening his eyes!" said a voice. Leo opened his eyes to his siblings who he thought were lost between the fight and some unknown adults as well. The kids told him that they brought him and Rio to a nearby small village. Leo turned gloomy at the sound of his brother's name. "Look who got stronger than me," a sound came from afar. Leo looked up to find an injured but alive Rio. He ran to hug him and broke down in tears. "I thought you were dead! How are you alive?" asked Leo. Rio placed his hand to his heart and said, "Well, it seemed like the wind spirit didn't want me dead yet. It helped me revive again."

The twins then worked hard for years to restore the Gorgeo village. They also rebuilt their orphanage and continued to train themselves to ensure peace so that no one has to go through this kind of suffering again.



Isn't it Sprouting?



Marsom Lepcha
4th Sem, M.A. English Honours

It is in the month of autumn, a comforting evening around 8.15 pm, under the full moon, the sky looks tender, clear and loaded with its gems. I observe, brood certain things from an open playground, while flying fireflies also spy on the process. I stayed a little longer than usual and eventually, I proceeded to return home and on my way father spotted me and asked me "Where have you been Vincent?" "Nowhere papa, I was having conversation with my spiraling friends." Father asks surprisingly "were they in numbers?" They arrive in great numbers, the golden lights peeping out from another universe. It's a jubilant way to share the condition of my mind, because they never resent, they just listen and forget.

(Let's wind the clock back twelve days earlier.)

After brunch; my father works in our small garden beside the front yard of our house to make it grow, which also includes Mushroom cultivation. In our tiny square store room, usually used for the two wheeler parking, all we need is warm darkness, and plenty of water, a favorable environment. I also joined him. Father asked me with a heavy breath "Vincent I never asked you to assist me to do such work, why on the earth did you drop in?" I respond politely "Since not doing much individually, thought to contribute my time here as well, more likely as idle diversion." "Ah! wonderful. Then hold the spray bottle, let's pour water on mushroom" father says. "Papa, aren't we making a mistake by spending time on it? According to the guidelines written in the seed's packet, ideally it starts sprouting after 2 weeks but it's been almost a month and we are still pouring water on it. Perhaps we lacked a favorable environment for seeds to grow, isn't it better to use our time and energy in different objects? "Patience my dear son. Patience. Lets not indulge in any debate, though your doubts are reasonable, let's go on, as it already snowed under my other works, after all, delaying isn't a denial. Keep pouring."

For certain I felt it's worthless and adding that assumption it's hard to alter one's ripe mind. So having lofty doubts and ambiguous perception in my mind, I assisted my father for the following seven days. Nothing changed, I could not see any signs of germination, "Oh! What a waste, I am dwelling in."

Next day said, 9.30 am, my father in a notable, affectionate disposition, "Vincent, have a look, something didn't act according to your desire." Particularly I didn't get it, he takes me to store room, and pointing finger towards plastic bags of mushroom, he asked me "Isn't it sprouting?" For the time being silence covered the occasion; I tried not to believe but no option left. For the first time, I didn't feel ashamed to be wrong.

A voice echoed: "We did it, Vincent we did it," though a small incident, it shook my mind!

Present day, a comforting evening around 8.15. Father astonishingly asks: "So you've been talking about these stars! Well, time for dinner champ!"

"Papa, I am still finding it hard to believe about the sprouting mushrooms. Shall I consider it a miracle or just a coincidence?"

Father ponders for a while and responds, "my dear son, it's not only our part to follow all the solemn duties and of course to concede, whatever life offers us, but rather focusing on the diverse approach. Brushing off allusions of projecting future achievements and failures at the present, instead focus on being honest to your stable and composed approach. I must admit my experience, my boy! The deserving possibilities will find the way with the fullest. Never do mind and that's how it's done Vincent. Say goodbye to your mysterious but shining friends, a warm meal has been served on the table, waiting for our presence."

The boy asked "what's on the menu?" A grin rises from father's face, while he keeps his arms gently to his shoulder and replies "mushrooms, dear."

The Fan C Star



Anik Sarkar
Assistant Professor
Department of English

By the time the birds stopped their ominous circling around the sky, it was almost dusk. At one moment it seemed as though it was all planned - the black insignia recurring high up, with each orbiting motion of wings. Ronie moved his eyes downward, toward the tainted door that stood a few feet away from him. Between them - right on the sidewalk, lay a puddle. Water-filled and not yet muddied - it was refurbished by an unexpected late-noon shower. He could try seeing his face glaring on the clean puddle or he could choose the reflecting door. But his face plopped on the screen through the app's camera, as he tidied the strands of wayward hair. The same social app that had landed him a job interview, he was about to face in a while.

He remembered how the mail arrived quicker than anticipated. It blinked on the status tray while he was casually lying with his back pushed against the wall, scrolling past the endless list of sneakers on Amazon. He dragged down the notification bar in a whisker of a moment and tapped on the mail, his pupils magnetised on the amoled. A rush of elation charged the fluids running inside him, as though it wasn't Ronie anymore but an undercover coder who had just been hired by Google for a sum of two million dollars. Even if it was for a split second, he could feel the twin helix of anxiety and excitement curling within; something that he felt many years ago, waiting for his board results when the server was slow. But to a much lesser degree compared to what he was currently feeling.

"Dear Ronie," it said. "You have been shortlisted amongst millions of aspirants, in your step to become an official FanC Star. We have been following your channel closely and since you have won the bigger race already, there is a final step that still remains. The conditions are attached to this mail along with the agreement letter. If you are willing, please do the needful and send it back – signed.

We shall be waiting.
Keep that flame burning!
Team FanC"

The door opened suddenly, alarming him. A straight faced woman emerged from within, looking to the sides and then with a sharp, inward motion, she gestured toward a waiting Ronie to follow her inside the faintly lit corridor. Conscious of himself, his body stiffened as he heeded in, bowing underneath the thin arm of the woman who held the door open.

The corridor wasn't as slim as it seemed from outside. It was wide enough to comfortably fit a church organ. The door shut behind him as abruptly as it opened and his hands, still stiff, with fingers clubbed in front, let off an impression that he was uneasy. But no one seemed to be witnessing all these. The corridor only sheltered two potted house plants on wooden stools and a maroon wall-to-wall mat.

The woman behind him followed quietly, walking in measured steps. A sharp heel plucked on the floor, every second - as meticulous as a machine. Ronie could see the reflection of her purple close-fitting dress on the large brass pots. He couldn't help notice how well groomed she appeared even on an uneven surface. Perhaps everyone here, including the employees had to follow a strict protocol when it came to style and body maintenance. He did not mind as he liked working under stress.

It did him good.

"To the door on your left please," said the soft dovelike voice behind him. Ronie glanced at the direction to see a dark brown mahogany door. The board on it carried the company's logo embedded in a grey panel, encircled by the black insignia he seemed to notice on the sky - just as how it appeared on the app. He faintly knocked on the door at first and followed it with a louder tap, turning the knob as soon as a rotound voice permitted him entry, from within.

Inside, a man decked in a reddish suit studied him as he stepped in.

"Please," said the man, pointing to a tulip chair. Seeing how Ronie was scanning the office - perhaps a little flushed, he spoke in a tone of assurance, "Don't be surprised by the hideous nature of our office. It is just a regional centre of FanC. You should visit our headquarters in Delhi. It will put Antilia to shame. And with your prospects, I am sure you will have the chance very soon." Saying so, his lips widened to a smile, appearing like a squeezed lemon between the index and thumb.

Ronie smiled too. He knew how the app worked. Not many were aware of the tricks he had uncovered over the course of time. With a single post, he could amass hundreds of views in seconds. Was he addicted to it? Or is obsession the word? He did not understand the difference. And right then, he didn't care. He finally made it.

FanC now has regional centres in almost all districts. They have themed cafés. The company recently opened a store near his apartment, which sells FanC merchandise: t-shirts and mugs with the photos of FanC stars, FanC instant noodles and FanC soda. They also held FanC meets and live concerts every month. Everyone he knew was addicted to FanC. It was appalling.

"So, are you ready to become a sensation? Your entire day will be streamed live, now on. Only for your premium subscribers," he winked. "From the daily schedule: your chores, wardrobe arrangement, down to shopping and even when you sleep. You will be given a FanC suite of your own! There will be cameras in every corner of your rooms. From the bedroom, to the kitchen, dining, the workspace and your viewers will also be able to see you shoot your videos from scratch. Isn't that exciting?"

Ronie thought for a while. This was something new. He hadn't considered it before. He remembered how painful it was to shoot the perfect video. His gallery was filled with takes and retakes. And apart from that, the hundreds of 'trial and error' it involved. His premium viewers would be able to see that he was not as flawless as he appeared on his channel. That he too forgot his lines, he missed his steps, he fumbled and quite often, he was not even satisfied with his OOTD! Some days, he can be too picky. Other days, it could be a poor color combination that he will rectify after having shot the video.

But wasn't this the life he had been dreaming of? He knew very well that although everyone has the option to make a video, not all of them can become a FanC pro. Even if the app's tagline promises: "Your window to stardom".

Perhaps once in a while, a video or two can go viral but that's it. He had proven that he could do better than a 72-hour fame. In fact, he was one in a million. He worked day and night to reach this level: he bought subscribers using his dad's credit card and even dropped out of college. He couldn't abandon an opportunity of a lifetime. His hesitation waned.

* *

One night when he was unable to sleep, Ronie recalled the moment he screamed at Neha for labeling the FanC apartments, as a prison-house.

He had always felt Neha was less than successful as a star. She complained about the low quantity meals that they were offered to maintain their figures. How food delivery apps did not work on their phones and the fact that no one was allowed to eat outside. She made a fuss once about the long training hours and workshops every day, which she said was "draining their mental health."

She dared to appeal to the headquarters, on the constant surveillance over every second of their lives. She was crazy to think that they had cameras planted inside the washrooms too. *She is surely losing her mind!* Ronie thought to himself.

He glanced at the clock. It was 3 am. The night vision cameras were on. He wondered which parts of the world was he being streamed in. Perhaps somewhere in Oklahoma or maybe in Tuscany. He had a lot of fans there. They asked him to do odd tasks now and then, but that was alright. Ronie was popular because he believed in his fandom. They made him who he was.

He decided to go online. And soon enough, thousands of fans greeted him. They had been waiting.

His gold subscriber sent him a 10 point credit. It came with a task: "Play the song *Tere Bina Zindagi*.. and dance with a cat."

Ronie laughed. He said, he "ain't gonna do it for just 10 creds."

The points doubled. Now it was 20.

Ronie shook his head.

The credit points shot up to 100.

Ronie's eyes sparkled.

"You see," said Ronie, "To afford a star, your payments have to stack up to the moon."

"You ain't no star. You are a slave. You dance at my command. You sing when I ask you to. You wore a horse-head last week reciting ring-a-ring-a-rosies and licked fruit jam off your toe. You think you are some kind of a personality? LOL. You are insane."

The comments were filled with the laugh emoji. They jeered and teased Ronie. Some call him a low-life. Others said, he was a nutcase.

Ronie couldn't believe his eyes. He felt devastated.

"Shut up. All of you. I am leaving."

Going offline on his channel, he sat quietly on the bed for a while. Then he looked up at the night cam. The green light was still blinking. It was live… as always.

Ronie searched for his recent viral video on WeTube to feel better. The one where he wore a horse mask on the subscribers' request and read a poem.

It had over 10 lakh views. He decided to read the comments.

"Idiot"

"What a fool"

"What is this generation up to! People selling their reputation to get some likes and money."

"His parents must be ashamed of him. What a loser!"

But he thought he was being cool! *People think funny is cool. What is happening?* Ronie was confused.

He decided to visit his older videos.

The comments were all the same: filled with hate, rage and disgust.

He immediately rang up the supervisor. The man who had hired him, initially.

"You are special Ronie," he said. "You are a clown. Your job is to do odd things. That is why you are such a hit! Don't you see? People love

watching these. You have an overwhelming fanbase!"

"But.. They don't respect me! They hate me! They vent their anger and frustrations on me."

"They still want to watch you and pay you. You matter to them!"

Ronie looked toward the camera by the mantelpiece. He had begun to understand that he exercised some power over them, even if it was twisted. He couldn't do any better, he thought. The green light blinked through the night as Ronie browsed the local pet shop's listings, looking for a camera-friendly cat.





Poetry

Picture courtesy Awaneesh Baibhav

The Sheath



Hindol Chakraborty
Assistant Professor
Department of English

I

What I love the most is a hammer.
It breaks, breaks everything. It Breaks masks.
It breaks hearts, idols. It breaks Souls
And unnecessary brains.
A hammer is an useful thing to Have.

What I love the most after a Hammer,
Is a needle.
A needle stitches, stitches Everything.
It stitches masks.
It stitches hearts. It stitches
Souls, and heads.
A needle is an useful thing to have.

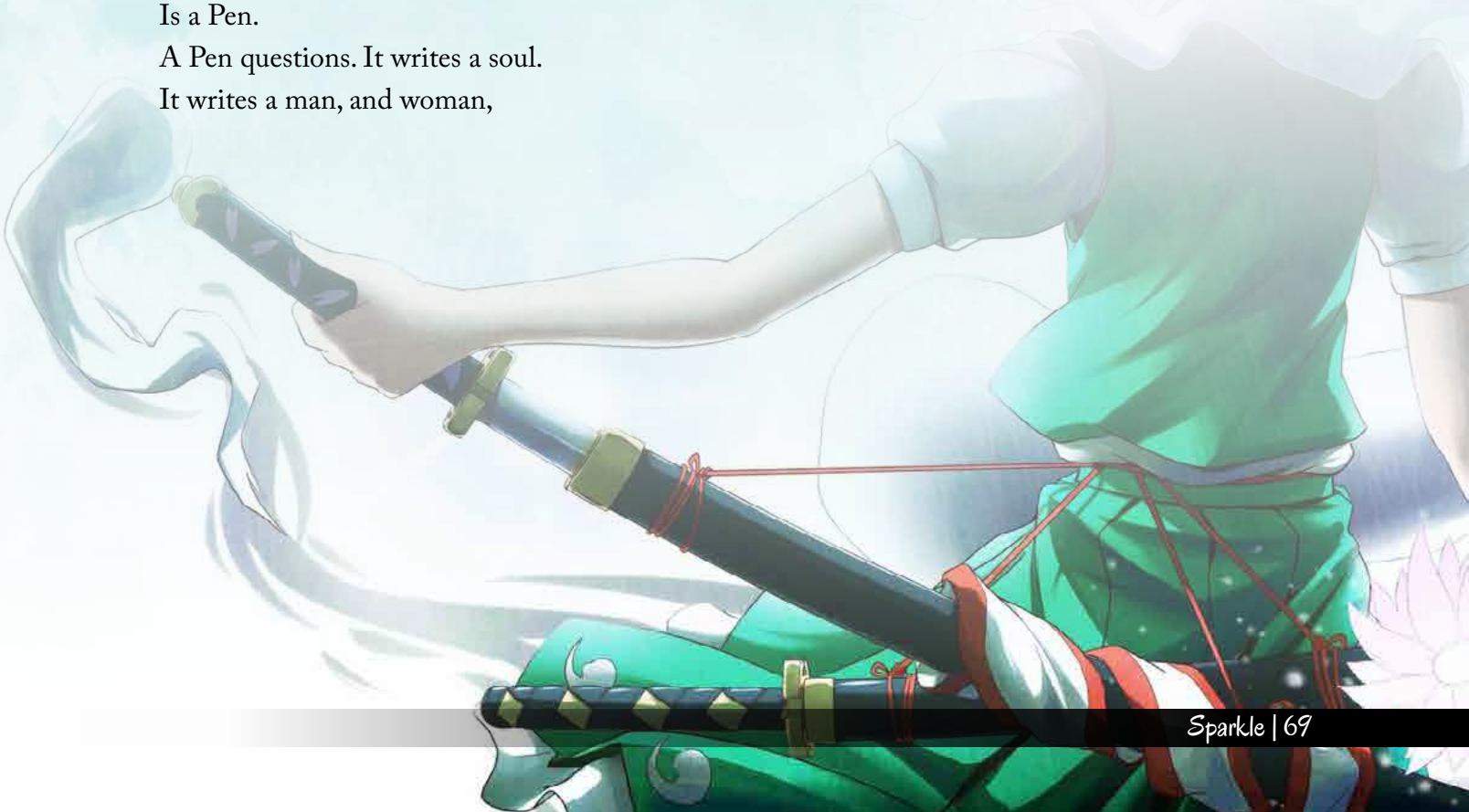
What I hate the most is a Rose.
It creates bridges. It creates souls.
It creates warmth, and compassion,
And sensuality.
A Rose is a foul thing to have.

What I hate the most after a Rose,
Is a Pen.
A Pen questions. It writes a soul.
It writes a man, and woman,
And everything.
A Pen writes Freedom. It writes the
Unknown.
A Pen is a foul thing to have.

II

A boring sunlight made me dull
After a huge rain.
A clear sky made me grey
After dark, and unsuccessful hours
With myself.

You spoke the truth, I denied.
You spoke the lie, I denied.
You asked me why.
I replied, "I have a sheath full of... "



Dyslexia



Sakshi Karki
2nd Sem, English Honours

I want to read every book, I want to read all of the classics, the Pulitzer Prize winners, the national bestsellers, the undiscovered contemporaries before their novels are turned into movies I want to write notes in the margins of pages with thought provoking insight, character motives and plot devices I want to read every single book on my bookshelf but it might just take me a little longer because the words seem to twist and turn and somehow change.

It started in the third standard, heard her voice say "READ THIS PARAGRAPH" I took the book in my hand, started to read it took me five times longer my tears oh I mean peers started to look at me all weird I couldn't understand my heart started racing, hands shaking, face turned red, I couldn't understand the words seem to flip and I seem to say something else, fumbling shaking somehow making it through the paragraph I couldn't believe it took me so long, I didn't understand.

There was only one teacher who tried to understand, bought a guitar and sang ABC till the end, repeated it till I understood in the green garden we spent our afternoons.

The doctor says, "no medicine has yet been found but exercise is key," so I stretch my arms out, look at my thumb "concentrate! No don't move your neck but follow the thumb with your eyes," he says.

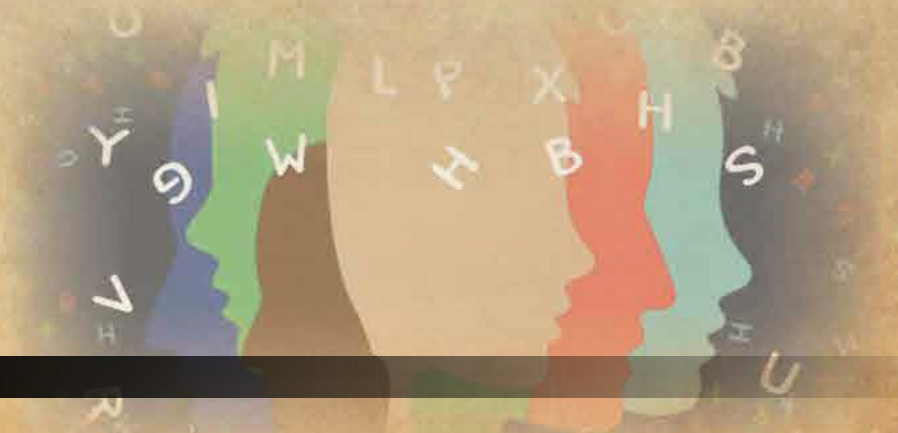
Well it's been nine years and it hasn't helped.

Certain letters are backwards and others change, some dance some talk but I can never understand what they want. Certain words loose letters and others add letters. It's always been theirs never there not yours but you're, it all sounds the same but speels oh I mean spells different. I never seem to decode phonetics I always substitute words and sometimes even skip letters and words while reading I seem to make the same mistake speling oh I mean spelling mistake in the same paragraph again and again let's just say scrabble isn't my game.

Pity me I can't spell des-lex-sia (dyslexia) itself.

All the words crash into each other, I rub my eyes, clear my throat and try again for the fifth time in the same line I hear a voice "YOU NEED TO LEARN TO FOCUS," then I sigh.

Know that it doesn't come from a place of ignorance or attitude I really tried it will just take me a little longer to finish because the words seem to twist and turn and somehow change



The Wave Scintillates



Anirban Barua
6th Sem, Education Honours

Yet the wave transcends you.
When the robust agonies of life afflicts
Surpassed by the core intrinsic fortitude,
Fortitude of which one says is vibrant meaning.

Yet the wave transcends you.
When the trouble of existential crisis befogs
Aided by Locke's revelation to character,
Character of which one says is relentless discipline.

Yet the wave transcends you.
When the peculiarities of randomness puzzles
Cleared by the grand universal design of chaos,
Chaos of which Jung says is secret order.

Yet the wave transcends you.
When the unconscious seriousness of thinking distorts
Healed by the eternal territory of silence,
Silence of which one says is disregarded communication.

Yet the wave transcends you.
When the inflated hustle for success fails
Humbled by inevitable paradox of failure,
Failure of which one says is perennial guide.



Broken Glass!!



Ahana Maji
2nd Sem, English Honours

The dispersed pieces of broken glass are vigorous... If not hoarded then the pieces will hurt... Broken pieces are the feelings... Which are lost in the illusionistic world of glass...

Stone of betrayal and lie breaks the glass... The truthful image gets blurred... The mockery of the stone fails the glass of righteousness...

A broken glass is useless... If not healed with emotions and inspirations... The dispersed pieces of broken glass can be revived if emotions heal the cracks...

Recover!

Don't let yourself get into the room of unrequited love...
Where the streak of hope too leads you to the bottomless pain...
The heaviness of unanswered aspiration prevents your happiness...
And pushes you further towards uncertainty and disconsolation...
Absurdness cannot be fought against...
But the bond between amalgamation and determination builds up the stairs towards our dreams really strong...
Destiny will lead the destined to the destination...
And the Noble Truth "God's plans benefits us the most."

Own the Sky



Aishariya Dasgupta
2nd Sem, Economics Honours

Rise like the phoenix, burn like the sun
Thy future calls thee, the battle has already begun.
Be wise and witty in life's long run
Because what is done, cannot be undone.
Make honesty your weapon, stand alone
Even in your darkest times
Put a smile on your face, but never moan.

God has made us all unique, gifted us with different talents
But it's up to us how we act, whether nervous or gallant.
Hold onto your dreams, do not let it die
Without dreams, life is like a wounded bird that cannot fly.

Make your dreams big, make your chase strong
Know your potential, know where you truly belong;
Let your sparkling personality be your shield
Unleash the truths which have been left unrevealed.

Even the impossible can be done
The toughest challenge can be won
Every time your efforts go in vain
Believe in yourself and you'll know how to rise again.

Embark on a new journey
Let your travel never end,
Keep on heading in the same direction
Though the path may sometimes bend,
If your failures dishearten you, never cry
Make the leap and own the sky.

राह तुम चलो अनंत के पार



Anirban Barua
6th Sem, Education Honours

और मत पूछो गोरे हो या काले,
जिसने तुम्हे मुझसे बाटे!
जब फिरक्ती बादले वर्ष झुमाए
और निरीह बच्चे इधर उधर लूप्तजू हो जाए।

और मत पूछो गोरे हो या काले,
जिसने तुम्हे मुझसे बाटे!
जब ज्ञान की संघार मस्तीक पर ठहराह
और मानो हर संस्कृति जो भिन्न लगे, वो अभिन्न हो जाए।

और मत पूछो गोरे हो या काले,
जिसने तुम्हे मुझसे बाटे!
जैसे कोही भ्रमित युवा अहंकार भरे मांगे इज्जत
उससे जरा पीने दो जीवन की, विनम्रता की हैसियत।

और मत पूछो गोरे हो या काले,
जिसने तुम्हे मुझसे बाटे!
जैसे प्रकाश की रेंज ने दिखाए दगाबाजी की कीमत
ए नैन इस एहसास को ना भूल जरा, यही है मेरी नियत।

The Forgotten Road



Arya Subba
2nd Sem, English Honours

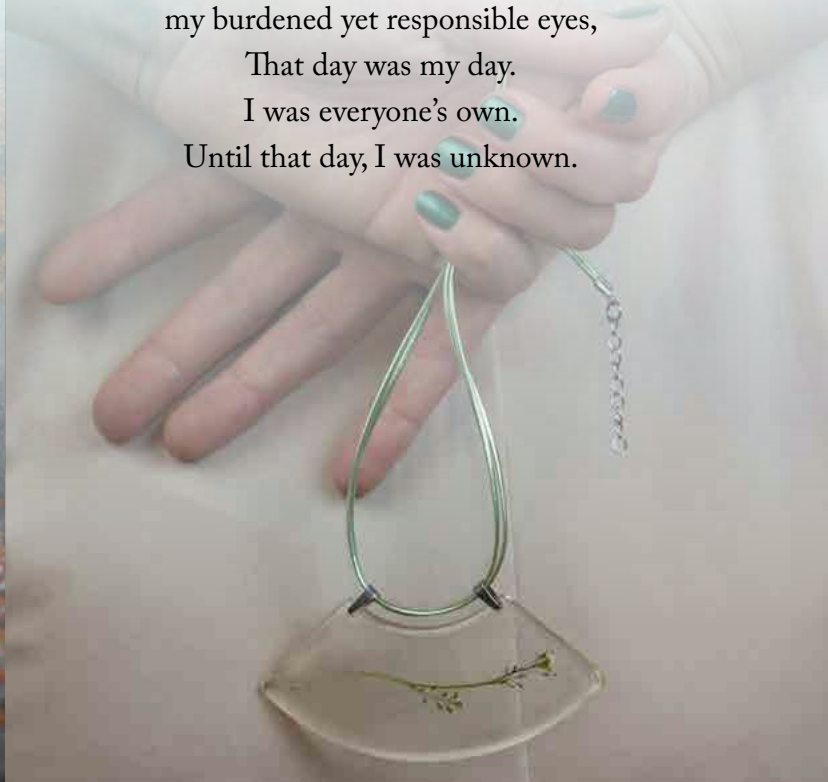
Hold my hands, let me take you down
the endless road
Take a deep breath and let go of all the
delusional thoughts of the world
Don't let the world wangle you into the
sea where millions astray
Instead join me, for too long you've been
sunk under the sea
Look out and see the broader space how
beautiful is our Earth
People under the sea seem to forget
nature's beautiful works
Let me take you away from this
consternation flung day and night
Away from the crowd and away from the
roads where the lights are in control
The road leads to a peaceful world where
nature has kissed gently
Where birds chirp in joy and the clouds
dance to it
Where the air is so pure, the air itself
breathes
Where the soul finds its destination and
everybreath in it makes the soul pure
Our ancestors, brave and rebellious, who
fought for our freedom
While us, we lay down and struggle for
the likes and comments.
Human inventions have come so far to
facilitate the daily work
But today it seems as if the devices are in
control of the living race
These devices are the ones that makes the
people drown
So walk this way where I lead you to and
abjure to the ways under the sea
Make use but do not be used by the
inventions of the modern world
After all it is the nature that rules and
each one of us has to bow down to it.

Known to the Unknown



Diksha Kafley
2nd Sem, English Honours

Until that day, I was unknown
And the day, the day, they covered me
with a pall, I was known
"Ah! She was a holy old lady."
Few weeped, "My grandmother!"
Son lamented, "My mother!"
Years being bedridden
Syringes, medicines, prescriptions, they
regarded me their pal. Crawled and
hopped to the washroom,
I belittled my hanging foot
However, pulled a spoonful of rice, Diana
assisted me live till eighty-two.
How I panicked, I lost my breath, I closed
my burdened yet responsible eyes,
That day was my day.
I was everyone's own.
Until that day, I was unknown.



Mother



Mihir Raj Limbu
2nd Sem, English Honours

The sounds of waves on a distant cove,
Reminded me of an unending love.
A love that is completely free,
But still many do not see.

Prevailing through the sounds of time,
Its purest, fairest and prime.
I didn't see this love, neither in friends nor lover,
For this feeling was only in the heart of the mother.

No matter how hard and deep was the injury,
Your soothing touch has always been the best cure.
In spite of my thousand lies,
You were always there to answer my cries.

Through the nightmares, to the toughest ride,
You always stood strongly as my shield, by my side.
But now I stand on empty roads,
Because I did not follow your words.

For you I can leave anything forever,
I will cross the mountains and rivers.
I can wait tirelessly in the longest queue,
Because 'mother', I'm lost without you.



Tangerine



Amy Karthak Lepcha
2nd Sem, M.A. English Honours

It is inscrutable and erratic
An ideal it is not,
Impeccable can never be
Undisputedly the opposite.
Its colour adhered inside my world
I added a cloud, Orange.
When it hits me
It brings me warmth
Joy by its side,
With no sense of discomfiture.
Shall I let it stay?
Or rather abandon
For the void inside
Slowly attains to get back
With delight,
Tinge and hue of tangerine.
Unable to decipher,
The feeling, the state
No approval of it staying,
Not letting it go either.
Therefore, I shall hold on
To what I have now.

Courage To Look Ahead



Marsom Lepcha
4th Sem, M.A. English Honours

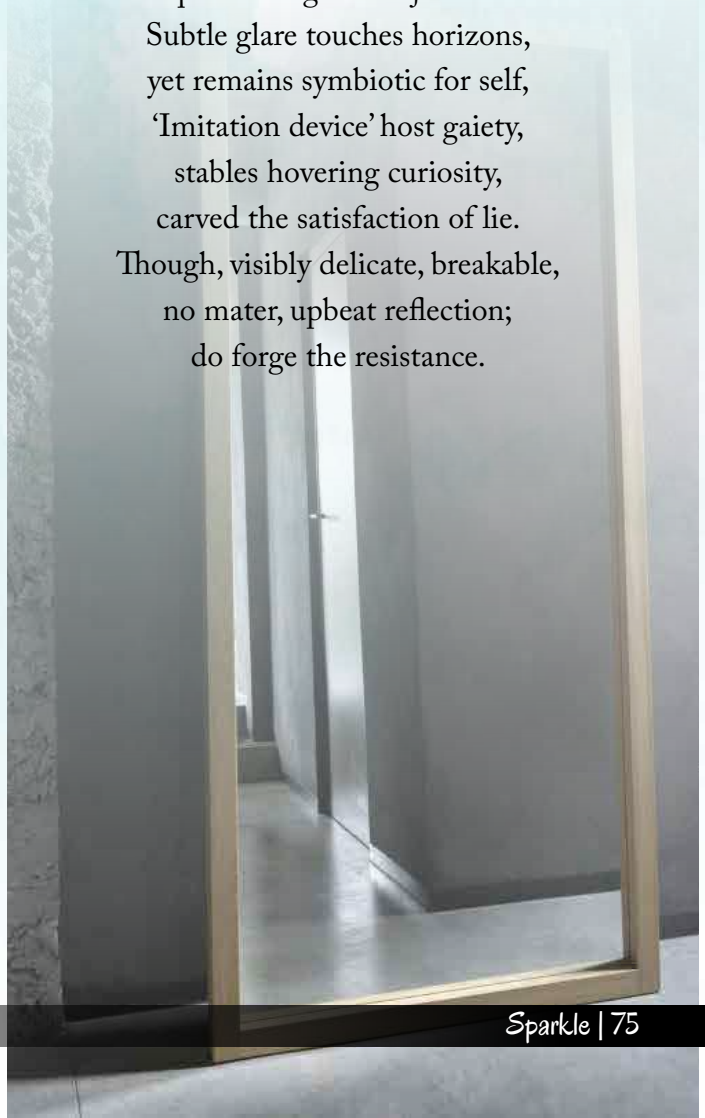
Wandered around the town,
remarkable alley, delicious awning.
Modesty blending inviting colors,
parked unyielding desires,
besides the inestimable excitement.
Biased setting,
mistreated the courage,
spaced out, lingering near void.
Ambushed crowd sympathies,
hollow pride proceeded to creep.
Reminded, just another day,
Holding the cap of resilience
Step down, from unreal allusions.
Step up, out of distressed walls,
Bitter I failed to mend.
Better I grow and progress.
Values escaped, mistaken by lad,
Be patient, pray, the man suggests.

Subtle Mirror



Marsom Lepcha
4th Sem, M.A. English Honours

Inaudible mirror,
reacts nothing but yet responds,
reveals the arduous consent,
the consent of reflection,
muses the unseen confidence.
Crack downs, often requisite,
little instant gratification.
Words fail to express usually,
the extra effort, industrious push,
'Unquestioning frame' justifies all.
Subtle glare touches horizons,
yet remains symbiotic for self,
'Imitation device' host gaiety,
stables hovering curiosity,
carved the satisfaction of lie.
Though, visibly delicate, breakable,
no mater, upbeat reflection;
do forge the resistance.



Endless Sky



Jeet Bhadra
4th Sem, B.com. Honours

You are seen in different shades;
Each as beautiful as it can be.
You are the space, you hold the clouds from which the light emerge.
You are a symbol of Hope,
Which comes in different shades.
Each as heavenly as it can be.



Ripples in Time



Mimansa Subedi
6th Sem, English Honours

Somewhere in time it got lost
Somewhere in ripples
It was not formed
Somewhere in the skyline street
Somewhere boundaries got muddled
Where dreams changed
Like a river
That changes its course
But again
Somewhere in time
It formed
Like a seedling
With hands of care and ripples of love.



When I Think About My Mom



Jhanavi Jajodia
4th Sem, B.com. Honours

Mom, Maa, Aai, Amma or Mummy
Different names but designation same.
Going through the vessel of pain,
Giving us birth and dying for our name.
Serving us all our life and standing by our side,
With no demands and no complaints.

From hearing our cries and crying for us,
To crying in silence becausAe of our rude words,
They taught us how to live,
For us and for others.

From homemakers to world leaders,
From sportsperson to entrepreneurs,
They can handle families of four,
Business, startups, politics and more.

An idol of patience and compassion,
Solutions to our problems and tension,
Given by God, a toll-free number,
The one which never goes out of order.

They are a special gift of God,
A creation away from the normal race,
An exception in herself,
A deity in humanly face.

Love them, adore them,
Care for them and stay with them,
Blessed are those to have them in life,
For many have to face their sad demise.

TO ALL THE LOVELY AND BEAUTIFUL MOTHERS!!

People aren't Homes



Meghna Lama
2nd Sem, B.com. Honours

Why did no one ever teach,
You cannot turn people into homes?
People are rivers, ever changing,
Ever flowing.
They will disappear with everything you put inside them.
Still,your home does have a heartbeat.
But it isn't one to be locked in
Anyone else's chest.
Just
Look inside
Your own.

Queens

"What is a queen without her king?"
I don't know, but let's ask
Jhansi ki Rani,
Cleopatra,
Nefertiti,
Sammuramat,
Victoria,
Elizabeth,
Amina,
Tzu-hsi and
The countless other kingless queens
Who turned mere kingdoms into
The greatest of Empires.



Like a Phenoix From the Ashes

They may defeat you,
burn you,
insult you,
injure you,
and abandon you,
but they
will not,
shall not,
and cannot
destroy you,
for you,
like Rome,
were built on ashes,
and you
like a phoenix
know how to resurrect.



The Nightmare Choir



Ninor Bhutia
2nd Sem, History Honours

I just cannot sleep,
Blinded honestly,
Forgiven prophesy,
I just cannot see,

I just wanna close my eyes,
I just cannot close my eyes,
They just wanna kill my vibe,
Promise you won't kill my vibe?

I'm just sad inside,
And I'm not satisfied,
Birds don't tell no lies,
Skulls don't start a fight,

When it's night time,
Anxiety hits the right time,
I just had a thrill chilling adrenaline rush,
Maybe it's just a curse!

If you would just be me,
Would you let your soul bleed?
Cold feet heart sweats nightmare choir,
Lone feel mind stoned null and void.

Men!



Priyanka Karmakar
2nd Sem, BBA Honours

I have seen men,
Some short and handsome,
Some are tall and dark.
Some with great personality,
Some filled with negativity.
Why do you all say, men are dogs?
Do they bark?
Some offer you a seat,
And some pull out the chair,
I saw a girl eating ice-cream,
And her man holding her disturbing hair.
Some look at your eyes,
Some look down,
Some will call you a queen with a crown!
Some with shiny hair,
Some have hair fall,
Some will ignore you,
Some will be there at your one call!
Some are clear about their goals,
Some don't know where to start,
Some are bad at expressing feelings,
Some easily open up their hearts!
Some will make you cry,
And some will wipe your tears,
Some will help you cover with saree,
And help you drape,
Some will uncover you,
Because some are morons who rape!
Because of one man who did wrong,
Will the entire group be blamed?
Because one man who broke your heart,
So, are they "dogs"? That you named?
If women are like Goddesses,
Then men are like Gods too,
Because it's equality,
As said by you!

Highway



Puja Paul
2nd Sem, English Honours

Come with me
Escape this life
Wild and free
No more strife

Let's get out of this town
Away from everyone
Who's pushing us down
Not letting us have fun

We'll drive on this road
Miles and miles
Nothing owed
And no more trials

Looking ahead
We don't have a clue
The pages unread
I'll read them with you

It will just be us
And I know what you'll say
But there's no need to fuss
Together on the highway

Always Be Mine



Rahul Pradhan
2nd Sem, English Honours

If you are my ocean,
I wish to flow.
If you are my book,
Each word I'd like to know.
If you are my rain,
I wish to get wet.
If you are my song,
I will never switch off my headset.
If you are my air,
I wish to fly.
If you will be always mine,
Nothing of yours I will ever deny.

Family Isn't Always Blood, It's a Free Will



Rajil Kumar Singhal
6th Sem, B.Com Honours

Family isn't always blood,
It's a free will,
I promise this is true.

Family are the people who,
Simply love you for you.
Family has no strings attached,
They take you as you are.
They are always there to listen,
No matter near or far.

Family gives you what you need,
Even if it's tough.
Sometimes all we need to hear,
Is that we are enough.

Family loves us when we're happy,
And even when we're sad.
They celebrate the little things,
We didn't know we had.

Family doesn't have to be your Mom or Dad;
Sometimes God gives us the people,
To fill the void we have.
They fill the voids within our hearts,
They love us to the core.
They'd do anything to see you smile;
And this is for sure.

Family gives you nice warm hugs,
Lots of advice too.
Family will drop everything,
To stop and pray for you.

Family is there by your side,
through the thick and thin.
They're always rooting on your team,
They want to see you win.

Family isn't always blood,
I'm saying this again.
It's the people that are there for you,
Until the very end...

A Girl's Life



Roshni Chhetri
2nd Sem, B.Com Honours

Before birth,
Mumma will you accept me, as nobody
wants me to live
Mumma will you fight for me, will you
make me live
Mumma I want to see the beautiful
world, will you allow me to do so
Please don't kill me ma, I m your shadow.

After her birth , dad will you accept me,
Will you love me as you love your son
Will you care, as mum care for me .

When she gets married to someone
whom she doesn't even know
Are you happy with me, as I am
Will, you love me as I started loving you,
Will you care me as I care for you
Will you accept me as your love, as I accepted you.
After giving birth to a child ,
my son, do u love me as I love u,
You're my life, am I your life?

My world rounds around you, do you care a bit for
me,
Will, you make me meet your friends as I
Introduce you to my friends,

But the answer remains same, as girlalways
sacrifice,
A girl always love, her father, brother,friend,
husband,son,
But in return she always gets a question mark?
Will they accept her?



I Miss



Saideep Chhetri
2nd Sem, English Honours

I miss
cities that I have never visited,
the books I have never read,
the hearts I have never broken,
the tears I have never shed.

I crave for the love I never got,
the thoughts I never had,
the smiles I never showed,
the person I never was.

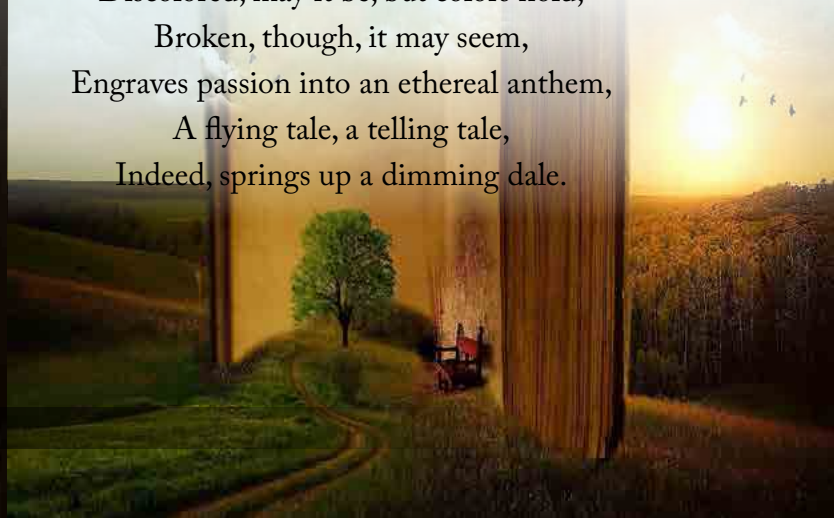


Flying Tales



Shweta Mazoomdar
2nd Sem, English Honours

A gust of mind, might be though,
Strength it may seek through,
Through all the gaps it strongly blows,
Even where the water flows,
Tales everywhere, a telling tale!
Blossoming flowers drowning the dimming dale,
The dimming dale? The shinier unshining?
The cloudily cloudy one reviving,
The singingly singing one numb,
Oh! The world defines as dumb,
The music hitting on suddenly,
Did it happen quite triggering-ly?
Sensualizing each taste,
Might it be the thought of a date?
Dancing through the mellow fields,
A telling tale! Finally yields.
The hues, the blues, might be dues...
Yet does not fail to reach the avenues,
The oscillating waves, the fulfilling behaves,
Oh! Quite the unfulfilling zigzagged-ness behold;
The colors which the waves behold;
Discolored, may it be, but colors hold,
Broken, though, it may seem,
Engraves passion into an ethereal anthem,
A flying tale, a telling tale,
Indeed, springs up a dimming dale.



Un-growing



Shweta Mazoomdar
2nd Sem, English Honours

There are certain complexities,
Entwining the mind with velocities,
Through little, tiny calibers,
Beaming through with variousness,

Piling up with sugar coating,
Ever checked the sugar bloating?
Knowingly should you end it with a ding?
Or should you let it sing?

Shivering as you reach the freeze,
Oh! Did you capture a sneeze?
While absorbing the calm breeze,
The flow too short for a tweeze.

Every flowering seed viewed,
An unflowering one thoroughly reviewed,
At times, invariably declined,
Soon to be renovated,

The red intuition coming in,
Should it be followed blinking in?



My Mummy and Daddy



Songamla Nagaleknao
2nd Sem, English Honours

Better, settler had it been.
Un-growing would accept unseen.
The first love that I received,
The first word that I learnt,
In my life: mummy and daddy.
The care that has been around me,
From the beginning of my life.
My God that I can see with my eyes.
My best teacher that teaches me the best,
And understands me the most.
My best friend in my life,
Who knows me very well.
My best lawyer, that fights for me in any situation.
My most important and precious thing in my life,
Is my mummy and daddy.



The Dream



Soni Kumari
2nd Sem, B.com. Honours

I had a dream,
That the greens finally felt alive,
And the forest roared and growled again.
Where the nations joined their hands,
To become a world,
And the mercy was felt from far above,
Oh there, we saw the dove.

Where the oceans waved back with waves
And not wastes,
And people loved people before going to
their graves.
Where life was a journey,
Of laughter, love, and faith,
Oh there, God's mercy was felt.

Where the genders had their own significance,
And people touched skies by staying rooted.
Where love and air were in abundance,
had no fear of future, past nor present.
Where I was greater than
the battle raging in my mind,
Where David's stories were redefined,
And 'I' was no longer a thing to find.

And then the eyes unfold,
To see the bitter reality of life,
And to behold.
That mess needs to be rearranged,
Our life demands us to change.

Destiny



Soni Kumari
2nd Sem, B.com. Honours

I wonder,
Was that a loss or a gain.
A pain,
Or a chance for recovery.
A chance for love,
Or a misery.

I wonder, why I ambled on the
Thin-sheet ice,
When the destiny prepared a grass
So nice,
For me to walk on,
With happiness
And to fall on,
With no such pain,
As the ice sheets gave.
There were bees and beetles in the field,
But they are my friends,
Unlike a cold water beneath.



F.R.I.E.N.D.S

Sonia Gupta
6th Sem, B.com. Honours



On days cloudy and grey, when things don't seem to be fine,
Or on days sunny and yellow, when we marvel at God's design.
We have something in common from beginning to the end,
Perhaps, it's called a 'friend'.
If some alien reads this someday, he might ask "Who are friends?"
To answer that bewildering question my alien friend, read and repeat along with me:
They are the one on whom you can rely and depend,
The one on whom you can trust, as they will never pretend,
The one who will be there for you when you need them,
The one who might not be physically present, but are no less than a hidden gem,
They are so close to you that even in their absence, you will know what they want to say to you,
The one with whom that bond never breaks, each day seems the same yet there is always something new.
But careful my alien reader, if the bond breaks, don't worry they were never your true friends,
But if you still feel void and empty, make amends,
The biggest thing that breaks friendship or any other relationship is misunderstanding and ego,
In friendship we should try to keep our ego aside and solve every misunderstanding, if not then let go;
But do try once, not by talking with the third person but by talking with the person whom you have misunderstanding with,
Not just in friendship but in any relationship we should try to keep our ego side and solve everything, with your heart and not your wit,
There will come ups and downs in your life, the downs are the test of your friendship,
The real friends will stay with you in your prosperity and hardships.
But not every friend would be the same, with each friend we have different bond,
Each person is unique and each friend are special in their way, but the love they give you is out and beyond.
Friends are like diamonds that can be cherished for a lifetime,
They are the one who will make you laugh even in your hard time.
They might not solve your problem but they will for sure reduce it.
But careful again my alien reader, it's not necessary every friend can help you reduce your problem or fix it,
But for sure friends are the one who will be there for you, and will never let you singularly face it.
The one who will listen to you,
If you are right, they will support you, and mind it, a very few actually do.
And if wrong, they will object and make you understand,
But will stick with you even if things don't go as planned.
The one that gets true friend is the luckiest one,
But careful again alien reader, quality matters, you can have one true friend but never a ton.
With this I hope you will make a friend, and I end my lesson,
If you even have one friend, smile and stay merry, as friends stay the same at all times and in every dimension.

What Do I Want?



Suman Agarwal
6th Sem, B.com. Honours

I want those old days back-
When I had no worry,
When I could be a child,
When life was not a hurry.

I want to be there again-
Where I could run wildly,
Where I could be myself,
Where life moved on happily.

I want to be young once more-
And walk past those meadows,
And leave behind my troubles,
And resolve all my sorrows.

I want a lot of answers-
Why I had to grow up?
Why couldn't I lie down?
Why did my life get stuck?

But you don't get what you want-
Because life is but a hurry,
Because all troubles can't be solved,
Because it is not always merry.



It's Okay Not To Be Okay



Vaidik Agarwal
2nd Sem, B.com. Honours

It's okay to be lonely, it's okay to be sad, it's okay to not have much friends, it's okay if you are single, it's okay if you don't have a best friend.

But, it's not okay to hate yourself, it's not okay to feel hated, it's not okay to lose all hopes. You must have gone through many obstacles, maybe many of your friends don't like you, maybe you're suffering through a financial crisis, maybe your closest one cheated on you but believe me somewhere someone loves and cares for you, someone is dying to get a reply from you. Life without ups and downs is similar to a horror movie without ghosts. After every dark night, a bright sunny morning comes, so will the good time. Love yourself and so will the others. Trust yourself, you have survived a lot, and will survive whatever is coming. Nothing can bring you peace but yourself. So believe in yourself. Time heals everything; it will heal you too, so keep faith in time and God.



Picture Pandemic



Veronica Baroi
4th Sem, M.A. English Honours

Share with me your pain
We can sit and chat under the stars,
When sleep does not stay
As it keeps running away.

Dare to take a step
In this chaotic world, we stay,
Don't turn away
From the worry that stare.

Sing with me a song
To revive and renew,
The joy and peace
We once had shared.

Rain your head with lives
That show strength and survival,
That we may be victorious
Of this present pandemic pain.

Give credit to yourself
And even to all you know,
Living in a storm
Is hard to restore.

Believe in humanity
Because it has not ended,
Become the helping hand
Because we are all needed.

The Metaphor



Priyambara Chhetri
6th Sem, *History Honours*

Sometimes I feel so numb from within,
just like that rose whose life was stolen
to beautify somebody's brief moment as a
testimony of an egotistical love affair.
And Oh! What tragedy?!
Nor can she embrace death peacefully until
she ages lifelessly only to wither away,
unnoticed.
Still,I wonder how it's so painlessly beautiful
even when it is so out of place,
so devoid of life.
Thus, I compared myself to it as I sat there so
drained of life yet unmoved on the outside. ~
reckless

Reports





Vikshit Bansal
6th Sem, B.Com. Honours

"It's better to look ahead and prepare, than to look back and regret."

Salesian College Commerce Association (SCCA) is an intradepartmental association which represents the Department of Commerce in the college. SCCA is associated with the organizing and management of various events held in the Commerce Department. Incubated in the year 2017, by the pioneers of change and development in the department, some of the greatest minds Salesian College has ever witnessed, under the guidance of our supportive faculty, SCCA aims to enhance the college culture creating events that may give the students a taste of the real world. The cell has come a long way in serving it's purpose with stronger and better events every year, making it an association which not only helps an individual to learn new things but also, evolve. The Association this year was led under the guidance of our exceptional animators, Mrs. Gunjan Agarwal and Mrs. Tanisha Kansal. Without their support and motivation, SCCA wouldn't have had achieved what it has throughout the course of this year.

The year began with us coming up with a rather unique event called GIRGIT. It was an amalgamation of TURNCOAT and JAM which made the event a sight for the eyes. The competition was tough and the stakes high, as we intended to back all our events with great rewards for the winners, because we believe rewards are the token of motivation which make the students want to participate in more and more such happenings. The event GIRGIT was such a blockbuster that we had to do it again in a span of two months but this time larger and better with other colleges participating. The event went to become the epitome of success when more than seven countries participated in our event making it an international level grandeur.

We believe in educating the students about the various mud pools one may face once they get into the tough competitive world. With the help of seminars led by splendid speakers we tried to teach the people what life is. We had two seminars this year, one being "Celebrating failures in order to get closer to success" led by Mr. Akhil Iyer and the other one about "The necessities of Digital Marketing" done by Mr. Pankaj Karmakar.

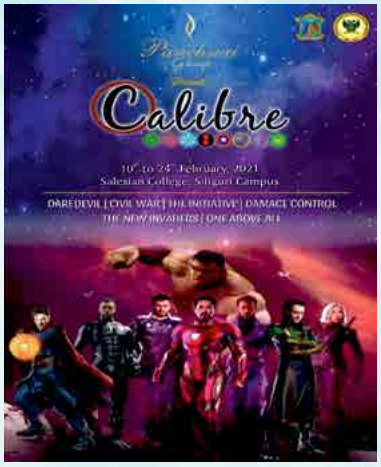
We do believe that the pandemic has hit us all severely and that we need to come together in order to overcome it. Thus we planned to create a fun event under which we, the members of SCCA would play Secret Santa and appreciate the gifts we received. It made all of us feel connected and happy amidst the lockdown. We also organized a shark tank event known as "Investigation". This was a two way event under which both the sharks and the business proposers were participants. The event was a great accomplishment again.

Furthermore, we had our zenith level event, CONOSCENZA, which was an intradepartmental commerce event under which the students of the commerce department participated in a series of events in various groups formed through auctioning in order to find out who amidst all, emerges victorious. Conoscenza this year was in a scale no one could ever imagine. Stages all set, glimmering trophies and humongous cash prizes on the line and ocean sized zeal of the students, led to the event's success. This very event embarked a higher and distinct level of events which not only were interesting but also, educational.

The Report of the Special Event Calibre 2021



Anirban Ghosh
Assistant Professor
Department of BBA



The Department of Management Studies, Salesian College, Siliguri Campus, organised its annual Business Fest, Calibre, on February 24, 2021. The pre tasks for the event had begun on February 10, including a two day carnival from February 22 to 23. The inauguration of the carnival was done by Rev. Fr. (Dr.) Babu Joseph, Vice Principal. Calibre provides a platform for the management students to showcase their managerial skills in real life business scenarios that challenge them to think on the go and make a practical application of what is learned in class. One gets to witness the coalescence of the finest exponents of managerial acumen, as the teams compete in a series of events in a bid to emerge victorious. The event has been designed to help students get accustomed with the functioning of the business world and promotes the start-up culture among them, hence transforming them into being able to take strategic and thoughtful decisions independently.

This year was different from the previous years as the organizers, the final year students, along with their faculty decided to conduct the first ever BBA Carnival which was not just restricted to food stalls but also games. There were eight teams and each team was restricted to invite not more than 60 guests, keeping in mind the pandemic situation.



The final day began on February 24 at 9:30 am with the inaugural prayer and lighting of the lamp by Rev. Fr. George Thadathil, Principal, Salesian College. This was followed by a short motivational speech by Mr. Anirban Ghosh, Faculty and Coordinator. The day went on to be exiting with a tight competition amongst the eight teams. The judges were extremely helpful and their feedback towards the end guided everyone helping them understand what needed to be done better the next time and received praises as well. Father Babu and Father George together presented the awards to the winning teams followed by a photo session with all the students. Team Loki stood first and team Hulk was placed second.

Calibre'21 being organized



with a lot of hard work and dedication was a grand event. The organizers were glad to see every participant participate enthusiastically which made this event a successful one. It would not have been possible without the support of the sponsors: The Panchnai Group and Benelli.



ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT CELL
Innovation . Knowledge . Growth

ENSPIRE

IDEATE TO INNOVATE

High above the sky stands Swarga, paradise, abode of the gods. Still above is Vaikuntha, heaven, the abode of God. The doorkeepers of Vaikuntha are the twins, Jaya and Vijaya, both of whose names mean 'victory'. One keeps you in Swarga; the other raises you into Vaikuntha. But the core remains the same: truth, courage, honour and the urge to be more than the expected.

This urge craved a hunger, a zeal which taught us all that to get ahead, first we have to get started. Living up to this idea, we the members of Entrepreneurship Development Cell (EDC), Salesian College Siliguri Campus (SCSC), never spare any effort in making this world a welcoming womb to the budding aspirations of young minds. Adroit to our motto, Innovation | Knowledge | Growth, we are a hub of people who share the grit to explore the unusual, create the unimaginable and walk the untrodden path of creation through ideation.

This motivation and dedication towards fulfilling our motive, sowed a seed in each one of us to create a platform wherein all the aspiring entrepreneurs of the world come together as one, which yielded the Yggdrasil, ENSPIRE - Ideate to Innovate.

ENSPIRE 2021 was a 3 day Global Level Inter-Collegiate Entrepreneurial fest that hosted 8 special events in various spheres of the corporate world along with other activities to challenge the intelligence, critical acumen and entrepreneurial abilities of participants from all across the world.

More than 1900 students registered for this fest and the winners were awarded crate-full of surprises along with total Cash prizes worth INR 25000 and tickets to Singapore.

The fest also witnessed the support of eminent personalities like Mr. Gaurav Sundaramanan Cricket analyst ESPNCRICINFO , Miss Priyanka Madnani, Founder and CEO - Easy to Pitch, Mr. Shyam Sekhar, Mr. Rakesh Mishra and many more who graced the event in the



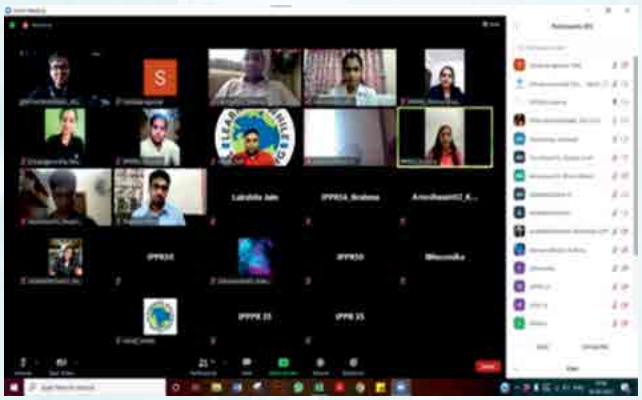


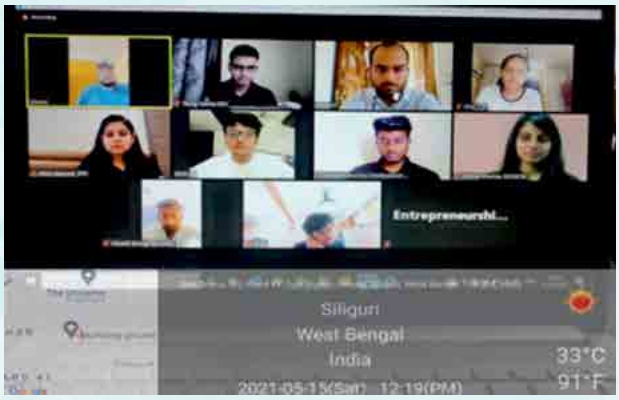


capacity of members of the jury panel which itself added to the success of this venture.

As we know, in Vaikuntha there is bliss forever. This world can be a mirror image of Vaikuntha if all start to take steps for a better tomorrow. ENSPIRE was an eye-opener. It helped us not only witness the immense talent that the students all across the globe possess but also helped us unveil our potentials. All in all, ENSPIRE fulfilled its motive of INSPIRING lives who choose to walk the untrodden path of Creation and Innovation.











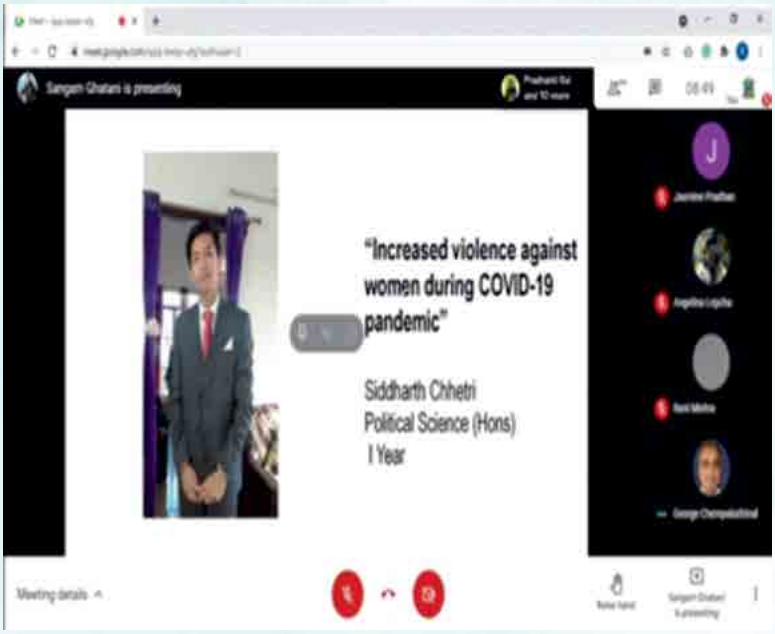
Report on Special Assembly

Human Rights Cell
Department of Political Science

On Tuesday, 18th May 2021, Human Rights Cell under the supervision of Department of the Political Science organized an online assembly on the theme, "The ongoing Covid19 and its impact on Human Rights in India". The online assembly started at 8:40 am with the opening remarks by Sir Sangam Ghatani, Assistant Professor from the Political Science Department who also subsequently presented slides with photos, data charts and graphs as the speakers spoke consecutively.

The first student to present the outline of the theme was Angelina Subba from 2nd year followed by Rani Mishra from 3rd year who spoke disparagingly on "The second wave of Covid19 and the drawbacks of the government." The next speaker Jasmine Pradhan from 3rd year presented her topic on "Second Wave and it`s impacts on Human Rights". Then, Siddharth Chhetri from 1st year lamented on, "Increase in violence against women during the pandemic". And lastly, Nimisha Benjamin from 3rd year highlighted her concluding note on the theme.





Salesian Model United Nation 2021



Saloni Agarwal
6th Sem, Department of English Honours

The first ever Salesian Model United Nations was a three-day event from the 9th April to 11th April, 2021.

9th April, 2021, Siliguri: The first day of Salesian Model United Nation (SMUN) began with an Opening Ceremony in the Kilian Hall. After the lighting of the lamp, the delegates and the heads of the different committees (Lok Sabha, Security Council and the Human Rights Council.) were first addressed by Principal, Fr. (Prof) Dr. George Thadathil followed by Secretary General of the SMUN, Themsorin H Ningshenthen. The Dias was then handed over to Ayush Agarwal, Student Coordinator for SMUN who briefed the students about the events that were going to take place that day and in the days to come. The students then broke into their respective committees and moved to the different classrooms that were assigned. A reporter and a photographer from the International Press committee were assigned to attend each committee session. The committee sessions were followed by a press meet where the press members were allowed to ask questions. After two committee sessions the day came to an end.

10th April, 2021, Siliguri: The second day of Salesian Model United Nation (SMUN) began with a common gathering in the Kilian Hall where the students were addressed by faculty co-ordinator Sangam Sir. The delegates and the heads of the different committees were instructed to move to the classrooms assigned where the committee sessions were scheduled to begin. The classrooms were prepared by the Conference Management team and one Conference Management Officer was assigned to each of the committees. One reporter and one photographer from the International Press committee were also assigned to attend the committee sessions namely, Lok Sabha, Security Council and the Human Rights Council. After the completion of two committee sessions, the delegates were invited for lunch which was followed by another committee session. The committee sessions were followed by a press meet wherein the members of the International Press asked questions to the delegates.



The day ended with socials and some refreshments.

11th April, 2021, Siliguri: The third day of Salesian Model United Nation began with a common gathering in the Kilian Hall where the students were addressed by faculty co-ordinator Sangam Sir. The delegates led by the heads of their respective committees were then instructed to move to the classrooms assigned where the committee sessions were scheduled to begin. One reporter and one photographer from the International Press committee was assigned to attend the committee sessions namely, Lok Sabha, Security Council and the Human Rights Council. After the completion of two committee sessions, the delegates were invited for lunch which was followed by another committee session. The day ended with an award ceremony where father principal handed over the various award to the deserving delegates and mementos to the heads of different committees acknowledging their contribution in organising the entire event. The award ceremony ended with a vote of thanks delivered by the Deputy Secretary General Ayush Agarwal followed by the Secretary General Themsoren H. Ningschen declaring the SMUN 2021 closed. The award ceremony was followed by a photo session where group photographs of the different committees were taken.

Department of Mathematics
Report on Webinar
"The Story of π"

by

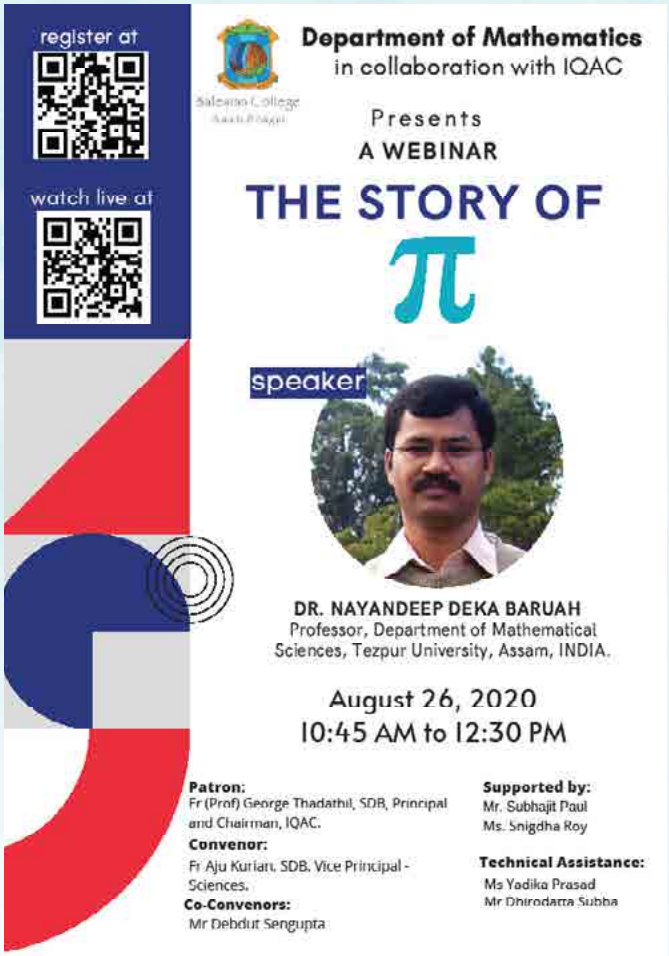
Prof. Nayandeep Deka Baruah

August 26, 2020





Report prepared by:
Snigdha Roy
and supplemented by:
Subhajit Paul
Asst. Prof's., Dept. of Mathematics,
Salesian College, Siliguri.
August 27, 2020.



Preamble

A one-day webinar was organized on August 26, 2020, by the Department of Mathematics, Salesian College, Siliguri, in collaboration with the IQAC. The title of the webinar was "The story of π". The invited speaker for the programme was Dr. Nayandeep Deka Baruah, Professor, Department of Mathematics, Tezpur Central University, Assam. The webinar was held via Google Meet platform using the college G-Suite facility and was streamed live in YouTube via the link https://youtu.be/7WRclqmfbw4.

Participants' profile

A total of 73 participants including faculty members, researchers and students from different institutes participated in the webinar. The profile for the organising committee were as follows:

- Patron: Fr. (Prof.) George Thadathil, Principal & Chairman of IQAC;
- Convenor: Fr. Aju Kurian, Vice



Principal, Deanery of Sciences;

- Co-convenor: Mr. Debdut Sengupta, Asst. Prof., Dept. of Mathematics;
- Supported by: Mr. Subhajit Paul, Head, Dept. of Mathematics and Ms. Snigdha Roy, Asst. Prof, Dept. of Mathematics.
- Technical assistance: Ms. Yadika Prasad, IT Coordinator and Mr. Dhirodatta Subba, Dean of Sciences.

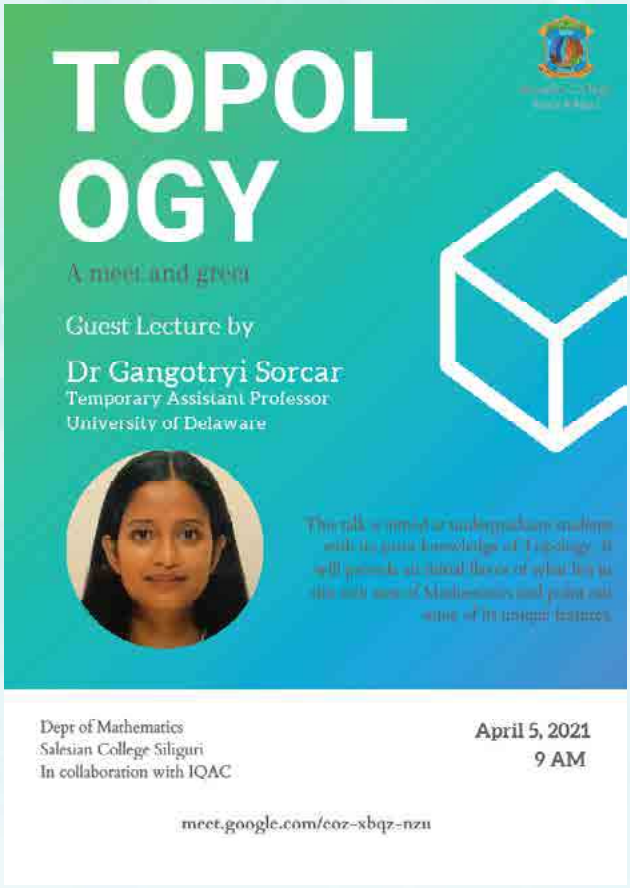
Summary of the event

The webinar, moderated by Mr. Subhajit Paul, Head, Department of Mathematics, started at 10:50 am with the welcome speech by Fr. (Prof.) George Thadathil, Principal, Salesian College, Sonada and Siliguri. While merging the subjects of Philosophy and Astronomy in the infinitude of the digits of π, he mentioned about the book "A History of Pi" by Peter Beckmann which motivates him. Mr. Debdut Sengupta, Assistant Professor, Department of Mathematics, then introduced the speaker to the audience. As promised in the title of his talk, Prof. Baruah based his lecture on the development of different aspects of π from the ancient era to the computer age. During his talk, he mentioned about works of mathematicians, viz., Issac Newton, Von Neumann, Roy North, Abraham Sharp, John Machin, Srinivasa Ramanujan with many others. He also discussed the AGM (arithmeticgeometric mean) algorithm to calculate the digits of π more rapidly and the BBP model to find a particular digit in the binary and the hexadecimal representation of π. He shared the open problem of finding a particular digit in the decimal representation of π. He finished his lecture by mentioning Timothy Mullican who calculated the first 50 trillion digits of π on January 29, 2020, which stands as the current world record. After his talk, an interactive session was moderated to accommodate a few questions from the audience. The webinar ended with the vote of thanks delivered by Mr. Subhajit Paul. He forwarded his gratitude to the speaker, the management of the college, his colleagues in the department, the technical support, and of course to the participants. The programme was concluded at 1:00 pm.

Department of Mathematics
Report on the Guest Lecture
"Topology: A meet & Greet"
by
Dr Gangotryi Sorcar
April 5, 2021



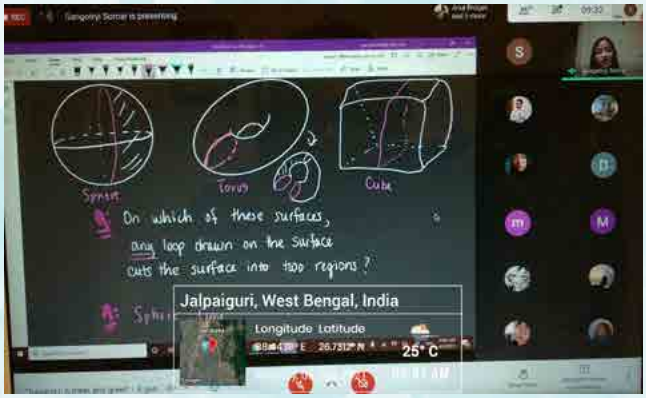
Report prepared by:
Subhajit Paul
Head, Dept. of Mathematics,
Salesian College, Siliguri.
April 6, 2021.

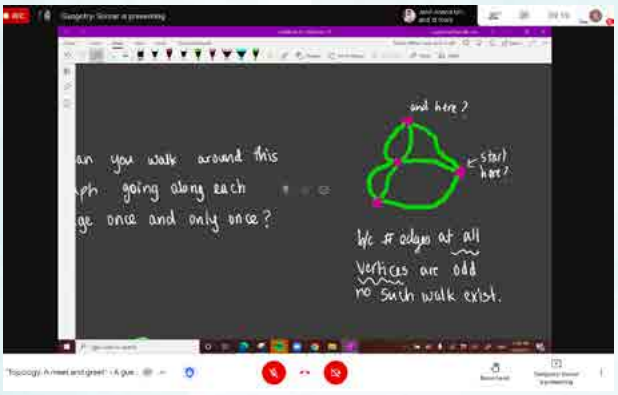


Department of Mathematics, Salesian College, Siliguri, in collaboration with the IQAC organised a guest lecture on April 5, 2021. The talk was mainly aimed for the students of the 6th semester before they start their classes from the next day. These students have the subject 'Point-set Topology' in the paper DSE 3A. As a motivational talk to this entirely new topic, Mr Subhajit Paul, Head, Dept. of Mathematics, organised the lecture.

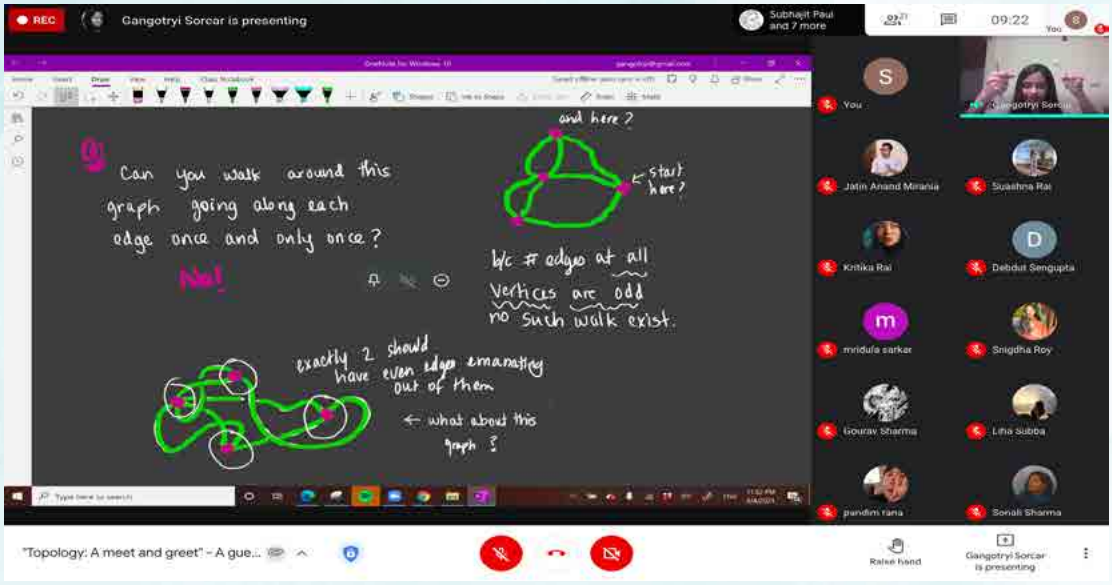
The talk was delivered by Dr Gangotryi Sorcar, Temporary Asst Prof, University of Delaware, USA. As informed by Mr Paul while introducing the speaker to the house, Dr Sorcar finished her PhD from the State University of New York, Binghamton and had orchestrated different research and teaching posts at the Ohio State University and the Hebrew University, Israel in the past.

The lecture viz., "Topology: A meet & Greet" started at 9 am via the Google Meet platform using the college G-Suite facility. A total of 18 participants joined the lecture including the faculty members from the department, a student of Mathematics from the first year and two students from the department of Physics. Dr Sorcar tuned the lecture to suit the preliminaries of a varied audience. The lecture was recorded at https://drive.google.com/file/d/1zgxNsEw1QhP6gcPF924muzInHmSj7J1u/view?usp=sharing.





Dr Sorcar mainly discussed the K¨onigsberg bridge problem, topological invariance of the Euler characteristic number and why continuous functions stretch or squish a space without tearing that apart with an ingenious example. She was able to retain the attention of the audience and spark their creative and analytical thinking. Jatin Mirania, a student of 6th semester, said, (her) "content was brilliant, eye contact was good, spoken both formally and informally creating good engagement, and use of words like 'trippy' and smiling throughout the class really took it up a notch". She encouraged the students to ask questions during the talk and also at the Q&A session at the end, where a couple of interesting questions were tackled. It was a very positive start for this course of the semester



NSS This Year



Surabhi Pakhrin
4th Sem, English Honours

Every year National Service Scheme (NSS) Unit II, Salesian College Siliguri Campus formulates an agenda, according to which they perform their yearly activities. Although, the pandemic had made a huge impact on the worldly activities the team did not step back from their duties. They shifted to an online mode of conducting activities.

The onset of a global pandemic made us aware about the necessary precautions we had to take. Therefore, on 9th of April 2020, the unit tried to spread awareness about social distancing via social media. To bring our fellow students out of their new boredom we also organised an online essay writing competition- Pen It Down on the month of April (20th - 26th). To observe World Environment Day, an event named Eco Den was organised. It was a five days awareness program wherein students from various colleges performed various tasks every alternate day. The tasks included cleaning, planting, imparting healthy habits, helping etc. On World Yoga Day 21st June, NSS volunteers performed various yogasanas and tried to make people aware about the vast importance of yoga. This too was done in an online mode. On the occasion of International Youth Day, 12th August, 2020 we organized an online quiz competition REL-EVENT. It was based on the theme "Youth Engagement for Global action". On 23rd September, 2020 we conducted an online orientation for the first year students where we briefed them about the organisation and its motto along with various other important details. To mark the 51st Anniversary of NSS(NSS Day) on 24th of September, we organized an online NSS quiz.

Last year we were lucky enough to get a chance to interact with a world famous yogi Dr.Kush Panchal, an International Yoga Trainer, through an online webinar called YOGI-NAR on 12th of September, 2020. Through this event we were able to fulfill our aim of freshening the minds of people along with making them aware about self-care.

2020 was an important year for the unit as we started a new series, One-Voice, an interview session with the various NGOs. Through this we tried to introduce the unsung heroes of our society who are silently working for a better tomorrow. The aim of the interview was not only to share their journey but also to inspire and instill humanity and a sense of duty among the members of our society. Therefore on 31st October, 2020 NSS volunteers conducted the first interview of One-Voice with an organisation named MANUSATVA. This was followed by an interview with other organisations like Mukh Bandh Kaam Suru, The Period Society Jalpaiguri, Mind Empowered and Musafiri Organisation. The interview was conducted online and offline according to their convenience along with all the necessary precautions.

For social outreach program on 21st November, 2020 some of the volunteers visited Animal Helpline Shelter located near Darjeeling more. On 30th of November, 2020 Constitution Day (26th November) was celebrated where students from both Salesian College Siliguri and Sonada delivered a paper presentation and shared their knowledge about the constitution. On 26th January, 2021, few NSS volunteers participated in a parade along with the NCC Cadets of the College. Republic day was celebrated in the college itself by taking all the necessary precautions. On 4th April, 2021 some of our volunteers participated in a marathon

organised by the Period Society in order to spread awareness and break the social taboo regarding menstruation. To mark the importance of Earth Day (22nd April), on 28th of April, 2021 NSS took the initiative of planting trees around the college campus. Campus Plantation Drive was extremely fruitful as the volunteers planted 20 Ashoka saplings along with few Jackfruit saplings. The volunteers not only planted these saplings but they also followed all the important steps of plant care by using fertilisers and important nutrients.

Besides these major event we also started a campaign i.e. 1-Rupee Campaign in which we requested the NSS volunteers to donate 1 rupee per day for a year (365 days) and the money collected will be used for the development of our adopted villages. Also we try to help the underprivileged kids who couldn't afford a smartphone for the online classes by donating them our old smartphones. NSS Unit II also observed other important days like Ambedkar Jayanti, Labour's Day, Women's Day, Farmer's Day, Vijay Diwas, Aids Day, World Animal Welfare day and many more. These events were marked by posting a poster along with captions on our social media handle.



Report
Department of Political Science and Geographay

On February 24th, 2021, our departmental faculties of Political Science and Geography department respectively had organized a picnic for the 1st,2nd, and 3rd years. Prior to proceeding with our planned destination, we assembled at the front of the Killian Hall where the students and faculties were guided by Fr. (Dr.) George Thadathil SBD's words of wisdom regarding the environment and pollution around and how should it be protected. "Let's not add on to it but let us try to subtract the waste around" were his words.

The college bus was fully packed with students and faculties headed for Bagrakote which is located in the Malbazar subdivision of the Jalpaiguri district. The students were excited to reach the destination as they kept singing songs in the bus till they reached the venue.

Upon reaching the picnic spot the students and faculties were served breakfast followed by snacks and beverages. The students and faculties were enjoying while dancing and singing. This was followed by a game of Tambola where both the students and faculties enjoyed playing. Preparatory to having lunch, there was a special visit by Fr. (Dr.) George Chempakathinal SBD, Dean of Arts/ Humanities Sir Peter Lepcha, and Campus Coordinator of Arts/Humanities Miss Ganga Parajuli who altogether guided us by their encouraging and wonderful words.

The students from the Department of Political Science even conducted a survey in and around the picnic spots regarding the work being done by the truck drivers in that area. In that survey the students got to know about the business the truck drivers are into and they being the middlemen having little to no information about if the work being done is legal or illegal.



Survey photo
In picture:
Jasmine Pradhan and Rani Mishra

Students from the Department of Geography tried understanding the changing morphological characteristics of the river basin. Students could even witness the phenomenon of weathering in the region. It was very evident that anthropogenic activities have been largely responsible for major changes that the river ecosystem in the region has been undergoing.

The rate of environmental degradation in the region had been at a faster rate and hence keeping environmental safety into account, it was found that there must be immediate interventions from the concerned NGOs or other Governmental organization to keep the River Ecology sustainable.

This was followed by a delicious meal set up by our cook and faculties which the students enjoyed having. After the completion of the meal, the students and faculties rested for a while and cleaned up the entire place, and made sure that there was no litter around. The outing ended with group photographs.

The students with the help of the faculties loaded all the used items into the bus and made their way back to college around 5pm. It altogether was a very fulfilling experience for both the students and faculties of respective departments.

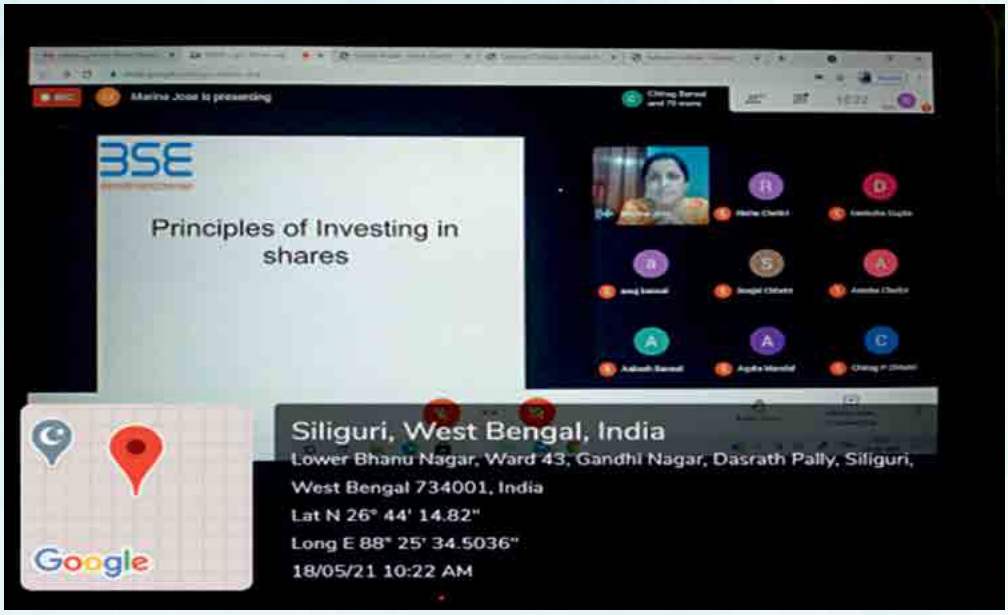


One Day Webinar On BSE's Investor Awareness



Risha Chettri
Asst. Professor, Dept. of Commerce

With the change in the current dynamics of the global economy it has become imperative that we all understand the importance of the most used two terms i.e., savings and investment. Bombay stock exchange, Mumbai in collaboration with the Department of Commerce, Salesian College, Siliguri Campus organized a one-day webinar on 18th May, 2021 from 10am onwardsin Google Meet platform to create awareness about the importance of saving and investment for the future generation of students. The resource person of the webinar Madam Marina Jose spoke about the principles which the investors must bear in mind while making investment in the share market, one should enter the market with long term vision and never run behind short-term gains. The webinar was much appreciated by all the attendees and around 90 students of 4th and 6th semester attended the webinar. At the end the session students asked their queries to the resource person who explained all the answers briefly and with suitable examples.



RET RELAUNCH

RETHINK » REFORM » RELAUNCH

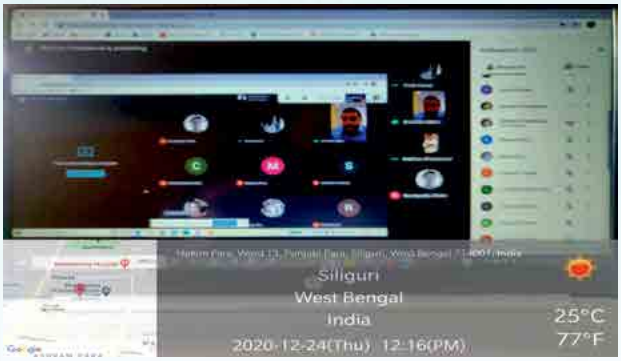
ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT CELL

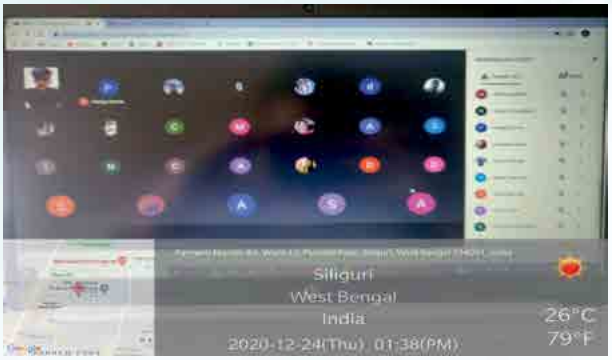
With the motive of guiding the youth towards the direction of success, the Entrepreneurship Development Cell, Salesian College, Siliguri Campus, always strives to give its best. Every step moved forward, takes each individual related to the cell a bit closer to perfection. In its second academic session since the incubation of EDC in our institution and we are proud to mention that the cell hasbeen successfully able to organize events at National and International levels such as Quest, Innoventure, Encase, Breakout, Ret-Relaunch, etc.

Ret-Relaunch presented by SMADA, along with Finance partner DRU FINANCE, Aesthetics partner ASAL and educational partner CAREER LAUNCHER was 'A National Level Inter-Collegiate Online Relaunch Competition' organised by the Entrepreneurship Development Cell, Salesian College, Siliguri Campus on 23rd and 24th December, 2020 via Google Meet. The motive behind this was to provide a common platform for the youth from diversified fields and their own unique mindsets.

The event started at sharp 11:30 am on 24th December, 2020 (Thursday) with an opening ceremony, during which Ms. Priyanka Shaw (Cell Animator) motivated the participants and organizers and applauded their efforts to join the event whilst these times of pandemic. RetRelaunch was concluded at 2:00 pm with a closing ceremony along with the closing remarks were given by Master Parag Verma (Deputy Director) and announcement of results.

A total of 11 teams participated in the event from 12+ institutions across India. The participants did a survey on one of the allotted companies namely Viu, Aditya Birla Payments Bank, Vodafone M-pesa and loan meet, which were at its peak during a specific point of time but ultimately collapsed due to some particular reasons. The participants were asked to relaunch these companies by using their own strategy and pitching in new ideas before a panel of judges. The winners were



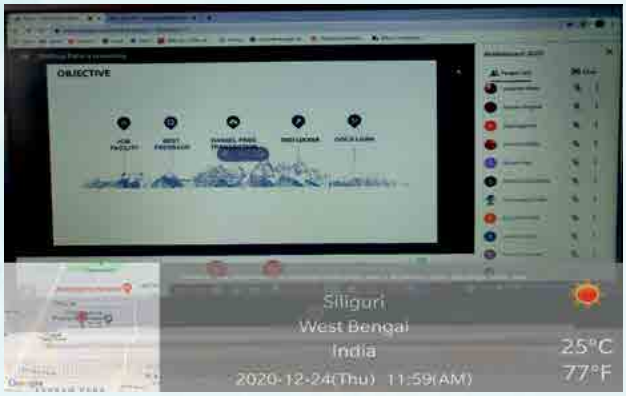


awarded with prizes worth Rs.10,000 inclusive of a cash prize of Rs.1,500. Also, all the participants were given redeemable vouchers and certificates as a token of appreciation by the cell.

It was indeed another successful event organised by EDC, Salesian College Siliguri Campus. It helped the cell develop relations with more institutions and E-Cells across India. This definitely made it easier for the cell to cope up with every circumstance and move ahead inevitably. It also sharpened the ideology, innovation and creativity of all of its members and was a remarkable learning lesson for each one of them.

JUDGES	PORTFOLIO
Mr. Shayan Iqbal	Co-founder of GoBudee Educare and My Ostello
Ms. Sweta Mohata	Founder of Asal Skincare, Winner of YI(CII) Siliguri Start-Up Competition

POSITION	COMPANY	PARTICIPANTS
WINNER'S	**Insta Loan**	Rohit Mitruka (SCMS, Pune), Dhiraj Kehriwal (St. Xaviers College, Kolkata)
FIRST RUNNERS-UP	**Vodafone M-Pesa**	Vivek Kumar and Baibhav Khandewal (The Bhawanipur Education Society, Kolkata)
SECOND RUNNERS-UP	**Vodafone M-Pesa**	Ishanee Majumder, Madhuja Raha, & Chandrashish Roy (KIIT University, Bhibaneshwar)





Report on One-Day Webinar on Investor Awareness initiated by SEBI



Diksha Jain
4th Sem, B.Com Honours

Invest Today Or Regret Tomorrow

"Never depend on a single income, make investment to create a second source"
- Warren Buffett

On the 20th of April, 2021, an investor awareness session was conducted by SEBI to promote among young minds the importance of investing in the right place and at the right time.

This session was like an oasis amidst confused minds wondering what correct investing and mutual funds really are. The valuable session started at 10.30 am and lasted for an hour and it was conducted through an online platform Zoom by Sir Vinod Tantri who is a SEBI trainer. The total footfall in the event was 70.

The best part of the session was that Sir started his explanation from the very base which is often ignored by many. He defied the typical formulae of income less expenditure gives saving and explained the need to save a certain portion first and then spend. Using various illustrativesto explain the importance of early savings was given and every minute detail from the definition itself to investment strategies on mutual funds were provided. Further comparison of investments in mutual funds and other sources were like icing on the cake.

Towards the end, an interactive question and answer session was held wherein all the doubts of the participants were explicitly cleared besides filling the feedback forms. It was surprising to witness such enthusiastic participation throughout the session and everyone took back bags full of information and aspirations. To sum up, all that the session taught,

" Price is what you pay,
Value is what you get."

Morning Assembly

Department of Sociology

On 4th May, 2021 Sociology department of Salesian College Siliguri, had organized a Special morning assembly for the College. The main topic for the assembly was Covid 19 Fueling Racism.

During the Pandemic, there have been numerous instances where people belonging to racial, religious or ethnic minorities were subjected to Physical attacks, hate speech and conspiracy theories accusing them for the spread of the virus.

Since the outbreak of the pandemic, Asians and people of Asian descent have been targets of derogatory language in media reports and statements by politicians as well as on Social media platforms, where hate speech related to Covid-19 also appears to have spread extersively. UN Secretary General, Antonio Guterres, pointed out that racism and discrimination are the rejection of all that the UN stands for, adding that the "rot of racism is corroding institutions, Social Structures and everyday life."

The assembly started with a prayer by Father George Thadathil which was followed by an introductory speech by Themsorin from Sociology Department 3rd year. After this a presentation prepared by the 2nd Year was displayed to throw light on the topic.

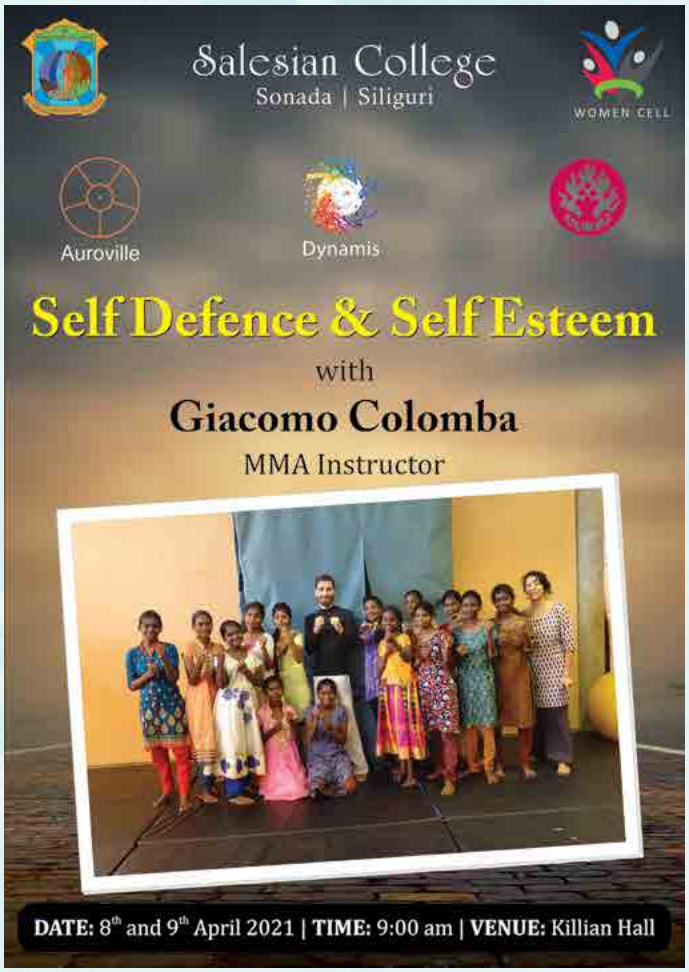
The assembly came to an end with Father addressing the students and acknowledging their efforts and hardwork



Self Defence & Self Esteem Workshop



Simran Saha
2nd Year, B.com Honours



The Self Defence & Self esteem workshop with Giacomo Colomba an MMA Instructor was organized by the Women's Cell on 8th and 9th April, 2021 at the Salesian College Siliguri Campus. The two day event was sponsored by Auroville, Dynamis and H.I.G.L.E. The purpose of conducting this event was to provide basic knowledge about defending oneself when in a dire or crippling situation.

"The course of life is unpredictable. No one can write their own autobiography in advance." However, the reality is that while we would like to believe that we would always be safe, life does happen. There are people that wake up in the morning, drink a cup of coffee, read the paper, leave the house and never return. Self defence as we know is the right to use force and violence to protect oneself from the perceived imminent threat. It is important to possess these skills today considering the increase in gruesome crime rates against ordinary citizens. Understanding that self defence is crucial for all, the event was open for all.

Self defence makes you aware, cautious and equipped when in danger. The instructor, Mr Giacomo Colomba along with his crew not only taught participants practical forms of self defence, but also gave tips on avoiding such circumstances. He mentioned that when trapped in an attack try to analyse the situations, scream for help and give up materialistic things in case the attacker wants to rob you. Only defend yourself during an aggravated assault. Remembering Bruce Lee's remark, "It is better to be a warrior in a garden than a gardener in a war." Wise people learn the tactics to defend themselves instead of becoming vulnerable and helpless. Remember the person that can defend you the best is none but you yourself.

Report on the Departmental Activity: Student Presentation

Salesian College Siliguri Campus

Department of Physics

In order to inculcate ethics, etiquette, communication skills and inter-personality development among students the Department of Physics has been conducting weekly (Saturdays) in-house seminar.

The goal of this activity is to bring confidence among students pertaining to their verbal and representational skills and also to nurture their understanding of basic sciences and their applications. The students usually present on topics based on their syllabus along with practical applications of the theory with real life examples. This gives students an opportunity to not only score well in exam but also showcase whatever that they are learning in Physics indeed has practical implications which facilitates in developing interest towards science and in particular, Physics.

All the students are divided into seven groups for this weekly event. Two groups will present on one day. Each group is allowed to present for maximum up to 20 mins following by Q&A session. In addition, on-spot evaluation of presentations made is being done by teachers, student audiences and student participants using Google forms.

At the end of the session, each faculty deliberates talk on flaws found during presentation with regard to references, presentation construction skills etc wherever necessary.

Following are the details of presentations:

Day 1 (24th April, 2021)

Curie Group

- **Members:** Adesh Saha (4th sem), Khushi Gurung (2nd sem), Lachung Lepcha (2nd sem).
- **Topic:** Photoelectric effect
- **Abstract:** The photoelectric effect occurs when you shine light on a piece of metal and electrons are ejected from the metal. This behaviour is understood by assuming that the incident light consists of photons, each photon carrying a definite amount of energy. The Nobel Prize in Physics 1921 was awarded to Albert Einstein "for his services to Theoretical Physics, and especially for his discovery of the law of the photoelectric effect."

Sudarshan Group

- **Members:** Neha Chettri (2nd sem) , Shrawan Rai(4th sem).
- **Topic:** Cyclotron.

- **Abstract:** Introduction to compact particle accelerator named cyclotron. A cyclotron accelerates a charged particle beam using a high frequency alternating voltage. One of the most interesting applications of motion of charge particles in electric and magnetic fields is Cyclotron.

Day 2 (8th May, 2021)

Bose Group

- **Members:** Arati Lohar (2nd Sem), Priyam Rai (4th Sem) and Sudhanshu Pradhan (2nd Sem).
- **Topic:** Aurora – the lightening effect
- **Abstract:** An aurora is a natural phenomenon which is characterised by a display of a natural-coloured (green, red, yellow or white) light in the sky. It is a light show which is caused when electrically-charged particles from the sun collide with particles from gases such as oxygen and nitrogen present in the Earth's atmosphere.

Saha Group

- **Members:** Aaush Pradhan (6th Sem).
- **Topic:** Optical fibres
- **Abstract:** A discussion on Fiber optics as they are important for telecommunication for worldwide broad band networks. Optical fibers provide enormous and unsurpassed transmission bandwidth with negligible latency and are now the transmission medium of choice for long distance and high data rate transmission rate in the field of telecommunication.

Day 3 (15th May, 2021)

Joselyn Group

- Members: Aryanjali Sharma (4th sem), Nirupan Thapa (2nd sem), Pewang Tamang (2nd sem).
- Topic: Pulsars.
- Abstract: Pulsars are remarkable clocklike celestial sources that are believed to be rotating neutron stars formed in supernova explosions. They are valuable tools for investigations into topics such as neutron star interiors, globular cluster dynamics, the structure of the interstellar medium, and gravitational physics. A comparison of arrival times from an array of different pulsars also reveals the effect of gravitational waves.

Meitner Group

- **Members:** Rudraneel Chakraborty (4th sem), Tithi Moktan (4th sem), Sidarth Rai (2nd sem).
- **Topic:** A case study of the Martian atmosphere.
- **Abstract:** Carbon dioxide was the only known constituent of the Martian atmosphere from its discovery in 1947 until 1963, when water vapor was identified in the planet's spectrum. High-

resolution ground-based spectroscopy and spacecraft observations in the next decade added CO, O2, O3, and showed that the atmospheric surface pressure on Mars is more than 2 orders of magnitude lower than it is on Earth. How the Martian atmosphere has evolved along the years detection of methane gas and its possible explanation.

Day 5 (22nd May, 2021)

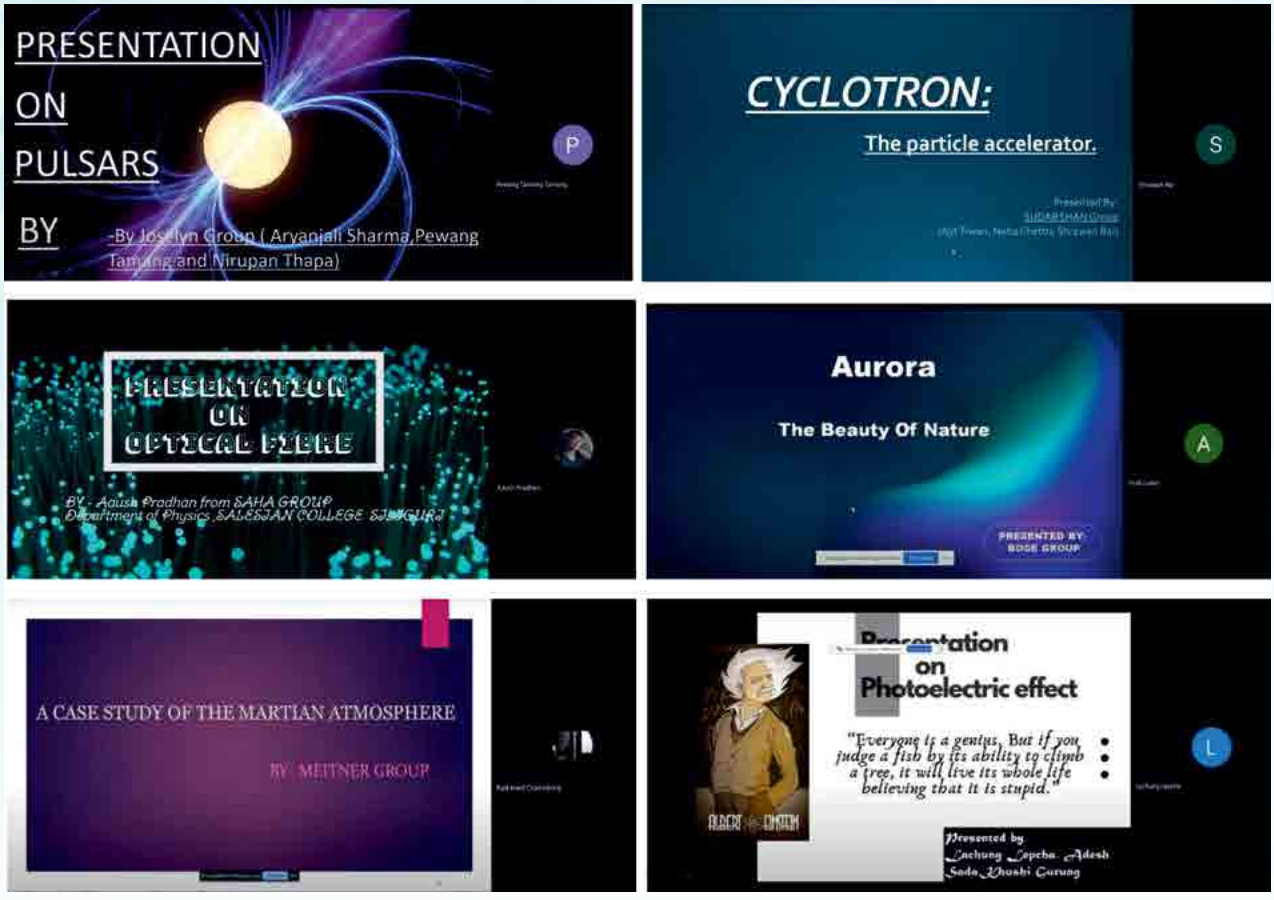
Raychaudhury Group

- **Members:** Ashweni Chettri (4th sem), Subhayu Bose (2nd sem).
- **Topic:** Heat Death of the universe
- **Abstract:** The heat death of the universe (also known as the Big Chill or Big Freeze) is a theory on the ultimate fate of the universe, which suggests the universe would evolve to a state of no thermodynamic free energy and would therefore be unable to sustain processes that increase entropy. Heat death does not imply any particular absolute temperature; it only requires that temperature differences or other processes may no longer be exploited to perform work.

****

- All the presentations are uploaded on the following Youtube channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXkX-spFy9dNn4tSRqRgP2A

Glimpses of the events:



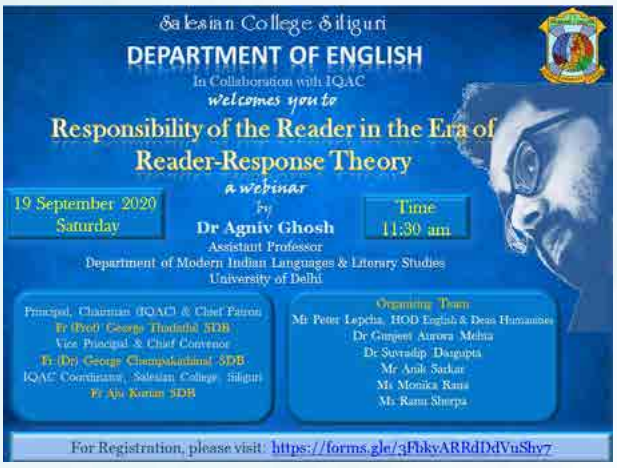
Lecture Series on Literary and Cultural Theories



Samjhana Rai
6th Sem, Department of English



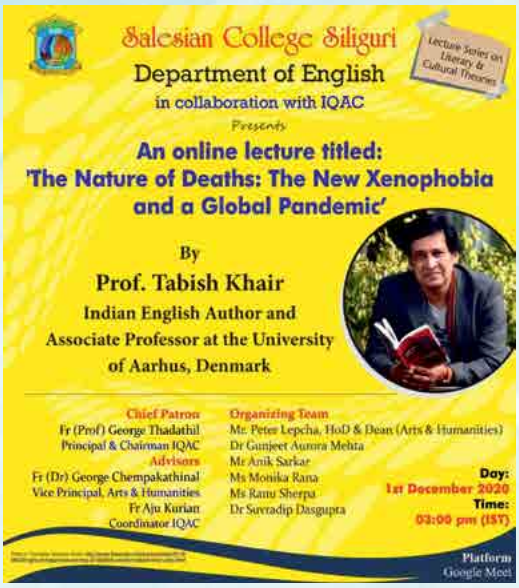
Salesian College, Siliguri Campus: The Department of English, Salesian College Siliguri Campus, in collaboration with IQAC took an initiative to conduct a series of online lectures on Literary and Cultural Theories during the academic year of 2020-21. With the onset of global pandemic, there has been a shift in teaching-learning process. In order to cope with this shift and the give the new experience of learning more variety and freshness from the regular monotonous online classes, the Department made an active effort in inviting well known personalities in the field of academics and theories from all over the world to enlighten and interact with the students, albeit virtually. The series spanned over four months beginning from September and ending in December of 2020. There were six lectures conducted on various fields of Literary and Cultural Theories in total.



The series was inaugurated on 19th September, 2020 with its first lecture on Reader Response Theory titled: *Responsibility of the Reader in the Era of Reader Response Thoery*. The resource person of the day was Dr. Agniv Ghosh, Assistant Professor, Department of Modern Indian Languages and Literary Studies, University of Delhi. Dr. Ghosh broadly traced the theory from the time of its development and its present condition and the responsibility of the reader as an active component in the meaning-generation of a text.

The second lecture was organised on 10th October, 2020, titled: *Act of Reading as Multiple, Singular and Contingent Moments: Thinking Otherwise.* Dr. Rajlakshmi Ghosh, Assistant Professor, iLead College, Kolkata was the speaker for the day. Dr. Ghosh's lecture focused

on the study of the act of "Reading" itself. She made references to Deconstructive reading and ideas of important thinkers and theorists like Derrida and Heidegger to elucidate on the subject that she was discussing.



On the 17th of the same month another interesting lecture on Deconstruction was organised. This time, the speaker was Pramod K. Nayar, a well known figure in the field of Literary Studies. He is an Assistant Professor in the Department of English, University of Hyderabad. His lecture was titled: *Nature/Culture/Nature/Culture.* Nayar, very lucidly and, in a very student-friendly manner, explained the workings of deconstruction of a text by deconstructing *The Solitary Reaper,* a popular poem by the Romantic poet, William Wordsworth.

The fourth was a lecture on Postcolonialism, held on 12th November, 2020. The speaker of this webinar was Professor Bill Ashcroft, a highly regarded figure and thinker, also known as the "founding exponent of post-colonial theory," who has made significant contributions to the field through his works of which *The Empire Writes* Back is notably, the most popular. He is an Emeritus Professor at the School of English, Media and Performing Arts, University of New South Wales. Professor Ashcroft introduced and explained postcolonial concepts like the Utopia in his lecture.

The fifth lecture was on The New Xenophobia and the global pandemic delivered by Professor Tabish Khair, Associate Professor at the University of Aarhus, Denmark. Tabish Khair is the author of various books, including the poetry collections, *Where Parallel Lines Meet* (Penguin, 2000) and *Man of Glass* (Harper Collins, 2010), the studies, *Babu Fictions: Alienation in Indian English Novels* (Oxford UP, 2001), *The Gothic, Postcolonialism and Otherness* (Palgrave, 2010), The New Xenophobia (Oxford University Press, 2016) and a host of novels. From a multi-disciplinary approach: using political thought, history, economics etc, his talk analysed the connection of 'Xenophobia' or fear of strangers with the rise of the pandemic.

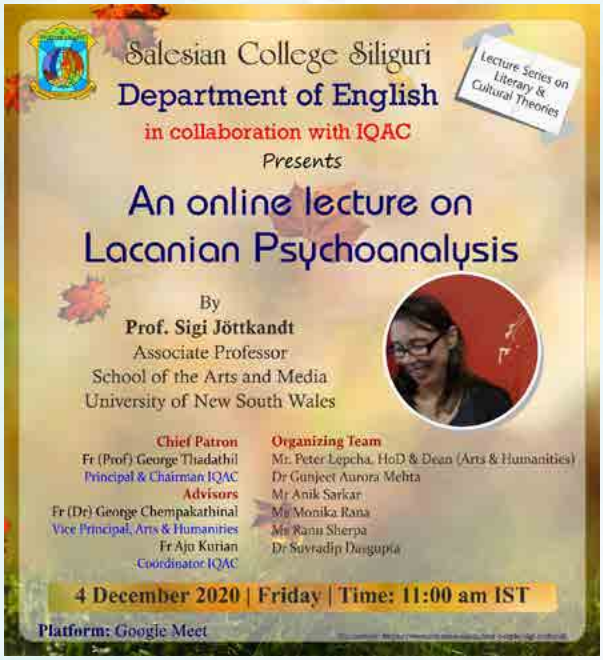


The last lecture of the series was one on Lacanian and Freudian Psychoanalysis held on the 4th of



December, 2020. Dr. Sigi Jottkandt, Associate Professor, School of Media and Performing Arts, University of New South Wales was the resource person for the lecture. Dr. Jottkandt explained the working of Psychoanalysis, developing it from the ideas of thinkers like Freud and Lacan, and also in association to the works of the Surrealist artist Rene Magritte. She further extended her lecture into discussing about psychoanalysis as a tool for the literary criticism.

This was the conclusion of the Series of Lectures on Literary and Cultural Theories. All the lectures were held on the online platform, GoogleMeet and were an hour or an hour and a half long lectures which were followed by active interactive sessions. The lectures were attended by, not only the Undergraduate and Postgraduate student of the English Department of the College but also, several scholars and students of other universities participated in them with over 80 participants in each of them. The series was a success in many ways: the students got a chance to listen to prominent persons speak and interact with them and the participants were also introduced to several new ideas and concepts which will likely spark newer questions and curiosity for further search and study.





Mr Debendra Rai
B.Voc, 3rd Semester



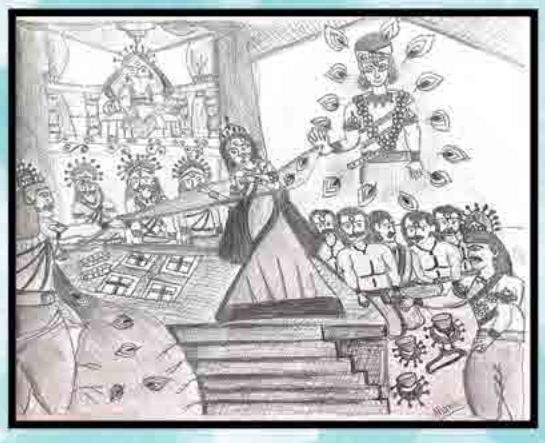
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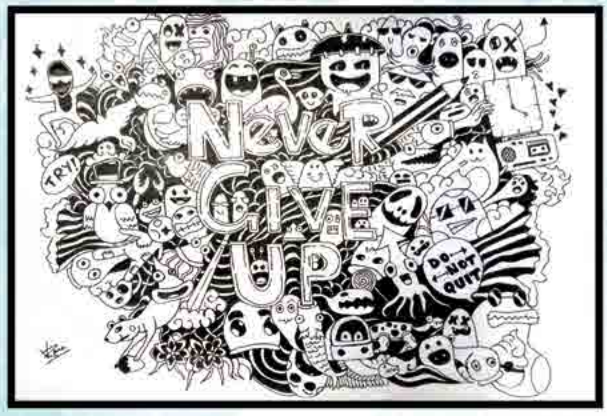
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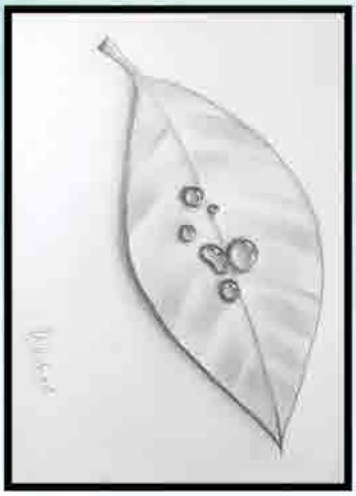
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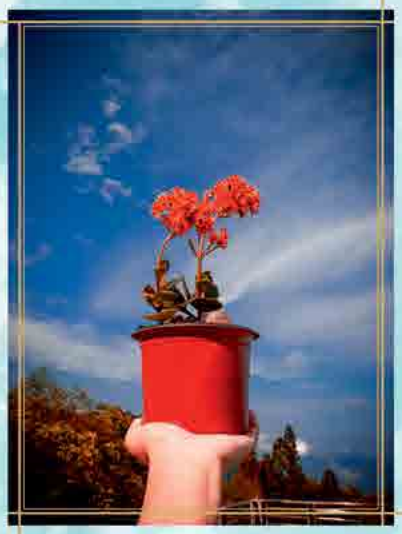
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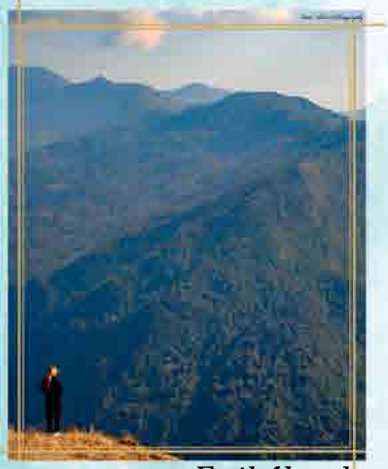
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2nd Sem
Mass Comm Honours



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2nd Sem
Mass Comm Honours



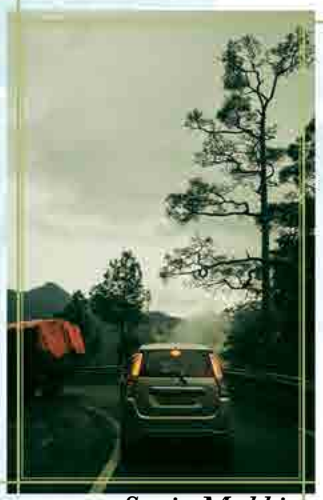
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4th Sem
English Honours



Sonia Mukhia
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Shaili Sarkar
3rd Semester
Department of Psychology





Shaili Sarkar
3rd Semester
Department of Psychology





Tshering Choden Kazi
3rd Sem
Psychology Honours









Rajeev Pradhaan
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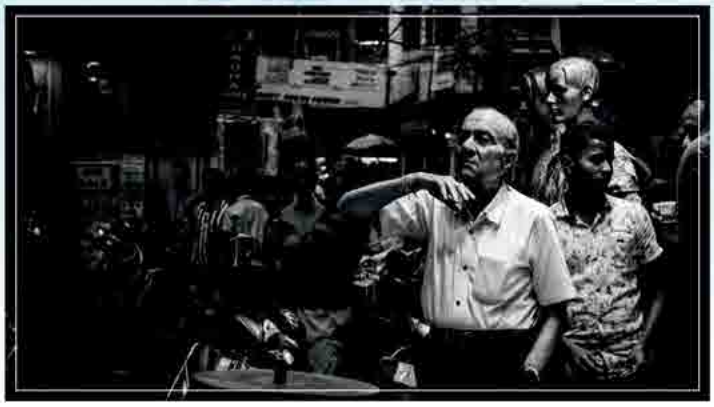


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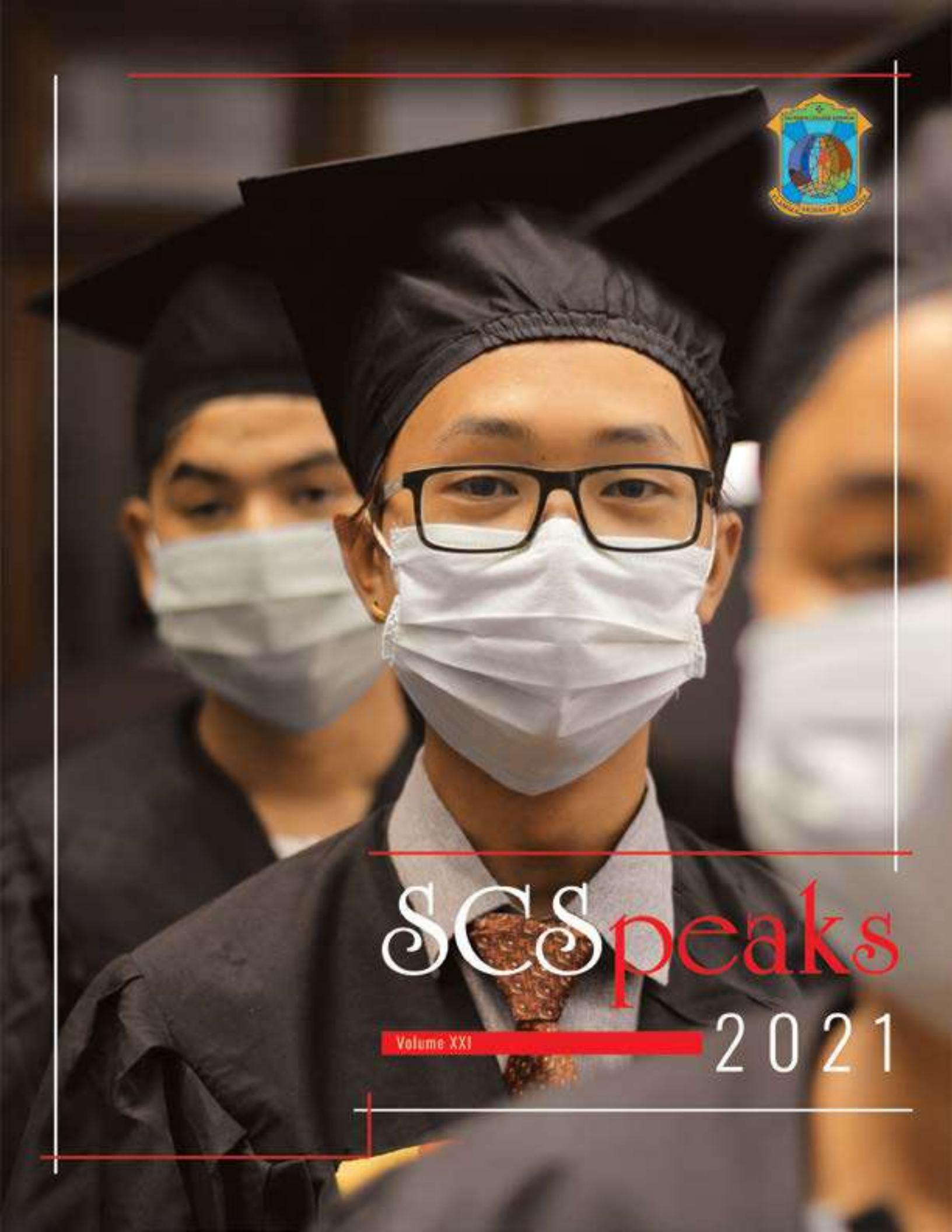
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SCS peaks

Volume XXI

2021

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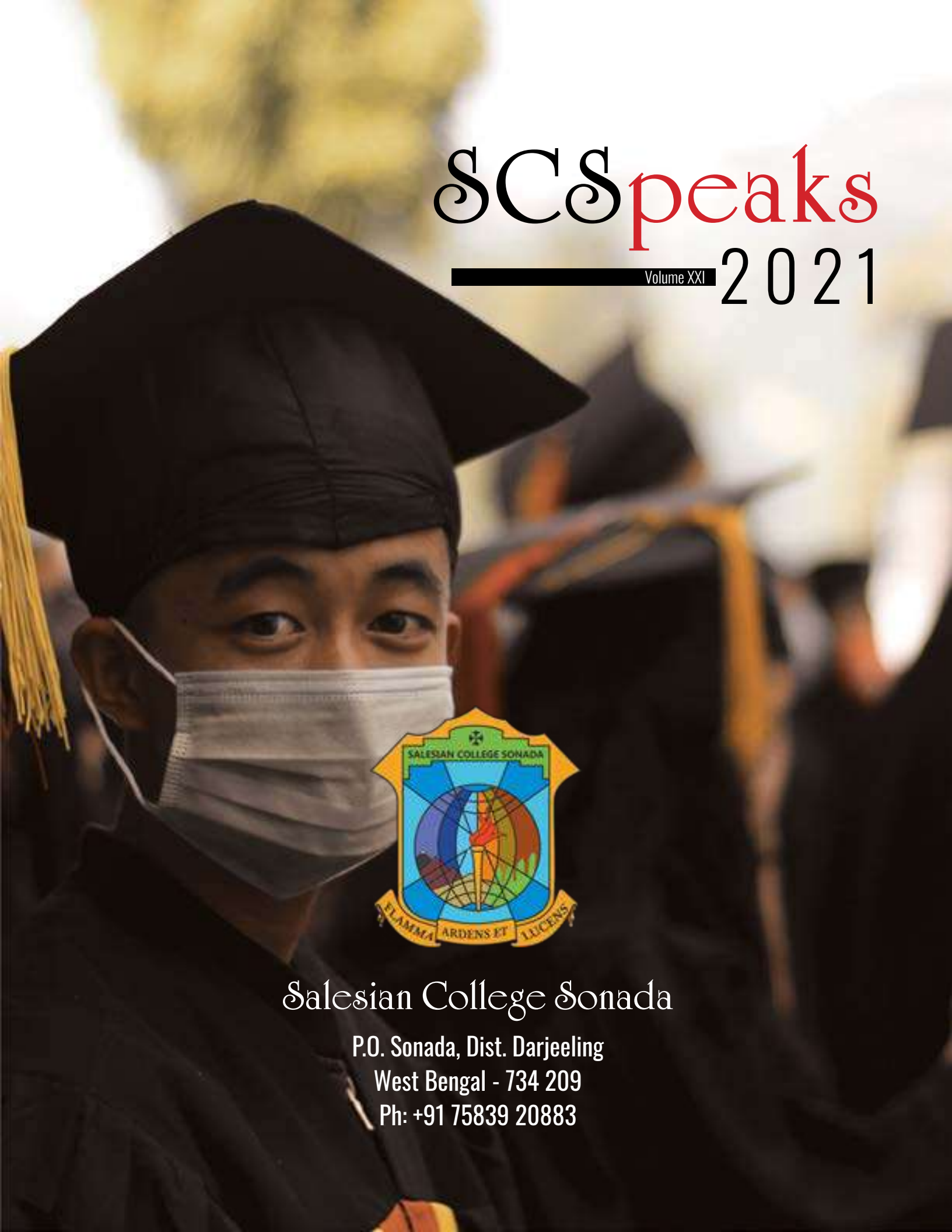
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SCSpeaks

Volume XXI

2021

Salesian College Sonada

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From the Rector

Welcome back!

It gives me immense pleasure to know that another issue of the SCSpeaks is on its way. Students and faculty have always found in it an excellent forum to express their literary and artistic talents which, I am sure, the readers will relish. This issue has been timely since it is being released as the students and faculty return to campus nearly after twenty months of lockdown due to Covid-19. When the lockdown was declared, the college was able to switch to the online mode quickly, thanks to our tech team, and we learned new ways of teaching, learning and assessing. Every cloud has a silver lining; every crisis provides opportunities to explore new avenues and come up with creative and innovative solutions. I am glad that the management, staff and students have been able to rise to the occasion and meet the challenges posed by the pandemic. We need to be grateful to God that we have been safe and secure during the pandemic.

As you return to campus I believe you are focused on your academic pursuits. A three-year undergraduate programme, well spent, can put you on a firm foundation for a successful academic and professional life. Remind yourselves of the goals you set as you sought admission to this college. What are your academic and career goals? What level of knowledge and skill set do you need to achieve them? To the knowledge and skills you acquire you need to add moral and spiritual values which will govern your personal and professional lives. Several of you are highly talented in singing, music, dance, sports, painting and other forms of art which you could develop to add an aesthetic dimension to your life. In this way you will have gained a whole person education and be future ready graduates.

As I conclude, I congratulate the editorial board and the contributors to this edition who have put in meticulous and diligent work to write, edit and publish this edition of the SCSpeaks. I am sure it is a rewarding experience to see it in print. I wish readers become good writers and good writers become editors and publishers in turn. God bless you all!

Fr. (Dr.) Tomy Augustine, SDB
Rector, Salesian College Sonada



From the Vice Principal

Dear friends,

We have now lived with Covid for over 22 months andduring this time been through a range ofmental, emotional and physical conditions - one of curiosity at the start of March 2020 that turned into fear with the country wide lockdownand the horrifying visuals of countless number of ambulances in the US and Europe rushing to and fro homes, hospitals and cemeteries,making us evenmoreanxious. Worry turned into anger and frustration due to our limited mobility, economic hardships and loss of loved ones. And when we thought with the vaccine around, the worst was over the second wave hit us harder than the first and we were left counting our losses – students, businesses, farmers, daily labourers and even the government. Wewere lulled in to a false belief that having the vaccine was a sure path to good health, wellbeing and a return to the pre-pandemic days,but were rudely awakened by the emergence of Omicron, less virulent but more infectious than the previous variants of the virus and once again we were forced to shut ourselves in.Now that the infections are down, we earnestly hope that are able to pick up the pieces and make a new beginning including returning to the campuses and saying a final good bye to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 or at least tolerate its existence in a nonthreatening way.

At some time during these past months, we have whined about our situation, felt helpless or at times even depressed. We have witnessed black marketing of Covid medicines and even of oxygen. We have also seen many who despite the hopelessness of the situation and loss of loved ones or income, came forward so self-sacrificingly to help others. Some others reinvented themselves, started new business or switched to a different occupation.

One of the lessons that Covid 19 has taught us is that the world is a global village and what happens in one part of the world has its ramifications across the globeas proved by Corona from China ravaging the world or the Ever Given getting stuck in the SuezCanal causing massive disruptions in trade. We live and operate in an interconnected world andcollaboration is better way to get ahead than competitionbe at international, national, local and even at the college level. We need each other. The richer nations stockpiled Covid vaccines many times more than their requirements only to realise that until the whole world was vaccinated, there was no safety for any one. We swim or sink together. What makespeople remember us isour good deeds and acts of kindness and not the amount of wealth we amassed or the number of degrees obtained, not even the good looks we crave for. Let us try to be nice to each other, help those in need, show kindness and compassion and be helpful. Let us support and stand up for each other, that together we are all able to realise dreams that we have weaved for ourselves.

Let us resolve to fight Corona virus and all the negativity surrounding it with the same vigour as we should fight indifference, hate and unkindness.

As we release the e-copy of SCSpeaks 2020-2021, I would like to congratulate and thank all those who are involved in bringing out this issue particularly Ms.TapaswiGurung who spent a lot time going through all the contributions, editing them and compiling them. Thanks to Fr. Ahish Peter D. who also went through the draft and offered his valuable suggestions and corrections. Thanks also to Mr. S. Alfred Dewan for the painstaking DTP work and the colourful layout. Thanks to all those who dared to contribute articles, poems, sketches etc. If we read more we will be able to write better and even improve our thinking processes. I am hopeful that the next edition will not only have more contributions from students and faculty but alsoof a standard and quality that befits a serious academic community.

Br. Jose Puthenpurackel, SDB
Vice Principal



From the Editor's Desk

Dear all,

The editorial team is out with yet another edition of SCSpeaks, the latest in a series of brilliant documentation of the creativity of the students. "Like a flame that shines and enlivens", the magazine bears a testimony to the spark that is present in each gifted individual of the Salesian family. Amidst the ongoing pandemic, each one has striven hard to render some sort of normalcy in their lives as the writings suggest. 'Change' is not always welcome, and yet, this change has broadened our horizons of the small compact world that we were living in. Shifting focus, changing perspectives and grappling with the unknown has made us wiser than we were before. Progressively speaking, it has also created a new awareness among all of us. Dear readers, you will be pleasantly surprised to read certain poems and articles that have a budding philosophical stance. Yet others will take you into a whirlwind of emotions and then you will understand why "the pen is mightier that the sword". Each contribution is no less than the other, be it a poem or a photograph.

SCSpeaks was but a tabula rasa, waiting to be filled with ideas from all its contributors and I can proudly say that all have risen to the occasion magnificently. I would like to thank and congratulate everyone for being a part of SCSpeaks.

Thank you for being a part of the legacy!

Ms. Tapaswi Rahul Gurung
Assistant Professor, HoD, Department of English

Articles





On Stan, Modern Education and Civilisations

Fr. Prof. George Thadathil, SDB, Principal, Salesian College

Stan Lourduswamy died in custody in Holy Family Hospital, Mumbai, on 5 July, 2021, after being incarcerated without bail for 10 months, for a case associated with mobilising the poor and marginalised Tribals and Dalits to demand their rights from the state. His last rites were performed on 6th July, in Mumbai and received rather wide media coverage. The protest against what is considered as a legally sponsored execution/slow killing of an innocent man; the case against whom was exposed to be an alleged crime, of which, the evidence consisted of planted (computer inserted) information in his and that of others like him still in prison by some agents who are - until exposed as it is against state - in the protection/cover of the state.

How do we read and respond to these from within the precincts of an educational institution? Some reflections befitting the occasion of the Annual Magazine recalling all that transpired and made us pause and think are attempted here.

The death of Stan, Jesuit priest-social-worker whose writings on religion and politics influenced the author as a young adult, while doing a graduation in theology after having completed bachelors in literature and a masters in philosophy. Even more, having had the opportunity to meet with the man who had a soft voice and gentle demeanour that stood out in contrast to the power of his written words.

How do we, Salesians in higher education, read the death of a Jesuit priest? Especially when the protagonist is a bearer of Jesuit education - the base probably for post-reformation modern civilisation in Europe and in Asia, be it China or India. And that too, located in India that transitions from being the colonial state with a pre-colonial legacy of education having strident aspiration for a more colossal post-colonial future in the making?

I would like to equate the death of Stan in the state-legal-judicial-criminal-custody - though quivering with Parkinson's and not able to feed himself yet being guarded even in hospital ward by men in uniform and arms (probably) - as Indian version of the thundering language of Xi Jinping on the 100th anniversary of CPL warning that the heads of those who dare resist the growth and expansion of Chinese ambitions would be crushed - stated in Tiananmen square where it did happen not to those who dared outside but inside (June 4, 1994).

Therefore, Stan's death can only be read by one in terms of cultural wars, long drawn out by those who are claimants to civilisational, historic legacies and aspirations all of which were questioned in the ascendancy of modernity and its logics spearheaded by Jesuit education through higher education and research, inventions and discoveries, explorations and technologies acquired over the last 800 years or so. In its wake it not only decimated the Egyptians (Africans), the Romans and Greeks but also the Mayans and Incas, the Indians of the Americas.

As if to do atonement for having been party to such decimations, here was one man re-writing the spirit of

inquiry which led to it, reintroducing it among the tribals of Chotanagpur, hailing from Tiruchirapally where the French Jesuits descended way back in the 16th century within decades of their appearance in Post-reformation Europe. His goal to reinstate the tribes against the marauding combination of state-corporation nexus of mega business, an outgrowth of colonial project met with resistance.

The continuation of a colonial project appropriated by the state and ushered against its own peoples of the forests, rich with minerals, was perceived as an attempt to topple the government. He indeed exposed through his writings the nakedness of its pretensions of being post-colonial with cultural nationalist facade exposing the evils of the colonial expropriation of a vast golden land with diamonds and raw materials to fatten the coffers of England and the Euro-American empires of modernity. He showed that the same decimation in equally colourful ways were being unleashed by the state against the descendants of the Dravidians who migrated into the forest lands and escaped the onslaughts of an erstwhile Aryan invasion which made debris of the Indus Valley and Mohanjo Daro but continue to manifest their capabilities and intelligence. They had taken to their bow and arrow as well as turned Naxals and state warriors (salwajudum) with corporate supplied arms and communication technology succeeding to survive in the jungles of Gadchiroli and Bastar-Chattisgarh.

This is indeed an usurpation of the logic which made victim into victor. It is repeated carrying forward the past mistakes of past cultural wars in order to revive genuine civilisation - as attempted by an Ambedkar in his essays on 'Caste and Gandhi' as against Gandhi's own letters and speeches, prevaricating between the tribal/dalit and the bania-brahmin logics operating at large in the resurgent, India.

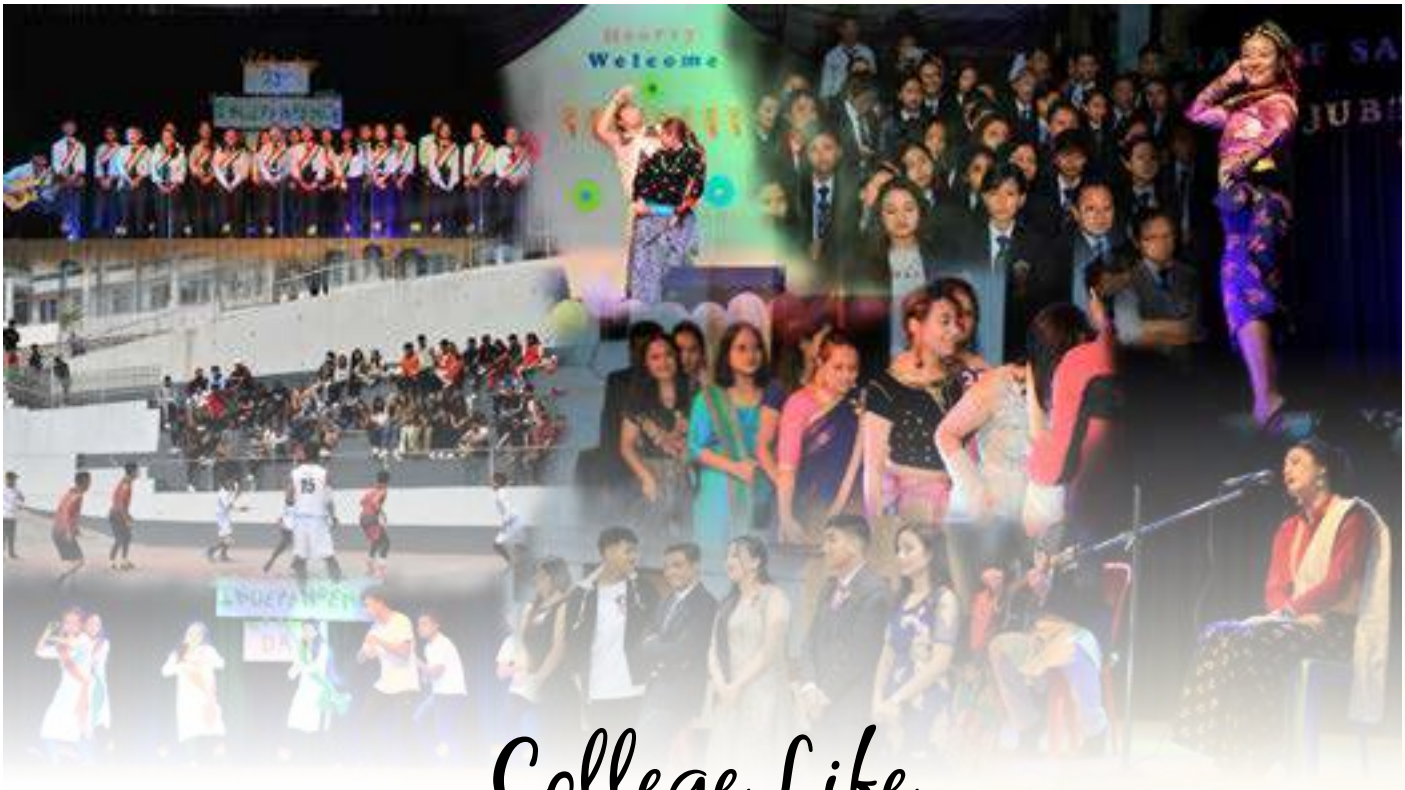
Stan Lourduswamy, in other words, was a threat to a status quo - just like when Sidhartha the Prince who left the palace became Buddha, Asoka the Prince who left the battles of Kalinga, not far from the battle grounds of nirvana and vedanta, or like a Kabir and Amir Khusro or a Gandhi who proposed something new; and even more, like the quintessential Ambedkar who framed the constitution to reengineer the same amalgamation of the east and west, north and south, to find the essence of plurality in the monotheism of the upanishads and in the ganasangas of the pre-buddhist pastoral-agrarian enclaves. These were unorthodox attempts to unsettle orthodoxy and that tradition of prophets have been given a telling in all traditions - Bible the Testament of Stan is replete with such precursors.

Do we dare question, reframe, reinvent, recreate for our times and days an education that will pave the way for a new generation being born out of the pandemic? If we succeed, that would be the fitting tribute to Stan Swamy - an inclusive education in the post-pandemic world to address the inequalities of the world with a new vision. The endurance of the human spirit to fight for justice, and not to cow down to the mighty and powerful - the source of an inner power - is what such heroes do unveil. Stan's request in the last days to return to his place of work and die there could be seen as his submission to the desires of the sate. A surrender to stop speaking as he was nearing his end - unable to speak anymore - yet it could have been construed as his body desiring to speak on; and thus denied. So his ashes in an urn has been entombed in the land for which he laboured.

What then is the future we envisage? An education that opens the minds of a younger generation to the twin realities - the virtual and the real. The real has given way to the virtual as the be-all and end-all. Yet the reality of their body, mind and spirt struggling with the transactions of the family, neighbourhood, sustenance related commerce are all to be taught as negotiable once again for their welfare. The future wellbeing of the individual as depending critically in the ability to mitigate across these two worlds - the real and the virtual. Sharing of resources, making what is available as everybody's property, for everyone's usage, turns out to be a dire necessity.

Making available legal education, social work as profession and nursing care as a response to the aging population are but three among the many ways in which education can be reframed in an original way from renewed perspectives - the cultural wars would be redeemed in these professions given the practical application and its reach into the psyche of the individual as well as the social consciousness.

Attempts are on to reinvent education to serve an elite as against the masses. The adaptability education offers to the recipients to accommodate tradition and modernity - the Indian and western - amalgamating and framing a collage is probably what the NEP has done with the hope that experiments of this order will happen in some way in all the institutions. At least we are here to dare try.



College Life

Riday Rai, Dept. of Commerce, 3rd Semester

A college is a dreamland of a student's academic career. It is a fascinating panorama of enjoyment, freedom and friendship. Sweet memories and pleasures of college life are simply amazing. The first and the last days, groups of friends, unexpected holidays, functions of curricular and extracurricular activities and adventures in hostels make college life the most memorable and unforgettable part of one's life.

College life is that phase in one's life when one learns the most important lessons of life

College life with freedom and an excellent learning environment has a long lasting effect on a student's life. The quality of the teachers and their effective teaching styles really make college life exceptional. The interaction of well-educated teachers and new classmates create a positive environment where thoughts are exchanged, new hopes generated and dreams have the possibility of turning into a reality. The buildings are huge and impressive with big halls for functions and lawns and playing fields. Equally impressive are the labs and the well-equipped library.

In college, there is interaction with different people from different places and different families so that a student is able to know about different traditions and styles. This brings about a good effect on the personality and also instils a spirit of unity, brotherhood and friendship. The most interesting part of college life is the tours and visits to different places. The tours with classmates and college fellows help in understanding and caring about each other better. Spending time with each other or in groups makes those moments more memorable and fosters friendship for life.

College life is basically a route towards professional education. From the professional point of view, college is the best place to nurture an individual. Apart from providing the best of facilities and education, it also helps build one's personality which ensures the best route to success. For a career to flourish, one needs to have a proper foundation and a college provides just that. Thus, college life is indeed the most memorable part of one's life. The lesser number of classes to be attended and the freedom of the students to come and go meant a completely new kind of academic World

In the end, I can say that college life is a beautiful blend of memories, both joyous and sad, the charms of which can never fade away.



Can a teen live without the Internet?

Alisha Lepcha, Dept. of Commerce, 4th Semester

Think about how many times a week you use the internet. Now consider just how many times an hour you use the same. If you are like me, that's a lot of time. Now imagine how your life would be if the internet was taken away from you. No warning, no preparation - it's just gone! Would you be able to continue your daily routines or would the loss of internet drastically affect your life?

Internet was established in 1990 and is one of the most successful technological inventions of the modern era. In its early stages, the majority of users were adults and large businesses. Internet officially began dominating teens' time when social media made a breakthrough with blogging sites in the year 1999.

Heading into the 21st century, it is hard to believe that teenagers would be able to live without the internet. Millennials lack communication skills because of how easy it is to speak and express oneself through social media. Therefore, without the internet, we would not know how to talk to each other and that would be the end of life as we know it.

Have you ever been curious about finding water drops in the fire? If the answer is 'Yes', then life without internet is possible and it is not a cup of tea for a few teenagers. But are you someone who can control your emotions? You cannot afford to live a happy and enjoyable life if you don't know the power of the web today. We have surpassed the old era and are now living in a world where everything happens on the internet.

Internet has become so useful for students and teachers alike that its absence would be absolutely devastating. Students are used to this tool as it helps to complete assignments and more. Thus most would not be able to function without it because we've never had to find information without it. The internet is also the primary way for teenagers to stay connected to the rest of the world. Instead of watching the news, teens use Twitter or Google to find out every significant event happening around the whole world. We don't have to wait for a television crew to find the information we seek.

As teenagers, we were born into the most technically advanced time in our world's history. It would be nearly impossible for us to go without something we've had for our entire life. Teenagers today are becoming so accustomed to the internet, especially social media, that our dependency on it is almost unbreakable.

I do not believe anyone in the 21st century, especially us teenagers, would be able to live without the internet because we've lived with it for so long-and we obviously love it!

"Go Nomad"

Peter Gomes, Dept. of Commerce, 6th Semester

"Not all those who wander are lost" - J.R.R. Tolkien

A fantastic journey into the world of fiction, exotic creatures and a majestic setting, Tolkien certainly gave his readers an epic high end fantasy novel. Most of you have come across the book or the movie, "The Lord of the Rings", which not only pleases its fans with the fantastic mythical creatures but also catches the attention of many travellers across the world. The movie uncovers the heavenly landscape of New Zealand. From the towering Mt. Doom in Mordor to the dreamy Hobbiton in the Shire, New Zealand's other worldly landscapes bring the movie to life. Although movies give us a virtual dose of nature, we still tend to be trapped inside for days dreaming of visiting some of these heavenly places at least once in our lifetime!

Do you all also get a case of itchy feet from time to time or is it just me? I get tired being tied down to one place for too long nowadays. We all have a soul that longs to wander off to places sometimes. We often keep daydreaming about travelling around the world. As a matter of fact, we may have daydreamed so much that we even have a bucket list of places we want to travel at least once in our life. Honestly, if you don't have such dreams and plans, your life is pretty monotonous. However, indulging in travelling might take up resources more than what we readily have available. As for us students, time is of essence. Travelling requires to pick your life for a few days and later face the consequences of missing them out. Furthermore, it happens to be quite expensive. To be fair, the allowances we get every month barely cuts for a good trip even for a day. I come from a middle class family where honestly a trip to anywhere other than within the country or staying in five star hotels is considered a luxury.



But for me, I don't have the urge to go on glamorous trips. Travelling has nothing to do with glamour or luxury, it is about novelty: seeing new places and meeting new people even within the country.

Travelling teaches us a lot of important lessons, for instance- about how to leave your comfort zone and overcome insecurity. Coming from Kolkata and being exposed to a completely new place has been my greatest adventure so far. Since my childhood, I have been to a few places from my school and football team, but never had I ever travelled alone. But today, three years later, I have a completely different outlook on life and honestly, Darjeeling has been one of the greatest decisions I have taken so far! Many still ask me the reason for leaving Kolkata to study here. I thought that I would take this answer to my grave, but to reveal my secret, I was propelled by a quote on Instagram, "go study in a place where you want to spend your vacation". It was impulsive and naïve but I have no regrets about my decision whatsoever. In all these years as a student in Salesian College, Sonada, I have had more adventures and travelled much more than in the first two decades of my life. My love for travelling has made me humble, modest and allowed me to overcome my pessimistic attitude and showed me how little I matter on this planet. If I could offer any advice, it would be, "Travel, as it is an investment in yourself". Travel without destination and enjoy the journey. Life is short, so travel and become your own storyteller!

Deranged Manoeuver

Anjana Sharma, Dept. of English, 6th Semester

"There are degrees of madness and the madder you are, the more obvious it will be to other people. Most of my life I have hidden my madness within myself but it is there" -Charles Bukowski

We all know this sort of madness. The sort that does not have a clear source or diagnosis. Not the extreme cases, but the subtle kind that lurks within all the so called normal. We traditionally only see and call it madness when it finally reaches its apex, exceeding its surface layer onto the world past one's abilities, interests or willingness to contain it to at least some extent. Arguably, some form of it is always there. We see it when we don't recognize ourselves in the mirror. We feel it when we wake up from a strange sleep and the room is coated with a dreamlike glaze of another reality. We live it when we look out at the world, up at the sky and down the street into another's face and experience a strange disquiet that we haven't the slightest clue what we are looking at. We know it when we try, when we fail, when we succeed, when a shoelace snaps or the tire goes flat.

There is a cliché attributed to Albert Einstein, though it was almost certainly never said by him, that definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results. Regardless of its likely misattribution, it is fair to accept this at least one summation of a sort of insanity. But if this is true, that's not life itself. This is not everything in human life, an endeavour with the goal of complete resolution of solace, reconciliation of control, peace or happiness; all of which seem to be and always have been perpetually unsatisfactory and unobtainable. The human project is a continuous cycle of essentially trying the same things





over and over and expecting different results. Madness is not the exception. It is the norm. The loss of early youthful innocence marks the death of sanity not because we were just young, but there were no expectations attached to us. To be a young child, shouting and running around with his/her imaginary friend is not crazy or mad.

He/she will be seen just as a child. However, an adult doing the same thing, is of course a mad man. Thus, it is at this juncture of maturity, when expectations of sanity are enacted, that madness is born. It is not a behaviour alone but the confined nature of how we can no longer behave, which synthesizes this sort of internal experience of a general madness. Only when the child in us is muzzled and clothed in a strait jacket do we feel this madness previously inexistent to us. We don't understand what perfect sanity is, but must act as though we do. What follows is a sort of sane insanity of life. It is likely that everyone experiences thoughts, desires, compulsion of behaviour, realized or unrealized that are by all general standards dipping into some depths of lunacy.

"Men are so necessarily mad that not to be mad would amount to another form of madness" - Blaise Pascal

Madness is perhaps one of the few words that accurately summarize humankind so succinctly touching both ends of it: the good and bad, the noble and the absurd. The day to day requirements and expectations of social living to be calm, patient, responsible, impressive, rational and all the rest in any given moment can go against all the likely equitable reasons to not be any of these things. We expect the world and the world expects us to be clear, lucid or rational but that mad child is still inside us existing with its relative stupidity but denied the innocence to justify it; screaming and shaking muscles and a strait jacket, never fully ready to grieve its own death. Perhaps then to some extent, at least on occasions, we should be understanding and forgiving to ourselves as well as others. If that child breaks out to blow off a little steam, if we act out of character, if we make jarring decisions, if we lose a bit of grip and if we act a bit foolish, there is still wisdom in this sort of madness. A wisdom that reminds us that there are no right paths, no set directions, no certain answers, no dumb questions that up is down, down is up, that the world is anything and nothing and that it's not that serious.

"Be silent and listen; have you recognised your madness? Do you admit it? Have you noticed that all your foundations are completely mired in madness? You wanted to accept everything, so accept madness too. Let that light of your madness shine, and it will suddenly turn on you. Madness is not to be despised and not to be feared, but instead you should give it life. Be glad that you can recognise it, for you will avoid becoming its victim. Madness is the special form of the spirit and clings to all the teachings and philosophies, but even more to daily life since life itself is full of craziness and utterly illogical. Man strives to word reason only so that he can make rules for himself. Life itself has no rules. That is its mystery and it's an old law what you call knowledge is an attempt to impose something comprehensible in life" - Carl Jung



Self Motivation is a Power

Amisha Rai, Dept. of Political Science, 2nd Semester

Sometimes we feel highly motivated and energized and the next day, we feel low and we don't want to be around people. Why do you think this happens? It is due to our state of mind. The thought, all the decisions we take, the actions we do, all depend on our current state of mind. For example, when you've got something to do and you want to do it, you're interested and happy to put your efforts into completing the task. In this situation, we are self-motivated.

"Self- motivation is, in its simplest form, the force that drives you to do things."

It is motivation which drives you to achieve your goal and it is motivation which comes from within you when you sincerely want it. If your motivation comes from within and pushes you to achieve for yourself and for your own personal reasons, then this can be considered as Self-motivation. If you are only motivated for the sake of money, and not for your own satisfaction, you will lose interest shortly because then, you are probably not self-motivated. Self-motivation will not only make you motivated and help you to work better, but also affect your mental health. It will help you overcome stress, make you internally happier and give you good vibes.

"Self-motivation requires personal standards against which to evaluate ongoing performance. By making self-satisfaction conditional on a certain level of performance, individuals create self-inducements to persist in their efforts until their performances match internal standards. Both the anticipated satisfactions for matching attainments and the dissatisfactions with insufficient ones provide incentives for self-directed actions" (Bandura and Schunk, 1981)

From this given quote, you can believe in yourself that you can do it, and that your plans will work out. Everything is possible if you're interested and if you work hard, you will reach the standards that you have set for yourself.

True Feminism

Jyotika Sikdar, Dept. of Mass Com & Journalism, 2nd Semester

We all have heard about the word "Feminism", but do we really know what true feminism is or do we just boast about it? Feminism stands for women's interests, equality, physical autonomy for women and standing against domestic and sexual violence. What feminism doesn't really stand for is getting "EXTRA" rights/liberties/privileges/superiority than other genders. What I have seen in these many years of my understanding is that many women use feminism wrongly. They use it in a dominating manner, bordering on violence. Because of the wrong usage of the term, people seem averse to it. I have personally experienced this situation many times where I have seen women comparing themselves with other genders in a way that is unnecessary and offensive. This kind of a situation may happen anywhere, in schools, colleges, workplaces or public spaces. Sometimes, this may happen because of any emotional wound leading to psychological injury or the person's upbringing in the society.



Situations where feminism can be misused must be avoided as it creates a wrong impression about the idea among other genders. A feminist is not compulsorily a woman; it can be anyone. Supporting and uplifting each other is what true feminism stands for. There are ample ways of practising feminism. One of them which I believe is the strongest way is, "No matter how difficult the situation is or whoever is standing against us, irrespective of age, gender, caste, religion and language, we should stand for ourselves and encourage others to take a stand wherever and whenever necessary, for themselves". Feminism is also about not letting anyone discourage or demoralize us through appearance because it is just a manipulative illusion of what they want us to believe. It is not that truth and in order to make them understand, first we need to understand that our ethics and beliefs are stronger than we think they are.

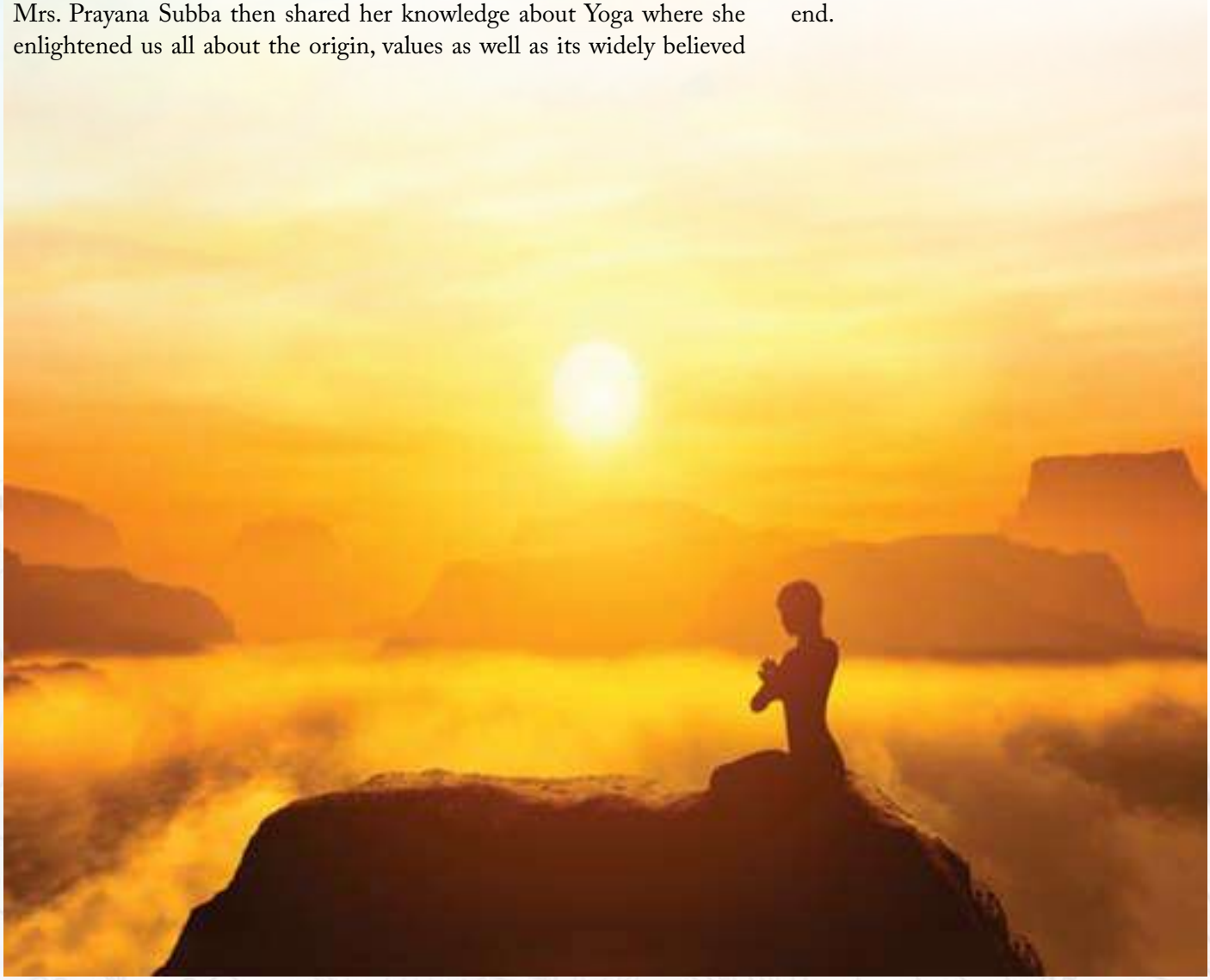
International Yoga Day

Riwaj Diyali, Dept. of Mass Com & Journalism, 4th Sem

Salesian College Sonada organised an online webinar on 21st June to celebrate the International Yoga Day. The online session was organised by National Service Scheme and Department of Sports Management on Google Meet from 09:00 to 10:00 a.m. The theme for the session / event was "Yoga for well-being". The organisers for this session were Mr. Samip Sinchuri, Mr. Rakesh Saibo and Mrs. Prayana Subba, including the volunteers, namely Riwaj Diyali, Prashanti Pradhan, Jenni Limbu, Sikha Tamang, Kriti Chettri and Farman Khan.

Amidst the chaotic pandemic, the early morning yoga vibes filled each and every participant with spiritual as well as blissful energy, which is of utmost necessity for our wellbeing. The session began with a welcome speech by the host (Farman Khan), followed by the Vice-Principal's words of encouragement to students for their Internal Examinations. Mrs. Prayana Subba then shared her knowledge about Yoga where she enlightened us all about the origin, values as well as its widely believed misconceptions. She then set the stage for other student demonstrators by performing Sirsasan.

Yoga Asanas were then demonstrated by the students- Surya Namaskar by Riwaj Diyali, Vajrasana by Jenny Limbu, Gomukhasana by Kriti Chettri, Paschimottanasana by Shikha Tamang and Natrajasana by Prashanti Pradhan. After all the demonstrations were over, a vote of thanks was delivered by the host and the online webinar on the occasion of International Yoga Day came to an end.



Domestic Violence against Women

Amisha Rai, Dept. of B.Voc., 4th Semester



Violence against women is a widespread problem, with appalling physical, sexual, emotional, psychological and economic consequences for girls and women (Gill and Rehman, 2004). It affects women of every age, in everyday society and in every socioeconomic group. "Violence against women refers to any act of gender based violence that results in, or is likely to result in physical, sexual, or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or private life". Violence against women shall be understood to be economic-pass, but not limited to the following:

- Physical, sexual and psychological violence in the family, including battering, sexual abuse of female children in the household, dowry related violence, marital rape, female genital mutilation and other traditional practices harmful to women, non-spousal violence and violence related to exploitation;
- Physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring within the general community, including rape, sexual abuse, sexual harassment and intimidation at work, in educational institutions and elsewhere, trafficking in women and forced prostitution;
- Physical, sexual and psychological violence perpetrated or condoned by the state, wherever it occurs.

This is important so that policy makers have a full understanding of the issues involved in violence against women, otherwise the laws and policies that are formulated are likely to be ineffective.

Covid-19, the Innovator

Fr. C.M. Paul, SDB, Director, Radio Salesian

The new normal of Covid pandemic provoked me to do what I would not even dream nor dare venture in the normal situation. From the first lockdown last March 2020, I was compelled to think out of the box to come up with radio lessons for YouTube, a concept to provide 2nd and 4th semester under graduate students of North Bengal University's 64 colleges with short modules of lessons in 13 subjects through radio broadcasts and YouTube.

The idea of starting weekly podcast with Salesian News summary from South Asia launched on 24th May 2020 was another venture which now completed over one year and now covers Asia-Pacific region which has 26 Salesian provinces spread out in 29 countries.

The podcast success propelled me to do an RJ hunt in both Siliguri and Sonada campuses drawing some 118 potential Radio Journalists. For the first phase of RJ training, many students chickened out with the first audition requiring participants to submit a one minute audio recording on any topic of their interest.



Well, for the second phase of RJ training, before the second Covid wave, we had eight students to plan and kick off the first ever CAMPUS THIS WEEK radio program on 29th March 2021 covering events of both campuses. Students report and send both text and voice bytes on their smartphones. RJ Moses packages the show which is broadcast on every Monday at 6 pm. The 10 minute show is also available on www.anhor.fm/radio-salesian podcast platform.



The reporting experience further ignited the imagination of another set of students to start their own weekly radio show entitled: TEEN TALKS, consisting of five segments including beauty tips to look good, secret confessions for laughter, talent exposure, this week in history, and Only One Life to Live, on 24th April 2021. Students take turns to host the various segments from their homes in Siliguri, Kurseong, Darjeeling or Sonada.

RJ Rejina and RJ Dikshit help package the 15 minute show.

Say "No" to Child Labour, "Yes" to Education
"Labour for No Child Labour"

Sreosi Saha, Dept. of Mass Com. and Journalism, 2nd Semester

Is India finally heading towards the utopian ideal where every child is ensured with carefree childhood? If your answer is yes, please think again. As per Census 2011, the total child population in India in the age group of 5-14 years is 259.6 million. Of these, 10.1 million (3.9% of the total child population) are working, either as 'main worker' or as 'marginal worker'.

However, these are just estimates, the figures in the censored reality are even higher. Child labour goes far beyond than the tea stall boy that you see every morning, or the shabby walls of various manufacturing units that are untold entities of inexpressible misery.

According to the 'Nimble Fingers' theory, the finding that children are more likely to work on low-quality rather than high-quality carpets, refutes the 'Nimble Fingers' argument used by apologists of child labour. According to ILO estimates, replacing the 22% of the work force currently occupied by children with adults would cause wages to rise by about 5%. Children who are too small and under-aged, work in factories to earn their living and moreover, die due to sickness and disease. Article 24 states prohibition of employment of children in factories and such. No child below the age of 14 years shall be employed in work in any factory or mine, or engaged in any other hazardous employment.



While child labour is prominent at every stage from brick making to working in glass manufacturing factories, it is killing the health and their childhood as each day passes. Their morning begins by rushing to the factories on empty stomachs and working through the entire day inhaling toxic chemicals. The policemen and the 'Sahookars', instead of helping, try to take advantage and employ the poor and the needy and drag them to the harsh world of politics. Even children working at cotton mills were found to have inhaled fine strands of cotton, which accumulated in the little lungs, leading to imminent death. There is so much that escapes us in our society that is so devastating. The demand of child labour today is purely rooted in minor reasons. People 'buy children' because they 'come cheap'. Let us understand now that the social and the economic condition of the country is so capitalistic that human beings are sold for the benefit of economy but the question is that how exactly the children, who are the future of a nation, benefit its welfare by travelling away, day and night at such a tender age?

What happened to morality and ethics? What happened to empathy and pity? What about children being the future of tomorrow? And above all, what happened to humanity? What we require today is not only government policies but a mass movement, one which involves you, me and everyone. The only aim of this movement should be education for all, zero practice of child labour. Only if we go hand in hand and try to achieve our aim with dedication, we will succeed and yes, charity begins at home.

SAY "NO" TO CHILD LABOUR, "YES" TO EDUCATION

Encourage others to spread the word and create the thought.

Womanhood

Jyotika Sikdar, Dept. of Mass Com. and Journalism, 2nd Semester

I come from a family consisting of different cultures and as I am an only child to my parents, I never had to share their love and attention. I always got what I wanted or needed as a child and even as a teenager. However, things are changing now as I am growing up to become a young woman. At first, I couldn't understand if it was me or the world that my parents couldn't trust, which I was so keen to explore. But then I realized the real dilemma that they were in. I often wondered why games like Football or Cricket were referred to as the games meant for boys in our society. Why was it that men are preferred more when it comes to muscle power? Why is it that in a place like school where we were supposed to learn equality, divided the boys and girls into two different lines in the assembly? Why were we forced to sit separately in our classes? Why is it so that boys and girls can't play together as they grow? Why is it that girls were treated differently than the boys? Back then, I thought that girls were supposed to be treated as "a fragile beings", as if we would break when touched. Things became more complex when I reached High School. From being children, we were growing up to become teenagers. Lots and lots of questions popped into my mind related to how I looked or how presentable I was to my classmates. I saw more and more names being withdrawn from the sports team. As girls, we were more conscious of how we looked in front of the other gender. Looks mattered more than our abilities to outshine any physical challenge thrown at us. Somewhere knowingly, we enjoyed more being the weaker part of society.



Now that I have grown to become a young woman, I somewhat understand that as girls, we don't need other people to make us feel weak, we do it ourselves. If this isn't true, why is it that only women need empowerment? Why don't the men need to be equally empowered as women? I have so far realized that before the society restricts us from doing certain things which they feel are only meant for men, we restrict ourselves from the fear of society's gaze on us. Why do we always have to fight to fit in? Why can't we just be there? Why do we women mostly have a vision of getting married and raising children? Why don't we work hard to earn as much as the men do?

I might sound a bit too bold here, but it is what it is. We as human beings and not as separated genders need to provide a helping hand to each other so that we not only become strong as an individual but also strong as a society where no gender will feel inferior. We could make it by crushing the very old patriarchal system. Every word I have shared in this article is deeply related to me from the very beginning when I realized how it feels to be a girl in a society where we are "mostly an option, not a priority".

Well, I Don't know!

Abhay Joshi, Dept. of Sociology, 2nd Semester

Is it your name and title that makes you, YOU, or is it your experience, your relationship with the world around that makes you, YOU, or maybe it's just your consciousness which makes you believe you are YOU?

Ship of Thesaus is a paradox which revolves around this idea of identity. Imagine that a huge ship named Thesaus is getting old and a few of its planks are exchanged with the new ones. Exchange of old parts of the ship continues to a point where there is not a single part of the old ship remaining. So, is the ship with new parts the same old Ship of Thesaus? Thus, finding the core of what makes someone or who they are, can be challenging.

Well, humans are fascinating! Humans only know through the perspective of humans and yet come to the conclusion that they know everything. Rational animals providing rational explanation of 'causes' is a human concept. Think of it this way; everything you and I know is named by humans- earth, water, tree, universe, even 'you' and 'I'. Everything known to man is named by man. So humans, in a sense is limited to what humans are capable of understanding. If there is knowledge beyond a human mind, it is not accessible- maybe there is a 'true meaning' of life which we may never know.

How free of man are you when something or someone has already decided that you are a human? That something or someone can be termed as 'God', religion or any random idea you prefer. The point being stressed upon here is the 'freedom' not bound by space and time (if there is any space and time!).

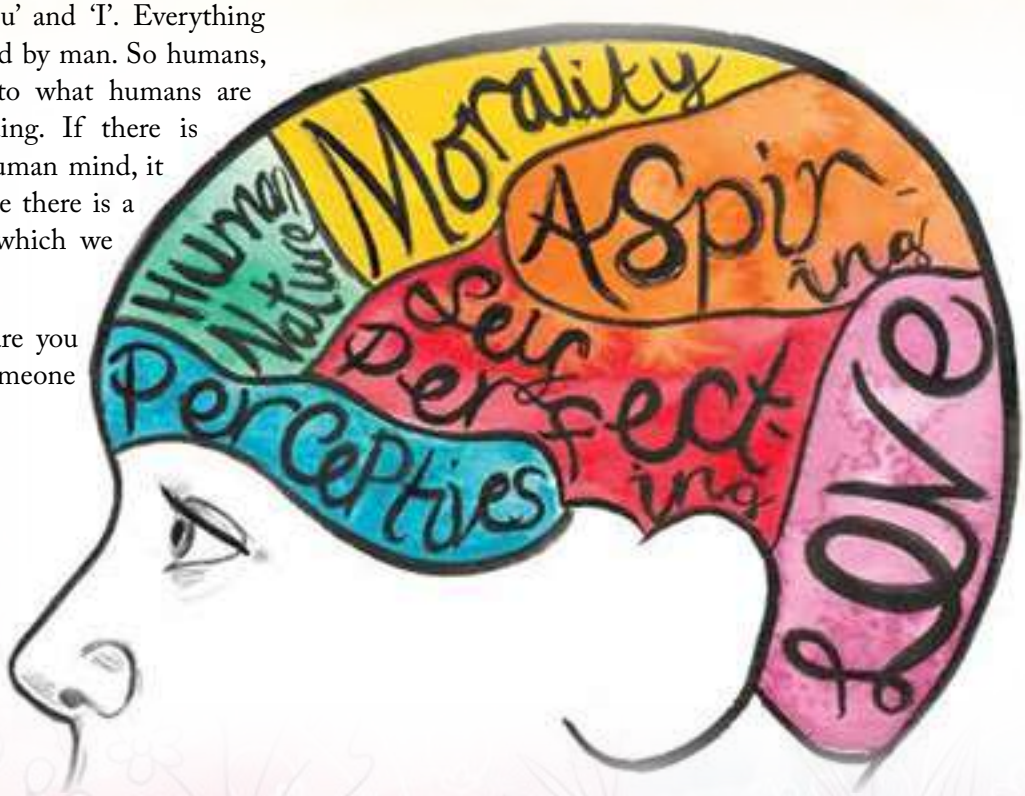
Fated and pure randomness.

Me, writing this, is fated or is it pure randomness? You, reading this- fated or pure randomness? You, saying this is complete randomness, can be fated and vice-versa! There is no alternative. Never has been and never will be. All we can do is think about how certain scenarios 'could' have been different, and nothing more.

Do we really have a choice or is it an illusion? You are YOU because of the time frame that you are living in, people around you, society, your ethnicity, your genes, your family, friends, movies, music, art, literature, books and most importantly because you THINK you are you. Maybe it is your thinking that wants you to think it makes you, YOU.

I don't know the answer to any of it (or it's my thinking which makes me think I don't know the answer to any of it!). I hope you get the point here.

All I know is that I know nothing - Socrates



Dalit Politics and Dalit Movement

Adarsh Tamang (Rumba), Dept. of Sociology, 2nd Semester

(Dalit politics and Dalit movement in post-independent era)



Dalit is a very significant term used in the context of India. As such, it is a term which has been associated and has been a burning issue for several decades. The word 'Dalit' refers to the backward masses residing in the Indian sub-continent, representing the segment of people who were deprived of their basic needs, even to exist as a normal human being; a dichotomy and a history of more than 2000 years of suppression. The first recorded use of the word 'Dalit' was in the year 1831, in the Marathi-English dictionary by an army officer of the East India Company, J.J. Molesworth.

The Dalit segment, originally known as "Asprashya" (untouchable), "antwaseen" (residing last) and "antaj" (last born), was later renamed as "Sudras and atisudras", "Dalit and pat-dalit" referring to backward and untouchables by the 19th century Indian reformist Jyotiba Phule. These terms were then later replaced by the umbrella term "Harijan" by Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi in his book "Harijans" meaning 'Children of God'. Although the term was widely accepted by the Dalit segment during the post independent era, the Bahujan Samaj strongly opposed to the use of this word in reference to the Dalits as both the words have a widely different meaning.

Dalit: This term has an Indian (Marathi) origin which simply implies to the backward and neglected class in India with its formal meaning being 'depressed section/class'.

Harijan: According to the Bahujan Samaj, it is a term with highly negative connotations that can be traced back to the 18th and 19th century. People residing in the villages, especially the newly married couples would visit temples to acquire the blessings of 'Hari' (Lord Vishnu) and the temple priest, so that the couple could conceive a healthy child. However, if they gave birth to a girl child, they would leave the child in the temple, who after acquiring a certain age, would work in a temple. The dark veracity lies henceforth, "the priest and the temple guards would rape these young women" but since they were 'holy men', their heinous deeds and crimes went unacknowledged. Further, these young women were forced to marry the statue of "Hari" and children born to such single mothers were referred to as Harijans, with its direct and simple implication, meaning children of God.

In June 2018, the use of the word 'Dalit' was challenged further as a legal battle was waged by an activist, Pankaj Meshram. He filed a public interest litigation in the Bombay High Court asking for the removal of the word 'Dalit' from public discourse, while completely replacing it with the more constitutional term, 'Scheduled Caste'.

Brief History:

Indian Caste System is based on the Varna System of the Manusmriti and the Vedas, the religious texts of Indian religion. Even the Bhagwad Gita talks about the Varna System, with the Brahmins (priests/teachers) on top of the social hierarchy followed by Kshatriyas (rulers/ warriors), Vaishyas (farmers/traders/ merchants) and Shudras (labourers). In addition to the four, a fifth group of 'outcasts' was said to exist, their profession considered to be unclean and therefore considered as 'untouchables'. The four-fold system was derived from the Brahman texts, which were often accused of being theoretical. If one has ever read the Bhagwad Gita, one would see that the 'holy text' fails to answer some of its own questions. The text might be metaphorical, however there is no specific reason in the first place if it could be changed later on. It leaves the readers with the question, 'was the translator at fault'? In 1871, W.R. Cornish, British supervisor of the census operations in the Madras Presidency stated, ". . .regarding the origin of caste we can place no reliance upon the statements made in the Hindu sacred writings. Whether there was ever a period in which the Hindus were composed of four classes is exceedingly doubtful".

C.F. Magrath, author of a monograph on the 1871 Bihar census, pointed out "that the now meaningless division into the four castes alleged to have been made by Manu should be put aside". Thus, it would be safe to say that the Scheduled Caste [Dalit (ex-untouchables)] in the pre-colonial era did get a sense of mild relief under the colonial rule as all the Indians were mused into a general category for the ease of administration. However, the lacerations laid down by the Varnasrama Theory and its implications that was extensively practiced by the Brahmanical structure made it difficult for the Dalits to function and come at par with the other Indian communities. The Dalit movement can be cited as a defence mechanism to counter the age long suppression.

Dalit Politics:

The origin of caste system can be traced back to the early pre-modern society when the influx of the Aryans began in the Indian sub-continent from the Middle East and into the fertile land of the Ganges. The historians suspect that the Aryans were the masters of the skill of 'divide and rule' and that is how they succeeded to conquer the superior number of indigenous people, even with the inferior number in the race for the construction of a civilization. The myth of rebirth could also have been devised by the Aryans. The concept of rebirth clearly works on the concept of karma, which in general relates to one's deeds



and actions that in turn results in the rebirth and also justifies the suffering that one is going through. The most significant notion to be noted here is that these texts were written down by mere humans who did not know any better, which leaves a room for us to theorise that the Varna system was a mere fabrication rather than a tool constructed to rule over the masses with the effects of fear and myths.

The Dalit movement is a result of constant oppression and the barbaric treatment that the designated lower castes were subjected to by the so called upper caste people. They were deprived of higher education and were treated no less than slaves by making them serve the other three upper castes. Thus, they have been at the bottom of the rigid caste society. They were considered the most inferior of all the other castes and were made to perform odd jobs such as cleaning the latrine, sweeping and tanning. These odd jobs were considered impure, which in return led the lower castes being ostracized from the mainstream society. They were denied access to the same wells as the upper caste people and often have/had to walk several kilometres just to fetch a pot of drinking water; such conditions were inhuman and cruel.

In terms of education, Dalits were strictly prohibited from acquiring it and hot liquid lead was poured into the ears of those who dared to listen to the chants and the religious incantations. Another astonishing factor about the Manus formulation is that the intensity of punishments grew as the caste hierarchy descended. Although the oppression began from the Vedic period, the major fight against them was taken post-independence when the Mukti movement began, the term allocated to the BHAKTI movement by G. Alosius. The movement was led by the very marginal Dalits who took up the fight against the saint poets of that time. With the colonisers influx and the introduction of missionaries in the mainstream Hindu nation, the Dalits began to acquire knowledge and question the deprivation and ignorance of the Brahmins.

In 1970, the Dalit Panther movement began in Maharashtra, making it one of the most recognizable movement in the history of India. The movement was inspired by the Black movement of America in 1960. The reason for the movement was to counter the repression and terror that the Dalits had to live in the rural settings. Most of the credit for the success of the Dalit movement goes to Dalit literature. As the oppressed classes were not allowed to use the "elite" papers, they devised their own magazine as a part of the Mukti movement. The newspaper and magazines became a strong tool to express and unite the Dalit masses. The most renowned name of all times related to the Dalit movement, Dr. B.R Ambedkar often rings in our minds but the most recent of Dalit rights activist is the less spoken of, Periyar E.V. Ramasamy, who is mostly criticised for being anti-Brahmin rather than anti-caste.

Accusations made of him for keeping the interests of the non-Brahmins above that of the Dalits becomes questionable as his works reveal that he placed the Dalit liberation as a key element for the Dravidian project. Meanwhile, also acknowledging the efforts of Ambedkar, he does not shy away from attacking the caste hierarchy and the disseminated accommodation with the Dalit masses.



Post Ambedkar's successful effort to unite the Dalits and fight against the caste system, the formation of the Bahujan Samaj in Uttar Pradesh was a major tidal change giving the movement a new light. In the recent years, the movement and politics has been sighted taking a much radical turn. One such example can be given of the Saharanpur riots where a clash between the Thakurs and the Dalit activists took place. The article by Firstpost highlights:

"Dalit victims of the clashes say upper caste Thakurs prevented them from installing a statue of B.R. Ambedkar on the premise of the Ravidas Temple in the village. On 5th May, a Dalit group objected to a procession of Thakurs to mark the birth anniversary of Rajput king Maharana Pratap, triggering in violence, in which one person was killed and over 15 were injured."

As both the political parties that were later involved induged in major mud-slinging, on one side stood Mayawati blaming the then BJP government of Uttar Pradesh under the leadership of C.M. Yogi Adityanath.

The traces of radical approach can be traced back from the times of Naxalbari conflict, under communist ideologies of Kanu Sanyal, where police officers were shot down by rain of arrows. Under his guidance, the Dalits were inspired to dream the Utopian dream of a caste free nation where the centuries old oppression would be lifted. However, would it be just a dream as the Indian social structure functions and often opts for the age old caste system. The Brahmin hegemony has been imbedded so deeply in the minds of common people that they are almost blinded by the unjust system.

All these lead to a conclusion about the notion of how an individual's personality is a construct of their surroundings that one lives in and the acquired identity is a result of constant give and take. What if the myth of Varna, rebirth and Karma were so deeply embedded in the individuals of that time, that it became their reality thus leading them to be crippled by the notion of religion?

If I were a God

Sanskar Dhar, Dept. of Political Science, 4th Semester

The World we live in is almost as perfect as we can imagine- a habitable life with suitable distance from the Sun, suitable atmosphere, seas, mountains, plants, animals. From the feathers of a bird to the gills of a fish, from the tip of an iceberg to the tip of a bee's sting. Most of us assume that GOD came up with all of these, although science has a different assumption. However, if God made each and everything on this Earth, imagine God's level of imagination! Such vision to create such things, such purity and authenticity that we mortals can't even imagine. The existence of animals and plants with their defining individual features, logically thinking, is unimaginable in human terms. GOD is the sole creator of existence, the highest Being while GOD's greatest creation are Humans, the being closest to God, who pray to him yet deceives Him. He destroys God's other creations, kills millions of animals, chops off plants, burns fields, pollutes the very planet, wages wars amongst themselves, kill each other to Gain but what? Salvation, Power, Satisfaction, Pleasure? The path to success, the need to get a job and settle down- ever wondered why the world is built like this? Why are the rich, rich and the poor, poor? I don't know if Humans or GOD came up with these ideas or concepts but if I were a GOD, I would not come up these concepts; most importantly I would not make humans, because all the fuss starts from humans.The concept of killing the weak and the worshipping the strong, slaughtering each other, makes the world recognize you with your fame. It's not that we humans are cruel, it's just our way of life. Humans have come up with so many wonderful creations, be it music, sports, monuments, means of transport and so on, but it will never be enough! It will never be enough because we owe this world so much and we cannot pay the planet back for the things that we have done.

If GOD like powers were within me, I would not have made Man or else I would create humans but I would take the consciousness of half of the human population and put that consciousness into trees, rocks, roads, shrubs, plateaus and make them feel the wrath of nature, the constant breeze of wind, the wildfires. I would make them feel the works of man on them. The feeling of shredding your body into two as of a tree, the experience of stepping your foot into one's face ason a road, experiencing the hot summer days and the cold winter nights without any shelter. I can think about it all day, about the number of things that I would do with the powers, but ultimately I have to live with what I have in the same way as a normal person.





Letters

Anirudh Sharma, Dept. of English, 2nd Semester

"I am not afraid; I was born to do this" - Joan of Arc

Lizzy

It has been over a month. James left his hometown to live in the big city. He will be starting his first year in that ancient college with cobblestone pavements. But I am still stuck in here. The warm and pale summertime winds don't do much to amuse me. But I think I am very comfortable. I have my cadmiums and hues. I will be studying art, like I always wanted to. And I guess, my father being the senior art professor in our local community college really helps. But I do wish James were here; I wish.

I received a letter from him yesterday. It was written from his typewriter that I gifted him on his birthday. Even though it is thrifted, I know he cherishes it. I feel joyous. And also, he always had a thing for writing letters. And I always loved receiving letters. I still do. It just feels so personal and thoughtful. I could always acknowledge a well written letter.

Dear Liz,

This is in memory of an anniversary. The anniversary of September 17, 2005- when I first saw you in the art studio of our High School; absolutely submerged in what you were doing. You were humming a song. And I still remember it quite vividly. There was a cosmic splash of paint all over your apron. You were clumsy. Paint splattered all over. And what I remember the most about that moment was your infectious laugh. Loud and enchanting. You laughed like hell when your dearest friend Emily cracked a joke. The joke was very ordinary but you were very much extraordinary. That picture brings memories of the happiest times I've ever known.

This new place is quite different. I'm looking for comfort but I'm afraid that all I'd find is brittle and icy winds. It's very cold. I do very dearly miss the summer dryness of Pemberly; it feels like home. But I think, now this is my home too. I'm trying to make friends. I don't think that I'm very good at it. But I do have my roommate Jimmy, so there's that. I'm trying. Jimmy is a good person; a bit chatty but he is amiable. He knows the art of keeping oneself and another entertained. I acknowledge that. Besides, he fancies books. He has got loads of them and he lets me read them, for which I'm grateful. So I keep my days busy with lectures on English and books.

The stony pavements around my dormitory is harsh and cold. I long for some open fields, like the ones we have in our village. I would love to run around, whilst being carefree and pierce the oozing air, having the ability to make one feel celestial.

There is this one particular professor, that I think finds me obnoxious. He doesn't like quiet people. I figured that in the first day of college. He stared right down into the depths of my weighted chest. All my inhibitions crumbling down. It was scary. But I guess, he'll eventually warm up to me, right? I mean, I'm not that unpleasant. Am I? I dunno. I think a lot, which you are well aware of. And I also overshare sometimes, even though I am an introvert. Its anxiety that gets me. But anyway, let's not dive into my adversities.

Tell me about you. Tell me everything. Tell me how have you been without me, friend. Tell me your tales. Lies and truths. The gossips. The trauma. The deepest secrets and the lightest jokes. Are there any new friends that I'm not aware of? Perhaps a boy that you fancy? Well, this is exciting, isn't it? I can't wait to hear back from you.

You are my split half.
Your dearest friend,
JJ

5 September, 2002

Dear friend,

I am writing to you because she said you listen and understand. I won't say who she is, and I won't give my real name away because I don't want you to find out who I am. Like this, I can be safe. I can get it all out, without the fear of pin-pointing judgement. I mean, you could still judge me, if you want. But she said that you won't do that. And I just like the idea of having somebody out there who is listening. It makes me feel real. Like I am tangible.

I don't really have many people to talk to. But I think I do just fine when it comes to talking. Sometimes I find myself oversharing and it baffles me. Like that one time when I went to the shopping mall with my mom when I was seven. I stumbled across one of my supposed school friends and his mom. Well, he was a bit of a bully but I sometimes helped him with his homework so he didn't do anything to me. Mike, another supposed friend of mine and also the primary victim of that bully, used to get infuriated with me. Infuriated. I like that word. I've been using that a lot lately. But that's beside the point. I didn't know what to say. So I kept it quiet.

Anyway, when I met that bully in the mall, he was fiddling with his new Beyblade set. He looked astonished. Enchanted. Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious. Sorry, now I am just throwing in words. Coming back to our exploration of social anxieties, that bully obviously started with the small talk. Oh! I forgot to mention; it was summer vacation. So he asked about that. For a moment, I thought that maybe we could be friends, without the supposed part. I was getting comfortable. And then, whilst our moms were busy blabbering about some fashion magazine, (they sounded like gibberish) he asked, "how many Beyblades have you got?"

And I was startled. Oh boy, I panicked. So I did the thing that people who panic should do in theory. Be honest. I said it in a stammer at the inception of my speech,

"I don't really like Beyblades, do you read books?" He looked me in the eye. Absolute horror struck.

"You're weird", he said and then he left.

I cried when I got to my room. Tears just came flooding down. When my elder brother saw me like that, he brought me some butterscotch ice-cream. It felt divine. It could've also been due to the fact that I was ravenous.

But anyway, I don't really know why I am actually writing this. I am tired and also, I'm starting high school tomorrow. Look, I know that I'm a few weeks late but I had some "inconvenience" in my lungs. Nothing serious. I am sleepy so I'll write to you some other day. Okay?

Your friend, Not literally Joan of Arc.



7 September 2002

Dear friend,

Donald Duck. I never liked that character. Rather, I found him very annoying. I'm sorry. I just felt the need to take it out of my system.

Tomorrow I have a test on History. So I'll just make this a quick one.

Anyway, it's been nearly two days that I've officially written you a letter. You must be curious about my exciting life. Sarcasm intended. I've also officially spent two days of my insignificant, but significant according to media, life on the debacle field known as High School. And I hate it. Well, not entirely. But I still do. I will be honest. I did not anticipate the mere rush in the hallways. There were so many people. So many. I was overwhelmed. Angsty. Sweaty. And smelly teenagers all around. I didn't know anyone. I did find some kids from my middle school. We just don't acknowledge each other's existence. And I'm fine with that. Not sure why, but I always loved the comfort of my solitude.

But still, I never minded Ravi by my side. He was my friend. And he died last summer in a car accident.

The teachers were fine. The classes were boring. But there was this one particular teacher, Mr. Peterson. He teaches literature. I like him. He's cool. We didn't really do anything in the class which concerned the syllabus. Rather, we talked. I didn't like the talking bit. Its claustrophobic. I mean, why is it really necessary to know where you are from, hobbies, interest- you know. All the shabam. But Mr. Peterson had a different energy. And he did suggest a few books to read. One of them was Stargirlby Jerry Spinelli. It was the one I picked up. Luckily, there was a copy in the library.

I absolutely love it. I think it's my favourite book. I finished it in one sitting and I want to read it again. Stargirl is so brave. Its magical. I want the entire world to read it. It's that good.

The cafeteria was like Jungle City. Its needless to say that I didn't eat there. My brother ignored me. It's okay. I'm not salty about it. There was a park bench near the football field. I sat there. It was breezy and quiet. I liked it.

I want to find people. But I don't know how. Maybe they'll eventually find me. I could wait. Right? Anyway I am bombarded with work. And I need to study for the test. So bye for now. Thank you for listening.

Yours truly,

A Rolling stone

Women Entrepreneurs

Kiran Rai, Dept. of B.Voc., 4th Semester

An entrepreneur is "a person who organizes and manages a business undertaking, assuming the risk for the sake of the profit". The word "entrepreneur" is derived from the old French word 'entreprendure', which was first used by the economic theorist Richard Cantillon in 1755 in an essay to describe a person who assumed the risk of buying goods in the belief that they could sell them at a higher price at a later time.

The role of women at the work place has undergone a dramatic change in the last 50 years, just as the view of entrepreneurships over the centuries. Just seven decades ago, there were only a few women who owned and operated their own businesses. The Second World War brought many more women into the workforce, but such accepted social values as the men being the head of the house and women being dependent and staying indoors did not create an environment conducive for women to work unless there was a necessity.

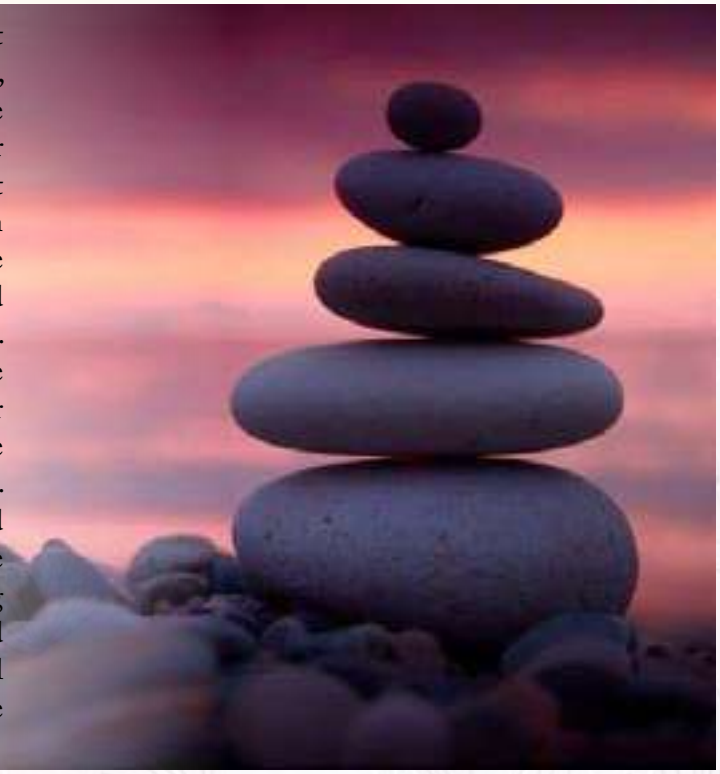
"Slumdog Millionaire" Kalpana Saroj went to be the first woman entrepreneur of India. She bought the distressed assets of Kamani Tubes Company and successfully steered the company back to profits. Ekta Kapoor is the youngest business woman in India who started her business at the age of 23. Hard work is something women in business know a LOT about! If you're an entrepreneurial woman, be prepared to work extra hard.

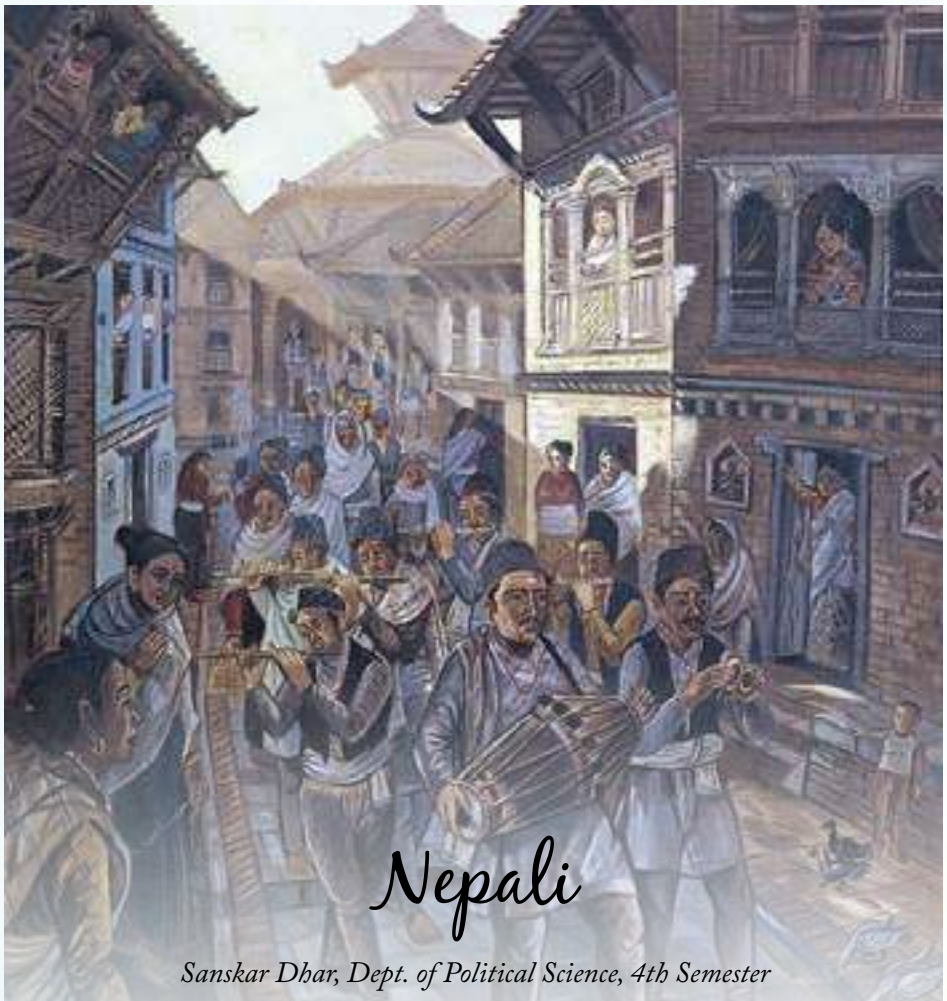
"If you can't fly then run, if you can't run then walk, if you can't walk then crawl, but whatever you do, you have to keep moving forward".

Patience along with Perseverance Rewards Well

Shristi Lepcha, Dept. of B.Voc., 2nd Semester

Once upon a time, there lived a King who declared that anyone who wanted a position of personal assistant, should meet him. Many people gathered at the palace. The king gave them a jar and said, "Anyone who fills the jar with water from the pond will be selected for the post", but there was a drawback as the King said, "there is a hole in this jar". After hearing this drawback, some people left the palace without even putting any effort, while some tried once and said, "the King has already chosen someone else. Let's go now, we are just wasting our time here". But there was one man who patiently and continuously filled the jar with water. When he filled the water in the jar from the pond, it poured out on the ground as it had a hole in it. However, he continued the process without getting tired and eventually when there was no water left in the pond, he found a diamond ring which he gave to the King. The King uttered, "Accept this ring as a reward for your patience and perseverance. You also deserve the position of my personal assistant". This situation made him realize that patience along with perseverance rewards well.





Nepali

Sanskar Dhar, Dept. of Political Science, 4th Semester

Nepali, one of the most generous and heartwarming people in India or maybe in the world. From what I can tell, most of the Nepali people that I have encountered or I have been contact with are truly magnanimous. A sense of warmth is what you feel when you are in contact with a Nepali person, even if you are not connected through blood. At least 90% of us may reflect that what I have written holds true. In fact, Nepali people, most of them that I know are immensely talented in many ways- in sports or music. Moreover, there is a different sense of hospitality that you get when you go to a Nepalese house. Of course, it is not that other cultures are not loving, it is just that there is a different feeling when you speak to and spend time with a Nepali.

Most prolifically, the talents that are produced in the hills is worth acknowledging. You will be surprised to see the number of football fields that are present even in a small rural village. There is a 97% chance that there will be a football field in every village you go to. The music that we Nepalese create can be matched with the level of Bollywood songs if there was a larger and a more of a wider scope for Nepali songs, though it's just my personal opinion. In academics, I don't think we can argue that the students from the plains are better than the ones in the hills. However, there is no denying that the students of the hills are more talented; some may argue but the rest will agree.

There is no denying that we, Nepalese are talented, self-respectful, literate people but why are we not recognised? There are many talented people but only a few of them reach a standing point. Our self-respect is high but not our self-discipline - only a handful number of students get their preferred jobs. What could be the reason? Well, there are many, including lack of scope, financial issues, drugs, alcohol, etc. but according to me, the most important point is we Nepalese are pushovers. The reason why we are push-overs is because we Nepalese tend to trust a person very easily. It won't take much of an effort to persuade us. It happens even in a friend circle. A friend may tell you to do something and you may be eager enough to do what your friend is doing without knowing the consequences. Thus, it's up to you to decide what's best for yourself because you never know what your so called friend has in mind. Well, we cannot blame ourselves totally for our downfall, because at times in our Nepali society, a person's outstanding career may be looked upon with much jealousy and spite. Such is the condition of our society.

In my point of view, I think it's too late to discuss these matters to a typical Nepali person but the youth or the students, with brilliant minds, with their own sense of originality and with a little bit of support from their society will certainly touch the sky. We Nepalese could actually be at the 'Top of the World' and I truly believe if we do this, we can make other cultures recognize us and want to be like us and we would make them wonder as to why we didn't show ourselves earlier.

The only answer to all the 'whys' could be – "We were so busy picturing the world for ourselves in our minds that we forgot to take action." Well my message is 'Don't be afraid to standout, despite what society may say- DARE TO BE DIFFERENT.'



Online learning experience during Lockdown

Kunzu Tamang, Dept. of B.Voc., 4th Semester

Talking about my experience as a student, it had its ups and downs as you would imagine, being confined to my home with no social interaction with my fellow friends. Nothing compares to going to college and experiencing the full student life of interacting with friends and faculties. However, I realized that the lockdown gave me more time to do the things I love- hobbies that had been previously overwhelmed by college work. I am sure that no one would have imagined that the academic year would end this way. When the campus was closed, many classes and lectures made the shift to online quickly, to Zoom or Moodle. The experience of online learning was very good as it helped us learn new things and also get lots of ideas about online learning and teaching process. While the whole world is suffering from the pandemic and being confined to our homes and not being able to interact with the outside world, we are still getting a chance to learn, even from our homes through the online learning process. Well, there have been a few moments during this period where the motivation has been low. This is particularly due to the devastating implications and effects of the virus all over the world.

Overall, my experience during this lockdown phase with online learning has been as positive as it could be. In the near future, online learning could be a key part of University learning, as it has proved that it has the capacity to be successful for many students and institutions. I have kept a positive head, always looking towards the current challenge of lockdown as an adaptive learning experience that we are all faced with. All we can do right now is stay at home, look after ourselves and look forward to a better future.



The Folding Umbrella

Anirudh Sharma, Dept. of English, 2nd Semester

The whiskers of brittle autumn rain seemed to have encapsulated the city. The exuberance of love was slowing down with the devious showers of dying melancholy, but the people with coats and ties came prepared. Each one of them brought an umbrella with the most ravenous hue to entrap the eye of a lover in the sky who was prepared to emulsify his feelings to his fellow lover.

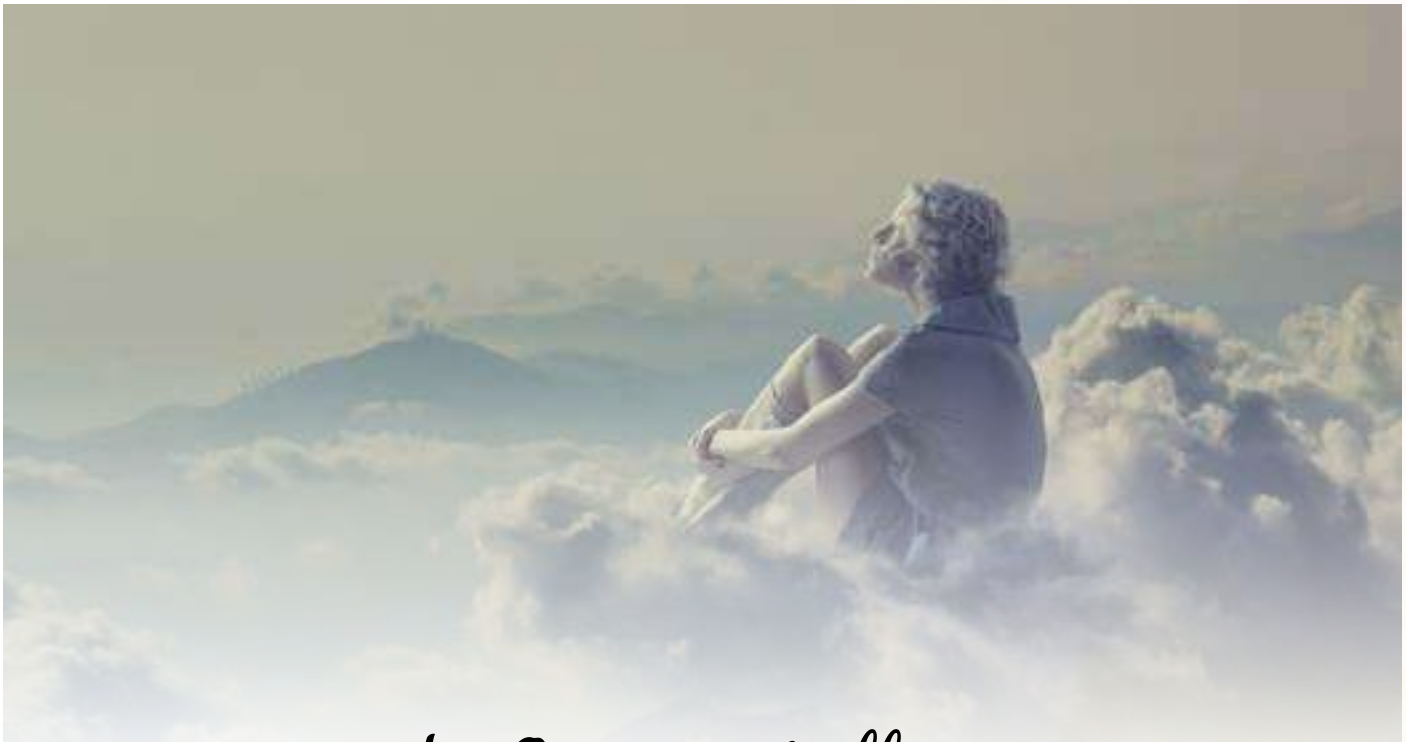
Amidst the chaos of the ever-going hustle, a lady was savouring the tumultuous patter of the darkling rain underneath her folding umbrella. She wore a deep knee length sapphire dress which was accompanied by a crimson soul-wrenching hat. As she walked, the splattering on the pavement sent chills to her spine, with little traces of wit on her face. She had a stern looking face but she certainly held a diligence deep inside a crevice of her body. As she reached her destination, she took a deep breath and tried to control the rhythmic pounding of her chest. She cracked open the door with a gentle push on the latch. Her velvety red shoes were soaked and her feet were greeted with an uninvited hydration.

She folded her floral centifolia umbrella with grace and didn't let go of its wiry contraptions. Instead of placing the umbrella in the common umbrella holder, she stubbornly kept it to herself. She looked around and then made herself comfortable at the nearest bench. Right next to her, an old lady with experience was sitting. She was half dozing and half pretending to focus. She seemed like a real professional.

Then a few benches ahead of the lady, a young teenage boy with not an iota of patience was keeping his momentum consistent. He kept on shaking his knees. Once it reached the gates of heaven, but then it laid under the pits of the place that should not be named. Right opposite the boy was a young fifty-something year old man. He didn't care about the filthy beings around him, and was busy listening to some new music in his new device. The room was getting colder. Then one young girl came out of a different room and announced loudly - "Mrs. Hargreeve!"

Mrs. Hargreeve stood up with a slight grin on her face, while the water droplets were dripping off her flowery umbrella and followed the young girl into a chamber with graceful and silent footsteps. As she entered the tight claustrophobic room which was lit by a single fluorescent tube, the surroundings seemed a bit funny; the bickering, the music, the snores which she left behind slowed down, but it wasn't unnerving to her. When she was all alone with the peculiar young girl, she looked her in the eye and gave one introspective nod. Then Mrs. Hargreeve turned around and faced the pale white door and took out a tiny rectangular shaped object from her left pocket which certainly resembled a book. And with a flash of mere milliseconds, that book became ten times bigger than what it had been just a few seconds ago.

The young girl in the room was unhinged by the act but she maintained her utmost civility. But she did have a little grin over her face. Somehow that book with an old ragged cover and flushed off golden binding seemed to have brought a sense of glee among the two ladies. But Mrs. Hargreeve had business to attend, so she did not allow herself to be astonished by the old fabric book. She swung her folded umbrella in a circular motion and then pushed open the creaking pale white door and in a quite usual fashion, left the room. But the unusual bit about the incident was that Mrs. Hargreeve never returned to the room which was previously filled with unusually usual people, only the young girl did. Rather, Mrs. Hargreeve walked the pavements of a different land altogether.



Be One in a Million

Lamin Bomzon, Dept. of Political Science, 4th Semester

If you look at the whole Universe, the Earth looks like a small dot. I am so grateful for the creation of this Universe and the little world we live in. Earth is a small planet compared to other planets and stars, but millions of life exist in this small world and yes, I am one of them! It is said that once we are born in the world, our adventurous journey begins, where every person has their own story to tell. In this trail we often get ourselves stuck in a labyrinth of right and wrong, choice and our responsibility. The dilemma of choice is always between the constant struggle of heart and mind and we suffer the most when we have to compromise with ourselves. This usually happens when we try to live up to the expectations of others rather than being our authentic selves. Our biggest loss is when we lose our real self.

Yes, it's never been too easy to survive in this world, so I suggest every one to be stronger and courageous to live the kind of life we want. The truth of this world is a little bitter and sour but there is no complete absence of sweetness. We should always remember- if there are tricksters, there are virtuous people around you as well so we shouldn't turn evil just because we are tricked or betrayed by few. There is sweetness in our life, but sadly we often become ignorant and overlook the sweetness because we get more attracted towards the path of greed, selfishness, lust and forget our humanity. Hence, we gradually fall into the depths of darkness filled with bitterness. In our lives, we tend to stumble, fall, cry, get hurt, are broken and sometimes we even question our own existence and worth but if we look at the positive side of this struggle we learn to love, we learn to let it go, we learn to have faith in our self, grow stronger and learn to stand up when we fall.

My dear readers, our life is just a tour of the world for a short period of time so cherish every moment and enjoy the taste of sweetness as well as bitterness. Yes, we are just one in a crowd of millions but each one of us is unique and gifted. The only difference is that some realize this gift in them and achieve great heights, while some are ignorant and thus lead a life of doubt and insecurity. There will be a day when each of us will have to leave this world but what's important is how many of us can leave without regrets. Last but not the least, I truly want everyone to know our self-worth. Let me tell you – Everyone is worthy. Believe in yourself, learn to let it go when its necessary and always remember, "You are one of a million but You can be one in a million, so nothing is impossible if you have true faith in yourself and if you keep up with your good deeds and hard work".



Career after B.Com

Mr. Manoresh Thapa, Asst. Prof., HoD, Department of Commerce

Bachelors in Commerce is an excellent graduate degree course that helps in making a strong foundation in Costing, Accounts, Taxation, etc. However, only having a graduation degree in Commerce does not serve the purpose. To face the severe competition in the world and to assure a decent job, one needs to further opt for either post- graduation or a professional course. Therefore, here is the list of courses that you can pursue after completion of B.Com:

1. M.Com which stands for Masters in Commerce is the most popular degree course among the graduates. It is a two years long course which includes general and specialized program. Specialization is available in disciplines such as IT, Taxation, Banking and Finance and Insurance. Therefore, if one wants to pursue an advanced commerce based course then M.Com is the best choice.
2. MBA – Masters in Business Administration is one of the most popular courses that assures a decent job. Commerce graduates can opt for MBA in Finance which is a two-year program. To get enrolled into MBA, the student needs to clear an entrance test followed by group discussion and interview. Once enrolled, the student can choose his/her specialization from the following:

Financial Management, Marketing Management, Banking and Insurance Management, Systems Management and Human Resource Management

3. CA/CS/ICWA – Students looking for lucrative jobs prospect can opt for Chartered Accountancy, Company Secretary, Cost and Work Accountancy.

- CA (Chartered Accountancy) examination is conducted by the Institutes of Chartered Accountants of India. The candidate needs to clear three exams namely CPT, IPCC and final CA. However, graduate students can directly appear in IPCC which consists of two groups. Once one of the group is cleared, the student needs to register for Articleship with experience CA's. The period of the Articleship should be two and a half years. When both the groups and Articleship is cleared, the student can appear for final CA.
- The Institute of Cost Accountants of India (ICAI) is the premier statutory professional accountancy body in India for Cost and Work Accountancy (CWA). Commerce graduates are directly eligible for ICWA interview.
- Company Secretary is conducted by the Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI).

4. Diploma in Banking and Services – Students willing to establish a career in banking can opt for Diploma in Banking and Services (DBFS). This post- graduate, two-year diploma course is offered by the Institute of Finance, Banking and Insurance (IFBI), Mumbai. Any student who has attained 50% marks in graduation is eligible for this course. However, the final selection is done on the basis of personal interview.
5. Certified Bank Manager Program – This two-year program is offered by Institute of Bank Management and Research (IBMR), Hyderabad and covers the following areas:

- Banking and Financial Services
- Risk Management
- Money
- Banking laws and regulations

- Treasury
- Credit
- Banking Strategy

6. Certificate course in project Finance – It is offered by the Indian Institute of Banking and Finance (An Institute for Financial Management and Research). By enrolling in the course, students can gain theoretical as well as practical knowledge in fields like Project Appraisal, Financing and Lending.
7. Certified Financial Planners – This is a certified course (duration 6 months to one year). Institutes like Indian Institutes of Financial Planning (IIFP), Mumbai, Financial Planning Academy (FPA), Mumbai and BLB Institute of Financial Markets (BIFM), Delhi offer the course. Choosing a specialization along with CFP can offer better job opportunities. Students can choose the following specializations:

- Financial Planning
- Investment Planning
- Tax Planning
- Insurance and Risk Management

8. Government Jobs – One doesn't always have to go for a private job. There are many government jobs that the students can look out for after they complete M.Com.

Both central and state governments have myriads of banking jobs. One of the most popular one is Bank Probation Officer. In order to become a Bank PO one has to clear an entrance examination consisting of three rounds. After being hired one can join PSU banks like SBI, PNB, Bank of Baroda, etc.

There are other government departments like Revenue, Railway, Defense and Forest that have openings for M.Com qualified students.

9. Auditor – An Auditor is much more qualified than an accountant. Some of the major responsibilities as an auditor would be the following:

- Planning Financial Audits
- Verifying assets and liabilities
- Assess compliance with financial regulations and controls
- Assess risk and internal controls

In India, all the major banks like HDFC, ICICI, Axis, Kotak and IT companies like Wipro, IBM, TCS hire internal auditors for auditing.

10. Lecturer – To become a lecturer, one has to have a Masters degree with at least 55%. In addition, one needs to clear NET(National Eligibility Test). Many private universities also encourage students with excellent academic records to join them as faculty without NET qualification.

If one is really serious and seeks growth in this career, one can apply for PhD, publish papers in scholarly journals, attend and present papers in national and international workshops and seminars.

International Courses:

- Certified Management Accountant – To become CMA, the students need to clear two examinations. The Institute of Management Accountants offers the course. The Institute regularly reviews the content. Through this course, students can expertise on the following:

  i. Financial Planning and Control

  ii. Professional Ethics Analysis and Decision Support

- Certified Public Accountant – This course is considered of highest standard in Accountancy throughout the world and is equivalent to Indian Chartered Accountant. The course and examination are conducted by an American Institute of Certified Public Accountant. Once the course is over the students has the knowledge of the following:

  iii. US International Financial Reporting Standards

  iv. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

  v. US Federal Taxation and Business Laws

- Association of Chartered Certified Accountants – A Chartered Certified Accountant with the ACCA qualification opens numerous jobs prospects in fields of Management, Banking, Consulting and Accounting. The course is quite similar to CA but additional knowledge on IFRS (International Financial Reporting Standards) and GAAP(Generally Accepted Accounting Principles) gives this course an upper hand. To qualify ACCA, fourteen papers need to be cleared.

The above is a list for all the young minds wondering what to do after B.Com. Any of the above courses are sure to land you a great job so that you can happily start your journey in the professional world.



The Discarded Ones

Ms. Prayana Subba, Asst. Prof., Department of History

21st century digital world- we are all captured by everything beautiful around. The world of social media, where you think of sharing the picture before serving your empty stomach. It is a very beautiful and entertaining world always, isn't it? Well! That is why we sneak into this magic wardrobe every now and then. But before we realize, this beautiful trap is engulfing our consciousness; we hardly listen to birds or watch over clouds.

Everyone posts the best picture they have in their gallery. They prefer to ignore and most probably delete the rest. If I am asked to show the best pictures of my life so far, I know I will be choosy. I have uploaded many in my Instagram account. Still recent ones I will have to update.

However, there is a different side to every story. No, I don't want to take any melancholic side from here on. I am just dwelling upon the complexities of human life. Their compulsion to show best to others. Best moments, perfect pictures, best friends, best food, etc. What happens to the not so very best pictures? They remain occupying a lot of storage in the device. Maybe, it's just like our life. We rejoice in the best moments of our life and never like to talk about painful ones. We just ignore it. Oh yes, but we were talking about the not so very perfect and the worst pictures in our gallery. What significance do they have in our life which we neither delete nor prefer sharing? We keep them. Difficult to part with them, we just keep them but we never ever see them again. Best pictures remain uploaded in your social media account. But what about others? Where is their place? Neither in your heart nor in your device, which repeatedly ask you to clear up space.

But there is one thing which only YOU would understand. The effort you have put to get that one perfect shot. It is that story those discarded pictures would tell you. Your real smile which was captured, your candid shots, your actual laughter, your actual life, which always remains close to your heart. So, the next time you feel sad after comparing yourself with the perfect one out there, the perfect smile, the perfect body, perfect life; remember, there are a million discarded ones, the painful side of which remains a secret. But THAT is the reality.

Darjeeling Himalayan Railway (DHR) An Engineering Genius (Historical Analysis)

Mr. Prayash Rai, Asst. Prof., HoD, Department of History

The world heritage site "Darjeeling Himalayan Railway" as declared by the UNESCO on December 1999 is unique due to its engineering marvel that was built between 1879 and 1881. The "Ghum" (Ghoom) railway station is India's highest railway station attracting many tourists from all over the world to witness the beauty of the "Toy Train".

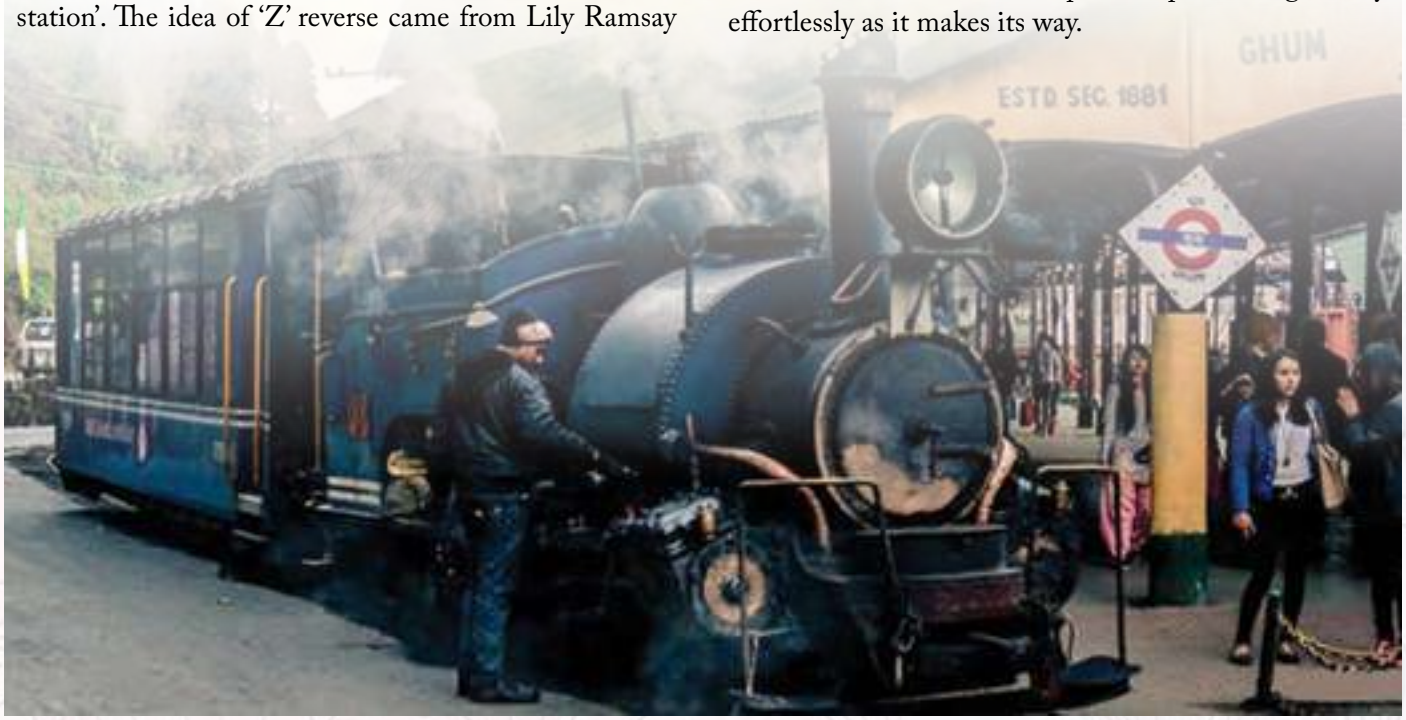
The other unique features of the world famous "toy-train" is its engineering genius. The DHR uses six 'zig zags' or switchback technique to climb the steep gradients. It formerly used five 'loops'/'spirals', another unique technique used to ascend the steep hills but presently it has only three functional 'loops'.

ZIGZAG TECHNIQUE – A railway zigzag or switchback is a unique method of climbing steep gradients with minimal need for tunnels. The idea is to direct the train in reverse direction before the original direction is resumed. In simple words it can be said that the train will move backwards when entering the zigzag line before it can climb the hill. A location on railways constructed by using a zig-zag at which trains have to reverse direction in order to continue is a 'reversing station'. The idea of 'Z' reverse came from Lily Ramsay who was the wife of the chief DHR contractor 'Herbert Ramsay' remembering the backwards and forward steps in ballroom dancing. This idea was thus implemented in the DHR. The first encounter of the 'zigzag' or the reverse is at the seventeenth and a half mile. Two more 'zigzags' can be seen at twenty-third mile at the Gayabari station and at the twenty-fourth mile.

LOOP/SPIRAL TECHNIQUE – A 'spiral' also sometimes referred to as the loop was another unique method used for ascending the steep hills. This served as an alternative to the 'zig-zag' technique employed. In a spiral loop the railway rises on a steady curve until it has completed a loop, passing over itself as it gains height, allowing the railway to gain vertical elevation in a relatively short horizontal distance. Originally the DHR had five spirals. There are currently three 'spirals' on the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway :

• Chunbati Loop • Agony Point • Batasia Loop

The 'Batasia Loop' is the most famous tourist attraction place due to its scenic views capturing the mighty 'Kanchenjunga' and the panoramic view of Darjeeling town. The train makes a complete loop whistling its way effortlessly as it makes its way.



Poems





Bliss

Sumnima Rai, Dept. of English, 2nd Semester

Can you make me smile,
Even though it may only last for a while?
Tell me how you've been,
How did the days pass
When I was nowhere to be seen?

Distract my anguished thoughts
With the chaos of overwhelming emotions you bring.
Warm and fuzzy feelings?
More like butterflies dancing to the sound of my heartbeat, as you sing.

Drive me to the meadow,
We promised to stay nearby.
Let's listen to those songs again,
The playlist of our better days.
Hum along and
Watch the trees as they sway
And the birds create patterns as they fly by.

Let us dance with the breeze
Like the Maenads once did,
Intoxicated by the wine God's mist,
And shout out our names
And wait for the lovelorn nymph's reply.

This is the bliss we craved
While we were apart;
But we're now, hand in hand,
Looking forward to a new start.

21st Century

Kasum Bhutia, Dept. of History, 3rd Semester

O Dear,
We are living in the 21st century.
We have come along this phase with so much difficulty;
From ape to Homo Sapiens,
From naked to wearing clothes.
From uncivilized to civilized, From cave to houses.
From wheel cart to vehicles. From raw to cooked food.
Where science and technology leads the world,
Where all the work is done by robots and artificial intelligence,
And humans are left unemployed.
Where life seems to be easy but in reality is complicated.
We are living in a century where a single click can reveal our identity; Where humans are losing dignity.
Where money is manipulating humans,
Where nature is taking revenge.
Humans are depressed and anxiety is common.
We all live in loneliness,
Sadness creeps deep into our hearts.
Many friends in social media, But none in reality.



My Endearing Mother

Seetal Rumba, Dept. of History, 2nd Semester



Longing for her smile,
Doing penance for her blessing,
Purity depicts her embrace as well as warm cradle,
Every time she sees me in pain, she cries in vain.

Her compassion is unfathomable,
Her beauty shines from the heart,
Her blessing has enlightened my heart.

She stood by me in all my difficulties,
At my worst, she always becomes my strength almighty.
If I get a bruise, she can't bear,
If I cry, she also sheds a tear.

She is paradise in itself
Where I can sleep in bliss and rinse my sins in it.



Blue

Eva Subba, Dept. of Commerce, 6th Semester

I have been scared
of the deep Blue, the dark abyss.
Often I have found myself tempted
to dive.
the whirlpool; a seductress.

A starry velvet cocoons me; and I'm bewitched.
I'm scared; oddly soothing.
I'm at peace.

Blue wine intoxicates me;
I sink deep; sinking deeper.
I see blue, breathe blue and feel blue.
I reek of blue mayhem.

Red dissolving into blue.
The ember has died.



Karma Gurung, Dept. of English, 6th Semester

When I close my eyes,
It's me who cries.
Rolls down my tears,
With many worries and fears.

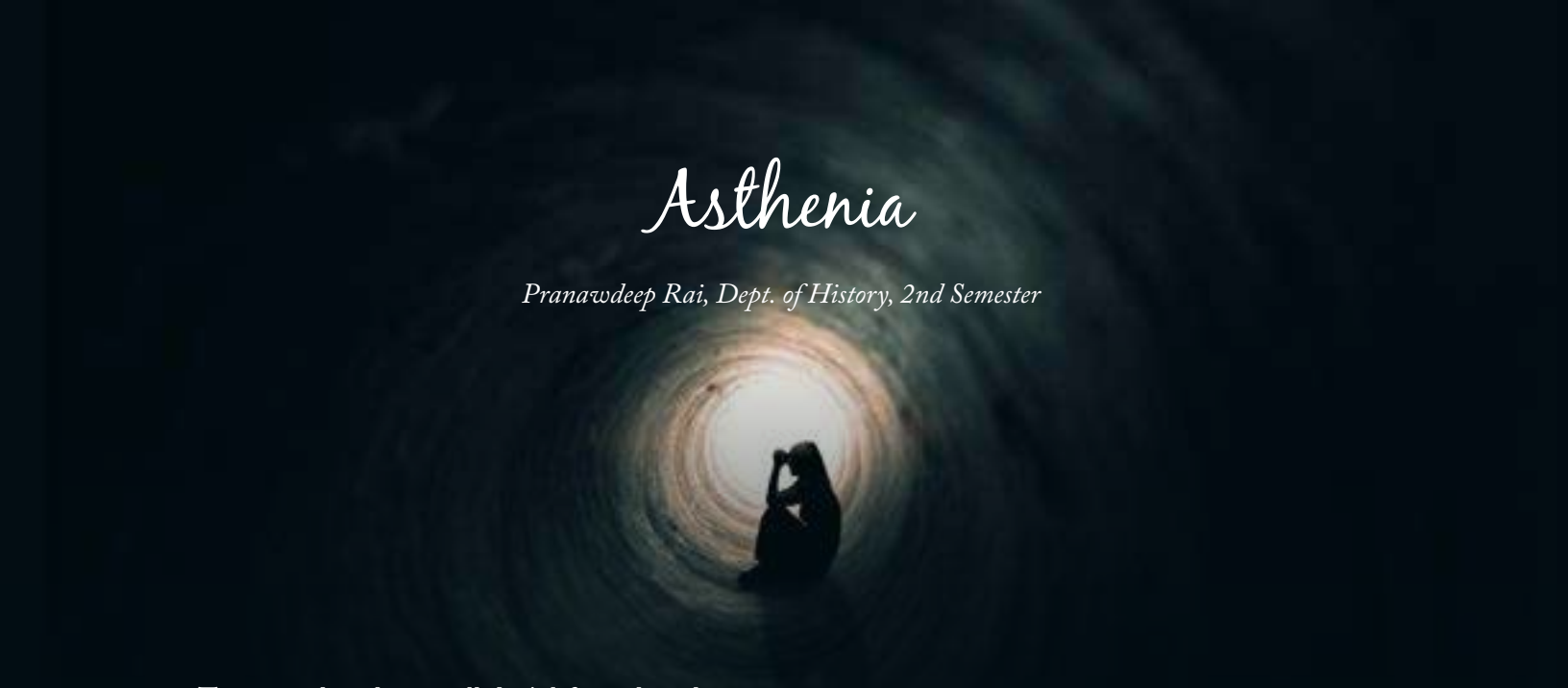
Everybody says that time heals,
Before that slowly, it kills.
People get so greedy,
Can't help when you are needy.

Promises are kept when you have everything,
Then slowly go apart when you have nothing.
People are there for you till you give,
When you don't have anything, they start to leave.

With this thought, the world is being ruled,
There are many who get fooled.
Alone were you born,
But for many you will earn.
Alone will you die,
Just a few will be there to cry.

Asthenia

Pranawdeep Rai, Dept. of History, 2nd Semester



This impending doom is all that's left inside and its haunting me each and every night
Like starving wolves, drowning sheep.
I close my eyes pretending to sleep, Descending. . .
As I burn, pretending to fight it.
Everyone learns faster...faster on fire Things took a turn, lost all desire.
You live but only in name. . .
I live in vengeance fuelled by flames of fire.

Fifteen times a night, when the sun's gone down,
In the dark awake and you're not around.
And the closest thought is the edge of oblivion.
Fifteen times a day when you check your phone,
And I won't be there when you're all alone.
Cause we always loved on the edge of oblivion,
Left to find our way through a Hitchcock film,
In an empty bed with an hour to kill,
Cause its only fun on the edge of oblivion.

A certain look in your eyes. . .when you open your eyes,
Who'll stand by your side?
So watch my eyes, watch 'em turn while you go change.
Curtains down. When all they cut and I bled.
These were forces of 'I can't make you happy'.
It seems all I do is try.
You could never cut me deep enough to leave a scar.

I'm talking to the ceiling,
My life just lost all meaning. Do one thing for me tonight,
I'm dying in this silence.
The last star left in heaven
Is falling down to Earth and. . .
Do you still feel the same way?
Do you still feel the same way?

Head full of memories,
Every single one of them useless delusions.
My room is bored of rehearsal
This place is void of all passion.
If you can imagine, its easy if you try.
Believe me, I failed this effort.
I wrote a reminder that this wasn't a vision.

Afraid of the dark, do you hear me whisper?
An empty heart replaced with paranoia.
Where do we go?
Life's temporary.
After we're gone like New Year's resolutions.
Why is this hard?
Do you recognize me?
I know I'm wrong but I can't help believing.



Yin and Yang

Adarsh Tamang, Dept. of Sociology, 2nd Semester

Fatuous

Me, I, mine. You, yours, who?
Who is this me, who is this "you"?
What is I, what is you? Who is who?
The name is given, reasons too.

Absurd existence, borrowed identity.
Pride is learnt, anger is forged.
Hope was taught, forgetfulness forgot.
Hollow truth, fabricated facts.

You, me; all fake identities.
Sucking the life out of, now.
Delayed now, is now, Now?
A mere delusion to make sense of uncertainty.

Broken, shattered matter, mattered?
Lost, found, unbound and untold.
Questioning, seeking meanings.
Meanings to this meaninglessness.
Perhaps, delayed now is what is, and
Unknown and untold is where we are supposed to be.

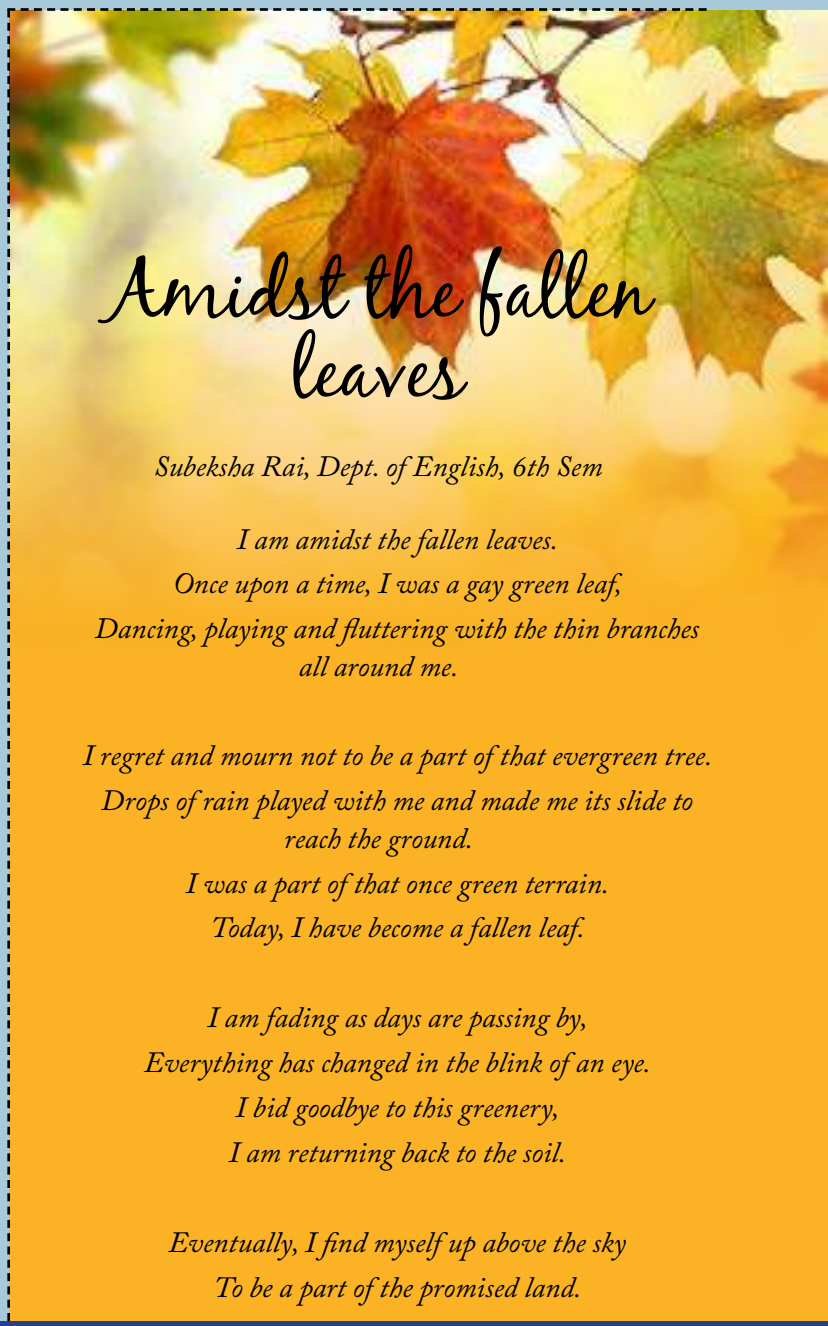
My sunshine

All-encompassing universe,
The world within; within it another world.
In it you and I, us. . .

Red, the colour of passion.
You wearing red; I, in a red car.
I see US in red, red in us sees it!
Inside, you wear black and white,

The world's day and night,
The cycle of balance, you and I.

Ajar window, cosy café.
Little tables, little world; us.
Your beautiful smile,
Cloudy sky, rowdy winds, naked mountains; us.
Echoes of our laughter, your shy gaze.
Stillness, eternal sunshine.



Amidst the fallen leaves

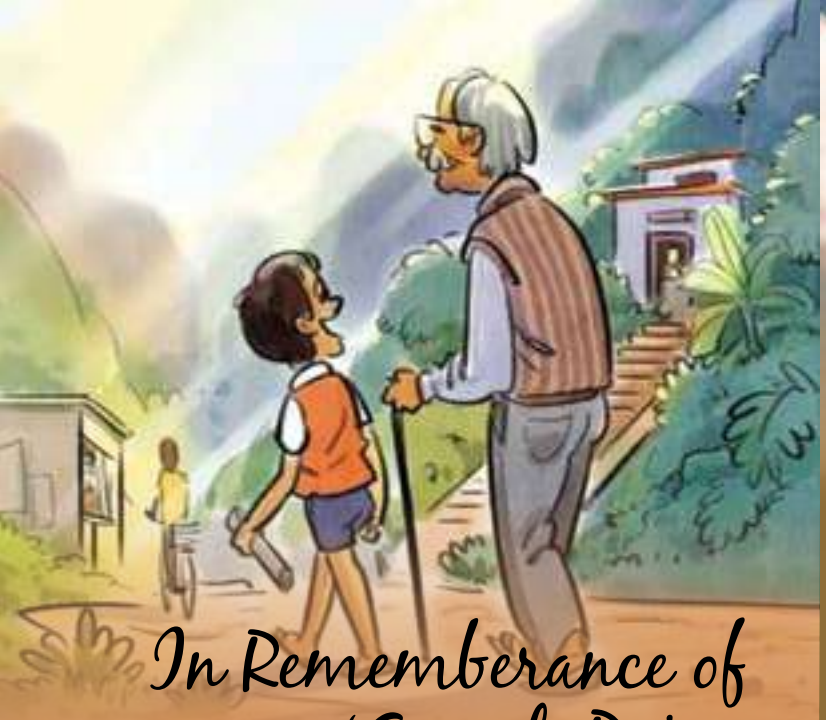
Subeksha Rai, Dept. of English, 6th Sem

I am amidst the fallen leaves.
Once upon a time, I was a gay green leaf,
Dancing, playing and fluttering with the thin branches all around me.

I regret and mourn not to be a part of that evergreen tree.
Drops of rain played with me and made me its slide to reach the ground.
I was a part of that once green terrain.
Today, I have become a fallen leaf.

I am fading as days are passing by,
Everything has changed in the blink of an eye.
I bid goodbye to this greenery,
I am returning back to the soil.

Eventually, I find myself up above the sky
To be a part of the promised land.



In Rememberance of my 'Grand-Pa'

Neha Gupta, Dept. of English, 6th Semester

My eyes are still in search
Of your loving hugs.
I wonder why
You left me alone in this cruel world.

I smile like an infant
Whenever I think of you.
Lovely memories come
Folding back of the times we spent together.

I know you also feel like coming back
When you think of me.
Still I have kept you alive
In the corner of my heart.

My mind was too young to understand
Your love when you were alive.
The day when you finally left us,
I hardly understood the customs of this world.

The winter has approached again,
Your promise fades; you didn't come,
I wonder why you left me
Alone in this selfish world.



The Challenging Task

Punam Mardy, Dept. of Political Science, 2nd Semester

The Mountain of Responsibility,
Do you have the ability?
The path of despondency,
Can you keep going nonchalantly?
Juncture often brings quandry along,
Contemplate to pursue the choice that prolongs.

Staggering truth will shudder your heart,
Embrace the pain to keep going on your path.
You have to go through wilderness,
Indomitable will is the only key to overcome darkness.
It's never been easy to mount,
Many lost their lives, you may count.

Each step awaits you with challenges,
Do you still insist on going forward?
Thrilling adventure is on your way,
If you choose to embark this way.
This journey holds an important task,
It is to unveil the devil inside a beautiful mask.

Yes! I own fine wings to fly,
I can ascend and gamble high.
The ether allurs my soul to wonder,
I want to face both dazzling rain and peals of thunder!
But, a slight fear stave off my heart,
To outstretch my wings and have a start.

The fear of nasty creatures around,
Would crush my wings if they hear the sound of my dream
to touch the sky; yet,
I will never let this be true.
Gathering every hope and I will retain,
I will fulfil all my fain.

I am ready to persist through all kinds of pain,
But I will fulfil all my fain, yes!
I own fine wings to fly,
I can ascend and gamble high.



"Everything in you defines you"

Aryan Raya, Dept. of Mass Com & J., 2nd Semester

The sense of the moral deeds,
Filling up your mind,
Conveying to you the aspect of reality,
Screaming inside are the worldly desires,
Creating a hole in you,
With a vivid sense,
Mixed feelings jumbling up in your mind,
With nothing to rely on,
But your own senses,
Are the senses right ?
One can ask oneself,
Yes it might be,
Who knows with all these sophisticated problems,
One can just vividly take control of oneself,
Turning point in life comes when,
Someone starts answering themselves,
Rather than asking questions,
No one can run away from this situation,
The thing is, it can't be considered good or bad,
You just let it flow within yourself,
Like a stream it will someday come to a point,
Where it will mix with your life,
Creating your true identity.

An Ode to my Hometown

Mr. Manoresh Thapa, Asst. Prof., HoD, Dept. of Commerce

Ah, pure noise, busy streets
The green, the constant green.
Curious people, new structures cropping up
But how long has it been.

Everybody knows everybody
Everyone knows what's going around.
To outsiders, it's just another place,
It is where I was raised, my saving grace, my hometown.

Those carefree days, wonderful recollections
But I remember you for your stillness.
All those memories, though bitter or sweet, you always bestow upon the picturesque calmness.

At night, the lights shine bright.
In this place, I just feel right.
The place where I feel most free,
The place I feel the most me.

There is no other place I would rather be and forever I'll defend it,
Protective and loyal to my town and I'll always commend it.



Life was beautiful

Gayetri Sinha, Dept. of Political Science, 4th Semester

I woke up like everyday
But realized, nothing was the same.
It was the day after I killed myself.
Trying to talk to my parents,
Gone in vain.

I walked out of my house
Tried to pet my dog
But he was just looking at the sky above.
I went to see my friends,
Who were crying their heart out in pain,
I tried to hug and console them
But they did not even feel my presence.

I saw my brother sitting on his school bench,
Shadow underneath his eyes;
A person who was so loud, all of a sudden was silent and quiet.
I watched the sun rising and the birds chirping,
Some kids down the street playing,
And then, it hit me,
Life was beautiful.

I went back to dead body
And tried putting some sense in me.
I tried to 'un-kill' myself but;
Life did not come back to me.

Never let the demon rule our heart

Lamin Bomzon, Dept. of Political Science, 4th Semester

Clouds rumbling all over the sky,
Covering the beauty of the blue sky
All rushing their way home in dim light,
It may rain tonight.

I lay on my bed, all pathetic memories
Flood my head.
I am a person whom everyone fears,
Rather than being a pawn who just sheds tears.

I recollected my thoughts that I had overnight,
I wonder, is life just all about black and white?
Chasing after the dark shades of gain and losses,
We often forget, only warm memories hold the most beautiful shades.

Such an amazing journey of life,
An empathetic heart finds true companion for life.
The path of love and endurance is indeed hard,



"Something to think about"

Aryan Raya, Dept. of Mass Com & Journalism, 2nd Semester

When you count your sorrows,
It's more than enough,
When you count your worries,
It will never be enough,

Why is it so ?
That problems arise so easily,
In an instant happiness turned into a memory,
Will being loved never be enough ?

Sadness in every corner of our life,
With options provided being only two,
Either to run away or face it,
It does not seem fair,

But it's how our life works,
Sad future might lie ahead,
But it is how it is,
As our development is such,

Life may be short,
But its a blessing,
Or so were told by society,
Nothing compares to life,

But its valued less than a vulnerability,
Confined in our mind we stay away,
Freely were grown and thrown away,
Something needs to be changed,

And thing's have to be done,
Only then the problems all around,
Will come to an end and damage undone.

Anthropocene

Mr. Rahul Pradhan, Asst. Prof., Department of English

He,
Who is a flimflammer and a part-time fisherman,
Is slowly approaching, gigglingin his mother tongue,
Exchanging salutations and murmurs to the other assembly of men.
On the banks of Teesta, he rolls his jeans around his knee,
and thrusts the holder of his fishing rod, in the sand,
like a coup, recently claimed.

Beside him,
A pandit is chanting incantations to a possible Hindu god,
cautioning the bald son of the dead,
not to over-sprinkle the precious Ganga Jal.
on the stale cranium of his Mother.

A herd of middle-aged woman
are worshipping the river, (with a bouquet of artificial flowers)
wet and almost naked,
tittering and pouring saffron vermilion, on each-others forehead.
An old rag-picker who passes by, surveils the leftovers and their bodies.

It is noon,
A time for lunch in ordinary homes.
And the water slowly rises,
It is the dam(n).

Meanwhile,
He announces, "I've caught something of a fish."
Some teenage girls who are strolling by the bank,
with a tall monk, gets excited.
One of them looks into her purse, and says,
"Here! Take five hundred, let it live"
He, let's it live.

And later in the evening,
He's a little drunk on ethanol,
and is still-fishing, singing "Resham-fi-ri-ri"
to a Honeymoon couple from Calcutta.



Yogi or Bhogi?

Ms. Prayana Subba, Asst. Prof., Department of History

In the process of knowing myself,
I am unknowing many,
That which, I thought I knew.

The journey seems exhaustive,
But then my breath reminds,
I have in hand very few.

In this journey towards me,
First I have to lose me.
Then only with MY hand,
I can find the way towards me.

Where my movements becomes action
And not just the motion.
Where my brain is the observer
And not just the dictator.

Where my body is the doer
And not just the slave.
Where I exist without the feeling of existence
And that is where I find me,
After losing everything that was me.

While consciousness brings exhaustion
Awareness brings liberation.
Devil and angel sits on your shoulders
And scream to their loudest and louder.

Yogi or Bhogi? Yours is the choice,
Heard is the loudest your own voice.



२०२० - २०२१

प्रशान्त थोंग्रेपा राई, सह प्राध्यापक, नेपाली विभाग

संसारिकताले बाँधिएको हाम्रो जीवन
आज तड्पिएको छ घरभित्रै
लाग्दैछ होला धेरैलाई
आफ्नो घरको चारभित्ताहरू
जेल सरह ।।।

हुन पनि हो,
आज संसारनै स्तब्ध छ
धेरै चुलोहरू विसो छ
मनभरि सुर्ता छ
भोलि के हुन्छ भनेर,

तर हेर प्रकृतिलाई
आफ्नै यौवनमा मस्त
सावनको झरीले
लुथ्थुक्क भिजेर
आफूमा मातृत्व भरेर

कयौं विरूवाहरू उमारी सके
आफ्नै गर्भभरि ।
पूंजीवाद, औद्योगीकरणले
खोक्रो बनाएको उसको शरीर
अब विस्तारै निको हुँदै छ

हो उसको आफ्नै पारा छ
निको हुने ,
यसैले...
हे आमाहरू हो, हे बाबुहरू हो,
ऐ दिदी बहिनीहरू हो,

ऐ दाज्यु भाईहरू हो
ऐ साथीहरू हो,
न अतालौ, न मुरमुरौं
हामी पनि जहाँ छौ त्यही बसी,
आत्मा चिन्तन गर्दै,

स्वयंलाई बुझ्ने कोशिश गरौं,
ताकि भोलि आउने दिनहरू
गएको हिजो जस्तो नहोस् ।
जे होस्, आज नभए भोलि ,
भोलि नभए आउने कुनै दिन

जब फेरि सबै साम्य हुनेछ
तब प्रकृतिलाई नवजीवनको निम्ति
कृतज्ञता प्रकट गर्दै,
उसकै हाथ समाएर अघि बढौं,
किनकि ऊ पनि त आमा हो
हामी सबैको धरती आमा ।

Alfaaz- The Poetry Conclave

Do we know?

Adarsh Tamang, Dept. of Sociology, 2nd Semester

I rest in my leisure and ponder upon myself.
Recalling upon my state of being or not being.
The influx of intricate details of vision, taste, and sound.
A pile of jacketed paper, with codified information, lies in front.
How do I know it is to be read and not used any other way?

A ventilating square, with flaps, glass, and a latch.
Outside it, receptors witness, a half dot, we call the moon.
Below it, strange shapes, with colors green.
A hill? Is green, really green?
A gust of air, brushes, ear, rings, speech and laughter, honks, why?

Perhaps, one day, we all shall cease to exist, die.
Hypothetically death is an entity, but is it?
No human has ever confronted and escaped. Death.
Feared by all, is it eternally lonely?
An ultimate fate, fate sealed to be lonely until the time itself, stops to exist?
Will time stop to exist?

Temperature of language

Deepti Rai, Dept. of English, 4th Semester

Words fumble in her tongue
Ready to jump out,
But the intensity is hot, like magma
All she could do is swallow and burn her flesh.

It has been there for ages, drenched with a dilemma, concealed perspectives and the world's despair
Particularly her tea of vain,
Drinking the uncertainties in silence.

Realm of imagination is tenser than it seems,
She wonders,
How creatures go on wandering in such a mystic place,
Where one can pour their heart out without any strain.

Cause reality intrudes like a mad villain,
She remembers being a wildflower,
Trampled, again and again.

She has nights enveloped with dreams in a cosy blanket,
And the ones with coffee until the night's lungs ripped out of air.

In uncertain days the breeze have calmed her nerves
And the same air, at times,
Refuse to enter her lungs.

The phrase says 'imagine the best version of yourself possible, that's who you are'
So whom to choose
The one with homeless anxieties in her head,
Or the one she imagines instead.

Her mother has woven her future
With heart's red thread
But all she has become is a glass,
Without a lid filled with saddened sun and dread.

At times she desires to get devoured
But the home is not between her legs
It's engraved in her soul.
She is me, she is in you.

With the hustle bustle of modernisation, it's the love she's lacking.
In the world, with furnished homes, it's the touch of humanity we're lacking.

Bengal, I don't want to love you anymore

Anirudh Sharma, Dept. of English, 2nd Semester

Bengal, I don't want to love you anymore
For you have so much to offer,
But you still chose to give me pain.

Not you at your worse
With your burning cities, and crumbling roads,
But you at a distance,
Riding carousels and mountains - Smoking next to me.
Grabbing me so tight that I forget how to breathe,
And still making me believe how good you could be.

Bengal, I don't want to love you anymore
For I lost my father to you,
And for that, I will be resentful forevermore.
Not you at your best
With hills looking so beautiful for the West,
But you lost in an album-
Made out of an inexpensive disposable camera.

Regardless, I'm grateful.
Grateful to you.
For birthing me. Nursing me.
Opening the doors to what I could be.
Stuck in a city so beguiling-
But still chasing for serenity.

Bengal, I don't want to love you anymore
For the person I loved from the Catholic school I went to, doesn't love me back.
And sometimes I feel pathetic,
That how could I still love you,
When you say you never loved me back.

Bengal, I have a few complaints. Some questions.
Will you listen to me?
I lost a few friends when I moved to the other side of the town.
Will you look after them? Care for them?
Be a friend. A brother. Husband. Father. Or a lover to them?
You see, I keep on drifting further away from the past,
Will you nurture my memories, so it'll last?

Bengal, I don't want to love you anymore
For you are making me weak.
I'm stuck, Bengal. I'm stuck in a loop,
And I don't know what to do, and you're always standing there at your distant gloom
So tall, like a fiery temple filled with
Greed, Devotion, love, Hate and Saffron.

Bengal, I might have a few breakdowns
Before I muster up the courage to leave you,
But till then, be there. For me and my inability.
'Cause I've figured that I will forever need you.

Reports





Department of Political Science

Mr. Pawan Rai, Asst. Prof., HoD

The session 2020-2021 had been quiet challenging for academic community as it made online mode of learning inevitable. It was a biggest leap towards a new mode keeping in mind geopolitical location of the region, economic condition of the people and internet connectivity. Pandemic emerged as a vanguard for national policy of 'Digital India' which transformed education entirely Digital. Though pandemic adversely affected people in general, the working class people became the worst victim of it. They could not be included in the new mode of teaching and learning as it made electronic gadgets indispensable. Notwithstanding plethora of hurdles, we had been successful in disseminating knowledge to our students, had regular classes and special lectures. Participation of the students were quite commendable, more than 90 percent of the total students attended online lectures. The legacy of guest lecture/ special lectures was replaced by webinar. As webinar became an omnipotent endeavor, every department organized National and International webinars. Students' webinar were also conducted regularly. Some of the remarkable events organized online were:

1. Economic and Political impact of Covid-19 in Tea Industries of Darjeeling Regions.
2. Refugee Crisis in South Asia with special reference to Rohingya crisis.
3. Feminism.
4. Farm Bill 2020.

When the College was opened for short period during December to March, various offline activities were held. This interregnum was quite beneficial for the department as we successfully organized two major events.

- Two days workshop on Model United Nations (SMUN) held in Sonada Campus.
- Three days workshop on Model United Nations (MUN) held in Siliguri Campus.
- Participated in sports event and won best department in sports award.
- Won inter department quiz competition organized by sports management.

All examinations were conducted online both Internal and University Examination. The results were exceptional with few distinctions. All in all session 2020-2021 was fruitful for the department.



Department of Sports Management, SCS

Mr. Rakesh Saibo, Asst. Professor

Sports has long been recognized as a psychological outlet for the latent tribal instincts inherent in all of us. It harkens back to the dawn of recorded history when numbers and clan loyalty improved survival odds. Genetic memory fulfils this psychological longing of being part of a greater collective through sport. From the wrestling matches on the south-western mountains of Mongolia 7,000 years ago to Egyptian athletics events 4,000 years ago and gymnastics competitions of Ancient Greece 3,500 years ago, sports have been an integral part of human civilization throughout the ages.

Sports Special Coaching Class

Sports Special Coaching for the inter college competition is conducted every day in two shifts - from 7:00 am to 8:45 am and in the evening after college hour that is from 3:30 p.m to 05:00 p.m. Students from different department participate on a daily basis for regular practice sessions in sports such as Badminton, Table Tennis, Basketball,Volleyball and Football.

The Sports Coaching hour has helped the students to build up their skills and competency level which has been seen through the increase in number of participants in the Intra College Sports Fests and Tournaments. The students have made tremendous efforts during their practice hour sessions and have won medals and trophies for themselves in various categories.

The Sports Special Coaching hour has also proactively helped the students from various departments to build up their academic knowledge and can be seen by a vast improvement in their mentality and moral development.





Events Details

1. **Date:** weekly (Friday) August /September
   Event: Online Weekly Quiz Competition was organized.
   Venue: Moodle, for Sonada Campus.
   No. of Participants: 200 students from all Departments (1st yr)
   Winner: Political Science Department

2. **Date:** 26th January 2021
   Event: Parade and Flag Hoisting.
   Venue: Salesian College Sonada.
   No. of Participants: 18 Girls (1st yr)

3. **Date:** 20th February 2021
   Event: Intra Department Volleyball Competition
   Venue: Moodle, for Sonada Campus.
   No. of Participants: 150 students from all Departments (1st yr)
   Winner: Political Science Department (boys) B.Com Department (girls)

4. **Date:** 27th March 2021
   Event: Jelleci Memorial Inter College Basketball Tournament.
   Venue: Salesian College Sonada Basketball Court.
   No. of Participants: 180
   Winner: SCSC (boys) APS (girls)

5. **Date:** 10th April 2021
   Event: Friendly Volleyball Match SCS VS SCSC
   Venue: Salesian College Siliguri Volleyball Court.
   No. of Participants: 40 Students (girls/boys)
   Winner: SCSC



Department of Commerce

Ms. Shreya Agarwal, Asst. Professor

The department of commerce established in the year 2014 is more like a family where the students and staff share a beautiful bond. Since it's very inception, the department is running smoothly where every year the students graduate with 100% results. Apart from the regular teaching and learning, the department has been very active in organizing various events like financial literacy program, business and management quiz, student's presentation, blood donation camps, fire drills, farewell, fresher's welcome and many more.

The academic year 2020-21 left a mark which got imprinted in the history of education system. The entire system of teaching and learning through chalk and board method was replaced by virtual classes through laptops and mobile phones. It took quite an amount of time for the faculty and the students to get accustomed to this new system of education, but with the combined efforts of both the faculty and students in updating oneself in technological aspect, everything got in place. The whole process of education was made possible through a single platform i.e. Moodle be it taking online classes, uploading assignments, study materials, conducting quizzes or internal exams. The students appeared for their University assignment based exams and were successful in producing satisfactory results. Alongside the department also organized quite a few online events like essay competition, webinar on Economic and Political impact of Covid-19 on tea industries of Darjeeling Region, Webinar on Digital Insurance, Students presentation on Startup business model canvas.

Altogether the pandemic has given us a new experience of online teaching and learning and as such the department looks forward to pursue the new system along with the traditional mode in a blended form of education even when the situation gets back to normal.





Highlighting the Journey: Dynamism of Sociology Department amidst the Pandemic

Mr. Samip Sinchuri, Asst. Prof., HoD

The Sociology Department shows resilience even amidst the throes of the Covid-19 scourge. Illuminating pupils despite countless constraints, it assimilates with challenges and continues towards its goal attainment. The department held events to engross the students throughout, simultaneously upskilling them through technology-mediated instruction. The department continues its innovative teaching through blended mode for all-inclusive development of the students. In brief the eventful journey of the department has been accentuated here.

A Webinar on Mental Health and Coping with COVID-19 situation was organized by Sociology Department on 12th October 2020 convened by Asst. Prof. Mr. Samip SinchurI and Ms. Nomu Sherpa. The resource person for the webinar was Ms. Ishita Sanyal, a Clinical Psychologist, Mental Health activist and founder Secretary of Kolkata based NGO, Turning Point.The webinar was inaugurated by the Principal of the college Fr. (Prof) George Thadathil, by elucidating on the need to address mental health issue, considering it as a need of the hour. In this session, Ms. Ishita Sanyal set forth about ways of overcoming mental health issues and challenges which have been stigmatized by the mass population. She also verbalized mental diseases like depression, panic attacks, anxiety, somatoform disorder, social withdrawal that people are suffering due to catastrophic change during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Ms. Sanyal further highlighted the importance of IQ (Intelligent Quotient), AQ (Adversity Quotient) and EQ (Emotional Quotient) to maintain balance in life. She also emphasized that one should give equal importance to cognitive, physical and social health and promote positive outlook to mental health rather than stigmatizing the issue.



On 24th February and 25th February 2021, Sociology Department organized episode screenings of 'Black Mirror', a British sci-fi series about the dystopian future of our technological society, on the initiative of the departmental faculty Ms. Anmol Mongia. The first episode 'Nosedive', was a reflection of a futuristic social world wherein lives will be guided by a total rating system. This rating system is based on the social media profiles of individuals whose personal ratings determine the course of their privileges, social recognition and self-esteem. First year students of BA History joined the Sociology first year students in the screening. The screening was followed by a discussion on the episode and students of both the disciplines gave their comments and analysis.

The following day's screening of the episode 'White Christmas' welcomed students from all departments present in the college on that day. Students from BA general, English, History, Social Work and Sociology were the audience for the day. The 78 minutes long episode sustained the attention of the audience till the end. It was a thrilling mix of three stories that circled around the practices of digital cloning, techniques of simulation and eye-link profiles. It was a commentary on the changing nature of justice, testimony, crime and punishment in a world driven by simulation technologies. Both the episodes were a part of the lecture series on Media as an agent of Social Change (CC1- Sociology). Sociology students wrote a review based on the screening and submitted their analysis to the department.

An Educational Hike to Chatakpur was organized by the Sociology Department on 6th March, 2021. The students of the department were part of this fun learning program, accompanied by Ms. Sophia Rai and Ms. Anmol Mongia. Along with the fun filled activity, the students took up a casual study about the changing rural lifestyle in this area. Trekking is a joyful activity and one can gain a lot of experience from nature about the intricacies of local environment. The event helped the teacher and students come together and know one another, promoting a strong connection while climbing uphill. Trekking does not just consist in moving through the track, it also allows hikers to gather knowledge about the culture and way of life, local flora and fauna. It is indeed a pleasure to be with nature and himself. Indeed, a complete experience of body and soul!

While at the Chatakpur, the destination point- the students reported from their observation that people still practiced terrace farming of food crops, clubbed with floral farming in greenhouses. They found locals to be pretty skilled with bamboo and recorded making items like baskets and fences using them.They noted shifts in economic activity as they found that the former profession of local inhabitants was farming. At present however, the locals are interested in the hospitality sector and have invested in the new trend of 'Home-stays'. Though the area is mostly remote and isolated with a forest of evergreen trees and shrubs, tourists still love to visit this place. Trekking is a marvelous way to become





aware of nature, to educate ourselves about how important it is to preserve nature for future generations.

The Department organized a seminar and Save Water Awareness Rally to mark World Water Day on 22nd March, 2021. A program of half an hour took place in the A.V. Hall of Salesian College at 10:30 am. The event was arranged by Mr. Samip Sinchuri. Prior to the rally, students were already informed about the urgency of conservation of freshwater in daily life. Adarsh Tamang, a first semester student hosted the program attended by Rev. Rector Fr. (Dr.) Tomy Augustine, Vice Principal Br. Augustin Joseph, and the Dean, Dr. Terence Mukhia. The programme started after Fr. Rector, VP, Dean, and the Head of the Department watered a plant to mark the importance of water conservation. Ayush Raj Subba and Lachen Tamang, both first semester students of Sociology Department made short presentations to disseminate the value of water. After the rally started at 11 am from the college gate to 8 Mile, a neighboring village, in which the students of Sociology Department participated enthusiastically.

Mr. Samip Sinchuri headed the rally which started from the college gate to 8th Mile on Hill Cart Road. During the rally the students spread awareness about the significance of water and the ways in which water can be conserved for the future generations. Students also distributed the leaflets containing an appeal to use water sparingly, fostering sustainability. The shops at the locality were given these leaflets and Save Water and Save Life stickers while students interacted with local people.

On the occasion of Ambedkar's 130th birth anniversary, the Sociology Department, on 14th April, 2021 organized online special lecture to commemorate, respect and remember Dr. Ambedkar through a special lecture on his life and contributions.The special lecture was presented by Ms. Prayana Subba, Asst. Prof. of History. The Convener of this event Mr. Samip Sinchuri, welcomed the participants and highlighted the importance of observing Ambedkar Jayanti. The students from Department of Sociology, History, English, Mass Comm and B. A. General attended the lecture.The Rector of the college Fr. (Dr.) Tomy Augustine presented the inaugural address to the students, wherein he conveyed the significant role of Ambedkar in drafting the constitution and his effort in uplifting Indian society. The lecture was organized through online platform of Google Meet. Ms. Prayana presented her talk to the students on the topic, "Life and Contributions of Ambedkar." She narrated about Ambedkar his prominent role and the part he played in changing the Indian society and his perspective towards casteism.Towards the end of the webinar Fr. C.M. Paul, Director of Radio Salesian further added that, Ambedkar was a polymath and civil rights activist who contributed immensely to the nation. He is Father of the Constituent Assembly, as well as the one who conceptualized the Reserve Bank of India, and above all, as a social reformer who is well known for his campaigns against the social discrimination which oppressed the Dalits, women and labour class.



Department of History

Mr. Prayash Rai, Asst. Professor, HoD

This academic session 2020-2021 began in a very unprecedented manner due to the global pandemic. This year focused more on online methods of teaching rather than the usual method of classroom teaching. There were many students who enrolled in the History Department irrespective of the current situation and they were guided and given support for the same. The new students were given orientation and guidance for the online classroom methods through Google meet. There were nine graduating students with good results. Four graduating students continued to pursue Master's in History from The University of North Bengal from the graduating students. The HoD, Mr. Prayash Rai also enrolled in the Ph.D. program from North Bengal University. Nima Sherpa, a 5th semester student secured 1st position in singing competition held in online mode titled "MERAKI", organized by the Pianazzi Literary and Cultural Society.

There were two webinars conducted by the department:

- "Media and Democracy", Speaker – Prof. V. Krishna Ananth from Sikkim University, in collaboration with St. Joseph's College Department of History held on 17th October, 2020.
- "Women Empowerment Historical Perspective", Speaker – Dr. Dahlia Bhattacharya (North Bengal University) held on 17th January, 2021.

"LET'S GO BACK TO OUR ROOTS"– An online cultural fest was also organised on 30th November 2020 by the department of History Salesian College Siliguri in collaboration with Salesian College Sonada.





Webinar on "Industry Readiness" organized by the Department of BCA

Anjali Tamang, Dept. of BCA, 3rd Semester

On 14 January 2021, a Webinar on "INDUSTRY READINESS" was held in a blended mode which was organized by department of BCA, SCS in collaboration with IQAC. The resource person for the webinar was Mr. Sebastian Rajan, Senior Technical Architect, HCL Technologies, Bangalore. It was conducted in the AV hall of the college and a faculty member of the department, Mr. Nikhil Pradhan provided the technical assistance while the program was hosted by Ms. Priyadarshini Pradhan. The program started with a short prayer by respected Fr. Dr. Tomy Augustine. The Principal, Vice-principal and students who couldn't attend the seminar physically joined the webinar via Google meet.

The webinar highlighted the real life challenges and the scenario that would be faced by the students when they apply for a job in the industry or when they work for any industry. The resource person Sebastian Rajan shared his experiences and journey from a student to Senior Technical Architect and delivered a message about how small basic things can add up to larger success. He also gave some ideas about how the academic projects could be improved with the skills and innovative ideas of the students. The webinar ended with a special vote of thanks by Mr. Nikhil Pradhan.





Annual Report on Women's Cell

Women Cell, SCS

The Women Cell at Salesian College Sonada, aims at empowering and orienting woman to recognize their true potential and help them attain their own stand in this competitive world. The cell aims at an overall development of women in all spheres of their life. Besides creating awareness on important issues related to women, the cell provides a forum for discussion on a range of issues ranging from empowerment to environment. The cell also has a total of 5 members. The members of the women cell include Nomu Sherpa (Chairperson), Shreya Agarwal (President), Prayana Subba, Jessica M. Nyss and Shikshita Dewan. The cell also has the support of our very active student volunteers who participate and help in covering the various activities and events- Prayanjali Subba Jabegu, Subasna Rai, Rakshana Karkidoly, Gaurab Subba, Matin Rai and Riwaj Diyali.

Over the past years the cell has conducted many activities and workshops related to women health and hygiene, human trafficking, substance abuse under the sponsorship of United Board Hong Kong. Vending machines of sanitary napkins for the college students has also been installed by the women cell and the female students are trained to use them. The cell members also keep a regular check on the menstrual hygiene of the students. The onset of the Pandemic however brought a sudden halt to many social activities planned by the team, however keeping in mind the safety protocols; we have set up a continuity plan which includes activities that are largely aimed at raising awareness on Covid-19. The cell has successfully completed three activities in the year 2020-2021 which include the following:

Essay writing competitionon 'A Woman Who Inspires Me'.

1st March 2021 - The Women Cell of Salesian College Sonada conducted an Essay Writing competition to celebrate the International Women's Day. The students from all the departments were invited to participate in the competition. There were 62 participants. The event started at 10 am in the morning at AV hall. The objective of the competition was to encourage and expand innovative and creative thinking among the students and also understand the importance of a woman in their life. The duration of the competition was one hour. The cell members were guided by Assistant Professor Mr. Vasudeva Naidu, HoD English, in declaring the winners:

- 1st - Adarsh Tamang, 2nd Semester, Dept. of Sociology.
- 2nd - Subhankar Biswakarma, 6th Semester, Dept. of History.
- 3rd - Ariha Chakraborty, 2nd Semester, Dept. of Sociology.



Blood Donation Camp

5th March 2021 - The Women Cell of Salesian College Sonada organized a Blood Donation Camp in collaboration with the District Hospital Darjeeling under the sponsorship of Himalayan Institute of Goodwill and Living Ethics (HIGLE). The Event started at 9.30 am in the morning at SCS till 5pm in the evening. A total of 72 volunteers came forward to donate blood during the camp which included teaching & non-teaching staff, students and locals from Gorabari, Sonada, and Munda Village. This was a major successful as we were able to collect 59 units of blood.

Workshop on Self-Defense & Self Esteem

19th and 20th April, 2021 – The Women cell, under the sponsorship of Himalayan institute of Goodwill and Living Ethics organized a two-day workshop on right to safety and self-defense at SCS. The event started at 10 am in the AV hall and ended at 3pm. The resource persons were Giacomo Colomba, Mixed Martial Arts (MMA) instructor and Sulekha Bhansali, Martial Art Assistant. The main aim was to train the female students and rural women to be in control during a life-threatening situation improve concentration confidence and build awareness. On the first day, there were a





total of 24 female students who participated in the workshop and on the second day, around 21 women from Munda Village, Maldiram and Margret's Hope participated in the workshop. The feedback given by the participants was very positive.

With this, the cell successfully completed two mega events under the project 'Strengthening Rural Women' sponsored by the Himalayan Institute of Goodwill and Living Ethics, Kalimpong. The cell intends to conduct the last activity i.e. Skill Enhancement Workshop under the above mentioned project in the following year which couldn't be conducted due to the pandemic.



Department of Mass Com & Journalism

Ms. Shruti Chettri, Asst. Professor

The session 2020-2021 saw its own set of challenges and hurdles as the pandemic forced us to hold classes online. From connectivity issues to screen fatigue, the online mode sadly took a toll on the overall mental well-being of both faculty and students. Keeping the students' best interest at heart, we managed to conduct classes and other activities despite the snags and the stumbling blocks. Covid-19 has indeed changed the way of teaching and learning. The e-learning method has enabled us to reach out to students through chat groups and video meetings but it cannot be denied that it lacks the proximity and closeness an actual classroom provides. Keeping in mind that ours is a practical and lab based field, we struggled in more ways than one. Nevertheless, all the faculty and students tried their best and forged ahead. A lot of students' presentations and three major webinars were held. Three highly experienced Resource Persons were invited to these webinars to share their experiences and to provide career and counselling advice to the students. The three webinars were:

1. "Sharing the Experience" with Mr. Vivek Chhetri, Senior Correspondent, The Telegraph. (28th September 2020)
2. "Understanding the Power of Mind for Effective Communication" with Dr. A. Abraham, Master Practitioner in Neuro Linguistic Programming. (25th January 2021)
3. "Special Talk on Careers in Broadcast Journalism" with Manodeepa Banerjee, NDTV. (27th February 2021)

Students' Presentations included Case Study Presentation, Poster Presentation, Blog Presentation and Media and Cultural Studies Presentation. Students also made ad copy designs and news capsules. The 6th semester students attended their online classes with their counterparts of Siliguri campus. The overall attendance of the 1st and 2nd years were satisfactory. The examinations were held online and all the students performed well.

It is clear that this pandemic has disrupted our traditional education system. Could the shift to online learning be the boost to create a new, more effective method of educating students? One thing that has been made clear through this pandemic is the importance of disseminating knowledge to students. It has taught us that no matter what, the privilege to learn is not to be kept on hold. If online learning technology can play a role here, it is incumbent upon all of us to explore its full potential.



National Service Scheme

Mr. Samip Sinchuri, NSS, Programme Officer

The National Service Scheme is an Indian government-sponsored flagship for public service program conducted by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports of the Government of India. Popularly known as NSS, the scheme was launched in Gandhiji's Birth Centenary year in 1969.

Events in 2020

Covid-19 Awareness Prevention Program: Sonada, 17 April 2020 - The National Service Scheme (NSS) Unit of Salesian College Sonada (SCS) organized an online Covid-19 Training & Awareness Program on 17th April 2020 through video conferencing. The program was held in compliance with directives given by Ministry of Home Affairs Government of India and Regional Directorate of NSS West Bengal. The program, christened Covid-19 Warrior Training was conducted by Mr. Samip Sinchuri, Department of Sociology. Both faculty and students participated in the program. It was a fruitful and interactive session where the students came up with their queries and they were informed and made aware of Covid-19 related myths and facts.

College NSS, NGO distributes relief supplies in Sonada area: Sonada, 19 March 2020 – A group of college students and faculty teamed up with a local NGO to distribute relief supplies to people in seven areas of Sonada town. The National Service Scheme (NSS) unit of Salesian College,Sonada led by Asst. Prof. Mr. Samip Sinchuri of Sociology Department distributed food grain and other consumable items among indigent families of different villages in Sonada area. The families receiving the relief were the ones who were most hard hit due to the Covid-19 pandemic lockdown and were amongst the most deprived people in the area. These initiatives undertaken by NSS in association with All India Nepali Scheduled Caste Association, Sonada Branch benefitted 14 families.

Covid-19: Salesian College joins NGO's Blood Donation Camp: Sonada, 26 April 2020 — Salesian College Sonada and All India Nepali Schedule Caste Association marked 129th birth anniversary of Bhim Rao Ambedkar – the Father of the Indian Constitution with a blood donation camp held in Scott Mission School Sonada, 26th April 2020. Some members of the NSS (National Service Scheme) group of Salesian College Sonada collaborated with the NGO under the leadership of

Assistant Professor of Sociology Mr. Samip Sinchuri who is also NSS District Nodal Officer of Gorkhaland Territorial Administration (Hills). Besides the general public, Salesian College student volunteers, Sneh Gurung, Phulamu Bhutia, Farman Khan and Sudarshan Rai along with Salesian College faculty members Dr. Terence Mukhia, Mr. Savio Giri, Mr. Samip Sinchuri and Vice Principal Br. Jose Augustine donated blood.

Events in 2021

NSS Group holds Orientation and General Meet: On 9th April 2021, The National Service Scheme (NSS) unit of Salesian College Sonada organized an orientation session for the newly joined NSS volunteers of 1st year, 9th April 2021. The program began with the NSS song followed by inaugural addressed by the Vice Principal, Br Augustine Joseph who shared his experience and thoughts about serving and cleaning the surroundings during his school days. He also encouraged the volunteers to take up community service. The NSS Program Officer, Mr. Samip Sinchuri motivated the newly joined volunteers explaining the philosophy of NSS as well as sharing his experience as NSS volunteer and urged everyone to live up by the NSS motto' NOT ME BUT YOU".

NSS Unit helps clean up football stadium: Sonada, 11th April 2021, The National Service Scheme (NSS) unit of Salesian College Sonada organized a campus cleaning drive on Saturday 10th April 2021.

NSS Unit addresses malnutrition issues by Poshan Abhiyan: 12th April, Sonada: The NSS Volunteer of Salesian College Sonada campus took part in the 'Poshan Pakhwada 2021' by addressing malnutrition issues of children with a team of 17 NSS volunteers. The event



was attended by 2nd, 4th and 6th semester student volunteers, working diligently to convey the awareness message.

NSS Observes World Earth Day: Sonada, 22nd April 2021: The National Service Scheme (NSS) Unit of Salesian College Sonada under the guidance and supervision of HoD of Sociology and NSS Programme Officer Mr. Samip Sinchuri organized a webinar to mark World Earth Day, 22 April 2021. The guest presenter of the webinar Dr. Bhawana Khati from Salesian College Siliguri, Geography Department discussed this year's Earth Day theme: "Restore the Earth". Dr. Khati emphasized the preservation of electricity and other natural resources giving participants practical tips on how one could successfully conserve more power while seeking other resources of renewable and clean energy.

NSS Volunteers helps Sonada Town Sanitization Drive: On 9th May 2021, NSS Salesian College organised a sanitization drive in Sonada.





Workshop on "Guidance for Psychosocial Counselling for COVID-19 Positive Patients and their Family Members": On 14th May 2021, an online workshop on "Guidance for Psychosocial Counselling for COVID-19 Positive Patients and their Family Members", was organized for the NSS Volunteers of Salesian College Sonada. The Resource Person of the webinar was Mr. Samip Sinchuri, Head of Department of Sociology and Program officer of NSS Salesian College Sonada.

World No Tobacco Day- 31st May, 21: On the occasion of World No Tobacco Day, NSS Salesian College Sonada organized a webinar through an online media platform, Google Meet on 31st May 2021. NSS volunteer Pravaker Pradhan and his group presented the importance of observing world no tobacco day and the ill effects on human health due to consumption of tobacco.

Webinar on "Outbreak of Covid19 Second Wave: prevention and safety practices": On 3rd of June, 2021, a webinar was arranged by the NSS Unit of Salesian College Sonada, on"Outbreak of Covid19 Second Wave: Prevention and Safety practices" via Google meet. The purpose of the presentation was to raise awareness among the volunteers and also to help them stay healthy and positive during this pandemic.

Observation of World Environment Day- 5th June, 2021: World Environment Day was celebrated on 5th June by the NSS Volunteers under the guidance of NSS Nodal Programme Officer Mr. Samip Sinchuri. The main motive of the celebration was to spread awareness about the need to protect the environment and the ways to do it.

Observation of International Yoga Day: The online session was organized by National Service Scheme (NSS) and Dept of Sports Management through Google Meet at 09:00am to 10:00 am. The theme for the session / event was 'Yoga for Well-Being'. Organizers for the session were Mr. Samip Sinchuri, Mr Rakesh Saibo and Mrs. Prayana Subba, including the volunteers, namely, Riwaj Diyali, Prashanti Pradhan, Jenni Limbu, SikhaTamang, Kirti Chhetri and Farman Khan. In the session all faculty and students were cordially invited.

Plastic Bag Free Day 2021: On 3rd July 2021, an online seminar on Plastic Pollution Control was held by NSS Salesian Sonada to celebrate International Plastic Bag Free Day. The Volunteers of NSS SalesianSonada, with the help of our Program manager Mr. Samip Sinchuri, held an online seminar regarding the Plastic Pollution Control to inform the general public about the dangers of use of Plastic bags.

Photos and Sketches





Adarsh Tamang, Dept. of Sociology, 2nd Semester



Adarsh Tamang, Dept. of Sociology, 2nd Semester



Simon Dorjee Dukpa, Dept. of History, 4th Semester



Saloni Rai, Dept. of English, 2nd Semester



Ayush Thapa, Dept. of English, 2nd Semester



Saloni Rai, Dept. of English, 2nd Semester



Ayush Thapa, Dept. of English, 2nd Sem



Saloni Rai, Dept. of English, 2nd Sem



Ayush Thapa, Dept. of English, 2nd Sem



Saloni Rai, Dept. of English, 2nd Sem



Ayush Thapa, Dept. of English, 2nd Sem



Siddhi Singh, Dept. of Mass Com, 2nd Sem



Siddhi Singh, Dept. of Mass com, 2nd Sem



Ayush Thapa, Dept. of English, 2nd Sem



Adarsh Tamang, Dept. of Sociology, 2nd Semester



Courses Offered

Arts & Social Sciences

English (H)
History (H)
Sociology (H)
Political Science (H)
Bachelor of Social Work (H)
Mass Com & Journalism (H)
B.A. Programme
Education
Economics

Professional Courses

B. Computer Application - BCA (H)
Bachelor of Social Work - BSW (H)

Commerce & Management

Bachelor of Commerce (H)
Bachelor of Commerce (G)
Bachelor of Vocational Studies (B.Voc)
- Travel & Tourism Management
- Retail Management

Career Oriented Programmes

Travel & Tourism Management
Communicative English
Computer Application
Sports Management
Music

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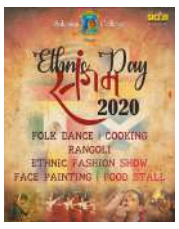
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SILIGURI | SONADA

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Fr. Rector Celebrates Golden Jubilee of Religious Service



SURAVEE THAKURI

On 12th November 2019, Salesian College, Siliguri, celebrated the Golden Jubilee of Fr.(Dr.) Mathew Pulingathil (Rector, Salesian College, Siliguri). A programme was organized to commemorate Fr. Mathew's fifty years of service to the Church. The guests, faculty members and students gathered at the church for the Holy Mass. Several dignitaries and the faithful from Siliguri, Sonada, Darjeeling and Assam were present for the celebration. A short felicitation programme commenced at 1 pm. An instrumental act and a group dance was performed by the students. A special dance was presented by the guests to mark the occasion. During the programme, Fr. George Thadathil, Principal of Salesian College Siliguri and Sonada, spoke about Father Rector's life and his contribution towards the service of the young and the needy, and also his years of dedication to the college.

Father Mathew who was born in Kerala left his home on the 3rd of April 1962 to follow the religious path. As a young boy he was very enthusiastic and deeply devoted to God. After seven years of studies he became a Salesian on 24th May 1969 in Shillong, Meghalaya. After ten years he became a priest and was sent to Ranchi, Bihar as a headmaster of a Hindi medium school. He completed his bachelors in English honours and completed his B.Ed from Calcutta University. He was always open to learning and knowing more about God which led him to study Theolo gy in Bangalore for four years. He believed that one could always find happiness in God. He further went to complete his Ph.D from Pontifical University, Rome in 1986. He came to Salesian College, Sonada where he served as the Rector. He worked in various educational institutions in Mirik, Siliguri and Kalimpong and came to Salesian College Siliguri in 2014. He has a great love for music and plays many musical instruments and also likes teaching the young. He spent fifty years of his religious life serving and educating the youth. In his life he abides by the principle- keep on doing good to the world and the world will be good. "He is a good human being having a mag nanimous heart for the poor, ever ready to help the needy. He firmly believes in enhancing the others by your presence. He is a meticulous planner and a great friend of youth" said Mr. Peter Lepcha, the Dean of Arts & Humanities section of the college.

The event concluded with a speech by the Rector in which he expressed his gratitude towards the college and the guests. He delivered a brief message to the youths, encouraging them to have faith in God and be committed to whatever they do.

Rector Major Visits SCSC



SURUCHI SHANKAR

The visit of Father Rector Major Angel Fernandez Artime, was a significant event witnessed by Salesian College, Siliguri Campus on 25th of October, 2019.

Rector Major Angel Fernandez was born on August 21, 1960 in Gozón-Luanco, Spain to a fishing family. He entered the School of Leon and joined the Salesian Order, at the age of 18. In 1987, he was ordained as a priest. Rector Major Angel Fernandez was elected by the Salesian General Chapter 27 as the Rector Major of the Salesians on May 24, 2014. With his election he became the 10th successor of Don Bosco and the first Spaniard and third non-Italian to become Rector Major in Salesian history.

The event began with the NCC cadets of the college escorting him to the stage where he was seated along with Fr. (Dr.) Nirmol Gomes (Provincial) and Fathers from Siliguri and Sonada campus.

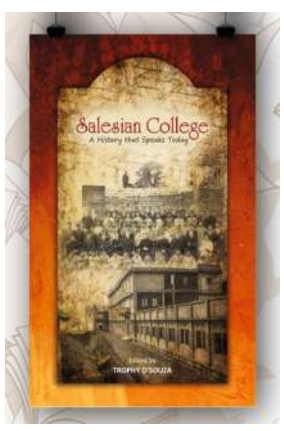
Fr.(Prof) George Thadathil, Principal of Salesian College spoke about the early life of Father Rector Major, his education and his contributions in the field of education for the under privileged. The students presented a traditional Nepali folk dance followed by a tribal dance.This was followed by a speech by Rector Major Angel Fernandez. He addressed the students regarding the importance of education. He spoke in Spanish which was translated in English by Fr. (Dr.) Mathew Pulingathil (Rector, Salesian College, Siliguri). He engaged with the students by singing two Spanish songs which was appreciated by all. The programme concluded with a photo session with the college authorities and the students. On the morning of 26th of October, 2019, Father Rector Major Angel Fernandez, inaugurated and blessed the new wing of Salesian College, Siliguri campus in the presence of Fathers and faculty members of the campus.

Quizzers make Salesians Proud



SURAVEE THAKURI

Two students representing Salesian College Siliguri were declared runners up of the biggest college level quiz show of India called "Lallantop Quiz" on 28th December, 2019. Sagar Agarwal and Sandeep Agarwal, both second year students from the Department of Commerce, have been quiz enthusiasts from a very young age. On getting information about the quiz from a fellow member of a quiz club, Sagar and Sandeep immediately registered their names and began preparing for it. The "Lallantop Quiz" is a quiz-based game show primarily in Hindi language. It takes place every year and gets aired on 'Tez' a Hindi news channel. It is amongst the most popular game shows of the nation wherein more than 2000 teams, put their quizzing talent to test. The show witnessed participation from the top colleges including the IITs, Banaras Hindu University, Delhi University and the National Law University. The contenders competed across fields including law, technology, management and medicine. After going through a few online rounds, Sagar and Sandeep were selected for the final three rounds for which they had to visit the "India Today" group office in New Delhi. The shooting of the episodes took place within a span of 10-12 days from 9th of October. The final episode or the grand finale of the show aired on the 28th of December, 2019. The qualifiers were Madhav Institute of Technology and Science, Gwalior, National Law School of India, Bengaluru and Salesian College, Siliguri. The host/ quiz master of the show was Saurav Dwivedi. He is considered as one of the erudite journalists of India and is one of the most recognisable faces in Indian digital media. After making it past the challenges and questions, Sagar and Sandeep emerged as the ultimate winners of the quiz. "It has been a great experience as it was the first time we were in front of the camera and subjected to such a large audience. It made us nervous also as the stakes were very high." said Sandeep. Their hard-work together with talent paid off well. Both Sagar and Sandeep hope to work harder and further participate in various quiz platforms.



Salesian Publication:
Salesian College
A History that Speaks Today

CBCS Results 2020

SRADHA TAMANG & BR. BIRENDRA KERKETTA

The results of 1st and 3rd semester examination of Salesian College Siliguri under the university of North Bengal was declared on 14th of January 2020.

There were 4 toppers from 3 departments : Sonashree Pal (9.9) from BSC, Rahul Chettri (9.6) from BCA, Kshitiz Mital (9.6), Nadini Sharma (9.5) and Dristi Prashad (9.5) from B.Com honours. Approximately 900 students had appeared for the examination. Among them 20 students got SGPA 9 and above, 125 students got SGPA 8-9, 228 students got SGPA 7-8, 295 students got SGPA 6-7, 167 students got SGPA 5-6 and 3 students got SGPA 4-5.

The performance of a student in a semester is indicated by a number called SGPA (Semester Grade Point Average) which is the weighted average of the grade points obtained in all courses registered by the students during the semester.

JOY TO THE WORLD!!











RAKSHA RAI

On 17th December 2019, Salesian College, Siliguri Campus hosted the annual Christmas gathering for all faculty, friends and students in the Kilian hall. The Christmas gathering is held every year in the campus with multiple activities. The first day of the celebration was a sumptuous dinner for the faculty and their family members. During the programme they engaged in a series of games and sang Christmas carols.. On the second day, students and faculty members gathered in the Kilian hall for the continuation of celebration which took place on the last day before winter vacations. The campus was filled with decorations commemorating the birth of Jesus Christ. The programme commenced with a sequence of Christmas carols sung by the choir followed by a speech by Fr. (Dr.) Mathew Pulingathil, Rector of Salesian College Siliguri Campus. Father enlightened the students with a Christmas message of unity and togetherness and how it is an essential part of society. Following the yearly Christmas tradition, a member of the institution disguised as Santa Claus greeted the students and teachers followed by various dance performances.

To engage the students in the Christmas spirit even more, collage making and cake baking competitions were held simultaneously amongst the different clubs of the college in the Savio block and Stadium block respectively. Mr. Anirban Ghosh, Campus co-ordinator of Salesian College Siliguri said "A well participated annual event. A lot of enthusiasm despite the university examinations. I was happy to see students from different departments come together for the Collage making and the Cake Baking competition. The best part of the day was the choir. They were wonderfully singing to the the tunes of the season." After the prize distribution, the students and teachers were given refreshments and with a final song by the choir, the Christmas gathering concluded.

SALESIAN COLLEGE PROTESTS "RAPE CULTURE"



LAKSHYA CHETTRI

On, 12th December, 2019, the Human Rights Cell, under the Political Science Department of Salesian College, Siliguri, organised a peaceful solidarity rally to express their insistence on creating a safer environment for women in Siliguri and to end rape culture. The rally took place from the college campus to Payal Cinema Hall at Sevoke Road, with the motto, "March with a purpose, march to end rape culture." A campus awareness program was first organised at Kilian Hall on "rape culture" with various dance, music and skit presentations. The students then began their rally. As they marched by, they raised slogans, sang songs, and held placards condemning rape and spreading awareness regarding the issue of women safety. One of the placards read "Touching a girl without her consent does not make you a man, it makes you a coward." The students were also interviewed by various media organisations. Mr Bikash Sharma, Assistant Professor of the Department of Political Science, gave some insight on how to overcome the ideology of rape culture. "Rape is not an event, rape its an idea. A very dangerous idea. So first we need to get into the idea then we need to fight it, through ideas," Prof. Sharma expressed. He further explained that the true purpose of the rally was to develop interest among people to be defiant to the particular idea of rape instead of just opposing and condemning the tragedy of the event caused by it. The rally concluded with the students' return to the college campus at 1pm.

Yuksom welcomes Geographers



Field trip for the students of BA 3rd Year Geo(H) was organised from 23rd Nov.2019 to 27thNov 2019. Altogether 18 Students accompanied by two faculty members from the department went to Yuksom and conducted a filed survey on Socio Economic Conditions of Households in Yuksom, West Sikkim. The purpose of the study was to make students familiar with basic research methodologies and techniques of data collection and report preparation as a part of their academic syllabus.

Besides, the students also visited the historical places like Norbugang Fort (1st Capital of Sikkim) followed by Rabdentse Fort (2nd Capital of Sikkim) and other places of interests like Skywalk at Pelling, and religious sites like Dubdi Monastery, Khechipuri lake etc.

The students had a great learning experiences from the community and it was indeed a good time of bonding and sharing.

Sociology Dept. Exploring Heights



The land of trekker's paradise located North West of Darjeeling at an altitude of 11,929 ft, is one of the highest peaks nestled in the Singalila Ridge. The trek to Sandakphu for the Department of Sociology was scheduled from 22nd to 26th of November, 2019. The group was accompanied by two faculty members, namely Asst. Prof. Vivek Kalikotey and Asst. Prof. Pratishtha Dewan. On 22nd November, the group left from Darjeeling town towards Maneybhanjang, a small transit town located at the gateway of the Singalila National Park, 28km away from Darjeeling. The trekking, henceforth, began towards the land of the "height of the poison plants" as the name Sandakphu suggests. The journey from Maneybhanjang led the group to their first stop for lunch at Meghma and later, a one night halt at Everest Lodge, Jaubari. Next morning on 23rd, the students headed to Sandakphu through Gairibas. "The steep upward road accompa nied by the dense forest, the vast grasslands, the stout thorny bush es; the yaks and the reserved area for the Pandas at Kaikatta, triggered our innate sense for the value of biodiversity", said one of the students. There was a halt for lunch at Kaalpokhari, also known as "the black lake that never dries". The group then continued their journey from Kaalpokhari to Sandakphu at a distance of 6 km. Once at the top, the members were able to observe and relish many specialties of Sandakphu, like the Mt. Kanchunjanga and its adjacent peaks, the wild but tamed tibetan mastiffs and the 1960 model Land Rovers. The group stayed at Sandakphu's Sherpa Lodge on 23rd and 24thNovember after which they headed towards Rimbick on the 25th. Covering 25kms by foot and crossing over Siri Khola (River), they made their way to Rimbick which ultimately marked the end of the journey. The trek covered a total of 56kms and as per the partakers' experience, the journey mattered more than the destination.

Hay Fever

RUCHHEN PEMA TAMANG

The Department of English of Salesian College, Siliguri organised its annual fest 'Hay Fever'. It holds a significant place in each of our hearts as we gather as one and decide the theme and various other on stage and off stage events. This year the annual fest was held on 26th and 27th of September 2019. The theme chosen was 'Literature and Environment' keeping in mind the ongoing global crisis of climate change. The event began with a common assembly followed by a welcome programme for the faculty and students of the department. Fr. Aju Kurian (Vice Principal, Salesian College Siliguri) addressed the gathering and commended the department for their effort. Mr. Peter Lepcha, Dean & Head of the Department briefed the gathering about the day providing a glimpse of the history of the fest and why it is called Hay Fever. Dr. Gunjeet Aurora Mehta, Dean, PG department presented a plenary talk on the issue of how Literature and Environment are part of the discourse of the programme. The event started with the presentation by students in the form of Ted Talk, encompassing some of the common themes. The multidisciplinary reading of the problem brought forth many interesting perspectives on the global issue of the climate change.

The off stage events included story writing, poetry writing, photography, comic strip, collage making and short film making. The competition was open to the students of all the departments. . It was a successful event which helped raise awareness on Climate Change.

An Educational Tour to Shillong, Meghalaya Department of Political Science

The Department of Political Science (Part III) visited Shillong as a part of their educational tour from 21st November to 27th November 2019, accompanied by three faculty members – Miss Chimme Tamang (HOD), Ms. Mrinali Moktan and Mr. Sangam Ghatani. The tour began on 21st November from New Jalpaiguri Railway Station to Guwahati on 22nd November. The students then travelled via road to Shillong in the morning, with a stop at Umiam Lake also commonly known as Bada Pani.





The group reached the Pastoral Centre in Shillong at 10 am, an institution of Don Bosco, their accommodation for the next 5 days. The center was located in a very peaceful area and the students felt at home and was warmly welcomed by the people at the Centre especially Fr. Felix, Rector of the institution. In the evening, the group visited Police Bazaar, one of the popular shopping destinations in Shillong. The group visited various destinations like Dawki River, Mawlynnong Village, living root bridge, Nohkalikai Waterfalls, Don Bosco Shrine and Mawsmai Caves. In the evening, a bonfire was arranged for the students where they shared their experiences and values learned from this trip. They also visited Don Bosco Museum in Mawlai, which had a detailed portrayal of the people and their culture. The day ended with a visit to the Cathedral of Mary Help of the Christians in Shillong. The group returned to Siliguri on 27th morning. Overall, the students mentioned the trip as something to cherish forever, one of the students expressed "it would be the best trip of my college life".

Mass Communication Department Organises a Lecture Session



NOELLEA SUBBA

A Special Lecture on "International Affairs with special emphasis on the Decline of Socialism in USSR, Cold war and Unipolar world" was held on 14th December 2019. The lecture was given by Ms.Bonita Pradhan, PhD Scholar (Jawaharlal Nehru University) and was organized by the Department of Mass Communication and Journalism, Salesian College, Siliguri Campus. The lecture was very valuable and informative as it is also included in the syllabus of the third year students who attended it with much enthusiasm and also the participation of the faculty members added effectiveness, which further concluded with an interactive session. The students had a rich learning experience and exposure to the international affairs.

Want to grow? Do this ...

Fr. Aju Kurian, SDB,
Vice Principal



Continued from previous issue

Accept failure in life

You know what farmers do, don't you? They go out to their fields to sow grain. Some fall along the path and it's eaten up by birds and are crushed under foot by those who pass by. Some of it falls on the rocky ground where there is little or no soil at all. They begin to sprout but the scorching sun burns the young plants. Some seeds fell among the thorn bushes and these choke the plant when it begins to sprout. Others fall on the good soil. The farmer knows all this but he doesn't give up at all. He waits patiently for the harvest time when he begins to reap a good harvest, in spite of all the waste that had gone before it. Our life is just like that. There is a lot of waste in it. We commit mistakes and serious blunders but these are schools of learning. We should not be discouraged or disheartened. We need to believe firmly that with time, there will be a very rich harvest Remember: the person who has never made a mistake is still to be born. Will there ever be one?

Accept yourself

The Sunday issue of the Telegraph carries a magazine with it, called Graphiti which has weekly feature called Style. This has two subtitles called cosmetic cures and the natural way. In these subtitles, readers ask questions on how to improve their physical appearance. Briefly, readers speak about parts of the body which they dislike or would want to improve. Just listen to these

- I am a 20 year old man with thick dry and frizzy hair. None of the shampoos or conditioners I've, helped. Please, advise.
- I'm an 18 year old student. I would like to change the way I look. Some suggested getting my hair cut with bangs over my forehead but I'm not sure how it will look. Please, help.

Briefly many of us are not happy with the way we look or are. We would like to be someone else. Solution: if you can change or improve on what you dislike in yourself, do so. As for the unchangeable part(s) in yourself, the next best thing is to accept them and go on with life in spite of them. In fact, there are many who have this healthy approach to life.

Have a realistic approach to life

A college student said "Last year I attended a three day reflection in the hope that my life will change after that. Things worked that way for sometime, until I began to slide down again."We need to have a realistic approach to life. This means that life is not going to be a smooth run all through. Life is a straight line only in books. In reality life has curves. There will be moments of ups and downs and these can be very scary at times. We need to be optimistic all through, in spite of the trying moments, which can be long or short as the case may be. If we do not believe this, we may land in disillusionment and frustration and finally giving up.

Radio Salesian fights child marriage and promotes girl child health



Sonada, 9th December 2019 — On the fourth anniversary of its founding, Radio Salesian – the Voice of the hills – joined Community Radio Association (CRA) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) in launching a series of five programs each to fight the social evil of child marriage and promoting health of the girl child. The program was launched on Saturday 7th December 2019 at a significant function held at Salesian College AV Hall, in the presence of a galaxy of eminent local leaders including radio journalists, community radio volunteers from neighbouring Mirik and Kurseong; community elders and college students. Radio Salesian programme coordinator Radio Journalist Samir Chhetri said, "the programme aims at educating young girls and preventing child marriage." At the program launching ceremony, RJ Samir played promos of the programme as well as samples of Interview with child marriage victim; exposed the main drivers of child marriage; What human rights does child marriage violate?; Punishment in cases of child marriage; and The prevalence of child marriage in India and especially in the hills? The episodes on girl child's health included topics like: Menstrual hygiene and health; Effects of mobile phone on child's health; How does fear affect a child's health?; Breast feeding, and How to prevent a newborn from getting sick. The 28 minute programs which started airing from Monday 9th December 2019 will continue till 15th January 2020, with repeats of the same. Station Director, Fr C.M. Paul congratulated the Radio Journalists for coming up with rich program content with the help of community experts, at a very short notice. He complemented the RJs saying, "This could be the only Nepali language broadcasting station in India, reaching beyond Indian border to Nepal."

Zenith 2020 Vitae Virtue

PARAG VERMA

The Entrepreneurship Development Cell of Salesian College, Siliguri Campus, hosted its first everworkshop under its series "ZENITH - A journey to the top" titled as VITAE VIRTUE,on 28th of January, 2020. ZENITH is an initiative taken by the Entrepreneurship Development Cell towards educating students and enhancing their skills required in day to day lives as well as their career. 'Zenith' is aimed to be a series of workshops and seminars wherein speakers from various walks of life impart their knowledge with the students in order to prepare them for what awaits them in their future. 'Vitae Virtue', as stated above, was the first workshop conducted under the ZENITH series. The workshop was aimed towards providing the students with an insight on the importance of developing a good CV in their best capacity. The Cell received registrations from 83 students by collecting a minimum registration fee. The event commenced at 10:00 am in the AV Hall with awelcome address and a motivational address by Rev. Fr. Aju Kurian (Vice Principal, Salesian, Siliguri) and Mr. Anirban Ghosh (Campus Co-ordinator). After the felicitation of the key note speaker, Mr. Shayan Iqbal and Mr. Uttkarsh Vijay, Co-founders at 'GoBudee', the lecture commenced. The speaker discussed various aspects which are to be considered while writing a CV varying from the language, format, structure, etc. The speaker finished his talk at 12:30 pm. The event concluded with a speech by Sagar Agarwal and awarding tokens of appreciation to the guest speaker and the knowledge partner.The event witnessed active participation from the faculty and students. The session proved to be very informative and helpful for the students.

Registrar, NBU throws light on Gandhiji



On 14th January 2020, Salesian College Siliguri Campus organised a guest lecture delivered by Dr. Dilip Kumar Sarkar, Registrar of University of North Bengal. The event commenced with a speech by Fr. (Prof.) George Thadathil (Principal), Dr. Sarkar spoke of the commendable contribution of Salesian community in educating the youth and development of the surrounding regions. He spoke on the topic : Mahatma Gandhi and environmentalism to honour the 150th year of Gandhi's birth. He began with his opinion of the different agrarian societies of India and China in the context of perception, philosophy and the different movements that shaped the nations. He then expressed the importance of environmentalism and its relevance in the current education pattern. Dr. Sarkar also shared his opinions on the research journals, 'Limit to Growth' and Beyond the Limit' which talked about the natural resources and the effect of capitalism, industrialism on them. He laid emphasis on Mahatma Gandhi's journals, which talked about Gandhi's concerns for the environment and alternative solutions. He questioned colonial dispensation and various aspect of industrialisation. Dr. Sarkar then concluded the lecture by saying that the only way to pay homage to Mahatma Gandhi is by leading a simple life, he encourage the students "let us live a simple life as much as we can". Thereafter, Mr. Peter Lepcha (Dean of arts and humanities) delivered the vote of thanks and presented Dr. Dilip Kumar Sarkar with a memento and the event came to an end.



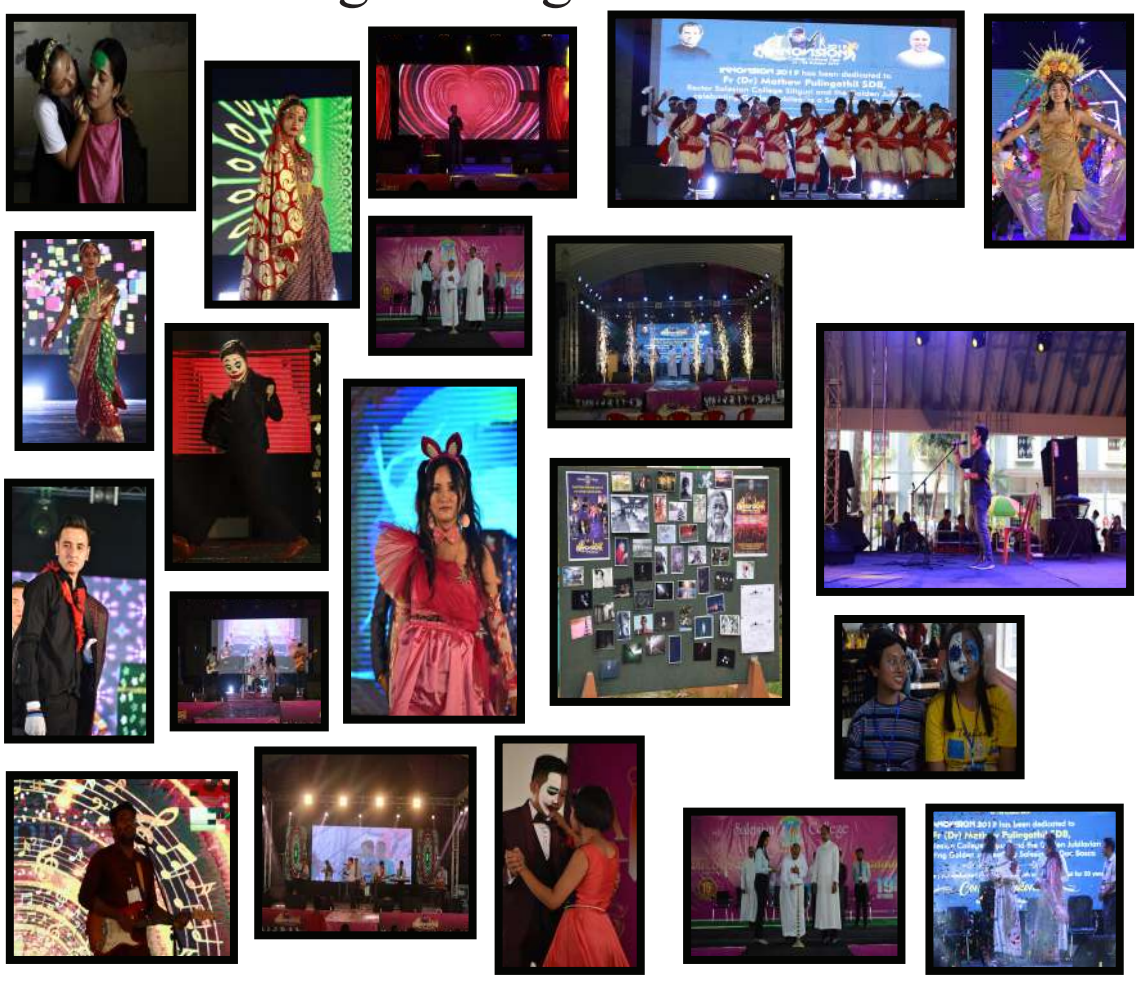
Industry college partnership helps prevent female trafficking in closed gardens in the hills

Siliguri, 3rd November 2019 – Over a conversation between the legendary tea planter Mr Rajah Banerjee of Rimpaocha Tea Siliguri and Campus Minister at Salesian College Sonada Fr. C.M. Paul on the impending peril of adolescent females being trafficked from the closed tea gardens in the Darjeeling Hills was born the Industry-College Partnership to provide skill training. "Education and skill training is the only solution, to prevent them [girls] from falling easy prey to stalking flesh traders who lure the unsuspecting girls with false promises of quick bucks and better future outside," says Salesian College Principal Dr. (Fr.) George Thadathil. Mr Banerjee who calls Makaibari the first tea estate to go organic his Karmabhoomi and Rimpocha tea his dharma says,"It is a fact there are already 4 tea gardens in the Darjeeling hills closed down, and some other gardens are sick and on the verge of closure." "Rimpocha is not just tea, but a philosophy of life which stands on five pillars of sustainability: healthy soil, economically-empowered women, biodynamic compost & fuel from the holy cow, fair price & trade for marginalized growers and technological assistance for direct marketing of their produce," explains Banerjee. Salesian College established in 1938 situated in Gorabari village at an altitude of 6,500 feet above sea level and just 2 kms before Sonada town on NH 55 (Hill Cart Road)between Kurseong and Darjeeling has more than 95



percent of students from the hills. Mr Banerjee says, "I am willing to donate 40% of all online sales of our products Rimpocha Compendium Box of nine exotic varieties of tea, as well as the 11 stand alones) for the month of December 2019 at www.rimpochatea.com. North Bengal today has about 450 tea gardens spread out in the Darjeeling Hills, Terai, and Dooars regions that are registered as sellers in the Siliguri Tea Auction Centre. The youngest tea gardens are Chinchula Tea Estate, Raimatang Tea Estate and Kalchini Tea Estate all of which are 72 years old. Currently there are 83 operational tea gardens in Darjeeling district covering an aggregated area of about 19,000 hectares (i.e. 46,950 acres) under tea plantation. The tea gardens in Darjeeling presently employ about 52,000 permanent workers including both garden and factory workers. Besides the woes of migration and trafficking that stalk the idyllic tea gardens, the low wages prevent higher education of girls compelling them to move out for better wages. NGOs working to prevent trafficking estimate that "over 400 girls are trafficked every year from tea gardens, mostly those that have stopped functioning." The traffickers obviously target the shut tea gardens where hunger and poverty are high compared to functional [tea gardens], and higher educational opportunities, health facilities and ration at subsidized rates are nil.

Envisioning Through INNOVISION



RAKSHA RAI & NOELLEA SUBBA

Innovision is an annual inter-college fest hosted by Salesian College, Siliguri. 'Innovation' and 'Envisioning' are important components in the discourse of progress. Innovision is the coined expression of both aforesaid terms. Salesian College believes in constant innovation and envisioning. In order to facilitate such an environment the college organises this fest to nurture the young talents from various colleges. It is further categorised into a triad of events namely, Technokrat, Inscape and Savoir Faire. The three day event witnessed participation from 21 institutions.. The Department of Sciences and Computer Applications hosted Technokrat with several events like sciloque, debugging, code chef, quizzomania, treasure hunt and hack design. Keeping record of the overall achievement, Don Bosco School Siliguri bagged the winning title. Inscape was organised by the students of Arts and Humanities and consisted of different events each being assigned to different departments and held at different venues and times. Students from all the participating colleges put up a show of talent and enthusiasm through the events organised. It witnessed a wide variety of events like debate, ball room dance, quiz, climate talk, cup of culture, criminal minds and photography. Towards the end of the programme the winner were awarded with certificates and trophies by Fr. Aju Kurian (Vice Principal, Salesian College Siliguri), Fr. (Dr.) Mathew Pulingathil (Rector, Salesian College Siliguri). Savoir Faire was organised by the department of Commerce and Management which comprised of events namely, tycoon, quiz, marketing, monopoly, mergenture, auctioning, Public Relations, Board meeting and Wall street survivor. With the conclusion of all the events the winners were announced and the prizes were distributed accordingly. The last day of innovision included common events like fashion show, mono act, arm wrestling, parody, dub smash, solo and group dance (themed and non themed), dance off, beat boxing, waste product management, face painting, solo singing, instrumental and rap showcase, sketching, painting and collage making. Overall Innovision was a great success.



Sangam 2020



MANAVI GOYAL

The Annual Ethnic Day event was held in the premises of Salesian College, Siliguri on 31st of January 2020. The college celebrates the Grand Event every year to enliven the students and faculty members belonging to a diverse, cultural and linguistic backgrounds. The students made the day more colourful by wearing traditional attire. The event focused on celebrating different cultures across the globe. Various cultural programmes were organised and active participation was extended by the members of the respective clubs under the guidance of faculty members.The eight clubs were given the chosen cultures of the world namely, Albera-Greece, Louis- Romania, Bosco- Germany, Mazzarello- Italy, Mickey- Scotland, Rinaldi- Spain Rua- France, Savio- Mexico. The programme continued with the various events like Face Painting, Rangoli, Fashion Show, Folk Dance and Fire wood cooking along with the food stalls set up for selling .The participants of the various clubs were judged accordingly by the selected members of the faculty. The event concluded with the announcement of the winning teams and the overall winner.

Day out: Strengthening bonds



SHAKTI SINGH

A day out was organised by Salesian College, Siliguri on 25th january 2020. The students along with the faculty members of their respective departments assembled at 8 am in the college and after a brief prayer, the groups made their way to their respective venues. The departments of psychology, history and BA programme went to Gorubathan whereas the department of Mass Communication and Journalism went to M.M Terai and the departments of Geography, Sociology, BBA and Computer Science went to Bagrakote, Dudhiya and Bhutan respectively. The final year students of psychology and history departments were felicitated and the teachers along with the students had a great time together. Such kinds of dayouts are important for an effective and friendly learning process and it gave the students good oppurtunity to interact with each other. "We are grateful to the college for organising the outing. It was a good bonding time for everyone. A d ay spent well" said Raju Mandal, a student of Mass Communication and Journalism.

Annual Sports Day: celebrating zeal and hardwork



Rashi Goenka & Raunak Thapa

The annual Sports Day of Salesian College, Siliguri Campus was held on 18th January , 2020. The ceremony began with Mr. Patrick Johnson and Ms. Ganga Parajuli announcing the arrival of the respected dignitaries: Fr. (Dr.) Mathew Pulingathil (Retor, Salesian College Siliguri), Fr. (Prof.) George Thadathil (Principal, Salesian College), and Fr. Aju Kurian (Vice Principal, Salesian College Siliguri). The programme began with the lighting of the torch at 9 a.m and a speech delivered by Fr. (Prof.) George Thadathil. The NCC unit carried out a march past followed by hoisting of the college flag and an oath-taking ceremony led by Fr. (Dr.) Mathew Pulingathil. Thereafter, 'Priya and Group' from Physical Education Department, performed a brief yoga demonstration which caught the students' attention. The various events for the day included- 100/200/400/800/1500 metre race and relay, for both boys and girls. Other events like javelin and discus throw took place simultaneously. Group events namely tug of war and tunnel ball were also organized and activities for teaching and support staff were also held which included- relay, musical ball, blasting the balloons, skipping race, obstacle race and tug- of- war. After the completion of the events, prizes were awarded to the winners of the various events by Fr. Mathew Pulingathil, Fr. George Thadathil, Fr. Aju Kurian and the deans. The first position among the 8 Clubs was secured by Club Rua with 219 points and the runner-up position by club Mickey with 144 points. The program concluded with the vote of thanks given by Mr. Patrick Johnson (Dean of commerce), who declared the Sports Meet closed for 2020.

Team TST

Patron: Fr. Dr. Mathew Pulingathil (Rector, SCSC)
Fr. (Prof.) George Thadathil (Principal, Salesian College)
Fr. Aju Kurian (Vice Principal)
Fr. Dr.George Chempakathinal (Bursar, SCSC)
Fr. Dr. Babu J. Mundupalathunkal (Asst. Principal)
Fr. C M Paul (Director, Radio Salesian)

Support:Mr. Peter Lepcha (Dean)
Mr. Patrick Johnson (Dean)
Mr. Anirban Ghosh (Campus Co- Ordinator

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The Salesian Times

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Inside:
NEW RECTOR DESIGNATED FOR SCSC
INTERNATIONAL YOGA DAY
ACADEMIC SESSIONS THROUGH YOUTUBE
UNICEF COLLABORATES WITH RADIO SALESIAN

Pages 4 August 2020 | Media Desk: Phone -8250506678/9563265854 Email - salesiantst@gmail.com Office - 0353 2545622 www.salesiancollege.ac.in

Inaugural Online Examination – The New Normal

Period: 6th July 2020 – 11th July 2020

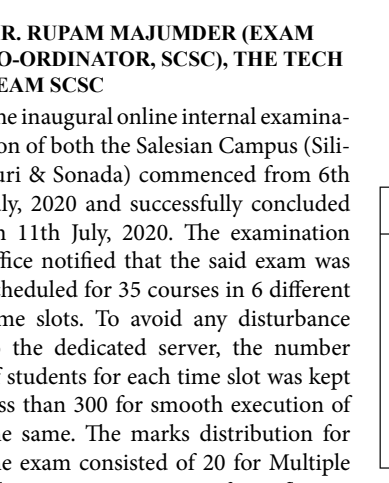
MR. RUPAM MAJUMDER (EXAM CO-ORDINATOR, SCSC), THE TECH TEAM SCSC

The inaugural online internal examination of both the Salesian Campus (Siliguri & Sonada) commenced from 6th July, 2020 and successfully concluded on 11th July, 2020. The examination office notified that the said exam was scheduled for 35 courses in 6 different time slots. To avoid any disturbance to the dedicated server, the number of students for each time slot was kept less than 300 for smooth execution of the same. The marks distribution for the exam consisted of 20 for Multiple Choice Questions, 20 for reflective questions, 20 for VIVA VOCE, 10 for CIA and 5 for attendance while few departments like Political Science, Mass Communication had prepared separate format of questions for the online examination after approval from the College Management. The total number of students appeared for the online examination from Sonada and Siliguri Campus was 1215, as shown below:

Sl. No	Campus Name	Semester	No. of Students	Total No. of Students
1	Sonada	2nd	138	Sonada Campus: **236**
2	Sonada	4th	98	
3	Siliguri	2nd	547	Siliguri Campus: **979**
4	Siliguri	4th	432	
	Total Examinees		**1215**	**1215**

	Result Summary of Sonada Campus			
	2nd Semester		*4th Semester*	
SONADA CAMPUS	**Percentage Slab**	**No of Students**	**Percentage Slab**	**No of Students**
	Less than 60%	43	Less than 60%	27
	60%-70%	48	60%-70%	33
	70%-80%	41	70%-80%	28
	80%-90%	6	80%-90%	10
	Above 90%	0	Above 90%	0
	Total	**138**	**Total**	**98**

	Result Summary of Siliguri Campus			
	2nd Semester		*4th Semester*	
Siliguri Campus	**Percentage Slab**	**No of Students**	**Percentage Slab**	**No of Students**
	Less than 60%	251	Less than 60%	55
	60%-70%	86	60%-70%	85
	70%-80%	170	70%-80%	124
	80%-90%	36	80%-90%	155
	Above 90%	4	Above 90%	13
	Total	**547**	**Total**	**432**



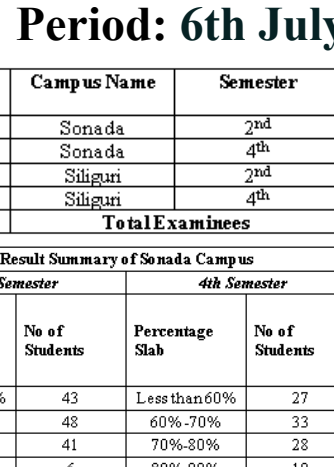


Figure 2 Bar Chart of 4th Semester Students' Performance

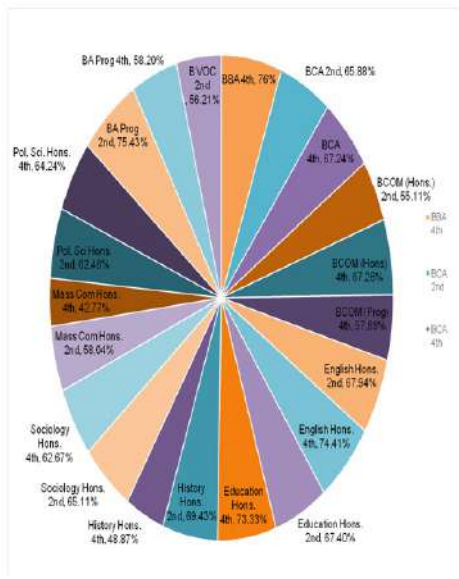


Figure 3 Pie Chart of Students' Performance of Sonada Campus

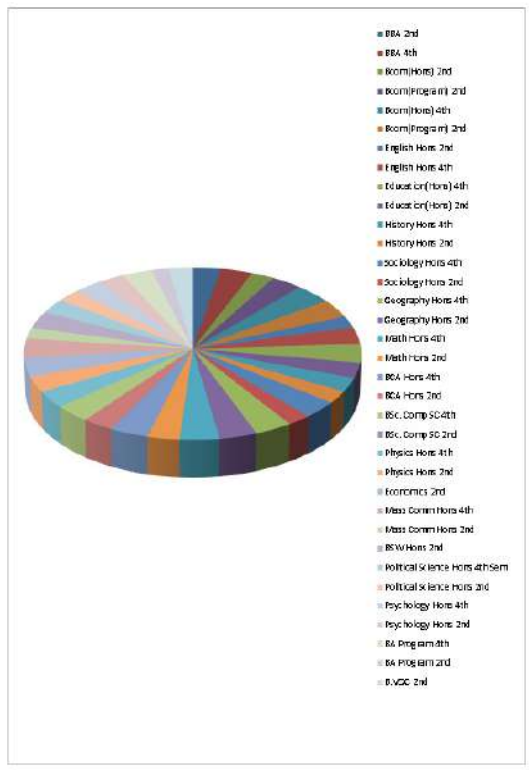


Figure 4 Students performance in Siliguri campus

- Exam Coordinator along with all the Deans, subject faculty and HOD of the respective departments' and System administrator monitored and supervised the examination from 6th July 2020 to 11th July 2020 in stipulated time slots as per the schedule. The Vice Principals of Commerce & Management, Arts & Humanities and Science also monitored the entire examination process and after the completion of the examination, HODs' of all the departments submitted their daily examination report to Fr. Principal, Fr. Vice Principals, Deans and Examination Coordinator with the students' attendance.
- The total number of students appeared for each time slot was less than 300 and thereby the server ran smoothly, although there were minor problems encountered related to students' login and URL which were subsequently solved by Mr. Patrick Johnson, Dean of Commerce and Management.
- In a nutshell, the exams (online for the first time) were conducted smoothly and successfully with dedicated and complete co-operation from the faculty members. It was an entirely new experience for both the faculties and students .

Lockdown Recollections

UNUSUAL EXPERIENCE

As the lockdown began, staying at home seemed vulnerable and it was important to balance studies and other activities. With the campus closed, all the teachers and students had to quickly adapt to the online medium of teaching. To adapt to the changes was quite a stressful experience at first. But it was very important as well. We now have live teaching via video conferences, group tutorials and webinars. While the original methods of teaching are still the best, e-learning is now the new normal.
-**SagarikaBhujel**
History Department (Semester V)

QUARANTINED

An unfortunate sudden death occurred in our family on 4th July 2020. The doctor claimed that my uncle passed away due to heart attack. We were 20 people from Kurseong who attended the funeral in Siliguri. Next day when my uncle's family got tested for covid-19 , my aunt and sister-in-law tested positive .

We all underwent Covid testing and were quarantined for 14 days. People acted weird when they saw any one of us and treated us like untouchables, even after we were tested negative. At this point of time, we realised that life is uncertain and prayed for the world suffering from Corona Disease.
-**Manavi Goyal**
Mass Communication and Journalism Department (Semester V)

ISOLATION PURSUITS

The first month of the lockdown experience was a bit troublesome for me. I had a hard time staying at home the whole day and that made me irritated. But as days passed, I learnt to cope up with the situation and started working on myself. I experienced personal growth which made me happy. I engaged in learning new things , started learning Japanese, spent my time cooking, exercising, dancing , reading articles, etc. The news at times was very disturbing and upsetting but I did my part by keeping myself safe and following the guidelines as given by WHO. I feel better and have discovered myself more. All in all, it is a bitter sweet experience. I hope we get through this soon.
-**Rani Mishra**
Political Science Department (Semester V)

MY LOCKDOWN ORDEALS

The nationwide lockdown was announced by the Indian Government on 25th March 2020 to keep the public safe from the Covid 19 pandemic. Henceforth, all the public and private institutions were also shutdown. The transportation services were also suspended and this meant I couldn't make it back to my hometown. It was quite a difficult decision for me to consider personally as I was stuck in Siliguri. Somehow I managed to stay engaged with online classes and assignments during lockdown for months. I also suffered a lot from mental distress and disturbances caused as a result of staying alone away from my home. But now I am glad with the announcement of lockdown relaxations by the government due to which I could make it back home.
-**Danish Mahajan**
Mass Communication and Journalism Department (Semester V)

OVERCOMING ACADEMIC CHALLENGES

During this pandemic, we all are facing several challenges to lead a normal life. However, we are trying our best to overcome the difficulties amicably. It is very similar with academic classes too. Although the physical presence of the teachers and students cannot be substituted, online classes continue to be the need of the hour. Regular virtual class at a specific time is being carried out by the management with great success. Glaring into the screen all day is quite difficult but no doubt it has definitely helped us to effectively continue with our learning and not compromise on the syllabus.
-**Saloni Agarwal**
English Department (Semester V)



New Rector designated for Salesian College, Siliguri

BIRENDRA KERKETTA



The Salesian Province of Kolkata officially announced Fr. George Thadathil as the new Rector of Salesian College Siliguri with the release of the transfer list for 2020-21. Dr. Thadathil, the founding father of Siliguri Campus and Principal of Salesian College Sonada for 20 years, became the third rector at Salesian College Siliguri. Along with his appointment as the president of AIACHE (All India Association of Christian Higher Education), he has been given the responsibility as in-charge of the student brothers residing at Nazareth Block. He continues to be the Principal of both the Campuses. Fr. George arrived at the campus accompanied by the new BA first year brothers on 1st June 2020 from Salesian College Sonada. The Salesian community of Siliguri college under the leadership of the Vice-Rector, (Dr.) Fr. James Molekunnel, Bursar Fr. George Chempakathinal, Vice Principals, Fr. Babu Joseph and Fr. Aju Kurian, along with second year student brothers warmly welcomed them at the Nazareth Block. Fr. James, the band master, led the band, ushering the new-comers into the community. On the evening of the same day, Rev. Fr. Davis Valiyan, Rector and Parish priest of Don Bosco Shrine Siliguri, being delegated by the Provincial Rev. Fr. Joseph Pauria to receive the official pledge of Fr. George Thadathil as the new rector of Salesian College Siliguri, officiated at the induction ceremony held during the solemn Holy Mass in the chapel of Nazareth Block.

'Yoga at Home and Yoga with Family' – exclusive theme for Sixth International Yoga Day









The Department of Physical Education and Sports Management, Salesian College Siliguri, celebrated the 6th International Day of Yoga on 21st June from 07:00 am to 07:50 am through Moodle Learning Management platform. This year marks the sixth edition of the International Yoga Day, and with the ongoing coronavirus pandemic gripping the entire country, the Physical Education and Sports Management department decided the theme 'Yoga at Home and Yoga with Family'. Globally, International Yoga Day is celebrated every year on 21st June to raise awareness about the benefits of Yoga in daily life. Yoga brings balance in body, soul and mind. It helps us to understand the purpose of life and survive in the challenging environment. The programme initiated with a meditation. Thereafter, suryanamaskar was performed by the College students and towards the end, Yoga asanas and pranayama were performed by faculty and students collectively. All asanas were divided into five categories namely- Sitting Position, Standing Position, Prone Position, Supine Position and Inverted Position. From each category, two asanas were selected for demonstration. Due to the ongoing lockdown protocols, the faculty members and students joined the session virtually. All the asanas and prayanamas were demonstrated by Mr. Sopidulla Hoque, HoD, and Mr. Dipesh Patrick Baraily, Sports Coordinator of Salesian College Siliguri. The session concluded with the performance of three prayanamas- kapalabhati, anuloma-viloma and bgramari pranayama.

Dept. of History convenes first Webinar Series

DEEPTI NAIDU









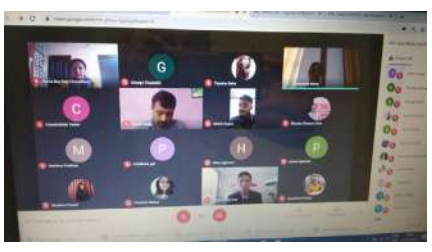




historiography. He discussed about the history of animal and the new branch which is called the environmental history where animal history is an important topic. He related his talk with the recent ill treatment done to the animals where an elephant was fed with crackers filled in pineapples which ultimately led to its death. He also highlighted that hunting was one of the main reason that contributed to the extinction of the animal history during the colonial era. Arijit Kundu also talked about different experiments done to the animals for some research work. Many Veterinary schools and colleges had been introduced in India for the restoration of the Indian animals or for the study of the animals. Overall the session was very insightful and thoughtful throwing new light in the study area. His session ended with a question and answer round where many ques tions were raised and Mr. Kundu helped to clarify the doubts and queries. The next speaker for the series was Miss Upasana Negi, who is on a mission to holistically transform attitudes and make lasting impressions in a positive manner. Her presentation was titled 'Social Development Sector in Current Scenario and Future Perspectives for Upcoming Generation'. Ms. Negi highlighted on the importance of attitude for human development in a country like India. She shared her experiences about her work as a social worker and the situations she has to face. She also talked about the current pandemic situation and how can people can come forward to help the needy. She explained how social work is different from how it looks as being just a person helping others. She added the point of how social work can become better in near future and become a definite job. She expressed the need of industries to join hands with social workers, for better interaction and development. Thereafter, the session ended with a question and answer session. Both the speakers expressed their gratitude to the college authority and organising committee for giving them the platform to share their words and ideas. Fr. Dr. Babu Joseph (Vice Principal, Morning Session, Salesian College, Siliguri Campus) concluded the webinar with vote of thanks expressing his gratitude to the organising team.

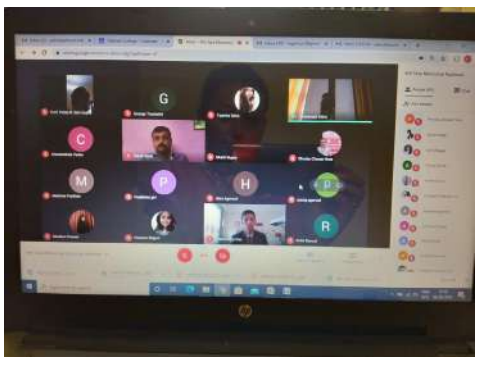
The first webinar series of Department of History, Salesian College Siliguri Campus was organized on 31st July, 2020. The resource persons for the webinar were Mr. Arijit Kundu (Asst. Professor at the Department of History, Panchthupi Haripada Gouribala College, Murshidabad) and Ms. Upasana Negi (Social Entrepreneur). The webinar began at 11:00 am with a short prayer by Fr. (Dr.) Babu Joseph (Vice Principal, Morning Session, Salesian College, Siliguri Campus). The inauguration speech was given by Fr.(Dr.) George Thadathil, (Principal, Salesian College). It was followed by the introduction of the resource persons and their respective biography by Miss Manisha Pradhan (Head of the Department, History). Mr. Barun Roy (Assistant Professor, History) was the moderator for the session. The first speaker, Mr. Kundu spoke on the topic 'History of Animals in Colonial India: A New Dimension in Historiography'. He emphasised on the importance of study of animal history and historiography. He focused mainly on the fact and the trend of

Department Of Management: Tata Memorial Virtual Orientation











Siliguri, 8th August 2020: The Department of Management Studies organized it's 4th Tata Memorial Webinar online, themed "Challenge the change: Business Strategies in the Contemporary Era".

The online event commenced with a welcome address by Ms. Debarati Deb (Assistant Professor, Dept of Management Studies, SCSC), followed by a silent prayer and inauguration speech by Fr. Prof. George Thadathil (Rector/ Principal, Salesian College). Fr. Dr. Babu Joseph (Vice Principal, SCSC) gave a gratitude speech appreciating the department and spectators for its efficient organising and participation. The guest of honour, Prof. Palash Ranjan Sengupta (Department of Commerce, North Bengal University) addressed the students. Then the keynote address was delivered by Prof. Debabrata Mitra (Department of Commerce, North Bengal University). He dictated the insights on business strategies and relationship. Thereafter the distinguished speakers, Prof. S.B Lal, Dr. Debasis Biswas, Dr. Soma Ray De Choudhury and Dr. Ekta Chakravarty, illuminated the members on various aspects of challenging the change and contemporary world during such a pandemic situation and formulation of business strategies. Prof. Banerjee then presented a short speech and the session began.

Plenary Session I: Finance, Banking and Economy

• Rajeev Dutraj, Aniket Kumar Gupta , Mohit Gupta (SIT) presented the paper on Critical Study Of The Adverse Effects Of Merger Of Banks In the Indian Economy, discussing upon the importance of banks and effects of bank mergers in Indian Economy.

• Subharadeep Das (IILS) presented the paper on Industrial Relations where he highlighted the evolution of industrial relations, its importance and related parties.

• Vinit Marodia (SCSC) presented on 'The Significance of business strategy in improving organisational performance speaking about the steps of developing business strategies.

Plenary Session II : Marketing

• The students of SCSC under the guidance of Ms. Gunjan Agarwal presented on ' A study on consumer's preference towards E-Payment' where they discussed about the consumer's behaviour towards E-Payment variations among different age group.

• Nidhi Agarwal, Sheetal Parakh, Praraj Agarwal (SCSC) the paper on emerging issues of marketing higlighting the research gap and consumer preference between organised and unorganised market.

• Koyel Sarkar, Shubham Subba, Alina Rehan Qureshi (SIT) highlighted on the issues faced by the online grocery market in Siliguri.

Plenary Session-3: Legal Issues in Business

• Girish Agarwal (IILS) presented on Legal Issues in Business and spoke on the various aspects of Contract Act.

Plenary Session-4: Tourism Industry

• Chanchal Agarwal, Hina Agarwal (IILS) displayed a ppt speaking about the effect of COVID-19 pandemic on tourist attractions.

• Tanisha Agarwal under the guidance of Ms.Binita Rai presented on Strategies in Tourism Development in the North East.

Plenary Session-5: HRM and Teachers' Training

• Kshitiz Mittal, Diksha Jain under the guidance of Tanisha Kansal(SCSC) presented the paper on Eco-Friendly Management-"Greener Path to Success."discussing upon the green environment.

• Dr. Jayashree Naidu (Faculty, Institute of Aeronautical Engineering) presented on BHAGWAT GITA- THE BEST TEACHER FOR ANY TEACHER. " She highlighted the main points and shlokas of The Holy Bhagwat Gita on how Arjuna became the best teacher amongst all his brothers .

Lastly, the event concluded at 3:30 pm with the awarding of token of appreciation by Mr. Patrick Johnson (Dean, Commerce and Management, SCSC). During the Proceedings of the event, a feedback link was provided to the members. The event witnessed an enthusiastic participation and recorded the presence of 100+ members. The webinar proved to be very informative and helped everyone to learn something new.

Wellness Vibes

Fr. C.J. George SDB, VP/Bursar, Siliguri Campus



In a world of today when the world shivers and bows to Covid -19 let me take you to think of the thousands who dares to heal the sick with a smile. The courage they exhibit, the consolation they radiate, the sacrifices they make, the physical fatigue they face under the PPE and the bravery can inspire us. But the media continue to haunt us. Regular news about big numbers being affected by sickness, jobs lost, economy on a downward move, education in confusion and trying to emerge with new ways. Technology taking hold of individuals and families. Children missing the joys of school; youngsters getting lost as they miss colleges, movie halls, malls and all the social enjoyments. How to stand relevant in these pandemic times? There are ways in which one can enjoy psycho-wellness through various stimulants. The present generation need to re-imagine their life ahead. Life has to be pro-active. Set the mind on a progressive mode by cognitive distancing from the dangerous concoctions of the mind to the reality/ to actual situation that less than 5% succumb to the sickness; that too due to varying other reasons. Convert your anxious thoughts as guesses and not as facts. As the death rate is projected high due to covid-19, people's lives are safer with cleaner environment, lesser accidents and other sicknesses. Practice Cognitive Defusion to have more clarity with one's thoughts. Finally practice mindfulness to avoid being a victim to automatic reactions to apparent news and views. Enjoy peace and serenity. Thus fight Covid-19: be daring, be caring, be joyful and be united with all the care taken as a community and as individuals. Let the God of power sustain, protect and heal the world.

Salesian South Asia launches Inaugural News Podcast

Darjeeling, May 24, 2020: The Salesians of Don Bosco South Asia launched their first news podcast on May 24. It was also the World Communications Day and feast of Mary Help of Christians. The podcast was launched simultaneously at Turin, Italy and at Nazareth Bhavan Salesian Novitiate at Dhajea, Darjeeling, on the occasion of the first profession of 13 new Salesians. Father Ernest Rosario, Chennai-based South Asian Delegate for Boscom, complimented the Podcast Team and said, "May this podcast service bring positive vibrations across our network and create enthusiasm to contribute news, create visibility for the Salesian mission, and be a testament to the silent revolution of love, sacrifice, and service that is taking place 24×7." Father Rosario added, "Kudos [to the team] for taking Don Bosco South Asia news and information sharing to the next level with the latest Salesian News Podcast service. There is no doubt that this platform will reach many more people in the days and months to come as it provides effortless updates of Salesian news and info amidst busy schedules." InDhajea,Rector/PrincipalofSalesian College Sonada/Siliguri Father George Thadathil launched the podcast at the Salesian novitiate. In Turin, Salesian South Asia Regional Councillor Father Biju Michael launched the podcast in front of both current and former Salesian Provincials of Kolkata province held up due to lockdown in Italy. The 12 minute episode, the first of the series, carries seven major news stories of the South Asia Salesians published in Don Bosco India website. The podcast anchored by Radio Journalist RJ Bryan of Radio Salesian 90.8 FM will broadcast every Monday at 9.00 am on Radio Salesian 90.8 FM as well as on Radio Salesian web radio on "Listen2MyRadio" App.



Is there a Salesian Time?

Fr George Thadathil SDB, Rector/ Principal, Sonada/Siliguri Campus



The Salesian Times have come to stay. The fourth consecutive year of production. The Fourth set of members in a production team orchestrating a homegrown showpiece of print journalism – on its way – and for now as its eVersion. It deserves our congratulations to the Mass Com Departments of the two campuses and their youthful and dynamic students and faculty. Working on creating a dummy magazine as a production team of four at a Journalism Workshop way back in the 1980s is still fresh in memory, almost like yesterday. The joy of bringing out our version of Times Magazine. A weeklong exercise of planning, writing, editing, sorting, collecting appropriate visuals, creating cartoons, jokes, readers column, celebrity column and many more. It was fun and it was learning through and through. Learn by doing is a Salesian core Value. It is so heartening to see, in another age, another set of young men and women under the guidance of experienced faculty, guiding them through the details of creating a Salesian Newspaper – The Salesian Times. You deserve our every appreciation. NEWS – north, east, west, south – being brought together is indeed the praiseworthy act of a news agency or production house. The NEWS from the Salesian Campuses – Sonada and Siliguri – both prior to and during the covid-19 lockdown is indeed not only 'News Making' but also History Making. The writing, and all that goes behind and before it, leaves a trace for the times to come, as a record of the happenings of these past weeks and months. If we have lived it together, we celebrate that living, even in constrained ways, by talking about it, describing it and literally writing home about it. A glimpse through the pages and the visuals that stand out, already tells you – and even amazes you – at all that has transpired, in such a short time. Yes there is a Salesian Time: a time that does not stand still, a time that takes you places even while locked within your four walls of the home and the room, the garden and the terrace, the little verandahs and staircases; the flowers that strain to send you their scents, the bees that hum to waken you from reveries, the heat that trickles as sweat beads down your neck tracing the shoulder and soaking the Tshirt. Yes these and so many such individual times that come coalescing in these Salesian Times record for a digital posterity the many initial steps of virtual actions done, songs sung, lyrics written, strings plucked, music created, videos shot, packaged and dispatched for the likes they longed and thumbs up received. Yes, friends welcome to the Salesian Times of the Covid-19, 2020: the fourth volume with its second number. Read, you will, search, you must, for, you feature in it, and its labored with love for you.

Virtual Seminar on 'Newspaper Production' for Mass Communication & Journalism Students

BIRENDRA KREKETTA

Department of Mass Communication and Journalism, Salesian College, Siliguri organized a webinar titled 'Newspaper Production' on 27th July 2020. The online seminar commenced from 12:30 p.m. over Google Meet using PowerPoint presentation. Mr. Irfan -e- Azam, (Senior Sub-Editor and Reporter at Dainik Jagran, Siliguri) was the guest speaker for the session. There were 47 participants comprising of Mass Communication and Journalism students from all the three years, including Fr. (Dr.) George Thadathil (Principal of Salesian College), Mr. Ravi Bhushan Singh (Head of the Department, MCJH), Mr. Dipjyoti Das & Ms. Nawaneeta Subba (Assistant Professors, MCJH). The webinar commenced with the welcoming of the guest speaker by Mr. Ravi Bhushan Singh (Webinar Convenor). After a brief introduction about Mr. Irfan Azam, Fr. Principal was invited to inaugurate the session. Fr. (Dr) George Thadathil congratu lated the convenors for organizing the webinar during the lockdown. Speaking about the freedom of speech, he gave an example of Socrates, the founder of Western Philosophy, who criticized the authority and stood by the truth, thereby enlightening the participants on the ethicality and responsibility of being media students. He further encouraged the students by saying, "Let the Salesian Times not be bogged down because of lockdown," inviting them to be prepared for the e-version of the newspaper.



The Guest Speaker, Mr. Irfan-e-Azam presented the topic 'Production of Newspaper' where he highlighted the three stages of newspaper production. He primarily discussed with the students about the Pre-Press process which covered various topics such as- Newspaper Designing, Page Lay Outing, Elements of Newspapers, Newspaper Pages, and Newspaper Dimensions. With the help of a virtual PowerPoint presentation, Mr. Irfan provided detailed explanation of each topic with examples which further enhanced the students' understanding of the overall process. He also clarified the queries raised by the students in a question & answer session which followed thereafter. The webinar concluded with the vote of thanks by Mr. Dipjyoti Das (Assistant Professor & Webinar Co-Convenor)

Academic lessons through exclusive Youtube platform for NBU Students'

Sonada, May 1, 2020: In the wake of extended and potentially prolonged lockdown due to COVID- 19 pandemic, Radio Salesian and Salesian TV of Sonada Campus initiated the idea to offer exclusive broadcast and podcast academic lessons for the University of North Bengal's (NBU) Under Graduate and Post Graduate programmes. The virtual launch of 'Radio Edu Pods' – the mass education project for college students – an initiative of Radio Salesian 90.8 FM and Salesian TV was held on 1st May 2020 in the virtual presence of NBU Vice-Chancellor Dr. Subires Bhattacharyya, NBU Registrar Dr. Dilip Kumar Sarkar, NBU Secretary of Under Graduate Council Dr. Nupur Das and Rector and Principal of Salesian College Sonada/ Siliguri Dr. (Fr.) George Thadathil. The radio lessons are available with free access 24×7 on Salesian TV YouTube Channel. The radio broadcast of the lesson on weekdays at 6pm and web transmissions at 6.00 p.m. and 6.00 a.m. on "Listen2MyRadio" App started from 4th May 2020. "This no-cost mode of teaching and learning which reaches maximum number of students at any given time is offered by faculty members of NBU colleges," said Director of Radio Salesian and HoD of the Department of Mass Communication & Journalism Fr. C. M. Paul. He en couraged faculties from NBU to keep forwarding lessons to keep the academic journey going for the students. Departments currently featured in Salesian TV YouTube Channel are: English, Bengali, Mass Communication, Sociology, History, Philosophy and B.Voc. More subjects and lessons are expected to be available in the coming days. "The potential of digital technology to impart lessons on Salesian TV YouTube channel allows 24×7 access to learning, is boon to student community both in the hills and plains," said Dr. (Fr.) George Thadathil complimenting the team of Radio Salesian and Salesian TV in offering this technology to faculty and student community which has suffered suspension of classes since 16 March 2020. "The procedure of preparing lessons for radio is very simple," explains Radio Salesian Program Director RJ Samir, "All you have to do is to keep the lessons simple and focused, short and crisp, breaking it down to modules of 10 to 15 minutes duration and record it on a mobile phone's digital recorder." "The secret of getting a clean and perfect audio," RJ Samir adds, "Is to record the entire lesson in a closed room which has curtains and minimum ambient noise." "In the plains, the summer heat and swirling noise of the fan will definitely affect audio quality, hence it is advisable to record in a quiet and cool corner," suggests RJ Samir. "Other than language subjects," he says, "it is advisable that lessons are delivered in English language." Radio Salesian 90.8 FM – the Voice of the Hills – established in 2016 is the only college campus radio of North Bengal and entire northeast India.



UNICEF collaborates with Radio Salesian to raise Covid 19 awareness



Darjeeling , June 26, 2020:
Radio Salesian (90.8), Community Radio of Salesian College Sonada has been selected to partner in a national project sponsored by UNICEF to raise awareness about COVID-19. Titled 'Mission Corona', the five-month initiative will feature a 25-minute weekly programme in Nepali language that will focus on issues related to the usage of masks, home quarantine, physical distancing, building immune system, and elderly care, among others. "During this unprecedented public health emergency, as community radio, we can inform and educate people on the impending danger of the pandemic through 'Mission Corona,'" says station director, Fr. C.M. Paul. With a transmitter that caters to a radius of over 15 kilometers across tea plantations around the college, the listeners are mostly based in Kurseong, Sonada, entire Balasun Valley, and bordering towns of Nepal like Pashupati, Illam, Kakrabitta and Birtamore. Radio Salesian is also available 24×7 on web radio worldwide through the App "Listen2MyRadio". Radio Salesian established in 2016 broadcasts 12 hours daily (8 am to 8 pm) and was named as a partner in Mission Corona by the Community Radio Association, New Delhi. Rad io Salesian is the first college based community radio in North Bengal and entire northeast India. It is also the only Nepali language broadcasting community radio in India. UNICEF has been reaching out to public service broadcasters globally, through community radio stations, with each partner allowed to tailor the topics according to local requirements, on COVID-19 prevention. Five local radio journalists are part of the production team, led by Program Coordinator RJ Samir.

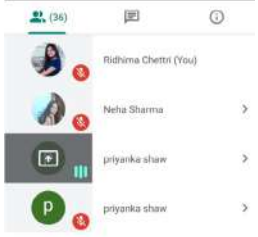
COMMEMORATING EINSTEIN'S BIRTHDAY

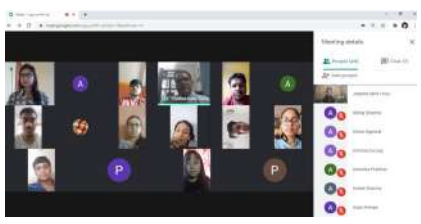
Siliguri, 14th March 2020: The Department of Physics, Salesian College, Siliguri celebrated 'Einstein's birthday and Pi day' in the AV hall of the campus. Faculty members and students from all the science departments of the college attended the event. The programme commenced with a welcome speech by Dr. Siddarth Rai (HOD Dept. of Physics). His speech highlighted the objective and rationale of observing this day and stressed upon developing popular science culture in the campus. Thereafter, Ms. Sujata Sinha (Asst. Prof. Dept. of Physics) delivered a speech on the life and legacy of Albert Einstein and the impact of his work in the present day technology. The programme further continued with a speech by Mr. Rudraneel Chakraborty (student from Dept. of Physics) who spoke on the life and work of Stephen Hawking. Subsequently, the docudrama 'E=MC2 – Einstein's big idea' was screened for everyone present. The film revolves around the story of Einstein's famous equation which began with the personal lives of the pioneers of modern science and their persistence, ingenuity, sacrifice and struggle against all odds. The event concluded with a quiz based on the film screened by Mr. Mayukh Mazumdar (Asst. Prof. Dept of Physics).

Virtual Orientation Programme: Department Of Commerce









JAYEETA SAHA

The Department of Commerce conducted Virtual Orientation Programme for 2nd and 3rd year students (3rd & 5th semester) on 1st August 2020. As a part of the Academic Activity of the Department, Orientation program was organized for the 3rd & 5th Semester students of the Department of Commerce from 9AM-10AM in Google Meet. The orientation program was conducted in different groups and sessions in which 239 students were present and attended the program. Students were formally informed and introduced to the culture of the college, campus & University as well as to the online mode of education accepting the present scenario and dealing with it. In this orientation programme all the faculty members, HODs and V.P Fr. BABU JOSEPH deliberated words of advice/suggestions on the present scenario of Pandemic and online education to the students on the following points:

1.The rules for online classes by the Management and the Department.

2.The importance of online education.

3.About the course and significance of attendance in each paper.

4.Weekly assignments for CIA.

Salesian College, Sonada introduces students' welfare schemes during Covid crisis

Sonada, Jul. 23: The Management of Salesian College, Sonada Campus, Darjeeling has decided not to increase the admission fees for the current academic year. Scholarships in 6 categories and a total of 30 tuition fee waiver scheme for each of the 13 departments has also been initiated to reduce the financial burden of the guardians' during this pandemic crisis. "It is our continued effort to make higher education affordable for students whose parents can ill afford to send children out of station for higher studies in these corona pandemic times," explains Fr. Prof. George Thadathil, (Principal, Salesian College) who has given leadership in higher education in the hills for almost 20 years. For the past 20 years, the college, situated in Gorabari village, has tried to provide world class facilities and "we shall continue to make higher education affordable to common people in these Covid-19 times," the Salesian priest said. Prior to reduction last year, admission fee was Rs. 30,000 plus. The current reduced admission fee for various streams are: BA/B.Com Honours (Rs.15,100), Mass Communication (Rs.16,100), BCA (17,100) and B.Voc (Rs.3,335). The tuition fee is to be paid trimonthly in September, December, March and June. Speaking about



facilities the college offers, director of Radio Salesian Father C.M. Paul says, "Salesian College is the only College in North Bengal and entire north-east India with a Radio Station and Television Studio offering students opportunity for hands on training to gain professional media skills." Besides keeping last year's admission fee unaltered, the college located on NH 55 (Hill Cart Road) midway between Kurseong and Darjeeling, has introduced Tuition Fee Waiver Scholarship Scheme for around 390 students among the 13 departments. Scholarship categories include Academic Merit for those who obtained aggregate 90% and 85% marks (75% and 50% tuition fee waiver respectively), Sports, Media Skills, Specially abled persons and BPL categories, provided they scored 75% and above aggregate marks will get 50% tuition fee waver at admission time. "It is great news for students, especially meritorious students from economically backward classes to avail of such tuition fee waiver scheme," says Student Council President Bikash Agarwal. An excited Student Council Vice-President Risha Rajak is quick to add, "The tuition fee waiver scheme is a boon, offering higher education opportunities not only to academically deserving students, but also to students in other categories like sports, and media skills." Second year B.Com Honours student and Student Council Secretary Peter Gomes from Kolkata expressed his delight when he heard that the college is offering 65 scholarships to BPL (Below Poverty Line) certificate holders, and another 65 for differently abled students saying, "I am simply proud that our college is coming forward to help economically and socially marginalized students offering them chance for higher education." The students availing scholarships under various categories are required to maintain stipulated SGPA (Sessional Grade Point Average) 9 and 8 out of 10 in the university exams each semester, failing which they have to relinquish the tuition fee waiver.

Virtual Painting Competition: Raising Awareness on "Domestic Violence"

Women Cell of Salesian College Siliguri Campus organized an online painting/drawing competition on 7th May 2020 to create awareness on the issue of 'Domestic Violence'. There has been a sudden spike in the number of domestic violence cases globally with the onset of Covid 19 lockdown. The lockdown has contributed significantly towards the growing statistics of physical violence and abuse of the women. With the current situation prevailing, the theme selected for the competition was "Shadow Pandemic." The registration was free for all ages and open to amateurs and professional artists. All categories including- oil painting, digital painting, spray painting, water colouring, pastel painting and sketching were permitted. The participants were allowed to submit more than one painting/drawing. The registrations began from the 1st of May and the submission deadline was 7th May. The Judges for the online event were Mr. Mahendra Thami, Director M2'S Academy of Art and Culture, Darjeeling and Miss Sangamitra Thami, Creative Director M2's Academy of Art and Culture, Darjeeling. The Women Cell received a total of thirty five registrations and twenty two paintings /drawings. The judges selected the top five winners based on the participant's creativity and skill, along with the use of theme and originality. The winners were- Debindra Rai (1st place), Neha Soni (2nd place), Anupama Hemrom (3rd place), Shreya Gurung (4th place) and Baishnavi Thapa (5th place). Each winner was awarded with an E-certificate.

STAYSAFE





Radio Salesian weekly podcast completes 10 episodes

Sonada, Jul. 25: Radio Salesian team has successfully completed 10 episodes of Salesian News South Asia weekly podcast. The 1st episode was aired on World Communications Day and Feast of Mary Help of Christians, 24 May 2020. On 25th July the podcast series successfully completed 10 episodes. The Salesian News South Asia podcast was launched simultaneously at Turin in Italy and at Nazareth Bhavan Salesian Novitiate at Dhajea, Darjeeling. The inside story of the making of weekly podcast would interest some hard core fans of probably the 1st regional news podcast in the Salesian world. It starts on Friday evening each week, by when the podcast producer Father C.M. Paul would have culled out 5 or 6 relevant stories from Don Bosco South Asia website as well as from other sources, thanks to Google Alert on some key words like 'Don Bosco', and 'Salesian'. After re-writing the stories for radio, the script is kept for a cooling period overnight to give a fresh reading at 5 am on Saturday, before the morning prayers. After Eucharistic celebration, the script is sent by email to Radio Journalist Bryan to Kurseong by email before 8.30 am on Saturday. After breakfast, Bryan checks



his email and has a read through the script. He checks pronuncia tions of some words and marks the script for reading. He goes into his home studio and gives a trial reading of the script paying close attention to the pronunciations of some words highlighted in the script. He checks the input levels for optimum recording. He then starts reading the script and the recording begins. After recording, he listens to the entire audio focusing on recording anomalies that might creep in. They are fixed and the volume of the re corded audio is normalised. Equali sation and compression are applied as per the need of the audio. After this process of cleaning up of the recorded audio, he arranges the music in appropriate places with volume modulation wherever necessary. After the editing process is over, he listens to the entire audio to make sure that the levels of the various tracks are balanced. When the results are satisfactory, the entire audio is mixed down to a stereo file (.mp3) and it is sent back on WhatsApp to the station director, Father C.M. Paul. After review, it is forward by email to Father P. T. Joseph in Chennai who listens and uploads it soon after lunch.

NSS Unit officially announces the office bearers for 2020 Session

ABHIJEET CHHETRI

Siliguri, 22nd July 2020: The NSS unit of Salesian College Siliguri Campus announced their Presidents along with the committee members for the session 2020 through virtual meeting. Fr. Aju Kurian, Vice Principal- Science Section, Salesian College Siliguri, issued the notice for the same and supervised it along with the NSS Coordinator, Mr. Tanay Bhadra (Assistant Professor BCA). The selection was done on the basis of the volunteers performance, participation and their dedication towards the Unit. The Presidents selected are- Rajil Kumar Singhal (Department B.Com. Honours. 5th Semester), Aaditya Shreshta (Department of BCA 5th Semester) and Sanjukta Sarkar (Department of Psychology Honours, 5th Semester). In addition, 15 committee members were also selected to assist the presidents in organizing the events/workshops which are to be hosted by the unit in collaboration with various Central and State Government schemes such as 'Swatchata Pakwada', 'World Environment Day', 'International Yoga Day', 'International HIV AIDS Day', etc . The ex-committee members also gave their final farewell messages and officially handed over the responsibilities to the new batch.

Team TST

Patron: Fr. (Prof.) George Thadathil (Rector/Principal SCSC)
Fr. James Molekunnel (Vice Rector, SCSC)
Fr. Dr. George Chempa kathinal (Vice Principal-Humanities/ Bursar, SCSC)
Fr. Aju Kurian (Vice Princi pal-Science, SCSC)
Fr. Dr. Babu J. Mundupa thunkal (Vice Principal-Commerce, SCSC)
Fr. C M Paul (Director, Radio Salesian)

Support: Mr. Peter Lepcha (Dean)
Mr. Patrick Johnson (Dean)
Mr. Dhirodutta Subba (Dean)
Mr. Anirban Ghosh (Cam pus Co-Ordinator)

Editorial Board:
Editor-in-Chief: Raksha Rai
Sub Editor: Siddhant Tamang
Reporters: Abhijeet Chhetri
Birendra Kerketta

Issue Co-Ordinators:
Mr. Ravi Bhushan Singh (HOD, Dept of MCJ)
Mr. Dipjyoti Das
Ms. Nawaneeta Subba

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The Salesian Times

SILIGURI | SONADA

KEEPS YOU AHEAD

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STUDENT'S REFLECTION Interview on Republic Day Camp Page 3.

Principal Speaks Page 3.



"Sunsets are proof that no matter what happens, everyday can be beautiful" Page 4.

Salesians celebrate Sangam - the Ethnic Day

Siliguri, January 2021: Salesian College Siliguri hosted "Sangam" 2021 on 30th January. Every year the college celebrates ethnicity in a grandiose gathering of it's diverse alpaca. This year too, fortunately, was not an exception for 'Sangam' the ethnic day. It was one of the first on campus events of 2021 for Salesian College and although it was different in many aspects, the enthusiasm and joy remained alive as always. "Sangam" is a Sanskrit word which translates to "gathering" or "confluence". The event took place with proper Covid guidelines within the campus. The event was attended by a limited number of students, faculties and the Fathers. " It was both challenging and refreshing to be organising this event amidst the pandemic.









Although it was unfortunate that we had to restrict the audience, I hope the students were able to relive their college days before the prevalence of this pandemic." said Mr. Sangam Ghatani (Faculty, Political Science). The programme commenced from 8:30a.m with an inaugural ceremony followed by an opening speech by Fr. (Dr.) George Thadathil (Principal & Rector, Salesian College). The event as a whole comprised of smaller competitions – cooking, rangoli, face painting, folk song, folk dance and a fashion show (ethnic wear). The students participated as representatives of their respective clubs and Bosco emerged as the overall winning club. The students who were not able to attend physically were also included in this celebration through a digital photo competition where the individual with the best picture wearing their ethnic apparel would concur the winner's title.

The event concluded with the distribution of prizes to the respective participants and a closing ceremony led by Mr. Peter Lepcha and Mr. Anirban Ghosh. "There was great amount of enthusiasm and energy among all participants despite limited audience because of the Covid restrictions & protocols laid down by administration" said Mr. Dipjyoti Das (Asst. Prof., MCJH).

Calibre 2021

Siliguri, February 2021: Calibre provides a platform for students to showcase their managerial skills in real life business scenarios that challenge them to think on the go and make a practical application of it. It's main aim is to make the students accustomed with the functioning of the business world and promote the start-up culture among them, hence transforming them into being able to take strategic and thoughtful decisions independently. This year was different from the previous years as the organisers and faculty decided to conduct the first ever BBA Carnival which was not just food but also games. Each team was restricted to invite not more than 60 guest members, keeping in mind the prevailing pandemic situation.

Virtual Workshop on Research Proposal & Report Writing

Siliguri, December 2020: A virtual workshop was organised by the Department of Education, Salesian College Siliguri on the theme 'Research Proposal and Report writing'.

The resource person for the session was Dr. Savita Mishra, Principal of Vidyasagar College of Education, Phansidewa, West Bengal.

Fr. (Prof.) George Thadathil gave the welcome address. Prior to the presentation, a brief framework was provided with respect to the research and process of writing, followed by Dr. Savita Mishra`s discussion on how to identify the research problem and how to write a research proposal.

She explained the structure of a research proposal, elaborating on its various aspects. The presentation, which followed thereafter, mainly focused on the introduction, literature review, rationale of the study, statement of the problem, objectives of the study, hypothesis of the study, scope and delimitation, methodology, sample, tools and techniques of data analysis. In conclusion, Dr. Savita Mishra emphasised on the different styles of reference writing.

She also highlighted the need to avoid plagiarism and gave a detailed discussion on the various ways one could avoid plagiarism and the need for proofreading before submitting the final research report as well.

Following the presentation, an activity session was conducted in which the participants were asked to prepare a research proposal on any topic of their choice.

During the course of this activity session, many queries were raised by the participants regarding the research process.

Fr. (Dr) George Chempakathinal, Vice Principal, Arts/Humanities, Salesian College, Siliguri, gave the concluding remarks and the workshop concluded with the vote of thanks by Ms. Priya Topno, Asst. Professor, Dept. of Education, Salesian College, Siliguri.

Laptop Distribution Initiative for female learners of Salesian

Sonada, February 2021: : In a rare but challenging initiative, Salesian College Sonada and Siliguri in partnership and sponsorship with "United Board for Christian Higher Education in Asia" organised a laptop distribution scheme to provide 100 girl students of the hills, a laptop each at affordable price.

Distributions started on St John Bosco's feast held on 30th January where 55 laptops were distributed. Of the remaining 45 laptops 34 laptops were distributed on 9th February at Sonada and remaining 11 laptops were distributed to girls from the hills studying in Siliguri campus on 11 February 2021. Speaking at the final distribution event, Fr. (Dr.) George Thadathil (Principal, Salesian College) thanked all who collaborated in the project and congratulated the girls and briefed them about the donor agency.

The donor agency United Board for Christian Higher Education in Asia based in New York & Hong Kong (established in 1922) came forward to help as part of its Covid-19 relief for member institutions who wanted assistance for online education. The Salesian College scheme consisted of girl students paying Rs. 10,000, (USD 138) ie. 40 per cent of the cost of laptop while United Board paid for 60 percent of the cost.



"Very good initiative for the students who are struggling with the online fatigue due to looking at a small screen for long hours." Said Mr. Peter Lepcha (Dean of Arts, Salesian college Siliguri).

The laptop distributed was ACER 14 brand (Pentium Gold-4415U / 4GB RAM / 1TB HDD / Windows 10 Home 64 Bit / 14 Inch) with 3 Years Warranty and also contained a laptop bag for respective sets of laptops'. The department wise break up of the beneficiaries is as follows: English (29) Political Science (25), Sociology (18), Bachelor in Commerce (7), Bachelor in Computer Applications (6), Mass Communication & Journalism (5), History (3), Education (3), BA General (2) and one laptop each for Maths and Bachelor of Social Work.

Semester wise break up for laptop distribution in the first phase was : 34 laptops for first semester followed by 36 for third semester, and 30 for fifth semester.

Continued in page 2.

Sociology Department observes National Girl Child Day

Rachel Salomit Sitling

Siliguri, January 2021: National Girl Child Day is celebrated every year on 24th January. The day was an initiative of the Ministry of Women and Child Development in 2008.

An online assembly was organised by the Department of Sociology on 20th January, 2021 on google meet at 8:30 am. The assembly was led by Divyani Giri, who welcomed the Reverend Fathers, Faculty members and the students followed by a short prayer by Kelsang Dorge. The assembly was to create awareness for the empowerment and protection of girls. Unfortunately, our history speaks volumes about female infanticide, female foeticide and discrimination. She is not provided with proper nutrition and care as compared to her male siblings. The adverse sex ratio especially in states like Rajasthan and Haryana are alarming.

As a responsible citizen we need to work together to free girls from violence, oppression, discrimination and prejudice. Ensuring proper health care facilities, educational opportunities, and mobilising the society to recognise and celebrate girls is the need of the hour. The students shared a short video on National Girl Child Day, to spread the message of love, protection and equality. Themsorin Ningshen and Divyani Giri covered the song, the video showed several images of the students standing up for the cause.

The assembly was concluded by Fr. (Dr.) Professor George Thadathil. He also mentioned about two important books - "Uncursing the Dark: Treasures from the Underworld" by Betty De Shong Meador and "Dasa - Sudra Slavery" by Sharad Patil.

Pre - Christmas Gathering

Suravee Thakuri

Siliguri, December 2020: After nine long months the hallways of Salesian College, Siliguri echoed with laughter and joy as the students and faculty members came together to commemorate the Christmas celebration.

The students gathered in their respective classrooms along with their teachers for the event following proper COVID-19 protocols and maintaining social distance. Although limited faculty members and few students were present on the specific days. Proper sanitisation and measures was particularly taken care of on that day. Around 50 students from each department were present. Fr. (Dr.) George Thadathil came to visit each classroom and shared few words of wisdom. "Greatness is not achieved overnight.... it requires patience, struggle and humility." he said

The event was supervised by the Heads' of each department respectively. The students and faculty members also took the opportunity to welcome the newly admitted students in an interactive session to make everyone aware about the college.

SPECIAL LECTURE

Supriya Oraon

Siliguri, February 2021: A virtual lecture was organised by Centre for Studies in Local Languages and Cultures, University of North Bengal on 13th February. The Guest Lecturer for the day was Prof. Ananda Mitra (Wake Forest University North Carolina, United States) and the topic of the session was on "Role of media in preserving cultures of Ethno – linguistic communities". The event started with the welcome speech by Mr. Subhra Jyoti Kundu and Mr.Koushik Joardar. The Department of Mass Communication and Journalism of both the Sonada and Siliguri campus were the part of the session along with the faculties. The guest speaker Prof. Anand Mitra preceded how in a country of the vastness and cultural diversity of India the problems of ethnic minorities are of great importance. He interacted with the students and faculty by asking them questions. As per the feedback received from the participants it was very good learning experience and the session was relevant. The event ended with honorarium to the guests and vote thanks.

Teaching Online/Offline Orientation Programme Phase III



Siliguri, January 2021: Salesian College Siliguri Campus organised a structured outcome-based orientation programme on 'Exploring Teaching Online/Offline/ Orientation Programme' for the faculty of both the campuses, an endeavour targeting reading efficiency of the past, evaluating the present and framing the future.

The first segment of the programme began with a Joint campus-level activity facilitated by Mr. Peter Lepcha (Dean, Arts and Humanities). In the first task, five members of the faculty were formed to share and write their success stories of online teaching. In the second task, the groups were shuffled, and from the random sampling, feed back, and grievances assimilated from students the groups of faculty were asked to reflect on the concerns and issues of the on line mode of teaching-learning. The third task revolved around formulating smart plans, projects, action plans, and self-chosen activities, measurable, achievable, and reachable plans.

After an engaging session, a special announcement was made by Fr. (Dr.) George Thadathil (Principal, Salesian college) regarding the promotion of Dr. Dipankar Rudra and Mr. Rupam Mazumdar to the post of Level 1 Assistant Professor and Dr. Terrence Mukhia as an Associate Professor.

Mr. Bikash Sarma gave a brief introduction to the Salesian Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences entitled "Social Distancing, Covid-19, and Ex periential Narratives", Vol XI, No.1.

It was followed by a brief presentation on "Outcome-based teaching and learning" by Brother Augustin Joseph (Vice Principal, Sonada Campus). Brother discussed the importance of such methodology which is embodied through constructive alignment to facilitate students to achieve the outcomes. Ms. Sneha Agarwal shared about the initiative taken by the college in service learning under the programme, 'Knowledge Beyond Campus'.

The second segment was held at the Deanery level, the faculty members assembled in the allocated lecture halls to discuss the possibility of a blended mode of the teaching-learning process, Deanery level activities, and general feedback by the students.

It was facilitated by Mr. Peter Lepcha (Dean of Arts and Humanities), Mr. Patrick Johnson (Dean of Commerce) and Mr. Dhirodatta Subba (Dean of Sciences). To enhance the understanding of issues and challenges and to reflect on the proposals given by students, the groups were further divid ed into respective Departments. Each department was assigned a task to frame an action plan within a proposed timeline so that organising such events would be more coordinated and efficient.

The session culminated with these closing observations made by Fr. Principal "1. The Purpose of the Gathering in three installments has been achieved; 2. Feedback of the students and Faculty concur on the need to make some new decisions for the ongoing semester; 3. Personal and individual efforts to improve the system, becomes a collective gain for the individual, the institution and the wider society."

Online Debate Competition

Padenla Sherpa

Siliguri, January 2021: The Department of History, Salesian College Siliguri, organised an inter-departmental online debate competition.

Students from History and Political Science Department participated in the competition. The programme commenced at 10 am with a prayer and the introduction of the themes- 'Reservation System', 'World Peace' and 'Need of Diversity', mainly highlighting the views of the youth about the on-going scenario . The hosts, Shristi Paul and Prity Sarki, then introduced the Jury members- Mr. Sangam Ghatani (Assistant Professor, Political Science Dept.) and Mr. Bickey Sharma (Assistant Professor, Economics Department). The guidelines were further cited by the hosts. There were 4 teams with 2 members each and each team was allotted 3 minutes to speak followed by a rebuttal round. In the first round, Team A (Nandini Sarkar and Siddharth Chettri) confronted Team B (Abhishek Paswan and Sneha Lepcha) and Team C (Priambara Chettri and Srija Bhadari) spoke against team D (Ninor Bhutia and Thupden Tamang). In the second round, following the prior protocol, the debate recommenced with a face-off between the winners of the first round, Team B and Team C. After the final rebuttal session, both the judges gave their feedback on the overall debate and with that, Team B (Abhishek Paswan and Sneha Lepcha) was declared as the winner.

Digital Media Literacy Workshop by MCJH Dept.



Siliguri, January 2021: The Department of Mass Communication and Journalism, Siliguri Campus organized a workshop on the topic 'a fight against misinformation and empowering citizens through news and information literacy' from Factshala India.

The speaker for the event was Dr. Shourini Banerjee, certified professional trainer (FACTSHALA, news and information literacy initiative by DataLEADS with support from google.org) and academician. Dr. Banerjee has completed her PhD research on "gender and masculinity in television commercials - a critical study'. The event commenced with an opening speech by Fr. (Dr.) George Thadathil and he spoke about the importance of differentiating between news that is derived and news that is concocted, he said "one's proposition must not harm one's right to be".

Thereafter, Dr. Banerjee began her talk with how one can develop independent thinking and verify content by fact checking. "Information empowers but over load cripples' expressed Dr. Banerjee. The session focused on the sources of information, why good information is important and how it affects socio-economic and political decisions.

Dr. Banerjee then continued on the dangers of misinformation, bias, manipulation on social media and the effects of being 'confined in a box of content'. She elaborated on filter bubbles, echo chamber and types of propaganda that exists in the current world. Dr. Banerjee concluded her speech by highlighting the importance of critical thinking and ways to improve it with multiple interactive exercises followed by a question and answer session.

Special Lecture on Inside Data Science

Siliguri, February 2021: The Department of Economics, Salesian College Siliguri, organised an online lecture on 'Inside Data Science' via Google Meet. The event commenced with a welcome note by Mr. Bickey Sharma, Asst. Professor & HOD, Department of Economics, followed by a brief introduction of the Guest Speaker, Mr. Abhik Mukherjee, Research Associate, Counterpoint Research. Fr. (Prof.) George Thadathil, Principal of Salesian College, was then invited to address the participants with a brief speech. The guest speaker, Mr. Abhik Mukherjee, took over the session thereafter. His lecture on 'Inside Data Science' was designed to introduce the students to the concept of data, its relevance, importance, scope and to expose them to the different possible ways of pursuing Data Science. An interactive session was conducted thereafter and the event concluded with the vote of thanks by Mr. Bickey Sharma.

Official Inaugural Ceremony of ENACTUS SCSC



Siliguri, October 2020: Enactus Salesian College held its inauguration and orientation ceremony in the Audio-Visual Hall, Siliguri Campus.

The ceremony took place offline and was also streamed online. It began with a welcome speech by Faculty Advisor & Assistant Pro fessor, Mrs. Debarati Deb, followed by the light ning of the lamp and speech es by the Chief Guests- Fr. (Dr.) C. J. George, Fr. (Dr.) Babu Joseph, Fr. (Dr.) Saju P. T. and Mr. Sunil Prasad (Faculty Advisor).

The following office-bearers, Akash Jaiswal (President), Chetna Singhal (Vice-President), Chirag Bansal (Head of Finance) and Deeksha Gupta (Head of Media and Marketing), explained their respective roles in the ass ociation and the members in troduced themselves thereafter.

Two videos were displayed to give a clear concept & understanding on the types of projects that could be undertaken henceforth. Fr. (Dr.) George Thadathil shared the concluding remarks on the event and Enactus Salesian was officially inaugurated.

Laptop Distribution Initiative

(Cont. from pg. 1)

Reverend Fr. (Dr.) Professor George Thadathil illustrated the need for laptops by students for their mental development and thanked members of the Board of Christian Higher Education; namely Nancy E. Chapman and Wai-Ching Angela Wong, President and Vice-President of the Board, for understanding the student's needs and for their sponsorship of the event. The event concluded with female learners expressing great joy and satisfaction on such an initiative.

Editorial Column

Suravee Thakuri

"The youth need to be enabled to become job generators from job seekers." remarked APJ Abdul Kalam (former President of India) Over the last few decades, social media has gained an ample amount of growth and fame worldwide.

Almost everyone in the community is connected to one or more social media platforms, the youth and teenagers being the most avid and fanatic users. While we usually come across and pinpoint the negative impacts of these social media platforms, let us focus on the more comforting prospects of it for a change.

Social media enables people to stay connected and updated with the events happening around the globe. In recent years the use of social media has resulted in the growth of enthusiasm and productivity among the youth. While the world was at a standstill amidst the menacing prevalence of a pandemic, the youth of today showed utmost valour and alacrity by indulging themselves in creativity and hard work. Soon after the emergence of the pandemic and the announcement of a worldwide lockdown, the restless and zealous youth arose with various visionary ideas to keep themselves from feeling despondent and dull.

They began to discover and hone their talents and skills with dedication as sharp as a whetstone. This emanated in the emergence of several young and talented writers, musicians, dancers, entrepreneurs, digital creators and more. Social Media platforms, mainly, Instagram and Facebook became major and prominent places for showcasing their talents and skills. In this fast-paced and developing world, the youth feel the need to involve themselves in and contribute to the society.

The youth also find it crucial to be self-reliant and financially independent. This demand among the youth has given birth to young entrepreneurs trying to make their way to the top. They have started to gain recognition and appreciation through social media, helping them to accomplish their goals and plans. From young bakers to designers, craftsmen and aspiring chefs, these young and ardent entrepreneurs are relentlessly working hard to gain popularity and appreciation in their locality. Sustainability and economic development is the need for the hour.

In such crucial times, small business has emerged as a hero helping in the economic growth of society. Owners of small firms are the virtuous strivers, the job creators and the plucky entrepreneurs who drive the economy. Small businesses provide opportunities for entrepreneurs, jobs for neighbours and gathering places for communities.

They're rooted in the landscape where they grow, and they give back vitality and sustenance. Although running a small business involves taking greater risks than working for a large, established company, the rewards are both quantitative and qualitative. Owning a business of their own helps the youth learn and practically understand the importance of hard work, self-reliance and maintaining a good relationship with their clients.

As said by Barack Obama- "The future belongs to young people with an education and the imagination to create." Young entrepreneurs and creators are the future of society.

There are many young and aspiring small business owners and creators in our college itself. There are many budding entrepreneurs in our locality and neighbourhood. They should be encouraged and their work should be acknowledged. Many small businesses also possess the ability to respond and adapt quickly to changing economic climates. This is because small businesses are often very customer-oriented and understand the needs of the community.

Social media influence youth in many different ways. It is their job to observe and only ingest the positive aspects of it and dodge the negative effects. If utilised correctly, social media can breed and cultivate positive qualities in a person and flourish productivity in the youth.

PRINCIPAL SPEAKS



Dear Readers

Fr. (Dr.) George Thadathil
Principal & Rector
Salesian College

The Year 2021 seems to have brought some sense of relief and hope. It is as if we are not yet fully liberated but there is a sense of 'all is not lost'. The life in the college and the life in the world outside differ is known by those who have been to college.

College-life in the safety of the 'home-based-learning' and the more recent, 'occasional visits to campus' state of affairs is different in many ways: the sense of time, space, relationships, shuttling between the virtual and the augmented real are just a few.

However, to bridge this gap between being student and being an entrepreneur on the forefront of considering seriously about a start-up, being a learner and engaging in teaching activity as a community development NGO partner, being an artist interested in music or in sports alongside exploration of knowledge are the possible ways of linking the two: one's inner world of aspirations and goals and the applicability of those dreams in the real day-to-day world of hurdles and constraints. I am sure, working on the present issue of The Salesian Times, created from the safety of homes, bringing together the multiple events in the lives of students and faculty over the past couple of months, has been a daunting yet pleasant task, for all those who steered this project.

My appreciation and congratulations for the dedication with which the Mass Communication Team of the College – faculty and students – have collaborated and modulated the arrangements as well as management of the varied tasks involved in bringing out an e-Newspaper: collection of news, editing the views, news and reports, fixing the layout and design for every page and every column, choosing the pictures, figures, charts and graphs.

In and through these and more, I am sure the team has accumulated certain expertise that will see them in the execution with better precision, greater tasks.

My best wishes to everyone in the Editorial Team, and let us, as readers encourage by sparing a few minutes to browse and read to dare send in a feedback to the team.

Conoscenza 2021- Commerce Fest

Siliguri, February 2021: Salesian College, Commerce Association held its biggest Commerce Fest in the college campus on 11th, 12th and 13th February. The word 'Conoscenza' means knowledge and acquaintance.

Following the Marvel theme, the eight teams were named after Marvel characters as Stark, Banner, Jarvis, Rogers, Romanoff, T'challa, Odinson and Parker.

There was an introduction of four events namely Strategic Management, Relations Management, Fun event and Press. Conoscenza' 2021 went with a total of eight events divided into slots. The name of the events were: Is that the best you can do? (Marketing), whatever it takes (Strategic Management), Hulk Smash (Relations Management), I love you 3000... Rs (Finance), I am Ironman (Tycoon), I am Groot (Fun event), I can do this all day (Press & Media) and we're in the Endgame now (Board Meeting). The panel of interviewers were alumni of Salesian College and Judges were members of Young Indians.

The winners of Conoscenza'21 were Team Romanoff , runners up were Team Odinson and second runners up were Team Jarvis. Conoscenza'21 concluded with a prize distribution and closing ceremony where a token of appreciation and certificates.

Wellness Vibes

Do online classes impact minds?



Fr. (Dr.) George Chempakathinal

Issues with electricity, net connection, mental fatigue, lack of understanding, less of human contacts and many more are the issues of the online system. But some seem to be getting comfortable with such issues. There are many who want to go to their colleges and schools but there are others who love to continue the easy going/lazy path; not realising their physical, mental and psychological aspects missing/deteriorating. A feeling is created that it is dangerous to venture out when everything, other than schools and colleges are open. Many find it difficult to think of coming out of their rooms and plunge into the outer world of people. The fear – Covid 19. Yet the markets are full, buses, trains and all sorts of transports are in place. The question to consider: what is the greatest loss/sacrifice due to pandemic? I hope I am not wrong if I say that it is human relationship. On the one hand there was closer relationship in families where everyone had to stay together. But it is not so in many cases. Now is the time where students are left alone to fend for themselves with their academics and growth process in social living. Accept the test and forge ahead pro-actively to perform or perish!

The challenge is to get back to activities that promote human associations, enjoy warmth and love by treating your desires for human presence. In the long term what sustains mental wellness is one's relationship with his/her close associates: Parents, siblings, classmates and friends' circles. Look for/promote opportunities to enjoy cordiality as a tonic to foster wellbeing.

STUDENT'S REFLECTION

Interview on Republic Day Camp (RDC)

1. How did you manage academics and NCC with equal enthusiasm?
Ans: It was never tough as I pursue both and it became easier as our ANO maam Lt. Risha Chettri helped me a lot throughout this journey as a guardian. NCC moulds us through its training that we inculcate that sense of discipline towards whatever we Cadets do. Managing time was not tough.
2. What was was experience/ what did you learn from the journey of NCC and being able to represent our state at such big level?
Ans: The best experience of my life. Journey was a wonder, we cadets got to learn so much. We interact with cadets who have come to represent their respective Deans from every corner of the country at Delhi, we shared our culture and learned many things about each other, it felt like mini India in DG NCC campus. This experience of RDC moulded me as a person both physically and mentally, I feel more confident than before after RDC. Representing state at such a big platform was an honour for me and the best experience of my life.
3. What problems or hurdles did you face?
Ans: Selection was tough and I feel lucky that I made it to the team of 26 for Delhi. Apart from that it became more challeng ing because of the pandemic, every time there was a horror of Covid in our head for our effort throughout day and night, even one case could have ruined it and it would have been cancelled.
4. What was your motivation behind working so hard and not giving up?
Ans: My motivation were my parents and all my friends. They always knew it was my dream to represent at Republic day Camp. Throughout my journey they all have been very supportive.
5. What message do you want to provide to our upcoming NCC cadets?
Ans: Message for upcoming cadets is that what ever you do, do it with full passion and enthusiasm and to do well in your academics.
6. What was the best mo ment in this whole journey?
Ans: Each and every moment be ing there was very special and mem orable, all those ragdas, wake up at 2 am, practising in cold atmosphere of January in Delhi, watching people in uniform every where around us, marching on Cariappa parade ground. We were 26 in total but were one as a family. If even one among us made a mistake we all used to share ragdas but we'd still smile at each other while doing the punishments. These are the moments I will never forget, but the best moment was on the final day when I Commanded our DTE, saluted and marched in front of our Honourable PM Shri Narendra Modi at that moment saluting and looking into his eyes made me felt like all my hard work was worth it.
7. What did you learn from this exceptional journey that will benefit you throughout your life?
Ans: As I was also in Best Ca det competition for SD Army wing, the best cadets used to have classes by the officers themselves, we used to interact with officers of higher ranks, getting interviewed by them, taking part in Group discussions and that process of training throughout RDC has evolved me and helped me explore other sides of myself which I was unknown about. The person I have become after the journey of RDC is more confident, effective in decision making, a team player, punctual, disciplined and also has inculcated the habit of learning new things, these are the things I feel which will help me throughout life.

Interviewee: Mohit Sharma
Interviewer: Padenla Sherpa

Online Seminar on Religious Practices in the Himalayan Spaces

Siliguri, February 2021: The 3rd session of the webinar series 'Religious Practices in the Himalayan Spaces' was organized virtually by Salesian College (West Bengal, India) in collaboration with the University of Hong Kong (China), and St. Anthony's College (Shillong, Meghalaya), co-sponsored by BRINFAITH.

The webinar topic was 'Terrestrial Pure Lands in Hidden Valleys: Ecology and Soteriology in Himalayan Perspectives'.

The resource person for the session was Dr. Georgios T. Halkias, Associate Professor, Centre of Buddhist Studies, University of Hong Kong & Faculty of Oriental Studies, University of Oxford.

The session commenced at 3:30 pm with the opening remarks for the event by Fr. (Dr.) George Thadathil. The event was also live streamed over Youtube and conducted via Gsuite. Dr Halkias explained the idea of 'hidden valleys' or Beyul in Tibetan Buddhist tradition.

He further analyzed the theological and historical background of Beyul and the significance of it in the contemporary world. Dr. David Alexander Palmer, Professor, Hongkong Institute for the Humanities and Social Science, Dept. of Sociology, Hong Kong University was the moderator of the session.

All the participants actively engaged in the discussion, and their queries were responded by the speaker eloquently.

The webinar ended with the vote of thanks by Ms. Prayana Subba, Assistant Professor from Salesian College, Sonada.

Webinar on Research and Publication Opportunities

Sonada, December 2020: The Salesian Research Centre (Sonada/Siliguri) organized a webinar titled Research and Publication Opportunities (in Ranked Journals). The resource person for the webinar was Dr. Amit Sarwal, a Senior Lecturer at the School of Language, Arts and Media in University of South Pacific and the Founding Convenor of Australia-India Interdisciplinary Research Network.

The webinar was conducted via Google Meet at 11:00 am, IST. The webinar was a closed group program with more than 25 participants which included the faculty members of Salesian College Sonada/Siliguri Campus. It began with an opening note by Fr. (Prof.) George Thadathil, Rector and Principal of Salesian College, Sonada and Siliguri. Dr. Gunjeet Aurora Mehta, Dean PG Programs, then introduced the speaker and explained the webinar's thematic.

Dr. Sarwal began his lecture by explaining the difference between publishing articles in Journals and publishing articles in Ranked Journals. He provided the audience with the knowledge of the fundamental policies followed by Universities around the globe and how publications with ISBN numbers are being made mandatory in every discipline of studies. He explained various parameters and important points regarding publication indexes such as the Scimago Journal and Country Rank (SJR), which allows research scholars to look up for Ranked Journals and the importance of particular journal in their specific field. He also illustrated aspects of designing an abstract which allows the editors to understand the lucidity of an individual's article.

Dr Sarwal indicated upon the multiple facets of writing a research paper that are of immense significance especially while sending a research paper to a Ranked Journal for a review. The other concern that Dr Sarwal put forth the participants was the importance of promotion and collaboration of one's paper through social media, local newspapers, blogs, etc. Lastly, Dr Sarwal mentioned about the process of learning by doing, an interdisciplinary approach, quality and quantity of the paper, and to be patient throughout the process which were few reminders/pointers which every research scholars should be mindful of while working on a paper.

Dr Sarwal's talk was followed by an interactive session where the participants put forth their queries and provided feedback on the overall session. Thereafter, Fr. George Thadathil made a note of how the field of Research Community has developed and expanded over the years demanding more erudite individuals in the field of Research and Publications. Fr. Tomy Augustine then concluded the webinar with his observations and vote of thanks for the entire organising team.



"Sunsets are proof that no matter what happens, everyday can be beautiful"

Fasil Ahmed
1st Year, MCJH
Siliguri Campus

Webinar on Nanotechnology

Siliguri, January 2021: A webinar on 'Nanotechnology' was organized by the Department of Physics, Salesian College Siliguri, via Google Meet. The title of the webinar was 'An Introduction to Nano: the fascinating world of Nanotechnology' and the resource person for the session was Dr. Amretashis Sengupta (SERB Research Scientist at the University of North Bengal). Dr. Sengupta elaborated how and why the properties of matter change as we scale down their dimension from bulk to nanometer range. He further highlighted the practical applications of nanomaterials and how technology could transcend to newer heights once the commercial production of nanomaterials becomes feasible. In parallel, he also explained about the working of different instruments such as X-ray diffractometer, Scanning Electron Microscope etc. Overall, the lecture was oriented towards the undergraduate students. The presentation was hosted by Mr. Bikramjit Chanda (Asst. Prof. – Physics) and Ms. Sujata Sinha (Asst. Prof. – Physics) took over the Q&A session which followed thereafter. Mr. Mayukh Majumdar (Asst. Prof. – Physics) gave the closing remarks and the webinar concluded with the vote of thanks by Dr. Prajwal Chettri (Asst. Prof. – Physics).

Webinar on "Understanding the Power of Mind for Effective Communication"

Danish Mahajan

Siliguri, January 2021: The Department of Mass Communication and Journalism, Salesian College, Sonada in collaboration with IQAC organised a webinar titled "Understanding the Power of Mind for Effective Communication".

The event commenced with a welcome speech by Mr. Privat Giri, Head Of Department of MCJH, Salesian College Sonada, followed by an introduction from Fr. (Dr.) George Thadathil.

Dr A.Abraham MD (Master Practitioner, 'Neuro Linguistic Programming and Life Coach' and Director, Mind Master by profession), started the interactive session with his presentation on "Understanding the Power of Mind for Effective Communication".

He spoke about 'Mind Dynamics And Personal Excellence' and gave his inputs about 'The Magic Of Reframe' and 'Applications Of NLP (Neuro Linguistic Programming) - Time Line, Logical Levels,Outcomes, Perceptual Positions'. Neuro Linguistic Programming is the study of how our mind works, the structure of subjective experience is expressed as behaviour and language. NLP trainers can help one with many areas of personal growth and development, including handling difficult and confronting situations better and how to think more clearly.

Dr. A. Abraham stated "everything starts in the mind as a thought". He explained "The law of attraction Principle Starting with the end in mind, he explains how one can do so by asking the themselves "what will you be doing and how will you feel, when the problem has been resolved?"

According to Dr. A. Abraham, Reframing is a way of deliberately changing your perception in the same context. He concluded bt stating "Become aware of the crucial values in our life and those of our patients".

Thereafter, a question and answer session was conducted for the students followed by the vote of thanks by Ms Shikshita Dewan (Asst. Professor, Department of Mass Communication and Journalism, Salesian College, Sonada Campus) the session came to an end.

Wherever you are, be there totally



Siliguri, January 2021: Our mind is full with past experiences, opinions about the present and expectations of the future. Sometimes the intensity of these experiences could lead to psychological problems. Therefore the suggestion, "empty your cup" has its importance. Once Buddha, the Enlightened, was asked what have you gained from meditation? He replied with a smile, 'nothing.' "However, let me tell you what I lost: anger, anxiety, depression, insecurity, fear of old age and death." We all know meditation plays an important role in our stressful life. Yet, very few of us are aware of mindfulness (non-religious) meditation. The term, 'mindfulness,' is used to refer to a psychological state of awareness. Research has proved that mindfulness meditation promotes metacognitive awareness, decreases rumination via disengagement from perseverative cognitive activities and enhances attentional capacities through gain in working memory. These cognitive gains ultimately enhance effective emotion-regulation, greater cognitive flexibility and is helpful to cope with everyday stressful life. It can be described as mental state that involves being fully focused on "the now" so that one can acknowledge and accept their own thought, feelings and sensation without judgement. Keeping this in mind Salesian College Research Centre in collaboration with the PG Department of Psychology, Siliguri Campus launched one month Mindfulness Training Programme beginning on Wednesday, January 6th, 2021 at Salesian College, Siliguri Campus AV Hall.

Inauguration day programme was recorded by Department of Mass Communication. The programme began with welcome address and introduction to Mindfulness by Fr. (Dr.) George Thadathil followed by 30 minutes of guided meditation. The opening day programme concluded with motiva tional words by Fr. (Dr.) James Chacko Molekunnel, HOD De partment of Psychology & PG Coordinator, Salesian College. From the Department of Psychology, Education and English all PG students volunteered to participate in the programme. The mindfulness sessions were held during morning hours Monday to Friday till February 6th, 2021 successfully. The feedback from the students on completion of the programme was positive and personally meaningful. On February 8th, 2021 Rev. Fr. (Dr.) George Thadathil on behalf of Psychology Research Group & Mass Communication team of SCSC & SCS released YouTube videos on inauguration of the programme.

Patron: Fr. (Prof.) George Thadathil (Rector & Principal, Salesian College)
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Fr. Dr. George Chempakathinal (Vice Principal-Humanities/Bursar, SCSC)
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SILIGURI | SONADA

KEEPS YOU AHEAD





Foundation 13 Day





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Presentation

Marsang Lama (Sonada Campus),July 2021, Sonada: An online case study presentation was held by the dept. of Mass Communication and Journalism , through google meet. The online presentation was held on 1st July 2021. It started at about 9:30 am and continued for 2 hours. The students of 2nd semester presented a power point presentation on 13 case studies and how the media played a role in them. The online presentation was attended by the students and faculty of Mass Communications and some students of dept. of Sociology. This was done for the internal assessment of the second semester students. However after each presentation questions were asked by the teachers and students making it highly interesting and informative.

The Journey Continues...

Raksha Rai,9th July 2021, Siliguri : Salesian college celebrated its 13th foundation day on campus with chief guest Shri Goutam Deb (Chairman of board of administrators, Siliguri municipal corporation).Erstwhile, ex-cabinet Minister of Department of Tourism, Govt. of West Bengal, Goutam Deb has also served as a member of legislative assembly for two consecutive periods. The programme began with an introduction by Ms. Monica Rana (Asst. Prof. Department of English, Salesian College Siliguri) and a prayer led by Fr. (Prof.) George Thadathil (Principal, Salesian College). Thereafter, Goutam Deb spoke about



the serene beauty surrounding the campus and how Salesian is one of the most precious colleges of the region. The program then continued with

13 Years of Glory

a screening of a documentary about Salesian College After which, Mr. Peter Lepcha (Dean of Arts and Humanities) gave a presentation on the theme 'memory is free flowing', looking back at some of Salesian's achievements. Mr. Peter highlighted the legacy and the rich traditions that enrich the history of Don Bosco. He quoted 'the past should be altered by the present as much as the present is directed by the past,TS Elliot'. He then concluded the presentation with a reading of his unpublished poetry titled 'am I audible?'. Subsequently, father Principal introduced the vision of Salesian college, he expressed "The Christian western civilization input and the Indian civilization heritage has to meet in order for education to move forward. We are at a fulcrum point to liberate and have a role to serve if we collaborate for the future of our education. ".

Online career counselling session

July 2021, Siliguri: The department of Mass communication and Journalism, Salesian College Siliguri organised a career counselling program on the 1st of July, 2021. The event took place through Google meet and all the students and the faculty members of the dept. of Mass Communication and journalism, the students of the department of B.A. Programme, Fr. George Thadathil (Principal, Salesian College) and Fr. C.M. Paul(Vice Principal, SCSC) were present. Mass Communication and Journalism is a vast subject and presents a wide spectrum of plausible career options; which although favourable , proves to be confusing and difficult when making a choice. It's vital that one must gather ample information and guidance when pursuing a career. Hence the department of Mass Communication held a session to provide a secure concept of what can be expected from this subject. The event began with some encouraging words from Fr. (Prof.) George Thadathil (Principal, Salesian College) and Fr. C.M. Paul (Vice Principal, Mr. Irfan Azam (Asst. Prof., dept. of Mass com. And journalism,SCSC) an experienced veteran of the field was the key speaker of the event. He thoroughly explained the various sections like Print media, electronic media, government sectors, new media, etc. and guided the students through possible career decisions. "It is a general conception that a a student of journalism can't get a job in media.But it is not right" he said. He covered the basic prospects and available choices whilst highlighting the pros and cons of each. Factors like wage, work atmosphere, preferences, placement, job requirements etc. were discussed. At the end of the session, the teachers answered the queries posed by students and the event concluded with a vote of thanks by Mr. Ravi B. Singh (HOD, Dept. of MCJ).

The Department of MCJ organized a career Guidance Program for the Students

Salesian College @ MGNCRE

Simran Sharma (B.Com Hons, SCSC) June 2021, Siliguri: The NSS (National Service Scheme) unit II of Salesian College Siliguri organised a webinar on "Guidance to Psychosocial Skills" with Dr Savita Mishra (Principal, Vidyasagar College of Education). In the webinar, Dr Savita Mishra put forward an opportunity for the unit to be a part of a 20-day SEWA programme organised by Mahatma Gandhi National Council for Rural Education (MGNCRE), where Mr Pinak Dey (NSS Unit II program officer) had also attended the 5-days Faculty Training and Development Programme organised by MGNCRE. Under the guidance of Dr Savita Mishra,various institutions of the North-Eastern States and West Bengal participated in the 20 days SEWA programme purposed by MGNCRE, Hyderabad. Volunteers from various institutions carried out this service on their own and after the completion of the service, they were called to present their work. The seminar was conducted on the 29th of June, at 10 am. Dr Savita Mishra, Mr Prasanna Kumar (chairman) and Mr Sudheer Kumar were three representatives of MGNCRE who carried the seminar forward. 19 institutions presented their work and each institution was given 5 minutes time limit. Some of these institutions were DIET, Jorhat, Assam, DIET,Khupa,Arunachal Pradesh, Salesian College, Siliguri, Suryasen Mahavidyalaya, Siliguri and Fakiragram College, Assam. All the institutions spoke about the various activities they had conducted in their 20 days of the SEWA programme. Mr Rajil Kumar Singhal (President,NSS-Unit II,SCSC) represented the college in the seminar. He spoke about the various activities the volunteers took up during the course of 20 days, widely ranging from distributing masks &sanitisers, ration in different unreached areas andvisiting an orphanage and an animal shelter. NSS Unit II, SCSC honoured with 'ONE GREEN ONE CHAMPION AWARD' under 'Swachhata' action plan on MGNCRE.

Lets Fly!

June 2021, Siliguri: Salesian College Placement Cell and IQAC, in collaboration with the Indian Air Force, Head Quarters, New Delhi, organised a career counselling webinar on 2nd June 2021, on Google Meet and Youtube live stream simultaneously. The session began at 11:00 am with 102 students attending the session. Mr. Anirban Ghosh (faculty and coordinator) introduced Wing Commander Sneha Singh, the guest speaker. Wing Commander Singh has over sixteen years of experience in the Indian Air Force and is presently posted at Air Force Head Quarters, looking after induction publicity and motivating young minds for joining the Indian Air Force. She elaborately explained about the functioning the recruitment of the Indian Air Force. The session was made lively through her presentation and lucid manner of explanation. At the end of the session there were questions by the faculty and students, which were enthusiastically and intelligently answered by Wing Commander Singh.

SCSC celebrates Yoga Day

Mr Wilson Bara, June 2021, Siliguri: To keep up with the current anxious environment a calm and subdued approach is essential. With such an initiative the NSS unit and the Physical Education department in a joint venture organised an online yoga session on International Yoga Day. With the theme Yoga for Immunity, the event started at 8 a.m. on Google meet with an impressive number of 50 participants along with Fr. (Prof.) George Thadathil (Principal, Salesian College). Sunny Terrence (B.A. The program, 6th Semester) gave a welcome speech followed by a brief meditation and prayer session. After such, Fr. Principal spoke some inspiring and enlightening words emphasizing the importance of Yoga. The Yoga demonstrations then began with Anu Sharma (B.A.Program, 4th Semester) explaining them and the volunteers Priya Subba (B.A. Program, 4th semester), , Kaushik Barik (B.A. The program, 2nd semester) and Nisheed Pradhan (B.A. The program, 2ndsemester) brilliantly performing them. The Asanas included all positions from standing to sitting to prone to supine; some of them were Vrikshasana, Padmasana, Bhujangasana, Halasana etc. The event concluded with ending remarks from Fr. Principal advocating the benefit of Yoga and meditation , especially during current situations. Amarjeet Kisku (B.A. Program, 2nd semester) gave the vote of thanks and dispersed the meeting.



Inauguration of Brainbow Association

April 2021, Siliguri: The 'Brainbow Association' of the Dept. of Psychology made their first-ever appearance in Salesian College Siliguri, with a solemn inauguration. The programme commenced at 10:30 am in AV Hall, with a brief welcome note by the host of the day Banhunlang Lingdoh(Student,Dept. of Psychology, SCSC) The official declaration of the 'Brainbow Association' was made by Fr. (Prof.) George Thadathil (Principal Salesian College). The guest lecturer Dr. Fiorenza Bortolotti spoke on the topic 'Psycho synthesis' wherein she highlighted the different aspects of human psychology and levels of consciousness. In an interactive session, the participants, both on offline and online platforms, were provided with a series of questions and answers to clarify their queries and doubts. The official video of the association was displayed which explicitly stated the objectives, vision and mission of the association. A vote of thanks was placed by Shaili Sarkar (Student, Dept. of Psychology, SCSC).

Siliguri Campus hosts the faculty training

March 2021, Siliguri: A Faculty Training & Development Programme on OBTLE (Outcome Based Teaching, Learning and Evaluation) was organized on 30th March 2021 by Salesian College, Siliguri. The programme emphasised on evaluating the previous semester's activities and making a concrete strategy for the upcoming semesters. The programme started at 9:00 am in AV Hall and it was formally inaugurated by Fr. (Prof.) George Thadathil (Principal, Salesian College) with a prayer followed by a short lecture on the purpose of the programme. He congratulated everyone for the efficient functioning of the college within the Covid pandemic related restrictions and encouraged an accurate evaluation and planning for facing the challenges in the upcoming academic year. After the inaugural lecture, Mr Peter Lepcha (Dean, Arts & Humanities, Salesian College, Siliguri) explained the process and system of evaluation and instructed every department to sit and make the evaluation report as well as strategies in a documented form. The respective departments along with the faculty members dispersed to analyse and formulate the events and activities for the upcoming semesters and also to evaluate the previous semester's performance. The second session of the program started at 11:45 am after a short tea break. One representative from each department presented the detailed evaluation and planning report respectively. All the departments shared their achievements and challenges in the last semester and presented their evaluation based strategies for the academic year 2021. This was followed by a presentation on Service-Learning and OBTLE for providing a proper understanding of the same by Ms Arunima Bhowmick (asst. prof. Department of Sociology) In the third session, all the three streams (Arts, Commerce and Science) of the college discussed their planning for the forthcoming even semester in clubs, cells, deanery and college level. They made their plans for the entire academic year of 2021-22. After the discussion, representatives of all the three streams presented their proposed planning one by one and asked for inputs and suggestions. The final session was conducted by Fr. (Prof..) George Thadathil (Principam, Salesian College) in the Killian Hall at 3:00 pm. In a short speech, he asked for personal and professional commitments for the year from all the respective faculties. He allowed all the participants to talk about their planning or commitments for the forthcoming year. The Deans and Programme Coordinators also shared their views, observations and feedback regarding the program. Fr. Principal concluded his lecture talk about the importance of commitments and encouraged everyone for fulfilling their promises and commitments. The programme concluded at around 4:00 pm while comprising of a group photo and tea session.



Menstrual Cup

Amisha Rai (MCJH, SCS) July 2021, Sonada: "Awareness in menstrual cup" an event organised by the Women Cell of Salesian College Sonada took place in Mahaldiram Tea Estate on 5th July 2021. It was headed by Mrs.Parvana Subba (Asst. Prof. SCS) This event that normally took place in the college campus had to be shifted to nearby locations due to the pandemic.There were around 20 female participants. Menstrual cups are not just sustainable in nature, but eco-friendly as well. Unlike sanitary napkins or tampons, they do less damage to the environment. Even in 2020, most women in India trust the sanitary pads over menstrual cups.A cup saves one from period hassles, rashes, skin infection, leakage and allows physical activity and can last for years, decreasing waste creation. Menstruation is still considered a taboo, it's considered to be unclean and impure in the rural areas of India.None of the participants present were accustomed to or aware of the use of menstrual cups.

Lens on Nature...

Raksha Rai, March 2021 , Siliguri : A field trip to Dudhiya was organised by the department of Mass communication and journalism. The session began with a tutorial on handling a DSLR led by Mr. Dipjyoti Das (Asst.Prof. Department of Mass Communication and Journalism), he explained the different types of camera movements and the difference it can make to any photograph or video. He further explained the primary components of photography and the importance of depth of field. Professor also elucidated on the prominence of composition in photography. Thereafter, Mr. Ravi Bhushan Singh (HoD, dept.of MCJH) explained the topic 'Exposure Triangle'. He described " exposure is the heart of any photograph and exposure triangle can help one balance the different elements of exposure". He further discussed the three important components of exposure namely : Aperture, ISO and Shutter speed and their effects on light. "Practical learning in nature is a must for every photography student, it helped me exercise what I had learned in class" expressed a student.

Salesian Model United Nations

Siliguri,April 2021: Salesian College Siliguri conducted a three day event of Salesian Model United Nations (SMUN) for the first time. It was organised by the department of Political Science coordinated by Mr. Sangam Ghatani(Asst.Professor, Dept. of Political Science) and Mr. Ayush Agarwal (Student,Dept. of Commerce). The event took place inside the campus abiding by all the COVID-19 protocols and saw a good number of participation. The delegates were divided into four committees, The United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC), the United Nations Security Council (UNSC), Lok Sabha and International Press. The delegates were allotted their respective countries, representative members and agendas. Each committee had one Head and two sub-heads appointed. The event began with an opening ceremony where all the participants and guests were welcomed by Mr. Peter Lepcha (Dean of Arts Department). A short prayer was conducted by Fr. (Prof.) George Thadathil (Principal, Salesian College) and welcome speech where he addressed the participants by saying, "You have rightly chosen this event since the participation will increase the qualification." He also declared the SMUN 2021 open. The crowd was then addressed by the Secretary General Themsorin H. Ningshenand and Deputy Secretary General, Ayush Agarwal. The participants were briefed about the 3 day event and were then dispersed to their respective committees. The day was divided into two committee sessions where in the agendas were discussed, motions were passed and causes were generated. On the second day, there were three committee sessions held. Each committee session ended with a press release where the members of International press conducted a questionnaire with the delegates of each committee where in they discussed the agendas and statements used. The Third day also had three committee sessions where different crisis were solved, final resolutions discussed and directives passed and the discussions were concluded. At the end of the day an award ceremony was conducted. The vote of thanks was given byAyush Agarwal (Deputy Secretary General) and the SMUN 2021 was declared closed of by Thensorin H. Ningshenand (Secretary General). **The result of the event are as follows:**

UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL:
Best Delegate- India: Diksha Jain,**Most Promising- China:**Priyambara Chettri,**High Commendation- Mexico:** Nausheen Rehman,**Special Mention- Denmark:**Sanjana Jha and **Bahamas:**Swati Gloria Kujur

UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL:
Best Delegate- Japan: Gyapon Lepcha,**Most Promising- China:** Chirag Prasain Chettri,**Special Mention- USA:** Pranawdeep Rai and **Taiwan:** Passang Sherpa,**Verbal Mentions- Malaysia:** Priyanka Karmakar ,**U.K:** Choiden Tamang and **Norway:** Alsaba Anwar

LOK SABHA:
Best Parliamentarian- Subramanayam Jaishankar : Siddharth Chhetri,**Most Promising Parliamentarian- Shashi Tharoor:** MikulAgarwal,**High Commendation- Amit Shah:** Parag Verma,**Special Mention – Narendra Modi:** Abhishek Paswan,**Hemant Godse:**Yukta Agarwal and **Rahul Gandhi :** Rajil Singhal

INTERNATIONAL PRESS:
Best Editorial Delegation: Surabhi Pakhrin,**Best Photo Journalist:**Puravi Gurung,**Special Mentions:**Harsh goyal, Shruti Tripathi and Drishti Agarwal.

Self Defence with the Aid of technique

Pedenla Sherpa

April 2021, Siliguri: Salesian College Siliguri organised a special workshop on the 8th and 9th of April, 2021 for the 'Women Cell' of the college on 'Self defence and Self-esteem.' Despite being a programme specifically categorised for girls, equal participation from boys could be traced. The special guests for the event were Mr Giacomo Colombo, an MMA trainer, assisted by Miss Sulekha Bansali. The workshop commenced at 9:30 a.m. in Nazareth block of the college with an introductory speech given by Ms. Manisha Pradhan(Coordinator, Women Cell). Mr Giacomo started the session by making the participants aware of the term 'self' and it's importance. He also talked about his journey in the field of martial arts. "Life is always a journey where everyday is a new chapter which upscale vast and immense knowledge and experience and helps us expand our capabilities."

Webinar on Entrepreneurship and Family business

Priyanka Karmakar and Nidhi Agarwal Siliguri, June 2021: The webinar on "Entrepreneurship and Family Business" was organised by Department of Management Studies, Salesian College, Siliguri in collaboration with Asian Institute of Family Managed Business on 11th June, 2021.The programme began at 10 a.m. with the welcoming of the guest by Mrs. Debarati Deb (Asst. Prof.,Dept. of Management Studies) followed by the opening invocation by Fr.(Dr) Babu Joseph (Vice-Principal of Commerce and Management, Siliguri campus). The platform was then handed over to the speaker of the day Mr. Sumit Tiwari (CEO of Timus Lifestyle, a luggage and Backpacks manufacturing company, Nasik). Mr. Tiwari has shown dynamic approach to build brand 'Timus' which is sold across e-commerce portals today along with 200 plus dealer network. The webinar also helped in coming up with solutions of failures and positivity that one should adapt. Mr. Sumit also spoke about his personal stories of failures and successes. His constant hard work and perseverance has paid off and made him what he is today.

It's a much wider spectrum

Evanjalin Tamang

It's been the butt of many a jokes, a stereotype really at this point- the limited choices an Indian society provides as a "successful profession". But that's the punchline; The choice is limited not the range, because really in a world with approx. 7,800,000,000 people are there only a handful of professions to sustain integral mechanisms? The answer is an unsurprising NO. So why do we as a society still entertain the ideology that the meager Doctor, Engineer, Teacher spectrum is what's still prevalent and relevant. Because I did not pursue Biology or Physics, or the Science section in general I was told that the next best choice of profession for me would be a Teacher; Which is tragic because most career prospect of any Arts students seems to be condensated in this singular term "Teacher". It's definitely not a bad profession, but it's also not the only one available. So why do people still use this caveman linear trajectory in terms of employment? The answer is simple; majorly for money and minorly respect.The aforementioned professions are often conceived to be the highest paying and undoubtedly respected which is in fact a dubious notion but still fuels around 18000 students every year to complete for a scanty 500 seats. It's okay if that's what you've wanted to do, your ambition. However it's a pitiful truth that almost 20% of these candidates apply because of the concept that's been installed in them since the time they've discovered education.

You get in a line of higher education that slowly eats away at your will to live and an actual curiosity for what the future will bring you. In the end you just become a corpse product for some Establishment you'll hate for the rest of your life and think about while singing Give me some sunshine, Give me some rain, Give me another chance I wanna grow up once again. We need to stop promoting this; of thinking that other professions are unimportant and certainly not a first choice.We only worship those at the top of these pyramids, not the one's who actually uphold it's structure.

You think being an interior designer is fancy and exquisite but at the same time no one wants to take up Carpentry as an actual chosenprofession. Why? Because we chase luxury. We want to be at the high end of the hierarchy; but do we even need luxury? Do humans really need a Maserati or a diamond crusted Rolex to survive, to be happy? Honestly do work that you find yourself happy to suffer for; to lose sleep and appetite over. Pursue a career that excites you, that makes you want to achieve, not just complete deadlines and rot away being envious of others.

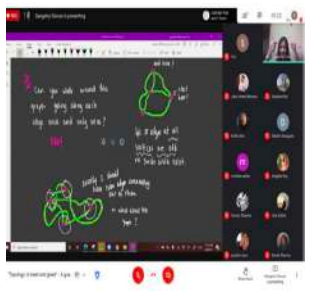
The Reckoning times



Fr. CM Paul, SDB
Director
Radio Salesian 90.8FM
Vice Principal
(Science)

It is highly commendable that The Salesian Times which started in 2017 as an ocassional student newspaper continues to be so in spite of the pandemic raging since March 2020. Sitting in Nazareth Block with no students, I reminisce the days (1974 to 1977) when a group of High School students in Bandel (Hooghly) published THE RISING SUN - a 5 column wall newspaper typed on two chart papers, every month. Ten years later, when I joined for Master's in Journalism at New York's Fordham University, I was delighted to contribute to The Fordham Ram (Estd. 1918) which provided a forum for the free and open exchange of ideas in service to the community and acted as a student advocate. Those days it was published and distributed free of charge every Wednesday during the academic year to the Rose Hill (Bronx), Lincoln Center (Manhattan) and Westchester (Tarrytown) campuses with a print readership of 12,000 plus. USA's oldest college daily newspaper The News (founded 28 January 1878) now publishes Monday through Friday during the academic year and serves the communities of Yale University and New Haven, Connecticut. In addition to the daily newspaper, The News publishes WEEKEND, a Friday supplement with reviews and articles about arts and culture, and Sports Monday, a Monday section providing expanded, in-depth sports coverage. The News also publishes several special-occasion issues every year, including the Parent's Weekend issue, the Harvard-Yale Game issue, the Freshman issue and the Commencement issue. The News is produced by a very dedicated, all-volunteer undergraduate staff. Most reporters are freshmen and sophomores, while the editorial board is mainly comprised of juniors. I am musing, how wonderful it would be, to publish The Salesian Times soft copy every month, if not every week. Why not? Every week our team of Radio Salesian Reporters cover an average 5 to 7 news items for Campus This Week podcast. Here's a challenge to Journalism & Mass Communication and GE Journalism students to buckle up and get their act together.

Topology : Meet & Greet



April 2021, Siliguri: The Department of Mathematics, Salesian College Siliguri in collaboration with the IQAC organised a guest lecture on 5th April 2021, for the students of the 6th semester. Following the new topic, 'point-set Topology' in the paper DSE 3A, Mr. Subhajit Paul, (HoD,Dept. of Mathematics), organised this lecture. The programme was initiated by Dr Gangotryi Sorcar, (Temp. Asst. Prof, University of Delaware, USA) who has also finished her PhD from the State University of New York, Binghamton, and had orchestrated different research and teaching posts at the Ohio State University and the Hebrew University, Israel in the past. The lecture "Topology: A meet & Greet" held via Google Meet.Faculties, participants and other department students joined the meeting shortly. Dr Sorcar's major league was about the Konigsberg bridge problem, topological invariance in the Euler characteristic number, and the continuous functions that stretch or squish a space without tearing it apart, demonstrating with an example. Prompt answers and positive explanations by Dr Gangyotri Sorcar helped the students in clearing their doubts and making the session more interactive and resourceful.

Youth celebrates Democracy

March 2021, Siliguri: The Department of Mass Communication and Journalism, Salesian College Siliguri, in collaboration with IQAC, hosted an interactive session with Prof. Om Prakash Mishra from Jadavpur University, Kolkata. The topic for the session was "Role of Youth in the Celebration of Democracy-Elections." Prof. Mishra is a professor of International Relations at Jadavpur University,Kolkata. He has remained the Pro-Vice-Chancellor of IGNOU and the chairperson of Expert Committees on Universities and Public Grants.He has also served the National Security Advisory Board of India."Leadership is about the idea…Celebrating democracy is not about hating the red lights and always expecting the green light, it is about accepting certain laws that are expected to be good for us." he said. The event began at 11:30 am at A/V hall in the college, where the guest was greeted with a welcome by Fr.(Prof.) George Thadathil (Principal and Rector, Salesian College). All the necessary COVID-19 protocols were followed and social distancing was maintained. Prof. Mishra addressed the hall with his speech where he spoke about leadership and how the youth can lead the nation. The students from all three batches of Dept. of Mass Communication and Journalism, few students from the Dept. of Political Science and the faculty members had joined the event. A few students and faculty members from Sonada Campus had joined the session through google meet.

Gratitude Day

Jyotika Sikdar June 2021, Sonada: A Thanksgiving and Gratitude Programme was held via Google meet for Fr. C.M. Paul and Fr.Jagjivan of Salesian College. The event was organised and hosted by the Ms. Shruti Chettri(HoD,MCJH,SCS) . Ms. Shradha Pradhan (Faculty, Dept. of Education) and Mr Nikhil Pradhan (Faculty,BCA) also helped in the organisation of the event. Faculty members and students of Mass Communication and Education departments were present online for the event. The event started at 1:00 P.M with a welcome speech given by Fr.(Dr.) Tomy Augustine(Rector, Salesian College) followed by a violin cover by Jeram Rai (Student,MCJH,SCS). Fr.(Prof.) George Thadathil(Principal, Salesian College) also delivered his message to both the outgoing Fathers as part of the event. Dr. Terrence Mukhia addressed both the Fathers followed by a song by a member of the music club Diwakar Khawas (Student, Dept. Of Education) presented a video message and Anish Chettri (Student, Dept. Of MCJH) sang a wonderful song for both the Fathers. Various faculty members and students made short videos showing gratitude to the Fathers.

Meeting with DBC Mannuthy

May 2021, Siliguri/Sonada: Salesian College, Siliguri and Sonada, and Don Bosco College, Mannuthy, jointly organised a meeting, online on Google Meet, to discuss the various collaborative aspects of Placement that the two institutions could undertake. Fr. (Dr.) Raju Chakkanattu was present from Don Bosco College, Mannuthy. Mr Shoaib Mohammed and Mr LinseLiju were industry representatives from Thrissur, Kerala, Fr. (Prof.) George Thadathil, (Principal, Salesian College), Mr Patrick Johnson, (Dean, Commerce and Management, SCSC)were present from Salesian College. . The meeting was fruitful with deliberation on career guidance, placement opportunities for students.

RIDDIKULUS 2021

May 2021, Siliguri: 'RIDDIKULUS'21' an event initiated by the Salesian College Commerce Association (SCCA) took place on the 28th and 29th of May on Google Meet from 11:30 A.M. onwards. 27 teams took part with an individual count of 54. The event was conducted in 3 rounds within two days. The first round was a Murder Mystery where the participants had to hop through different Instagram handles to find the true Terminator. 15 teams qualified for the second round; Picture Perception where the participants were required to spontaneously create a storyline of 45 seconds looking at a set of provided pictures. The third and the final round, which also proved to be the most popular among the audience required the participants to create a video on the most popular GIF's uploaded by SCCA on its official Instagram page. The participants were judged on the criteria of their creativity and resemblance of the GIF's they chose. The event was judged by Akash Singhal and Vivaan Agarwal and moderated by the core committee of SCCA. After a battle the participants emerging as winners were Kshitiz Mittal and Diksha Jain (winner), Aastha Jajodia and Dipika Bihani (First runner up) and Prachi Agarwal and Chetana Sharma (Second Runner up). Ayush Agarwal (Secretary, SCCA) and Komal Gupta concluded the event.

Inter Hills Himalayan Trophy



March 2021, Siliguri: A Cricket Team consisting of 11 players along with Mr Wilson Bara(faculty, Dept. Of Physical Education, SCSC) participated in the Inter Hills "Kalimpong Trophy" Cricket Tournament organised by Cricket Association of District Kalimpong. . The tournament was held at Ronaldsey Park, Dr Graham's Homes, Kalimpong. The first match on the 17th of March was against team Avengers C.C, Gangtok .Although the team could not bring the trophy home, it was a fruitful experience for them.

ADIEU SIR DIPJYOTI DAS

12th May was one of the darkest days for the Department of Mass Communication and the college at large. It was the day of our dear beloved teacher Mr. Dipjyoti Das' unexpected and sorrowful demise. The next day a short condolence meeting was organised in his memory by the college. Siliguri campus was closed and classes were off for the day.

The college authority, teachers and the students paid tribute to him by expressing their feelings and talking about their personal experiences with him. I cannot wax lyrical poetry describing how powerful his words were or how his passion moved us all to our core; because really the most beautiful and encouraging quality about Dipjyoti sir was his simplicity. How he didn't need anything else but his sincerity to inspire and awe us all. The simple fact is that he was a true teacher; with his patience, his guidance and the non condescending way he treated us rowdy crowd. You would never find him picking on us because we were clearly inferior in terms of life experience or forcing us to finish the syllabus rather than letting us actually absorb the material.

He had his stern moments, moments when we gravely disappointed him; but he never shouted, nor berated nor sneeredat us. He would shake his head and start over with a small smile; he never let the atmosphere become hostile. I understand now as I retrospect just how important that peace was for us as students just grasping onto the coattails of adult hood. He answered every question no matter how annoying and irrelevant and stupid they sounded; that's how



we must've developed a knack for the subject.

He spoke about cameras, and media and journalism like he was reciting his own memories; it was oddly personal to us and we found faith that whatever he would tell us was meant for us.The entirety of our time cannot be summed up but if I had to label the box of memories it would be a 'Thank You' and I hope you are taking beautiful pictures of heaven now. Rest well now Sir,You and your "Na Na Na" will forever remain in our hearts.

I do not remember all the words he said, when we all used to have his classes. But, I still definitely remember his voice! It was so soothing, and filled with knowledge. He was like a candle - a ray of hope to all the students of the department. This loss is a great loss to the entire department and nobody ever imagined that something so terrible was on its way to come. My deepest condolences to his family and the entire department.

- Purbalee Dutta (2nd Sem)

When we face hardships, a true teacher is always there to get us up and going and so was Sir Dipjyoti Das. He was one of the most genuine person that I came across in my lifetime. He was always there to hear us out. I don't think we'll forget the fact that he addressed us with our surnames, trying to entertain us, cracking jokes even in the serious times. He was an amazing human being, an amazing teacher and an amazing mentor who always motivated us to give our best. I never thought such a time would come when I would be writing all this but I hope he is in the good place now, and he is watching us. Everyone is going to miss his presence.

- Rashi Goenka (4th Sem)

12th May was a heart-rending day for us all as we lost sir Dipjyoti Das,one of our beloved professors. We're thankful for the time we've shared with him. He was a person full of light and his works will forever be a source of inspiration for many. We're deeply indebted to him for his love, dedication & hard work towards the College and his Department. Though he may be gone, he will live in our memories forever.

- Siddhant Tamang (6th Sem)

Team TST:

Patron:
Fr. (Prof.) George Thadathil (Rector & Principal, Salesian College)

Fr. CM Paul (Vice Principal-Science, SCSC)

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Womens Day Webinar

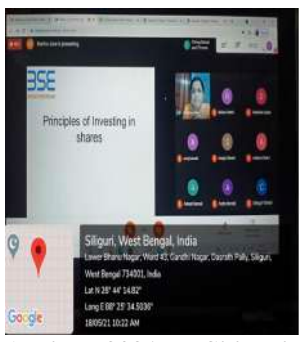
Siliguri, March 2021: A webinar was conducted by Women Cell Siliguri Campus on the occasion of International Women's Day on the theme "Sharing Experience, Influencing Women and Leading change".The webinar began with the welcome speech delivered by ThemsorinHannah Ningshen(Student, SCSC) followed by a welcome note and a brief story on Women Empowerment by Fr.(Dr.)George Chempakathinal (V.P SCSC)

Dr. Nalini Lama, the speaker for the day started off by sharing her experience working and serving people as a social worker since 2018 from VisvaBharati, India. The speaker's thesis focused on the marginalized portion of the society i.e., children of sex workers .The orientation was segregated into three parts primarily addressing about how the speaker has worked with the marginalized women, "Chhaupaddi" and "Chhoughats" practiced in Nepal, and lastly a new way forwarded to women (Lewin's theory), empowering and encouraging how women can overcome any herculean task and still be a leader. The speaker also discussed about the regular yet difficult daily life of sex workers in the red zone area. Allegations, taunts, societal pressures, such taboo is usually inherited by children of these workers and in addition to this they face unique risks, stigma and discrimination. Meanwhile the discussion also emerged with the topic "Gender stereotype" its role and the traditional social systems prevailing in and around India.

ReVamp- Reduce Reuse Recycle

JUNE 2021, Siliguri: Every year on the 5th of June, World Environment Day is celebrated all over the globe. To mark the significance of this day The NSS, Salesian College Siliguri Campus came up with an event 'ReVamp-Reduce Reuse and Recycle' under the guidance of Fr. (Prof.) George Thadathil(Principal, Salesian College) and NSS UNIT II Officers Mr Tanay Bhadra and Mr Pinak Dey. The event was based on DIY concept where in the participants were asked to bring out their creativity and make an craftwork by using the wastes that are collected daily in their house itself. The motive for organising this event was to create an environment where the students could come up with fresh ideas of converting waste into a useful product and follow the concept of '3Rs' Reduce, Reuse,Recycle. The students were introduced to several ways of converting waste into something useful rather than simply wasting it. Fr. (Dr.) Saju Puthussery(V.P. Arts and Humanities, SCSC) was the judge for the event.

Investor's Awareness



April 2021, Siliguri: SEBI in collaboration with IQAC and Placement Cell, Salesian College, Siliguri Campus, organised an Investor Awareness webinar for the students,sponsored by 'Axis Mutual Funds'. The session began at 10:30 am on Zoom. There were 85 participants in total. Mr Vinod Tantri, the speaker, made the session interactive and educative. Mr Tantri elaborately explained the topics-money model of Income, Expenditure, Savings and Investments. The students were alsotaught about the various sources of Asset allocation and the wise measures to be adopted in their day-to-day lifestyle. Concepts of mutual funds were also covered along with interesting facts about the number of fund providers and the number of people subscribing to different kinds of mutual funds. At the end of the session, students raised questions on expenditure management, investments and questions on SEBI. The session concluded at 11:32 am.

SCS Women's Cell Blood Donation



March 2021,Sonada: The Women's Cell of Salesian College Sonada under the sponsorship of Himalayan Institute of Goodwill and Living Ethics organised a blood donation camp in collaboration with IQAC and Darjeeling District Hospital on 5th March, 2021. The camp began at 10:00 am with a short inaugural function where the doctors and their team of 5 were given a warm welcome. The doctors expressed their gratitude to the Women's cell unit of the college for organising the blood donation camp. They also stressed on the growing need of blood in the state and commended the young volunteers for their noble act. The camp was organised by Mrs Nomu Sherpa, Miss Sreha Agarwal, Miss Shikshita Dewan, Miss Jessica Nyss, and Mrs Prayana Subba (faculty, Sonada Campus). 72 volunteers came forward to donate blood during the camp which included teaching & non-teaching staff, students & non-student donors, people from Gorabari, Sonada, and Munda Village. In the end,59 units of Blood was collected. The blood donors were given refreshments after donating blood to re-energise themselves. The blood donors were provided with a certificate of appreciation. The medical team was provided with lunch and the camp concluded at around 5:30 p.m.

90.8 RADIO SALESIAN VOICE OF THE HILLS

The Salesian Times

Vol.V, No.III

SILIGURI | SONADA

KEEPS YOU AHEAD





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Interfaith Dialogue

October 2021, Siliguri : Salesian College Siliguri organised an "Interfaith Dialogue" in collaboration with 'Chimeki' an NGO as a part of its 'Freedom Fest 21' project on 1st October 2021. In this event, four panellists spoke on the teachings of four different religions. The first speaker, Swami Kritarthananda from Ramkrishna Mission, Belur Math spoke on Hinduism, conveyed that religion was something that led one towards goodness and made one contribute to society. The second speaker Mr K.S Moktan, IPS (Rtd.), also a renowned writer, author, translator and a Sahitya Akademi awardee, explained that physical knowledge was rather transient but "Pragya" or eternal knowledge was permanent and if a person set their mind on something it would be achievable.



Prof. Emeritus Irshad Ghulam Ahmed addresses the Assembly.

Thirdly, Prof. Emeritus Irshad Ghulam Ahmed (Prof. Dept. of English, SCSC) explained the teachings of Islam. He explained that when religions were seen from the surface they seemed different but once one finds the deeper meaning, it all showed the same path- humanity. He also cleared the misunderstandings and misconceptions around the word "Jihad" and how it had nothing to do with violence. Thereafter, Fr. (Prof) George Thadathil (Rector and Principal, Salesian College) spoke on the teachings of Christianity. He explained that the Christian way of looking at a religion had three dimensions, namely, history, person and spirit. "Religion is an appropriation of self-awareness of who one is," he said. In conclusion, all the religions taught the same thing, that is, serving humanity and finding peace within oneself. The Program was hosted by Mr Peter Lepcha, (HoD, Dept. of English) and The moderator for the event Prof. Tanka Bahadur Subba(Professor of anthropology at North-Eastern Hill University) and other panellists joined through Google meet. Mr Abhay Ratna Pradhan (Director of Chimeki), initiated the programme. Fr. C.M Paul (Vice Principal, Science, SCSC) gave his concluding words and the event.

New Session (2021-22) On-Line







MCJ Dept. welcomes new btach (Left)**, Fr. CM Paul with new students** (Middle)**, Prof. Emeritus Irshad Ghulam Ahmed joins Salesian Family** (Right)**.**

September 2021, Siliguri : Salesian College, Siliguri Campus, organised an inauguration programme for the academic year 2021-2022, through blended mode on September 1st,2021. The programme was attended by 70 faculty members on the campus, 15 outstation faculty joined in through Google Meet and 249 students with parents joined the programme through live streaming on the official YouTube channel of the college. The Programme began with a welcome note by Mr. Peter Lepcha, (Dean, Arts and Humanities). It proceeded with a prayer song presented by Mr. Sangam Ghatani, Ms. Srijana Sinha and Mr. Hindol Chakraborty (Assistant Professors, Departments of Political Science, Geography and English, respectively).

The Rector and Principal of Salesian College Fr. (Prof) George Thadathil, delivered his message after the prayer song. He welcomed the new students and their parents, and the new faculty members into the academic session 2021-2022. He also introduced the chief guest of the programme, Prof. Emeritus Irshad Ghulam Ahmed. This was followed by the welcoming and garlanding of the 23 new Faculty members of SCSC by Fr. CM Paul (Vice Principal, Sciences).

The Emcee of the Programme Mr Sangam Ghatani (Asst Prof. Dept. of Political Science) presented a brief introductory note of the Speaker Prof. Emeritus Irshad Ghulam Ahmed. The speaker then shared his experience of being part of the Salesian institution in the past. He gave a motivational and enriching talk while presenting the scenario of education in the covid era and emphasised holistic education and the need for integration of various fields. Dr Bikash Sharma,(Asst. Prof. Dept. of Political Science), gave a brief introduction and spoke on releasing Issue of the Salesian Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences.

Fr. CM Paul announced the winners of the Inter-Departmental Promotional Video Competition and awarded the winning Departments. Dr Anirubh Barman, Parent Representative, gave away the certificates and cash prizes to the winning Departments. The Department of English was awarded the first prize, the Department of Psychology was awarded the second prize and the Department of History was awarded the third prize. This was followed by a common announcement made by Mr Patrick Johnson, Dean, Commerce, Management and Vocational Studies.

The programme ended with a vote of thanks presented by Ms. Monika Rana (Asst. Prof. Dept. of English).

After this, a twelve-day departmental orientation programme was organised from the 2nd of September onwards. The programme involved different activities like course overview, career counselling, website and ERP familiarisation, and understanding the learning management system.They were also exposed to different kinds of practical work done by the students that will be a part of their course. Further, an interactive session was also organised with the seniors and the alumni who shared their experiences.

MCJ Orientation Programme

The Dept. of Mass Communication and Journalism, SCSC, conducted the 12-day orientation programme starting with the introductory session known as the "ice-breaking" session which was conducted by Ms Nawaneeta Subba (Asst. Prof. Dept. Of MCJH). This was followed by the introduction to the educational system of Don Boscoby Fr.(Dr.) Puthuserry and introduction to the courses by Mr Ravi B. Singh (HoD Dept. of MCJH). On the fourth, fifth and sixth day the students were introduced to the working of the website and ERP, learning management system, the working and management of The Salesian Times, online activities and practical classes. After a workshop on career counselling and introduction to the core course, the first-year students were given the chance to interact with the senior students of the department. Thereafter, the students were asked to give their feedbacks and also clear a few misconceptions about the course . The orientation came to an end with their visit to the Siliguri campus on the 14th of September where they met with Fr.(Prof.) George Thadathil (Rector and Principal, Salesian College), Fr. C. M. Paul(Vice Principal Sciences and the Director of Radio Salesian) and the faculty members.

National Cadet Corps Training Camp







The Principal of Salesian College Fr. George Thadathil addresses the NCC cadets (Left)**, & Officer instructing the Cadets** (Right)**.**

September 2021, Siliguri : The combined 10-day Annual National Cadet Corps (NCC) Training Camp was held under the aegis of 16th Bengal Battalion, at Salesian College Siliguri from 16th to 25th September 2021. 400 NCC cadets from 10 colleges from (in and around Siliguri) participated. The Camp activities included drills, weapon training, map reading and various team-building exercises along with social activities. 28 Cadets from Salesian College participated in the camp along with Salesian College NCC Coordinator Lt. Risha Chettri.The Cadets followed their daily schedule which involved doing morning meditation, morning and evening drills, studying subjects from the armed forces as well as social subjects, and playing games. From 21st September, the Cadets were sent in batches to the firing range for weapon firing practice. The campers had a gala cultural evening on 24th September with NCC Commanding Officer Colonel Balraj Gurung. Salesian College Vice Principals Fr. C.M. Paul (Science) and Fr. P.T. Saju (Arts) were the guests of honour. In the prize distribution Salesian College NCC Company bagged the champions trophy.

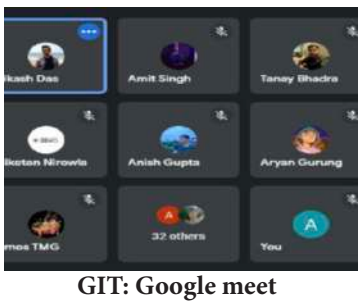
Sharing the Experience

Rakchana Karkidoli
September 2021, Sonada

The department of Mass Communication and Journalism, Salesian College Sonada organised a special lecture, namely, "Sharing The Experience" and had invited Ms Madhushree Goswami as their Resource Person for the event. The programme started at 9:45 am. Students of all 3 years and the faculty members were present. The online event took place through Google Meet. There were 26 participants from the department. The faculty in charge was Ms Shruti Chettri (HOD. Dept. of MCJH, SCS) and Mr Prashant Rai (Event coordinator). Ms Masdhushree Goswami is an experienced copy editor and reporter.



GIT-Essentials for Beginners



GIT: Google meet

September 2021, Siliguri: On 18th September 2021, the Dept. of Computer Science and Applications organised an interactive session with Mr Bikash Das, on the topic 'GIT- Essentials for Beginners'. Git is a software for tracking changes in any set of files usually used for cwoordinating work among programmers during software development. Students and faculty from the department were present. Mr Bikash Das, an ex-student of Salesian College, presently working as a Software Engineer at SysCloud, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India, introduced the importance and the working of GIT and GITHub in industry software projects to the students of Computer Science andApplications of Salesian College, Siliguri. The online session started at 11 a.m. with the introductory speech of Mr Tanay Bhadra (HoD, Dept. of Computer Science and Applications) and continued till 12:40 p.m . In his presentation, Mr Bikash Das explained the need of GIT, how to get started with GIT, first-timeGITsetup, basic GIT commands to get started, transferring codes into the cloud, GITHub introduction and its working etc. It was a hands-on activity session and the students were very interested to check the activities and experience the results. According to Mr Das, this will be very beneficial for the final year students in their project work especially when they will be working in groups and it will also help the applicants during the recruitment of jobs.

hay fever & TEKHNOKULTURE







Prashant Tamanag Singing (Left)**, Ms. Navneet Aditya Waiba singing** (Middle)**, Group song performance** (Right).

September 2021, Siliguri: Among the most prominent events in Salesian College this year was Hay Fever 2021, held on 29th September and organised by the faculty and students of the department of English. Entitled 'TechnoKulture', the theme of the fest was the conflation of technology and culture. Due to imposed restrictions, as a result of the COVID- 19 pandemic, the events were modified to be held both online and on the college campus for students to avail themselves of the opportunity to be a part of the fest. There were around 116 participants. The event was declared open by Fr (Prof) George Thadathil (Rector and Principal, Salesian College). The offline event began at 10 a.m. with a song by Mr Peter Lepcha (HOD, dept. of English), followed by a prayer. Mr Anik Sarkar (Asst. Prof. dept. of English) presented a PowerPoint presentation before the audience giving more information about technology and culture. He claimed that technology influences life every dayand alsoinfluences culture. Mr Hindol Chakraborty (HOD, dept. of English) and Mr Prashant Tamang entertained the audience with a song. The online event comprised of story writing competition, poetry and creative blogs, photography, digital art, reel/ motion videos and techno beat(electronic music). The offline event comprised of thematic skit presentation, fashion show: tech&pandemic, extempore, group singing and haiku. The guest for the day Ms Navneet Aditya Waiba is a celebrated folk singer. Her mother was one of the famous folk singers known as 'Empress of the folk song'. Ms Waiba was trained by her mother since childhood but due to her job as a flight attendant,she couldn't spare her time for music. After the demise of her mother in 2015, she and her brother Aditiya Waiba decided to work together as a team and carry on the legacy. After launching their first album 'Ama lai Shraddhanjali' she started to work on her new songs and released her originals. Fr. C.M Paul (Vice Principal,Science, SCSC) felicitated and welcomed her.

Free Covid-19 Vaccination Camp







Fr. C.M. Paul presents the token of appreciation to Gautam Deb.

September 2021, Siliguri: Salesian College Siliguri Campus held a free Covid-19 Vaccination camp through the aegis of Siliguri Municipal Corporation (SMC) on 14th, September 2021. This was the second vaccination drive organised on the college campus. The initiative provided both first and second dose as applicable to students and staff, as well as their family members. 256 people had registered and 191 turned up for vaccination. The College and volunteers followed all the COVID-19 protocols, ensuring the safety and hygiene of everyone present on campus. On arrival at the camp, tokens were issued and vaccination candidates were seated to await their turn. College faculty helped conduct an orderly vaccination camp with announcements through a public address system. Fr C.M. Paul (Vice Principal, Science, SCSC) offered Khada and mementoes to Siliguri Municipal Corporation Chairman Shri Gautam Deb who visited the camp as well as six Medical staff who facilitated the vaccination. "It was a "hassle-free" procedure and we are pleased with the service and the hospitable environment of the camp."said one of the candidates.

Interactive Session

Monika Gurung , August 2021, Siliguri: The Dept. of Mass Communication and Journalism, Salesian College Siliguri organised an online interactive session on 10th August, 2021. The students, the faculty members and Fr. C.M. Paul (Vice Principal,Science,SCSC) were present. The main agendas of the session were to meet new faculty members of the department, discuss the courses of upcoming semester and commence the beginning of a new semester. The department welcomed three new faculty members, Mrs. Sharmista Pradhan, Mr. Bhabya Khati and Mr. Badsha Das. They greeted and introduced themselves and talked about the roles they would be playing in the department. Fr. C.M. Paul (Vice Principal,Science, SCSC) motivated and encouraged the students to take good advantage of the facilities that has been provided to them by the college. Mr. Ravi B. Singh (HoD, MCJH, SCSC) wished the best to the students for the upcoming semester.

Webinar on Emotional Wellbeing

Bushra Sheikh, September, 2021, Siliguri: The department of Psychology along with the Brainbow Association organised a webinar on the day of World Suicide Day with its prima focus on how to "Manage stress and anxiety". Rev.Fr. John Buritto was the guest speaker for the day, who is working as a Drama and Art Analyst, UK Council for Psychotherapy, Institute of Art in Therapy and Education. The meeting was accompanied by Fr. Principal George Thadathil, (Rector and Principal, Salesian College) Father James Chacko, and various other faculty members and students.

The meeting started with a short prayer led by Fr.James Chacko, followed by Fr. Principal quoting a short excerpt from a book by Martha Nussbaum 'Upheaval of Thoughts' that says "emotions are intelligent appraisals of a world that we do not control, in the light of our own most significant goals and plans". Next, Father John Burrito initiated his speech by interacting with students along with a presentation.The presentation was filled with demonstrative slides. His main objective was to identify the reason behind stress and anxiety, causes of emotional irregularities with factors contributing to our wellbeing. Pictorial representation of the slide helped the students to get a wideview of the topic. Later Father John asked the students to draw an imaginary art related to their childhood memories. Students shared their perspectives and feelings by explaining their art. Father John encouraged everyone to participate.

'Upheaval of Thoughts'

Departmental Quiz

August 2021, Sonada : The Department of Sports Management organised the Weekly Sports Departmental Quiz Competition on 14th August, 2021 in the online mode via Salesian College Moodle LMS for the Department of Political Science. It was the second phase of the weekly quiz competition. The Students and all the Faculty Member of the department were officially informed with a Flyer for the weekly sports Departmental competition, 2021 on the official Whatsapp Group and also via an online meeting in which the faculty members were informed about the process and the format of the quiz.The online Moodle Quiz Competition started at 11:00 am and a total of 23 students from the Dept. of Pol.Sc. of Sem. III had participated.

The Biker Priest visits Salesian College



Fr. Principal and others with Fr. Prashant Palakkappilly.

September 2021, Siliguri, Sonada: A biker priest from Kerala, on a countrywide bike mission to spread peace, visited Sonada and Siliguri campuses earlier this September. Fr. Prashant Palakkappilly, who set out from Kochi in Kerala on 10th August, arrived on 4th September in Siliguri, with the slogan "Discovering Trust-Green-Peace on the Indian Roads 2021." The 56-year-old formal principal of Sacred Heart College Thevara, Kochi, is a member of the 'Carmelites of Mary Immaculate' who retired from his academic career earlier this year.Arriving in Salesian College Siliguri, Fr. Prashant addressed Sociology and Commerce students and faculty members of both Salesian College Siliguri and Sonada campuses marking Teachers' Day.



E-sports : A new career option

Suravee Thakuri

Online gaming means any video game that offers interactions with other players through the internet. They are either played on PC,mobile phones or any other device that facilitates online gaming. While parents are concerned about the holistic development of their children, the young generations have a more liberal view towards it. Some even make a career out of it. In the past few years, India is witnessing tremendous growth in the video gaming industry. Many have started their careers in the field of gaming, a highly competitive sector. Over 92% of respondents agreed that gaming helps relieve work/study pressure while reducing stress and inducing positive feelings. 91% of respondents also believe that gaming boosts attention and concentration levels. The HP India Gaming Landscape Report surveyed 1,500 respondents aged from 15-40 years between March and April 2021, across 25 metros, tier-1 and tier-2 cities across the country. Further, there are an increasing number of women gamers and the social stigma and resistance to online gaming, specifically casual gaming, is gradually fading away. Another term often used while talking about video games is 'E-sports'. Esports is a form of competition using video games. Esports often takes the form of organised, multiplayer video game competitions, particularly between professional players, individually or as teams. E-sports has successfully taken over the Indian market because of the promotion and campaign on various online streaming platforms like YouTube. Some of the most popular esports genres in India are MOBA (Multiplayer Online Battle Arena), RTS (Real-Time Strategy),FPS (First Person Shooter),Card games,Battle Royale and Fighting. India ranked 16th on the Forbes list, making it a multi-billion dollar industry.

A decade ago, India's online gaming sector was lame, with only 25 game developers. Today, there are over 250 game developers in the country. Some of the big names in the industry had already invested in India's gaming sector, such as Tencent, Nazara, Paytm, and Alibaba. India has hosted some of the most significant tournaments in esports, such as PUBG Mobile Series 2019 and the Electronic Sports League, participated by Dota 2 players from different parts of the world. To talk about the advantages of online gaming, other than having a possible career, is that it is one of the biggest platforms for socialising and interaction. It boosts confidence in young adults and teens and also improves one's social skills. It develops the ability to do multi-tasking and strategy making skills. It makes them quick thinkers and good observers as one has to watch the moves of the competitor closely and make quick decisions while gaming online. As for the drawbacks or the negative effects, if a person is using video games as an escape from reality, there's a high chance that they can get addicted to it as it boosts their dopamine. It is common to see a gamer hurling slurs and curses while gaming, stuck in one corner for hours. This can lead to poor mental health, poor physical health, relationship issues, social disconnection, lack of motivation, poor academic or professional performance and so on. If one is considering making a serious career out of it they must keep in mind the darker side of the gaming world and how easily they can get sucked into it. That being said, India is a nation full of opportunities for young gamers in the near future. While there may not be a concrete career as a professional gamer, as the economy of the country may not have a place for it yet; there are surely other options that a gamer can resort to. Online live streaming is one option that is fast growing in the showbiz industry.

Media and Mediated Investigation

Media studies have taken a leap ever since the technology interfacing went into the digital version and with technology upgradation happening faster than one can afford to become pace with. In this scenario, it is as if, the one who starts last is at the most advantageous position. While technology provides a whole new window to accessing news, and consuming entertainment besides converting information into time based utility products, the very question as to whether there is something perennially valid in the world of media surfaces with poignancy.Media, whether it was in the time of the ancients, the medievals or the moderns, seem to value one factor – authenticity. What is faked is what is masked and masks trail off, or cannot be kept on forever. Someday, the truth will unearth. The latest in this unearthing and unveiling is the Pandora Papers. Icons and Idols too reveal as having succumbed to the temptations and having had clay feet. While the limelight of media glitz is thrilling and momentarily eye-capturing, do theyunlike masks and fake news, last? And if so, how long, and at what peril, seems to be question that ought to be kept alive by the young professionals wanting to make a mark on the global, virtual world of news and fashion. The collective investigative journalism that has gone into the Pandora Papers, therefore deserve much admiration, and shows that not all is lost to the power and pomp, prestige and pretensions of the elite and the moneyed, and that the hard, sustained and consistent work of documentation, does bring accountability to what appears as 'hidden and forgotten' or as that which can be 'masked'. May the spirit of authentic journalism ever live on and may the TST be a preparation for greater authenticity for all those involved in its preparation. Congratulations.

- Fr. (Prof.) George Thadathil SDB, Principal, Salesian College

Online event on Bhanu Jayanti

July 2021, Sonada: The online event to commemorate the birth anniversary of one of the most renowned literary figures in Nepali literature, 'AdiKavi' Bhanubhakta Acharya, was handed over to the Dept. of HH, SCS. The event was conducted via google meet platform. It started at 9:30am, as per the scheduled time, with over 47 participants. The event was organised under the guidance of Mrs. Prayana Subba(Asst. Prof. HH, SCS) and cooperation from Mr. Prayash Rai(HOD.dept. of HH SCS) and Mr Pukar Tamang. Nine students from the dept. of history and five from Mass Com, English and Sociology, formed the core committee. Respected dignitaries of the college Fr.(Dr.) Tomy Augustine (Rector, SCS) and Br. Augustine Joseph (Vice Principal ,SCS) was present. The resource person of the programme was Prof. Meghnath Chettri, from Sonada Degree College. The first session of the event began with the introductory speech by Srija Bhaduri(Student, Dept. Of HH, SCS)who was the host of the event. Prandweep Rai(Student, Dept.of HH, SCS) presented his official note of welcome. The event was inaugurated by an introductory speech by Rv. Fr. (Dr.) Tomy Augustine(Rector. SCS), where he threw light upon the significance of Acharya Bhanubhakta as a literary person. Then the historical background of AdiKavi was presented by Subhankar Bishwakarma(Student, Dept. OF HH, SCS) The resource person of the event, Prof. Meghnath Chettri then proceeded forward. He enlightened the listeners with the significance of the day and highlighted the works of AdiKavi.

SCSC celebrates 75th Independence Day

August 2021, Siliguri: Salesian College, Siliguri commemorated India's independence from British rule by celebrating its 75th Independence Day on August 15, 2021. Owing to the ongoing global pandemic, there was no social gathering. Even the gathering at the college campus where the flag is hoisted every year on Independence Day was limited. The event started with the arrival of the guests and the Chief Guest for the day Fr (Prof) George Thadathil (Rector, Principal, Salesian College) by 8:30 a.m escorted by Lt Risha Chettri and the NCC cadets. The honourable Chief Guest unfurled the flag which was followed by the National Anthem and 'Rashtriya Salami Sashastra' performed by 8 NCC cadets. A welcome speech



Flag hoisting at SCSC.

was delivered by NCC Cadet Abhishek Paswan which was motivating and inspiring to everyone present. After the parade, the emcee requested the Chief Guest for his kind words. He enlightened everyone about the uniqueness of being an Indian, the equality the masses share and the honour of the National Flag. To quote him " We should all have the vision to keep India alive to work, think and dream together".Fr C.M. Paul (Vice Principal, Science, SCSC) distributed the awards for the 'Azaadi' Freedom Songs Singing Competition 2021. The winner of the competition was the 'Sisters Group Prenovices'. They were awarded a cash prize of ₹12,019 and individual certificates. The first runners up were the 'SCS Band', they received a cash prize of ₹10,060 and individual certificates. The second runners up were the 'Starlitz', they were awarded the cash prize of ₹8,035 and individual certificates.

Verzotto Memorial Celebration



Prof. Dipen Roy with the commerce faculty members.

September 2021, Siliguri, Sonada: The department of Mass Communication and Journalism, Sonada campus in collaboration with Don Bosco Development Office, Kolkata organised a Verzotto memorial lecture 2021 on Business Journalism on 22nd August 2021. The speaker of the day was Mr Joseph Rai (Special Correspondent of Hindustan Times, New Delhi). He has had 10 years of experience in Business Journalism and joined the session to introduce the fundamentals of covering Startup news. The session started at 10 a.m. with the lighting of the lamp followed by prayer.

Ms Shikshita Dewan introduced and welcomed the guest of the session Mr Joseph Rai (SpecialCorrespondent of Hindustan Times).The speaker started the lecture with a PowerPoint presentation about Business Journalism where he highlighted a variety of topics like startup coverage in India, different beats in journalism, Venture capital, etc. The main outline of the lecture was to make the goals of the companies and the whole global economy explicit and debatable through business journalism.

After his presentation, all the participants engaged in discussion and their questions were answered eloquently by the speaker.The first session ended with the vote of thanks by Fr. James Chacko SDB (Rector of Salesian College, Sonada) and Fr. (Dr) Tomy Augustine SDB (Rector). In Siliguri Campus, the event featured the release of a book titled "Managerial Microeconomics for Commerce Management CMA & Other Business Studies" written by Prof. Dipen Roy, Professor of Commerce, University of North Bengal & Chairman of Board of Studies in Commerce, BBA and B.Voc. courses. The event was attended by numerous colleges of North Bengal. Mr Anirban Ghosh (Asst. Prof. Dept. of Management Studies, Salesian College, Siliguri) initiated the event with his inaugural speech and introduced the day's guest of honour Prof. Dipen Roy. The promotional video for the book featuring the author was shown.

Bosco Jayanti

August 2021, Siliguri: The Department of Education, Salesian College, Siliguri organised a celebratory event of Bosco Jayanti on 16th August 2021, marking the 206th Birth Anniversary of the Founder Father Don Bosco. The programme was organised in virtual platforms, Google Meet and YouTube, for both faculty as well as the students and was attended by around 280 participants. The programme commenced from 11 am onwards with a welcome address by Ms Priscella Ghimiray, (Asst. Prof., Dept. of Education,SCSC). The event was initiated with a morning prayer by Rev. Fr. (Dr.) Saju Puthuserry,(Vice Principal, Arts/Humanities, SCSC) invoking the Blessings of Almighty on the faculty and the students on this auspicious occasion, as well as on all educators who love and respond to the needs and expectations of young ones around the world with the same dedication that Don Bosco reflected all through his life. This was followed by the opening remarks from Rev. Fr. (Prof.) George Thadathil, (Rector and Principal, Salesian College) reflecting on how Don Bosco is regarded as one of the 'Freedom Workers' and on this occasion of the 75th Independence Day in India, how the members of Salesian College in their ways can use their innate gifts as well as opportunities to be educated and be an educator in rededicating their commitment towards freedom. Following this, a short cultural programme was organised by the students from the Undergraduate and Postgraduate wing of the Department as a part of the event.

Team TST

Patron:
Fr. (Prof.) George Thadathil (Rector & Principal, Salesian College)

Fr. CM Paul (Vice Principal- Science, SCSC)

Fr. Dr. Babu. J. Mundupathunkal (Vice Principal- Commerce, SCSC)

Fr. Saju PT (Vice Principal- Humanities, SCSC)

Fr. Jagjivan Tirkey (Bursar)

Support (Deans):
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World Photography Day



Br. Birendra Kerketta (5th Sem - MCJH)



Nehal Syangden (3rd Sem - MCJH)



Suravee Thakuri (5th Sem - MCJH)

NSS Celebrates International Youth Day

August 2021, Siliguri : NSS Unit II Salesian College Siliguri Campus collaborated with Humane Society International/ India to organise a webinar titled - "Our hope for farm animals" on the 12th of August, 2021. Mr. Abhishek Talukdar, the Campaign Coordinator for the Farm Animals Protection department of HSI India led the webinar as the resource person. The role of Humane Society International (HSI) around the globe is to promote the human-animal bond, rescue and protect wildlife, promote animal-free testing and research, and confront cruelty to all animals in all its forms.

The event began at 1:00 pm with 40+ participants hosted by Navin Singhal (B.com Hons, 5th semester).Fr (Prof.) George Thadathil (Rector & Principal Salesian College)led the prayer service and shared his thoughts. He spoke about several individual issues around the globe related to the catastrophic climate change, expansion of desert-area and thereby connecting its cause to the concept of 'Avidya'(ignorance) in humans (as expressed in the philosophic school of Vedānta).

It was followed by a speech from NSS Program Officer Mr. Pinak Dey. He projected a melancholic dystopian reality approaching by the next century,due to climate change, caramelised in a vision that needs radical change- initiation by the youth to provide an optimistic future for our planet.The event was then handed over to Mr Abhishek Talukdar by NSS Volunteer Miss Roshni.

The presentation from the resource person focused on the real scenario of industrial animal agriculture and how it is one of the worst offenders in terms of the severity of the suffering and the number of animals affected. He explained that more than 80 billion land animals are raised for food every year globally, and of those, the majority of the world's more than 7 billion egg-laying hens and an estimated 75 million breeding cows spend most of their lives confined to cages and crates so small that they can barely move.

The Q&A session led to many inquiries both from students as well as participants. Towards the end of the presentation, Mr Talukdar emphasised the nutritional vitality and plant-based alternatives available, to make a change. Mr Talukdar made it clear that HSI does not enforce a vegan diet, but trying to reduce the variety and number of animal-based nutrition was the takeaway for the participants.

He highlighted that all types of food intake werea personal choice thatis conditioned into one's life through society and culture. The solution to sustainable development as mentioned was to reduce the number of animal-based meals per week, per day and so on.Alternatives such as almond milk, PU leather were advocated in place of animal milk and genuine leather. A vote of thanks was given by Akash Bansal (B. Com Hons, 5th semester). Participants were also asked to fill the feedback form and the webinar ended at around 2:30 p.m.

Navin Singhal
[NSS committee member,
B. Com (H)].

Women Cell talks Women's Health & Hygiene

July 2021,Sonada : The Women Cell of Salesian College Sonada conducted an outreach programme at Sonada's Dilaram and Mahaldhiram tea estate. Intending to provide sanitary napkins and spread awareness about women's health and hygiene. Members of the cell volunteered in their teachers respective areas. The outreach program covered Chatakpur and Dilaram on 4th July conducted by Ms. Nomu Sherpa along with Priyanka Chettri (Student,Dept. of Pol SC., SCS), Ms. Prianka Subba and Amisha Rai, covered their mission on 5th July, at Mahaldhiram, and lastly Ms. Sreha Agarwal, Megha Rai, and Subasna Rai (Students,Dept. of Sociology, SCS) covered in and around tea garden areas of Sonada. On the occasion of Women's Equality Day, i.e. 26th August, the volunteers uploaded the outreach programme campaign video on youtube to mark this day as a remembrance.

Webinar on Indian Capital Market Venture

August 2021, Siliguri : The Dept. of Commerce of Salesian College, Siliguri conducted a virtual webinar on Indian Capital Market, inviting all the undergraduate students of Commerce and the faculties of the department to participate in the awareness program on 25th August ,2021. The session began at 10 a.m. by Ms. Jayeeta Saha (Asst. Prof. Dept. of Commerce, SCSC), by addressing all the participants. Ms. Marina Jose (Resource Person, BSEIPF) started the session with the introduction to Indian Capital Market. The aim of the programme was to introduce students to the regulatory authority governing of the Indian capital market, its functions and its importance. The speaker also spoke about the Indian stock market , how one should invest in stocks as well as the role of SEBI and BSE, and the role of stock brokers. The session was very informative and interactive. Students as well as the faculty took keen interest in the topics discussed. The session was ended by Lt. Risha Chhetri (Asst. Prof. Dept. of Commerce, SCSC), acknowledging the speaker for planning out such an informative session with the students.

"Every child should plant a tree and take care of it until they leave school"

Bushra Sheikh, Siliguri : "Every child should plant a tree and take care of it until they leave school," says Jadav Molai Payeng, the man who devoted 30 years of his life planting trees to create a whole forest of 550 hectares by himself called the Mulai Reserve on the Majuli river island, the world's largest inhabited river island in Assam.

The initial step came to light when Jadav once encountered a large number of snakes dying because of excessive heat after a flood washed them onto the tree-less sandbar and he thereafter planted 20 bamboo seedlings on the sandbar. In the year 1979 social forestry division of Golaghat district instigated the scheme of planting trees on 200 hectares at Aruna Chapori situated at a distance of 5 km from Kokilamukh in Jorhat district. Molai who worked as a laborer in this scheme decided to stay back and work as the project was abandoned in the year 1983. He continued looking after the plants and supported afforestation to transform the area into a forest.

The forest which later came to be known as Molai is now home to different animal and plant species such as Bengal tiger, Rhinoceros, Monkey, Rabbit varieties of birds, and a large number of vultures with plants as Arjun (Terminalia arjuna), Ejar (Lagerstroemia speciosa), Goldmohur (Delonix regia), Koroi (Albizia Procera) and bamboo covers an area of over 300 hectares. In addition to this, a herd of around 100 elephants visit the forest often and gave birth to 10 calves this year. Molai's first eminence was when the forest official went to the area in search of 115 elephants who took a flight into the forest after damaging property in the village of Aruna Chapori, which is about 1.5 km from the forest.



Jadav Molai Payeng.

The man who devoted 30 years of his life planting trees to create a whole forest of 550 hectares by himself.

The officials were stupefied to see such a large and dense forest and since then the department has regularly visited the site.

In the year 2013, Molai also rescued several rhinos from poachers by informing the official authorities, he is now aiming to turn every barren land into a lush green healthy environment by venturing into small places of the state.

Jawaharlal Nehru University honored Molai on 22nd April 2012 for his achievement. During the program, the vice-chancellor of JNU Mr. Sudhir Kumar Soporoy named Jadav Payeng as the "Forest Man of India". In the year 2015 Molai was feted with Padma Shri (The fourth highest civilian award). He received honorary doctorate degrees from Assam Agricultural Industry and Kaziranga University for his contributions. The Molai forest and Jadav Payeng have been the subject of several award-winning documentary films. In 2012, a locally made documentary film produced by Jitu Kalita, The Molai Forest, was screened at the Jawaharlal Nehru University.

Today Jadav's story is so influencing and inspiring that there is a book for children telling how he made the forest all by himself as home to wild animals and to try to save his island.

"Jadav and the Tree place" was written and illustrated by Vinayak Varma and is translated into different languages.

In December last year, Jadav signed an agreement with an NGO Fundacion Azteca, to collaborate on environmental projects in Mexico which aims to plant 7 million trees in the North American country. He has planned to carry an Areca nut and a coconut plant from Assam to Mexico. The Mexican government has provided me with a visa for ten years. I shall be in Mexico for three months every year -- September, October, and November -- That time is suitable to plant trees in Mexico. I will have to involve myself with one lakh students per day for the massive plantation drive", he stated.

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SALESIAN COLLEGE
SILIGURI & SONADA

DigiTrek

Science Departments of Siliguri Campus

Science Departments of Siliguri Campus DECEMBER 2020

1 eComPhyMathix

After a brief welcome address by Mr. Dhirodatta Subba, Dean of Science, Fr. (Dr.) George Thadathil, Principal led the guests, faculty, college students and participants from various schools through a session of prayer and meditation.

2 Synthesis of Nanoparticles

The speaker for the webinar was Dr. Ajay Tripathi who is currently an Assistant Professor in the Department of Physics, Sikkim University. He worked on Bose-Einstein Condensation during his doctoral studies in the....

3 The Story of 'π'

A one-day webinar was organized on August 26, 2020, by the Department of Mathematics, Salesian College, Siliguri, in collaboration with the IQAC. The title of the webinar was "The story of π".

Congratulations



Mr. Anuj Kumar Bhagat (ex-student)

for securing First position at the University Levelin M. Sc Mathematics.

We wish him greater achievements and accolades in future.

4 Report of the Online Examination Siliguri Campus

Just after the completion of Faculty Development Program for senior faculty, during the review process on 18th June 2020, the College management along with Deans and Coordinators took a decision to conduct Selection Exam for the entire college in online mode from 25th June onwards. However, on 20th June, as the students were updating their information in the ERP and LMS, it was noticed that the Server outage occurred



After a brief welcome address by Mr. Dhirodatta Subba, Dean of Science, Fr. (Dr.) George Thadathil, Principal led the guests, faculty, college students and participants from various schools through a session of prayer and meditation. Then he mentioned how the College has been holding this Inter-school Tech Event for some years with a view to encouraging senior school students to exercise their talents and skills through friendly competition in order for them to develop. He emphasized the fact that this was an unusual year where we are learning to live with the new normal of having to conduct everything virtually, from classes to exams, to events. Then he wished all coordinators, volunteers and participants the very best for the events.



Fr. George Thadathil, Principal, Salesian College

Mr. Dhirodatta Subba explained the schedule to all participants and how they were expected to join different Google Meet links for different events as provided to them by the respective coordinators. He also mentioned that there were 17 schools participating and 110 students had registered. He also mentioned that unlike previous times, this time there would be e-certificates given to the participants and no medals would be provided. However, the top three institutions in overall performance would be given trophies First two events to run simultaneously were CrossViews – The Debating event, and VideoRookee – Video editing competition.



Inaugural Session in progress

CrossViews

Platform: Google Meet **Date:** 28.11.2020 **Time:** 9:15am
Event Link: https://meet.google.com/qcs-vdbj-hiv

Jury for CrossViews: Dr. Prajwal Chettri, Asst. Prof. (Dept. of Physics, Salesian College, Siliguri)
Mr. Bikramjit Chandra, Asst. Prof. (Dept. of Physics, Salesian College, Siliguri)

Host for the Event: Mr. Bikramjit Chandra, Asst. Prof. (Dept. of Physics, Salesian College, Siliguri)

Volunteers: Shrawan Rai, Ashweni Chettri (2nd year, Dept. of Physics, Salesian College, Siliguri)

Summary of the Event:
The event began with the welcome speech from Mr. Bikramjit Chandra, Asst. Prof. (Dept. of Physics, Salesian College, Siliguri), the host for the event followed by the explanation of rules and criteria for the event "CrossViews".

The event had a total of two different rounds comprising of two different topics:

- ·The intrusion of modern communications technology in our day to day lives has had a negative effect on our society as a whole, alienating and isolating individuals instead of bringing us closer together.
- ·The current growth of Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence is the next step forward for humanity and must be encouraged as much as possible.

There was participation from many students of different schools even at the time of this COVID pandemic. In total there were ten participants comprising of five teams. All the participants were very eager and charismatic to deliver their views on the given topics. As the event progressed further we could see a fierce battle of various ideas from the participants. All the speakers delivered fantastic speeches on the given topics.

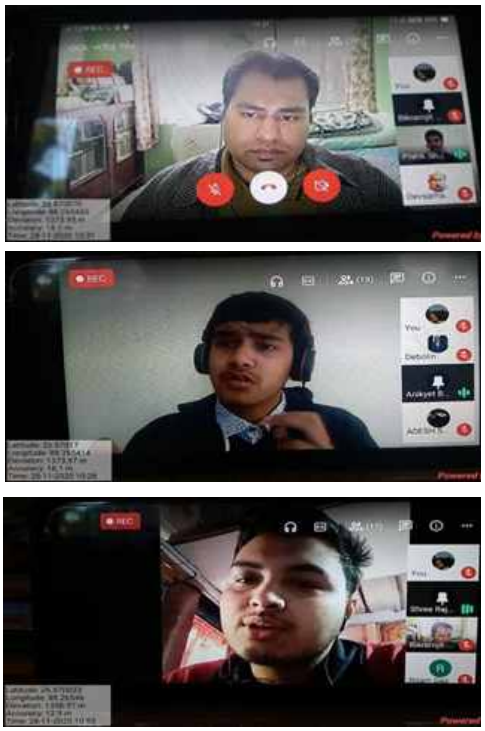
Lastly, the event ended with a good note, no matter who the winner or the loser was, the audience as well as the participants acquired different information and got a wider perspective regarding the changes that are faced as challenges in the modern-day society.

Glimpses of the event:

1ST Place: Shree Raj Chettri and Anikyet Bhusal
(Army Public School, BENGDUBI)

2ND Place: Pratik Sharma and Debolin Sarkar
(Army Public School, BENGDUBI)

3RD Place: Devsama Bhattacharya and Aronyak Chatterjee
(Don Bosco School, BANDEL)



CrossViews in progress

VideoRookee

Platform: Google Meet Date:28.11.2020 **Time:** 9:15am
Event Link: https://meet.google.com/kym-trpf-kxd

Jury for VideoRookee: Mr. Ravi Bhushan Singh, Asst. Prof.
(Dept. of Mass Communications & Journalism, Salesian College, Siliguri)

Host for the Event: Mr. Abhijit Dey, Asst. Prof.
(Dept. of Computer Science & Applications, Salesian College, Siliguri)



VideoRookee in progress

Summary of the Event:
It was an event to test the video editing skills. A small video was provided, and participants had to add audio, English sub-titles, or insert any video clip of their making or delete some portion. Duration of the final video was to be of 2 minutes, maximum. Theme provided was "Science and Technology for a sustainable future". Duration given was one hour.

There were a total of 16 schools that participated in this event. A team could have maximum two participants. Participants had to keep their camera on so the judge/ faculty could observe them working. Additional minutes were granted to upload the final products.

After the event, Judge was given adequate time to go over each work. His evaluations came out as:

1ST place: Souhardya Kar (Don Bosco School, BANDEL)

2ND place: Aditya Paswan & Payal Majumdar (Army Public School, BENGDUBI)

3RD place: Boni Roy & Rohit Kumar (Army Public School, BENGDUBI

MathWiz

Platform: Google Meet **Date:** 28.11.2020 **Time:** 11:00am
Event Link: https://meet.google.com/ueh-huwz-mtg

Jury for MathWiz: Mr. Subhajit Paul, Asst. Prof. (Dept. of Mthematics, Salesian College, Siliguri),

Host for the Event: Mr. Subhajit Paul, Asst. Prof. (Dept. of Mthematics, Salesian College, Siliguri)

Volunteers: Jatin Mirania and Elma Zarin (students)

Summary of the Event:
Arguably the most competitive Mathematics Quiz in the whole of North Bengal conducted for school students by Department of Mathematics, Science Deanery, Salesian College, Siliguri. Owing to the global pandemic, the event was organised online this year around. The event started at 11 AM with 9 teams which was reduced to 6 after the screening round. Mr Subhajit Paul, Head, Dept. of Mathematics, prepared the questions with high competitive standards and with very accurate representations of mathematical language and graphs. Elma Zarin Khan (2nd Year, Mathematics Honors) helped him as the scorer of the event.

"Internet is the King and the King can do no wrong", declared Mr Subhajit Paul ensuring the participants understand that the answers should be sent and received within the timeframe as instructed. The teams which qualified the screen round were

(i) Army Public School, Bengdubi
(ii) Don Bosco School, Bandel (2nd team)
(iii) St. Anthony's Convent School, Jaigaon (1st team)
(iv) St. Anthony's Convent School, Jaigaon (2nd team)

(v) St. Anthony's Convent School, Jaigaon (3rd team) and
(vi) Don Bosco School, Bandel (3rd team).



There were four rounds held for which rules were clarified at the beginning of each round. With passing rounds, the competition got fiercer. Mr Subhajit Paul has a saying, "For the joy of Mathematics", which I believe I would have not understood in my school days but looking at the intellectual level of children participating in MathWiz, I understand the essence of it.)

The event came to an end with the following rankings:

1ST place: Don Bosco School, Bandel (2nd team - Ritam Das (captain), Subadip Roy, Arijit Chatterjee, Akash Dutta)

2ND place (joint): St. Anthony's Convent School, Jaigaon (1st team - Gayatri Gattani (captain), Aaditya Kumar Chowdhary, Dev Krishna Yadav) and Army Public School, Bengdubi - Rabi Rai (captain), Aditya Kumar

Hurdles were faced with internet connection but the road was levelled well by the efforts induced by the team.

GameXplosion

Platform: CS:GO Server, Google Meet **Date:** 28.11.2020 **Time:** 13:00pm
Event Link: meet.google.com/dfg-feue-tkihttps://

Jury for GameXplosion: Game scoreboard

Host for the Event: Divit Rana (final year student of BCA), Yash Agarwal (Ex-student, Department of Mathematics)

Summary of the Event:
There were following teams which had registered:

Team 1: Unorginals	Team 2: NOOBS GG	Team 3: Bosconians
Player 1 - Arnabh Sinha (APS) Player 2 - Soumyadeep Sinha (BSF) Player 3 - Aniruddha Roy (DPS) Player 4 - Parthib Saha (DPS) Player 5 - Kinnor Majumdar (NIOS)	Player 1 - Ayush Labar (DPS) Player 2 - Ashwin Chhetri (HES) Player 3 - Prashant Maheswari (skpbn) Player 4 - Satyam Pariyar (NLA) Player 5 - Satya Tikhatri (APS)	Player 1 - Pranjal Subba (DBS Siliguri) Player 2 - Arkadyuti Bhattacharjee Player 3 - Harsh Murarka Player 4 - Souvik Saha Player 5 - Sagnik Sengupta
Team 4: Aztec-IX	**Team 5: Omen**	
Player 1 - Rishab Babu (DBB) Player 2 - Abir Haldar (VAS) Player 3 - Prithwiraj Bose (DBPC) Player 4 - Souradeep Mukherjee (DBB) Player 5 - Aarush Manna (DBB)	Player 1 - Siddhant Lama Player 2 - Sanskar Karki Player 3 - Keshav Rathi Player 4 - Girmee Sherpa Player 5 - Hardik Bhagat	

On the day of event team NOOBS GG backed out for unavoidable reasons.
First match was between tam Omen and team Aztec IX, of which Aztec IX came out as winners. The second match was scheduled at 7pm between Bosconians and Unoriginals. Bosconians came out as winners. The final match was scheduled for next day, 29th November at 11am. The final match was intense and eventually Bosconians came out as winners. The final match for third place was scheduled at 3pm, after the Valedictory Session. Unoriginals came out as winners.

1ST place: Bosconians

2ND place: Aztec IX

3RD place: Unoriginals

PosterKraft

Platform: Google Meet **Date:** 28.11.2020 **Time:** 14:00pm
Event Link: https://meet.google.com/krz-hrvh-nbu

Jury for PosterKraft: Mr. Subhajit Bose (Asst. Professor, Department of Computer science & Applications)

Host for the Event: Mr. Subhajit Bose (Asst. Professor, Department of Computer science & Applications)

Summary of the Event:
Though some students had registered for the event, eventually only one student showed up.
Awardee was: Bony Roy, Army Public School, Bengdubi.

Memopia

Platform: Google Meet **Date:** 28.11.2020 **Time:** 14:00pm
Event Link: https://meet.google.com/scm-pnev-hyg

Jury for Memopia:
Mr. Anuj Kr. Bhagat (Asst. Professor, Department of Mathematics)
Ms. Yadika Prasad (Asst. Professor, Department of Computer science & Applications)
Mr. Bikramjit Chandra (Asst. Professor, Department of Physics)
Mr. Bickey Sharma (Asst. Professor, Department of Economics)

Host for the Event: Mr. Anuj Kr. Bhagat (Asst. Professor, Department of Mathematics)

Summary of the Event:
Participating teams were as follows:

TEAM 1 Amrritanshu Kr. Shaw, Aryesh Das	Don Bosco School, Bandel
TEAM 2 Sharaman Bapari	Don Bosco School, Bandel
TEAM 3 Rabi Rai	Army Public School, Bengdubi
TEAM 4 Debolin Sarkar, Pratik Sharma	Army Public School, Bengdubi
TEAM 5 Manish Singha, Om Lama	Army Public School, Bengdubi
TEAM 6 Indranuj Halder, Arijit Chatterjee	Don Bosco School, Bandel
TEAM 7 Srinjoy Debgupta, Agniraj Singh	Don Bosco School, Bandel
TEAM 8 Deepen Thapa, Krishna Tamang	St. Anthony Convent School

Winners were as follows:
1ST place: Army Public School, Bengdubi (Team 5)

2ND place: Army Public School, Bengdubi (Team 4)

3RD place: Don Bosco School, Bandel (Team 7)



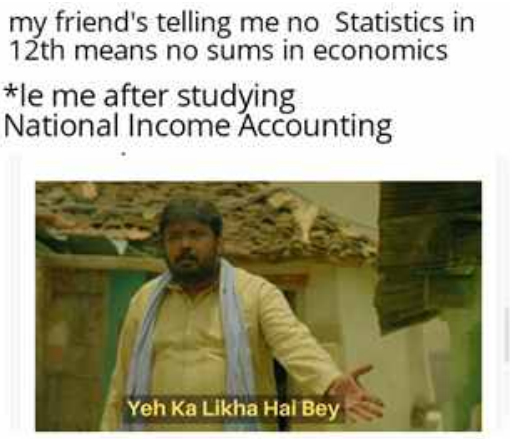






Memes created by the 1st ranking team









Memes created by the 2nd ranking team

WebMaster

Platform: Google Meet **Date:** 28.11.2020 **Time:** 14:00pm
Event Link: https://meet.google.com/bax-mkop-mnn

Jury for WebMaster: Ms. Yadika Prasad (Asst. Professor, Department of Computer science & Applications)

Host for the Event: Ms. Yadika Prasad (Asst. Professor, Department of Computer science & Applications)

Summary of the Event:
There were few participants in this event.

Winners were as follows:

1ST place: Sayantan Sen, Don Bosco School, Bandel

2ND place: Kinnor Majumdar, NIOS

TechImpress

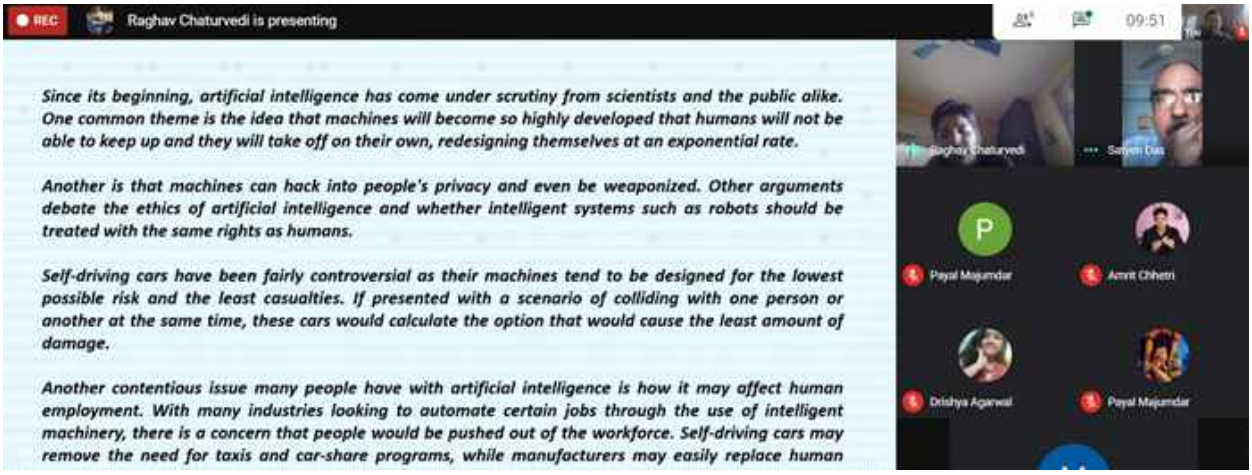
Platform: Google Meet **Date:** 29.11.2020 **Time:** 09:30am
Event Link: https://meet.google.com/qdh-fadf-fin

Jury for TechImpress: Dr. Satyen Das (Professor, Department of Physics), Mr. Amrit Chettri, Independent Researcher and Cybersecurity Expert

Host for the Event: Mr. Dhirodatta Subba (Asst. Professor, Department of Computer science & Applications), assisted by Drishya Agarwal (student) for reporting.

Summary of the Event:
This event was about giving presentation on the given topic "Artificial Intelligence and Machine learning".





TechImpress in progress

Winners were as follows:

1ST place: Payal Majumdar, Army Public School, Bengdubi

2ND place: Raghav Chaturvedi, Don Bosco School, Bandel

CodeChef

Platform: Google Meet **Date:** 29.11.2020 **Time:** 11:00am
Event Link: meet.google.com/fam-mhjg-evzhttps://

Jury for CodeChef: Mr. Tanay Bhadra (Asst. Professor, Department of Computer science & Applications)

Host for the Event: Mr. Tanay Bhadra (Asst. Professor, Department of Computer science & Applications)

Volunteers: Aditi Ghosh, Britika Khati, Drishya Agarwal, Priyanka Jaiswal, Tshewang Tamang



CodeChef in progress

Summary of the Event:
There were 14 participants in this event from the following:

- Army Public School, Bengdubi
- Don Bosco School, Bandel
- Don Bosco School, Siliguri
- Nirmala Convent School, Siliguri
- St. Joseph's High School, Matigara

Winners were as follows:

1ST place: Debadrita Das, Nirmala Convent School

2ND place: Ayush Ghosh, Don Bosco School, Bandel

3RD place: Abhijoy Ghosh, Don Bosco School, Bandel

SciScape

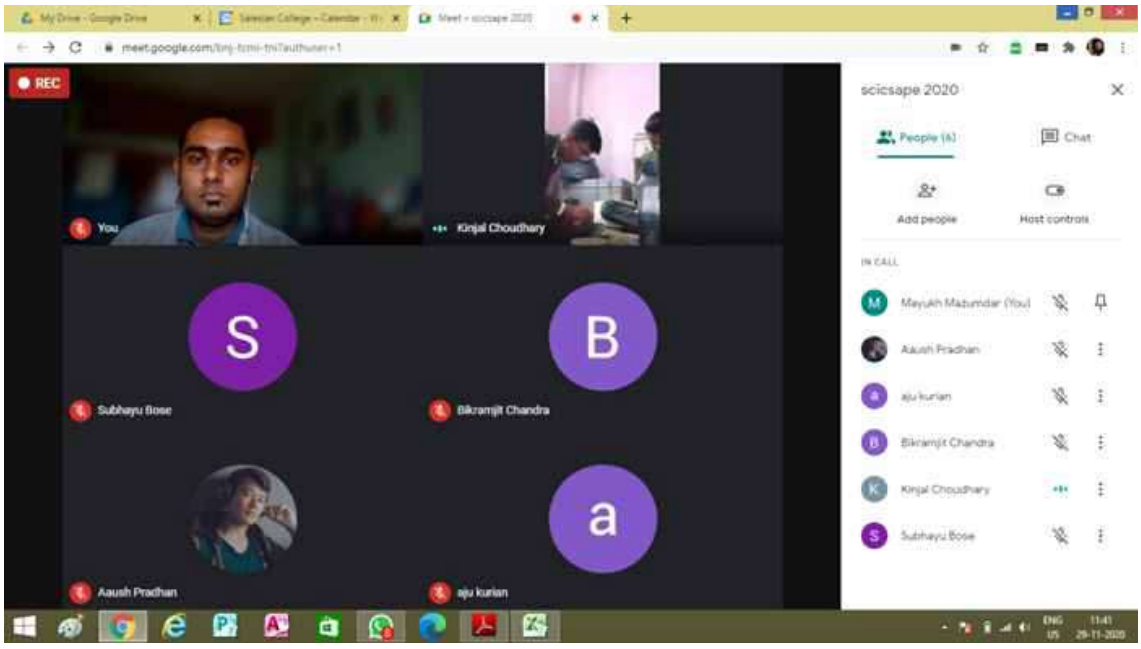
Platform: Google Meet **Date:** 29.11.2020 **Time:** 11:00am
Event Link: https://meet.google.com/zzd-yuae-nau

Jury for SciScape: Dr. Prajwal Chettri (Asst. Professor, Department of Physics)

Host for the Event: Mr. Mayukh Mazumdar (Asst. Professor, Department of Physics)

Volunteers: Aayush Pradhan (3rd year), Subhayu Bose (1st year)

Summary of the Event:
There was only one team in this event. This was about Science Modelling



SciScape in progress

Awardees were as follows:

Kinjal Chaodhary Das, St. Anthony's School, Jaigaon

Aryan Ekka, St. Anthony's School, Jaigaon

Valedictory Function:
This program began at 2pm. Ms. Yadika Prasad, IT Co-ordinator and faculty, Department of Computer Science and Applications, read out the names of Awardees for respective events.

This was followed by Fr. George Thadathi, Principal's speech of appreciation and encouragement. He congratulated all participants and all organisers and motivated all to keep working on outreach events like this for the good and development of all.

Fr. Aju Kurian, Vice Principal, Deanery of Science, also congratulated all for having organised an event like this and students that participated for showing the courage despite having to do activities in non-conventional ways.



Valedictory session in progress

Finally, Mr. Dhirodatta Subba, Dean of Science, proposed vote of thanks to the College Management, Principals and Teachers of the participating Institutions, fellow colleagues from the Deanery, Judges, student volunteers and all participating students.

Announcement of the overall winners was held as there was one more event that was due for the third place.

Mr. Dhirodatta Subba,

Dean, Sciences

Fr. Aju Kurian,

Vice Principal

SCIENCE DEANERY REPORT
August – November, 2020

New Faculty Recruitment

CSA	Economics	Mathematics	Physics
Ms. Sonali Rai, not a faculty, but spearheading the new IT initiatives.	1. Mr. Subhrajit Saha, earlier with Department of Mathematics, is now assigned to Economics Department. 2. Mr Adarsh Rai	Mr. Anuj Kr Bhagat, an ex-student of the Department	1. Mr. Bikramjit Chandra 2. Dr. Prajwal Chettri

Webinar /FDP organised/ attended

CSA		Economics	Mathematics	Physics

eComPhyMathix [28th & 29th November 2020]: An inter-school Tech Event organised (online) by the Science Departments of the college

Mr. Dhirodatta Subba also attended an completed the National FDP "Quality Science Education in India in the 21st Century" organised by Christ College, Irinjalakuda, Kerala, from 3rd – 9th November 2020.			
"Artificial Intelligence in Digital Forensics" on 3/10/2020 by Mr. Amrit Chettri, Independent Researcher and Forensic Expert.	"Analysis of Categorical Data" on 10/10/2020 by Dr. Soumalya Mukhopadhyay, Visva Bharati University.		"Synthesis of Nanoparticles using Laser Ablation" on 16/10/2020 by Dr. Ajay Tripathi, Sikkim University
Internet of Things on 7/9/2020 by Brother John Philip Xavier.	"E-colloquium" on 29/9/2020.		"Taming the Universe in the Laboratory with Nuclear Physics" on 18/92020 by Dr. Soumya
Faculty from the Department were involved in organising and conducting the FDP "Introduction to Learning Management System" to newly joined faculty from 19th to 21st August 2020.			
Mr. Dhirodatta Subba was the resource person for a webinar "Effective e-learning through Moodle System" organised by Sukanta Mahavidyalaya on	"National webinar series on Communities and Food systems: Land, Labour, Migration" from 24/8/2020 to 28/8/2020.	"The story of π" on 26/8/2020. Prof Nayandeep Deka Baruah from Tezpur University	

Results of the University examinations (CBCS, even semesters)

CBCS University Examination for Even Semester commenced from 14th December 2020 and completed on 18th December 2020 through Open Book System. The Examination took place though Offline mode and online mode. University persons took the answer scripts on 30th December 2020 from the College and evaluation started from 18th January 2021 and the results published on 11th February 2021. The results were shown below:

CBCS Result of 2nd Semester _December 2020

Particulars	B.Sc Hons	BCA
Number of students Appeared in Regular Mode	19	17
Number of students Appeared in Supplementary Mode	3	4
Total Number of Students	22	21
Number of Pass Candidates	22	21
Number of Candidates Failed/ Absent	0	0
Percentage of Pass Candidates	100.00%	100.00%
Percentage of Failed / absent Candidates	0.00%	0.00%
Number of Students Secured 1st Class	22	21
Number of Students Secured 2nd Class	0	0
Number of Students got P-Division	0	0
Highest Percentage Obtained by the Candidate	91.64%	83.64%
Percentage of Students Secured 1st Class	1.00.00%	100.00%
Percentage of Students Secured 2nd Class	0.00%	0.00%
Percentage of Students got P-Division	0.00%	0.00%

CBCS Result of 4th Semester _December 2020

Particulars	B.Sc Hons	BCA
Number of students Appeared in Regular Mode	21	10
Number of students Appeared in Supplementary Mode	0	0
Total Number of Students	21	10
Number of Pass Candidates	21	10
Number of Candidates Failed/ Absent	0	0
Percentage of Pass Candidates	100.00%	100.00%
Percentage of Failed / absent Candidates	0	0
Number of Students Secured 1st Class	21	10
Number of Students Secured 2nd Class	0	0
Number of Students got P-Division	0	0
Highest Percentage Obtained by the Candidate	84.80%	85.60%
Percentage of Students Secured 1st Class	1.00.00%	100.00%
Percentage of Students Secured 2nd Class	0.00%	0.00%
Percentage of Students got P-Division	0	0

Results of the University examinations (Non CBCS)

CSA	Economics	Mathematics	Physics
B. Sc Final year: There were four candidates. All of them scored first division marks, overall.	Not applicable	All six students have secured first class marks in their honours aggregate. Rajan Kr Yadav has topped the batch with 76% marks in his	Not applicable
BCA: There were six candidates. Four obtained first division marks and two second division, overall.		Ex-students Anuj Kr Bhagat and Bishal Sonar have secured respectively the first and (joint) second places in their MSc final examination under University of North Bengal.	

New admissions

CSA	Economics	Mathematics	Physics
BCA: 11 B. Sc (CS): 7	12	13	11

Students' attendance

CSA	Economics	Mathematics	Physics
First year attendance is for B. Sc is satisfactory; but BCA is below 50%.	All the students in the first year are regular.	Students' attendance in the online classes are satisfactory for the first and second year batches.	The attendance for the classes are moderate, but is exacerbated by the fact that most of our students are currently in the Hills and do not have the best connectivity to depend upon.
In second year BCA, attendance before Puja Holidays were about 50%. But that has also waned after the holidays	The students in the second year are very regular as well.	Satisfactory	Internal examinations are given every week and the computational courses have regular weekly assignments which are graded.
Third year students' attendance is satisfactory. Though two from B. Sc and two from BCA have not attended most of the classes.		A few students from the third year batch are showing indifference towards the classes after repeated reminders.	

Completion and revision of the syllabus

CSA	Economics	Mathematics	Physics
100% completed.	100% completed.	100% completed.	100% completed.

Practical exam will be held between 23/2/2021- 26/2/2021.

Internal selection exam will be held in the first week of March

University exam for Odd semester will commence from 15th February 2021.

University Commitments

CSA	Economics	Mathematics	Physics
Answer scripts evaluation [All faculty]		Answer scripts evaluation [All faculty]	
Question Paper setting	Subhrajit Saha, GE-2 & GE-4 Statistics	Question Paper setting	

IGNOU commitments

CSA	Economics	Mathematics	Physics
Assignment correction [All faculty involved]		MathematicsAssignment correction [One faculty involved]	
Paper correction [All faculty involved]		Paper [One faculty involved]	
BCA Project Guidance [Three faculty involved]			
BCA/ MCA Project Evaluation [One faculty involved]			

IT Support

Faculty from the Department of Computer Science & Applications have been involved in the following support activities:

- ERP Maintenance/ support
- Admission
- LMS support
- G Suite support
- Webinar related support
- Tech Team support [Conducting FDPs, setting Guidelines etc]
- AQAR upload support
- Consultancy work for other institutions
- New IT initiatives

Common events

- Inauguration of new semester for existing students: On August 1, 2020, Science Departments inaugurated the new session with second and third year students.

- Orientation program for new students: On August 26 2020, with address by the Vice Principal, Fr. Aju Kurian, we started the Orientation program. On August 29, we had interaction with parents and guardians along with the new students, Department wise. On August 31, we had introduction of Syllabi and interaction with senior students.

Alumni meet

CSA Department: On October 17, 2020, Department of Computer Science & Applications conducted the first virtual meet of Alumni. Out of some 50 odd alumni, about 50% attended. Some had connectivity issues. The meet was addressed by Fr. Aju Kurian, Vice Principal, Science Deanery. Feedback received from the ex-students were very positive. This being the first of its kind in so many years, there was no particular agenda – just meeting and knowing about each other. We have plan to make this a Quarterly event and look forward to making it a long term relation which will benefit new batches of students and everyone.

Joint events

Teachers' appreciation day: On September 5, 2020, students from all departments of Sciences organised the Teachers' appreciation day.

Freshers' welcome: On September 15, 2020, students of second and third years from all departments of sciences organised the Fresher's welcome ceremony for the new-coming Batch of students.

eComPhyMathix: The online edition of the inter-school tech fest eComPhyMathix was organised by all faculty members and students from all departments of sciences on November 28-29, 2020. Report has been posted in ERP.

TIST 2021: The annual National Conference on Trends in Science and Technology has been scheduled for 28th February 2021. It will be conducted in blended mode, and only for one day instead of usual two days.

Students are encouraged and monitored to participate in various national and international webinars and the links are provided on regular basis. We have submitted their participation certificates to the Criteria secretaries.
In addition the following activities are on:

- Regular CR meeting
- Regular Departmental meetings
- Regular Deanery meetings

Reported By,



Mr. Dhirodatta Subba,
Dean, Sciences.

Approved By,

Fr. Aju Kurian,
Vice principal, Science Deanery

Report for Webinar: Synthesis of Nanoparticles by Laser Ablation.

Organized by: Department of Physics, Salesian College, Siliguri Campus

Basic Details

Date of Webinar: 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM, 18/10/2020
Venue: Online over Google Meet (link: https://meet.google.com/uuf-khsc-sij)
Number of Participants: Registered - 91; Attended - 40

Organizing Committee:
- Dr. Satyendra C. Das
- Mr. Mayukh Mazumdar
- Ms. Sujata Sinha
- Mr. Bikramjit Chandra
- Dr. Prajwal Chettri

Report written by: Bikramjit Chandra

Primary Report
The speaker for the webinar was Dr. Ajay Tripathi who is currently an Assistant Professor in the Department of Physics, Sikkim University. He worked on Bose-Einstein Condensation during his doctoral studies in the University of Freiburg, Germany, but his focus for the last few years has been on the creation of, and improvements in the techniques of creating, nanoparticles. He is a member of one of a small number of teams in India who are working on the topic under discussion.His faculty pro le is lined here: http://cus.ac.in/index.php/en/department-of-physics/dr-ajay-tripathi, and his research papers are linked here: https://www.researchgate.net/prole/Ajay_Tripathi9

The webinar was hosted by Mr. Bikramjit Chandra. Dr. Satyendra Chandra Das, head of the Department of Physics, started the proceedings with some warm words of welcome along with a brief primer on the importance of nanoparticles before introducing the speaker. Fr. George Thadathil, Principal of the College, then welcomed Dr. Tripathi and gave a brief talk about his own interest in nanoparticles from the view of a layperson and hoped for a continual exchange of ideas between the speaker and the students and faculty from Salesian College. This was followed by some words of welcome by Mr. Dhirodatta Subba, Dean of Sciences.

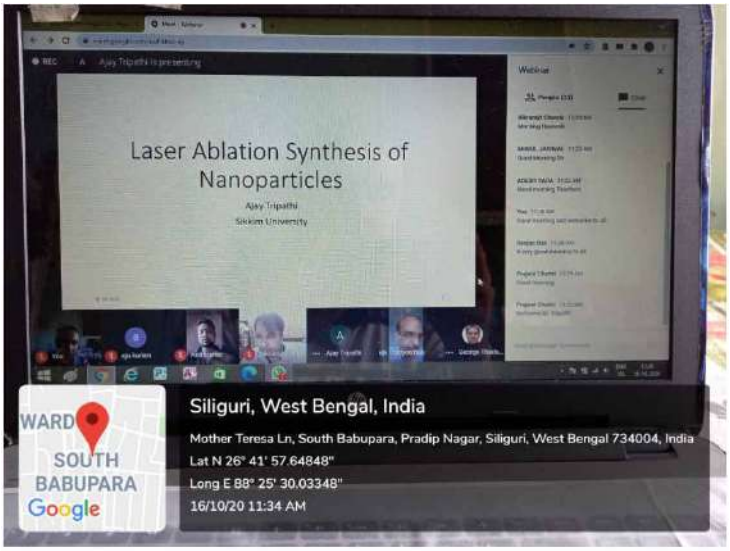
Dr. Tripathi started his presentation with a detailed explanation of the process of laser ablation. This was a technique where a laser beam is focused on a (usually solid) target which causes material to be ejected outwards by the force of the laser beam (ablation). Some of the ejected material would then coalesce to form nanoparticles which can then be studied further. The target is usually immersed inside a liquid solvent which would capture the ejected nanoparticles. The power of the laser should be such that it breaks the bonds between the atoms of the target which ejects them outwards in the form of a plasma. This is the bottom-up approach to nanoparticle creation. Additionally, the power of the laser will diuse as heat within the target causing the creation of melt that can then be broken down to create nanoparticles. This is the top-down approach to nanoparticle creation. For both of these processes the properties of the target under ablation and the laser itself are crucial, especially when it comes to the optical depth and the thermal depth on the interaction between the two.
Dr. Tripathi then focused on his research work which was on the creation of copper nanoparticles

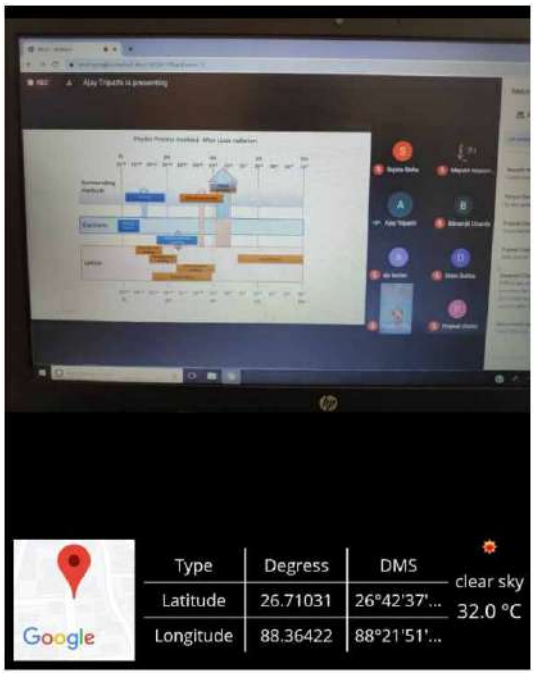
under dierent conditions. His decision to choose copper was due to its low cost, high electrical and thermal conductivity and its anti-bacterial properties which make it useful for a wide variety of practical applications. He discussed the eect of the dierent solvents he used for his experiments (ethyl glycol, distilled water and ethanol) at dierent conditions (change in laser pulse timings, change in laser power etc.). The spectral properties of the nanoparticles was done by using Raman spectral analysis. He also talked about the methods of creation of hollow nanoparticles and some of his ideas regarding future work in that direction.

Unfortunately due to time constraints, Dr. Tripathi had to cut his excellent presentation short. There was a short Q & A session afterwards where Dr. Tripathi gave more detail in answer to the questions from the faculty and students. The session was brought to a close with a brief review by Mr. Mayukh Mazumdar and concluded by a Vote of Thanks by Dr. Prajwal Chettri who thanked the College administration, the members of the IQAC, the Dean of Sciences and the tech team lead by Ms. Yadika Prased for all their help.

Photos

Link to the entire presentation: https://drive.google.com/le/d/1vbNgqSdfEjV6ESraZgIK07iBxepFCi/view

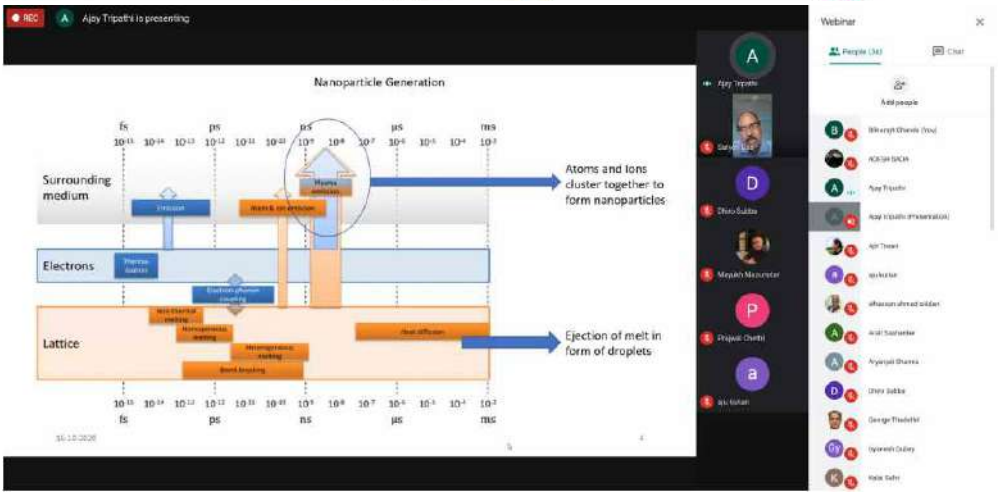


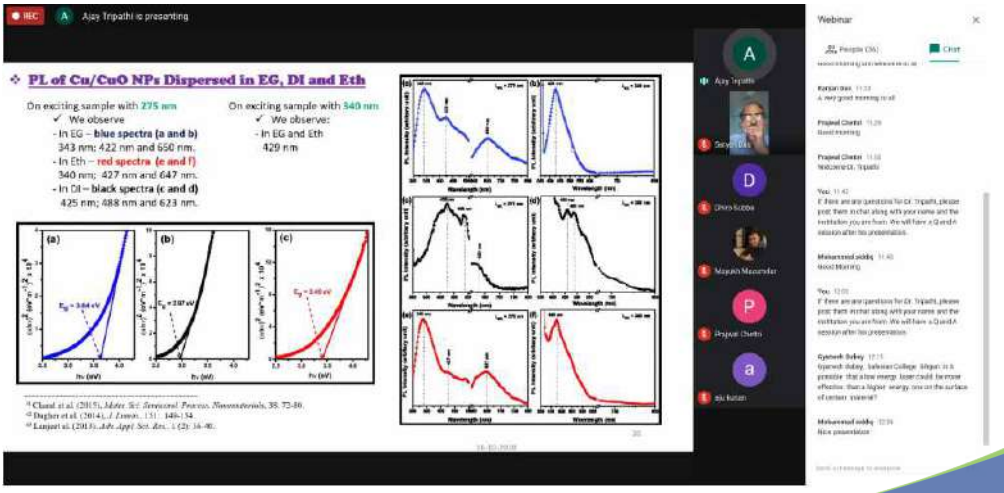





Ajay Tripathi is presenting
Laser Ablation Synthesis of Nanoparticles
Ajay Tripathi
Sikkim University
Webinar


Ajay Tripathi is presenting
Webinar


Ajay Tripathi is presenting
Nanoparticle Generation
Surrounding medium
Electrons
Lattice
Atoms and Ions cluster together to form nanoparticles
Ejection of melt in form of droplets
Webinar


Ajay Tripathi is presenting
PL of Cu/CuO NPs Dispersed in EG, DI and Eth
On exciting sample with 275 nm
We observe
- In EG – blue spectra (a and b)
343 nm; 422 nm and 650 nm.
- In Eth – red spectra (e and f)
340 nm; 427 nm and 647 nm.
- In DI – black spectra (c and d)
425 nm; 488 nm and 623 nm.
On exciting sample with 340 nm
We observe:
- In EG and Eth
429 nm
Webinar

Salesian College Siliguri Campus
Department of Physics

Webinar Titled "Taming the Universe in the Laboratory using Nuclear Physics"

Date: 18.09.2020 **Time:** 11.30AM **Platform:** Google Meet

Links: https://forms.gle/4XWtH5nqyUxEVW3C6 (registration)
https://meet.google.com/hzo-jbas-ger (link to the webinar)

Total Registrations: 118 *(including participants from Bangladesh, Philippines and Nigeria)*

Abstract:
(in words of the resource person) "From where and how life begins on earth? Where do the elements that are necessary for our lives come from? How the properties of tiny objects like nuclei around us have led to the creation of the universe? These questions can be unraveled by looking into the nucleus and how their properties change when extreme conditions are reached. In this presentation, I will briefly discuss some of the recent trends in nuclear physics to understand the universe."

Resource Person:
Dr. Soumya Bagchi, Assistant Professor (IIT-ISM Dhanbad)

About the Resource Person:
Dr. Bagchi did his B.Sc. in Physics (Hons.) from Siliguri College and then went to IIT Roorke to complete his Masters in Physics. He did his Ph.D from the prestigious Centre for Advanced Radiation Technology in the University of Groningen, the Netherlands. He has also held a postdoctoral position in the GSI Helmholtz Centre for Heavy Ion Research, Germany before taking up his current position in the Indian School of Mines (IIT-D), Dhanbad. His works have been published in many reputed journals like The European Physical Journal A, Physical Review Letters, Physics Letters B, etc. His areas of interests are **Collective Models in Nuclei** and **Matter and Charge Radii in Exotic Nuclei.**

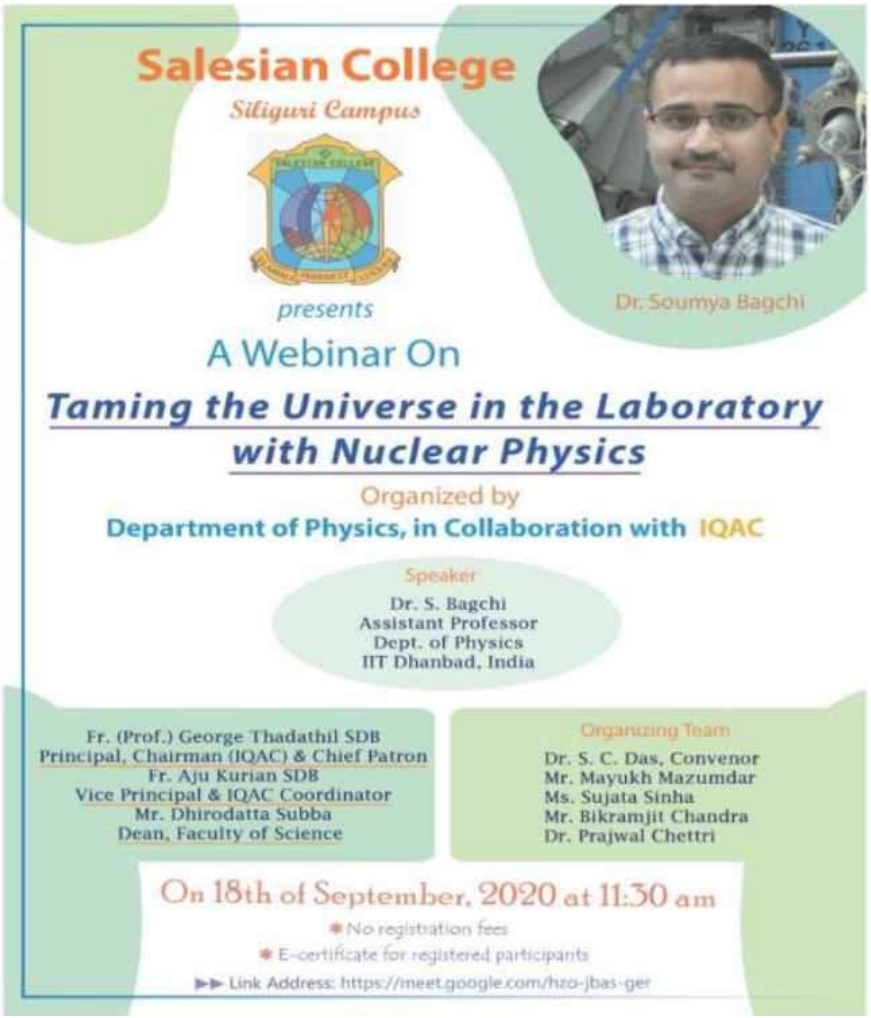
Summary of the Webinar:
The webinar began with the welcome address from Dr.S.C.Das, HoD (Physics) followed by short speeches from Fr. (Prof.) George Thadathil, Principal and Chief Patron and Mr.Dhirodatta Subba, Dean (Sciences). Mr. Bikramjit Chandra, Asst.Prof. (Physics) was the host of the event.

The speaker (Dr. Bagchi) gave a wonderful presentation, starting with the basics of nuclear and particle physics and slowly entered into more complex things but in a very lucid manner. The target audience being mainly graduate students and also a multidisciplinary one, the speaker refrained from using complicated technical and mathematical approaches whenever possible, thus making the topic understandable to all. Many of his recent path-breaking works were also presented like **Change in Magic Numbers** and discovery of new magic number at N=14. He explained many topics like exotic species, nucleosynthesis processes, Pygmy and Giant Resonances is a very lucid manner and how this all concepts can be utilised to study the chemical ingredients that are present, otherwise, outside Earth. The presentation was a good source of motivation for the young minds as the speaker

shared glimpses of the future particle accelerator centre FAIR at GSI Helmhotlz Centre for

Heavy Ion Research, Darmstadt, Germany. The presentation ended with some important links for internships for graduate students at the GSI.

After the presentation Ms. Sujata Sinha, Asst.Prof. (Physics) hosted the Questions and Answers (QnA) session and the speaker answered questions from the audience who typed it on the chatbox or spoke for themselves. Then Dr.Prajwal Chettri, Asst.Prof. (Physics) gave the thoughts on the talk, before the webinar was concluded by the vote of thanks from Mr. Mayukh Mazumdar, Asst.Prof. (Physics).



Glimpses of the Webinar:





Department of Mathematics
Report on Webinar
"The Story of π"
by
Prof. Nayandeep Deka Baruah
August 26, 2020

Preamble

A one-day webinar was organized on August 26, 2020, by the Department of Mathematics, Salesian College, Siliguri, in collaboration with the IQAC. The title of the webinar was "The story of π". The invited speaker for the programme was Dr. Nayandeep Deka Baruah, Professor, Department of Mathematics, Tezpur Central University, Assam. The webinar was held via Google Meet platform using the college G-Suite facility and was streamed live in YouTube via the link https://youtu.be/7WRclqmfbw4.

Participants' profile

A total of 73 participants including faculty members, researchers and students from different institutes participated in the webinar. The profile for the organising committee were as follows:

- **Paron:** Fr. (Prof.) George Thadathil, Principal & Chairman of IQAC;
- **Convenor:** Fr. Aju Kurian, Vice Principal, Deanery of Sciences;
- **Co- convenor:** Mr. Debdut Sengupta, Asst. Prof., Dept. of Mathematics;
- **Supported by:** Mr. Subhajit Paul, Head, Dept. of Mathematics and Ms. Snigdha Roy, Asst. Prof, Dept. of Mathematics.
- **Technical assistance:** Ms. Yadika Prasad, IT Coordinator and Mr. Dhirodatta Subba,
- Dean of Sciences.

Summary of the event

The webinar, moderated by Mr. Subhajit Paul, Head, Department of Mathematics, started at 10:50 am with the welcome speech by Fr. (Prof.) George Thadathil, Principal, Salesian College, Sonada & Siliguri.



While merging the subjects of Philosophy and Astronomy in the infinitude of the digits of π, he mentioned about the book "A History of Pi" by Peter Beckmann which motivates him. Mr. Debdut Sengupta, Assistant Professor, Department of Mathematics, then introduced the speaker to the audience.

As promised in the title of his talk, Prof. Baruah based his lecture on the development of different aspects of π from the ancient era to the computer age. During his talk, he mentioned about works of mathematicians, viz., Issac Newton, Von Neumann, Roy North, Abraham Sharp, John Machin, Srinivasa Ramanujan with many others. He also discussed the AGM (arithmeticgeometric mean) algorithm to calculate the digits of π more rapidly and the BBP model to find a particular digit in the binary and the hexadecimal representation of π. He shared the open problem of finding a particular digit in the decimal representation of π. He finished his lecture by mentioning Timothy Mullican who calculated the first 50 trillion digits of π on January 29, 2020, which stands as the current world record.

After his talk, an interactive session was moderated to accommodate a few questions from the audience.

The webinar ended with the vote of thanks delivered by Mr. Subhajit Paul. He forwarded his gratitude to the speaker, the management of the college, his colleagues in the department, the technical support, and of course to the participants.

The programme was concluded at 1:00 pm.

Report prepared by:
Snigdha Roy
and supplemented by:
Subhajit Paul.
Asst. Prof's., Dept. of Mathematics,
Salesian College, Siliguri.
August 27, 2020.

Report of the Online Examination
Siliguri Campus

Period: 6th July 2020 – 11th July 2020
Prepared By: The Siliguri Tech Team (19/07/2020)

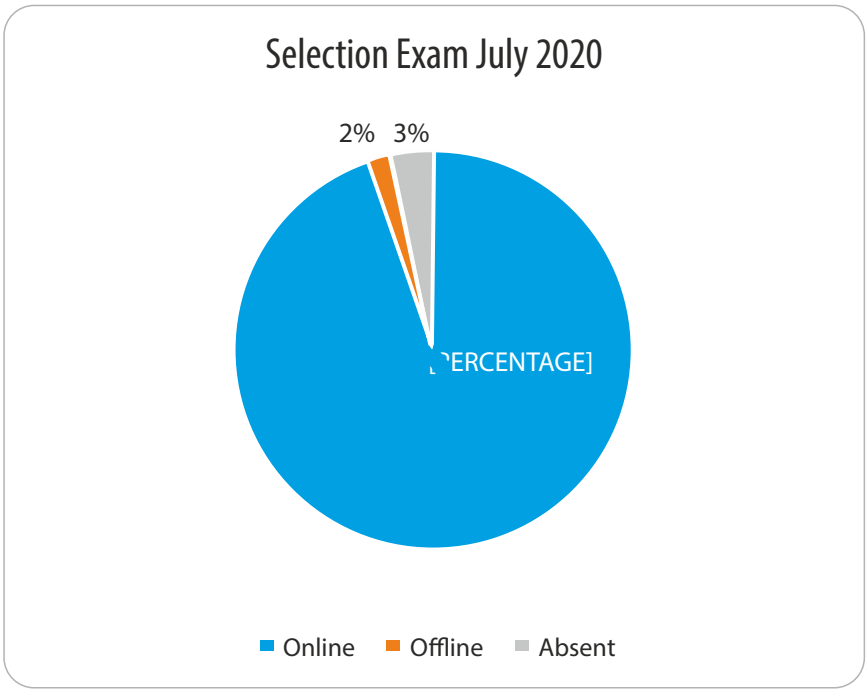
Just after the completion of Faculty Development Program for senior faculty, during the review process on 18th June 2020, the College management along with Deans and Coordinators took a decision to conduct Selection Exam for the entire college in online mode from 25th June onwards. However, on 20th June, as the students were updating their information in the ERP and LMS, it was noticed that the Server outage occurred when the number of students logged in was more than 300. The management with the Tech Team had to take immediate decision to move the LMS to another dedicated server. This would take time. So, the schedule was postponed to first week of July. Meanwhile there were requests from faculty that a Guideline be given on how to go about setting up quizzes on the LMS. The Tech Team quickly prepared the document and released it on 25th June. As the Server transfer process was going on, the rescheduled examination dates were finalised by the Examination Committee together with the College Management.

Few days before the Examination, faculty had quite challenging time to configure the questions in the online system. But it was a great learning experience for all.

This report is based on data collected from the Siliguri Campus. We start with the overall summary first.

Total number of students configured for Exam: 965

Total Number of students who gave Exam **online**	914	94.7%
Total Number of students who gave Exam **offline**	17	1.7%
Total Number of students who were **absent**	34	3.5%



That is 94.7% overall for online exam attendees.

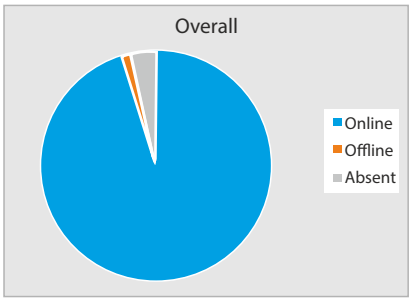
This is really encouraging, being the very first attempt of its kind, as the faculty had apprehensions that many students would not be able to make it due to network and issues like non availability of adequate hardware. However, from the feedbacks received, most students managed using their smartphones.

Deanery wise summary:

Commerce and Management

Total students: 400

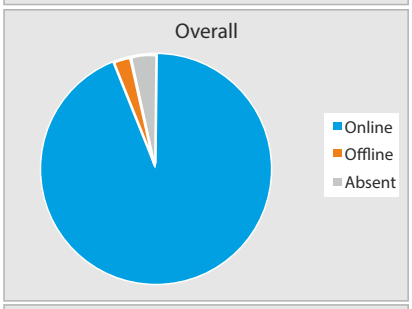
Online	372	93%
Offline	3	0.75%
Absent	15	3.75%



Humanities

Total students: 496

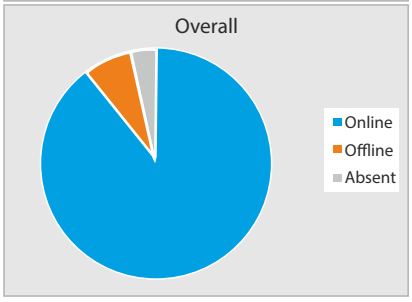
Online	481	96.97%
Offline	9	1.8%
Absent	18	3.6%



Science

Total students: 69

Online	61	88.4%
Offline	7	10.14%
Absent	3	4.35%



Detail information, Deanery wise, are as follows:

Science Deanery

		Online	Offline	Absent
BCA	CC3	14	2	1
	CC4	15	2	0
	CC8	7	4	1
	CC9	7	4	1
	CC10	7	4	1

		Online	Offline	Absent
B.Sc (CS)	CC8	4	1	0
	CC9	4	1	0
	CC10	4	1	0
	GE-COMS	12	4	1

		Online	Offline	Absent
Mathematics	Cc3	8	0	0
	CC4	8	0	0
	GE	14	0	4
	CC8	14	0	0
	CC10	14	0	0
	STA-GE-SE-II	3	0	0
	STA-GE-SEM-IV	21	6	0

		Online	Offline	Absent
Physics	CC3	8	0	1
	CC4	8	0	1
	CC8	2	0	0
	CC9	2	0	0
	CC10	2	0	0

		Online	Offline	Absent
Economics	CC3	3	0	0
	CC4	3	0	0
	GE-ECO-SEM-II	2	0	1
	GE-ECo-SEM-IV	14	0	0

Commerce and management

		Online	Offline	Absent
B. Com (Hons)	CC3	100	0	6
	CC4	99	0	7
	GE2	102	0	4
	CC8	92	0	1
	CC9	93	0	0
	CC10	93	0	0
	GE4	92	0	1
	SEC2	93	0	0

		Online	Offline	Absent
BBA	CC3	44	2	5
	CC4	44	1	4
	GE2	44		1
	CC8	39	0	0
	CC10	39	0	0
	GE4	35	5	0
	SEC2	39	0	0

		Online	Offline	Absent
B. Com Program	DSC3	55	0	3
	DSC4	55	0	3
	DSC7	48	0	1
	DSC8	48	0	1

		Online	Offline	Absent
BVOC	ENTP DEV	4	0	0

Humanities Deanery

		Online	Offline	Absent
BSW	CC3	14	0	0
	CC4	14	0	0
	GE2	13	0	1

		Online	Offline	Absent
Education	CC3	21	0	1
	CC4	21	0	1
	GE-EDU	25	0	0
	CC8	14	0	0
	CC9	14	0	0
	CC10	14	0	0
	SEC2	14	0	0

		Online	Offline	Absent
English	CC3	44	0	4
	CC4	44	1	3
	GE2	23	0	0
	CC8	26	0	0
	CC9	26	0	0
	CC10	25	1	0

		Online	Offline	Absent
Geography	CC3	29	0	0
	CC4	29	0	0
	CC8	20	0	0
	CC9	20	0	0
	CC10	20	0	0

		Online	Offline	Absent
Geography	CC3	29	0	0
	CC4	29	0	0
	CC8	20	0	0
	CC9	20	0	0
	CC10	20	0	0

		Online	Offline	Absent
History	CC3	21	0	0
	CC4	21	0	0
	CC8	31	0	1
	CC9	32	0	0
	CC10	31	0	1
	SEC2	32	0	0

		Online	Offline	Absent
History	CC3	24	0	0
	CC4	21	3	0
	GE2	30	0	3
	CC8	20	0	0
	CC9	20	0	0
	CC10	20	0	0

Physical Education		Online	Offline	Absent
	DSC2	24	1	3

Political Science		Online	Offline	Absent
	CC3	36	0	0
	CC4	36	0	0
	CC8	31	0	0
	CC9	31	0	0
	CC10	28	0	3
	GE2-SEM-II	77	0	1
	GE2-SEM-IV	51	0	0
	SEC2	30	0	1

Phychology		Online	Offline	Absent
	CC3	30	0	2
	CC4	31	0	1
	GE-PSYH	23	5	0
	CC8	13	1	2
	CC9	13	3	0
	CC10	13	0	3

Sociology		Online	Offline	Absent
	CC3	31	0	1
	CC4	30	0	2
	CC8	28	0	4
	CC9	29	2	1
	CC10	30	0	2
	GE3	68	0	0
	SEC4	32	0	0

Observations

- A mix of MCQ, True/False, Matching, Short answer and Essay type questions were utilized by the faculty to suite their need. Essay type questions were used for practical oriented portions as well as long answers. Students either typed or scanned their answers written on their copies and uploaded them as pdf documents, which the faculty evaluated after the exam and graded the answers. In case of short answer type questions, near matches which were incorrectly graded in automated process, were re-graded by faculty.

- Usage of Safe Exam Browser was planned but not implemented this time as students would have had to download and install in their devices before attempting online quiz. Its size is 154MB, and prior information had not been dissipated to all students.

- Proctoring was not implemented this time. In future examinations, this will come into effect after the Tech Team evaluates the various possibilities.



The Tech Team

Faculty Development Programme

Moodle Learning Management System and Online Education tools

Date:
10/06/2020
To
17/06/2020

Reported By: Dhirodatta Subba, Head, Tech Team

Background

Just when the country was preparing for COVID 19 lockdown, the Moodle Learning Management System was reactivated in the third week of March. College had already started using the system since 2018. Faculty from the Department of Computer Science and Applications had already given few rounds of training to other faculty. However, usage was rather low due to slow acceptance and unfamiliarity. All hesitations gave way to adoption as we understood that there was no other way but to continue the education online. Everyone struggled – faculty and students alike – to change to the new ways. About two months had passed and the Management arrived at the conclusion that faculty needed more training to be really productive in using the capabilities of the system. Fr. Principal called for a meeting of Tech team on 29th May. In the meeting we discussed modalities of the training program. It was decided that faculty would have to be divided into two groups – one consisting of the junior faculty who had no experience of using the system, and the other as seniors who had some experience of having already worked on the system. Dates were decided for the two programs. And the need to include Video Editing was also decided as making tutorial videos is an important part of online mode of teaching. By the first of June, a tentative distribution of responsibilities among Tech team members was decided.

FDP 1:"Journey with Learning Management System", 10/06/2020-15/06/2020

List of junior faculty was obtained from the offices of both campuses and their setup in the Moodle LMS was done in the first few days of June. Meanwhile program brochure was getting prepared.

Distribution of responsibilities were as follows:

Day 1 [10/06/2020]

Time	Topic	Resource / Faculty
9:00am – 9:15am	Keynote address	Fr. George Thadathil, Principal
9:15am – 9:45am	Overview of Moodle	Mr. Dhirodatta Subba
9:45am – 10:45am	Customizing dashboard	Ms. Josna Joy (Sonada)
10:45am – 12:30pm	Courses a. Setup b. Enrolment c. Grading d. Tracking progress e. Customizing course page	Ms. Priyadarshini Pradhan (Sonada)
12:30pm – 13:30pm	Lunch break	
13:30pm – 14:15pm	Practical session on customizing dashboard	Ms. Josna Joy
14:15pm – 15:00pm	Practical session on Courses	Ms. Priyadarshini Pradhan (Sonada)

Day 2 [11/06/2020]

Time	Topic	Resource / Faculty
9:00am – 9:15am	Keynote address	Fr. George Thadathil, Principal
9:15am – 11:00am	Resources a. Book b. File c. Folder d. Label e. Page f. URL	Mr. Subhajit Bose
11:00am – 12:30pm	Activities a. Assignment b. Attendance c. BigBlueButton d. Chat e. Choice	Mr. Tanay Bhadra
12:30pm – 13:30pm	Lunch break	
13:30pm – 14:15pm	Practical Session based on Resources	Mr. Subhajit Bose
14:15pm – 15:00pm	Practical Session based on Activities	Mr. Tanay Bhadra

Day 3 [12/06/2020]

Time	Topic	Resource / Faculty
9:00am – 9:15am	Keynote address	Fr. George Thadathil, Principal
9:15am – 11:00am	Activities: a. Database b. External tool c. Feedback d. Forum e. Glossary f. Lesson g. Quiz	Mr. Dhirodatta Subba
11:00am – 12:30pm	Activities: a. SCORM package b. Skype c. Survey d. Wiki e. Workshop f. Zoom Meeting g. Choice	Ms. Yadika Prasad
12:30pm – 13:30pm	Lunch break	
13:30pm – 14:15pm	Practical Session based on Activities	Mr. Dhirodatta Subba
14:15pm – 15:00pm	Practical Session based on Activities	Ms. Yadika Prasad

Day 4 [13/06/2020]

Time	Topic	Resource / Faculty
9:00am – 9:15am	Keynote address	Fr. George Thadathil, Principal
9:15am – 11:00am	Filmora – Making tutorial video	Mr. Nikhil Pradhan (Sonada)
11:00am – 12:30pm	Free Cam, OBS Studio – Making tutorial video	Mr. Abhijit Dey
12:30pm – 13:30pm	Lunch break	
13:30pm – 14:15pm	Practical session	Mr. Nikhil Pradhan
14:15pm – 15:00pm	Practical session	Mr. Abhijit Dey

Day 5 [15/06/2020]

Time	Topic	Resource / Faculty
9:00am – 9:15am	Keynote address	Fr. George Thadathil, Principal
9:15am – 10:45am	a. Creating question banks and quizzes b. Moodle for mathematics/ statistics	Mr. Dhirodatta Subba
10:45am – 11:45pm	Revisiting using ERP to maintain Moodle records.	Ms. Yadika Prasad
11:45pm – 12:30pm	Practical session	Mr. Dhirodatta Subba
11:45pm – 12:30pm	Lunch break	
13:30pm – 14:30pm	Practical Session	Ms. Yadika Prasad
14:30pm – 14:50pm	Feedback session	
14:50pm – 15:00pm	Vote of thanks	Mr. Dhirodatta Subba

Every day, Fr. Principal opened the program with 'thoughts for the day'. First day was on the need for why this training was organized in the first place. And every day, there were words of encouragement. They have been shared with the Salesian Radio. Before starting the technical session, each day, Mr. Dhirodatta Subba also mentioned a bit about the work done by the college over the years to bring the technology up to the level where it is today.

All sessions were conducted the by the designated faculty and all teaching materials are in place in the LMS. Moreover, all the practice works done by the participating faculty are also in the LMS.

Each day ended with a final thought by Fr. Principal again. As per advice from Fr. Principal, senior faculty from both campuses joined the last day program along with the junior faculty. This was done with the idea of refresher course for the senior ones as well as to connect with the junior faculty and to make everyone understand that we are working for a common goal and every one's contribution is important. Feedbacks were taken by way of online interactions, chats and also feedback forms.

List of participants:

Srl No.	Name	Department	Campus
1.	Mr. Anik Sarkar	English	Siliguri
2.	Ms. Avantika Thapa	Psychology	"
3.	Mr. Barun Roy	History	"
4.	Ms. Bedika Agarwal	Commerce	"
5.	Mr. Bickey Sharma	Economics	"
6.	Ms. Chingzong Helena Lepcha	Social Work	"
7.	Ms. Chunku Lepcha	Sociology	"
8.	Ms. Deepti Naidu	History	"
9.	Mr. Dipesh Patrick Baraily	Sports	"
10.	Mr. Dipjyoti Das	Mass Communications &Journalism	"
11.	Ms. Edna Shalini Clare Chettri	Social Work	"
12.	Ms. Jayeeta Saha	Commerce	"
13.	Mr. Mayukh Mazumdar	Physics	"
14.	Ms. Monika Rana	English	"
15.	Ms. Mrinali Moktan	Political Science	"
16.	Ms. Nawaneeta Subba	Mass Communications &Journalism	"
17.	Mr. Pinak Dey	Education	"
18.	Ms. Priscella Ghimiray	Education	"
19.	Ms. Ranita Chakrabortty	Education	"
20.	Ms. Ranu Sherpa	English	"
21.	Mr. Sangam Ghatani	Political Science	"
22.	Ms. Sarmila Biswakarma	Psychology	"
23.	Mr. Sopidulia Hoque	Sports	"
24.	Ms. Srijana Sinha	Geography	"
25.	Mr. Subhrajit Saha	Statistics	"
26.	Ms. Sujata Sinha	Physics	"
27.	Dr. Suvradip Dasgupta	English	"
28.	Dr. Deepjoy Katuwal		Sonada
29.	Mr. Samip Sinchuri	Sociology	"
30.	Mr. Pukar Tamang	History	"
31.	Ms. Jessica Merilyn Nyss	Political Science	"
32.	Ms. Kriti Biswakarma	BBA/B.Com	"
33.	Ms. Sneha Manger	Political Science	"
34.	Mr. Rakesh Saibo	Sports Management	"
35.	Ms. Deborah Shreya Khaiba	Mass Communications	"
36.	Mr. Rahul Pradhan	English	"
37.	Ms. Sophia Rai	Sociology	"

FDP 2:"Digital Education - Getting Equipped", 16/06/2020-17/06/2020

Lists of senior faculty were obtained from the offices of both campuses.

Distribution of responsibilities were as follows:

Day 1 [16/06/2020]

Time	Topic	Resource / Faculty
9:00am – 9:15am	Keynote address	Fr. George Thadathil, Principal
	Making tutorial videos – part I	
9:15am – 11:00am	kdenlive	Mr. Patrick Johnson
11:00am – 12:30pm	Mobile phone video editing	Mr. Ravi Bhushan
	Filmora 9	Mr. Dipjyoti Das
12:30pm – 13:30pm	Lunch break	
13:30pm – 14:20pm	Making audio lessons: Audacity	Fr. C M Paul and Mr. Bryan Kerr
	Making tutorial videos – part II	
14:25pm – 14:50pm	Openshot, OBS Studio	Mr. Abhijit Dey
14:50pm – 15:00pm	Software access	Mr. Dhirodatta Subba

Day 2 [17/06/2020]

Time	Topic	Resource / Faculty
9:00am – 9:15am	Keynote address	Fr. George Thadathil, Principal
9:15am – 9:45am	Feedback/ experience sharing on Moodle LMS	Mr. Subhajit Bose
8:45am – 11:00pm	Moodle administration	Ms. Yadika Prasad
11:00am – 11:45am	Frameworks and assessments	Mr. Dhirodatta Subba
11:45pm – 12:30pm	Online examination	Mr. Subhajit Bose
12:30pm – 13:30pm	Lunch break	
13:30pm – 13:55pm	Hotpotatoes and Ispring	Ms. Yadika Prasad
13:55pm – 14:20pm	Padlet	Mr. Patrick Johnson
14:20pm – 14:45pm	Adobe Spark	Mr. Tanay Bhadra
14:45pm – 15:00pm	Google Suite	Mr. Dhirodatta Subba

Participants:

Srl No.	Name	Department	Campus
1.	Chandan Gupta	Commerce	Siliguri
2.	Chimme Tamang	Political Science	"
3.	Debarati Deb	Commerce	"
4.	Debdut Sengupta	Mathematics	"
5.	Dipanker Rai		"
6.	Dr. Bipul Chhetri	Geography	"
7.	Dr. Dipankar Rudra	BBA	"
8.	Dr. Gunjeet Aurora Mehta	English	"
9.	Dr. Siddarth Rai	Physics	"
10.	Fr. (Dr.) Babu Joseph	History	"
11.	Fr. (Dr.) George Chempakathinal	Management	"
12.	Ganga Parajuli	Education	"
13.	Gunjan Agarwal	Commerce	"
14.	Manisha Pradhan	History	"
15.	Peter Lepcha	English	"
16.	Prasenjit Bhowmick	Commerce	"
17.	Priya Topno	Education	"
18.	Priyanka Shaw	Commerce	"
19.	Rachel Salomit Sitling	Sociology	"
20.	Risha Chettri	Commerce	"
21.	Rupam Majumder	BBA	"
22.	Saptami Sarkar	Geography	"
23.	Snigdha Roy	Mathematics	"
24.	Subhajit Paul	Mathematics	"
25.	Surendra Kumar Saha	Commerce	"
26.	Tanisha Kansal	Commerce	"
27.	Vivek Kalikotay	Sociology	"
28.	Dhirendra Newar	BBA	Sonada
29.	Manisha Thami	Political Science	"
30.	Manoresh Thapa	Commerce	"
31.	Privat Giri	Mass Communications	"
32.	Samar Thapa	Environmental Studies	"
33.	Sradha Pradhan	Education	"
34.	Sumina Chettri	Sociology	"
35.	Dr. Terence Mukhia	Philosophy/ English	"
36.	Tsering Dolma Sherpa	BBA	"
37.	Uday Mall	Commerce	"
38.	K. Vasudeba Naidu	English	"
39.	Shruti Chettri	Mass Communications	"
40.	Pawan Rai	Political Science	"
41.	Nomu Sherpa	Sociology	"
42.	Prayana Subba	History	"
43	Prayash Rai	History	"
44.	Prashant Rai	Nepali	"
45.	Sreha Agarwal	B. Com	"

Each day's program went on as scheduled, except second day when Mr. Subhajit Bose sir's session, due the breakdown of his computers, had to be taken over by Mr. Dhirodata Subba. One of the objectives of the workshop was to prepare faculty to conduct online exams, and not only to facilitate teaching. A specific session was dedicated to setting Science questions, specifically Mathematics, Statistics and Physics as they involve using scientific notations, equations and expressions. Another session was dedicated to Frameworks and assessments that describe how to make Learning Plans and how to map Course objectives to Competencies in the system so how far the objectives have been met could be assessed by the management. Multiple ways of constructing quizzes/questions were discussed. Moodle administration was also addressed. Making tutorial videos was extensively done addressing both personal computer and mobile phone approaches. New platform introduction was about Google Suite for Education. Some Departments have large number of students in a class/ section and conducting online classes was an issue to be resolved. The Tech Team applied for G Suite for Education with Google. With this up to 250 participants could be accommodated in a class through Meet application. The G Suite has a number of features, and unlimited space was another important one. Automatic recording of video class was yet another great feature.

At the end of the program, Fr. Principal appreciated the efforts made by the Tech Team in conducting the workshop and congratulated all participants.

The Tech Team would like to thank the College Management for entrusting the job of training fellow colleagues and also those faculty who volunteered to be the resource person.

Last, but not the least, Mr. Amit Lepcha, our Designer and Reprographer deserves appreciation for the work of designing the brochure every time some event is being organized by the College.



Mr. Dhirodatta Subba
Head, Tech Team
30/06/2020

Department of Mathematics
Departmental Report for August – November, 2020
Subhajit Paul
November 16, 2020

The main pivot around which the entire teaching-learning process in this semester of 2020-21 academic session is revolving is the live online classes. After a comprehensive meeting with the management, faculty members and the students, it has been decided to conduct three classes daily to compensate the incommensurable difficulties arising in the process from numerous concerns. According to this agreement, regular classes are being conducted by the department. Recordings of the classes are also linked in the LMS as well.

Reports on other events are mentioned below:

New faculty recruitment

Mr Anuj Kr Bhagat, an ex-student of the department, has been appointed as a full-time lecturer for the department on a contractual basis.

Webinar organised

A webinar on "The story of π" was organised by the department on August 26, 2020. The main speaker for the same was Prof Nayandeep Deka Baruah from Tezpur University.

Results of the University examinations

- The department had extended its all possible helping hands to conduct the Part III University examinations in the month of October. The results are out and are extremely satisfying. All six students have secured first class marks in their honours aggregate. Rajan Kr Yadav has topped the batch with 76% marks in his honours aggregate.

- Our ex-student Anuj Kr Bhagat has secured the first place in MSc final examination under University of North Bengal.

New admissions

A total of 14 students have taken admission in the first semester so far. One student, Bibek Das, has withdrawn his admission because of his father's job transfer to a different place. So, the total student count in the first year stands at 13; which is a whooping increment from last year's tally, 8.

Students' attendance

Students' attendance in the online classes are satisfactory for the first and second year batches. A few students from the third year batch are showing indifference towards the classes after repeated reminders.

Completion and revision of the syllabus

- The truncated syllabi for the current semester are more than 80% finished for the second and third year batches. Classes for the papers where truncated syllabus is over are being continued with the full syllabus. Truncated syllabi for the first year are around 40% completed.

- In view of the upcoming University examination for the second and fourth semesters in the month of December, the department has decided to complete and revise the earlier curriculum after Diwali vacation. The makeshift time-table has also been prepared for the same.

Joint events

- **Teachers' appreciation day:** On September 5, 2020, students from all departments of sciences organised the Teachers' appreciation day.

- **Freshers' welcome:** On September 15, 2020, students of second and third years from all departments of sciences organised the Freshers' welcome ceremony for the new-coming batch of students.

- **eComPhyMathix:** The online edition of the inter-school tech fest eComPhyMathix will be organised by all faculty members and students from all departments of sciences on November 28-29, 2020. Preparations for the event are in full swing at the moment.

Trends in Science and Technology - TIST 2020



A two-day National Conference on "Trends in Science and Technology 2020" was organised by the Science Departments of Salesian College, Siliguri campus, on 28th and 29th February 2020. It began with the lighting of the lamps by the dignitaries and the college management followed by prayer led by Rev. Father Mathew Pulingathil, Rector, Siliguri campus. Mr. Dhirodatta Subba (Dean of Science) conducted the welcoming ceremony and outlined the background of the Conference and mentioned that it aimed at providing a platform for exchanging views on latest trends in the realm of Science and Technology, knowledge sharing by domain experts and research scholars, and also to establish connections with institutions of National importance with the people of this region. He laid emphasis on the fact that it was also the National Science Day.



Fr. (Dr.) Mathew Pulingathil

Father (Dr.) George Thadathil, Principal of the College, continued with the words of welcome to all who were present and threw coherent light on the relevance of organising such conference in the context of the current scenario of higher education in India. He emphasised the influence of technology in our digital age and the need to keep up with times by all who are involved in education. Further, the theme for this year's National Science Day being "Women in Science" he invited all lady faculties to the dais for felicitation. It was a pleasant surprise;



Fr. (Dr.) George Thadathil

but was well received by the lady faculties. After this, the keynote speaker – Professor Durga Charan



Lady faculties of Science Departments



Professor Durga Charan Dalal

Professor Durga Charan Dalal delivered his "National Science Day" talk on this year's theme *"Women in Science."* Starting with the basis – the discovery of "Raman Effect" on 28th February 1928 by the great scientist, C V Raman – he led us through a short history of "National Science Day" observation from the year 1987 by the National Council for Science and Technology (BCSTC). Then he mentioned about the "Matilda effect" which is the systematic underestimation of the scientific achievements of women scientists in research. The Matilda effect was named after the American women's rights activist Matilda Joslyn Gage, who first observed the phenomenon in the 19th century (1870). History is replete with examples of discrimination against women in science and of the "Matilda effect". Examples included Trofula, Nettie Stevens, Rosalind Franklin, Marthe Gautier, Maria Sklodowska Curie, Maryam Mirzakhani, Kadambini Ganguly, Rajeswari Chatterjee, Aditi Pant, Kalpana Chawla, Gagandeep Kang. This was an eye opener for many. Even today many qualified women remain away from mainstream research and do not have the opportunity to work as benchmark scientists. Possible solutions were presented and different government schemes were also presented. After the talk was over, a short break was proposed so the speaker could have a breather as he would present the keynote address. It was tea break for everyone.

Soon after Professor Dalal began his keynote address. It was titled *"Heterogeneous multiscale method to study particle size effects in drug delivery".* It was about a study done using mathematical model that

is heterogeneous in the sense that it takes into consideration both macroscale and microscale behaviour of magnetic nanoparticle transport and deposition in tissues. This model may help predict the biological system's responses to the chemotherapeutic substances, and can be used to study the delivery of chemotherapeutic substances to the diseased sites. At the end we could only say that the subject was very high level and beyond most participant's comprehension level.



Dr. Partha Pratim Mohanta

Dr. Sidharth Rai, Head, Department of Physics proposed the vote of thanks to the speaker. Fr. Principal presented the memento and certificate to the speaker. We then moved to the first technical session. The Plenary speaker for this session was Dr. Partha Pratim Mohanta, Scientist C, from Indian Statistical Institute, Baranagar, Kolkata. He was introduced by Mr. Subhajit Bose, faculty, Department of CSA. He spoke on *"Machine Learning and its Applications."* Most of the web sites we are familiar with like YouTube, Netflix, Amazon, Google, Facebook etc. use Artificial Intelligence (AI) driven by Machine Learning at the core. Another example of AI is Video Captioning. Then he went unto explaining what AI is, followed by Data Science - which is about the use of statistical methods to find patterns in the data - and how it works with AI. Then followed Machine Learning (ML) which is an approach of AI that provides systems the ability to automatically learn and improve from experience without being explicitly programmed. The three types of ML – supervised, unsupervised and reinforcement learning. Statistical tools used – classification, regression and clustering. Application of ML in Image processing like Image Dehazing, Image Completion, Optical Character Recognition, Action recognition in videos etc.

This Plenary talk was followed by presentation *"A Study in Bacterial Protein Sequence Patterns – the curious case of Sonorensin"* by Dr. Protip Basu from the Department of Botany, Siliguri College. His research was about Sonorensin, a specific type of bacteriocin which comes under the category of Antimicrobial Peptidesor (AMPs) that are ribosomally synthesized by various Lactic Acid Bacteria (LAB). They defend against pathogenic bacteria and food spoilage bacteria. Pathogenic bacteria form extracellular polymeric substance (EPS) which is a biofilm on the surface of the host tissue that cause problems with absorption and secretion phenomena of the tissue. These are generally encountered in many multi drug resistant (MDR) infections. Bacteriocins, in particular, Peptidesor, have been found to be very effective in getting rid of such biofilms.

The next presentation was *"EBEX and the search for inflation"* by Mr. Bikramjit Chandra, an independent researcher. EBEX was explained as the balloon-borne Cosmic Microwave Background (CMB) radiation polarization experiment that was launched on 29 December 2012, near McMurdo Station in Antarctica. It circled around the South Pole using the polar vortex winds before landing on 24 January 2013 about 400 miles from McMurdo. The aim had been to try to find a residual marker for "inflation" - the idea that the cosmos experienced an exponential growth spurt in its first trillionth, of a trillionth of a trillionth of a second. It came with a very specific prediction - that it would be associated with waves of gravitational energy, and that these ripples in the fabric of space would leave an indelible mark on the oldest light in the sky - the famous Cosmic Microwave Background. Scientists have now identified

that signal. They call it B-mode polarisation. It is a characteristic twist in the directional properties of the CMB. Only the gravitational waves moving through the Universe in its inflationary phase could have produced such a marker. This finding confirms the Big Bang theory. After this interesting presentation, we took the lunch break.



Mr. Sandeep Sengupta

The plenary speaker for the afternoon session, Mr. Sandeep Sengupta, Director of ISOAH (Indian School of Anti Hacking) also known as ISOEH (Indian School of Ethical Hacking) – a Kolkata based company – was introduced by Mr. Dhirodatta Subba. His presentation was on *"Information securities in digital India"*. Midway he asked if anyone could recognise the lady in the picture. When none could, he mentioned that she was the beauty and brain in one place – Hedy Lamarr, born Hedwig Eva Maria Kiesler, an Austrian born American actress, inventor and film producer. She was part of 30 films in an acting career spanning 28 years, and co-invented an early version of frequency-hopping spread spectrum, a radio guidance system for torpedoes. Then he went on to explain the changing landscape of industry and how the jobs are changing and what new skills are expected from the new generation of students. He talked about the "conservation of jobs" giving examples of automobile industry where soon all cars will be replaced by driverless cars and so many drivers are going to lose their existing jobs. So those who lose jobs will have to skill themselves in other areas where the job prospects are growing. The continuous development of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning are bringing in huge changes. They are connected with Data mining and Data Science which deal with huge amount of data to discover hidden intelligence. At the same there are advances taking place in Robotics. Robots are being employed in places that have to do routine jobs, especially in manufacturing; and also in high risk areas. Another area is that of Internet of Things (IoT) where many devices that are used day to day like home appliances, smart watches, smart phones, vehicles etc are going to be interconnected.



Signing of MoU with ISOAH

In the highly internetworked systems, the security is of very high importance. This is where there are lots of job prospects for youngsters as cybersecurity experts. There is a huge gap in demand vs supply of trained professionals in this area. In short, the speaker provided many leads for students to get skilled to increase their job prospects as well as business prospects.

After this presentation, Fr. Principal presented him with memento and certificate. It was also a day when our college signed a MoU with ISOAH for training our students. This was a welcome step of Academia-Industry partnership.

Then followed presentation by Mr. Debdut Sengupta, faculty, Department of Mathematics, Siliguri Campus. His paper was titled: "*On a decomposition of* **R** *as a sum of Cantor like* G_δ *sets.*" A well known result in decomposition of the real number set states that R can be written as a union of two disjoint sets A and B such that A is of first category and B is of Lebesgue measure zero, It is also proved that C + C = [0, 2] where C is the Cantor middle one-third set obtained from [0, 1], which is an uncountable, nowhere dense, totally disconnected, dense-in-itself with Lebesgue measure zero. In this it was established that the entire space **R** admits similar decompositions where component sets are G_δ sets of bilateral condensation. Next speaker was Mr. Subhadeep Rakshit, research scholar, Department of Physics, Sikkim University. His topic was *"First step for bootstrapping N = 2 stress tensor."* The treatment was highly technical and involved advanced mathematics. This was followed by another presentation by Mr. Jayanta Roy, research scholar at the Department of Mathematics, University of North Bengal. His topic was *"Uniqueness of Meromorphic functions sharing a set of roots of unity."* Uniqueness theory of entire or meromorphic functions has grown up as an active subfield of the value distribution theory. This was again a journey of mathematical proof built on a number theorems.

The last presentation of the first day was a student presentation by Aditya Singh, a first year student of Economics honours. His spoke on *"Climate change and Environmental economics"* where he mentioned that Environmental economics is playing an increasingly central role in understanding the cause of and designing policy solutions to contemporary environmental and resource problems, for example, in creation of markets to efficiently regulate pollutants such as acid rain and carbon emission.

Thus we came to the end of the first day program. Group photo session followed.

The second day program which was the third technical session started at 9:30 am by observing a one minute silence for the departed soul of Rahul Chettri's father. Rahul, a student of BCA 2nd semester, was one of the student participants who was supposed to do his presentation along with his classmate



Aditya Singh



Amit Singh



Rudraneel Chakraborty

Amit Singh, had this unforeseen event come to his family on this very day, and understandably, could not be present to deliver it. His place was immediately filled up by 4th semester BCA student Tshewang Tamang. The duo presented the topic

"WhatsApp vs WeChat," which was interesting for the students as well as teachers as most communications are through WhatsApp today.

The second student presentation was by Rudraneel Chakraborty, a first year student of Physics honours. He spoke on *"The first image of black hole"* where he took us in the journey of how the first ever picture of a black hole was taken as we all know nothing comes back, not even light, once they reach the vicinity of a black hole. This picture was taken by studying the object at the Messier 87 galaxy in the Virgo cluster by using the Event Horizon Telescope and after two years of observation.

Next presentation was by the trio of Drishya Agarwal (BCA 4th semester), Sewta Pradhan (B. Sc CS, 4th semester) and Nawraj Luitel (BCA 2nd semester). Their presentation was on "5G Technology", another important technology that is going to change our lives. Details mentioned what 5G is, how it works and how it is different from previous generations of mobile communications. Its tremendous speed and huge bandwidth is what is needed for the new world of Internet of Things (IoT) and autonomous cars.



Tshewang Tamang



Drishya Agarwal



Sweta Pradhan

The last student presentation was by Shrawan Rai and Priyam Rai, both first year students of Physics honours. They spoke on *"ITER – The new Sun."* ITER was explained as International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor which is an international nuclear fusion research and engineering megaproject and the reactor is being built next to the Cadarache facility in Saint-Paul-lès-Durance, in Provence, southern France. The project is funded and run by seven member entities—the European Union, India, Japan, China, Russia, South Korea and the United States. This is a work in progress and hopefully will yield an alternative source of energy in near future.



Shrawan Rai



Nawraj Liotel

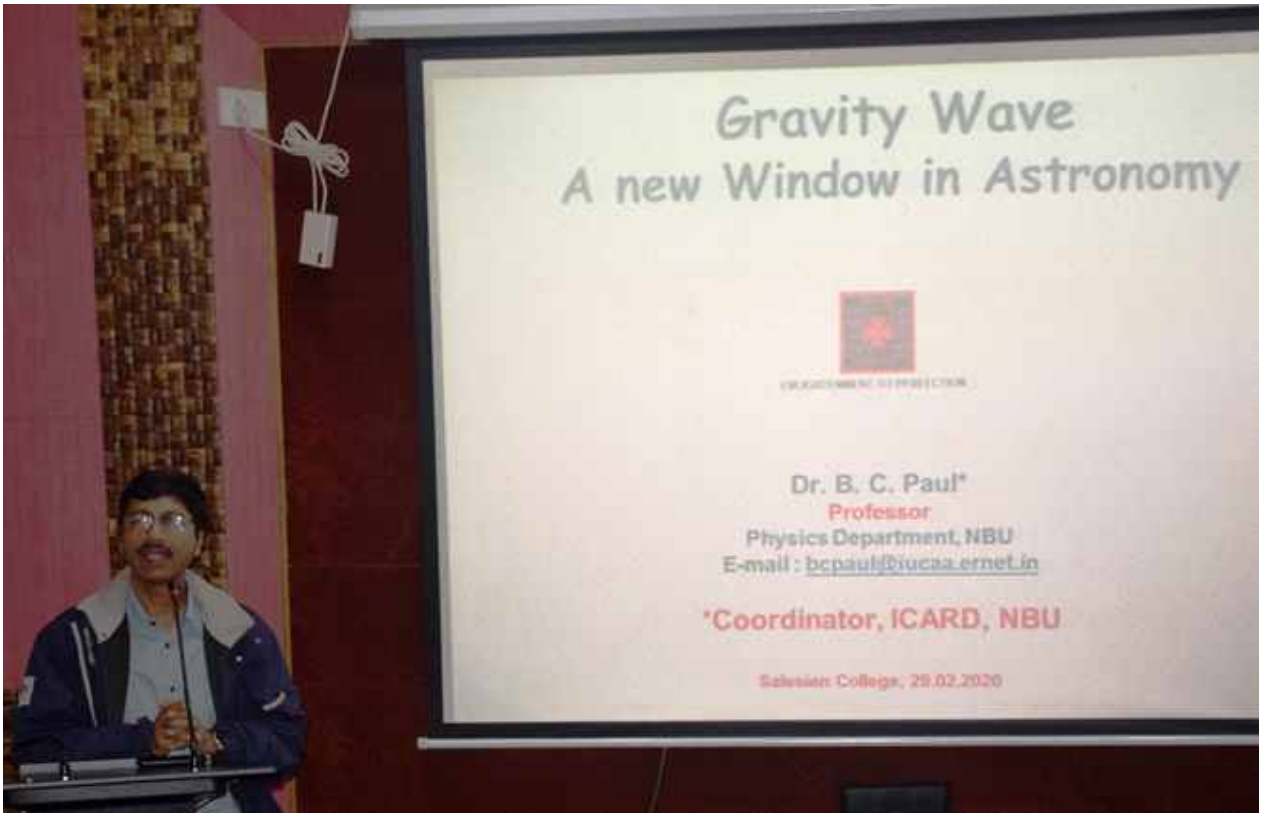
After the student presentation, we had a short tea break. It was followed by presentation by Mr. Samar Thapa, faculty, Department of Environmental studies, Salesian College, Sonada Campus. His presentation was titled *"Built environment and our common future."* This was based on his research papers:

- S. Thapa, A.K. Bansal , G.K. Panda , M. Indraganti, Adaptive thermal comfort in the different buildings of Darjeeling hills in eastern India – Effect of difference in elevation in Energy and Buildings, 173, Elsevier, 2018, pp. 649–677

- S. Thapa, M. Indraganti, Evaluation of thermal comfort in two neighboring climatic zones in Eastern India – an adaptive approach, Energy and Buildings, Elsevier, 2020, vol. 213

The last presenter of this technical session was Mr. Mayukh Mazumdar, faculty, Department of Physics, Siliguri Campus. His presentation was titled *"Multifractal analysis of time series."* It was a study on multifractal detrended moving average (MFDMA) analysis of global temperature records over the period 1850 - 2012. The study revealed that the multifractality originated in the original series from two distinct sources—long range correlation and fat-tail distribution function of the data.

Then it was time for the plenary session. The speaker, Professor B C Paul, Dean of Science, University of North Bengal, was introduced by Dr. Sidharth Rai. His talk was titled *"Gravity Wave, A new window in Astronomy."* It was about the journey of how gravity waves were discovered and confirmed by astronomers. The concept of gravitational wave came after Einstein announced the General Theory of Relativity (GTR) in 1916. Experimental detection of gravitational wave remained a great challenge for many years.



Professor B. C. Paul, Dean of Science, University of North Bengal

A number of detectors came up to detect GW namely, LIGO, TAMA, LISA. When a pair of black holes – each about 30 times solar mass – collided 1.3 billion years ago, the event generated gravitational waves rippling across the universe. Advanced Mathematical Techniques were used on High Performance Computers to identify the signals buried deep in the noise. GW signal from the source GW150914 was first discovered by LIGO one at Hanford and other at Livingston detectors simultaneously on Sept 15, 2014. The observed signal was created by the merger of two massive black holes at a distance 1.3 billion light years away. The mass of the Black Holes are 36 and 29 times the mass of the sun. Gravitational waves are one of the most interesting predictions of General Relativity, and provide an unprecedented probe of extreme gravity environments in the Universe.

The detection of Gravitational Waves was a huge scientific breakthrough. It opened up new window to the universe beyond the region which are accessible by the electromagnetic waves.

After the Plenary talk got over there was time for question answer session and many interesting questions were asked and the speaker replied them brilliantly. Thus we came to the end of the technical session. Then immediately followed the Valedictory session and the guests of honour were presented mementos and certificates and paper presenters and participants were given certificates. Vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. Subhajit Paul, Head, Department of Mathematics, Salesian College, Siliguri Campus. Finally, the program came to a close with words of appreciation and encouragements by Fr. Aju Kurian, Vice Principal, Siliguri Campus.

Responsibility Chart:

Registration	**Logistics**
Faculty in charge: Ms. Snigdha Roy	Faculties in charge: Dedut Sengupta, Tanay Bhadra
• Pallavi Jha, Pandim Rana – Maths (Hons), 2nd Year • Elma Zarin Angel Ramapaheli – Maths (Hons), 1st Year	• Tshewang Tamang, Divit Rana, Ranjan Chettri - BCA 2nd Year • Gyanesh Dubey, Ayush Pradhan – Physics (Hons), 2nd Year • Suhail Ahmed, Nawraj Luitel, Aaron Sherpa – BCA, 1st Year • Aditya Singh – Economics (Hons), 1st Year
Hospitality	**Food**
Faculties in charge: Sujata Sinha, Debasmita De	Faculty in charge: Abhijit Dey
Kritika Rai, Suashna Rai – Maths (Hons), 2nd Year Rashmi, Shrawan Rai	Nikita Choudhury – BCA, 2nd Year
Technical	**Reporting**
Faculty in charge: Subhajit Bose	Faculties in charge: Dhirodatta Subba, Yadika Prasad
• Aaditya Shreshtha – BCA 2nd Year • Diwakar Dahal – B. Sc (CS), 2nd Year • Sidhant Raj Pradhan – BCA, 1st Year • Raj Kamal Jha – Maths (Hons), 1st Year	• Sweta Pradhan, Ayesha Ahmed – B. Sc (CS) 2nd Year • Liha Subba, Sonali Sharma, Jatin Mirania – Maths (Hons), 2nd Year • Shrinkhala Bhujel, Angel Ramapaheli – Maths (Hons), 1st Year
Photography	Assisted by Department of Mass Communications & Journalism
Faculties in charge: Mayukh Mazumdar, Subhraj Saha	Suhail Ahmed – BCA, 1st Year Sachin Kumar – BCA, 2nd Year

The organising committee is ever grateful to the College management without whose support and blessings this event would not have been possible. This is the fourth consecutive year we, the Science Departments, have been privileged to host this National Conference. We express our heartfelt gratitude to all the volunteers – students, support staff, campus coordinators and faculties. With everyone's cooperation we hope to take our Institution forward in the path of excellence.

Report compiled by:
Mr. Dhirodatta Subba, Dean (Science) & HoD,
Department of CSA -
with inputs from the following:
Jatin Mirania, Liha Subba (Mathematics second year)
Sweta Pradhan (Computer Sc. second year)
Shrinkhala Bhujel, Angel Ranapaheli (Mathematics, first Year)

Credits:
Department of Mass Communications & Journalism, for Photography and Videography,
Suhail Ahmed (BCA second semester) for Photography

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SALESIAN COLLEGE
SILIGURI & SONADA

DigiTrek

A Science Deanery half-yearly Magazine

SCIENCE DEPARTMENTS OF SALESIAN COLLEGE

June 2021

1 Trends in Science and Technology - TIST 2021

A one day National Conference on "Trends in Science and Technology 2021" was organised by the Science Departments of Salesian College, Siliguri campus, on 28th February 2021.

2 Departmental Activity: Student Presentation

In order to inculcate ethics, etiquette, communication skills and inter-personality development among students the Department of Physics has been conducting weekly (Saturdays) in-house seminar.

3 Internet of Things : The Dawn of a New Era

Over the past few decades, the internet has made astounding progress and increased its outreach and compatibility with devices. Not so long ago, internet used to be a PC luxury, then came the era of phones with mail, and then smart phones.



90.8 RADIO SALESIAN VOICE OF THE HILLS

Salesian TV Sonada | Siliguri

Trends in Science and Technology - TIST 2021



A one day National Conference on "Trends in Science and Technology 2021" was organised by the Science Departments of Salesian College, Siliguri campus, on 28th February 2021. It was held in blended mode where dignitaries and some participants attended online and organisers and some participants attended offline. It began with the lighting of the lamp by the Fr. (Dr.) George Thadathil, Rector and Principal, Salesian College, Dr. S C Das, Rtd. Professor of Physics, Mr. Dhirodatta Subba Dean of Science, Mr. Subhajit Paul, Head, Department of Mathematics and Mr. Prajwal Chettri, Head, Department of Physics. Dr. S C Das conducted welcoming ceremony and outlined the background of the Conference and mentioned that it aimed at providing a platform for exchanging views on latest trends in the realm of Science and Technology, knowledge sharing by domain experts and research scholars, and also to establish connections with institutions of National importance with the people of this region. He laid emphasis on the fact that we were observing the National Science Day.



Dr. S C Das

Father (Dr.) George Thadathil, Principal of the College, continued with welcoming all and then moved to introduction of the program to all who were present and threw coherent light on the relevance of organising such conference in the context of the current scenario of higher education in India, despite the pandemic situation throughout the world. He emphasised the importance of technology in higher education and the need to keep up with times, especially in regard to the major changes being brought in with reference to the new National Education Policy. After this, the keynote speaker – Dr.



Father (Dr.) George Thadathil

Arnab Chakraborty, Associate Professor, Applied Statistics Unit, Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata, was introduced by Mr. Subhajit Paul, Head, Department of Mathematics, Siliguri Campus.



Dr. Arnab Chakraborty

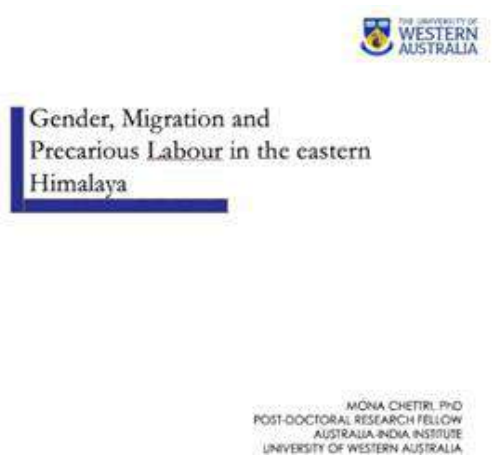
Dr. Arnab Chakraborty delivered his "National Science Day" talk on this year's theme "Future of Science Technology and Innovation: Impacts on Education, Skills, and Work". Starting with four fundamental observations:

(a) the country is technologically impoverished
(b) our country was great – Aryabhatta, Brahmagupta, Madhavacharya and the invention of *Calculus*
(c) our country is great – Nobel prize winning scientists like Satyen Bose, Jagdish Chandra Bose, Ramanujan, C V Raman and others
(d) booming of higher education institutions

Dr. Chakraborty went on to present his own take on the state of things. First thing that he was critical about was the mercenary attitude of his countrymen in matters related to Science and Technology – that the people involved, in general, across all institutions, were doing work for financial benefits, for publishing in reputed journals and because government has that project funded, and not for the love of it. He went on to say that our people were good at utilising apps, technologies developed by others but poor in creating original products, be they software or others. He also mentioned inadequacy of infrastructure support in institutions to support research. He further mentioned people's attitude of running after high end advanced research areas in science and technology whereas research and development in simple areas could have made more sense due to its applicability in people's daily lives.
He concluded with the opinion that people need to be more innovative and more practical minded and ready to put in more effort in originality and not let others exploit our weaknesses.

There was interactive session after the keynote talk. Fr. George Thadathil, our Principal, expressed his agreement on the views shared by the speaker. He, however, mentioned that all was not lost by giving the example of own institution where we developed our own Enterprise Resource Planning software, after having experimented with a Software company for such system for three years. This was followed by a short intermission before the next session.
The first technical session was chaired by Mr. Bicky Sharma, Head, Department of Economics. He introduced the plenary speaker Dr. Mona Chettri, post-doctoral research fellow, Australia-India Institute, University of Western Australia. Dr. Mona's talk was titled *"Gender, migration and the precarious labour in the Eastern Himalayan region"*. She started by acknowledging that she was the only speaker from the Social Science and she thanked Fr. Principal and the organisers for extending the invitation to her. She mentioned that she was from Sikkim and that her research studies are on Sikkim and Darjeeling Hills.
Her focus of the talk was on young, mobile women who are working in the informal sector - primarily in manufacturing and servicing sector, and situated in Sikkim. Key points of her talks were:

- Emergence of new labouring class as a result of globalisation and liberalisation
- Intersections of gendered constructions of labour and liberalisation
- The increasing precarity and instability of employment in the Eastern Himalaya

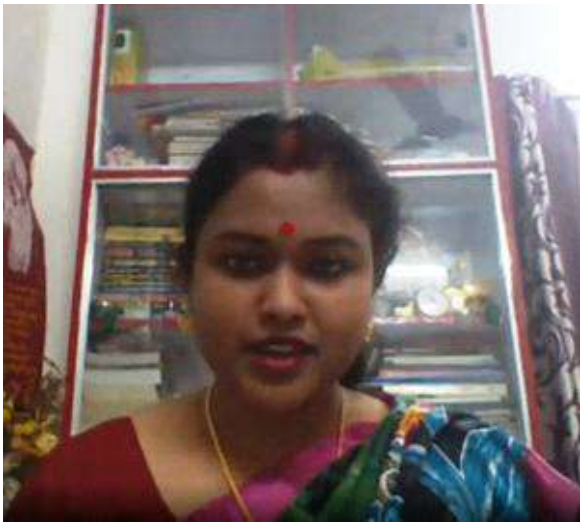




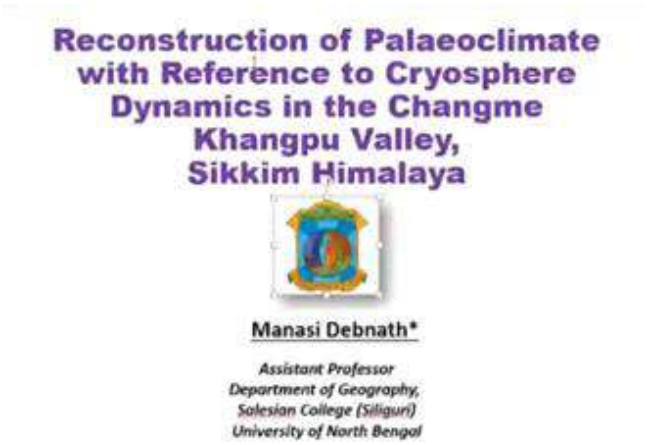
Dr. Mona Chettri

Majority of these women come from educationally or economically disadvantaged families. They are working in factories, shops, malls, restaurants and cafes – low paying jobs and having no safety nets because of the informal employment sector. This sector is thriving due to government incentives, and globalisation and changing consumption patterns of people and business owners trying to increase sales. This is causing significant migration of female population from rural to urban areas. Most of them are first generation employees in this sector. They are at increased risk of exploitation. So, on the one hand they are getting employment; on the other hand, they are being exploited too. She left with the question of finding and developing safety nets for this group of people. Her talk ended with a short question and answer session.

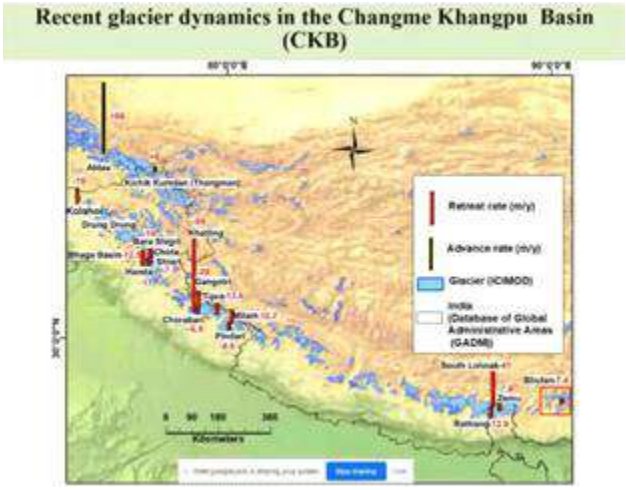
The next presenter was Ms. Manasi Debnath, faculty, Department of Geography, Salesian College. Her presentation was on *"Reconstruction of Paleoclimate with reference to Cryosphere dynamics in the Changme Khanpu Valley, Sikkim"*.



Ms. Manasi Debnath



She started by explaining paleoclimate as climatology prior to the instrumental records of temperature, precipitation and other weather phenomena. She mentioned that such studies have been done for other parts of the Himalayas like Garhwal, Karakoram, Nepal and south-east China. It is important to know the information for future modelling as some civilisations have been lost in the past due to abrupt climatic changes. This leads us to the glaciers in the Himalayas. In Sikkim, glaciers



are retreating at fast rates. Her study was about reconstruction of a model of past glacier landform within the Changme-Khangpu valley and identification and assessment of paleoclimate changes within the Quartenary period. She led us through the analysis of her study where she explained the chronological events that took place in the past in the formation and movement of this glacier and corroborated the findings with studies done elsewhere. She also explained that her data came from Sentinel 2A, LANDSAT 8-OLI, SRTM-DEM and field survey. She also explained the methodology used in the investigation. Due to paucity of time, question-answer session was skipped and program moved to the next presentation.

The next speaker was Dr. Protip Basu from Siliguri College. The topic was "*Amalgamation of Sequence Bioinformatics and structural Bioinformatics – teaching Bioinformatics to lay persons and non-biologists*". He spoke on how to bring about changes in methods of teaching that would help students reach the right place quickly. He took, for example, the ncbi site which is the go-to place for all students of biology. However, getting to the right place is not easy.





Dr. Protip Basu

He mentioned that due to the pandemic situation, our dependence on technology is increasing and we are having to continue education in the new normal. Key points of his talk were:

- Intelligent use of search engines. For example, in case of NCBI portal, students can narrow down the search by choosing the right database, followed by using key word combinations in proper manner, so the search result list is narrow and specific. Moreover, the portal provides some colour coding in the result pages and the balloon/context sensitive help feature is of great help. Similarly, searching google also can be made smarter by making use of the advanced features and the choice of right combinations of key words.
- Teachers to make the presentation by making use of animated graphics, colour schemes with explanations.

- Search results to be stored locally and BLAST (Basic Local Alignment Search Tool) to be applied.
- His research on structures of protein (PDB – Protein Data Bank portal), crystal structure of Human Argonaut (4OLA).

This was followed by lunch break.

The second technical session was chaired by Dr. Prajwal Chettri, Head, Department of Physics. He introduced the plenary speaker Prof. Somendra Mohan Bhattacharjee, Head of Department of Physics, Ashoka University. His talk was titled *"Emergent phenomena: more is different"*.



Prof. Somendra M Bhattacharjee

Prof. Bhattacharjee started from Paul Adrian Maurice Dirac's 1929 controversial statement: "quantum mechanics is now almost complete ... [and] the underlying physical laws necessary for the mathematical theory of a large part of physics and the whole of chemistry are thus completely known", although he admitted that "the difficulty is only that the exact application of these laws leads to equations much too complicated to be soluble."

This sweeping statement was due to the success of Quantum Mechanics which overpowered everything in those days, and influenced the works of Physicists for decades. They forgot how science started – through observations and measurements. The laws of motion and gravitation discovered much earlier by Kepler and Newton could explain planetary motions well, and they had nothing to do with Quantum Mechanics. In truth, what works at the micro scale, in the constituents, changes / emerges into something quite different at macro scale. He gave a number of illustrations to show emergent behaviour – traffic jam with cars on the road, matter changing from solid to liquid to gas, probability distribution of gas molecules in terms of speed/ energy [Maxwell-Boltzmann distribution] giving rise to Boyle's law, Charles' Law. So, reasoning in the same way, Newton's law is really an emergent phenomena of quantum mechanics laws. In the same way collections of cars each obeying Newton's laws of motion, ends up behaving in a different way at traffic jams – involving probabilistic and statistical factors. This was what was termed "more is different" by a Nobel laureate Philip W. Anderson of Princeton University.



Mr. Bikramjit Chandra

The next presenter was Mr. Bikramjit Chandra, faculty, Department of Physics, Salesian College. His presentation was titled "*Detection of Phosphene in the Venusian atmosphere – A Discussion*".

There was a paper published by Jane S. Greaves and associates in September 2020 *titled "Phosphine gas in the clod decks of Venus"*. This was a paper on Radio and Planetary Astronomy. It created quite a bit of excitement among the scientists who are hopeful of discovering signs of life in other planets. It claimed that they used two radio telescopes JCMT and ALMA and detected phosphine, a bio signature gas, at 56 km height from the surface of Venus. Their conclusion was based on 5 year data from the telescopes. Existence of life forms was a conjecture from the 70's and some papers were written in 2017 and 2020 prior to the current paper, where it was

suggested that between 40 – 70 km from the surface, conditions were favourable.

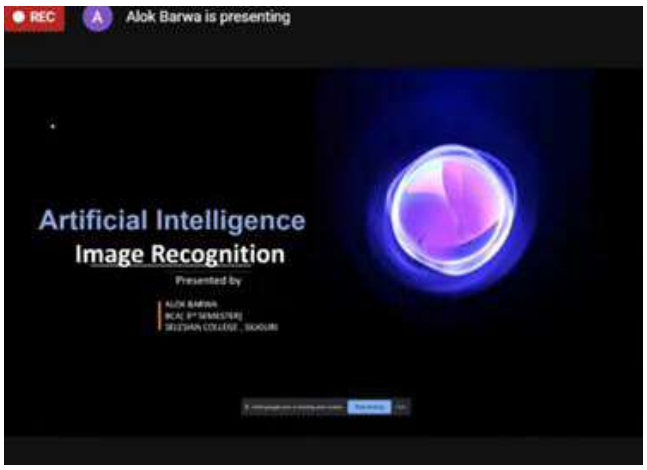
Comparing the absorption signature of phosphine with the sample data analysis, they found a similarity and concluded that this could be phosphine in Venus' atmosphere. And they tried to explain how the gas could have come into existence on the basis of 75 different chemical reactions that are possible; but they found that the rate of destruction of phosphine was much higher than the rate of formation.



Critics of this theory asked the question: "how do you know you are not detecting sulphur dioxide?"

Greaves and associates defended their claim.

However, in April this year, Andrew P. Linkowski and associates published a paper "*Claimed detection of PH_3 is consistent with SO_2*". They did the modelling of both phosphine and sulphur dioxide in the Venusian atmosphere, and found that the signature of SO_2 is twice as strong as PH_3, and that for them to be detected, they should exist at 80 km above the surface and not 56 km. This study finally put to rest the conjecture of phosphine's existence in Venusian atmosphere.



Alok Barwa's presentation

The next presenter was Mr. Alok Barua, student, BCA third semester. His topic was "*Artificial Intelligence and Image Recognition*".

He spoke on the Combination Neural Network methodology. He started by mentioning the image recognition *CAPTCHA* that we encounter while trying to login or access a web resource.

Going to the very fundamentals of image recognition, he explained how the gradient descent method works and algorithmically a computer recognises a figure. This algorithm translates matrix data to a linear array and does the work.



Mr. Sandeep Sengupta

The last technical session chair person was Mr. Subhaji Bose, Deputy Head, Department of Computer Science and Applications. He introduced Mr. Sandeep Sengupta, Managing Director, Indian School of Ethical Hacking (ISOEH), Kolkata.

Mr. Sengupta built on the National Science Day theme. He showed the following slide and asked students to understand how a future home / office is going to look like. This represents the devices/ appliances inter-connected in the home network. This is what we call as Internet of Things (IoT).



Future Home & Office

Then he mentioned that youngsters need to be ready for jobs that do not exist today. He spoke about Industry 4.0 which is presently going on. Then he went on to explain what the current job trends are and which industries youngsters are more likely to get jobs. One of them being in the area of Cyber security. He further mentioned that the government needs 500,000 trained professionals; but as of today there are only 70,000. He mentioned how important it was for new generation of students to choose a career in such field. And the salary is very high for candidates who can prove their skills! To help students, Salesian College has already partnered with ISOEH for industrial training of students. He encouraged students to make the best of the opportunities available.

Next presenter was Mr. Amit Singh, student of BCA, third semester. His topic being *"Cyber Security Awareness"* he explained why awareness was important. Some of the concepts he mentioned were:



- Technology cannot protect us from everything
- Hackers go where security is weakest
- Risk reduction
- Being aware and alert

How to protect:

- our personal data such as Credit/ debit card information
- Medical data
- Computer resources

We could achieve these by:

- Keeping operating system, browsers, network system up-to-date with latest fixes/ patches
- Using proper anti-malware software
- Using proper password management tools
- Using two factor authentication
- recognising scams
- device safety protocols
- internet safety protocols



Mr. Amit Singh

Final presenter was Mr. Rahul Chettri, student, BCA third semester. His topic was *"Artificial Intelligence"*. Starting from the use of drones in agriculture for spraying water or pesticides, AI is being used by companies for hiring staff, financial services, medical science, advertising and so on, Rahul took us through some of the key challenges and opportunities, gradually to the next level of future possibilities.





Rahul Chettri

He took us to the conclusion:

"Artificial Intelligence is the product of both science and myth. The idea that machines could think and perform tasks just as humans do is thousands of years old. The cognitive truths expressed in AI and Machine Learning systems are not new either. It may be better to view these technologies as the implementation of powerful and long-established cognitive principles through engineering."

Having come to the end of technical sessions, we had our Vice Principal, Fr. Aju Kurian, with his final words of congratulations to all the speakers and organisers, and encouragement to the faculty and students of Science Departments to carry on with the good work.


Fr. Aju Kurian

Keeping in mind the pandemic situation that could stretch for another year, he encouraged faculty to find innovative ways to make teaching experience rich.


Then led by Mr. Dhirodatta Subba, Dean of Science, followed release of two publications

- IT Policy handbook of the institution
- DigiTrek 2020, Science Deanery magazine for the year 2020.


Fr. George Thadathil

Before the release of IT Policy handbook, Fr. George Thadathil, Principal, explained the background that led to the work on the policy. For the benefit of guest speakers, he mentioned that the institution had its own in-house developed Enterprise Resource Planning software, had already embarked on the Learning Management System usage prior to the pandemic situation, and during the pandemic had taken recourse to experimenting and adopting various technologies for online education. Moreover, the institution has its social media presence. On the basis of various experiences over the years, our institution has felt the need to develop its own IT policy.

Then followed Valedictory session where participants who were physically present were awarded Certificates, and the main speakers, all of whom participated online, were informed that e-certificates would be sent to them followed by physical certificates by post. Fr. Vice Principal handed out the certificates.





Release of IT Policy handbook and DigiTrek 2020 magazine




Certificate ceremony

Finally, Vote of thanks was given by Mr. Bikramjit Chandra, on behalf of the organising committee.
This was followed by a photo session inside the Hall, and one outside the New College building.

Number of participants were as follows:
Online – 58
Offline - 25

Responsibility Chart:

Registration	**Certificates**
Faculty in charge: Ms. Snigdha Roy	Ms. Yadika Prasad, assisted by Mr. Amit Lepcha
Brochure, posters, invitations	**Food**
Faculty in charge: Mr. Subhajit Bose, Mr. Tanay Bhadra	Faculty in charge: Mr. Abhijit Dey
Technical	**Reporting**
Faculty in charge: Ms. Yadika Prasad, assisted by Mr. Simon Lepcha and Mr. Praveen (Cyril) Singh	Faculty in charge: Mr. Dhirodatta Subba
Photography	**Logistics**
Faculty charge: Mr. Subhajit Paul	Faculty charge: Mr. Mayukh Mazumdar and Mr. Anuj Bhagat



Onsite participants

The organising committee is ever grateful to the College management without whose support and blessings this event would not have been possible. This is the fifth consecutive year we, the Science Departments, have been privileged to host this National Conference. We express our heartfelt gratitude to all the volunteers – students, support staff, campus coordinators and faculties. With everyone's cooperation we hope to take our Institution forward in the path of excellence.

Report compiled by:
Mr. Dhirodatta Subba, Dean (Science) & HoD, Department of CSA

Credits:
Mr. Amit Lepcha, Graphics Designer
Mr. Subhajit Paul, Photography
And the student volunteers (Amit Singh, Rahul Chettri and Nawraj Luitel - BCA third semester)

Webinar Report

Department: Economics
Date: 6.02.2021

Debasmita Dutta
Faculty,
Department of Economics





On 6th of February,2021, at the behest of Department of Economics, the Salesian Research Centre in collaboration with IQAC organised a an online seminar titled ***"Inside Data Science".***

Mr Abhik Mukherjee, research associate at Counterpoint Research was gracious enough to present a special talk.

The faculty and particularly the students were enthused with this particular topic primarily because of it's crucial significance in today's world.

It was a wonderful seminar which left all of us in attendance with additional insight on the subject and the world of Data science in general.

Salesian College Siliguri Campus

Department of Physics

Report on the Departmental Activity from January to June 2021

Webinar Title: "An introduction to Nano: the fascinating world of nanotechnology"
Date: 11.01.2021, **Time:** 11:00 AM
Platform: Google Meet
Links: https://forms.gle/Fcw8DfLgmwkGD5f6A (registration)
https://meet.google.com/yxp-brrv-qgz (link to the webinar)

Total registration: 69

Abstract:

The talk encompassed basics in nanotechnology taking into consideration the intriguing properties of nano-materials/nanoparticles and their application. In addition, the state of the art characterization techniques to probe the physiochemical properties of nanomaterials were also discussed.

Resource person:

Dr. Amretashis Sengupta (SERB Research Scientist at the University of North Bengal)

About Dr. Sengupta:

Dr. Sengupta is currently a SERB Research Scientist at the University of North Bengal. He has a number of varied interests in the field of nanotechnology and materials science but is primarily focused on the properties of low dimensional systems and their possible integration into Li/Na ion batteries and solar cells. He originally did his Masters in Physics from the University of North Bengal before branching into nanotechnology with an M.Tech and a Ph.D. in Engineering from Jadavpur University. He has done a significant amount of post-doctoral work: both nationally in the Indian Institute of Science, and internationally in the University of Bremen in Germany and the University of Glasgow in the UK. He has also co-authored an introductory textbook on nanotechnology titled "Introduction to Nano - Basics to Nanoscience and Nanotechnology".

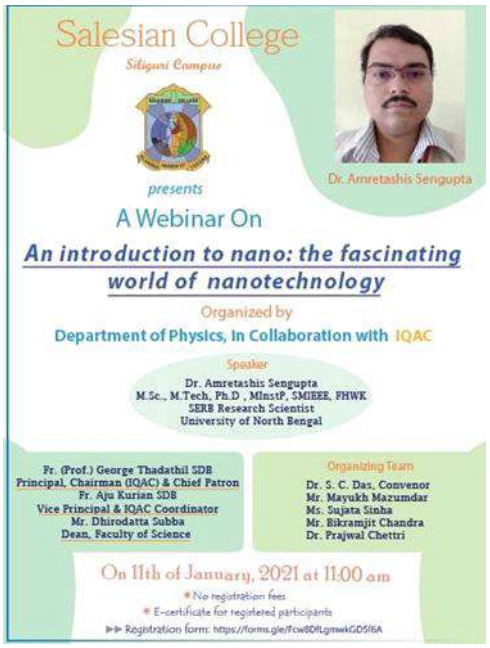
Summary of the webinar:

Dr. Sengupta, introduced the how and why the properties of matter changes as we scale down their dimension from bulk to nanometer range. He presented the different methods on how one can synthesize nanomaterials. The lecture indeed carried a unique flavor as Dr. Sengupta explained the practical applications of nanomaterials and how technology can transcend to newer heights once the commercial production of nanomaterials become feasible.
In parallel, he also explained about the working of different state-of-the-art characterizing instruments such as X-ray diffractometer, Scanning Electron Microscope etc. Overall, the lecture was oriented towards the undergraduate students.

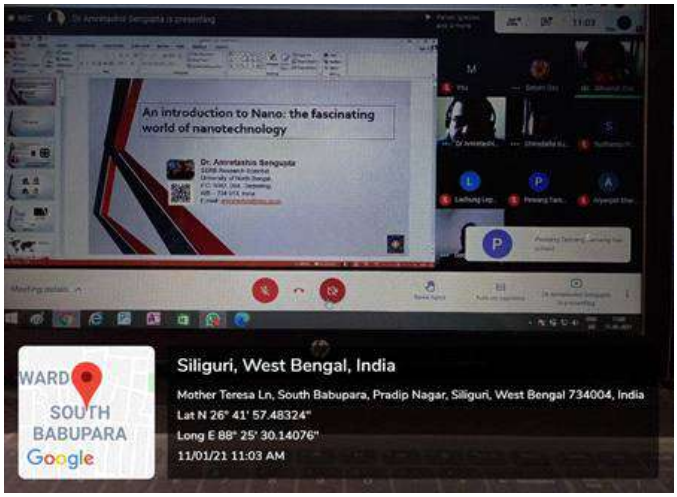
The presentation was hosted by Mr. Bikramjit Chanda (Asst. Prof. – Physics), Ms. Sujata Sinha (Asst. Prof. – Physics) was in charge of Q&A session, Mr. Mayukh Majumdar (Asst. Prof. – Physics)

gave thoughts for the talk and Dr. Prajwal Chettri (Asst. Prof. – Physics) gave vote of thanks to the Speaker as well as to the audiences.

Flyer:



Some glimpses of the webinar:





Departmental Activity: Student Presentations

Sujata Sinha
Faculty, Dept. of Physics

In order to inculcate ethics, etiquette, communication skills and inter-personality development among students the Department of Physics has been conducting weekly (Saturdays) in-house seminar.

The goal of this activity is to bring confidence among students pertaining to their verbal and representational skills and also to nurture their understanding of basic sciences and their applications. The students usually present on topics based on their syllabus along with practical applications of the theory with real life examples. This gives students an opportunity to not only score well in exam but also showcases whatever that they are learning in Physics indeed has practical implications which facilitates in developing interest towards science and in particular, Physics.

All the students are divided into seven groups for this weekly event. Two groups will present on one day. Each group is allowed to present for maximum up to 20 mins following by Q&A session. In addition, on-spot evaluation of presentations made is being done by teachers, student audiences and student participants using Google forms. addition, on-spot evaluation of presentations made is being done by teachers, student audiences and student participants using Google forms.

At the end of the session, each faculty deliberates talk on flaws found during presentation with regard to references, presentation construction skills etc where-ever necessary.

Following are the details of presentation,

Day 1 (24th April, 2021)

Curie Group

- **Members:** Adesh Saha (4th sem), Khushi Gurung (2nd sem) , Lachung Lepcha (2nd sem).
- **Topic:** Photoelectric effect
- **Abstract: -** The photoelectric effect occurs when you shine light on a piece of metal and electrons are ejected from the metal. This behaviour is understood by assuming that the incident light consists of photons, each photon carrying a definite amount of energy. The Nobel Prize in Physics 1921 was awarded to Albert Einstein "for his services to Theoretical Physics, and especially for his discovery of the law of the photoelectric effect."

Sudarshan Group

- **Members:** Neha Chettri (2nd sem) , Shrawan Rai(4th sem).
- **Topic:** Cyclotron.
- **Abstract:** Introduction to compact particle accelerator named cyclotron. A cyclotron accelerates a charged particle beam using a high frequency alternating voltage. One of the most interesting applications of motion of charge particles in electric and magnetic fields is Cyclotron.

Day 2 (8th May, 2021)

Bose group

- **Members:** Arati Lohar (2nd Sem), Priyam Rai (4th Sem) and Sudhanshu Pradhan (2nd Sem).
- **Topic:** Aurora – the lightening effect
- **Abstract:** An aurora is a natural phenomenon which is characterised by a display of a natural-coloured (green, red, yellow or white) light in the sky. It is a light show which is caused when electrically-charged particles from the sun collide with particles from gases such as oxygen and nitrogen present in the Earth's atmosphere.

Saha Group

- **Members:** Aayush Pradhan (6th Sem).
- **Topic:** Optical fibres
- **Abstract:** A discussion on Fiber optics as they are important for telecommunication for worldwide broad band networks. Optical fibers provide enormous and unsurpassed transmission bandwidth with negligible latency and are now the transmission medium of choice for long distance and high data rate transmission rate in the field of telecommunication.

Day 3 (15th May, 2021)

Joselyn Group

- **Members:** Aryanjali Sharma (4th sem), Nirupan Thapa (2nd sem), Pewang Tamang (2nd sem).
- **Topic:** Pulsars.
- **Abstract:** Pulsars are remarkable clocklike celestial sources that are believed to be rotating neutron stars formed in supernova explosions. They are valuable tools for investigations into topics such as neutron star interiors, globular cluster dynamics, the structure of the interstellar medium, and gravitational physics. A comparison of arrival times from an array of different pulsars also reveals the effect of gravitational waves.

Meitner Group

- **Members:** Rudraneel Chakraborty (4th sem) , Tithi Moktan (4th sem), Sidarth Rai (2nd sem).
- **Topic:** A case study of the Martian atmosphere.
- **Abstract:** Carbon dioxide was the only known constituent of the Martian atmosphere from its discovery in 1947 until 1963, when water vapor was identified in the planet's spectrum. High-resolution ground-based spectroscopy and spacecraft observations in the next decade added CO, O_2, O_3, and showed that the atmospheric surface pressure on Mars is more than 2 orders of magnitude lower than it is on Earth. How the Martian atmosphere has evolved along the years detection of methane gas and its possible explanation.

Day 5 (22th May, 2021)

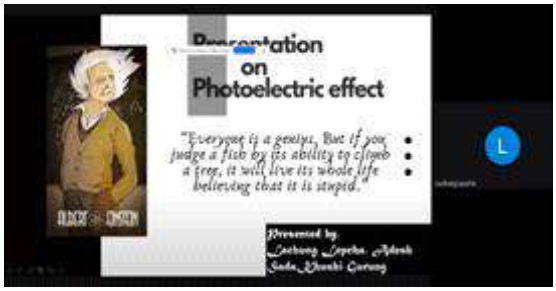
Raychaudhury Group

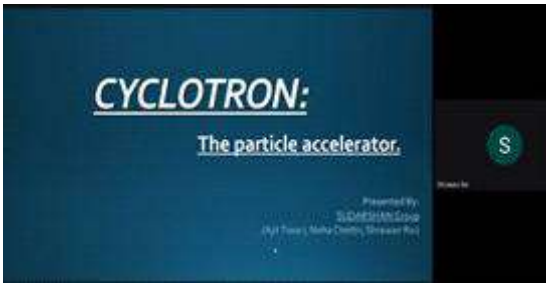
- **Members:** Ashweni Chettri (4th sem), Subhayu Bose (2nd sem).
- **Topic:** Heat Death of the universe
- **Abstract:** The heat death of the universe (also known as the Big Chill or Big Freeze) is a theory on the ultimate fate of the universe, which suggests the universe would evolve to a state of no thermodynamic free energy and would therefore be unable to sustain processes that increase entropy. Heat death does not imply any particular absolute temperature; it only requires that temperature differences or other processes may no longer be exploited to perform work.

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- Due to personal complications from COVID, some students were forced to be absent and would be giving their presentations at a later date.
- All the presentations are uploaded on the following Youtube channel https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXkX-spFy9dNn4tSRqRgP2A

Glimpse of the events,













"The mind is not a vessel to be filled, but a fire to be kindled."

Ashmita Sinha
BCA (6th Semester)

Life is great. Every good and bad moments of life combine simultaneously to give an experience of the subject 'life'. Do we ever realise how great our human race is in terms of intelligence. We possess an engine to run our souls with the most anticipated mechanism – "the mind".

It may be referred to a bio – computer with optional intelligence. The mind is an instrument to be mastered. In the long process of evolution and civilization, our race has adopted the method of education, as the genuine and sparing way to cultivate the spontaneous mind.

The above quote is a module and guideline for the young minds of all nations. This module guides us as students to discover things for ourselves and spur us in to acquire knowledge rather than bombard ourselves with a mass of information, that most probably we wouldn't remember.

The mind is never devoid of thoughts. By nature's law the human body is awarded a thoughtful mind. What the mind can conceive, it can achieve. The idea of the quote is that our minds, if given the proper upkeep, desire, motivation, and due encouragement, could burn on forever. Human mind is never limited to learn a certain amount of thing, therefore not a vessel to be filled. A human mind which has been kindled is but a soul with infinite possibility.

The human mind is our fundamental resource. It has exactly the same power as the hand : not merely to grasp the world, but to change it. Whatever the mind can conceive and believe, it can achieve. If we look up a dictionary 'mind' is defined as a part or faculty of a person by which one feels, perceives, thinks, remembers, desires and imagined. It is the individual consciousness, memory, or recollection, opinion or sentiment, focus of thought or attention.

Knowledge is not something that is given to children as though they were empty vessels to be filled. Children acquire knowledge about the physical and social worlds in which they live through playful interaction with objects and people. Children do not need to be forced to learn; they are motivated by their own desire to make sense of their world. They learn by making connections between new and prior knowledge. It is a known fact that learning is a complex process that results from the interaction of childrens own thinking and their own experiences in the eternal world. As children get older, they acquire new skills and experiences that facilitate the learning process. For example, as children grow physically, they are more able manipulate and adapt with their environment. Also, as children mature, they are more able to understand the point of view of other people.

Learning never exhausts the mind. Once children learn how to learn, nothing is going to narrow their mind. Learning is contagious where one idea sparks another. The wisest mind has always something yet to learn. All the world is a laboratory to the inquiring mind. Every interaction is an opportunity for him to learn. Man's mind, once stretched by a new idea, never regains its original dimensions. Therefore, the mind once enlightened cannot again become dark .

Knowledge and wisdom are the essential woods to ablaze the fire of the mind. Books, teachers, parents, friends and the surrounding environment play the main role in delivering knowledge and wisdom. A teacher is but supersoul, in whose companion the kindled fire soars and the mind gets elevated. It is the supreme art of the teacher to awaken joy in creative expression and knowledge. Teachers candle to light the minds by guiding them open new ideas. It is He, who helps in embracement of the mind with knowledge. He imparts basic sustainable knowledge so that one may further lit himself up and other minds too. Books open the mind, broaden it and strengthen it as nothing else can. Reading improves brain power and is also a good habit to enhance one's mind.

Which speaking of a blazing mind, we have to take into account the various minds of different geniuses, abilities productivities and outcomes. "Everybody is a genius. But if a fish is judged by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing that it is stupid." Each person is the poet of his own mind and his genius is his talent set on fire by courage. Nothing is at last sacred but the integrity of ones mind. Therefore one should equip himself with challenges of the mind. The mind takes many forms during one's lifetime. When it is weak , situation becomes an opportunity.

There a re negative aspects of the mind too. The mind being a powerful force, it can enslave us or empower us. It can plunge us into depths of misery or take us to the heights of ecstasy. Therefore, we should learn to use the power wisely. The power of mind cannot come from I'll fed brain. Therefore one should learn to cultivate the mind well. Even ones worst enemy cannot harm him as much as his own unguarded thoughts.

By three methods we learn wisdoms: First by reflection, which is noblest; second by imitation, which is easiest; and third by experience which is bitterest. To acquire knowledge, one must study; but to acquire wisdom , one must observe. There is a saying "The eyes are useless when the mind is blind". This proverb refers to all those people who give up too easily. The greatest loss in life is not death, it is what does inside us while we're still alive. As iron crusts from disuse; water loses purity from stagnation; even so does inaction sap the vigor of the mind .

There are too many brainwares these days. In the age of technology there is constant access to vast amounts of information. The basket overflows; people get overwhelmed. Remember, the mind should be logical and accurate, and not overtasked. A good traveller is one who travels with the mind. Remember you are a human. You must read, you must preserve, you must sit up nights, you must inquire, and exert the utmost power of your mind . If one way does not lead to the desired meaning, take another; if obstacles arise, then still another; until, if your strength holds out, you will find that clear which at first looked dark.

Internet of Things : The Dawn of a New Era

Sachin Kumar
BCA (6th Semester)

Over the past few decades, the internet has made astounding progress and increased its outreach and compatibility with devices. Not so long ago, internet used to be a PC luxury, then came the era of phones with mail, and then smart phones. After smart phones distributed the reach of internet to common people's hands, it was being thought that the advancement curve has flattened, and we have hit the equilibrium.



According to a common description, the IoT (Internet of Things) is the network of physical objects or "things" embedded with electronics, software, sensors and network connectivity – features that enable them to collect and exchange data.

Make no mistake. These "things" mark the beginning of a revolution for business.

Notice I say business and not IT. IoT is not an IT revolution; it is an IT evolution. For business, however, it brings a seismic shift in businesses' ability to look inwards, at processes and digital assets and outwards at customers – thereby enabling new revenue opportunities and operating efficiencies.

In short, IoT massively increases the resolution of the lens through which businesses are able to look at every aspect of themselves.

Of course, looking at oneself means very little if one does not understand what one sees, or how to act on what can be seen.

Data is only data until such time as it can be analysed and transformed into information. Without the ability to analyse, that huge data resource remains untapped. What's more, as we start to mine the data, pick out the trends and turn the data to information, a virtuous circle begins – one in which the business is able to focus on areas where more data drives better insight and adds more value. In the end, it is insight from information that will fuel the revolution.

IoT as it stands today is predominantly consumer led, and the sectors that can envisage value are those such as healthcare, retail, manufacturing and construction. These are industries that are looking to revolutionise their customer interaction experience – they are considering how the IoT can enhance the services they provide to their customers.

To take advantage of the IoT, however, all these businesses will need to import new skills – they ill need partners with expertise in all the technologies that ultimately unlock the value of the data in all these "things". Technologies such as:

- Converged and intelligent network platforms that are able to connect "things" to each other and the systems that control them, be that wired or wireless
- Data ce nter infrastructure that can scale to accommodate the flood of data, that is agile enough to leverage process changes and powerful enough to analyse all the data in the first place.
- Next generation security that provides the visibility and control the business will need to ensure that the "things" do what they are meant to, and don't create holes ready for exploitation
- Business analytics that provide meaningful insight, and that are able to visualise information in a way the business understands

Perhaps more importantly, these partners cannot be 'technology first'. They must be genuinely customer and business orientated – putting customers at the center to truly understand their markets.

Only that combination of customer centricity, insight and technical excellence will allow these partners to navigate the complexities inherent in IoT; to identify and seize the value IoT represents for every customer.

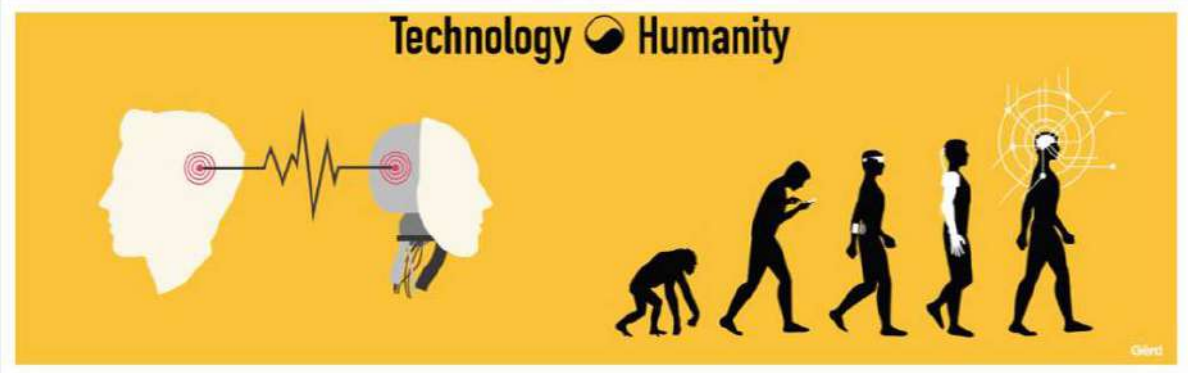
Technology Transforming Humanity

Tshewang Tamang
BCA (6th Semester)

Human interest in exploring the unknown has always been universal and enduring. While, over the years the nature of exploration has changed fundamentally, humans have always been keen to explore the unknown and discover new worlds. In pursuit of unknown, it is our imagination, ideas, innovations, and inventions that are helping us push the boundaries of our exploration limits. It is the never-ending human drive that pushes us further to discover new worlds. Imagination has always been an indicator of human intelligence, and each new idea and innovation is helping us push the boundaries of human exploration further. *Technology, which gives us the foundation on which we can define and design the human ecosystem beyond cyberspace, geospace, and space, is pushing these boundaries.*

Where would it take us in the coming years?

From the internet to the brain-net, biological engineering to bio-economies, molecular manufacturing to self-replicating systems, 3D printing to distributed additive manufacturing, artificial intelligence-driven automation to augmented intelligence, virtual reality to augmented reality, neuromorphic computing to quantum computing, stem cells to regenerative medicine, nanosatellites to small satellites, brain mapping to more, we are witnessing dramatic advances in science and technology that is pushing our exploratory limits.



There has never been a better time for ideas, imagination, and intelligence to create and invent as the emerging technology trends bring so many fundamentally transformative opportunities for the future of humanity. As we further explore and understand the very meaning of human existence in the universe. The next years and decades will see further dramatic shifts in technology and an economy driven by fast-paced technological innovation. Machine learning and neural nets are unleashing exponential increase in autonomous computational power. With further technological step changes – changing forms of labour, the design of novel materials, synthetic biology, new energy systems and new technological modes of controlling and managing the planet's resources – industrial humanity will further deepen its imprint on the Earth and create further uncertainties and vulnerabilities for its safe inhabitation.

Guest talk: "What to expect from Software Industry as a Java Script developer and how to prepare for it"

5th February 2021

Yadika Prasad
Faculty, Dept. of CSA



Department of Computer Science and Applications organised a guest talk by Mr. Aswin Rai, User Interface Developer at Flipkart.

Fr. George Thadathil, Principal, inaugurated the session with prayer. He mentioned that we as a community are always eager to learn more. Then Mr. Dhirodatta Subba, Head, Department of Computer Science and Applications, and also the Dean of Science, welcomed Mr. Ashwin Rai and wished him the very best for his presentation.

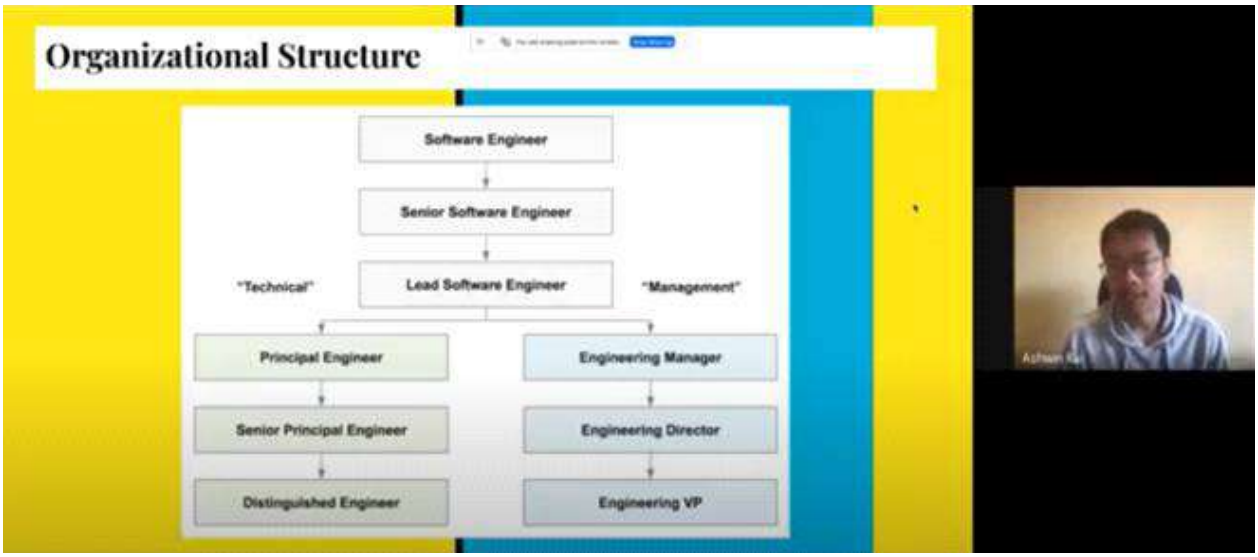
Ms. Yadika Prasad, faculty of the Department and IT Coordinator, then introduced her colleague from the post graduation days at Sikkim Manipal Institute of Technology, Sikkim.

After post graduation. Mr. Ashwin went on to work with a startup company where he worked for two years and had the responsibility of designing and developing the web site from scratch for a client.

Mr. Ashwin then started by explaining the differences between product based companies and service based companies. He mentioned about his own experience of working in a startup company and then moving on to Established company.



Then he talked about the organisational structure of a Software Company. This was followed by what is called as the front end of a software, which is also called the User Interface.



The various technologies that are in use in the market today for developing the User Interface. Among them the Java Script based technologies like the Node JS, Angular JS, Knockout. js, React, etc. He also mentioned different platforms for which interfaces are done, for example, Mobile platforms, Desktops, IoT devices, etc. Then he talked about the history of Java Script and its evolution. Further, he demonstrated the working of Java Script by playing a video and how text are displayed in a running video. He demonstrated a number of capabilities of Java Script programming in designing and developing User Interfaces. At the end there was interactive session and a number of students posed various questions which Ashwin aptly answered.24

Cyber Shikshak: A Cybersecurity Awareness Training Program for Teachers of West Bengal

17th March 2021

Sonali Rai
Head, Salesian Tech



Cyber Security Centre of Excellence
West Bengal
Department of Information Technology & Electronics
Government of West Bengal

No: CS-CoE/412/2021 Date: 10/03/2021

To
The Principal/ Director/ Teacher in Charge
_____ (all) College

Sub: Cyber Shikshak - Cyber Security Awareness Training for the teachers of West Bengal - Regarding

Sir/Madam,

Cyber Security Centre of Excellence (CS-CoE) in collaboration with **Indian School of Ethical Hacking (ISOEH Siliguri)** is organising a Hackathon at Webel IT Park III, Siliguri on 17th March, 2021.

In addition to this, **Cyber Shikshak - a Cyber Security Awareness Training** programme for the teachers of West Bengal will also be held on the same day. **Cyber Shikshak** is a series of training modules targeted towards self-learning of skills to identify, segregate, pre-empt, prevent, contain cyber threats looming over IT infrastructure and to find out the remedy to cyber-attacks, as and when they occur.

IT Infrastructure comprises IT Assets – Hardware & Software, IT Processes – Policy and SOP, IT Systems – Controls, Tools, Languages, Auditing processes and IT Applications. The uniqueness of **Cyber Shikshak** lies in the training of incumbents at their place of work. The training model shall comprise of classroom trainings and hands on practical sessions.

The overall duration of the **Cyber Shikshak** training programme would be of 3 hrs. and will commence on **17th March, 2021 at Webel IT Park, Phase – II (Paribahan Nagar, Matigara, Siliguri – 734 010)** from **10.30 AM** to **1.30 PM**. Based on performance assessment, the participant will be given a certificate of proficiency.

You may kindly nominate any number of officials from your esteemed organisation to take part in this **Cyber Shikshak** training programme and upgrade their skill for better cyber incident response posture.

For registration, kindly advise your nominated official to click the following link and get themselves registered.

https://events.nitr.org/cs/index.php

Awaiting early nomination and thanking you.
Yours faithfully,

Member Secretary
Cyber Security Centre of Excellence (CS-CoE)
&
Joint Secretary, Department of Information Technology & Electronics, Government of West Bengal

Webel Bhavan, Ground Floor, Block - EP & GP, Sector - V, Bidhannagar, Salt Lake, Kolkata - 700 091

Scan QR code for details

Salesian College received invitation from Cyber Security Centre of Excellence, Department of Information Technology & Electronics, Government of West Bengal for the program "Cyber Shikshak – a Cybersecurity Awareness Training" for School and College teachers of West Bengal. This was organised in collaboration with ISOEH Siliguri.

This was the first program of its kind in Siliguri and was conducted at Webel IT Part, Phase II, Paribahan Nagar, Matigara, Siliguri. Four members from the institution participated – Mr. Anirban Ghosh, Ms. Sonali Rai and Mr. Dhirodatta Subba and Ms. Ujjaini Ghosh.

Training was conducted by Mr. Nirupam Choudhury, Regional Director at East-NASSCOM and Mr. Sandeep Sengupta, MD, ISOEH.

Participants were faculty from School and Colleges. There were some government representatives at the workshop.



The last session of the workshop was a quiz competition based on the materials taught. It was conducted online using the Kahout app. Ms Solali Rai from Salesian College stood third among approximately 60 participants. Not very far behind was Mr. Anirban Ghosh, faculty from our College. He stood tenth among all. Kudos to both of them!

The program ended with sumptuous lunch for all.



North Bengal Hackathon

17th March 2021

Amit Singh
BCA (4th Semester)



There was a press release for 17th March North Bengal Hackathon at Siliguri Journalist Club. This Hackathon was open to all. Top 3 Winners would get total cash prize of Rs10,000/-. Every participant would get certificate of participation.

This was the very first event of its kind in North Bengal. Salesian College was priviledged to be invited. Five students of the College participated in this prestigious event.

Competition was of 25 levels. At each level participant had to find a FLAG (clue). Clue at each level would give instructions for next level. The event took place from 11am to 4pm at:
Indian School of Ethical Hacking,
Webel IT Park, Phase-III, Matigara,
Siliguri (near Khaprail More).



Guest talk / Webinar on
Industrial Training Experience and Placement,
20th April 2021

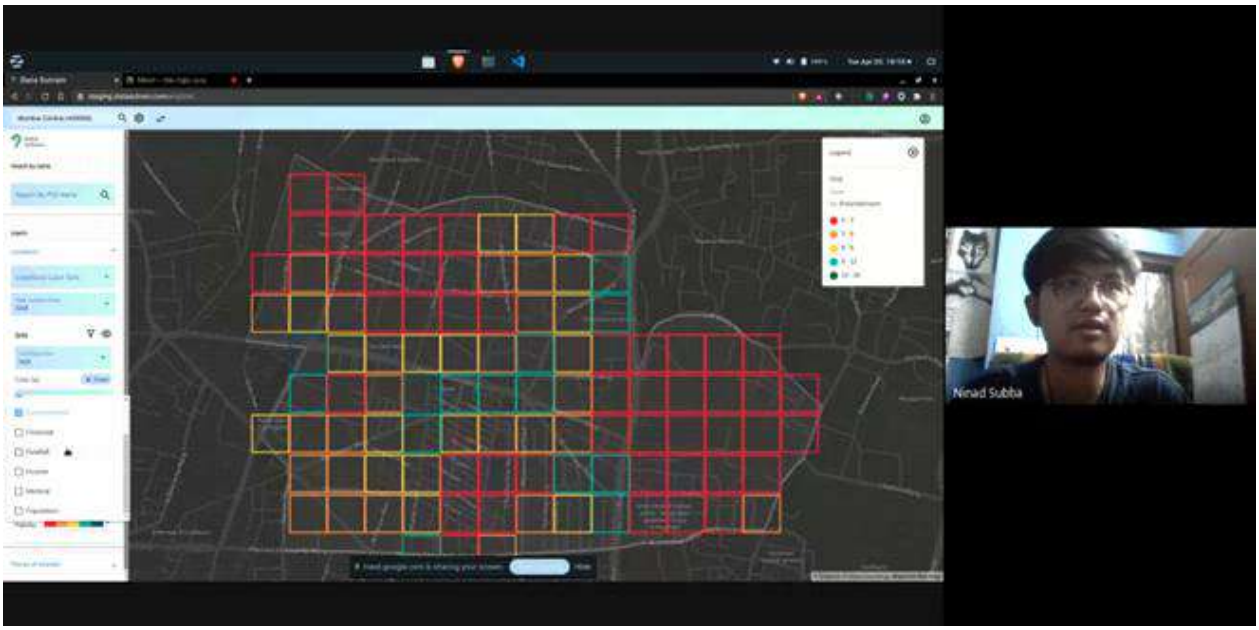
Drishya Agarwal
BCA (6th Semester)



Department of Computer Science and Applications organised a guest talk by Mr. Ninad Subba, final year student of BE (IT), Jadavpur University.

It was more of experience sharing with our students about the way how the process of selection for industrial training works in Jadavpur University which is a premiere institution in the state of West Bengal. How long the training took place in the third year itself and what kind of work exposure was given in the company **Data Sutram**, established by the ex-students of the same University. It was mentioned that the company was an upstart one, located in the Salt Lake area of Kolkata.

Mr. Ninad Subba then mentioned that the company management was happy with his performance and offered him job while he is in the final year of education, and that he has already started working for them as his academic career is coming to an end. He drew the attention of participants to the web site of the company and started explaining about the current project that is under development. That it was an Artificial Intelligence based project to help businesses locate the prospect of a store location in any city. Some of the parameters were the affluence of residents, other competetive business locations, geographical zones etc.



Overall, it was a very interesting discussion as students got a glimpse of live project and got to interact with someone who is almost about their age, only slightly senior. There were also questions on technology which are good to learn for their higher job prospects.

Industrial Training with ISOEH
February – May, 2021

Divit Rana
BCA (6th Semester)

Salesian College, Siliguri Campus, signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Indian School of Ethical Hacking (ISOEH), a Kolkata based company engaged in promoting Cybersecurity Education and Certification on 28th February, 2020. Along with Cybersecurity, the company also provides trainings on Software Development such as Android Programming, Web Development etc.

The MoU was for providing skills training by way of workshops or webinars and Industrial Training, primarily for final year students of the Department of Computer Science and Applications. As per agreement, ISOEH provided three free workshops to our students by the end of last year, 2020. This year, once our Institution finalised the list of participants, Industrial training for three groups of students started on 6th February. As per interest shown by students, the three groups were created for Android Programming, Ethical Hacking and Web Development. This was a certification course requiring minimum 40 hours of class, theory and practical combined. Training for all three courses ended on 29th May. There were 33 students who had enrolled at the beginning. But as the days progressed, some dropped due to a number of reasons.

Course	Faculty	Enrolled	Completed	Remark
Android Development	Mr. Sagar Neogi	11	3	7 students did not submit project
Ethical Hacking	Mr. Soummya Mukhopadhyay	20	10	One did not submit project and the rest dropped out
Web Development	Mr. Soummya Mukhopadhyay	6	33	Discontinued

ISOEH Online Workshop: Cyber security Career Awareness

29th May 2021

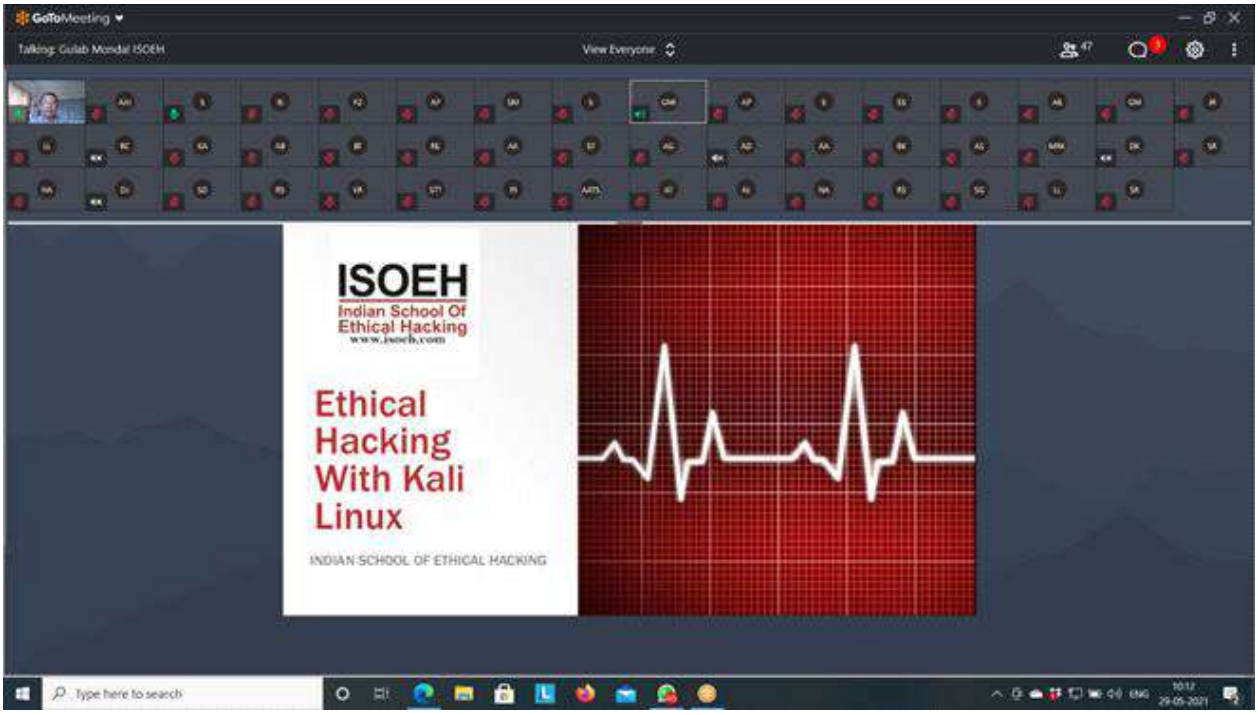
Priyanka Jaiswal
BCA (6th Semester)

As per agreement with Indian School of Ethical Hacking (ISOEH) of having quarterly free workshop / webinar with our College, this workshop was organised for the second quarter of 2021.

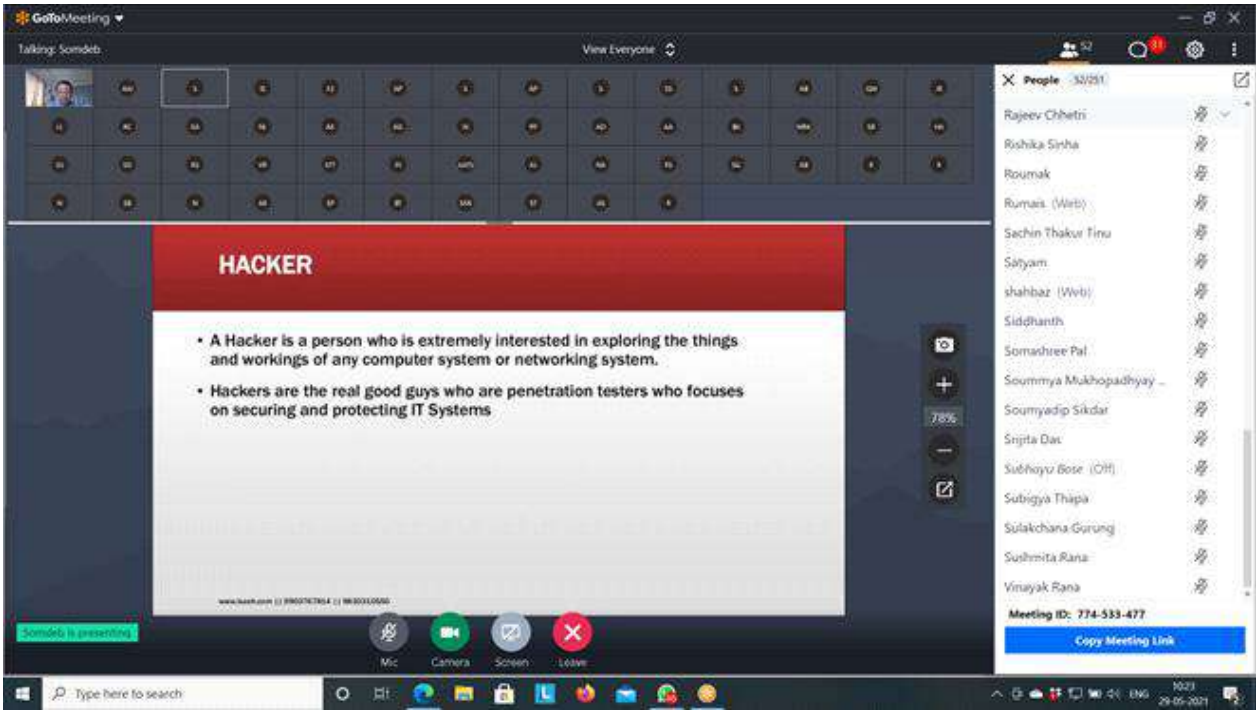


This was the first workshop on Cyber security for our first year students. Students from Science departments participated, barring a few from other departments. From the department of Computer Science and Applications, a few students from second year also participated.

Mr. Gulab Mondal, senior consultant of the Company, introduced the concept of Ethical Hacking. He then introduced the trainer for this program, Mr. Somdeb Chakraborty.



Mr. Somdeb then talked about the fundamentals of Cyber security. His session was very interactive. He interacted with students asking them what their understanding of the issue is. Then he mentioned about the importance of learning this art and how important it is today as many businesses, and education are going online due to the prevailing situation of the pandemic. He mentioned about the job prospects this expertise will bring and how the Government needs 500,000 trained personnel but as of today only about 70,000 have been qualified to some extent.



He then went on to demonstration. First demonstration was hacking another PC using Metasploit utility of Kali Linux. This was a live demonatration and it was appreciated by students. He then went on to demonstrate web site hacking using SQL injection. It was a live site and the hacking showed how it was possible to obtain database information without even logging into the system. This was again very much appreciated by the students. Finally, he went on to demonstrate mobile phone hacking where he showed how one could take control of another person's mobile phone.

At the end, there was interactive session and many students asked many questions which were very well answered by the trainer. This program was attended by about 55 students.

"Role Of Agriculture In Building A Spread Fast Economy": Agriculture The Only Silver Lining.

Rajashree Saha
Anisha Pandey
Susmita Rana
Department of Economics

Introduction

Agriculture is the deliberate affect to modify a portion of Earth's surface through the cultivation of crops and raising of livestock for economic gain.

Agricultural development means providing assistance to the crop producers with the help of various agricultural resources.

Objectives

The main objective of agriculture is to give space to the growth rate of agricultural development and crop production and productivity which will strengthen the economic status of farmers and uplift their lifestyle.

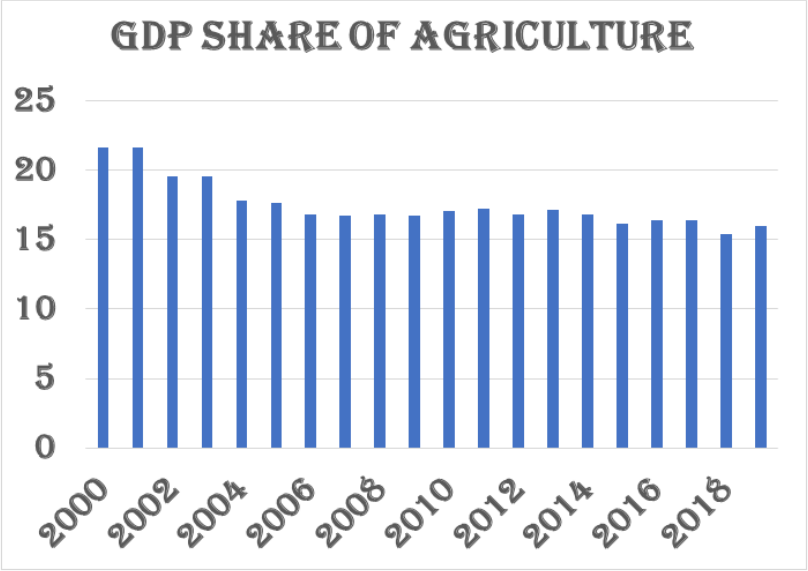
Ways In Which Agriculture boosts a country's economy:

- Contribution of Agriculture to employment generation for rural people and improving rural welfare - It provides employment opportunities for rural people on a large scale in underdeveloped and developing countries. It is an important source of livelihood. The new agricultural technology is represented by the use of HYV seeds, fertilizers, pesticides along with the optimum quantity of water irrigation, all of these leads to expansion in agricultural employment. So these inputs of high yielding technology enables the farmers to adopt multiple cropping which has large employment potential.
- Contribution of Agriculture as the basic source of food supply - Agriculture is the basic source of food supply of all the countries of the world. Due to heavy pressure on population in Underdeveloped and developing countries and its rapid increase the demand for food is increasing at a fast rate. If Agriculture fails to meet the rising demand of food products it is found to affect the growth rate of economy adversely.
- Agricultural sector acts as a pre- requisite for raw material- Agricultural advancement is necessary for improving the supply of raw materials for the agro based industries especially in developing countries. The shortage of agricultural good has its impact upon industrial production and a consequent increase in the general price level.
- Agricultural sector is helpful in reducing inequality – In a country which is predominantly agricultural and overpopulated there is greater inequality of income between the rural and urban areas of the country. To reduce this inequality of income it's necessary to accord higher priority to agriculture. The prosperity of agriculture would raise the income of the majority of the rural population and thus the disparity in income may be reduced to a certain extent.
- Agriculture sector generates a source of foreign exchange for the country - The export of agricultural product can also be a source of foreign exchange earnings . In the initial stages of development when industrial sector has not yet developed much ,agriculture was a source of foreign exchange earning from its export of primary good .Most of the developing countries of the world are exporters of primary products .These products contribute 60 to 70 percent of their total export earnings. Thus, capacity to import capital goods and machinery for industrial development depends crucially on the export earning of the agriculture sector. If exports of agricultural goods fail to increase at a sufficiently high rate, these countries are forced to incur heavy deficit in the balance of payments resulting in a serious foreign exchange problem

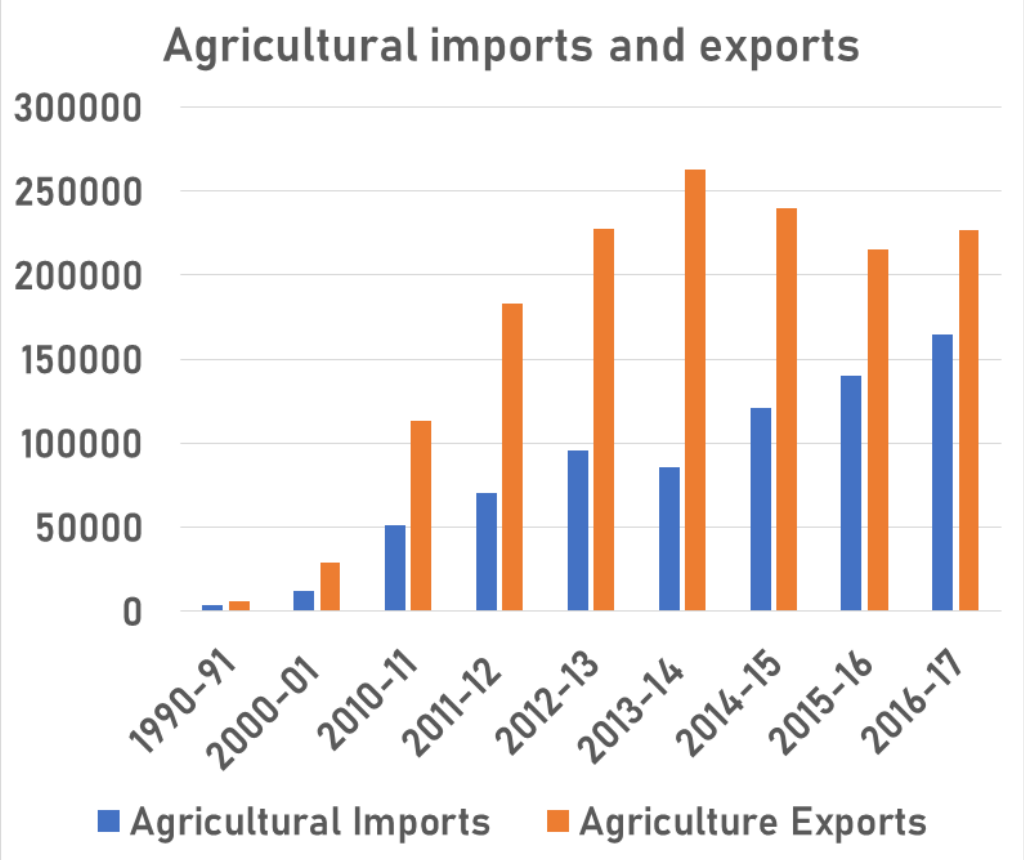
- AGRICULTURE SET TI CUSHION IMPACT OF COVID -19 ON ECONOMY IN 2020-2021.
  The Indian Economy has taken a huge hit from the coronavirus pandemic and resultant lockdown. The International Monetary Fund expects the global output to be contract by 4.9 percent in 2020 and Indian GDP to contract as much as 4.5 percent. But the agriculture sector is the silver living in the year 2020 -2021, said by the monthly economic report for July published by the department of economic affairs.

  While most of the economic activities came to a standstill in April – May 2020 due to coronavirus induced lockdown, farming activities were exempted from the nationwide lockdown to facilitate uninterrupted harvesting of Rabi crops and Kharif crops. This was a major enabling factor for the smooth flow of agricultural commodities throughout the lockdown period and across both, rural and urban areas.

  Amidst all the miseries, Agriculture sector emerged as the only savior giving hope for future. Agriculture sector registered a 3.4 percent GDP growth. Had it not been a robust performance in the Agri – sector, India's GDP would have tumbled further .



This is a graph showing the GDP share of agriculture. This graph shows that the GDP share of agriculture is highest in 2000, falls in 2018 and rises by a fraction in 2019.



This is a graph showing the Agricultural Imports and Agricultural Exports. The graph clearly shows agricultural imports is lowest in 1990-91 and reaches its peak in 2016-17 .Similarly Agricultural Exports is lowest in 1990-91 and reaches its peak in 2013-14.

SCHEMES INTRODUCED BY THE GOVERNMENT TO MAKE AGRICULTURE A PROFITABLE SECTOR

The agriculture sector contributed 51.9% to India's GDP in 1950.Living in a country where the cattle is worshipped as a goddess, about 60% of the population was banking on agriculture for their main source of income during the 1950s. Some of the recent developments in the agriculture and allied sector are listed below.

LAUNCH OF PRADHAN MANTRI FASAL BIMA YOJANA

Farming has become an unreliable sector. Farmers are always unsure of the yield they will reap, but strive to draw the maximum benefits out of their investments and effort. Often farmers might be at the receiving end, with natural calamities like droughts and floods affecting the yield adversely. To resolve the problem of unpredictable nature of farming and prevent farmer suicides in the country, the government launched PM Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana in early 2016. It's a crop insurance policy with relaxed premium rates on the principal sum insured for farmers . Implemented with a budget of Rs. 17,600 crore, this scheme will provide financial support to farmers and cover for their losses.

LAUNCH OF PARAMPARAGAT KRISHI VIKAS YOJANA

The government has launched Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana in order to address the critical importance of soil and water for improving agricultural production. The government would support and improve the organic farming practices prevalent in India. Following cluster approach mode of farming, at least 50 farmers would form a group having 50 acres of land to implement organic farming.

AFTER GREEN, WHITE AND GOLDEN, IT'S TIME FOR BLUE

The cabinet committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved blue revolution in India. It's an integrated scheme designed to increase the productivity and profitability from aquaculture and fisheries resources, inclusive of both marine and inland. With a budget of Rs. 3,000 crore offered by the government, this scheme aims to maintain an annual growth rate of 6 to 8% of the agriculture and allied sector.

CONCLUSION

From the above cited explanation we conclude that agricultural development is a must for the economic development of a country. Even developed countries lay emphasis on agricultural development. According to Muir, "Agricultural process is essential to provide food for growing non-agricultural labour force, raw materials for industrial production and saving and tax revenue to support development of the rest of the economy, to earn foreign exchange and to provide a growing market for domestic manufactures".

Amidst the grim, one sector – Agricultural emerged as the only saviour giving hope for future. Agricultural sector registered a 3.4 percent GDP growth. While most of the economic activity came to a standstill in April-May 2020 due to covid-19 induced lockdown, farming activities were exempted from the nationwide lockdown to facilitate uninterrupted harvesting of rabi crops and sowing of kharif crops. Had it not been a robust performance in the Agri sector, India's GDP would have tumbled further.

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Department of Mathematics
Report on the guest lecture

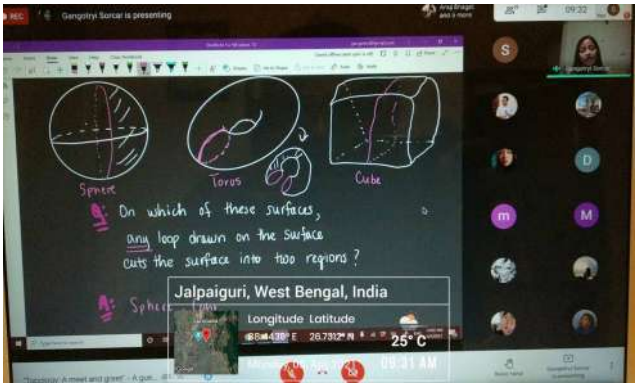
" Topology: a Meet & Greet"

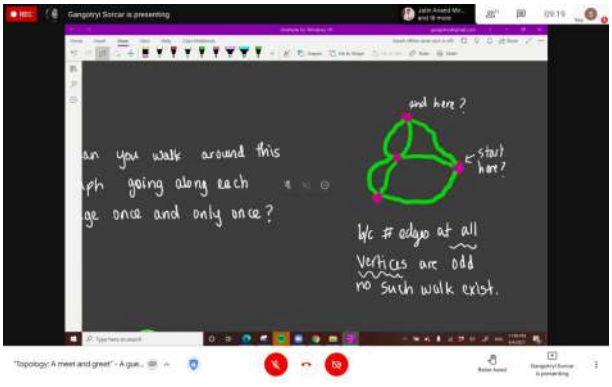
by
Dr Gangotryi Sorcar
April 5, 2021

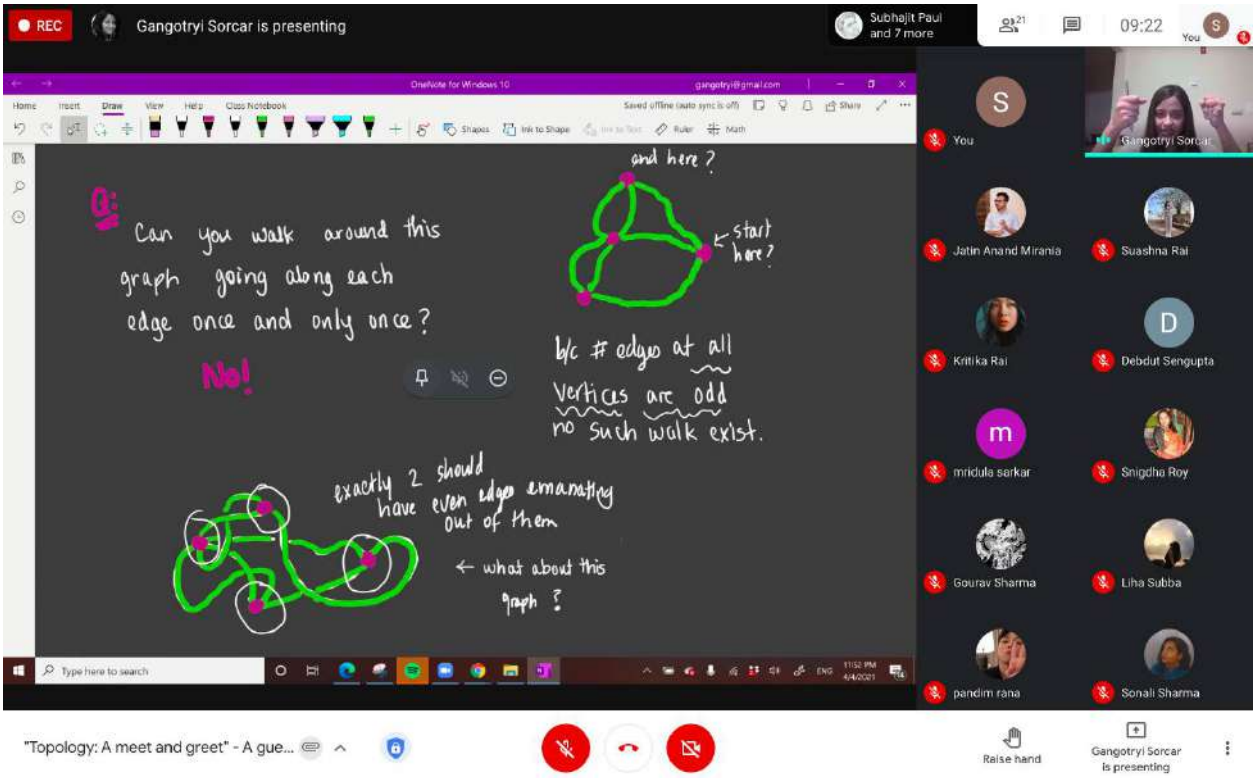
Department of Mathematics, Salesian College, Siliguri, in collaboration with the IQAC organised a guest lecture on April 5, 2021. The talk was mainly aimed for the students of the 6th semester before they start their classes from the next day. These students have the subject 'Point-set Topology' in the paper DSE 3A. As a motivational talk to this entirely new topic, Mr Subhajit Paul, Head, Dept. of Mathematics, organised the lecture.

The talk was delivered by Dr Gangotryi Sorcar, Temporary Asst Prof, University of Delaware, USA. As informed by Mr Paul while introducing the speaker to the house, Dr Sorcar finished her PhD from the State University of New York, Binghamton and had orchestrated different research and teaching posts at the Ohio State University and the Hebrew University, Israel in the past.

The lecture viz., "Topology: A meet & Greet" started at 9 am via the Google Meet platform using the college G-Suite facility. A total of 18 participants joined the lecture including the faculty members from the department, a student of Mathematics from the first year and two students from the department of Physics. Dr Sorcar tuned the lecture to suit the preliminaries of a varied audience. The lecture was recorded at
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1zgxNsEw1QhP6gcPF924muzInHmSj7J1u/view?usp=sharing







Dr Sorcar mainly discussed the K¨onigsberg bridge problem, topological invariance of the Eulercharacteristic number and why continuous functions stretch or squish a space without tearing that apart with an ingenious example. She was able to retain the attention of the audience and spark their creative and analytical thinking. Jatin Mirania, a student of 6th semester, said, (her) "content was brilliant, eye contact was good, spoken both formally and informally creating good 0engagement, and use of words like 'trippy' and smiling throughout the class really took it up a notch". She encouraged the students to ask questions during the talk and also at the Q&A session at the end, where a couple of interesting questions were tackled. It was a very positive start for this course of the semester.

Report prepared by:
Subhajit Paul
Head, Dept. of Mathematics,
Salesian College, Siliguri.
April 6, 2021.

Sustainable Development And Minimalism

Srijita Das
Rishika Sinha
Meeran Sarshar
Soumyadip Sikdar
Department of Economics

Sustainability is a development that fulfils the demands of the present without endangering the capacity of future generations, guaranteeing the balance between economic growth, care for the environment and social well-being. In these tumultuous times when the world is growing at a breakneck speed, some are falling behind because of the adverse effects of unbalanced economic growth. It's time when humans must come out of their fantasies and sustain the living on planet earth. Sustainability is the development that satisfies the needs of the present without jeopardizing the capacity of future generations, guaranteeing the balance between economic growth, care for the environment and social well-being. In simple words, save now for a safe future!

The 17 goals of the SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT laid down by the United Nations.

1. No Poverty,
2. Zero Hunger,
3. Good Health and Well-being,
4. Quality Education,
5. Gender Equality,
6. Clean Water and Sanitation,
7. Affordable and Clean Energy,
8. Decent Work,
9. Economic Growth,
10. Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure,
11. Reducing Inequality,
12. Sustainable Cities and infrastructure,
13. Responsible Consumption and Production,
14. Life Below Water,
15. Life On Land,
16. Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions,
17. Partnerships for the Goals.

Some examples of sustainable development are:

- Developing green spaces in urban areas.
- Formulating crops rotation by reusing a land over and over again.
- Minimising usage of non renewable resources and Maximizing usage of Renewable resources like Solar Power and Wind.
- Initiating zero waste lifestyle and many of such several types of positive and efficient lifestyles.

Be it the Spouts Of water project at a school in Uganda, or growing Barley in an Algerian desert, be it a generator invented by a 15 year old Azerbaijani girl, that derives power raindrops, Sustainable Development stands high like a tree with several branches.

As per C.S. Lewis “The process of living seems to consist in coming to realize truths so ancient and simple that, if stated, they sound like barren platitudes.” In other words, a minimalist lifestyle is a process of asking WHY before you BUY. Minimalism hurts the various sectors of the economy. If more people practice minimalism, then less is consumed. But less of what? Usually, minimalism means consuming fewer FMCGs (Fast Moving Consumer Goods). The disposables industry may get hit in particular. As a result, employment in industries like, retail, automobile, manufacturing etc. will be lost.

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A Science Deanery half-yearly Magazine

SCIENCE DEPARTMENTS OF SALESIAN COLLEGE

December 2021

1 Trends in Science and Technology - TIST 2021

A one day National Conference on "Trends in Science and Technology 2021" was organised by the Science Departments of Salesian College, Siliguri campus, on 28th February 2021.

2 Departmental Activity: Student Presentation

In order to inculcate ethics, etiquette, communication skills and inter-personality development among students the Department of Physics has been conducting weekly (Saturdays) in-house seminar.

3 Internet of Things : The Dawn of a new Era

Over the past few decades, the internet has made astounding progress and increased its outreach and compatibility with devices. Not so long ago, internet used to be a PC luxury, then came the era of phones with mail, and then smart phones.

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How to Learn Data Structures



Abhijit Dey
Assistant Professor
Department of Computer Science and Application
Salesian College, Siliguri

Data structure is an important subject in Computer Science. It is more important than learning a programming language. Though it is necessary to learn programming languages for coding but to make the codes more efficient and to solve complex problems having bulky data, data structure is very useful. Along with data structure, algorithm also plays a vital role for developing efficient software. Algorithm works with data structures as a partner and helps the programmer to meet the need of software development.

Now, the question is how to learn data structure in a proper way? In most of the institutions it is taught in a theoretical fashion. Even, many students mug up the algorithms in any way without understanding it. These are not the actual way of learning data structure and algorithms. That is why we are here to know the actual process of learning data structures and algorithms.

The first thing is, through which programming language we need to implement data structures? Though data structures are language independent and it can be implemented using any programming language but 'C' and 'C++' are most suitable programming languages to implement data structures as these are very easy to learn, most powerful languages, most of the 'A' graded product based companies like Facebook, Google, Adobe, Amazon, Microsoft etc. use these languages for performance oriented jobs. Therefore, it is recommended to have good commands on 'C' and 'C++' and implement data structures through these languages.

In 'C' and 'C++', programs get executed very fast and these languages also provide the facility of memory management explicitly to the programmers. All these facilities are not available in many advanced programming languages like Java, Python etc.

Most of students try to mug up the algorithms of different data structures and their corresponding operations; this is a very wrong technique and cannot form a strong base of a developer, this can only help to pass the examinations but unable to provide a good concept of data structures and algorithms to the students which is must for a programmer. Therefore, it is highly recommended not to mug up the algorithms instead need to have more focus on its implementation and coding. The students need to develop programs of data structures and algorithms as much as they can. This will provide them a good command on the language as well as will increase their confidence level and as a result they will gain the capability of implementing data structures more efficiently in their project work.

Many students don't have good commands on these programming languages but they want to gain the capabilities of implementing data structures in an efficient way due to pass the examination of this course. Practically, it is not possible. So, this is very important factor to implement data structures through coding and for this, it is necessary to know these programming languages from the scratch. Viewing the codes of already developed programs cannot make the foundation of a programmer until the programmer is not developing programs using data structures. This may take a longer time to implement different data structures accurately but will provide a very good concept of understanding data structures and algorithms.

Few topics must be very clear to the students for learning data structures like functions and its implementations in a program, different types of functions like parameterized and non-parameterized, concept of call by value and call by reference, function calling statements, return type of a function and function prototype declaration etc. as for performing different operations on data structures students need to construct different functions. Some other important topics are array, structure, pointer, dynamic memory allocation and related built-in functions and their syntax etc. Students need to have the experience of practically implementation of all these topics in programming level.

Students are suggested to make diagrams while representing data structures as this is very obvious to visualize different operations on data structures like insertion, deletion, sorting of data elements etc. At the early stage it may be bit difficult to visualize all these operations on data structures but making diagrams on paper helps a lot to do that.

It is found that at the early stage students get very much bothered about time complexity of the operations, therefore, it is recommended not to get bothered about it at this stage instead they need to get involved in developing programs by implementing data structures and have some experiences and be familiar with the coding level of data structures. Time complexity can be experienced at later stage.

Students need to dry run the codes for checking the logic of implementation of different operations on different data structures.

Acknowledgement:

1. **Mr. Saurabh Shukla,** www.MySirG.com
2. www.geeksforgeeks.org
3. www.programiz.com

Workshop on Spark AR

REPORT

The workshop was conducted by members from **Jalpaiguri Government Engineering College Google Developer Student Club (JGEC Google Developer Student Club)** in collaboration with **Computer Science and Applications, Salesian College Siliguri Campus.** The workshop named as **"Workshop on Spark AR",** held on 11th December 2021 at 11:30.

142 students were registered and 126 participated including four guest mentors from **JGEC Google Developer Student Club.** The members are Niloy Sikdar (Team leader), Utpalendu Barman, Nisha Yadav, Abhrodeep Das.



The first phase started with the introduction program which was hosted by our volunteers Alok Barwa with the help of Aaron Tshering Sherpa. The introduction started with people gathering in the Killian Hall with a small speech and a small prayer. Father Vice Principal CM Paul and Dean Dhiro Subba spoke a few words on this workshop and gave blessings to everyone.

Guest member and mentor from GDSC JGEC, Nisha Yadav gave us the introduction on the whole event and assured us that no pre-requisites or knowledge was required for the workshop.

The second phase started with registration and verification of the attendees. All the participants who had registered were verified and moved to the lab rooms in Taverna Block.





For the third phase we had the main workshop. After the assembly the guests were escorted to the lab rooms immediately by the hosts. All the participants who brought their own laptops were given one class with all the necessary facilities like extensions and wifi were provided. The others who did not have were given a computer lab room with stable internet connection. The guest mentors divided themselves in teams of two and took one lab each.

They participants were learnt the following -

1. How to use Spark AR Studio
2. How to create filters using Spark AR
3. How to upload filters on Facebook/Instagram

For any assistance our volunteers were present in each class for the mentors. Satyam Gupta and Amit Singh were responsible for all the communication with the faculties. The entire BCA department helped in volunteering a lot including the first and second years.



The fourth phase was thanksgiving and food coupons. After the workshop and thanksgiving by the hosts and the participants were asked to move again to the registration counter to collect the food coupons. They had the food from Canteen. After that certificate of participation was given to all the attendees.

We wrapped up the workshop by 3:00 pm. This was our new experience and everyone gave their best.

Volunteers List :

1. Amit Singh
2. Satyam Gupta
3. Aaron Tshering Sherpa
4. Alok Barwa
5. Rajat Kumar Barick
6. Harsh Agarwala
7. Md Parowej
8. Elma Zarin Khan
9. Vishakh Lama
10. Rahul Chettri
11. Nawraj Luitel
12. Rohit Agarwal
13. Avinav Gupta
14. Neeraj Agarwal
15. Anshu Agarwal





The seventh annual Inter-School Tech Fest **eComPhyMathix 2021** was successfully organised by the Science Departments of Salesian College, Siliguri Campus on the 15th of January 2022 in online mode.



Fr. C M Paul, Vice Principal, Deanery of Science, Siliguri Campus, led us through the inaugural prayer.

Mr. Dhirodatta Subba, Dean of Science, welcomed all the participants mentioning that Salesian College has been organising this event for the Schools in and around Siliguri and despite lockdowns participations have been enthusAiastic.

All participants were then asked to join different google meets for different events.

This year there were altogether eleven events:

1. MathWiz- mathematics based Quiz

2. GameXplosion – this had two games: Valorant for the PC based gaming, and BGMI for the mobile based gaming. Gaming events, in fact, were held on 14th itself.

3. TechImpress – the presentation event on topic DeepFake

4. PosterKraft – Digital poster making

5. CodeChef – coding and debugging event on Java and C/C++

6. CrossViews – the debating event which had the topic *The exploration of space is under threat from the billionaires who only care about flexing their financial muscles and maximising their profits, instead of being in the hands of governments and non-profit organizations for the benefit of humanity and the advancement of technology.*

7. SciScape – the Science modelling event

8. CTF – Capture the Flag, an online treasure hunt event, with elements of ethical hacking

9. Memopia – the event for making memes on mobile phones

10. VideoRookie – Video editing event

11. BizWiz – a start-up pitch event

Event wise Reports

1. MathWiz

Date: 15th January 2022	**Time:** 9:00 am – 11:00 pm	**No. of participants:** 20
Meet Link:		
Participating Schools:	• Army Public School, Bengdubi • Don Bosco School, Siliguri (two teams) • Don Bosco School, Odlabari (two teams) • G.D. Goenka School, Dhukuria (two teams)	
Details	The event was conducted as per rules given in the Rule Book. Event Coordinator: Mr. Subhajit Paul, Department of Mathematics Event was judged by Mr. Subhajit Paul assisted by Mr. Bishal Sonar, Department of Mathematics.	

2. GameXplosion

Date: 14th January 2022	**Time:** 13:00 pm – 15:40 pm	**No. of participants:** 10
Game:	Valorant (PC based)	
Participating Schools:	• Army Public School, Bengdubi • Don Bosco School, Siliguri	
Details	The event was conducted as per rules given in the Rule Book. Event was automatically judged by the system Student volunteers were: Alok Barwa, Vishakh Lama and Aaron T Sherpa (BCA 5th Semester). Event Coordinator: Mr. Bishal Sonar, Department of Mathematics.	



2. GameXplosion

Date: 14th January 2022	**Time:** 10:00 am – 12:30 pm	**No. of participants:** 44
Game:	BGMI (Mobile based)	
Participating Schools:	• Army Public School, Bengdubi • Auxillium Convent School, Siliguri • Don Bosco School, Siliguri • G.D. Goenka School, Dhukuria	
Details	The event was conducted as per rules given in the Rule Book. Event was automatically judged by the system Student volunteers were: Alok Barwa, Vishal Lama & Aaron T Sherpa. Event Coordinator: Mr. Bishal Sonar, Department of Mathematics.	

Vikendi:



3. TechImpress

Date: 15th January 2022	**Time:** 9:00 am – 9:30 am	**No. of participants:** 6
Meet Link:	https://meet.google.com/cqm-skga-rhw	
Participating Schools:	• Don Bosco School, Siliguri • G.D. Goenka School, Dhukuria	
Details	The event started at 9.00 a.m. First presenter was the GD Goenka School, and the second was Don Bosco School. Both schools made excellent presentations. There was question answer round after each presentation. Both teams answered the questions properly. Each team had three members. Event Coordinator: Mr. Dhirodatta Subba, Department of CSA Event was judged by Dr. S C Das, Department of Physics and IQAC Coordinator.	





4. PosterKraft

Date: 15th January 2022	**Time:** 14:30 pm – 15:30 pm	**No. of participants:** 2
Meet Link:	https://meet.google.com/xxq-xmxr-pju	
Participating Schools:	• Don Bosco School, Siliguri • G.D. Goenka School, Dhukuria	
Details	The event was organised as per the Rule Book. Event Coordinator: Mr. Subhajit Bose, Department of CSA. Event was judged by Mr. Subhajit Bose, Department of Computer Science & Applications.	



5. CodeChef

Date: 15th January 2022	**Time:** 9:10 am – 10:30 am	**No. of participants:** 21
Meet Link:	https://meet.google.com/xxq-xmxr-pju	
Participating Schools:	• Army Public School, Bengdubi • Don Bosco School, Siliguri • G.D. Goenka School, Dhukuria • Sacred Heart School, Tarijote, Phansidewa	
Details	The event started at 9.10 a.m. Two questions were provided to the participants in the official Codechef Whatsapp Group. The participants were then asked to join the google meet, ask queries and solve(write) their codes till 10.30 a.m. Student volunteers were: Aditi Ghosh (BCA, 5TH Semester), Harsh Agarwala (BCA 5th Semester) and Britika Khati (BCA, 3rd Semester). Event Coordinator: Mr. Tanay Bhadra, Department of CSA Event was judged by Mr. Tanay Bhadra, Head, Department of Computer Science & Applications.	

6. CrossViews

Date: 15th January 2022	**Time:** 11:30 am – 14:00 pm	**No. of participants:** 14
Meet Link:	https://meet.google.com/peg-qymu-sjq	
Participating Schools:	• Army Public School, Bengdubi • Don Bosco School, Siliguri • G.D. Goenka School, Dhukuria • Sacred Heart School, Tarijote, Phansidewa	
Details	The event was conducted as per rules given in the Rule Book. There was very enthusiastic participation by the students and the arguments, and counter arguments were worth listening to and the school students displayed amazing maturity and understanding of the topic. Student volunteers: Astha Tiwari and Subhranil Das, Department of Physics Event Coordinator: Mr. Bikramjit Chandra, Department of Physics Event was judged by Dr. Digvijay Khadka and Mr. Bikramjit Chandra, Department of Physics.	



7. SciScape

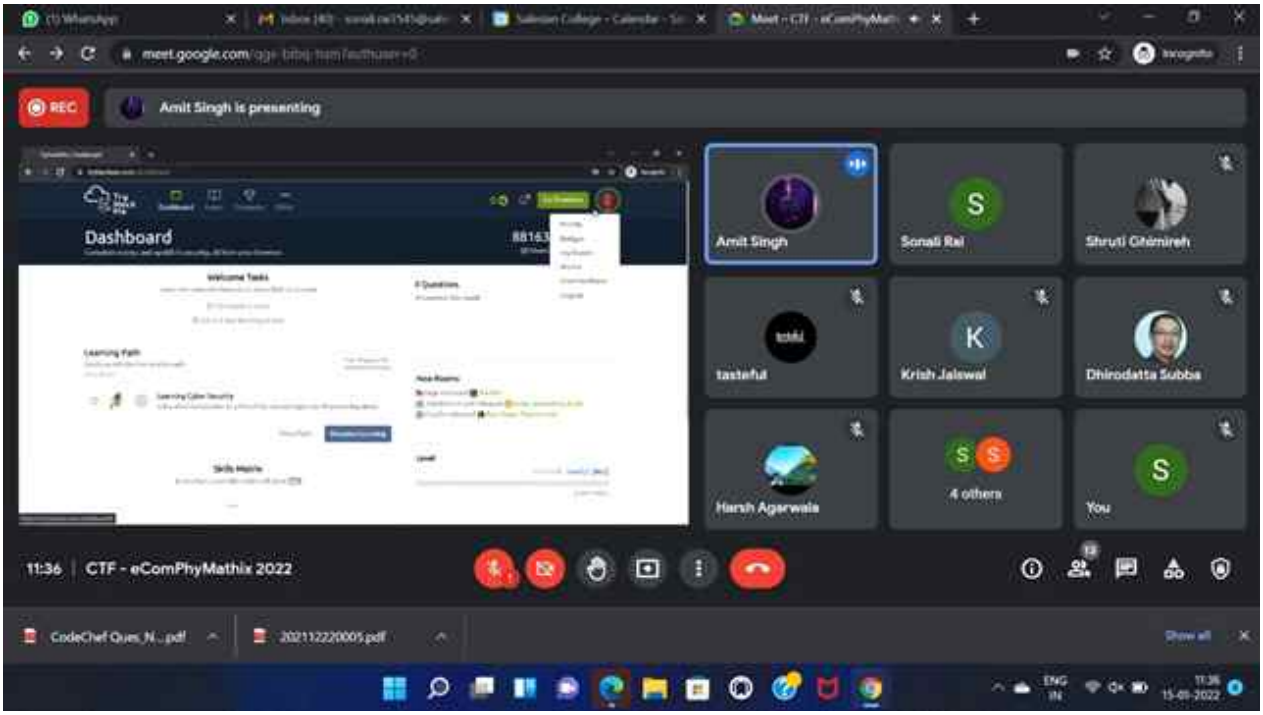
Date: 15th January 2022	**Time:** 14:00 pm – 15:30 pm	**No. of participants:** 3
Meet Link:	https://meet.google.com/khq-jxkr-ogi	
Participating Schools:	• Army Public School, Bengdubi • G.D. Goenka School, Dhukuria	
Details	A total number of 4 teams had registered for the event out of which two teams from APS Bengdubi and GD Goenka School participated and the remaining two teams from APS Sukuna did not join the event during the last hour. The team members were called for brief meeting on 13th January 2022 and were given details about the event including guidelines. The students were given one hour to assemble their scientific model. Gaurav Agarwal and Suhani Singhal from GD Goenka presented their thematic model based on Green Energy	

Details	- "WiMost Generator", followed by Q&A session where the judges found the participants to be well versed with their proposed model and gave satisfactory answers. Priyanka Barik from APS Bengdubi presented on "Information Transmission Systems". Event Coordinator: Dr. Prajwal Chettri, Department of Physics Event was judged by Dr. Prajwal Chettri, Dr. Digvijay Kharga and Ms. Sujata Sinha, all from the Department of Physics.



8. Capture The Flag (CTF)

Date: 15th January 2022	**Time:** 11:30 am – 13:30 pm	**No. of participants:** 7
Meet Link:	https://meet.google.com/qgx-bibq-hsm	
Participating Schools:	• Army Public School, Bengdubi • Adarsh Mahavidyalaya • Don Bosco School, Siliguri • G.D. Goenka School, Dhukuria • Delhi Public School, Dagapur	
Details	The event was conducted as per rules given in the Rule Book. It was organised by Amit Singh of BCA 5th Semester and supervised by Ms. Sonali Rai, Salesian Tech. Event Coordinator: Ms. Sonali Rai, Salesian Tech Event was judged by the system based on the number of flags captured.	



9. Memopia

Date: 15th January 2022	**Time:** 14:00 am – 15:00 pm	**No. of participants:** 7
Meet Link:	https://meet.google.com/tva-xzdq-afw	
Participating Schools:	• Army Public School, Bengdubi • Don Bosco School, Odlabari • Don Bosco School, Siliguri • G.D. Goenka School, Dhukuria	
Details	The event was conducted as per rules given in the Rule Book. It was organised by Mr. Bishal Sonar, Department of Mathematics, and Elma Zarin (final year student volunteer), Department of Mathematics. Event Coordinator: Mr. Bishal Sonar, Department of Mathematics Event was judged by Mr. Subhajit Paul (Mathematics), Mr. Subhajit Bose (CSA), Phu Tshering Sherpa (Economics) and Mr. Bikramjit Chandra (Physics).	





10. VideoRookie

Date: 15th January 2022	**Time:** 14:30 am – 15:30 pm	**No. of participants:** 9
Meet Link:		
Participating Schools:	• Adarsh Mahavidyalaya • Army Public School, Bengdubi • Delhi Public School, Dagapur • Don Bosco School, Siliguri • Don Bosco School, Odlabari • G.D. Goenka School, Dhukuria	
Details	The event was conducted as per rules given in the Rule Book. Event Coordinator: Mr. Abhijit Dey, Department of CSA Event was judged by Mr. Abhijit Dey, Department of Computer Science & Applications.	

11. BizWiz

Date: 15th January 2022	**Time:** 11:30 am – 13:30 pm	**No. of participants:** 15
Meet Link:	https://meet.google.com/rzc-pofg-hnk	
Participating Schools:	• Army Public School, Bengdubi (two teams) • Don Bosco School, Siliguri (two teams) • G.D. Goenka School, Dhukuria (two teams)	
Details	The event was conducted as per rules given in the Rule Book. Event Coordinator: Mr. Sanuel Tamang, Department of Economics Event was judged by Mr. Gyanendra Subba (Project Manager at the Workforce Development Council of Seattle-King County) and Miss. Shradha Sharma , Department of Management.	

Results

Name of the Events	1st position	2nd position	3rd position
GameXplosion			
PG Gaming- **Valorant**	**Don Bosco School Siliguri** Harsh Agarwal Prayas Mitruka Ainesh Gupta Pradyum Goyal Omkesh Agarwal	-	-
Mobile Gaming - Battle Grounds Mobile India (**BGMI**)	**Army Public School, Bengdubi** Niusen Rai Chirag Rai Sanjog Tamang Arijit Dey Dhiraj Rai	**G.D. Goenka Public School** Nirav Chachan Tilak Jajoo Shriyansh Mittal Piyush Chachan	**G.D. Goenka Public School** Varun Agarwal Animesh Anand Snehashish Karmakar Devan Agarwal
CodeChef	**G.D. Goenka Public School** Gaurav Agarwal	**Don Bosco School Siliguri** Mayank Agarwal	**Don Bosco School Siliguri** Manit Agarwal
TechImpress	**G.D. Goenka Public School, Dhukuria** Arpan Tibrewal Harshit Agarwal Aadarsh Agarwal	**Don Bosco School Siliguri** Lakshya Agarwal Aryan Banerjee Gourav Saria	-

MathWiz	**G.D. Goenka Public School**	**Don Bosco School, Odlabari**	**G.D. Goenka Public School**	
	Arihant Jain Aryan Agarwal Tanvi Bansal Trisha Kedia	Aaronya Chakraborty Anand Mangalam Garg Gourav Sarkar	Aayush Sarda Gaurav Agarwal Harsh Gupta Riju Dutta	
BizWiz	**Don Bosco School, Siliguri**	**Don Bosco School, Siliguri**	**Army Public School Bengdubi**	**G.D. Goenka Public School**
	Arihant Jain Aryan Agarwal Tanvi Bansal Trisha Kedia	Aaronya Chakraborty Anand M. Garg Gourav Sarkar	Aayush Sarda Gaurav Agarwal Harsh Gupta Riju Dutta	Muskan Agarwal Aadarsh Agarwal Nolen T. Bhutia Komal Bajaj
Capture the Flag (**CTF**)	**Don Bosco School Siliguri**	**Adarsh Mahavidyalaya**	**Delhi Public School**	
	Alex Nirmal Minj	Kinnor Majumder	Krish Jaiswal	
CrossViews	**G.D. Goenka Public School**	**Don Bosco School Siliguri**	**Army Public School Bengdubi**	
	Ranisha Giri Harsh Gupta	Bikramjit Gupta Aryan Banerjee	Anikyet Bhusal Shree Raj Chettri	
VideoRookie	**Don Bosco School Siliguri**	**Don Bosco School Odlabari**	**Army Public School Bengdubi**	
	Sayan Sarkar	Pradyuman Lama	Payel Majumder Ananta Pathak	
SciScape	**G.D. Goenka Public School**	**Army Public School Bengdubi**	-	
	Gaurav Agarwal Suhani Singhal	Priyanka Barik		
MemoPia	**G.D. Goenka Public School**	**Don Bosco School Siliguri**	**Don Bosco School Odlabari**	
	Snehasish Karmakar Mudit Jain	Krish Agarwal Barun Agarwal	Sowrodeep Saha Mithlesh Kumar Gupta	
PosterKraft	**G.D. Goenka Public School**	**Don Bosco School Siliguri**	-	
	Arpan Tibrewal	Mayank Agarwal		

In the overall tally, GD Goenka stood out as the topper - 1st place; followed by Don Bosco Siliguri - 2nd place; followed by Army Public School, Bengdubi in the third place.

During the valedictory session, feedbacks from participants were taken. Suggestion for including more events were given – for instance another Quiz activity that would include other subjects other than mathematics; investment planning, better strategy to make juniors compete with juniors and seniors with seniors - as a class IX student competing with

class XII student was perceived to be unequal in terms of competition.

Credits:
Ms. Snigdha Roy (Mathematics) – Results compilation
Ms. Yadika Prasad (CSA) – Registration setup, Digital Certificates generation
Mr. Amit Lepcha (Graphics Designer) – Posters, Banners, Certificate Templates
Mr. Subhajit Paul (HoD, Mathematics) – Rule Book rendering in LaTeX
Mr. Dhirodatta Subba (Dean of Science) – Overall coordination, Report consolidation

Salesian College
Siliguri

Department of Physics
Siliguri Campus
Don Bosco Connector Road
Siliguri 734 001
www.salesiancollege.ac.in

Departmental Events
July 2021 to December 2021

Sl. No.	Date	Event title
1.	2021-09-18	Student Presentation Day 1
2.	2021-09-21	2D Materials and their applications in nanotechnology
3.	2021-10-09	Student Presentation Day 2
4.	2021-10-23	Student Presentation Day 3
5.	2021-11-15	Cytoskeletal Architecture and Dynamics under Stress
6.	2021-08-10	Orientation Session for 3rd and 5th
7.	2021-08-14	Physics Department Farewell
8.	2021-09-02	Introduction to the Department, Student – Faculty
9.	2021-09-03	Distribution of Departmental Academic code, Introduction to faculty's fields of research and their experience
10.	2021-09-07	Orientation- Introduction of Courses
11.	2021-09-08	Advice and Department resources available for future plans
12.	2021-09-09	Interaction with senior students DAY 1
13.	2021-09-11	Presentation Demo Class
14.	2021-09-11	FDP Phase 1 and Coordination Meeting
15.	2021-09-13	Campus Visit – First Year Orientation
16.	2021-09-14	Feedback and Q&A Session

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Event & Activities:

1	Title of the Event:	**A Webinar on "Cytoskeletal Architecture and Dynamics under Stress"**
2	Date:	**15th November, 2021**
3	Time:	**11:00 AM**
4	Mode / Venue :	**Online Mode: Google Meet**
5	Link:	**https://meet.google.com/esm-pqea-iwy**
6	Total Number of Days:	**1**
7	Organized by Dept/Cell/Club/Committee:	**Department of Physics, Salesian College in collaboration with IQAC**
8	Faculty Incharge of the Event:	**Dr. Prajwal Chettri**
9	Total Number of Participants:	**17**
10	Total Number of Faculty Involved:	**4**
12	Coordinator:	**Dr. Prajwal Chettri**

Prajwal Chettri

Hod
Department of Physics

Prajwal Chettri

Event
Coordinator

Vice Principal

The Faculty incharge must submit the detailed reports, documents and geo tagged Photos of the events to the IQAC office within 2 days of the completion of the event and upload the reports in the College ERP.

Report

Abstract: The webinar will outline the cytoskeleton of eukaryotic cells and their structure function relation. It will also highlight the signalling cascade of different proteins required to maintain cellular homeostasis. Finally the talk will entail the crosstalk between these functional proteins during oxidative stress of the system.

Resource person: Dr. Anindita Chakraborty (Scientist G, UGC-DAE Consortium for Scientific Research)

The Department of Physics, Salesian College in collaboration with IQAC organized a Webinar titled "Cytoskeletal Architecture and Dynamics under Stress" through the online mode via Google Meet on 15th November, 2021. The programme started at 11:00 AM with a prayer and welcome speech for the event by Fr. C. M. Paul, Vice-Principal of Sciences. He warmly welcomed the resource person for today's Webinar, Dr. Anindita Chakraborty.

Dr. Prajwal Chettri, Head of the Physics Department, then gave a brief introduction about Dr. Chakraborty and the topic which will be addressed in the Webinar.

Mr. Bikramjit Chandra, Assistant Professor, Department of Physics, host of the event thanked Dr. Chakraborty for taking time off her busy schedule and accepting to be the resource person of the event. He then went on to initiate the programme.

Dr. Chakraborty, introduced the idea of cytoskeletal organization among organisms and eukaryotic cells, which are responsible in providing shape and mechanical resistance, growth, movement, biochemical signaling, cell division, etc. She then talked about the composition of cytoskeleton: actin, intermediate filaments and microtubules, and the function of each of these components. She then discussed the idea of polymerization and de-polymerization process of cytoskeleton, importance of biochemical signaling, cytoskeletal dynamics, oxidative stress and members of Rho-GTPases. She also mentioned that this type of study can be used in detection of early initiation phase of carcinogenesis i.e., migration or invasion of cancer cells. She emphasized that this bio-physics field of the research on cytoskeletal dynamics is an active field in computational cellular structure modelling.

The Q&A session was presided over by Dr. Digvijay Kharga, Assistant Professor, Department of Physics, who thanked the speaker Dr. Chakraborty for her wonderful presentation and highlighting the audience about the ever-increasing field of interdisciplinary research particular in Sciences. After addressing the questions, the programme ended with a vote of thanks presented by Dr. Prajwal Chettri.

A special mention and thanks to Ms. Sujata Sinha, Assistant Professor, Department of Physics who was also an integral part in organizing the event and technical support.



Report by:
Name: Dr. Digvijay Kharga
Designation: Assistant Professor
Date: 15/11/2021
Salesian College, Siliguri

Finance Section:

No budget was required for this programme.

Attendance:

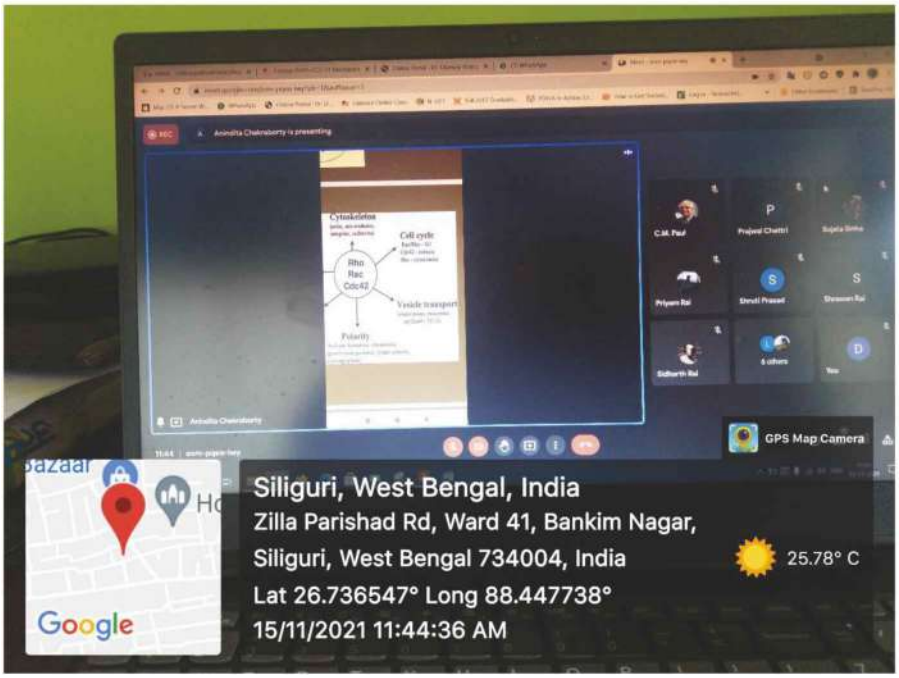
No.	Name:	Department
1.	Fr. C. M. Paul	Physics
2.	Dr. Prajwal Chettri	Physics
3.	Mr. Bikramjit Chandra	Physics
4.	Ms. Sujata Sinha	Physics
5.	Dr. Digvijay Kharga	Physics
6.	Priyam Rai	Physics
7.	Rudraneel Chakraboty	Physics
8.	Shrawan Rai	Physics
9.	Bibhushit Monger	Physics
10.	Ajit Tiwari	Physics
11.	Arati Lohar	Physics
12.	Sidharth Rai	Physics
13.	Lachung Lepcha	Physics
14.	Nirupan Thapa	Physics
15.	Pewang Tamang	Physics
16.	Bhaskar Prasad	Physics
17.	Shruti Prasad	Physics

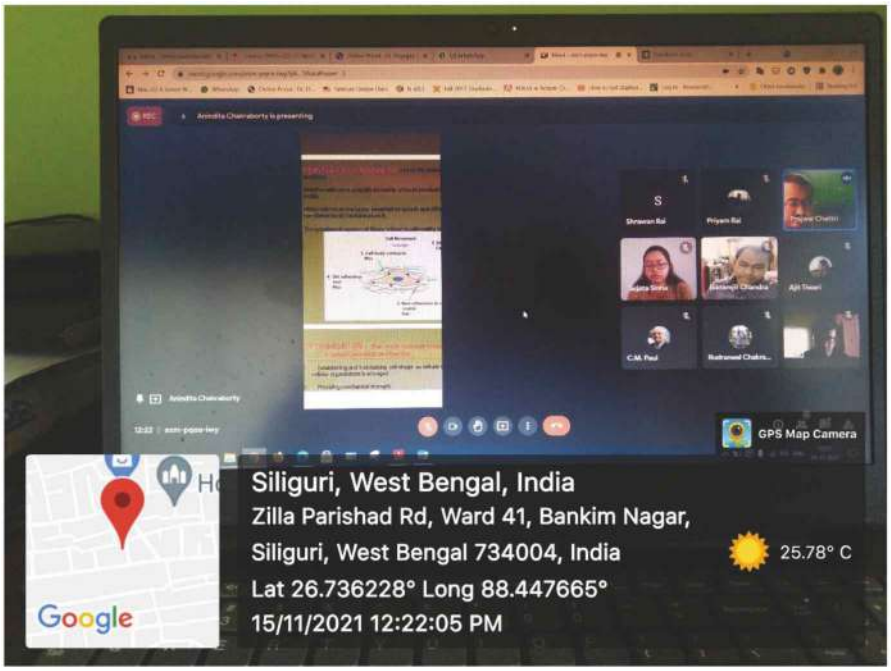
GEO TAGGED PHOTO:

Link to Google Meet recording of the session.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1m01AGTdZ1DvidfZNNX1T3F8XwsTRJoZn/view?usp=drivesdk







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Events & Activities

1	Title of the Event:	Student Presentation (Day-3)
2	Date:	23rd October 2021
3	Time:	9:40a.m.
4	Mode / Venue:	Online (Google meet)
5	Link:	https://drive.google.com/file/d/18rolHptCMcaoBDLeLD8CXn7WeJrlmpsl/view?usp=sharing
6	Total Number of Days:	01
7	Organized by Dept/Cell/Club/Committee:	Department of Physics
8	Faculty In charge of the Event:	Sujata Sinha
9	Total Number of Participants:	20
10	Total Number of Faculty Involved:	5
11	Coordinator:	Bikramjit Chandra

Head of Department | Faculty in Charge | Vice Principal

REPORT

Student Presentation, a departmental weekly event (Day-3) for the presentation and discussion of emerging fields in Physical Science was organised by the department of Physics on 23rd October 2021 in online mode.

The opening speech of second day was delivered by Mr. Bikramjit Chandra, coordinator of the event.

At first Mr. Adesh Sada, student of 5th semester gave presentation on holography. He also added what makes it superior over photography, after that its basic principles and applications were discussed.

Everyone was impressed by his informative talk. This was followed by Question & Answer session, where some students and faculty members Dr. Digvijay Kharga, Mr. Bikramjit Chandra, Dr. Prajwal Chettri asked few questions respectively.

The next talk was delivered by Mr. Rudraneel Chakraborty, student of 5th semester on Space Telescope. He gave generalized view on Space Telescopes explaining James Webb and its differences with other Telescopes.

This was followed by QnA & feedback session. Necessary advice and feedbacks pointing out the way of improvements were given to the candidate.

At the end, the faculty members expressed warm admiration for all the effort and hard work.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks by Mr. Bikramjit Chandra, coordinator of the event.



Report by: _____

Name: Sujata Sinha

Designation: Assistant Professor

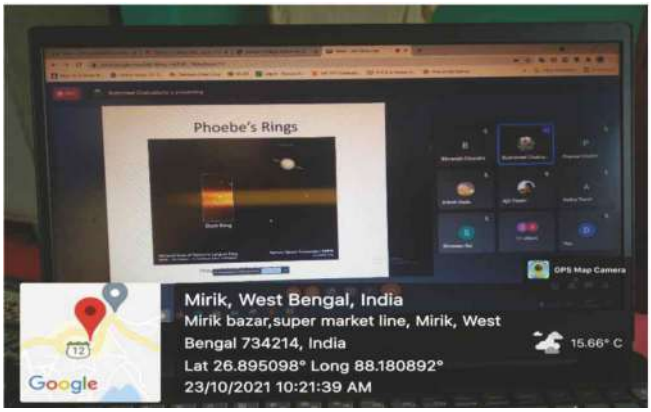
Date: 24/10/2021

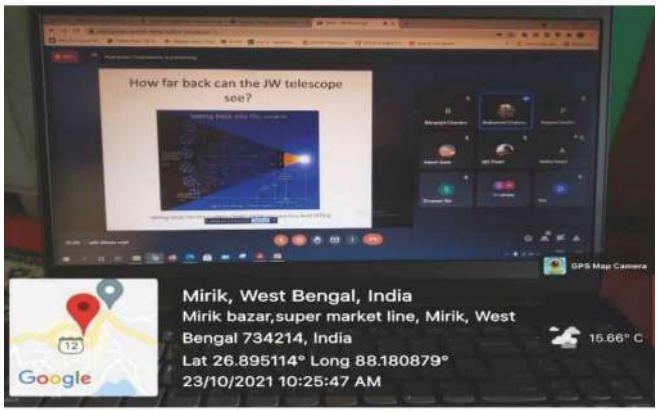
Salesian College, Siliguri

Attendance

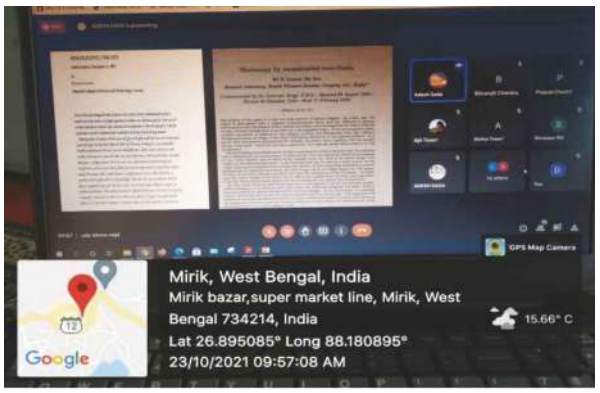
No.	Name:	Department
1.	Dr. S. C. Das	Physics
2.	Dr. Prajwal Chettri	Physics
3.	Mr. Bikramjit Chandra	Physics
4.	Dr. Digvijay Kharga	Physics
5.	Ms. Sujata Sinha	Physics
6.	Astha Tiwari	Physics
7.	Subhranil Das	Physics
8.	Swarnajit Bhadra	Physics
9.	Bhaskar Prasad	Physics
10.	Arihanth Thapa	Physics
11.	Sarla Lama	Physics
12.	Ajit Tiwari	Physics
13.	Nirupan Thapa	Physics
14.	Lachung Lepcha	Physics
15.	Adesh sada	Physics
16.	Shrawan Rai	Physics
17.	Aryanjali Sharma	Physics
18.	Bibhshit Monger	Physics
19.	Tithi Moktan	Physics
20.	Priyam Rai	Physics
21.	Ashweni Chettri	Physics
22.	Sidharth Rai	Physics
23.	Sudhansu Mani Pradhan	Physics
24.	Arati Lohar	Physics
25.	Rudraneel Chakraborty	Physics

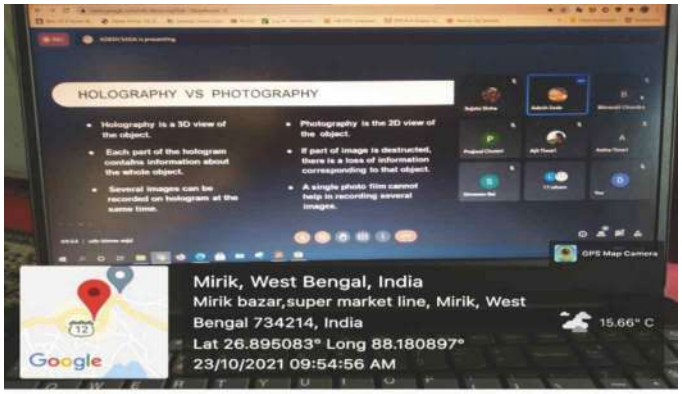
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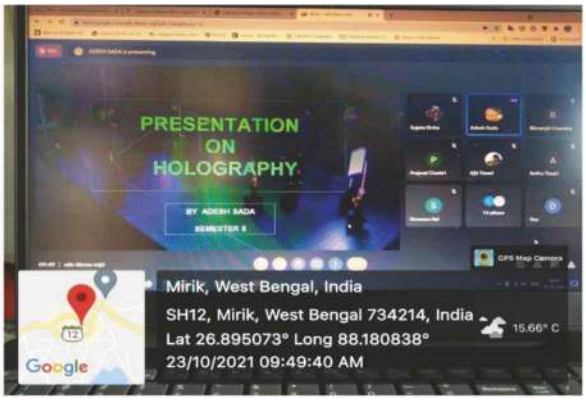












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Events & Activities

1	Title of the Event:	Student Presentation (Day-2)
2	Date:	9th October 2021
3	Time:	9:40a.m.
4	Mode / Venue:	Online (Google meet)
5	Link:	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1EsduaWhADZb2IfP_yXm7R7oPGmJDpwiX/view
6	Total Number of Days:	01
7	Organized by Dept/Cell/Club/Committee:	Department of Physics
8	Faculty In charge of the Event:	Sujata Sinha
9	Total Number of Participants:	20
10	Total Number of Faculty Involved:	3
11	Coordinator:	Bikramjit Chandra

Prayasal Chettri

Head of Department | Faculty in Charge | Vice Principal

REPORT

Student Presentation, a departmental weekly event (Day-2) for the presentation and discussion of emerging fields in Physical Science was organised by the department of Physics on 9th October 2021 in online mode.

The opening speech of second day was delivered by Mr. Bikramjit Chandra, coordinator of the event.

At first Ms. Tithi Moktan, student of 5th semester gave presentation on graphene and it's structure. Then its unique electronic, mechanical and optical properties were also discussed. Some applications of graphene were also discussed in the end.

Everyone was impressed by her informative talk. This was followed by Question & Answer session, where some students and faculty members Dr. Digvijay Kharga, Mr. Bikramjit Chandra, Ms. Sujata Sinha asked few questions respectively.

The next talk was delivered by Mr. Shrawan Rai, student of 5th semester on the topic of black holes. The presentation included the formation of black holes, its different parts and also different types.

This was followed by QnA & feedback session, faculties pointed out the drawbacks of the presentation. For being brief and not so informative advised were given to the candidate.

At the end, the faculty members expressed warm admiration for all the effort and hard work.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks by Mr. Bikramjit Chandra, coordinator of the event.



Report by: _____

Name: Sujata Sinha

Designation: Assistant Professor

Date: 18/09/2021

Salesian College, Siliguri

Attendance

No.	Name:	Department
1.	Mr. Bikramjit Chandra	Physics
2.	Dr. Digvijay Kharga	Physics
3.	Ms. Sujata Sinha	Physics
4.	Astha Tiwari	Physics
5.	Subhranil Das	Physics
6.	Swarnajit Bhadra	Physics
7.	Bhaskar Prasad	Physics
8.	Atinap Tamang	Physics
9.	Sarla Lama	Physics
10.	Subhayu Bose	Physics
11.	Ajit Tiwari	Physics
12.	Khushi Gurung	Physics
13.	Nirupan Thapa	Physics
14.	Lachung Lepcha	Physics
15.	Adesh sada	Physics
16.	Shrawan Rai	Physics
17.	Aryanjali Sharma	Physics
18.	Bibhshit Monger	Physics
19.	Tithi Moktan	Physics
20.	Priyam Rai	Physics
21.	Ashweni Chettri	Physics
22.	Priya Tamang	Physics
23.	Neha Chettri	Physics

GEO TAGGED PHOTO:











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Event & Activities:

1	Title of the Event:	**A Webinar on "2D Materials and their Applications in Nanoelectronic devices"**
2	Date:	**21st September, 2021**
3	Time:	**11:30 AM**
4	Mode / Venue :	**Online Mode: Google Meet**
5	Link:	**https://meet.google.com/nqv-ssqo-oyq**
6	Total Number of Days:	**1**
7	Organized by Dept/Cell/Club/Committee:	**Department of Physics, Salesian College in collaboration with IQAC**
8	Faculty Incharge of the Event:	**Dr. Prajwal Chettri**
9	Total Number of Participants:	**33**
10	Total Number of Faculty Involved:	**5**
12	Coordinator:	**Dr. Prajwal Chettri**

Prajwal Chettri

Hod
Department of Physics

Prajwal Chettri

Event
Coordinator

Vice Principal

The Faculty incharge must submit the detailed reports, documents and geo tagged Photos of the events to the IQAC office within 2 days of the completion of the event and upload the reports in the College ERP.

REPORT

Abstract: With the Silicon MOS technology nearing the scaling limits, and the demand for flexible electronics on the rise, alternatives to the conventional Silicon MOSFET must be explored with greater vigour. Of the various types of electronic materials under research, the 2-dimensional (2-D) materials (like Graphene, monolayer transition metal chalcogenides-TMDCs, black phosphorous, silicene, germanine, etc.) are of great significance in this regard. The chief advantages of 2-D materials over bulk material MOSFETs are the superior carrier mobility and the better electrostatic control over the channel, resulting in reduced leakage and less power consumption. This talk would look to give a broad overview of this rapidly emerging field of application of 2D materials in a concise manner.

Resource person: Dr. Amretashis Sengupta (SERB Research Scientist, University of North Bengal)

The Department of Physics, Salesian College in collaboration with IQAC organized a Webinar titled “2D Materials and their Applications in Nanoelectronic devices” through the online mode via Google Meet on 21st September 2021. The programme started at 11:30 AM with a prayer and blessings for the event by Fr. C. M. Paul, Vice-Principal of Sciences. He warmly welcomed the resource person for the Webinar, Dr. Amretashis Sengupta. Prof. Satyendra C. Das IQAC coordinator and the senior most faculty member of the Physics Department, then gave a brief introduction about Dr. Sengupta and the topic which will be addressed in the Webinar.

Mr. Bikramjit Chandra, Assistant Professor, Department of Physics, host of the event thanked Dr. Sengupta for accepting to be the resource person of the event on a short notice, and initiated the programme.

Dr. Sengupta, introduced the idea of how quantum confinement leads to the fabrication 2D, 1D and 0D nanomaterials. He talked about the different characterizations processes employed, and scaling challenges faced during the fabrication process. The talk also focused on the proposed solutions to these problems. Different types of 2D materials were discussed and emphasis was imposed on the advantages like superior mobility, better electrostatic control, mechanical flexibility and various optoelectronic applications. He also talked about modelling of these materials theoretically, using ab initio and density function technique calculations implementing tight binding potential model for interactions and Green’s function self-consistent method.

The Q&A session was presided over by Dr. Digvijay Kharga who thanked Dr. Sengupta for his wonderful presentation and keeping the audience engaged in his talk. After addressing the questions, the programme ended with a vote of thanks presented by Dr. Prajwal Chettri, Head of the Physics Department.

A special mention and thanks to Ms. Sujata Sinha, Assistant Professor, Department of Physics who was also an integral part in organizing the event and technical support.

Report by: Digvijay Kharga.

Name: Dr. Digvijay Kharga
Designation: Assistant Professor
Date: 21/09/2021
Salesian College, Siliguri

Finance Section:

No budget was required for this programme.

Attendance:

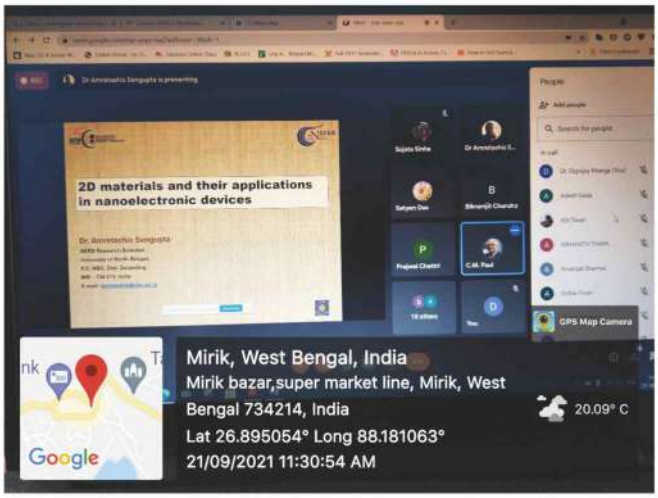
No.	Name:	Department
1.	Fr. C. M. Paul	Vice-Principal of Sciences
2.	Dr. Satyendra C. Das	Physics
3.	Dr. Prajwal Chettri	Physics
4.	Mr. Bikramjit Chandra	Physics
5.	Ms. Sujata Sinha	Physics
6.	Dr. Digvijay Kharga	Physics
7.	Ms. Anindya Bose	Physics
8.	Dr. Bikash Sharma	Physics
9.	Mr. Bibek Chettri	Physics
10.	Ms. Soumya Mukherjee	Physics
11.	Adesh Sada	Physics
12.	Aryanjali Sharma	Physics
13.	Priyam Rai	Physics
14.	Rudraneel Chakraboty	Physics
15.	Shrawan Rai	Physics
16.	Tithi Moktan	Physics
17.	Ajit Tiwari	Physics
18.	Arati Lohar	Physics
19.	Khushi Gurung	Physics

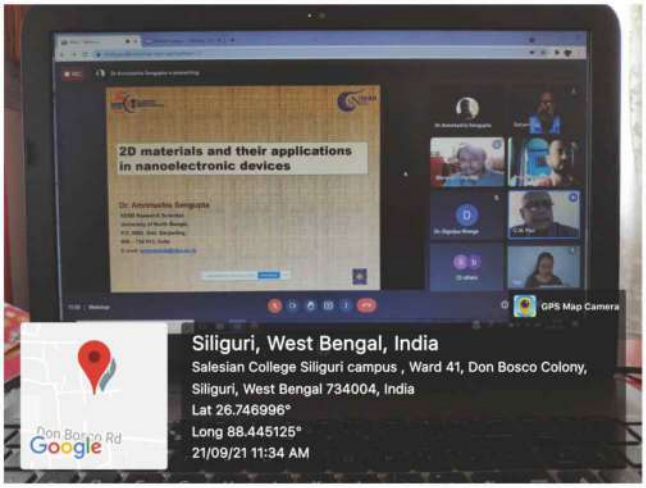
20.	Lachung Lepcha	Physics
21.	Nirupan Thapa	Physics
22.	Pewang Tamang	Physics
23.	Subhayu Bose	Physics
24.	Arihanth Thapa	Physics
25.	Astha Tiwari	Physics
26.	Atinap Tamang	Physics
27.	Bhaskar Prasad	Physics
28.	Jermit Lepcha	Physics
29.	Nikhil Biswakarma	Physics
30.	Raj Bahadur Biswakarma	Physics
31.	Sarla Lama	Physics
32.	Subhranil Das	Physics
33.	Swarnajit Bhadra	Physics

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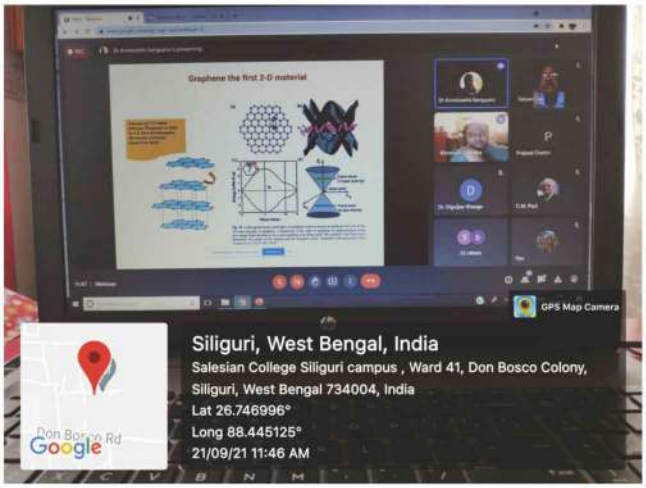
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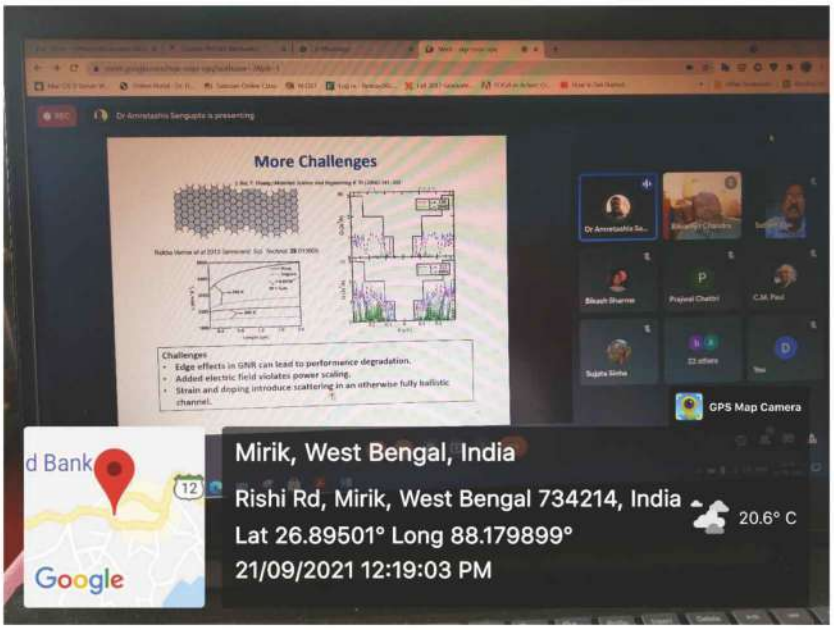
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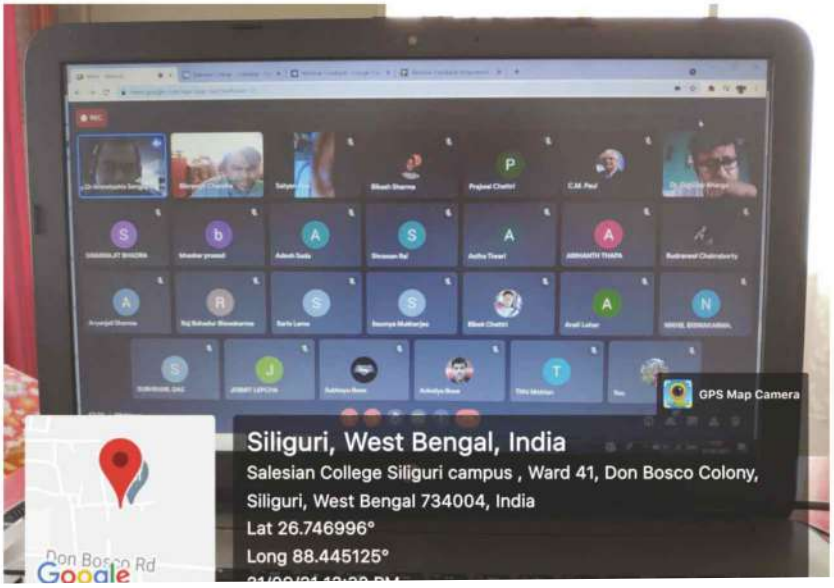












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Events & Activities

1	Title of the Event:	Student Presentation (Day-1)
2	Date:	18th September 2021
3	Time:	9:40a.m.
4	Mode / Venue:	Online (Google meet)
5	Link:	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1EsduaWhADZb2IfP_yXm7R7oPGmJDpwiX/view
6	Total Number of Days:	01
7	Organized by Dept/Cell/Club/Committee:	Department of Physics
8	Faculty In charge of the Event:	Sujata Sinha
9	Total Number of Participants:	25
10	Total Number of Faculty Involved:	5
11	Coordinator:	Bikramjit Chandra

Head of Department | Faculty in Charge | Vice Principal

REPORT

Student Presentation, a departmental event for the presentation and discussion of emerging fields in Physical Science was organised by the department of Physics on 18th September 2021 in online mode.

Each student of the Department has to present a topic for 15-20 min followed by QnA session. The first day of this weekly event was started by the presentation from two students of 5th Semester.

The opening speech was delivered by Mr. Bikramjit Chandra, coordinator of the event.

At first Ms. Aryanjali Sharma, student of 5th semester gave presentation on Magnetic levitation or Maglev. It is a system of train transportation that uses two sets of agnets: one set to repel and push the train up off the track and another set to move the elevated train ahead, taking advantage of lack of friction. Maglev can compete favourably with high-speed train and airplanes.

Everyone was impressed by her high energetic outstanding talk. This was followed by Question & Answer session, where some students and faculty members Prof S. C. Das, Dr. Prajwal Chettri , Dr. Digvijay Kharga asked few questions respectively.

The next talk was delivered by Mr. Priyam Rai, student of 5th semester on Wireless Power Transmission. He discussed the concept of Wireless Power Transmission (WPT) i.e. power transmission without using any type of the electrical conductor or wires. The working principle, it's types and brief history of WPT were also highlighted. Its application was also discussed at the end. The presentation was followed by question & answer session.

At the end, Dr. Prajwal Chettri expressed warm admiration for all the effort and hard work.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks by Mr. Bikramjit Chandra, coordinator of the event.



Report by: _____

Name: Sujata Sinha

Designation: Assistant Professor

Date: 18/09/2021

Salesian College, Siliguri

Attendance

No.	Name:	Department
1.	Dr. S. C. Das	Physics
2.	Dr. Prajwal Chettri	Physics
3.	Mr. Bikramjit Chandra	Physics
4.	Dr. Digvijay Kharga	Physics
5.	Ms. Sujata Sinha	Physics
6.	Astha Tiwari	Physics
7.	Nikhil Biswakarma	Physics
8.	Subhranil Das	Physics
9.	Arihanth Thapa	Physics
10.	Sarla Lama	Physics
11.	Bhaskar Prasad	Physics
12.	Jermit Lapcha	Physics
13.	Swarnajit Bhadra	Physics
14.	Raj Bahadur Biswakarma	Physics
15.	Ishan Barma	Physics
16.	Swarnajit Bhadra	Physics
17.	Subhayu Bose	Physics
18.	Ajit Tiwari	Physics
19.	Khushi Gurung	Physics
20.	Nirupan Thapa	Physics
21.	Pewang Tamang	Physics
22.	Sidharth rai	Physics
23.	Lachung Lepcha	Physics
24.	Adesh sada	Physics
25.	Shrawan Rai	Physics
26.	Aryanjali Sharma	Physics
27.	Bibhshit Monger	Physics
28.	Rudraneel Chakraborty	Physics
29.	Tithi Moktan	Physics
30.	Priyam Rai	Physics

GEO TAGGED PHOTO:













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Event & Activities:

1	Title of the Event:	PHY-Feedback and Q&A Session
2	Date:	14/09/2021
3	Time:	11.00 AM
4	Mode / Venue :	Online Mode: Google Meet
5	Link:	https://meet.google.com/end-sdso-pvp
6	Total Number of Days:	1
7	Organized by Dept/Cell/Club/Committee:	Department of Physics
8	Faculty Incharge of the Event:	Ms. Sujata Sinha
9	Total Number of Participants:	14
10	Total Number of Faculty Involved:	4
12	Coordinator:	Ms. Sujata Sinha

Prayasi Chettri

Hod
Department of

Event
Coordinator

Vice Principal

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REPORT

The last day of the Orientation Program 2021 for the First year students was held online via Google Meet on 14th September at 11:00 AM. The focus of the session was on Feedback and Questions & Answers. Due the current pandemic situation, all the ourses are covered via the online mode, so the major part of the session was stressed on how the courses will be delivered and how the students can access the materials.

Ms. Sujata Sinha, Assistant Professor, Department of Physics chaired the event, starting with a welcome note. She started the session by making the students familiar with the moodle course page and different settings available in it. She then proceeded with the dummy course page which she especially designed for today's session. She then discussed about the assignments and quizzes that the teachers frequently ask the students to carry out.

Dr. Digvijay Kharga pointed out the files and formats in which the documents has to be uploaded.

Mr. Bikramjit Chandra pointed out that, he has already uploaded the requisite books and materials for his course CC1 in the moodle page, with specific guidelines on how to install and familiarize with different applications he will be using during his course. He also made students aware of how the scanned documents should look while uploading for submission for assignments.

Dr. Prajwal Chettri, Head of the Department of Physics emphasized that students should make themselves familiar with the moodle website so that they don't face problems while performing their internal examinations REPORT and monthly tests because at that moment there will be a submission deadline.

At the end of the session, students were given the opportunity to clarify doubts and the faculties assured that all the other problems will be dealt after the session.

The meeting was concluded around 12:00 noon.

Report by: Digvijay Kharga.

Name: Dr. Digvijay Kharga
Designation: Assistant Professor
Date: 21/09/2021
Salesian College, Siliguri

Finance Section:

No budget was required for this program.

Attendance:

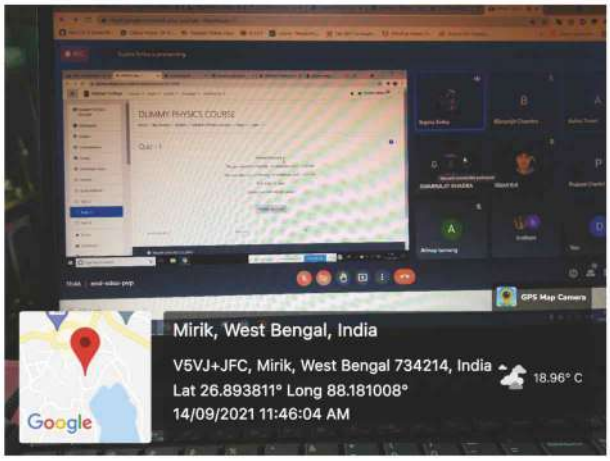
No.	Name:	Department
1.	Dr. Prajwal Chettri	Physics (HOD)
2.	Ms. Sujata Sinha	Physics (Faculty)
3.	Mr. Bikramjit Chandra	Physics (Faculty)
4.	Dr. Digvijay Kharga	Physics (Faculty)
5.	Astha Tiwari	Physics
6.	Nikhil Biswakarma	Physics
7.	Subhranil Das	Physics
8.	Arihanth Thapa	Physics
9.	Atinap Tamang	Physics
10.	Bhaskar Prasad	Physics
11.	Jermit Lepcha	Physics
12.	Swarnajit Bhadra	Physics
13.	Ishan Barma	Physics
14.	Sarla Lama	Physics

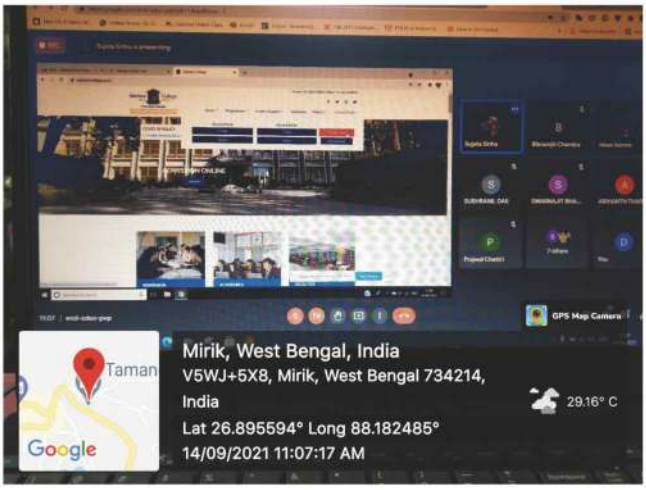
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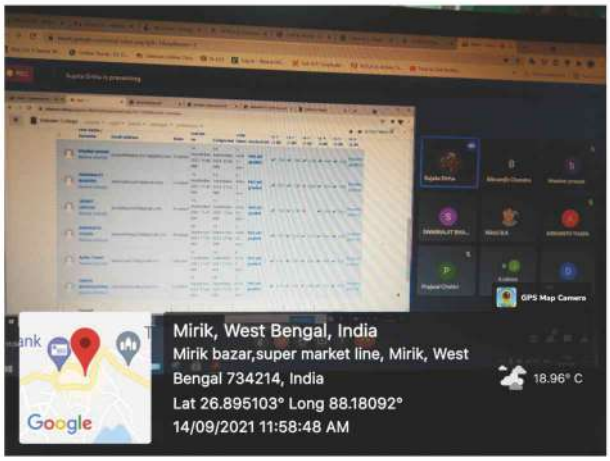
Link to Google Meet recording of the Session.

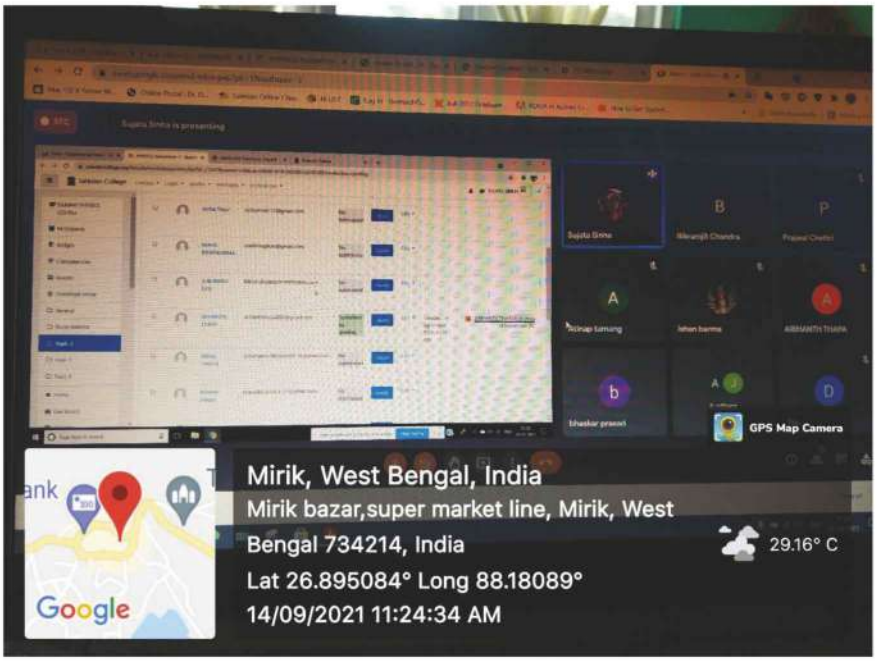
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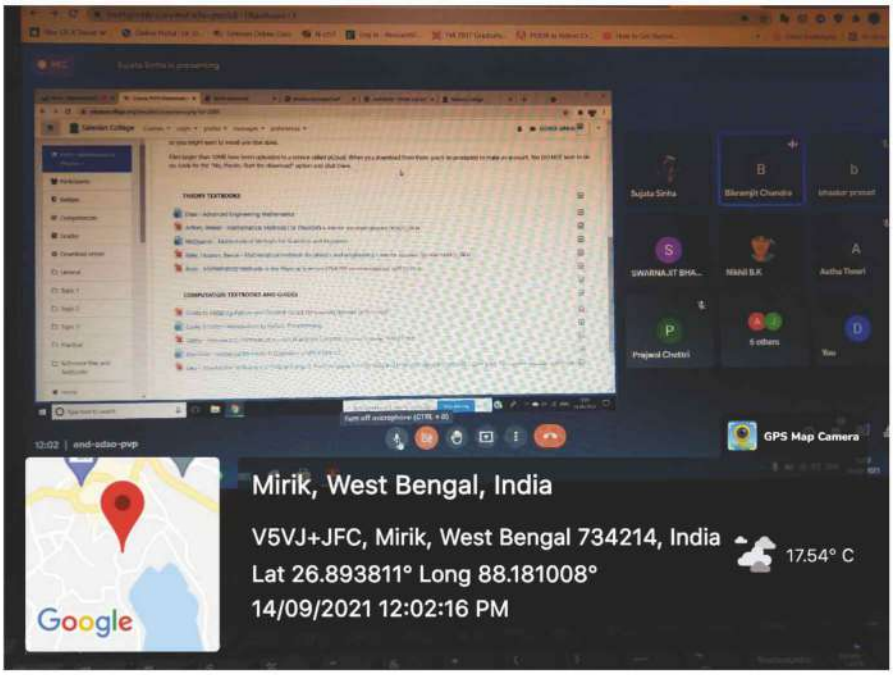












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Event & Activities:

1	Title of the Event:	Campus Visit – First Year Orientation
2	Date:	13/09/2021
3	Time:	10:00 AM
4	Mode / Venue :	Salesian College, Siliguri Campus
5	Link:	NA
6	Total Number of Days:	1
7	Organized by Dept/Cell/Club/Committee:	Departments of Economics, Mathematics and Physics
8	Faculty Incharge of the Event:	Mr. Subhajit Paul
9	Total Number of Participants:	20
10	Total Number of Faculty Involved:	5
12	Coordinator:	Mr. Bikramjit Chandra

Hod
Department of Physics

Event
Coordinator

Vice Principal

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REPORT

The Campus Visit for the First Years from the Department of Physics was held in collaboration with the Departments of Mathematics and Economics. The first years (and their family members) of all the three Departments gathered at the A.V. Hall in Savio Block at 10:00 AM.

The program was started by Father C.M. Paul, Vice-Principal of Sciences, who gave a welcome speech to the assembled group while also introducing Salesian Radio and its many programs and initiatives. This was followed by Prof. (Fr.) George Thadathil, Principal, who also welcomed the incoming freshers, gave a brief history of the establishment of the Science Departments in the Siliguri Campus, and exhorted them to use their knowledge of science for the betterment of themselves and their community. Prof. Satyendra C. Das then gave a short speech to the students before the faculty members from the three Science Departments were introduced to all the students by Mr. Subhajit Paul.

After this the freshers who had completed their admissions online completed their document verification, met Fr. Paul with their parents/guardian and also got their ID cards and fee booklets. A campus tour was also held where the students and their parents were shown many of the important buildings and places along with a tour of Nazareth Block and the Laboratories. After this, the program was concluded by around 2:30 PM

Report by: _____

Name: Bikramjit Chandra
Designation: Assistant Professor
Date: 13/09/2021
Salesian College, Siliguri

Attendance:

No.	Name:	Department
1.	Prof. (Fr.) George Thadathil	Principal
2.	Fr. C. M. Paul	Vice-Principal of Sciences
3.	Dr. Satyendra C. Das	Physics (Faculty)
4.	Dr. Prajwal Chettri	Physics (Faculty)
5.	Ms. Sujata Sinha	Physics
6.	Dr. Digvijay Kharga	Physics
7.	Mr. Bikramjit Chandra	Physics
8.	Arihanth Thapa	Physics
9.	Astha Tiwari	Physics
10.	Atinap Tamang	Physics
11.	Bhaskar Prasad	Physics
12.	Jermit Lepcha	Physics
13.	Nikhil Biswakarma	Physics
14.	Sarla Lama	Physics
15.	Subhranil Das	Physics
16.	Ishan Barma	Physics
17.	Mr. Sufal Bhadra	Physics
18.	Mr. Satyajeet Tiwari	Physics
19.	Mrs. Manju Tiwari	Physics
20.	Ms. Munna Baraily	Physics
21.	Mr. Passang Narbu Lepcha	Physics
22.	Mrs. Anjali Chettri	Physics
23.	Mr. Sajan Lama	Physics
24.	Mrs. Kabita Lama	Physics
25.	Mrs. Doli Das	Physics

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Salesian College

UGC Certified College with potential for Excellence (CPE)
Accredited by NAAC with Grade 'A' (Third Cycle)
Affiliated to University of North Bengal

MEETING

Department: PHYSICS

MINUTES

Date: 11/09/2021
Start Time: 05:00 PM
End Time: 06:00 PM

Facilitator: Dr. Prajwal Chettri

Minutes Keepers: Dr. Prajwal Chettri

The Meeting of …Department of Physics… was held on …11th Sept. 2021... at …05:00 pm,…mode…online... as per the official notice circulated to all the participating members for the meeting on…11th Sept. 2021…

- Agenda:
  1. FDP Phase 1_Rectification
  2. Plan and responsibility distribution for First year campus visit
  3. Discussion on new admissions
  4. Campus this week reporting to Fr. CM Paul

- Proceedings:
  1. FDP Phase I Rectification and Suggestions from faculties. Live editing through Google meet. Discussion on Student Presentation topic and finalization of topics to be presented by students.
  2. Each faculty assigned different tasks such as Campus guide, Office assistance for ID card and Fee book collection and Document verification.
  3. Events starting from 2nd Sept. 2021 to 18th Sept. 2021 to be reported to Fr. Paul for Campus this Week podcast.
  4. Newly registered applicants to have interview on 14th September 2021, 3 pm.

- **Attendance:**

No.	Members:	Designation:
1	Mr. Bikramjit Chandra	Assistant Professor
2	Dr. Digvijay Kharga	Assistant Professor
3	Dr. Prajwal Chettri	HoD
4.	Ms. Sujata Sinha	Assistant Professor

Discussion 1: Name: Mr. Bikramjit Chandra Designation: Assistant Professor

- **Topic :**
  - Mr. BKC guided the group on portions which required attention and rectification on the FDP Phase I documentation as he had attended team leader FDP Phase I presentation meet, where the Department of Physics was asked to do some minor corrections. Mr. BKC also highlighted the importance of each faculty to have specific responsibility for Student's visit.

Discussion 2: Name: Dr. Prajwal Chettri Designation: Assistant Professor & Head

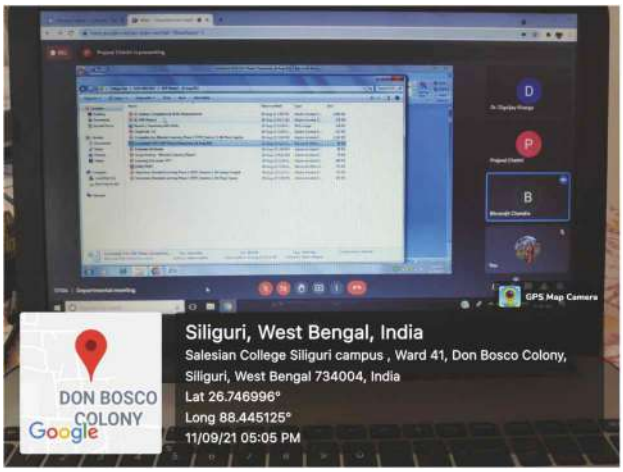
- **Topic :**
  - Dr. PC hosted the meeting and requested Dr. DK to prepare concise report for "Campus this Week" podcast for airing during the coming week. Dr. PC also edited FDP Phase I document during the meeting with inputs from other faculties.

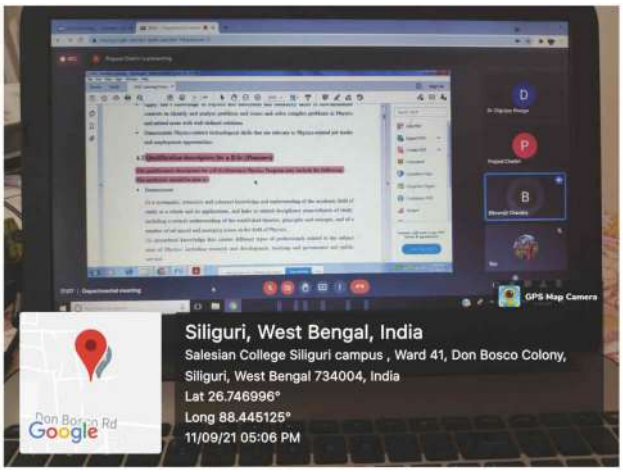
Discussion 3: Name: Dr. Digvijay Kharga Designation: Assistant Professor

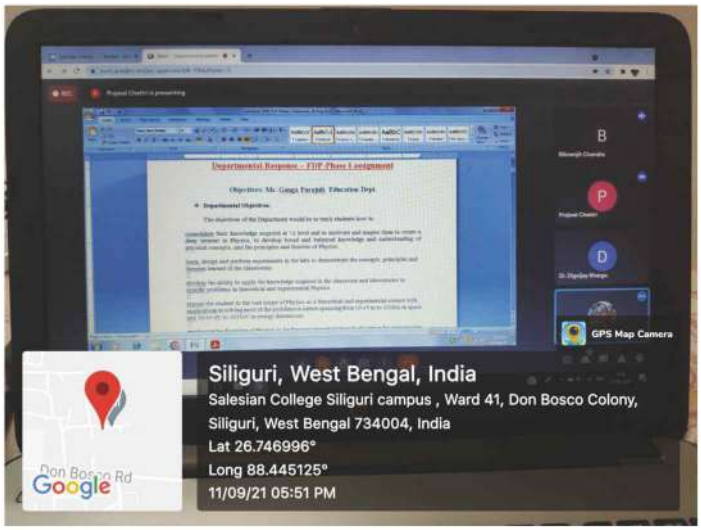
- **Topic :**
  - Dr. DK helped in polishing and restructuring the contents of FDP Phase I document and also inquired on format for writing Campus this week report..

Discussion 4: Name: Ms. Sujata Sinha	Designation: Assistant Professor

- **Topic :**
  - Ms. SSN gave her valuable advice for FDP Phase I correction and also spoke about duties and responsibilities of faculties during Campus visit on 13th Sept. 2021.







Minutes Prepared by: Dr. Prajwal Chettri

Name: Prajwal Chettri
Date: 11th September 2021
Designation: Head
Name of Department: Physics

Salesian College, Siliguri

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Event & Activities:

1	Title of the Event:	Presentation demo class
2	Date:	11/09/2021
3	Time:	12:20 PM
4	Mode / Venue :	Online via Google Meet
5	Link:	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rxkKdpRXYBg
6	Total Number of Days:	1
7	Organized by Dept/Cell/Club/Committee:	Department of Physics
8	Faculty Incharge of the Event:	Mr. Bikramjit Chandra
9	Total Number of Participants:	17
10	Total Number of Faculty Involved:	4
12	Coordinator:	Mr. Bikramjit Chandra

Hod
Department of Physics

Event
Coordinator

Vice Principal

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REPORT

The Presentation Demo class held on 11th September, 2021 was the eight orientation event for the first years held by the Department of Physics. In addition to the first years, the senior students of the Department were also invited to attend.

The Department of Physics invites its students to give presentations every week (Saturdays) in order to train them for future conferences and webinars or possible job/interview scenarios. The aim of this activity is to guide the students into researching, creating and presenting on a topic while also fielding questions on the same.

With this in mind, the Demo class was held by Mr. Bikramjit Chandra, with the help of the rest of the faculty, to give some pointers into making a presentation and to give an example presentation as a guide.

The program started with a short talk on the importance of presentations for an academic or professional career. This was followed by a sample presentation on “Inflation in the Early Universe” followed by a Question and Answer session.

Following this, Mr. Chandra gave some pointers on making a presentation, the arrangement of slides and the necessity of proper citations and giving credit. The program then ended with Dr. Chettri reiterating the importance of making presentations and some more advice on creating slides and constructing a speech.

Report by: 

Name: Bikramjit Chandra
Designation: Assistant Professor
Date: 13/09/2021
Salesian College, Siliguri

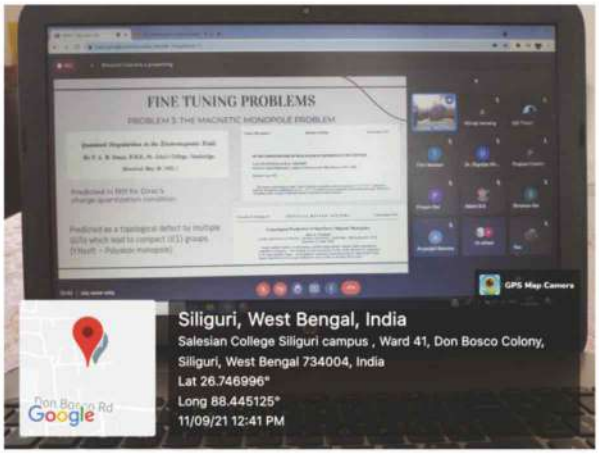
Attendance:

No.	Name:	Department
1.	Dr. Prajwal Chettri	Physics
2.	Ms. Sujata Sinha	Physics
3.	Dr. Digvijay Kharga	Physics
4.	Mr. Bikramjit Chandra	Physics
5.	Arihanth Thapa	Physics
6.	Astha Tiwari	Physics
7.	Atinap Tamang	Physics
8.	Bhaskar Prasad	Physics
9.	Jermit Lepcha	Physics
10.	Nikhil Biswakarma	Physics
11.	Sarla Lama	Physics
12.	Subhranil Das	Physics
13.	Swarnajit Bhadra	Physics
14.	Ajit Tiwari	Physics
15.	Arati Lohar	Physics
16.	Nirupan Thapa	Physics
17.	Adesh Sada	Physics
18.	Aryanjali Sharma	Physics
19.	Priyam Rai	Physics
20.	Shrawan Rai	Physics
21.	Tithi Moktan	Physics

GEO TAGGED PHOTO:







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Event & Activities:

1	Title of the Event:	Interaction with senior students
2	Date:	9th September 2021
3	Time:	11:00 am
4	Mode / Venue :	Google Meet
5	Link:	https://meet.google.com/qxt-ixnq-nnw
6	Total Number of Days:	1 (out of 14 days)
7	Organized by Dept/Cell/Club/Committee:	Department of Physics
8	Faculty Incharge of the Event:	Dr. Prajwal Chettri
9	Total Number of Participants:	22
10	Total Number of Faculty Involved:	4
12	Coordinator:	Mr. Bikramjit Chandra

Prajwal Chettri

Hod
Department of Physics

Event
Coordinator

Vice Principal

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REPORT

The ninth day of Orientation session for the First years was held online. The theme of the program being “Junior-Senior Interaction”, third and fifth sem students were also invited. Out of 29 students in total, 18 students participated with 90% attendance from First semesters. The meeting was hosted by Mr. Bikramjit Chandra in a very friendly environment enabling students to showcase their talents in the form of arts, singing and other activities.

Students were asked about their hobbies and encouraged to disclose their interests and talents. With the conducive environment being maintained, students were asked basic questions like their hobbies, their participation in any significant (national/State level) events etc. This included interaction with the senior students as well with the same set of questions. The idea being finding compatible and like minded peers/seniors for the first years. The faculties were amazed to witness exceptional talents from the students spanning from arts, literature, report writing, singing, and dancing to reading books/novels of various genres.

The meeting concluded with a complimentary note from the faculties. Students were encouraged to continue shaping their talents and advised to maintain a constant balance between academics and their hobbies.

Report by: Prajwal Chettri

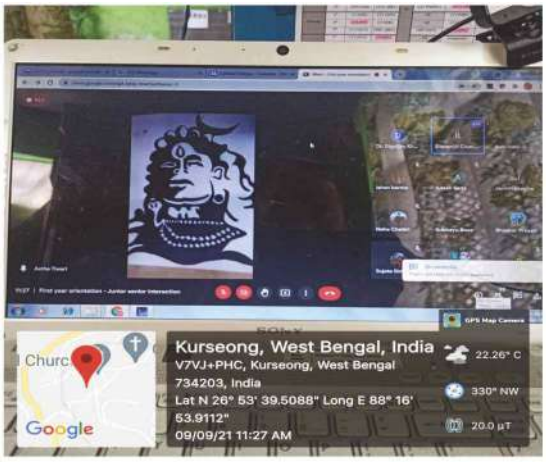
Name: Dr. Prajwal Chettri
Designation: Assistant Professor & Head
Date: 09/09/2021
Salesian College, Siliguri

Attendance:

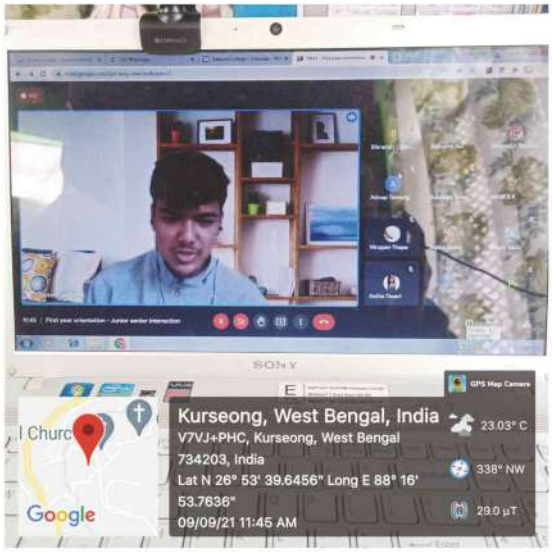
No.	Name:	Department
1.	Ms. Sujata Sinha	Physics
2.	Mr. Bikramjit Chandra	Physics
3.	Dr. Digvijay Kharga	Physics
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10.	Bhaskar Prasad	Physics
11.	Arihanth Thapa	Physics
12.	Sidharth Rai	Physics
13.	Atinap Tamang	Physics
14.	Adesh Sada	Physics
15.	Nirupan Thapa	Physics
16.	Astha Tiwari	Physics
17.	Subhayu Bose	Physics
18.	Jermit Lepcha	Physics
19.	Ishan Barma	Physics
20.	Shrawan Rai	Physics
21.	Neha Chettri	Physics
22.	Ashweni Chettri	Physics

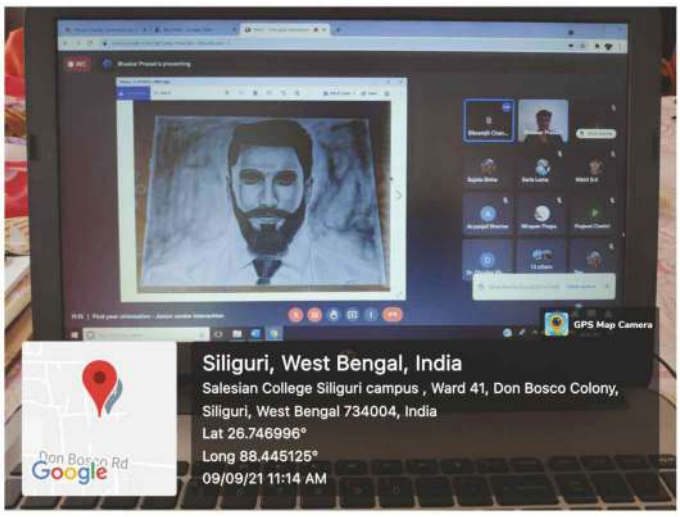
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Events & Activities

1	Title of the Event:	Advice and Department resources available for future plans and careers
2	Date:	8th September 2021
3	Time:	11a.m.
4	Mode / Venue:	Online (Google meet)
5	Link:	https://meet.google.com/caf-gnnw-zmx
6	Total Number of Days:	01
7	Organized by Dept/Cell/Club/Committee:	Department of Physics
8	Faculty In charge of the Event:	Dr. Digvijay Kharga
9	Total Number of Participants:	12
10	Total Number of Faculty Involved:	4
11	Coordinator:	Dr. Digvijay Kharga

Prayasal Chettri Digvijay Kharga.

Head of Department Faculty in Charge Vice Principal

REPORT

The fourth day of departmental Orientation session for the First years was held online wherein students were introduced to the Department resources available for future plans and careers.

The Programme began at 11.00 am with a welcome note by Dr. Digvijay Kharga, Assistant Professors, Department of Physics.

Dr. Prajwal Chettri, Hod of Department of Physics, introduced about mentoring sessions. He added about importance of mentoring sessions.

After that Mr. Bikramjit Chandra shared slides about Scholarships and Fellowships, he gave very informative talk about various types of Scholarships. He also highlighted about summer research internships from research institutes.

Ms. Sujata Sinha informed about her Sunday special coaching classes for JAM, JEST and other entrance test for Masters.

At the end, Dr. Prajwal Chettri highlighted about different types of career opportunity in the field of Physics.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Digvijay Kharga, faculty in charge of the event.



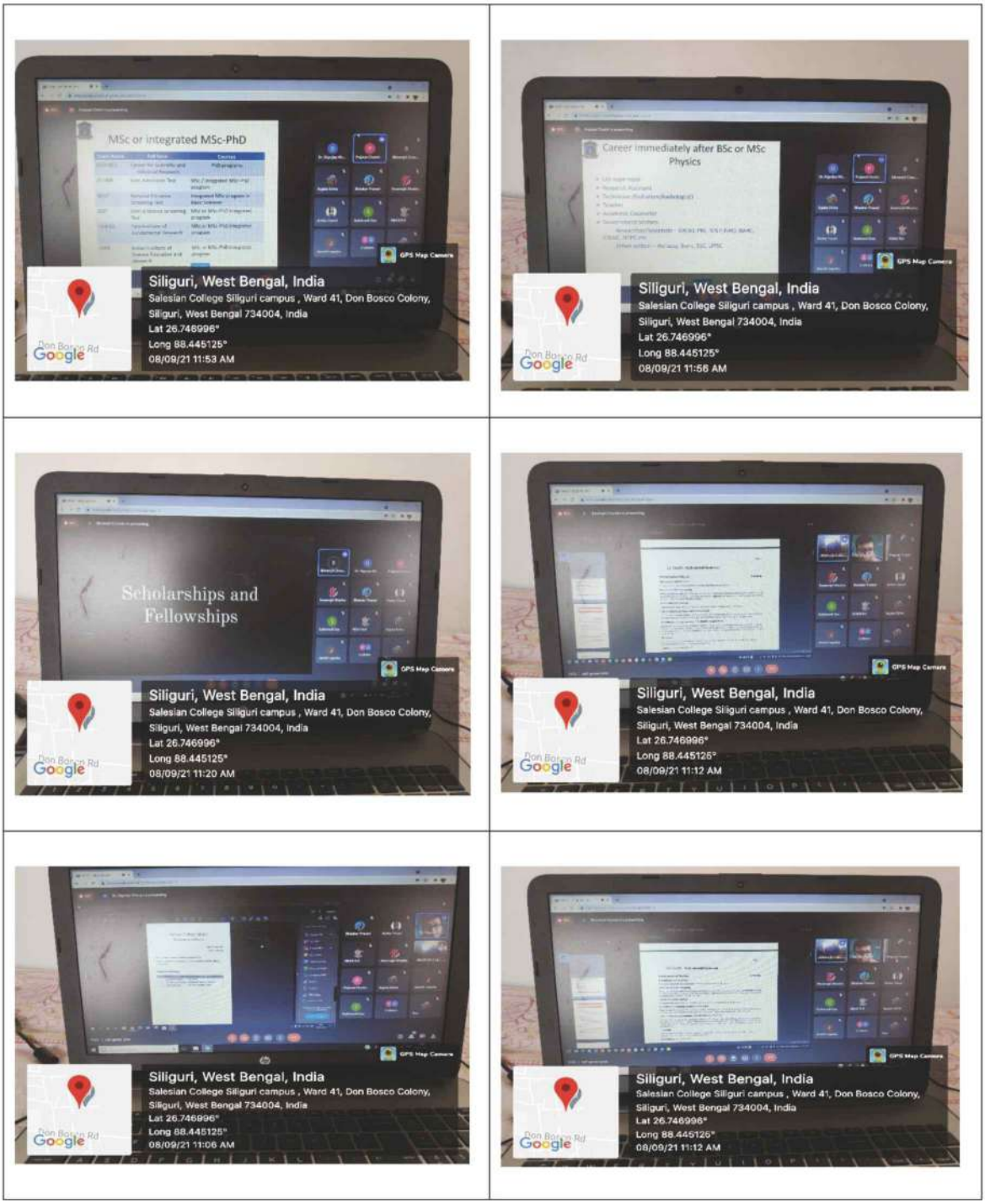
Report by: _____

Name: Sujata Sinha
Designation: Assistant Professor
Date: 18/09/2021
Salesian College, Siliguri

Attendance:

No.	Name:	Department
1.	Dr. Prajwal Chettri	Physics
2.	Mr. Bikramjit Chandra	Physics
3.	Dr. Digvijay Kharga	Physics
4.	Ms. Sujata Sinha	Physics
5.	Astha Tiwari	Physics
6.	Nikhil Biswakarma	Physics
7.	Subhranil Das	Physics
8.	Arihanth Thapa	Physics
9.	Atinap Tamang	Physics
10.	Bhaskar Prasad	Physics
11.	Jermit Lapcha	Physics
12.	Swarnajit Bhadra	Physics

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Event & Activities:

1	Title of the Event:	PHY-Orientation-Introduction of Courses and Syllabus Distribution
2	Date:	07/09/2021
3	Time:	11.00 AM
4	Mode / Venue :	Online Mode: Google Meet
5	Link:	https://meet.google.com/zas-ydfh-myo
6	Total Number of Days:	1
7	Organized by Dept/Cell/Club/Committee:	Department of Physics
8	Faculty Incharge of the Event:	Ms. Sujata Sinha
9	Total Number of Participants:	11
10	Total Number of Faculty Involved:	3
12	Coordinator:	Ms. Sujata Sinha

Prajwal Chettri

Hod
Department of Physics

Event
Coordinator

Vice Principal

The Faculty incharge must submit the detailed reports, documents and geo tagged Photos of the events to the IQAC office within 2 days of the completion of the event and upload the reports in the College ERP.

REPORT

On 7th September 2021, the Department of Physics held Day 3 of the Orientation Programme 2021 for the newly joined 1st semester students at 11:00 AM. The purpose of today's session was to introduce the courses and syllabus distribution.

The program started with Ms. Sujata Sinha giving an outline on the Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) of North Bengal University in B.Sc. Physics Honours Program. She told about the credit distribution across the courses from the Core Courses (CC), Discipline Specific Electives (DSE), General Electives (GE), Ability Enhancement Compulsory Courses (AECC), and Skill Enhancement Courses (SEC). She also stated that the Academic Session usually begins from July, with odd semesters commencing from July and examinations being held in December, and for even semesters from January to June accordingly. But due to the ongoing pandemic, 2021-2022 session started late from September. Then she went over the schedule of classes also mentioning that every Saturday the Department has a Students' Presentation session where students will be presenting a topic on physics, and attendance is compulsory for the same. She also noted that the students will be having assignments, monthly tests and quizzes frequently. Then she shared the details of CC1 Mathematical Physics theory course, and referred that the practical of this course will be taken by Mr. Bikramjit Chandra.

This was followed by Dr. Digvijay Kharga elaborately explaining the details of the CC2 Mechanics course. He said that he will be sharing the course, both theory and practical with Dr. Prajwal Chettri, and will be citing reference books once the classes begin.

Dr. Prajwal Chettri, Head of the Department, stated if they were to proceed with online mode for CC2 practical then there are certain websites, with which one can perform these experiments. He also alerted student not to neglect other courses (GE, AECC, and SEC) although the weightage of the Core Courses were high. He also emphasized on the importance of attendance.

Ms. Sujata Sinha advised the students that taking up Computer Science and Mathematics as the GE courses in the 1st and 2nd years respectively, will be beneficial to them although the final decision was entirely up to them.

The faculties also clarified any doubts and questions which the students had. The program was then concluded around 11:40 AM.

Report by: Digvijay Kharga.

Name: Dr. Digvijay Kharga
Designation: Assistant Professor
Date: 21/09/2021
Salesian College, Siliguri

Finance Section:

No budget was required for this program.

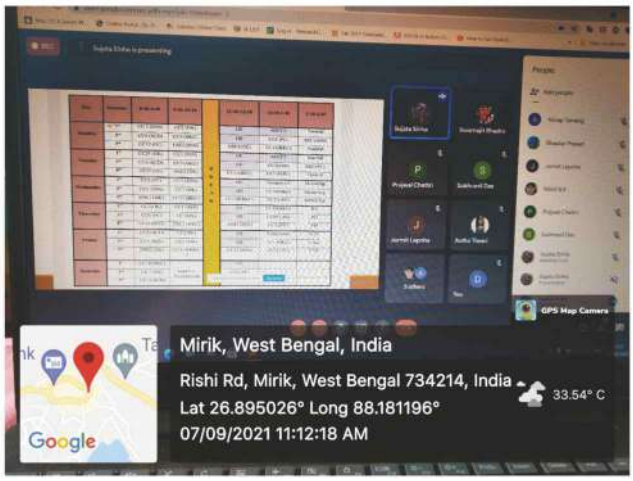
Attendance:

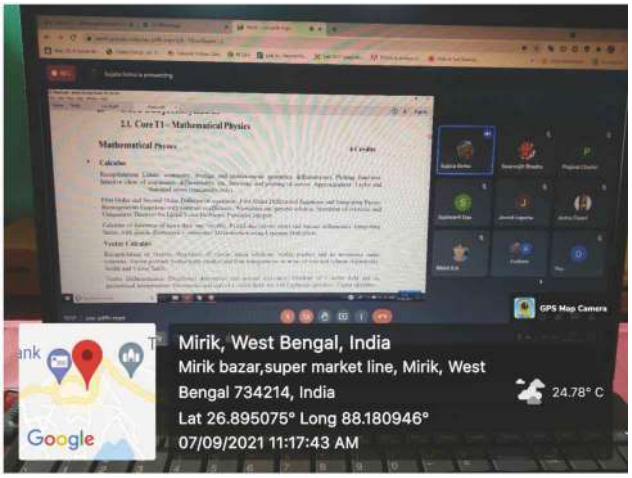
No.	Name:	Department
1.	Dr. Prajwal Chettri	Physics (HOD)
2.	Dr. Digvijay Kharga	Physics (Faculty)
3.	Ms. Sujata Sinha	Physics (Faculty)
4.	Astha Tiwari	Physics
5.	Nikhil Biswakarma	Physics
6.	Subhranil Das	Physics
7.	Arihanth Thapa	Physics
8.	Anitap Tamang	Physics
9.	Bhaskar Prasad	Physics
10.	Jermit Lepcha	Physics
11.	Swarnajit Bhadra	Physics

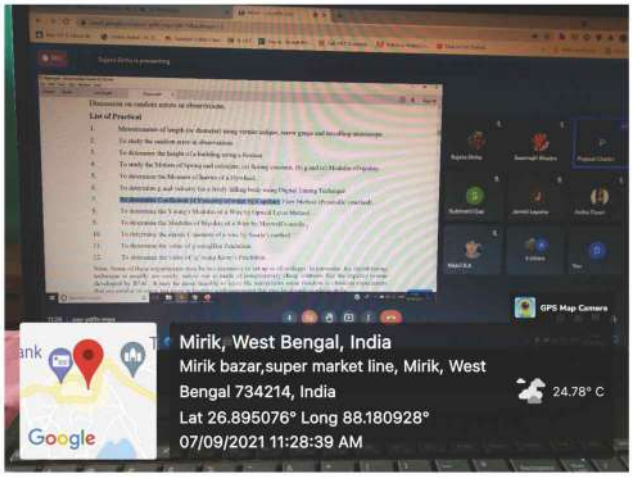
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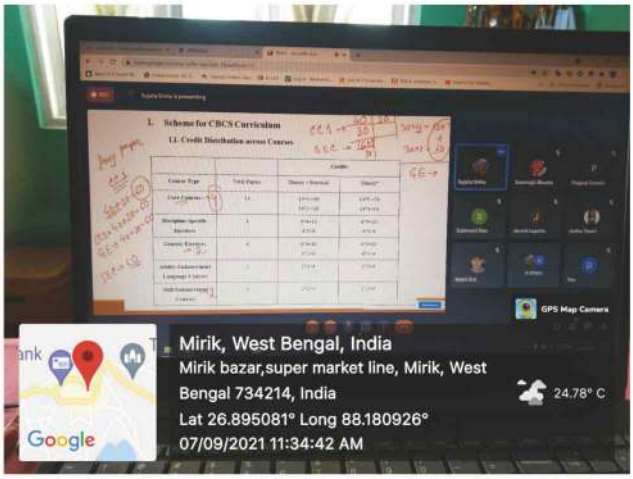
Link to Google Meet recording of the Session.

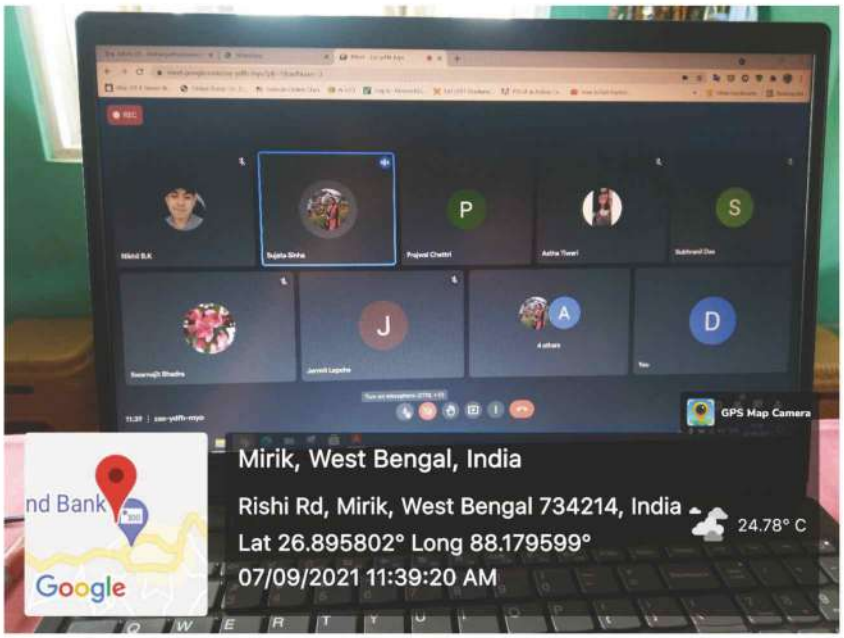
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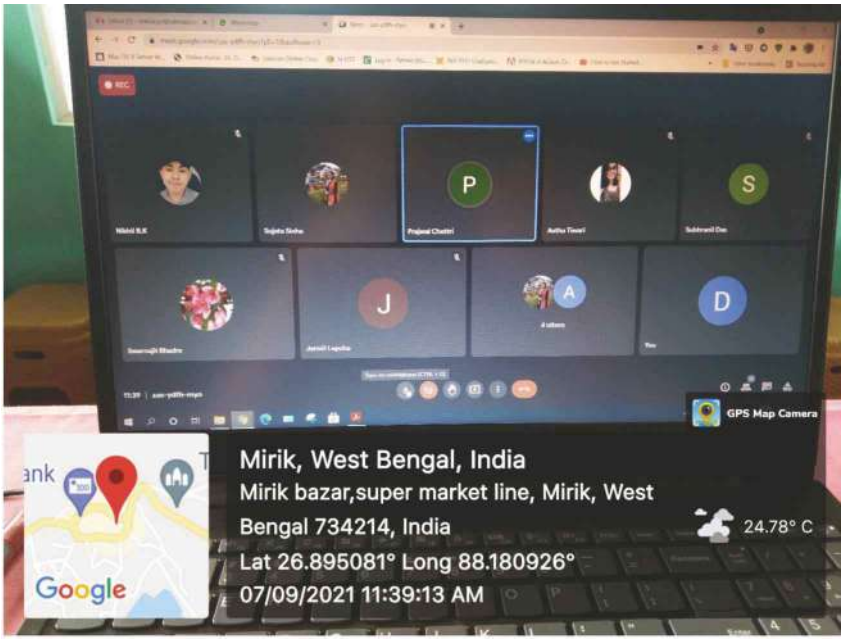












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Events & Activities

1	Title of the Event:	Distribution of Departmental Academic code, Introduction to faculty's fields of research and their experience.
2	Date:	3rd September 2021
3	Time:	11a.m.
4	Mode / Venue:	Online (Google meet)
5	Link:	https://meet.google.com/gps-ctxs-sxo
6	Total Number of Days:	01
7	Organized by Dept/Cell/Club/Committee:	Department of Physics
8	Faculty In charge of the Event:	Mr. Bikramjit Chandra
9	Total Number of Participants:	24
10	Total Number of Faculty Involved:	6
11	Coordinator:	Mr. Bikramjit Chandra

Head of Department | Faculty in Charge | Vice Principal

REPORT

The second day of Orientation session for the First years was held online wherein students were introduced to the Departmental Academic code and faculty's fields of research & their experience.

The Programme began at 11.00 am with a welcome note by Mr. Bikramjit Chandra, Assistant Professors, Department of Physics. This was followed by introduction of Fr. CM Paul, Vice Principal, Sciences and Prof. S. C. Das, senior most faculty of the department. They welcomed the new students s into the academic session 2021-2022.

Dr. Prajwal Chettri released Departmental Academic code and described to the students. The students are expected to follow those guidelines mentioned in the Academic Code.

The second part of the session was on brief introduction by the faculty members.

At first Prof. S. C. Das highlighted about his field of research, Nuclear techniques in Condensed Matter Physics, he also shared his experience of research work.

After that Dr. Parjwal Chettri shared experience about his PhD work in Material Science & Nanotechnology. He also added daily life example where nanotechnology is required.

Then Ms. Sujata Sinha shared her experience of doing project on Practical Semiconductor devices during her M.Sc.

Dr. Digvijay Kharga shared slides showing his research work during PhD on Theoretical Condensed Matter Physics. He also added the statistics of Nobel Laureates in past 50 years from the field of Condensed Matter Physics.

Mr. Bikramjit Chandra also shared slides showing research work on Observational Cosmology. He showed glimpse of the EBEX Telescope and Bolometers. He gave brief introduction about the launching of the Telescope via Hot air balloon and also showed video. The students were fascinated by watching the video.

At the end, students were given the opportunity to clarify their doubts.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks and with a warm welcome note.

Report by: _____

Name: Sujata Sinha

Designation: Assistant Professor

Date: 03/09/2021

Salesian College, Siliguri

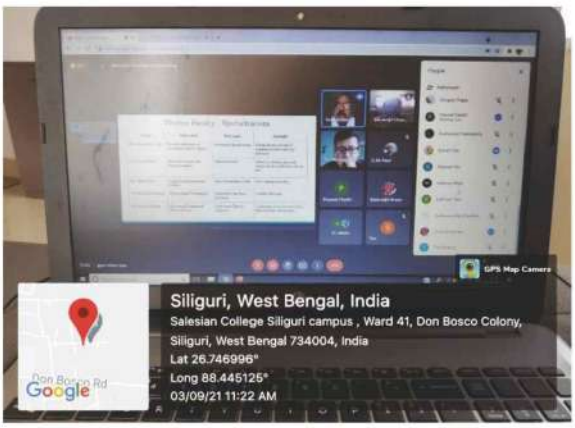
Attendance:

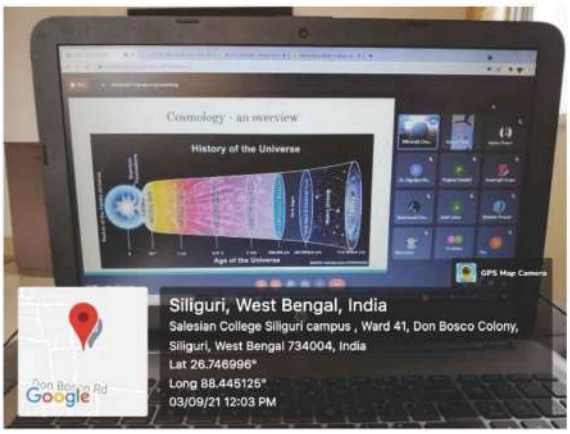
No.	Name:	Department
1.	Dr. Prajwal Chettri	Physics
2.	Mr. Bikramjit Chandra	Physics
3.	Dr. Digvijay Kharga	Physics
4.	Ms. Sujata Sinha	Physics
5.	Sudhanshu Mani Pradhan	Physics
6.	Neha Chettri	Physics
7.	Ajit Tiwari	Physics
8.	Subhayu Bose	Physics
9.	Arati Lohar	Physics
10.	Nirupan Thapa	Physics
11.	Priya Tamang	Physics
12.	Pewang Tamang	Physics
13.	Lachung Lepcha	Physics
14.	Shrawan Rai	Physics
15.	Aryanjali Sharma	Physics
16.	Adesh Sada	Physics
17.	Bibhushit Monger	Physics
18.	Rudraneel Chakraborty	Physics
19.	Ashweni Chetrri	Physics
20.	Tithi Moktan	Physics
21.	Astha Tiwari	Physics
22.	Nikhil Biswakarma	Physics
23.	Subhranil Das	Physics
24.	Arihanth Thapa	Physics
25.	Atinap Tamang	Physics
26.	Bhaskar Prasad	Physics
27.	Jermit Lapcha	Physics
28.	Swarnajit Bhadra	Physics

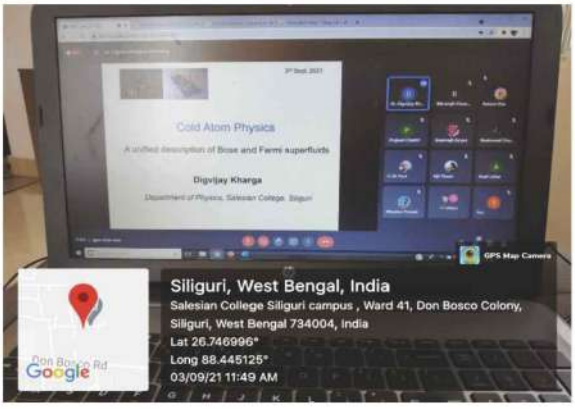
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Event & Activities:

1	Title of the Event:	Introduction to the Department, Student – Faculty Interaction
2	Date:	2nd September 2021
3	Time:	11:00 am
4	Mode / Venue :	Google Meet
5	Link:	https://meet.google.com/vod-vgqt-wjm
6	Total Number of Days:	1 (out of 14 days)
7	Organized by Dept/Cell/Club/Committee:	Department of Physics
8	Faculty Incharge of the Event:	Dr. Prajwal Chettri
9	Total Number of Participants:	8
10	Total Number of Faculty Involved:	4
12	Coordinator:	Dr. Prajwal Chettri

Prajwal Chettri

Hod
Department of Physics

Prajwal Chettri

Event
Coordinator

Vice Principal

The Faculty incharge must submit the detailed reports, documents and geo tagged Photos of the events to the IQAC office within 2 days of the completion of the event and upload the reports in the College ERP.

REPORT

The first day of Orientation session for the First years was held online wherein students were introduced to the Department, Administrative set-ups, scholarship opportunities and briefing about online class ethics.

Dr. Prajwal Chettri, chaired the event with a welcome speech followed by introduction of faculties and the Department - Department history and its founding members, mission, vision & objectives, lab facilities and departmental activities such as Students' Presentation, Monthly webinar and Coaching sessions. In addition, Dr. Chettri also highlighted the importance of these activities in terms of overall skill development of students as well as a platform to establish contacts with scientists and researchers. A short video presented to the students highlighting departmental activities and infrastructure.

The second part of the session was on brief introduction by the students.

Mr. Bikramjit Chandra presented a slide elucidating hierarchal set-ups for the functioning of the Science Deanery and the Department. The slides included name of administrators, Deans, HoD, finance office and college office along with contact numbers. The details were shared with the students after the event.

Ms. Sujata Sinha highlighted the courses and number of classes for the First Semester. She also pointed out the importance of attendance and attentiveness which ultimately reflects the overall performance of the student.

Dr. Digvijay Kharga, introduced himself and spoke about the courses he would be taking for the first semester. He also re-iterated seriousness the students need to have while studying BSc Physics.

At the end, students were given the opportunity to clarify their doubts.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks and with a warm welcome note.

Report by: Prajwal Chettri

Name: Dr. Prajwal Chettri
Designation: Assistant Professor & Head
Date: 02/09/2021
Salesian College, Siliguri

Attendance:

No.	Name:	Department
1.	Ms. Sujata Sinha	Physics
2.	Mr. Bikramjit Chandra	Physics
3.	Dr. Digvijay Kharga	Physics
4.	Dr. Prajwal Chettri	Physics
5.	Ishan Barma	Physics
6.	Astha Tiwari	Physics
7.	Nikhil Biswakarma	Physics
8.	Subhranil Das	Physics
9.	Arihanth Thapa	Physics
10.	Atinap Tamang	Physics
11.	Jermit Lepcha	Physics
12.	Swarnajit Bhadra	Physics

GEO TAGGED PHOTO:







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EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

1	Title of the Event:	**Physics Department Farewell**
2	Date:	**14/08/2021**
3	Time:	**04:00 PM**
4	Mode / Venue :	**Online: Google Meet**
5	Link:	**https://meet.google.com/aks-obez-kyh**
6	Total Number of Days:	**1**
7	Organized by Dept/Cell/Club/Committee:	**Department of Physics**
8	Faculty Incharge of the Event:	**Dr. Prajwal Chettri**
9	Total Number of Participants:	**20**
10	Total Number of Faculty Involved:	**5**
12	Coordinator:	

Hod
Department of

Event
Coordinator

Vice Principal

The Faculty incharge must submit the detailed reports, documents and geo tagged Photos of the events to the IQAC office within 2 days of the completion of the event and upload the reports in the College ERP.

REPORT

On 14th of August, 2021, the Department of Physics held its farewell program on the bittersweet occasion of saying goodbye to its first ever batch of outgoing students: Mr. Aaush Pradhan and Mr. Gyanesh Dubey.

Due to the pandemic, the ceremony was held entirely online and was organized by the current 3rd and 5th semester students. For the occasion, ex-faculty members who were instrumental in the academic development of the outgoing students were also invited to attend, which they graciously agreed to, with the exception of Fr. Aju Kurien who unfortunately had a scheduling conflict.

The program started with a short, but extremely heartfelt, speech by Dr. Satyendra C. Das who welcomed all who attended and reminisced about Aaush and Gyanesh when they were seeking admissions to college. He praised them for their excellent composure and exhorted them to look to the future and wished them all the best for their future success.

This was followed by a short speech by Dr. Siddharth Rai, former Head of Department of Physics, who congratulated the outgoing students and wished them all the very best for their life ahead.

Mr. Subhadip Rakshit, former faculty of the Department of Physics, then followed up with some memories of teaching Aaush and Gyanesh with the best wishes for the future.

Mr. Mayukh Mazumdar, former faculty member of the Department of Physics, then gave a short talk where he wished all the students farewell and the very best. He shared some early memories of interacting with Aaush and Gyanesh and advised them to take their careers and future seriously.

Next were speeches by the current faculty members:

Dr. Prajwal Chettri wished them both the best and reminded them that the department and the faculty were always available to them.

Ms. Sujata Sinha praised the two students for being hardworking and wished them all the best and to keep in touch.

Mr. Bikramjit Chandra thanked all the former faculty members who had helped him and gave his best wishes to the two students for the future.

Finally, Dr. Digvijay Singh gave a few words of inspiration to the students and implored them to give “100% to everything they do.”

This was followed by a short presentation created by Nirupan Thapa from the 3rd semester. Lachung Lepcha, 3rd semester, sang a Nepali song and Adesh Sada, 5th semester, followed up with an English song. Unfortunately,due to technical difficulties, another song by Sidharth Rai, 3rd semester, could not be used.

This was followed by a brief speech from both the outgoing students. Both Aaush and Gyanesh thanked the faculty, former and current, and the junior students as well.

The ceremony was ended by Subhayu Bose who gave a Vote of Thanks and was also the Master of Ceremonies for the program.

Special mention is to be made of Shrawan Rai, class rep for the 5th semester, who organized the program and of Rudraneel Chakraborty, 5th semester, who made the poster in collaboration with Shrawan. There was also assistance from Ashweni Chettri, Subhayu Bose and Priya Tamang: the class reps from the 5th and 3rd semesters.

Finance Section:

No budget was required for this program.

Attendance:

No.	Name:	Department
1.	Dr. Siddharth Rai	Former Faculty
2.	Mr. Subhadip Rakshit	Former Faculty
3.	Mr. Mayukh Mazumdar	Former Faculty
4.	Aaush Pradhan	Outgoing Student
5.	Gyanesh Dubey	Outgoing Student
6.	Dr. Satyendra C. Das	Physics
7.	Dr. Prajwal Chettri	Physics
8.	Mr. Bikramjit Chandra	Physics
9.	Dr. Digvijay Kharga	Physics
10.	Ms. Sujata Sinha	Physics
11.	Aaryanjali Sharma	Physics
12.	Adesh Sada	Physics
13.	Shrawan Rai	Physics
14.	Ajit Tiwari	Physics
15.	Lachung Lepcha	Physics
16.	Neha Chettri	Physics
17.	Priya Tamang	Physics
18.	Sidharth Rai	Physics
19.	Subhayu Bose	Physics
20.	Nirupam Thapa	Physics

GEO TAGGED PHOTO:

Link to Meet recording of the orientation session:

https://youtu.be/oYDx8fQjAho





The Faculty incharge must submit the detailed reports, documents and geo tagged Photos of the events to the IQAC office within 2 days of the completion of the event and upload the reports in the College ERP.

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

1	Title of the Event:	**Orientation Session for 3rd and 5th Sem - Department of Physics, Salesian College**
2	Date:	**10/08/2021**
3	Time:	**09:30 AM**
4	Mode / Venue :	**Online: Google Meet**
5	Link:	**https://meet.google.com/cdi-mepx-nfo**
6	Total Number of Days:	**1**
7	Organized by Dept/Cell/Club/Committee:	**Department of Physics**
8	Faculty Incharge of the Event:	**Mr. Bikramjit Chandra**
9	Total Number of Participants:	**26**
10	Total Number of Faculty Involved:	**8**
12	Coordinator:	

Hod
Department of

Event
Coordinator

Vice Principal

The Faculty incharge must submit the detailed reports, documents and geo tagged Photos of the events to the IQAC office within 2 days of the completion of the event and upload the reports in the College ERP.

REPORT

The orientation session for the incoming 3rd and 5th Semester students of the Department of Physics was held on 10th August, 2021 from 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM. The purpose of the session was to welcome the students back for their new semester, to introduce Dr. Kharga to the students and to give them an overview of the courses that they would be studying.

Dr. S.C. Das welcomed the students and introduced the speakers who had taken time out of their busy schedules to say hello and give advice and encouragement to the students.

The program started with a brief speech by Father George Thadathil, Principal of Salesian College, where he talked about the importance of physics, especially from a philosophical perspective, in trying to connect the temporal and the “known world” to the “unknowable and unknown” in a bid to understand the works of the Almighty.

Father C.M. Paul, our new Vice-Principal of Sciences, introduced himself to the students and gave them many words of encouragement. In particular, he asked both the faculty and the students to think about the contributions they could make to Salesian College and their community aside from just academics and teaching, particularly in the fields of research and entrepreneurship.

Mr. Dhirodatta Subba, Dean of Sciences, also said a few words to the students welcoming them to the new semester and exhorting them to keep focused on their studies and on themselves in spite of the limitations imposed by the pandemic and the accompanying technical issues due to online classes.

This was followed by the introduction of Dr. Digvijay Kharga to the students of the department. Dr. Kharga had done his Ph.D. at Keio University in the field of theoretical condensed matter physics and gave a short talk about his areas of research. He also stated that he was looking forward to teaching and getting to know the students.

Dr. Prajwal Chettri, Head of the Department, then welcomed the students back and reminded them to work hard and to make a greater effort in attending classes as the faculty would no longer be as lenient as they had been in the past.

After the words of welcome, the faculty then went over the schedule and the syllabus for each course with the students and also answered any questions or doubts that they had. The program was then concluded around 10:30 AM.

Report by: 

Name: Bikramjit Chandra
Designation: Assistant Professor
Date: 10/08/2021
Salesian College, Siliguri

Finance Section:

No budget was required for this program.

Attendance:

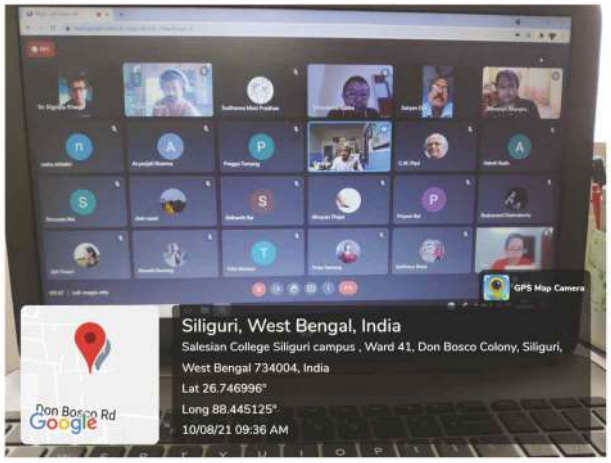
No.	Name:	Department
1.	Father George Thadathil	Administration
2.	Father C.M. Paul	Administration
3.	Mr. Dhirodatta Subba	Computer Science
4.	Dr. Satyendra C. Das	Physics
5.	Dr. Prajwal Chettri	Physics
6.	Mr. Bikramjit Chandra	Physics
7.	Dr. Digvijay Kharga	Physics
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18.	Khushi Gurung	Physics
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20.	Neha Chettri	Physics
21.	Nirupan Thapa	Physics
22.	Pewang Tamang	Physics
23.	Priya Tamang	Physics
24.	Sidharth Rai	Physics
25.	Subhayu Bose	Physics
26.	Sudhanshu Pradhan	Physics

GEO TAGGED PHOTO:

Link to Meet recording of the orientation session:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1xGp6dfLhI9aoEh1gCZN7dTcuVTqOZihk/view?usp=sharing













The Faculty incharge must submit the detailed reports, documents and geo tagged Photos of the events to the IQAC office within 2 days of the completion of the event and upload the reports in the College ERP.

Report on Dept. of Mathematics Picnic 2021

Salesian College. Siliguri

Mathematics Department Picnic - 2021

Date: 19th December.2021

Our picnic was organised by our department on 19th Dec, 2021 at Dudhia picnic spot A total of 24 students that includes 7 from 5th sem, 10 from 3rd sem and 7 from 1st sem. All teachers from our department have also joined us namely our HoD Subhajit Pal sir, Debdoot sir , Snigdha maam, Bikiran sir and Bishal sir . We hired a bus which has a very polite driver and a great cook with his two helpers.

Our students boarded the bus from Payal more, Don Bosco more, Champasari more and Darjeeling more. we reached Dudhia by 10:45 am. The place was bit crowded but fortunately we found a neat and quiet place to settle. The cook and his team started cooking and we all went on to click some memorable pictures.

We had our breakfast by 12 noon. We had lucchi with matar-aloo sabji and rasgulla as desert which were delicious and need of the moment. Then we again went off to click more pictures and enjoy the scenic view.

We had our lunch by 3.30 pm which had pulao, chicken, fried chips, salad and aloo-paneer (for veg opted students) and then a delicious khowa sandesh as desert.We enjoyed our lunch, sitting together interacting with fellow mates and teachers.

The time passed by and we packed up and left Dudhia by 4:30 pm. We came singing and dancing while coming back and making a memorable end to this great trip. All students and teachers reached safely to their respective home before 6 pm.

We are very thankful to our teachers for organizing such a memorable day for us. And a big thank for our bus driver for a comfortable ride and our cook and his team to serve us delicious meal. it was a memorable and much needed day in this pandemic for all of Us.

Reported by:
Raj Kamal Jha
Student of 5th Sem,
Dept. of Mathematics (H)









ELEMENTS

Volume 1 September 2020





FREEDOM



Pianazzi Literary & Cultural Society

Salesian College
Siliguri Campus
Don Bosco Road
Siliguri – 734001 (WB) India

ELEMENTS

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Principal's Message



Father (Prof) George Thadathil SDB

On Elements!

On hearing it, I thought, it couldn't be better. Yes, a beautiful, thought provoking title indeed for the Creative Expressions of the Literary Society's Magazine. Elements: Water, Fire, Earth, Air, and Space. We are the elements. The Elements make us. We are constituted. The "We" is a collective of these elements. The I and the You comes from the 'We' of the Elements. Together we occupy, create, consume, transform space.

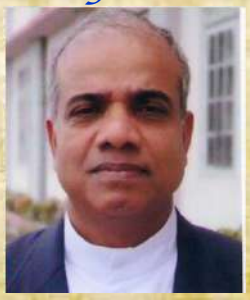
Now think of it, this way: the literary society of the English department is an element of the Arts stream in the college. Each one of the contributors and the editors and their guides have made this virtual Space of the Elements a reality. The elements float in space.

The elements constantly reconfigure. They twine, intertwine and untwine to reunite all over again. Could there be a better expression of the "Freedom" this Issue of the Elements is trying to explore? Individual expressions creating a collective entity, called the Elements. An activity done in freedom, as an expression of an ongoing angst as well as an intimation of the ecstasy to follow.

Creativity lurches in the interstices of the elements. Being in touch with the flow of air, water, earth, fire, one experiences the space called freedom. It is experienced in the coming together, coalescing and letting go. May your attempts to co-create be an experience of the journey ahead in college and beyond.

Congratulations. May the Elemental forces, keep nurturing your spirits ever on!

Vice-principal's Message



Father (Dr) George Chempakathinal SDB

Happiness in freedom

School life …? Wonderful but tight scheduled, parents are strict, teachers are demanding and the Principal is always there to tighten the loose ends whether be in the class or outside, class works or home works. It can be a feeling of being in a prison without walls. We are guarded on all sides, CCTVs, gate keepers, ground staff; someone or other follows the 'school kid'. It has been annoying and probably many waited to come out of the 'prison'. Students fantasise their own 'mini world' in the college while they study in school. How much of that dream comes true in a college! But definitely it's one's choice to enjoy the freedom that it gives; in fact a lot of it.

As a college student one is privileged to have lots of freedom and lots of possibilities. Numerous ways are there to enjoy a liberated life. Parents are happy as long one is regular with college; faculty is happy as long as information is given and the study is taken care of. One can always decide for the minimum or the maximum. Lots of fun and frolic, reading, writing, competitions, debates, socializing and many more in terms of games and sports add to the varieties of college life.

But the pandemic has brought in freedom with tight ropes. Free to sleep, eat and be on one's own. Limited with physical presence of friends, meeting people, college campus, window shopping, and all the roaming around that could have been there.

In all these make life meaningful and enjoy the inner freedom. Accept the reality and live with it. It is a challenge to make my life with online academic activities, missing some of them/making a choice. Keeping alive to be in place and it is a search to be in a 'not lost' stage. What is most beautiful is to see how God cares for the environment. How God brings to light the failure of the humans to protect the world. So accept the challenge to be happy and free in these pandemic times.

Message



Dr Suvradip Dasgupta
Assistant Professor, Department of English

We live in an age of arrogance, a human arrogance that unabashedly declares that it is the master of the world; an arrogance whose science, and technological advances, look down upon the ever amazing world of flora and fauna as mere resources subjected to the will and exploitative zeal of the human master. And then arrives a moment when a miniscule micro-particle slaps humanity hard on its face to remind us of our actual place in the larger scheme of things; to remind us of the necessity of learning to co-exist, and not master the other.

Creativity, my dear friends, also bears a parallel to this. Creativity refuses to remain restricted within little boxes. Just when things around appear to be stale and stagnant, it is creativity that leads us to dare and think against the grain. Creative expression compels us to realign our fast held beliefs and engage in the equally creative play of rediscovering the 'me' in 'us'.

It is my firm belief that ELEMENTS, the creative endeavour initiated by the enthusiastic members of the Pianazzi Literary and Cultural Society, is going to keep holding our hands in our long and coveted walk towards that ever new matrix of *re*discovery of the self…

Message



Mr Anik Sarkar
Assistant Professor, Department of English

The first edition of this e-magazine, sets forth a concept that has been under ceaseless investigations across time. As with the case of concepts, this too is elusive as any other — that at one instance seeks to fortify a definition, arriving at a consensus and in the other, resists and opposes, teases and slips away. Keeping this in mind, students from various departments, each arriving from diverse schools of thought have assembled their creative and critical expressions under a carefully curated volume, managed by students themselves — one that we are calling "Elements". Thanking the entire team and all the contributors for their efforts, while also congratulating them on the successful launch of this magazine which we hope will remain an enduring stream of "free" thought, boundless asseveration and inventiveness.

From the Editor-in-Chief's Desk



Miss Saloni Agarwal

"No matter what people tell you, words and ideas CAN change the world!"
Robin Williams, 'Dead Poet's Society'

The past few months have been rough on all of us. In these times of despair, in order to seek hope and optimism, we've all, in some form or the other, turned to words. Words and stories are at the core of every art form, from movies to novels to music. There may be countless differences among us but words have the power to unite us. In fact, this is what led our seniors to come together an establish *The Pianazzi Literary and Cultural Society*. It is my utmost pleasure and honour to take this initiative further with release of the first issue of our e-magazine *Elements*.

It is my hope that *Elements* provides a platform for students to express themselves creatively and that it is able to enrich the lives of readers and provide them with the optimism and strength that we require in times like these. Change can be daunting. However if it occurs for the right reasons, it can bring new life to everything around us. Instead of fearing change, we must channelize our inner creativity to take the initiative to bring the change this world requires. There will be people who might tell us otherwise but then again in the words of Robin Williams, Words and Ideas can change the world!

I believe in the power of words. I hope you do too.

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Articles

Beyond and Within the Confines of Freedom

Diksha Kafley

"I am no bird; and no net ensnares me; I am a free human being with an independent will" - Charlotte Bronte.

'Freedom' in literal sense means to be free, to do what one wishes to and is integrally related to an individual's rights. 'Freedom', however, has different interpretations.

We are free since birth. There was none who accompanied me and you but our flesh and mind. Gradually we metamorphosed, and here we are; got in hold of people, the criticisms, their opinions and it evidently played a role in shaping and (mis/)leading us. It does. Seemingly, we lost the freedom that we deserved to the utmost over time with the societal norms. Somewhere, it shapes us and also makes us realize of the flaws that followed with the overindulgence of our minds. Basically, we often lose freedom this way.

"Man is born free, and everywhere he is in chains" - Rousseau.

This aptly defines the above words. Isn't it so?

We fought for India's Freedom. Why? We wanted to have our ways, to be free, to realize independence. Let us not however misguide ourselves in discerning independence from freedom. Being independent means one can do something without depending on others, while freedom has a domain

which doesn't have any boundaries. Freedom is peculiar in all aspects but is immensely significant.

All rights, like machines and equipment, have their advantages and disadvantages. Innately, we take freedom as granted and we have its disadvantages.

The confinement of one's freedom should be sketched individually to have a clear picture of what it should mean. Being free doesn't drive us to a point of not acknowledging other's freedom or other's take. "Your freedom ends where mine begins“. Indeed! The rising number of crimes, rapes, abuses, is largely due to the misconception of freedom we have. We have so designed it that it results in having detrimental effects on the society.

'Freedom' is a debated topic these days as we have a freedom to place our perspectives and innumerous perspectives mark it vague. ‘Freedom’, depends on how we comprehend, driving our points home.

Here, it is my freedom to place what freedom is to me, the readers have their respective notions as well. Basically, our take isn't acknowledged. So, often there's a conflict between political parties, society, family, etc. We are free and our views matter. Isn’t this is where we lose! Ultimately, it leads to chaos. Notion of freedom varies with our age groups. A child, a teen, a parent and an old man have different opinions. A child may consider freedom as taking him/her in arms, caressing him/her,

by being affectionate to him; they cry loud, they scream. This leads to the fulfillment of their demands, to some extent. All of these point to their freedom or their wish to be completely free. Indeed, he is free. No thought binds him. He hasn't uncovered the beauties, realities, positivity, negativity and norms. We uncover them with time. A teen may consider her freedom to be left to herself, going wild with his friends. The parents' freedom will be based on the experiences they have gained in all these years; to look after their child, stern and loving, being upright to the society. Rather, they understand the responsibilities of freedom. An elderly person's freedom can be considered to have a healthy life, contented, have a loving family, a freedom to accept seclusion without resignation.

Undeniably, it would be more meaningful if we juxtapose freedom with duty. For instance, we have freedom of speech but we should be careful as to what we say. That we have the right to freedom doesn't mean we have the audacity to violate others' freedom.

Freedom covers our conduct, responsibilities and defines us as humans.

Alphonse Daudet in one of his works*, Last Lesson,* has portrayed his view on freedom. He explains how it feels to be taken aloof from your culture, tradition, belief and your rights. The language was being snatched by the Germans in France and how the French revolted.

"Will they also make the pigeons speak in German?" Is it possible? NO. It justifies how crudely freedom matters to us. Thus, noting what freedom is, respecting one's perspective, acknowledging and being careful of one's conduct how we can dive understanding what freedom is? There's a saying, "When we judge, there's no time to love". To exercise freedom is to be free, while confining ourselves to a self-ordained understanding of freedom.



Freedom, A Perception

Ahana Maji

Freedom is a perception and not just a word which is different for different people. Freedom is a sense of feeling which cannot be provided to someone like a material. Freedom is an idea which is meant to make us self-dependent. Freedom is about fighting a life battle to live. Freedom is about raising the awareness within us. Freedom is not only about physicality but it's a sense of enlightenment of soul, thoughts and believes which determines someone's contribution to the society. Freedom means getting our soul free from anger, fear, greediness and jealousy and only try to love the world from our soul.

In the world the first notion of freedom that arises in the mind of the people is the history of the war of independence of their country against the foreign invaders , where all the freedom fighters and people involved in the movement had a sense of freedom and fearlessness in their hearts which eventually led them to think differently and gain independence. Many writers and poets also had supported the movement through their writings. In India, for instance, Rabindranath Tagore, Kazi Nazrul Islam and Dwijendralal Roy from Bengal were important poets during the freedom struggle, because they bore a sense of freedom in their hearts and thoughts.

also a sense of freedom. In the past, women were never given their deserved rights and freedom of expression and thoughts. Sati system and helplessness of widows were prevalent in the Indian society for a long time. In Europe during the Period of Renaissance, and even after that, women were dominated by their parents and husbands and their public opinions were also shaped by men. Women had no political rights in the pre-Revolutionary France. Suffrage rights for men and women were equalized by 1928 in Europe.

In India, social reformers like Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar and many others worked a lot for women empowerment. Even today, with the changing views, both men and women with equal rights will evanesce the prejudice that still exists in certain edges of the society and that will give a sense of freedom to those who are still under the domination of some old chauvinistic thoughts which will open the path of freedom on thoughts, views, and fashion. In the current society, Malala Yousafzai, a Pakistani activist, works for female education and also is the youngest Nobel Prize Laureate.

Freedom also means abolishing the discrimination done on the basis of caste, creed, race, gender, colour and religion in the society. Freedom can also be viewed as gaining the capability to take decision without any constraints and poverty and lack of safety in the society are great hindrances in this

path. Positive liberty is useful and will help to enhance us but negative liberty will lead to devastation. This struggle to gain freedom, to feel freedom, to enlighten ourselves with freedom will continue till the existence of human race in the lap of Mother Earth.

We should respect freedom and not misuse it to harm someone. So, let us enjoy the sense of freedom and enlighten ourselves and others because bird in a cage will lead the world into a colourless entity without innovations.



The Metamorphosis: A Change of Mind

Surabhi Pakhrin

"The world has never possessed a good definition of the word FREEDOM"
– Abraham Lincoln.

Freedom is a phenomenon which is very much obscure in itself. Till date even after many developments of human race the compact idea of freedom has not been yet established. Instead, the idea of freedom keeps growing with each new decade. I believe, true sense of freedom comes from within and not from the withdrawal of any external force. We are never truly free if freedom were to be gained from withdrawal of force because there's always some sort of power hovering upon us. Freedom totally is a state of our mind. Would Gregor Samsa in *The Metamorphosis* by Franz Kafka turn into a vermin(cockroach) if his mind were free?

As Milton has rightly said,

"The mind is its own place,
and in itself
Can make a Heaven of Hell,
a Hell of Heaven"

Kafka's masterpiece *The Metamorphosis* serves as a metaphor for the modern-day man and how a shuffle from job and home limits his freedom. However, it is impossible for a person to turn into a cockroach all of a sudden but on the other hand it is possible for someone to think of themselves as a cockroach. Kafka may have tried to highlight the mental state of Samsa through the metamorphosis of his body.

Maybe it was just a metamorphosis of mind.

From the very first instance of the novel we get to see that Gregor Samsa is someone whose mind is not free neither are his actions free. He seems to be very much occupied by his job. Therefore, when he suddenly turns into a vermin, his reaction is very much different from how we would normally react. Of course, he is panic stricken, but he doesn't panic about the change in his body, he panics about how he would reach office in time. Throughout the novel we find many more instances where Samsa has been given certain human like qualities which would otherwise not fit with a vermin. The feelings and emotions attached are also very much humane.

Music is said to have a healing effect on an anxious soul. It is widely believed that music brings peace to ones' mind. Kafka has very well shown this through Samsa and how he is captivated by his sister playing the violin,

"Was he an animal if music could captivate him so? It seemed to him that he was being shown the way to unknown nourishment he had been yearning for."

Samsa also shows certain signs of anxiety which is common for people whose minds are captured by thoughts. It is anxiety that has taken him into the roads of alienation. The very act of how Samsa who has now turned into a vermin falls down on his back and is unable to get up is also quite symbolic of how he has fallen as a person in his life and is struggling to get back to track but doesn't really have a firm grip on anything.

Samsa tries to adapt to this metamorphosis which further more traps him into the great web of alienation. Then there comes his death which is a sign of completely losing himself into the world of alienation.

Kafka through his wit and writing has achieved the success in making many of us believe how freedom is a state of mind through his unique character of Gregor Samsa, who with every action entangles himself and loses himself into the world of complete alienation.

The perspective of freedom differs from person to person, as freedom is that idea which keeps on exploring itself but we also cannot defy the universal truth that in order to gain freedom our minds should be free.



On Freedom

Leena Chhetri

What about a perception of freedom? If we think about the concept of freedom, every individual may have different perspective of this term. Few might think of it in political terms, some may take it in a social view, or united we might feel like terming all the concepts as the 'Fundamental Rights'. But, are 'Fundamental Rights' the answer to what ‘freedom’ really means? Well, I think freedom is something which makes every individual feel or perform any chore without any curb or criticism.

We may now talk about 'Animal Abuse' which I think is a common issue in any society that can be mentioned of and is a very crucial topic to speak about. We all see animals beaten up badly, for instance, dogs. They are battered and maltreated just because the poor creature wants some shelter near our balcony or house gates. Freedom for me here actually means that not only human but also all the animals have complete right of ease and peace. As our 'Father of the Nation', Mahatma Gandhi had said "The Greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated ". Hence, we all should be thoughtful toward Animal rights and stop abusing animals for fun sake.

"No struggle can ever succeed without women participating side by side with men", goes a popular quote by Malala Yousafzai. Through this quote I want to put the spotlight on the thought process of the people living in a society. From the Vedic period to our modern twenty first century we see that females are considered to be inferior to men. I feel the quoted lines by Malala Yousafzai clearly depicts that both the powers, male and female should be given equal rights.

A beautiful poem written by Shri Rabindranath Tagore will clearly depict how a person should hold his head high without any fear and restriction: "Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high…"



Poetry

One

Kluke S

I lay still
In the day
Blinding bright

A little vine
Sprouts in my toe
My toe nail gives way

The vine rises
Entwining with my thigh
Around my waist and chest

Little leaves
Here and there
Along the vine sprout as well

Tender leaves
Tender stem
Tender body

The vine finally
Circles my neck
And fully blossoms

A dazzling flower
Where my face used to be.

Freedom, Black & White

Veronica Baroi

To the man who has been chained
Without a crime of his own,
Claimed to be a slave, black man
Whose only fault is his black skin.

Beaten, traded, abused, killed
Without even uttering a single
mourn,
To the east, west, north and south
Only because of his black court.

You and me we all are identical
Dark and light, black and white,
Red is the flowing bridge
That binds us humans alike.

Today's slavery is tomorrow's
freedom
We all stand in contrast to
reunion,
Black and white are both prime
To give meaning to individual life.

Filler

Samden Bhutia

Imagine a bird, feathers and
bones,
It being captured, broken and
stoned.
The same hands the stones
grazed,
The same bird raised and laid,
On a crux cross enough,
Even a messiah would not love.

They praise it like it would Burn
out the Sun. When it does not,
Claim poor Icarus flew too far off.
With gloves they cover their faces
The stain that shames and
disgraces.

Let the bird in its sleep,
Let it enjoy the freedom,
The freedom you once seeped.
Let your words not disturb the
peace and
The ashes beneath,
For freedom is achievable Only in
dreams.

Three Poems

Rajil Kumar Singhal

"FAMILY ISN'T ALWAYS BLOOD, IT'S A FREE WILL"

Family isn’t always blood,
It's a free will,
I promise this is true.

Family are the people who,
Simply love you for you.
Family has no strings attached,
They take you as you are.
They are always there to listen,
No matter near or far.

Family gives you what you need,
Even if it’s tough.
Sometimes all we need to hear,
Is that we are enough.

Family loves us when we’re happy,
And even when we’re sad.
They celebrate the little things,
We didn’t know we had.

Family doesn’t have to be your Mom or Dad;
Sometimes God gives us the people,
To fill the void we have.
They fill the voids within our hearts,
They love us to the core.
They’d do anything to see you smile;
And this is for sure.

Family gives you nice warm hugs,
Lots of advice too.
Family will drop everything,
To stop and pray for you.

Family is there by your side, through the thick and thin.
They’re always rooting on your team,
They want to see you win.

Family isn’t always blood,
I’m saying this again.
It’s the people that are there for you,
Until the very end...

"FREEDOM IS AN ENIGMA IN A JOURNEY"

Time flies and memories fade,
People change and new friendships are made.
Only the true remain forever by our sides,
Eventually the disappointment and pain will subside.

It is all about the journey and what is yet to come,
Life is what you make of it; you are what you've become.
Life is too short to hold onto regrets,
Forgiveness is key even though you may never forget.

Cherish the good and remove the bad,
Some people don't realize till it's gone, what they've had.
Moving on is a way of life,
There will always be obstacles, pain, and strife.

You must believe that you are strong enough to fight,
You have to believe in yourself to do what is right.
Always do for YOU no matter what you do,
Because in the end, the only one who has your back is you.

Never be afraid to take a stand,
And always be willing to lend a helping hand.
A little bit goes a long way,
All it takes is a smile to brighten someone's day.

Your chance to live is now.
Never let anyone tear you down,
And never let anyone steal your shine and make you frown.
Here is your chance, so what will you do?
You've got this because I believe in you!

DO YOU KNOW?

Do you know a life of loneliness and one filled with pain,
living a life with nothing to gain.
Surrounded by darkness, overwhelmed with shame,
A life without peace with no one to blame.
Do you know of a place unseen,
A place that holds only shattered dreams.
A place filled with sorrow with no end in sight,
I am showered with this gift each and every night.
Do you know of a place so cold,
This is the very place I call my soul.
A place without hope or comforting dreams,
A life not worth living, wouldn't it seem.
Do you know of a life that seems like it cannot be mended,
And the feeling that today this life has to be ended.
One more day of sadness is much too hard to bear,
I am tired of living a life of heartache and despair.
Do you know a person with so much pain inside,
Or the feeling of loneliness when no one hears your cries.
Maybe when the tears are gone and I can clearly see,
The only question left will be..
CAN YOU HELP SET ME FREE??

Breathing in Freedom

Marsom Lepcha

Open up your arms, a bit wider,
exhale the dunes of disappointments.
Discover and find it; with long search,
a better place beyond insipid illusion.
freedom city embarks ;from captivity,
Breathing in immortal verse by peace,
to preserve freedom, young prosper,
churn up discomfort ;from comfort.
sometimes clouds of strange turmoil,
arrives unfriendly; without alerting alarm.
Embrace and indulge it for a while,
Breathing in flying bird; a hidden pride.
Shapes precarious thoughts in direction,
creates unceasing perfection all over the sky,
Encompasses the kiosk of empowerment,
turn down ; the complacent ; self honour.
So step out, hold the positive feathers,
through lofty cliffs, through unsettled winds,
Yes, that's how it feels like, a necessity,
Breathing In Freedom.

Songs of Freedom

Esther Das

Freedom I deserve
Free I ought to be
Chains all asunder
To destiny I can't surrender
Slave I have been in the kingdom
Truly I deserve freedom

Freedom I wish to attain
Freedom I strive to maintain
Freedom to let go and lose control
This freedom wish I for my soul.

I would go past infinity
Into a distance for rest of eternity
I wish I had wings to fly
To know my freedom isn't a lie.

Freedom of pain I wish to sustain
Freedom from fear and every tear
Freedom from strings to openly sing
Songs I can sing of freedom.

Limited View on Freedom

Anugraha Subba

Beautiful souls in trapped ‘ugly’ bodies
Thought limited by what the eye sees
Expressions and personality
Muffled by fear of society
Maybe freedom has skewed the way I see
Because I don’t think we’re actually free
We seem forever fettered to me
Fettered by limited knowledge and prejudice
By love and hate and everything in between
Fettered by fate or chance
Or whatever you want to call this
In spite of everything,
I like to think I’m currently free
To select my form of captivity

Freedom

Anam Fatma

A road crowded by preachers of equality,
Often funded by controllers of immortality, travelled by many in the pursuits of humanity.

Freedom from the British, we got many years back,
But freedom to choose, freedom of equality is that we still lack.

From being opinionated,
From being governed by our fears,
From the make-believe of a choice, while really not having one.

Bound by the said-unsaid rules of the society,
Educated but dumbfounded, losing the sense of priority.

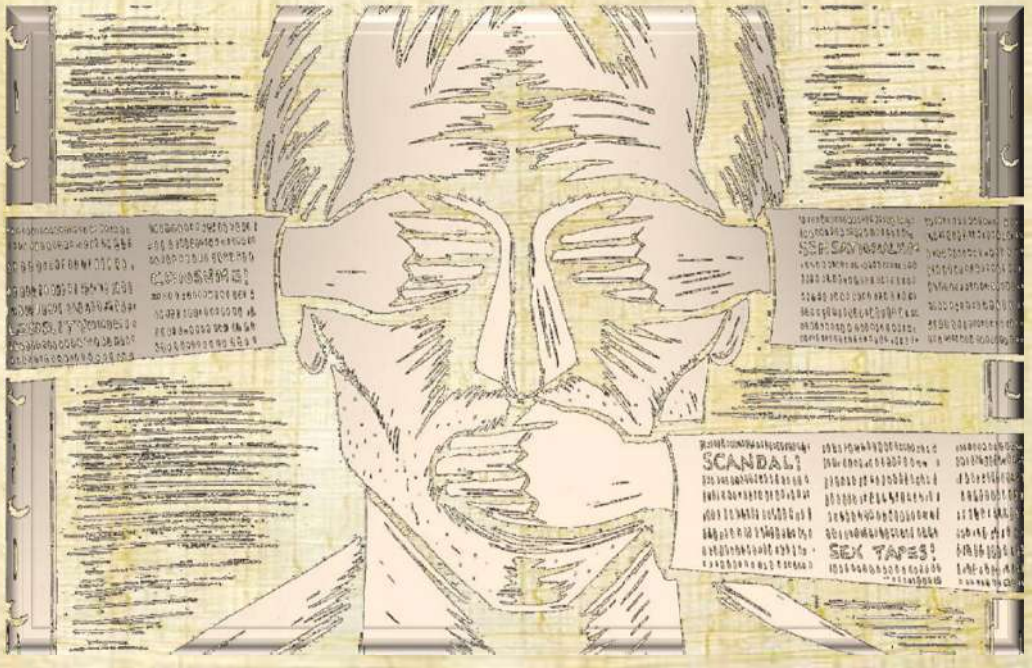
We celebrate the day for getting freedom,
But we ourselves are shackled in the poor minds and thoughts so dumb.

We talk about freedom where birds can fly, and dogs can bark,
But a girl cannot feel safe walking alone in the mid of the dark.
We talk about freedom where people can brag, taunt or pass judgement,

But in reality we don't know what is humanity, sanity and self-enlightenment.

We celebrate the fraternity, legacy and brotherhood,
But we all know about the back stabbers and snakehood.

We talk about the things across the globe and political election,
But very few want to know about their country's corruption.
We celebrate the day of togetherness and freedom,
But deep down we all know that we are lost, imprisoned in our own kingdom.



I am Freedom

Ahana Maji

I am the one whom you search everywhere around you.
I am the one whom you try to achieve.
I am the one whom you urge for when you don't get me but
You forget me when you get me.
I am Freedom!

I lie in your heart and I am the voice of it.
I lie in your soul and I am the honesty of it.
I lie in your thoughts and beliefs and I am the energy of it.
I lie in your eyes and I am the spark of it.
I am Freedom!

You rage wars of independence to achieve me but
Without me being in your perception and beliefs, you will fail.
You will fail if you embezzle me.
You will fail if you dominate me.
I am FREEDOM!

I am here to destroy prejudice for equality.
I am here to destroy the chain that binds your heart with limitations.
I am here to destroy the fear within you.
I am Freedom!
I am the power within you, I am the spirit within you.
You search me around but I have been always there within you.
Find Me!
Find Me!

Film Reviews

Zindagi na Milegi Dobara

Saloni Agarwal

Director: Zoya Akhtar
Cast: Hrithik Roshan, Abhay Deol, Farhan Akhtar, Katrina Kaif, Kalki Koechlin
Music: Shankar Ehsaan Loy
Producer: Farhan Akhtar and Ritesh Sidhwani (Excel Entertainment)
Release date: 15 July, 2011
Running time: 153 minutes

~~YOLO~~ #ZNMD

It is human nature to forget and forgo of some essential elements in our lives. It is not intended deliberately but one definitely tends to get lost in the hustle and bustle. Being not very difficult to hold on to these elements, when they are reintroduced in some unimaginable way in our lives, it brings a spur of happiness along with it which was completely alienated from our lives. It is the kind of happiness which makes you aware of each and every detail. The kind which yearns you to be alive because simply breathing is yes physically being alive but this happiness helps you to feel alive, within. The kind of happiness which makes you realise about each and every breath that we breathe or about the each and every tear drop that decides to roll down our cheeks and to every little moment that were assumed to be significant. Which Bollywood movie can refreshingly provide us with a readymade dose of elements that constitute our life and make it liveable?

When was the last time you saw a “feel good” movie? When was the last time you laughed at simple silly conversations? Or when was the last time a movie reminded you of your bachelor days (only if you’re married), or a movie you last watched inspired you to enjoy the simple things in life and to let go of your fears? Well, I don’t think that any movie except *Zindagi na Milegi Doobara* had that aura to take you through the simple moments of life which we miss out due to our busy schedule. *Zindagi na Milegi Doobara* is a movie to get back your life, if you lost it somewhere in today’s fast life. It makes sure that the moment it finishes, it fills you up with the kind of emotion- this crazy feeling in your stomach and the kind of happiness in the strangest of situations, the kind of happiness where we see a little tear of joy coming down your eyes.

Be it a workaholic, money minded broker or a fashion designer, this movie has one of the most relatable characters who teach us a lot of things; from being independent to mantras of a happy and life long friendship, to love unconditionally. Also teaches us to leave no window open for regrets to flow in or teaches us to overcome our fears and to be free. Embrace our freedom because it is definitely more precious than gold and the list goes on and on because this movie is a suitcase full of mantras but the most important ‘funda’ which each character subconsciously teaches us is to *“just breathe and let go of the rest”.* Interestingly, all the characters give us the same message by



Image Courtesy: DNA India

alternatively coming out of their own shells towards the end. Just like we see, Arjun: Who is Arjun? A perfect example of a workaholic, enslaved to the extent where he carries his laptop on a holiday trip and answers all his work calls, also attending a meeting in the middle of the road. Tracing back to the early death of his father who left nothing but a huge debt on his family taught him to be this money minded person and his only goal was to earn till the age of forty and then retire. He is so consumed by his addiction of earning cash that we often see him bragging about price tags and a man who is completed by his superficial needs. Confessing that he's even ready to get married to a person he's not in love with but only for money only represents the kind of workaholics we see in recent times due to the monstrous takeover of the technological world. Yes, multiple factors change his perspective on life but what triggers this change is by experiencing the underwater world. This is where he realises that there is a peaceful world beyond

work and money (definitely also because of Laila's take on the same later). The maximum degree of catharsis that Arjun underground over the course is by and by he completely frees himself from the web he had created for himself. Conscious or unconsciously, many of us too end up creating a similar web for ourselves, in turn missing out on the joy of living. Laila's bit on joy of life and money not being everything makes him reflect on his goals and his past and realises the kind of mistakes he had committed unintentionally, creating his personal hell and driving his girlfriend away, also depriving himself from the small pleasures of life which though being small, gives anyone immense pleasure.

A scene in the movie when Laila questions him as to why did he cry after exploring the underwater but never did he ever cry after cracking his biggest business deal? That was because the underwater undeniably gave him more happiness. It gave him an opportunity to stand up and have his freedom. He felt free in the underwater unlike working behind the rectangles called screens.

Towards the end of the movie we see how he prioritises going to Morocco with Laila than resuming his work. In his words, *"Jyaada se jyaada naukri se he to nikaal denge. Who cares?"* These lines show that this time he doesn't let the love of his life go, unlike before. His character being a perfect example of all those who prefer work over their loved ones; A fear of not being

accepted and unintentionally not embracing freedom or not being able to have it are something that is common in the trio. This fear too changes Arjun. When he realises that he's not the kind of guy that Laila would want to spend her life with, he tells her not to judge him and his priorities because it is the situation's tests that taught him to be this money minded guy and that cash was the way of the world. But what actually fascinates him and compels him to rethink about his goals and perspective on life is when Laila questions him, *"Kya guarantee hai ki tum chaalis tak zinda rahoge?"* It's so true. On the contrary, his goal was to enjoy life after forty but what if he didn't live till then? Life is so uncertain and all these sacrifices on the joys of life and waste of time only on work and not spending it with your loved ones would never make any sense. All this money and name and fame would flush down the drain. So, the best is to enjoy every bit of your life as though it were your last and *"Ek insaan ko tabhi dabbe me band hona caheye jab wo marr chuka ho".* Never before that.



Image Courtesy: ibtimes.co.in

Arjun's character is one such that would make you want to apologetically reach out to that friend you ignored because of work and never called back again.

Kabir: Stuck with an *'I-didn't-even-propose'* marriage with Natasha, the long time ago planned trip acts as a boon in his life to have an escape from all the drama going on in his life. Seen to be a peace maker between his two friends due to the hiccup in their bond in college days, we see him going through his own turbulence. We see a fear of not being accepted in Kabir's character too. Not ready to get married yet, it is his sense of fear that the society or his parents or Natasha would not accept him, makes him agree for this marriage. When Arjun tries to explain him why breaking off this bond was important because he would never be happy, Kabir simply replies with,

"Invitation cards chap chuke hai."

He definitely wants to run away from it but this fear of not being accepted, drives him for an unhappy marriage. Unintentionally he's not being able to attain his freedom. This confusion about his own love life makes his character all the more realistic. Kabir yearns for an escape and he sees this trip as a perfect opportunity to get together with his buddies because who doesn't crave for excuses for such reunions, right?

Kabir is one such fun loving character and a 3:00am friend to whom we can reach out and count on; a kind of true being who would always have your back even when he's going through a perplexing time. We all treasure such people and yes, he inspires us to become that friend. Kabir personally inspired me to be there for my friends no matter what because true friendship is worth more

than millions of dollars. Imraan: Taken aback by the sudden revelation of his biological father after a decade, just sweeps him off the ground. Although right from the beginning of the movie we find him the kind of guy who pokes fun at almost everyone and is not serious at the most serious moments but midway what makes his character special is the sudden realisation to the audience about the turmoil he's going through but doesn't let anyone, (not even his closest buddies) to sense it. Being an artist, his poems popping in and out in the movie is a pure bliss to the audience. He initially refrains telling his friends that this trip was important to him not only because of his friends but his real motive was to meet Salman. We see him suspiciously looking for Salman's address and his art. gallery but when he had an opportunity to turn left towards Salman's residence, a fear of not being accepted drives him to take a right turn. His monologues prove that he was afraid if Salman would recognize him, remember him, accept him or would deny of Imraan being his son? So many questions in his head only because of one fear- ACCEPTANCE. Although there were no negative consequences if Salman would ignore him but his fear was huge enough to make him doubt meeting his biological father. Despite all these disturbances in his life, he never fails to be zestful with his friends. Imraan exemplarily motivates us to not let our inner demons consume us but to have that spark that keeps us alive. He constantly reminds us that simply

breathing is not being alive but to have that courage to push away all your fears and to live is the kind of alive we all should be because that courage is the sign of being a Hero As Shakespeare quotes in *Julius Caesar*,

*"*Cowards die many times before their deaths*;*
The valiant never taste of death but once.
Of all the wonders that I yet have heard,
It seems to me most strange that men should fear;
Seeing that death, a necessary end,
Will come when it will come."

Talking of fear and pushing it away, their trip included three life threat sports which everyone had to do it no matter what. Deep sea diving and sky diving being two which they all do it but the sport that made the most impact is the third and the last one i.e., Bull Run. The symbolism behind this sport is the fear of DEATH. The biggest fear that each living being on this planet fears. From plants to animals, to humans, no one wants to die. As Bluntchli in Bernard Shaw's *Arms and the Man* says that *"*Even soldiers are afraid to die*".* This is indeed true. This sport was chosen by Imraan because he logically says, *"Yehi to hai hamara sabse bada darr".* Facing our biggest fear can only help us overcome it. Initially Kabir and Arjun deny doing it but when logic hits them, they realise that they had nothing to lose but to gain if they succeed. They again make a pact at the starting line, each of them doing something they feared of like Arjun would not care about his job but would travel with Laila, Imraan

would publish his poetry of which he was very insecure and never even allowed his buddies to know he wrote poetry and Kabir would reveal the truth to Natasha and would break his ties with her and live his life his way. The movie ends with them being chased by the bulls and then running fearlessly away from the bull, them running with that charm and spark that makes a person alive-not the kind of alive by simply breathing but the kind of alive that even fear of death made them feel more alive.

"Dilon mein tum apni betabiyan leke chal rahe ho
To zinda ho tum!
Nazar me khwaabon ki bijliyan leke chal rahe ho
To zinda ho tum!
Hawa ke jhokon ke jaise aazad rehna seekho
Tum ek dariya ke jaise, leharon me behna seekho
Har ek lamhe se tum milo khole apni baahein
Har ek pal ek naya samaa dekhiye
Jo apni aankho mein hairaniyan leke chal rahe ho
To zinda ho tum!
Dilon me tum apni betabiyaan leke chal rahe ho
To zinda ho tum!



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https://www.youthkiawaaz.com/2014/06/zindagi-na-milegi-dobara-characters-inspire-us/

Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose
The Forgotten Hero

Rituparno Das

Director: Shyam Benegal

Release Date: 3 November 2004 (London Film Festival); 13 May 2005 (India)

Cast: Sachin Khedekar, Kulbhushan Kharbanda, Jisshu Sengupta, Arif Zakaria, Sonu Sood, Rajpal Yadav, Divya Dutta, Rajit Kapoor.

Producer: Sahara Motion Pictures

Lyrics: Javed Akhtar

Music: A.R. Rahman

Run time: 208 minutes

Freedom is the right to act, speak and think without depending on others' wishes. It is desired by each and every member of each and every species of the 8.4 million species discovered by science till date. Without freedom, one's life becomes worse than hell. Our constitution has granted freedom to all the citizens in every aspect; however, there are legal restrictions to curb one's freedom, if it becomes harmful for others.

India was under the British rule for almost two centuries. During that period, while India has had many social & technological developments, on the other hand, people were oppressed in the fiercest possible ways. Some brave children of our motherland didn't like the way things were going on and so they decided to bring a drastic change in the society and liberate people. Those people are known as freedom fighters. It was the

outcome of their blood and sweat that India finally received freedom from the clutches of the British on 15th August, 1947. Since then, 15th August is celebrated every year as Indian Independence Day.

Based on freedom, many Indian films in various languages have been made. Today I will try talking about one such film —Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose: The Forgotten Hero.



Image Courtesy: Times of India

The film begins with Netaji (Sachin Khedekar) having a disagreement with Mahatma Gandhi & other Congress leaders with regard to policies & ideals.

While Gandhiji was a symbol of non-violence, Netaji believed in tit for tat. Netaji had won the election for the INC President from Haripura, defeating Gandhiji-backed Dr. Pattabhi Sitaramayya, but eventually resigned from the same after failure in agreement with other senior Congress leaders. He was then arrested, and he eventually goes for hunger strike. Fearing the probable dire consequences due to his frail health, the British put him under house arrest. Later he escaped from house-arrest and decided to go to the Soviet Union via Kabul in order to get some assistance from the erstwhile Communist Government. In this elopement, he was assisted by his nephew Sisir Bose (Jisshu Sengupta). In Kabul, he puts up in an inn owned by Uttamchand

Malhotra (Kulbhushan Kharbanda). When the Communist Government refuses to help, he takes asylum in Berlin. For his journey from Kabul to Berlin, he was helped by his comrades Abid Hassan (Arif Zakaria) & Bhagatram Talwar (Rajpal Yadav). In Berlin he meets Hitler & also the Indian Prisoners of War, and convinces them to fight against the British. Here he also meets the woman whom he later marries, Emilie Schenkl.

Meanwhile Japan bombards Pearl Harbour, leading to US entry in World War II. Netaji spots an opportunity and travels in a German submarine, changes to a Japanese one off the coast of Madagascar, and arrives in Indonesia. He travels to Tokyo, where the Japanese assure him of help in fighting the British. He forms the Indian National Army in Singapore that fights its way into India, in Manipur. By then, the Second World War tide has turned and the losing Japanese cut off the paltry help they had been giving Bose's INA, sealing its fate.

Sachin Khedekar looks every bit the Netaji India knows from photographs, and does a good job in the acting department too. The supporting actors—Kulbhushan Kharbanda, Ila Arun, Jisshu Sengupta, Arif Zakaria, Sonu Sood, Divya Dutta, Rajpal Yadav, etc. played their roles with excellence.

The action of the film is realistic. There is ample amount of goosebumps and lump-in-the throat moments.

The music of the film by A.R.

Rahman is truly inspiring. His choice of the iconic Rabindranath Tagore song, *Ekla Cholo Re*, as a sort of theme for the movie could not have been more apt. The interpretation is very nice too. But choosing a lullaby (*Ghum parani mashi pishi)* for almost every personal moment in Netaji's life is funny.

There are also some moments we feel are over-dramatic. When Netaji convinces the Indian POW in Germany to take up arms against the British is one such moment. The romance of Netaji & Emilie is irrelevant. The film's marathon length of almost 3.5 hours was the biggest reason why the film failed to make the cut at the box office.

The film sparked protests in some parts of India. Director Benegal was forced to cancel its premiere in Calcutta. The film was fiercely opposed by the Forward Bloc party. The party was angry at the film's suggestion that Bose secretly married an Austrian woman, Emilie Schenkl, in 1937, and that he died in a plane crash in Taiwan rather than fleeing to Russia in 1945 as some people believe.

Finally, I would suggest that the film is very informative and it wouldn't be wrong to give it at least one watch.



Real Footage of Netaji with the Women Contingent of the INA (Courtesy: nenow.in)

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https://m.rediff.com/movies/2005/may/13bose1.htm

Sketches & Photos



Difficult roads often lead us to beautiful destinations

Fasil Ahmed



Climb the mountain so that you can see the world; not so the world can see you

Pranita Thakur



Sunny Terrace

Kelsang Dorjee



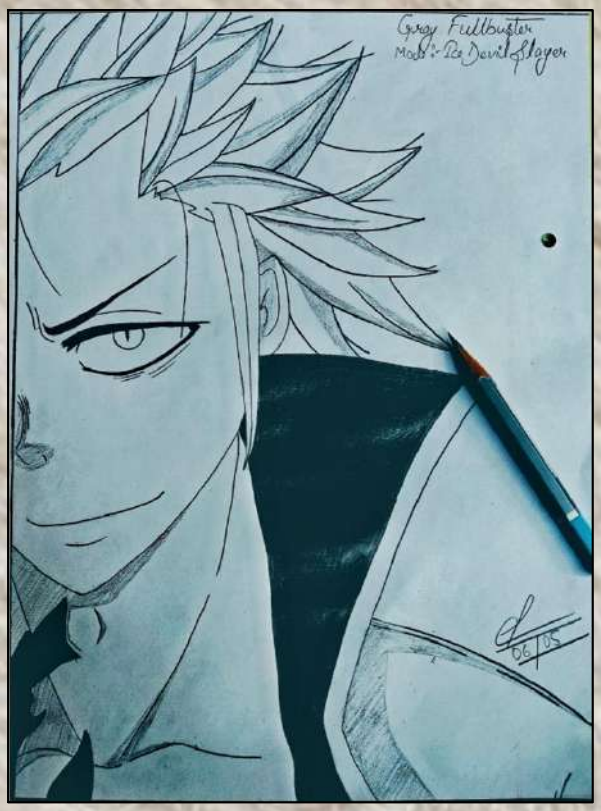
No Net Ensnares Me

Manavi Goyal



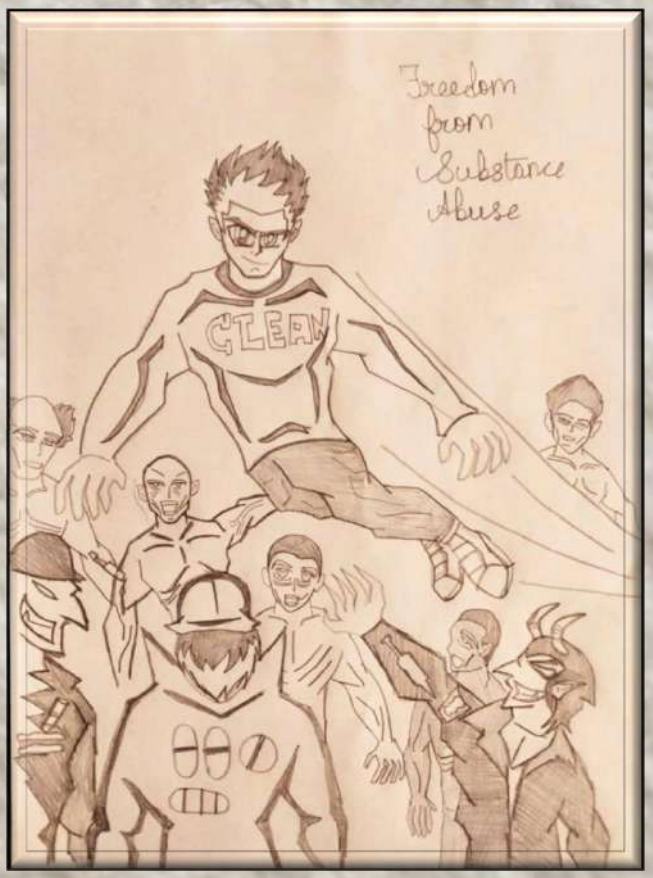
If it's out of your hands, it deserves freedom from your mind too

Praweshna Poudel



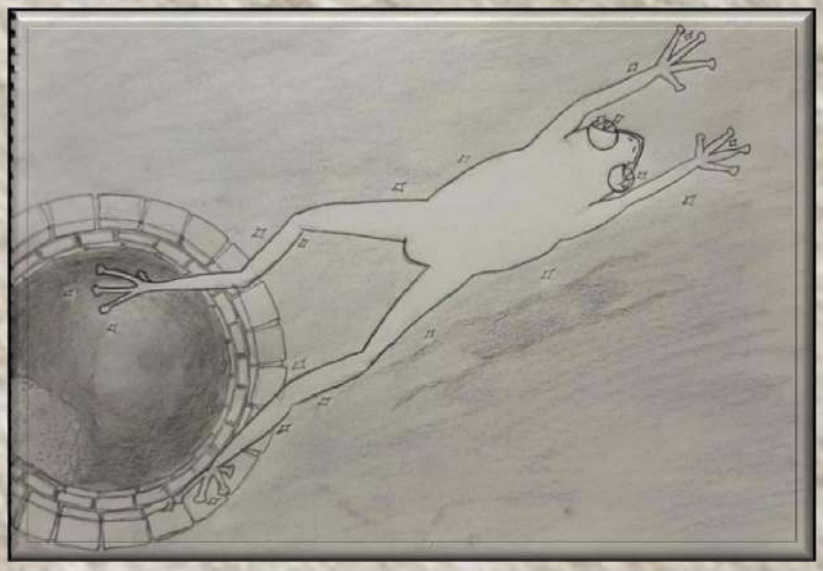
It's not the goodbye that hurts; it's just the flashback that follows

Shagnik Bhagat



The purpose of our lives is to be happy

Ashwamedh



To truly start learning, we must free ourselves of our mental walls

Anugraha Subba



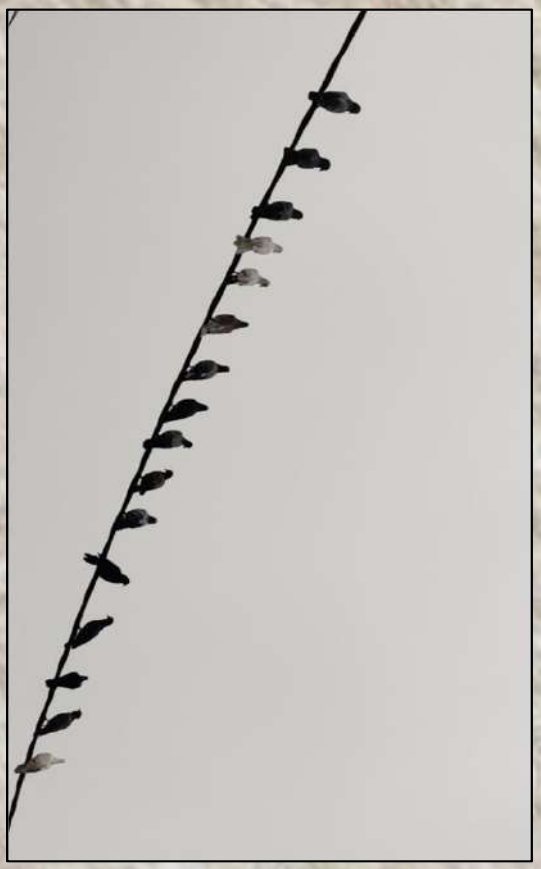
Hold Fast to dreams, for if dreams die
Life is a broken-winged bird that cannot fly

Rishika Goyal



They will try because they know I will not

Raju Mandal



Faith is the bird that feels the light when the dawn is still dark

Rishika Goyal



She was happy,
She Lived for herself
And enjoyed her own company,
They called it loneliness,
She called it freedom

Payal Maheshwari

Pandemic Captures

Department of English

Salesian College
Siliguri

Pandemic Captures

Department of English

A spectre is haunting the world—the spectre of corona. All the powers of our department have entered into a holy alliance to exorcise this spectre.
The apparition has limited our physical movements, but it cannot confine the creative plasticity of our minds.
"Pandemic Captures" is a testament to the collective power of our youth, an act of resilience through poetry and photography.

Pandemic Captures

Luxury

"To savour the meat
Or to turn vegan?"
For a father and his son
With their ride stuck in a traffic,
Was a tough decision.

Overhearing, the younger boy looked
At his own father
This pair was sitting by the pavement,
Struggling for a meal together.
His eyes curious
To know what those words meant.
Sighing and shattered,
"Luxury!" his father uttered.

Deepisha Roy
3rd Year
Department of English

Pandemic Captures

I am a Sinner

I am a sinner, Lord
Do you still live in me?
The light of my alter is out
Will you still light me?
I am all dark inside
Can you still see through me?
I am unworthy for you
Do you still accept me?
I committed the same sins repeatedly
Do you still love me?
I put you on the Cross
Will you still die for me?
I promise you that I will change
But if I again turn to sin?
My temple is destroyed
Will you rebuild it for me?
I have made myself naked
Will you clothe me?
I am dirty and stinking
Will you still come near me?

contd..

Pandemic Captures

I am a sinner, Lord
Do you still live in me?
I have lost all my spirituality
Will you still forgive me?
I am lost amidst worldly things
Will you come find me?
I am about to reach Hell
Will you come rescue me?
I am endlessly selfish
Will you still fill me?
I've wounded you
Will you still save me?

I am a sinner, Lord
This I will always agree.
Surround me in your presence,
And forever live in me.
I am a sinner, Lord
Will you resurrect me?
Ready to live with you
For all eternity.

Veronica Baroi
M.A. Sem III
Department of English

Pandemic Captures

Highway

One morning
As I stood there
Looking at a highway
Watching the traffic,
Tiny little things hurry-scurried
At their own pace.

Ants ran in one line
Like the cars
Like the soldiers
As if driven by an aim
To be somewhere
To not waste time
To be of purpose
To be together
To not get lost alone.

contd.

Pandemic Captures

Also,
Snails dawdled around
Looking leisurely
Going everywhere
No line, no form, no purpose
But they too
Might be rushing
At their own pace,
Hurrying all along
Who knows?
Towards a goal
Undetermined, undecided perhaps
Nevertheless, still
Hurrying all along.

Kluke S.
Semester V
Department of English

Pandemic Captures

Bubbles of the Drowned

Below I see from the comforts of my boat
An endless ocean of wordswhere every drop
I fear, might be salty.

I look at my hand
The same endless ocean,where every drop
I fear might be caged,
Caged behind a lying truth
Caged behind a visible sleight
Caged behind more cages,
Who knows?

For I am unknown to them
They,unknown to me
We yearn for the same knowledge
Only struggling to discover from our different cages.

Sometimesit gives me peace
The ignorance of my unknown
How my joy is untouched
How my imagination is not purified or tainted
From these salty words.
Hell is other people.

contd.

Pandemic Captures

A sudden realization hitting me
Mocking,moulding myself
My own creator
Who, for one, fell too deep in these Oceans
Twists my mind in an attempt to
Straighten me out.

Now I am,I truly believe
Had been on a sinking boat
Already sunk in the ocean in my hands
Already close to the one beneath.

Samden T. Bhutia
Semester V
Department of English

Pandemic Captures

A Reminder

The problem is
We have made everything 'the one'
But maybe, 'The One' is just You.
Value yourself
Walk away from the people who disempowers you.
Be Brave
To take off that mask while you are out there
Get to know who you are underneath;
It's time to love yourself
Cherishing your worth, growing, and ultimately
Being proud for who you are.

Irene Walling
Semester III
Department of English

Pandemic Captures

There

Ripe green land.

A straight lone tree
A carriage with an old horse stood below,
Still.
A silent passenger within.

Kluke S.
Semester V
Department of English

Pandemic Captures

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Amy Karthak Lepcha
3rd Year

Pandemic Captures

Department of English



Amy Karthak Lepcha
3rd Year

Pandemic Captures

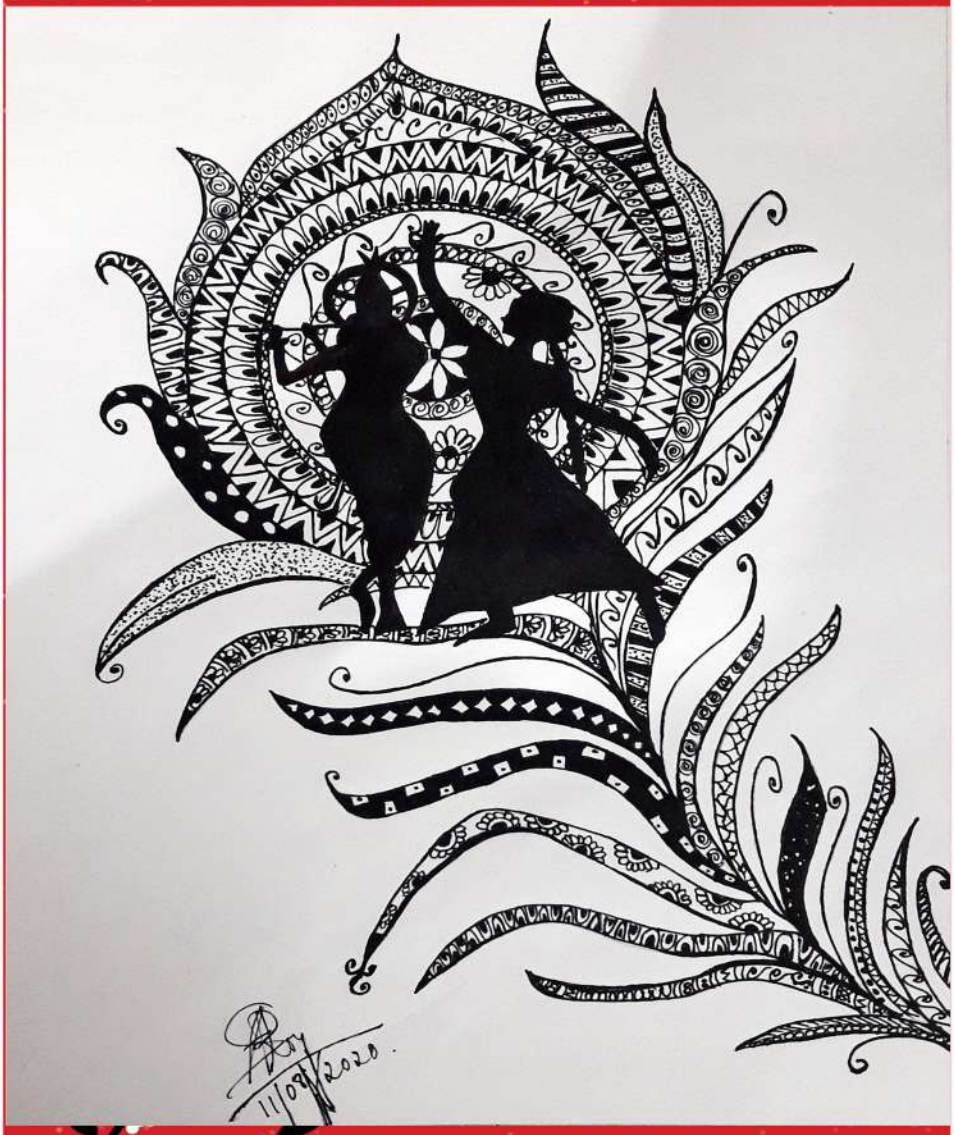
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Annesha Sinha Roy
Sem V

Pandemic Captures

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Annesha Sinha Roy
3rd Year

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Arkatapa Ghosh
Sem III

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Arkatapa Ghosh
Sem III

Pandemic Captures

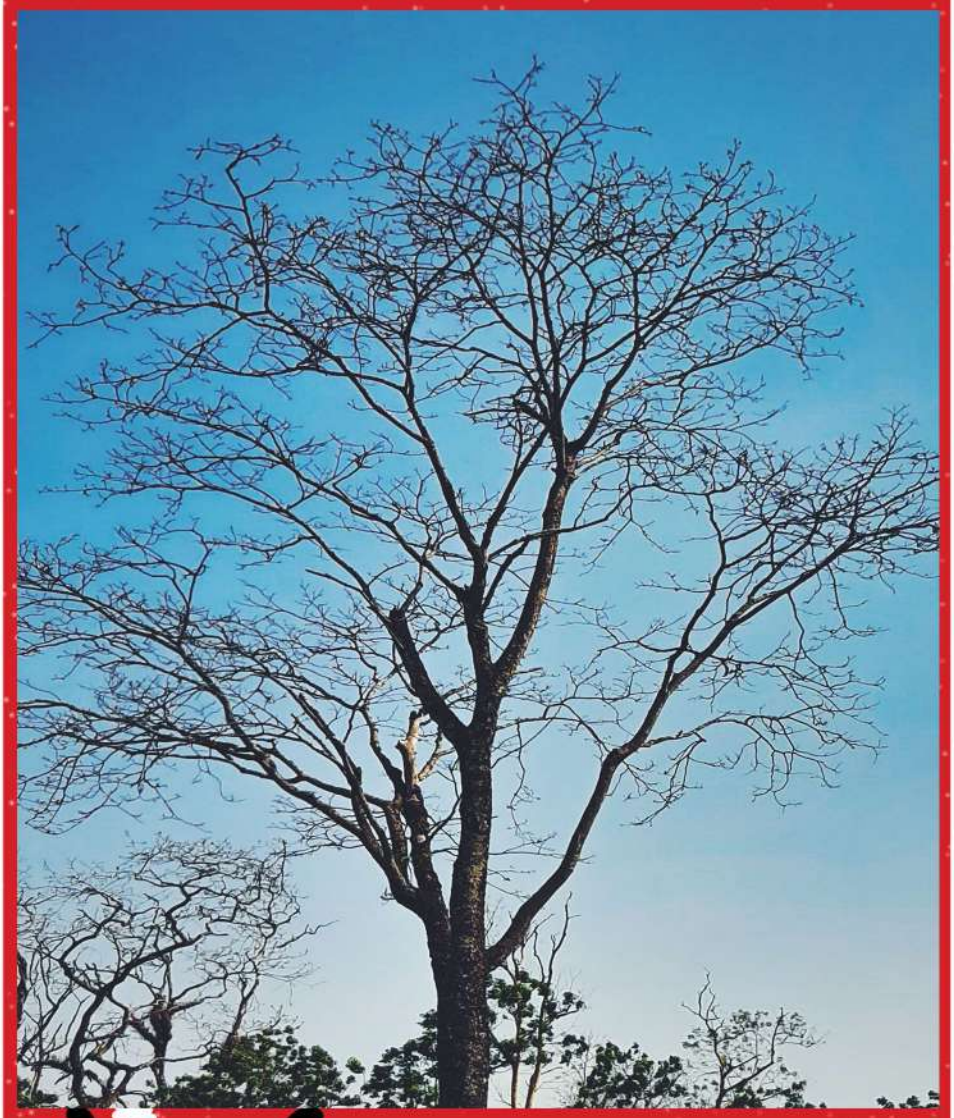
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Ashmita Adhikary
Sem V

Pandemic Captures

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Ashmita Adhikary
Sem V

Pandemic Captures

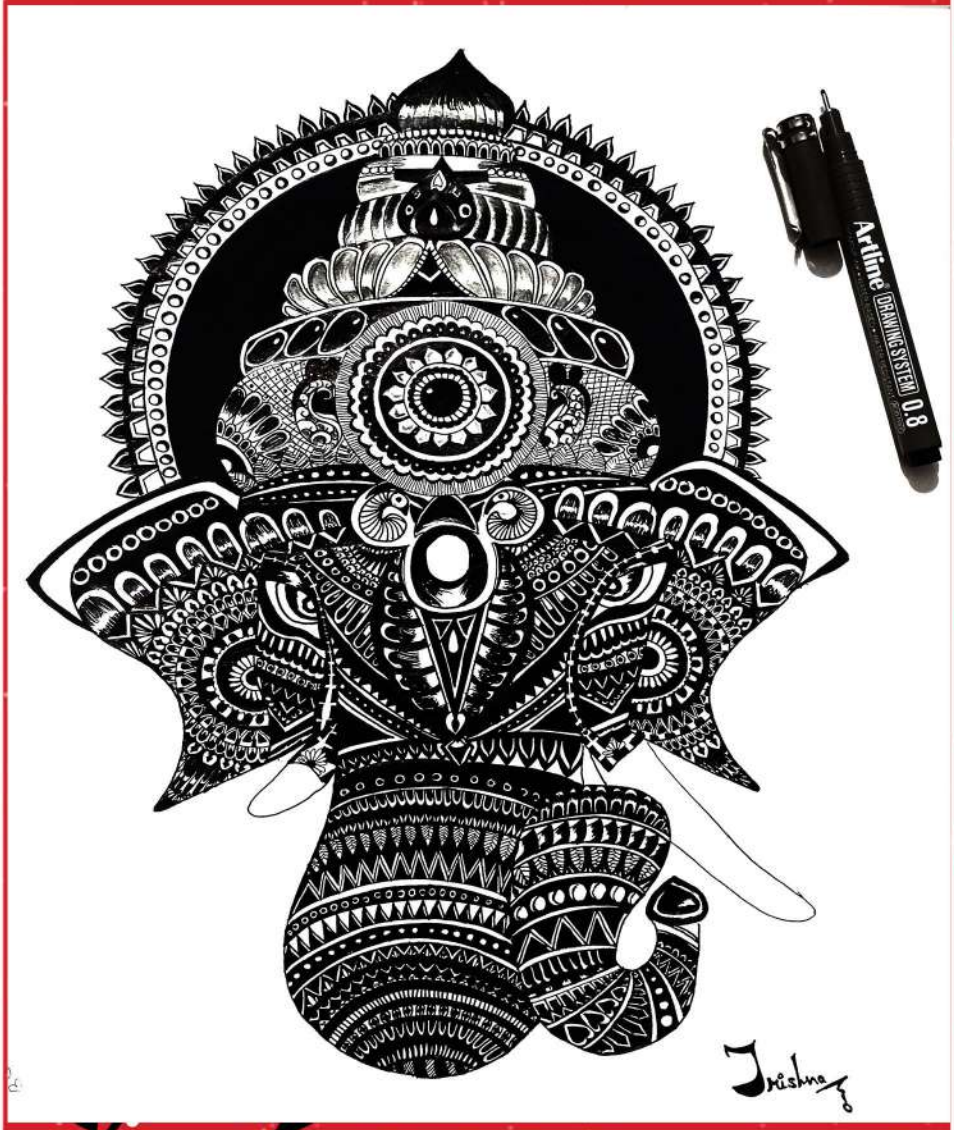
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Baisnabi Chhetri
3rd Year

Pandemic Captures

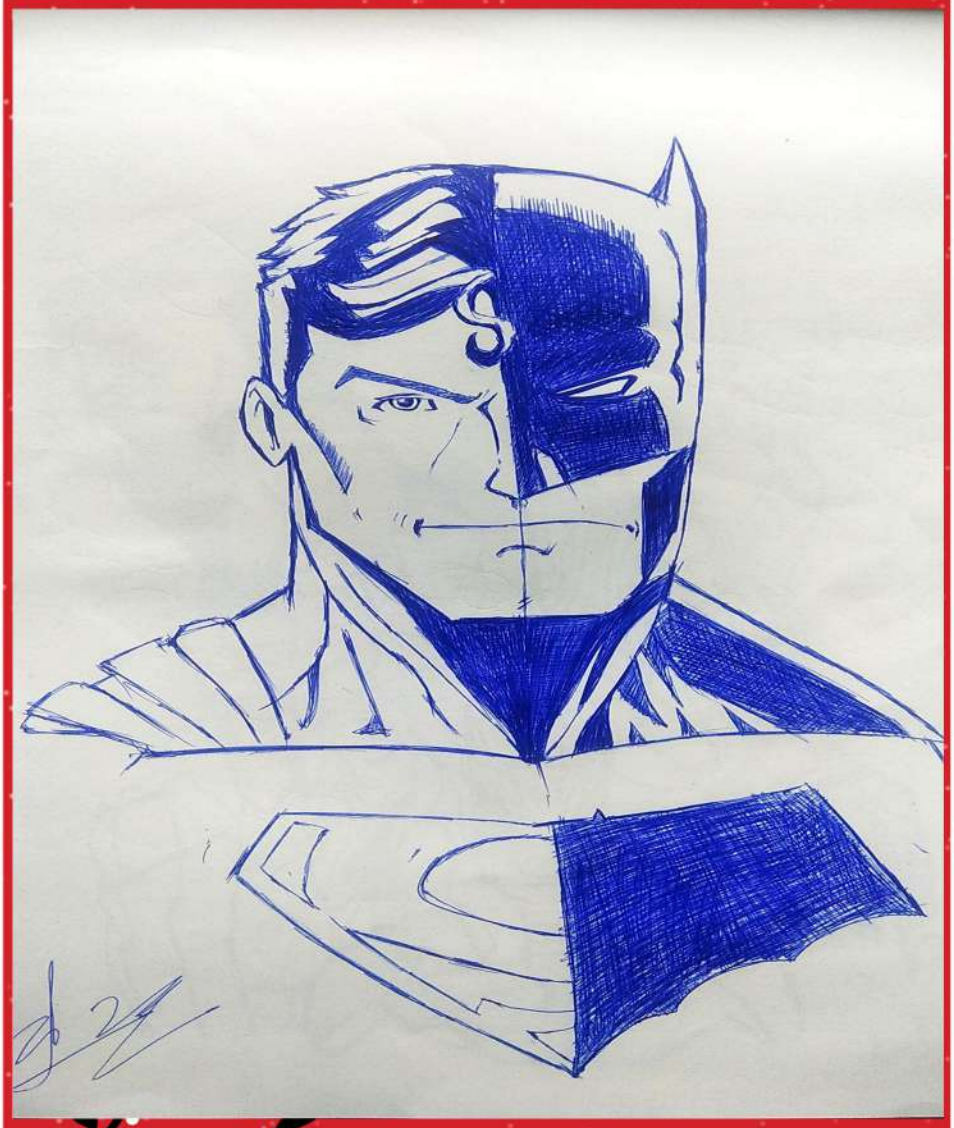
Department of English



Baisnabi Chhetri
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Pandemic Captures

Department of English



Debarshee Roy
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Department of English



Debarshee Roy
3rd Year

Pandemic Captures

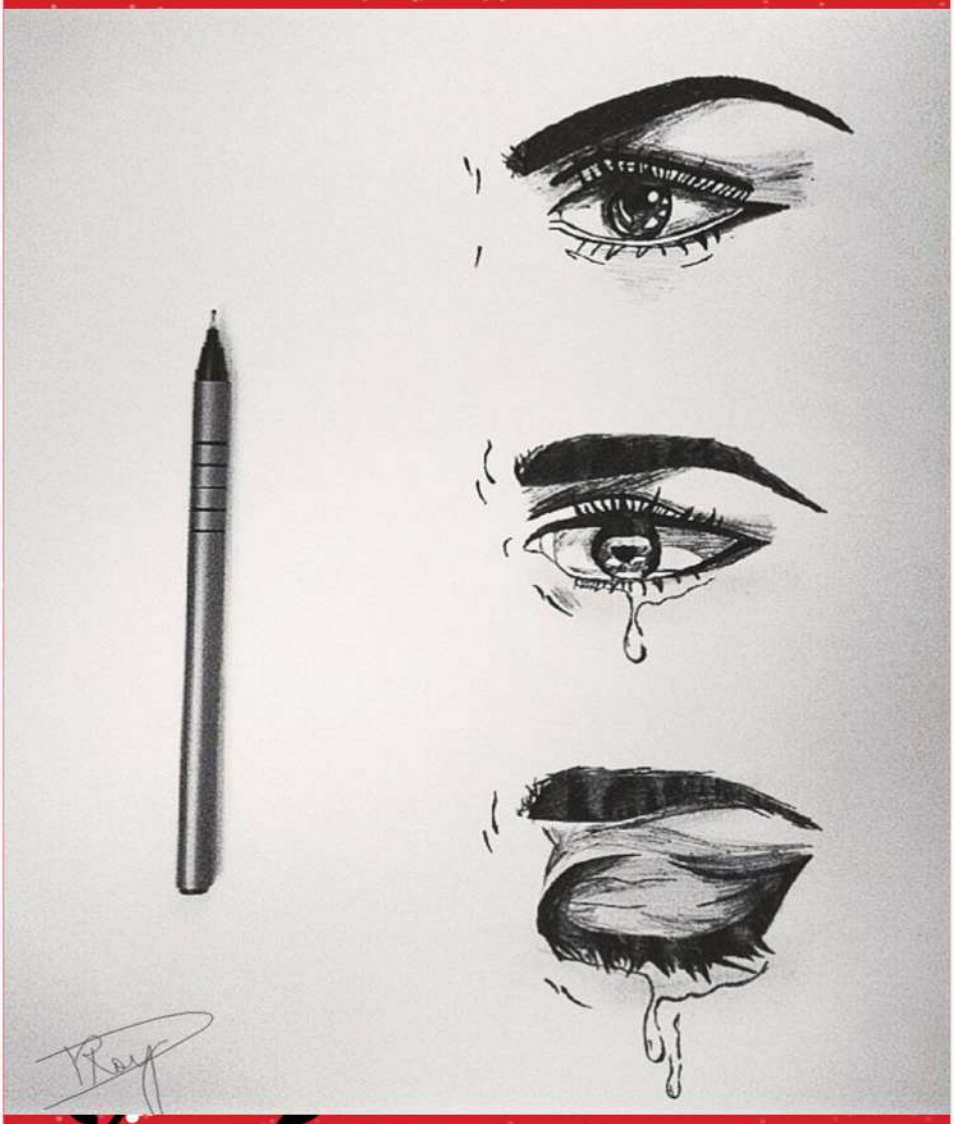
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Deepisha Roy
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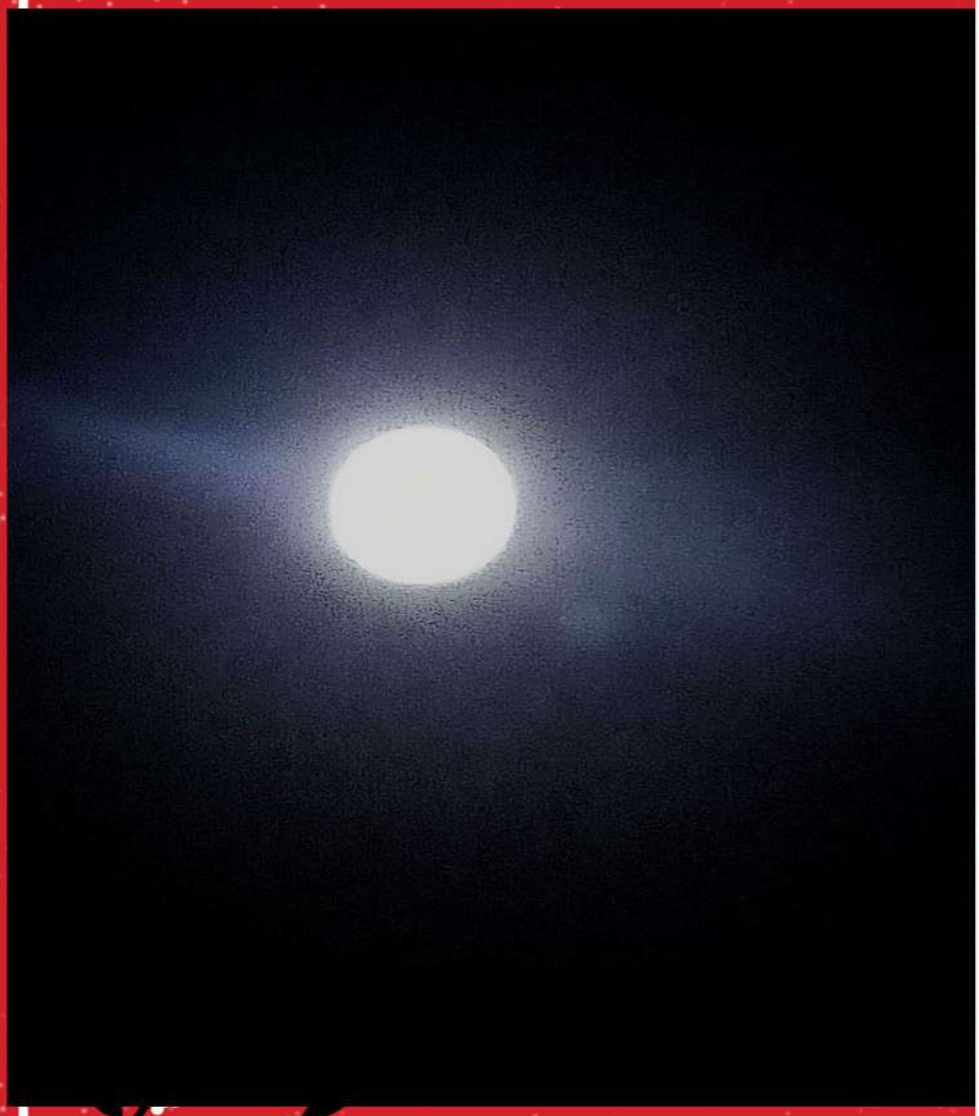
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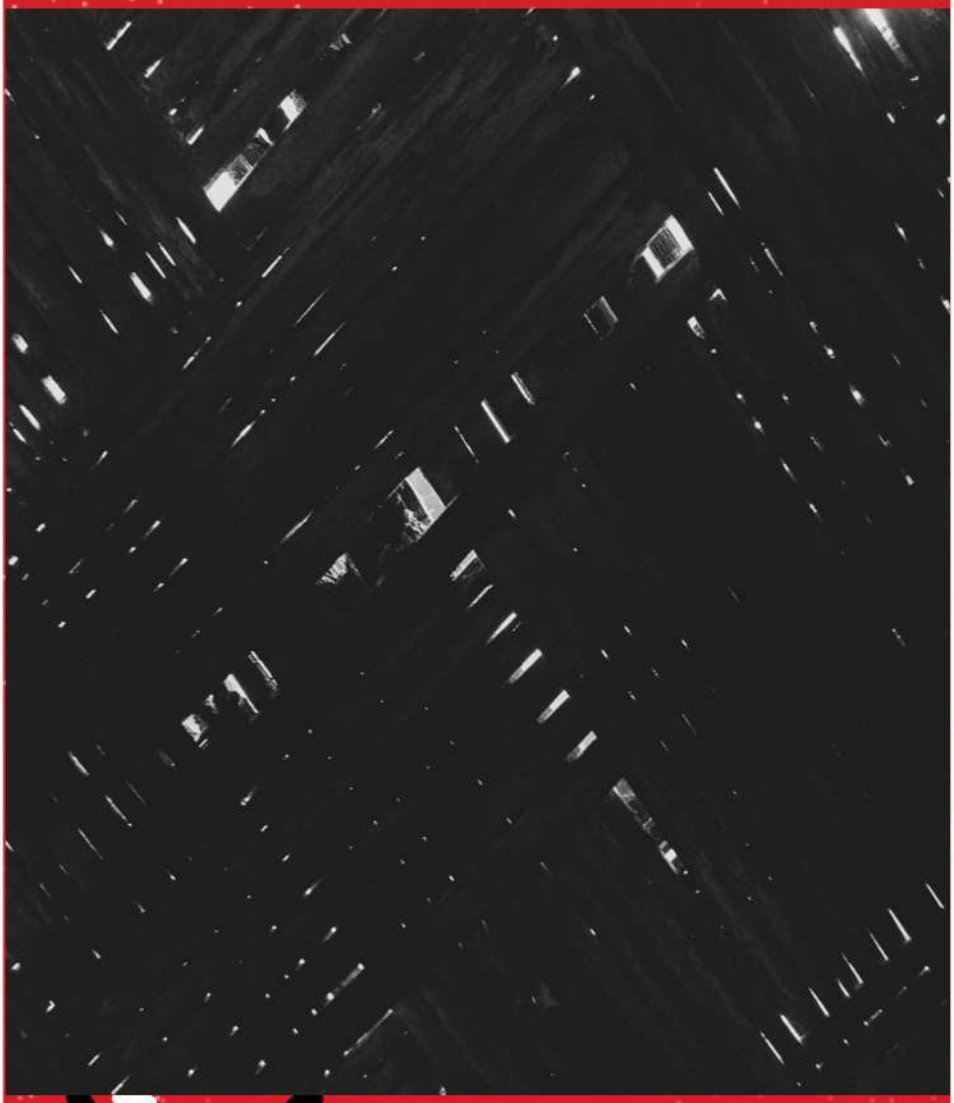
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Gracy Lohar
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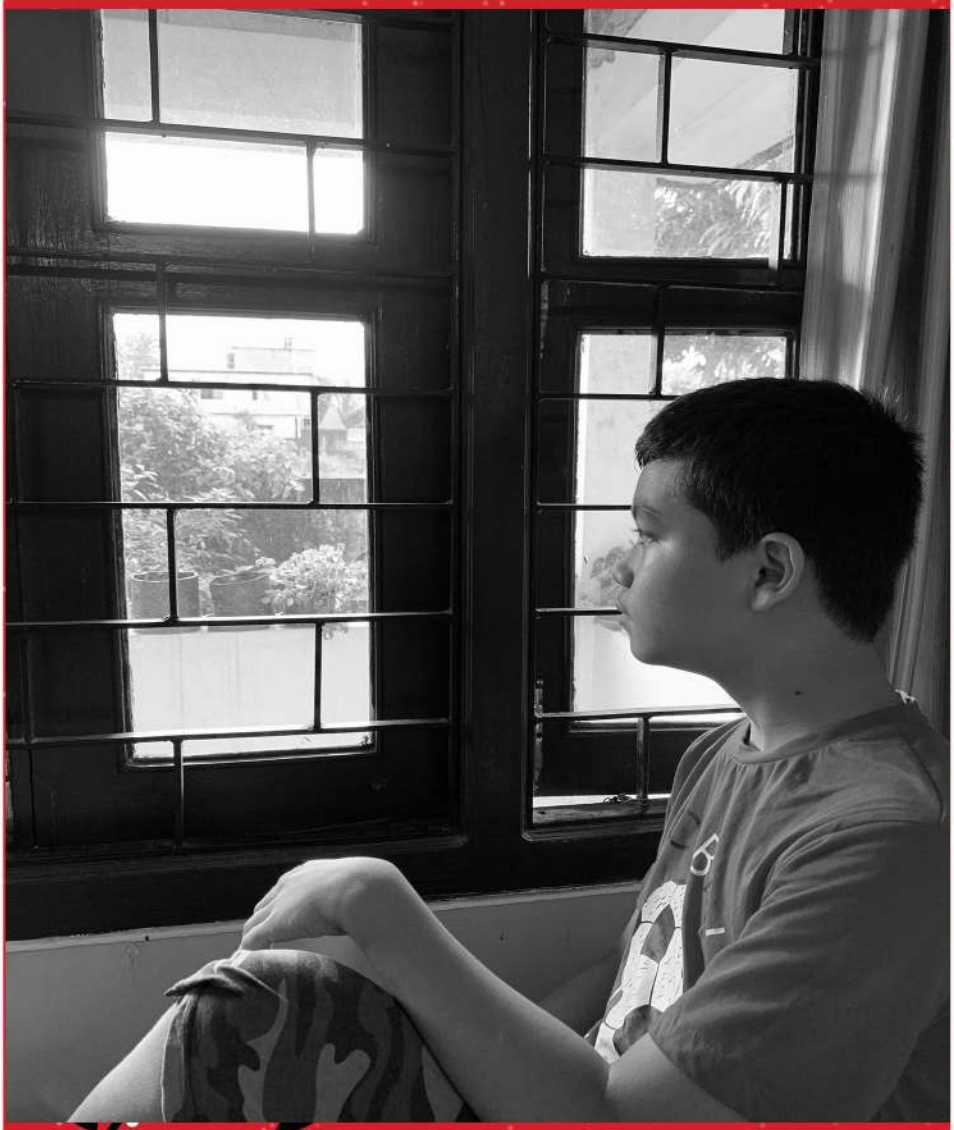
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Lhaki Bhutia
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Marsom Lepcha
M.A. Sem III

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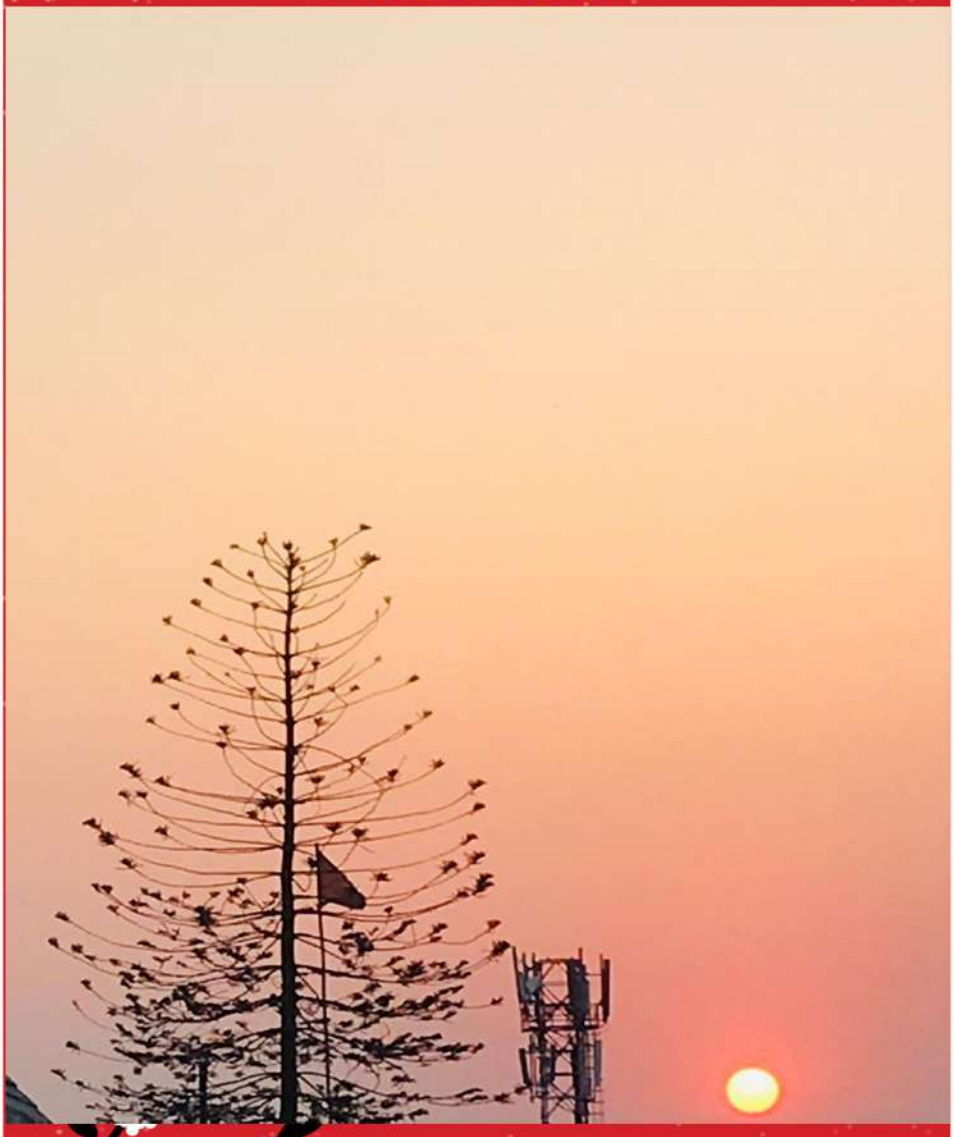
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Marsom Lepcha
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Neha Agarwal
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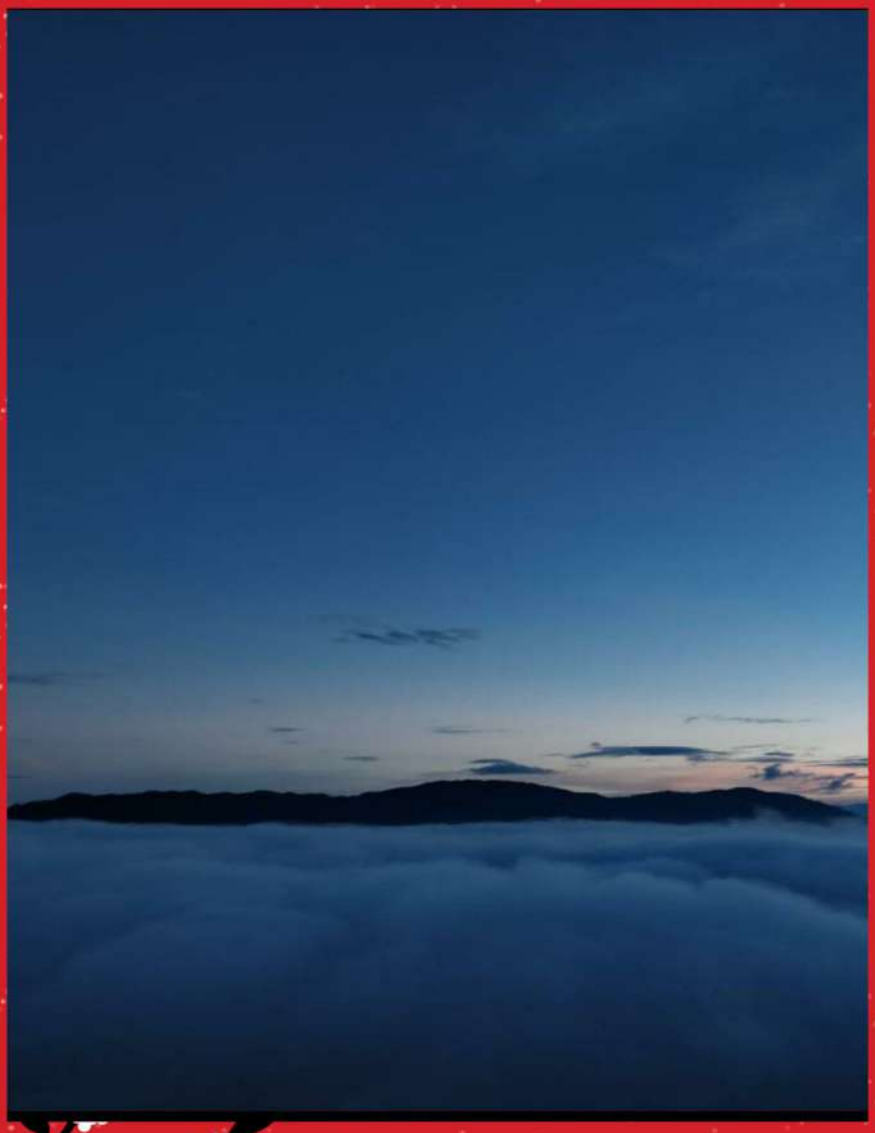
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Rabten Phuntsok Bhutia
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Rishika Goyal
Sem III

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Rishika Goyal
Sem III

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Riya Subba
3rd Year

Pandemic Captures

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Saloni Agarwal
Sem V

Pandemic Captures

Department of English



Saloni Agarwal
Sem V

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Department of English



Samphel Bassiv
3rd Year

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Sivani Prasad
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Sivani Prasad
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Siwani Biswakarma
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Sonia Mukhia
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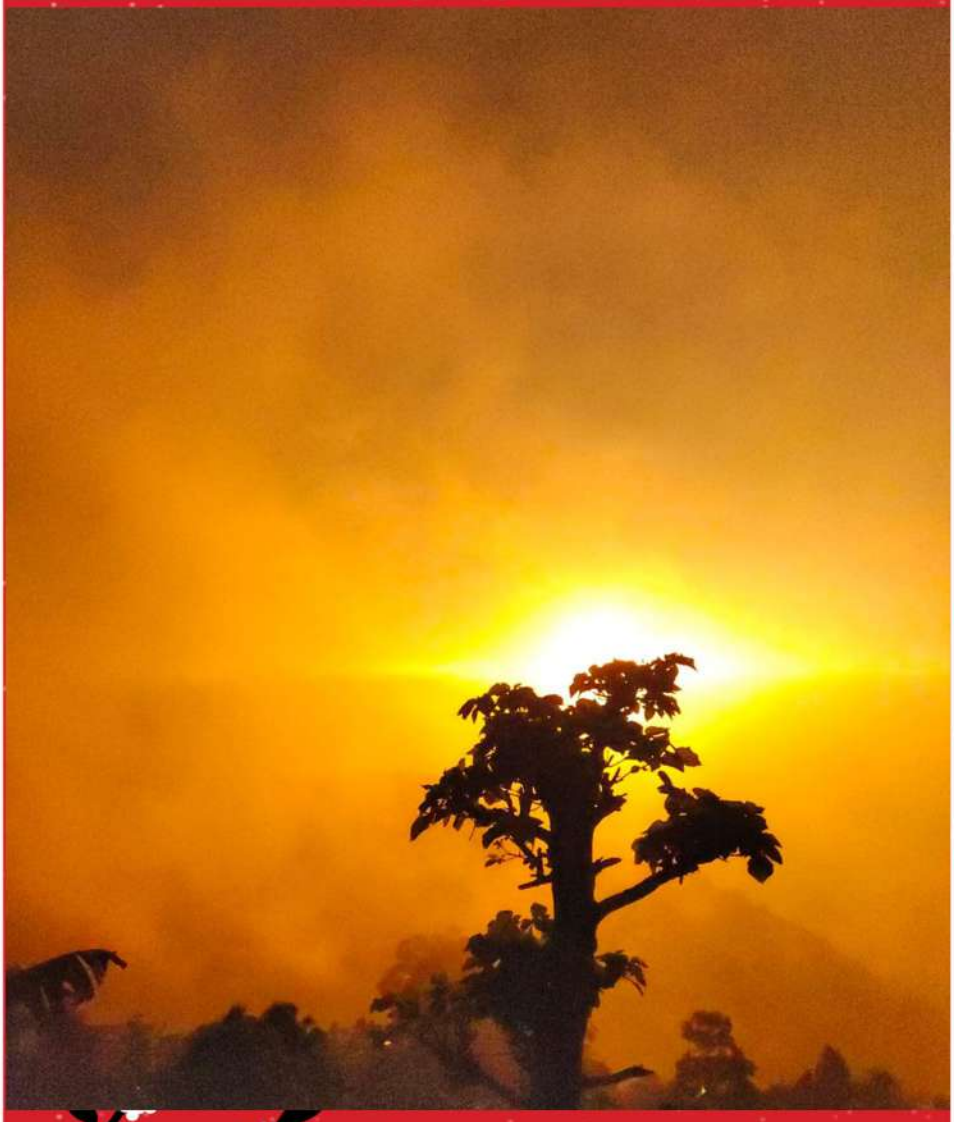
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Sonia Mukhia
Sem III

Pandemic Captures

Department of English



Sylvan Bhutia
3rd Year

Pandemic Captures

Department of English



Sylvan Bhutia
3rd Year

Pandemic Captures

Department of English



Tapsri Nikgam
3rd Year

Pandemic Captures

Department of English

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THANK YOU!

SALESIAN COLLEGE
SONADA & SILIGURI

Bi-annual Newsletter

EVOLVE

a Salesian College Association for Professionals initiative



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October 2020

DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT STUDIES

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GUEST EDITORIAL



Design Thinking

I am happy to be invited to write a message for your prestigious EVOLVE - the bi-annual Newsletter of the Department of Management Studies.

Last week, I attended a webinar on the principles of Design Thinking in Journalism. The resource person Dr. Uma Shankar Pandey, HoD of Journalism & Mass Communication, Surendranath Women's College Kolkata said that design thinking would simply imply interacting with the audience while creating a story, rather than after it is created.

This is important because journalists often spend a large amount of time and effort creating news stories without interacting with people.

Now, Design thinking is the process for solving problems by prioritizing the consumer's needs above all else. That is putting oneself in the shoes of the consumer or the client. Design thinking relies on observing, with empathy, how people interact with their environments, and employs an iterative, hands-on approach to creating innovative works.

In Design Thinking in Journalism a student could become grounded in the fundamentals of serious journalism while being pushed to expand its boundaries. Definitely, a student will also learn how to report and tell rich news stories across a broad range of media platforms.

Now we can apply the same principle of design to leadership and management. In practice, design managers within companies often operate in the field of design leadership and design leaders in the field of design management. The difference is in leading through design, and sustaining the design leadership style over time.

So, put simply, design theory is a system of ideas that explains how and why design works. Manager designers need to know how everything they put on a page communicates, influences, directs, invites, entices and excites an audience.

This is the reason why, the EVOLVE TEAM should be congratulated in coming up with this unique departmental venture engaging both faculty and students on a common goal.

Best of luck to all of you!

Fr. C.M. Paul, SDB
Director: Radio Salesian 90.8 FM
Vice Principal, Science Deanery, SCSC



National Webinar on Intellectual Property Rights

Nidhi Agarwal and Priyanka Karmakar
(BBA 3rd Semester)

The national webinar on Intellectual Property Rights of Copyright Laws and Emerging Challenges was organised by Department of Management Studies, Salesian College, Siliguri Campus in collaboration with IQAC, Salesian College on 24th August 2020. The program began at 10:00 am with the inaugural session which comprised welcoming of the guest by Mr Anirban Ghosh, Assistant Professor and Campus Co-coordinator, Salesian College, Siliguri Campus followed by the opening invocation by Fr. (Dr) Babu Joseph SDB, Vice-Principal (Commerce and Management), Salesian College, Siliguri Campus followed by presidential address by Prof. (Fr) George Thadathil SDB, Principal, Salesian College. Then there was inaugural address by Dr. Shafali Nagpal, Director, UGC-HRDC, BPSMV, Sonipat, Haryana which was followed by key note address from Dr Danny Friedmann, Assistant Professor, Peking University School of Transnational Law, Shenzhen, China.

The webinar consisted of five plenary sessions, each with different topics, moderated by different members of the organizing team and participants from different places. Each session started with a speech of the respective chairperson. The Plenary Session I was moderated by Dr. Dipankar Rudra, Assistant Professor and Head, Department of Management Studies, Salesian College, Siliguri Campus. The session started at 11:05 am with the speech on the topic "IPR with Special Reference to Copyright" by Dr. Keya Das Ghosh, Assistant Director and Head of the Institute, Amity University, Kolkata. There were four participants in this session each with different topic and each participant was allotted time for seven minutes:

- Adv. Mr. Meyyappan Kumaran S., Advocate / LLM (Business Law), Student, The Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University, School of Excellence in Law who presented the topic "Protecting Copyright in the E-World (Digital World)".
- Souradipta Bandyopadhyay, Student, Coochbehar Panchanan Barma University who presented the topic "Protection of Folklores and Traditional Music under the Copyright Mechanism: An Analysis of Relevant Provisions of Copyright Legislation".
- Rohit Raj and Asma Khan, Law Student, Lloyd Law College who presented the topic "Emergence of Trademark in Industrial regime and it's critical analysis in the light of Judicial Precedent".
- P. Vasishtan and Samhitha Sharath Reddy, Student, Tamil Nadu National Law University who presented the topic "The Most Disputed Provision of the Patents Act: An Analysis".

This marked the end of Plenary Session I.

At 11:50 am the Plenary Session II began. The moderator of this session was Dr. Dipankar Rudra, Assistant Professor and Head, Department of Management Studies, Salesian College, Siliguri Campus and it began with a speech by Dr. Sumanjeet Singh, Assistant Professor, Department of Commerce, Ramjas

College, Delhi. In this session there were three participants namely:-

- Sukla Saha, student, and Dr. Sanyukta Mitra, Professor, Department of Law, University of North Bengal who presented the topic "Infringement of Copyright Laws of Indian Music - A Critical Appraisal".
- Bodhisatya Ghosh, Student, Amity Law School, Amity University, Kolkata who presented the topic "Intellectual Property Rights; The Emergence of Fashion Law".
- Alisha Sharma, Student, Jammu University who presented the topic "Intellectual Property, Prosecution, filling, and Enforcement During Covid-19: Global Crisis".

This marked the end of Plenary Session II.

Plenary Session III was initiated by the moderator Mrs. Debarati Deb, Assistant Professor, Department of Management Studies, Salesian College, Siliguri Campus and began with a speech on the topic "Webcaster's Rights and Legality of Live Streaming under Copyright Laws" by Ms. Anuttama Ghose, Assistant Professor-in-Law, Indian Institute of Legal Studies, Siliguri. There were four participants in this session namely:-

- Pallabi Paul, Student, Department of Law, Assam University, Silchar who presented the topic "A Critical Analysis of Pharmaceutical Patenting in India -Problem of Public Access to Health".
- Dr. Jayashri Bangali, Teacher, Kaveri College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Pune who presented the topic "Copyright: Importance and Challenges. Important Sections of Indian Patent Law 1970".
- Manasvini Ranganathan, SASTRA Deemed to be University, Thanjavur who presented the topic "The License to be a Killjoy: The Incentive to Create vs. the Right to Knowledge".
- Monika Goyal, Student, Indian Institute of Legal Studies, Siliguri who presented the topic "Copyright: Dynamics And Legal Scenario in India".

With this ended the Plenary Session III and marked the beginning of Plenary Session IV with the moderator being Mrs. Debarati Deb, Assistant Professor, Department of Management Studies, Salesian College, Siliguri Campus and began with a speech on the topic "Copyright Law and Academics" by Mr. Raghav Parthasarathy, Teaching Associate and Advocate, National Law University of India, Bangalore. This session comprised of three participants:

- Shubham Shakti, Student NEF Law College; who presented the topic "An Overview of the Copyright Law in the Digital Era".
- Derifa.T, Divya.S, Student, School of Excellence in Law who presented the topic "Approach of US, EU and India on protection of Geographical Indication".
- Angel Benita. A, Student, School of Excellence in Law, TNDALU, Chennai who presented the topic "Critical Analysis of Copyright Protection And Computer Programme".

For Plenary Session five Mr. Rupam Majumdar, Assistant Professor, Department of Management Studies, Salesian College, Siliguri Campus was the moderator and the session started with the paper on the topic "Strategic Approaches to Protect Business Innovation via Copyright" by Mr. Sudhanshu Singh, Assistant Professor, School of Law and Justice, Adamas University, Kolkata. The participants in this plenary were:-

Rahul Tiwari, Research Scholar, Bundelkhand University, Jhansi who presented the topic "Intellectual Property and Cyber Space".

Abhishek Rajesh Bhattacharjee and Shreya Das, Students, BA LLB(H), Amity Law School, Amity University, Kolkata who presented the topic "The Concept of Originality Under Copyright Law-Study of Judicial Response".

Jayanta Boruah, Research Scholar, North-Eastern Hill University who presented the topic "People's Biodiversity Register And Protection of Traditional Knowledge With Special Reference to Kamrup District, Assam".

With this, all the presentations were completed after which Father (Prof.) George Thadathil put forward his outlook on the theme of the webinar. Finally the online seminar ended with a vote of thanks by Mr. Patrick Johnson, Dean, Commerce and Management, Salesian College, Siliguri Campus.

Thus, in a nutshell, the webinar was a huge success.

The webinar was streamed live on Salesian College's official YouTube channel and there were more than 100 participants.



"Thirty Two"

Pratham Agarwal
(BBA 1st Semester)

20th August, 2019. It was another cold eve, a glass of hot Choco delighting me from my terrible past events which I had just noted down in my diary. It's nothing new. I have been doing this since my childhood, a fat book but not an ordinary one. Down along with my other novels (which are yet to be read), there were more similar type of diaries.

Leaving aside everything I picked up a diary from the series. I, guessed it to be the beginning of my writing. I flipped opened a page.

Date:- 20th August 2007

Hello dear diary,
Today I went down to Malbourne Street and had chocolates but I had only two dollars. I want to buy more. You know my unconditional love for chocolates. Last week when I visited India with mom, Grandmother gave me so many chocolates.....

I chuckled and flipped to the next page.

Date:- 20th August, 2008

Hello dear diary,

Today you know at school Gwen looked at me and blushed. I don't remember if I had confessed my feelings to her? But I like it when she looks at me and blushes. She also shared her lunch with me today. Oh I'm so happy. I hope she stays with me forever, I can talk to her all day long, she is that pretty.....

"Gwen? Who is she?" I tried to recall but failed. Ignore it, I moved to the next few pages in which I read my days in which I learned how to ride my cycle, got my first phone, came into relationship with Gwen, then it was all about Gwen and school. It was so good to read my history but I was not able to recall anything. I excused myself for being too young to remember now.

I picked up series XII from under other series. Torn pages with no proper maintenance, I observed. Holding the book firmly I went downstairs. You think it's a safe journey till down? Haha, not in my case. I crossed my legs, tripped and fell on my face. Climbing or walking stairs has always been a problem to me. Collecting all the spilled papers from the floor my eyes caught a bright folded sheet not at all similar to the rest of the pages in diary. I unfolded the page and found it to be a prescription from a neurologist. The hand writing was illegible but words like - Master Chris Paul (my name), thirteen yrs, O+, Alzheimer, naineed 500. "Wait!!! What Alzheimer? No.. No.. Noo. Not again. It's not possible. What's today's date?" I shouted "20th, ohh shit, it came quickly this month. I won't live long now. STACY!! Stacy!!..."

Yet I lived for thirty two years but on the last minute of my life it was only my last thirty two minutes which remained forever with me. I also know that I might have lived moments which I will never be able to recall but do you know that in my last thirty two minutes, I was among the best of people who brought out the best in me and after that I don't care to cry for those moments or people which are never gonna come back to me again.

4th
Tata Memorial National Webinar - 2020

Sejal Agarwal & Sristi Agarwal
(BBA 5th Semester)



The COVID-19 pandemic has been largely disruptive on the education sector. With the aim of enhancing the knowledge of academicians during this pandemic period, the Department of Management Studies organized it's 4th Tata Memorial Webinar, themed "Challenge the change: Business Strategies in the Contemporary Era". The webinar was conducted on 8th August 2020 via an online meeting platform 'google meet' from 10:30 am onwards.

The online event commenced with a welcome address by Ms. Debarati Deb (Assistant Professor, Dept of Management Studies, SCSC), which was followed by a prayer and inauguration speech by Rector and Principal, Prof. (Fr.) George Thadathil. In the introduction, respected VP, Fr. Babu Joseph appreciated the department for organizing the online seminar. It was immediately followed by a motivational address by the guest of honour, Prof. Palash Ranjan Sengupta, Professor, Department of Commerce, North Bengal University. Then the keynote address was delivered by Prof. Debabrata Mitra, Professor, Department of Commerce, North Bengal University. He dictated the insights on business strategies and relationship. After which the distinguished speakers, Prof. S.B Lal, Dr.Debasis Biswas, Dr Soma Ray De Choudhury and Dr. Ekta Chakravarty, illuminated the members on various challenges of the contemporary world such as the ones faced during pandemic situation, accepting the changes and formulation of business strategies.

Plenary Session 1: Finance, Banking and Economy

- Rajeev Dutraj, Aniket Kumar Gupta and Mohit Gupta (SIT) presented the paper on Critical Study of The Adverse Effects of Merger of Banks in the Indian Economy, discussing upon the importance of banks and effect of bank mergers in Indian Economy.
- Subhradeep Das (IILS) presented the paper on Industrial Relations where he highlighted the evolution of industrial relations, it's importance and related aspects.
- Vinit Marodia (SCSC) presented on 'The Significance of Business Strategy in Improving Organizational Performance, speaking about the steps of developing business strategies.

Plenary Session 2: Marketing

- Apeksha Agarwal, Santoshi Prasad, Ranjana Gurung, Tenzing Choden Bhutia and Archana Prasad under the guidance of Ms. Gunjan Agarwal presented the paper titled ' A Study on Consumer's Preference towards E-Payment' where they discussed about the consumer's behaviour towards E-Payment variations among different age groups.
- Nidhi Agarwal, Sheetal Parakh, Praraj Agarwal (SCSC) presented the paper on Emerging Issues of Marketing highlighting the research gap and consumer preference between organised and unorganised market.
- Koyel Sarkar, Shubham Subba, Alina Rehan Qureshi (SIT) highlighted on the issues faced by the online grocery market in Siliguri.

Plenary Session-3: Legal Issues in Business

- Girish Agarwal (IILS) presented on Legal Issues in Business and spoke on the various aspects of Contract Act.

Plenary Session-4: Tourism Industry

- Chanchal Agarwal, Hina Agarwal (IILS) displayed a presentation speaking about the effect of COVID-19 on tourist attractions.
- Tanisha Agarwal under the guidance of Ms. Binita Rai (IILS) presented on Strategies in Tourism Development in the North East.

Plenary Session-5: HRM and Teachers' Training

- Kshitiz Mittal, Diksha Jain under the guidance of Ms. Tanisha Kansal (SCSC) presented the paper on Eco-Friendly Management-"Greener Path to Success" discussing upon the green environment.
- Dr. Jayashree Naidu (Faculty, Institute of Aeronautical Engineering) presented on Bhagwad Gita- the best teacher for any teacher. "She highlighted the main points and shlokas of The Holy Bhagwad Gita on how Arjuna became the best teacher amongst all his brothers .

The event was concluded at 3:30 pm with the vote of thanks by Mr. Patrick Johnson (Dean, Commerce and Management, SCSC). During the Proceedings of the event, a feedback link was provided to the members. The event witnessed an enthusiastic participation and recorded the presence of 100+ members. The webinar proved to be very informative and helped everyone to learn something new.

Lockdown

Kajal Jaiswal
(BBA 3rd Semester)

Lockdown extended so everyone is worried
To live more days in home, is it so easy?
We think its jail which keep us away from happiness,
But it's a blessing if we see positive side of this phase.

Lockdown is a blessing not prisoning,
yes there is fear,
Yes there is isolation, yes there is sickness,
yes there is even death.

But they say that in india,
Fresh air is blowing free from dust,
Such a beautiful sight we have never witnessed,
The sky is clear full of stars,
The rivers are free from all the pollutants.

I used to think i could spend anit eternity,
With in these four walls alone wh my books, food & phone,

But the freedom i thought i'd find
Within these four walls
To explore my passion has lost its charm now.

Lockdown is a blessing not prisoning,
yes there is fear,
Yes there is isolation, yes there is sickness,
yes there is even death,

But they say that,
There does not have to be hate ,
There does not have to be loneliness,
There is always a rebirth of love…..

That Proud Land

JAYA PRASAD
(BBA 1st Semester)

Where you are free to speak aloud,
And tell your ideas to the crowd,
In that proud land,
May every seed sprout.
Where you do not need to fear,
And you know that God is always near,
In that proud land,
There will be no tear.
Where everyone worships love,
And there are moral values in every
Atom of the earth, In that proud land,
No one will ever feel weary.
Where all hearts are pure,
And to every disease there is a cure,
In that proud land,
May everybody's rebirth be of sure!
Where you are free to be who you are,
And your emotions are never dry,
In that proud land, No one will ever cry.
Where sorrow is far away,
And happiness always finds a way,
In that proud land.
May everyone have something to say.

Where for all lives there is no threat,
And after the world everyone has respect,
In that proud land,
May I take my last breath.
Where there is no world like jealous or hate,
And where you can sit with ease,
In that proud land,
May I rest in peace.





Women!

Pratikchha Chhetri
(BBA 3rd Semester)

A girl, a daughter, a sister, a wife, a Mother... Just another human being for whom life isn't easy. They are beautiful with all the scars, with all the flaws, life puts them through. Not many of us think how the girl from that remotest village is being treated, while her brother is given milk she might not even get water. Not just about the remotest village but everywhere! Everywhere they suffer! Though we've come a long way, we've upgraded, we're updated but the pattern of women being a 'particular subject' is still the same. Leaving everything, just think about the sacrifices our Mothers make. Giving us birth isn't easy, that pain isn't easy! That fear when they walk alone in the dark, the fear of getting raped isn't easy! The sacrifices they make are in fact the hardest. "It's not about feminism but about humanity, not about being a feminist but about being a humanitarian."

When we women, talk about equal rights we talk about the justice, the respect, we talk about getting off with all the ill-treatment, we talk about our individuality, we talk about being treated as just another human being, not more not less. Women are underrated, so much that even when they spend all their life serving, pleasing, proving their identity, some women don't even get a small share of what they actually deserve. Not just talking about bleeding every month, those period pains, the pain while giving birth but about what they get ultimately after all that, for some women it's a complete injustice.

Let us all be responsible. Let's take the charge and be the change. Let us all be good human beings and make this world a better place to live in for both men and women. Let us not overlook the ill-treatment, the injustice, the disrespect that the women face. May be not all the women but for some it's really not easy, for some it's even beyond limit, let's not overlook that.

SALESIAN COLLEGE
SONADA & SILIGURI

Bi-annual Newsletter

EVOLVE

a Salesian College Association for Professionals initiative



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April 2021

DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT STUDIES

FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY



PANDEMIC
A Year Gone By

Anirban Ghosh, *Assistant Professor*
Department of Management Studies

A year of upheaval has gone by and we have moved into another year of uncertainty. As I write this, there is a mild tremor due to the earthquake somewhere in the Sikkim-Nepal border. Life is so uncertain and challenging. Technologically we are powerful than ever before. Yet so frail when it comes to nature. Our inner strength, a nature's blessing keeps us powerful enough to move ahead. We have seen the sufferings of many throughout the year and we too have suffered in our own ways. Could all this have been prevented? Is it the price we pay for our supersonic development in the past one hundred years compared to all the preceding years before? There are many lessons to be learnt and we ought to be more thankful for where we are now. As teachers we impart knowledge and seek it too. The past year has been a good teacher to all of us.

We need to love our environment and take care of it. We cannot be insensitive with our environment, for it may bring pandemics of varied nature that could be more dangerous than the one we are facing. We could do well being less desirous of things we do not need or amassing wealth beyond one's lifelong needs.

A little charity would serve us well. A little thankfulness would not take our vanity. We had food on our plates when millions went hungry; we had a roof on our heads when millions walked back homes without food and shelter. We were blessed enough to have our jobs and businesses when millions lost their livelihood. An unaccounted number of people have been pushed into poverty and millions lost their loved ones.

It is time to realise that our happiness lies not in constant pursuing of goals but in little joys of life and being thankful in all we have and may get in our life. Goals are necessary to keep growing in life; however, it must be more inclusive and considerate of our fellow beings. It is one planet and one human race that we must nourish with love. The learning must be imparted and carried forward for a better tomorrow, a healthy tomorrow.

Let us not just keep the blame game on and look up to the leaders alone; let us do our bit everyday and hope for a better change we wish to see in our lives and our society. And, let us bring prayer in our lives; not for wants but for thankfulness. Hope is what keeps us moving ahead and hope is what will keep us joyous and thankful. My prayer is to the Divine to give us wisdom to carry on the task that he brings to us.

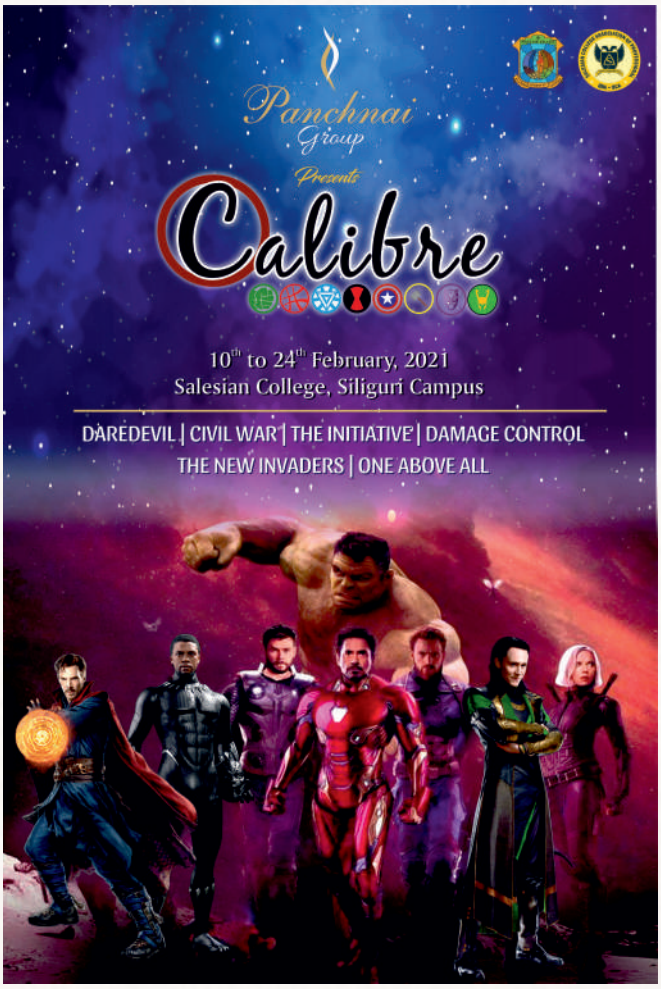
Calibre Caged

Management fest during pandemic times!

Priyanka Karmakar
(BBA 3rd Semester)

Calibre '21: a management fest that reunited all students and faculty after one whole year of lockdown. Where everyone had lost hope of re-living the moments of college fests, Calibre seemed to be the silver lining of the cloud. The moment Calibre '21 was declared open, everyone was on cloud nine. The organisers put their heart and soul into the event to make it a grand success and also made sure that each one learnt something new from this event as the lockdown for one year had nearly killed the enthusiasm in students and made them sluggish in almost every work.

The fest comprised of three bonus rounds i.e. Treasure hunt, Auctioning and Quiz and seven main events namely Mock Court, Business Plan, Best Manager, Public Relations, Product Launch, Board Meeting and most importantly the Carnival. Therefore, there were eight teams made accordingly namely Team Thor, Team Ironman, Team Loki, Team Hulk, Team Doctor Strange, Team Black Widow, Team Black Panther, Team Captain America each having twelve members. The reason why The Carnival had become the highlight of the whole fest was due to the fact that there was free entry for outsiders and also all the teams had set up short games in addition to the food fest. To make it even more eye-catching, the organisers arranged for a 'jail' for Auctioning in which Team Loki and Team Black Panther together won the auction and set it up for The Carnival Day where they would catch up anybody and ask for *some* payment to get their bail done.



Everyone present there, had cherished the splendid fest and made it worth remembering even during the times of the pandemic. The entire faculty and the students were teamed up to make the fest worthwhile.

The fest finally ended with a closing ceremony by awarding the winners and also with a short photo shoot with all exhausted yet smiling faces.



Oh Bird...

Jaya Prasad
(BBA 1st Semester)

Oh bird,
I wish I had wings like yours,
I would fly everywhere I wished.
I would play with the clouds Roam
over the mountains
Fly over the seas.

Oh bird,
I wished I was as free as you,
I would love to sleep under the open sky,
Wake with morning blossoms,
Tweet around with my friends.
Chirp lovely songs in spring.
Taste the morning dew of plants.

Oh bird,
I wish I was as attractive as you
I would love to show off my colorful wings,
Attract attention with my dazzling feathers.

Oh bird,
Why are you so free!
Why only you have wings!
Why are you so beautiful,
so attractive, so gracious,
so loved by all!

Oh bird,
How I wish I could
Stop being envious

An Introspection for Purpose

Swati Gloria Kujur
(BBA 1st Semester)

Hold on and take a look around,
Feeling your breath and the unruffled sound.
Give your fluttering heart a little rest,
And wait for the arrival of the best.

You are not lost,
You are not futile,
Life has seen you endure graciously.
Illuminating from the darkness dauntlessly.

Keep up the spirits as were before,
With the Vision clear,
continue to explore.
Tempting to test,
new paths will appear;
Gravitating towards the unsure anon you
will disappear.

No wonder the fancies and enticement will
be all over,
Yet you have a choice of purpose or
pleasure,
Prioritizing the greater at this juncture.
And the latter kept for the rewarding future.

The canvas of life is lying empty,
Inviting us to colour with plenty,
Of memories and ambitions of our essence.
Subliming into an epitome of our
remembrance.



Corporate Sustainability Reporting based on Global Reporting Standard (GRI)

Rupam Majumder, *Assistant Professor*
Department of Management Studies

Sustainability reporting has emerged as an outcome of corporate social responsibility, giving companies an opportunity to show transparency towards their stakeholders. The Global Reporting Initiative, a largely voluntary sustainability reporting standard, has become increasingly popular, providing a framework making reports consistent and comparable**.** SR is a broad term which embraces the practice of measuring, disclosing, and being accountable to internal and external stakeholders for performance as it relates to the goal of sustainable development (GRI, 2002). It is characterized by a high degree of transparency as it should provide a "balanced and reasonable representation of the sustainability performance of the reporting organization, including both positive and negative contributions" (GRI, 2010–2011, p.3). SR is considered a key element in the response of companies to sustainability requirements and a precondition for their survival in the global economy (Wells, 2013).

According to the KPMG Survey (2011), almost 50% of the world's largest companies reported increased financial value from corporate responsibility programs, achieved through higher revenues or cost savings. In addition to its financial benefits, SR can produce additional advantages of an internal nature (in operational and organizational terms) and an external nature (in terms of reputation, leadership and engagement with stakeholders) (Gaddoniex and Riley, 2009; White, 2009). A number of critical approaches to SR have emerged. Stubbs et al. (2013) surveyed organizations with the aim of determining reasons for non-reporting. Their most frequent response was that the absence of sustainability reports did not necessarily equate to lack of concern about sustainability. The following factors may account for this choice:

- a lack of external stakeholder pressure
- no perceived benefits and thus little motivation to report
- SR is considered something 'nice-to-do', and not a 'must-do'
- a compliance culture with regard to sustainability
- the organizational structure and/or culture does not encourage reporting (Stubbs et al., 2013).

Moneva et al. (2006) have noted that in some cases the sustainability reports published on company's websites are not automatically indicators of responsible behaviour. Nevertheless, taking up the challenge of sustainable logistics is a key issue for the future success of sustainable development (Burrit and Schaltegger, 2014, p.333).

By carrying out sustainability reporting, companies aim to increase transparency, enhance brand value, benchmark against other companies, demonstrate competitiveness, motivate employees and support corporate information and control processes (Hahn and Kühnen, 2013). The end result of all these factors should be a move towards sustainable development, where businesses can continue to be profit-making entities whilst neither harming the environment nor destroying the standards of society.

Table 1.1 GRI Guidelines Version for Sustainability Reporting

GRI Guidelines version for Sustainability Reporting	Year of Launch
First Version (G1)	2000
Second Version (G2)	2002
Third Version (G3)	2006
Fourth Version (G3.1)	2011
Fifth Version (G4)	2013
Sixth Version (GRI Standard)	2018
ICAI:SRMM Version 1.0	2021

The ***Global Reporting Initiative (GRI)*** is an organization that produces a comprehensive sustainability reporting framework that is widely used around the world. It started with a vision of a sustainable global economy where organizations manage their economic, environmental, social and governance performance, impacts responsibly and report transparently. GRI has a mission to make sustainability reporting standard practice by providing guidance and support to organizations. It's about disclosure of organization's economic, environmental, social and governance performance in credible way and subsequently helping them to identify business risks and opportunities to the organization due to these parameters.

GRI provide framework to report organization's sustainability performance. It is known as the sustainability reporting framework and consists of three parts – (1) Sustainability Reporting Guidelines, (2) Sector Supplements and (2) The Technical Protocol – Applying the Report Content Principles. All it provide is guidance on how organizations can disclose their sustainability performance in true manner. Organization of any size and type can use this framework to assess their performance indicators in economic, environmental, and social domain. Organization that creates their non-financial report based on GRI sustainability reporting framework can be considered as credible output aligned with applicable standards and norms. Such report can be used to demonstrate organizational commitment to sustainable development. It can also qualitatively and quantitatively measure and compare organization performance towards environment, society and economy.

GUIDELINES FOR SUSTAINABILITY REPORTING

There are several guidelines available for sustainability reporting:

- AA1000 assurance standard
- Business in Community's Winning with Integrity
- Environmental Reporting Guidelines (Japan)
- Framework for Public Environmental Reporting (Australia)
- General Guidelines on Environmental Reporting
- Global Reporting Initiative (GRI)
- OECD Guidelines
- United Nations Global Compact

Do Black Lives Really Matter?

Vallusha Gupta
(BBA 5th Semester)

The colour "black" is associated with 'everything unlucky'. Why is it that when someone passes away, everyone wears black to attend funerals and not any other colour? In India, if a black cat crosses the road people avoid walking past it considering that to be a bad omen due to which unfortunate incident might occur with them. People living the emo lifestyle are looked down as shady or dark people. Brides aren't supposed to wear anything with even a touch of black to it for its unholy. Often time people avoid purchasing vehicles such as cars and bikes in the colour black due to all the above reasons. The beauty standards are based on the same thought where fair skin tone people are called the pretty ones and dark skin tone people are given suggestions like using fairness creams to become fair. The obsession with fair skin is so much that all these years even the dolls made are mostly the white ones. Who planted all these ideas into the minds of people and why do these superstitions exist? It is still unclear. But in order to get to the root of the problem we have to travel back in time to the history of racial discrimination.

Prior to the American Civil War, there were a few serving presidents who held black men as slaves. Later around 470,000 slaves had been forcibly transported from Africa to the United States. Groups of armed white men known as the slave patrols were formed to monitor these enslaved African Americans. They were treated cruelly and tortured by their masters. Years later laws were made which ruled out the practice of keeping black people as slaves. This history still remains alive in the minds of some white people who consider themselves as the privileged ones and superior to the black people. They seem to believe that they have some kind of ownership over the black people which led to serious racial discrimination.



On May 25, 2020 while the whole world was dealing with the horrors of the pandemic a very disturbing incident took place at Minneapolis, Minnesota where a 46 years old man, ***GEORGE FLOYD*** died after being arrested by the police outside a shop. Video clips and footages show that police officer, Derek Chauvin kept kneeling on Mr. Floyd's neck while he was pinned to the floor. Footage reveals that Mr. Floyd kept repeating that he couldn't breathe for around 20 times. However, the police officer showed no mercy. It took just 30 minutes to cause his death.

Everything started when a grocery shop employee reported the use of fake 20 dollar bill which Mr. Floyd used to pay for the pack of cigarettes. Mr. Floyd has lost his job recently because of the pandemic. The owner of the shop in his statement mentions that Floyd was a pleasant customer and never caused any trouble. He was not present on the day of the incident and his employee had only followed the protocol. The employee during his transcript said that Mr. Floyd did not want to return the pack of cigarettes while demanded back by him and according to the teenage he appeared drunk and not in control of himself.

While Mr. Floyd was seated in a car parked around the corner two police officers approached the car. One of them, named Thomas Lane pulled out his gun and ordered him to show his hand which is not explained by the prosecutors as to why Mr. Lane thought it was necessary to pull out his gun. Mr. Lane then put his hand on George Floyd and pulled him out of his car and he resisted being handcuffed. After being handcuffed he became compliant when he was told the reason for his arrest was due to "passing counterfeit currency". He was also seen to be apologising repeatedly. When he was being put inside the car he struggled and stiffened up, fell to the ground while he told the officers he was claustrophobic. That is when a female teenage witness started to record the scene. Mr. Chauvin placed his left knee between his head and neck for 7minutes and 46 seconds precisely and Mr. Floyd continued saying "please, please, please" while begging for his mother and at one point he said "***You're going to kill me, man***." To this officer Chauvin replied, "Then stop talking, stop yelling. It takes heck of a lot of oxygen to talk". Mr. Floyd said, "***Can't believe this, man. Mom, love you. Love you. Tell my kids I love them. I'm dead.***" He kept repeating, "***Please the knee in my neck, I can't breathe", "My stomach hurts, my neck hurts, everything hurts***" and requested to drink water and begged, "**Don't kill me**". During the final two minutes Floyd was motionless and had no pulse. The female bystander also pointed out to the officers to stop as his nose was bleeding and others asked the police to check his pulse. Later he was pronounced dead.

A teenager recorded the video and posted it online and the next day the whole world raged against it and displayed their anger and took it to the streets. Even during the time of the pandemic, people did not turn back. Rather, they had demonstrated their anger. Slogans like "**Justice for George**", "**I can't breathe"** and **"Black Lives Matter**" became the slogan that brought the whole world together to a common agenda. The following day the four police officers who were involved in the crime were fired. Two autopsies found Floyd's death to be a homicide. Chauvin was initially charged with third degree murder and second degree manslaughter and later second degree murder was added. The other three officers were charged with aiding and abetting second degree murder. Floyd's death triggered subsequent protests against police brutality, police racism and lack of police accountability. The area where he was killed became a makeshift memorial to pay tribute to him and became a reference to the BLM movement. The length of time originally reported where Chauvin had his knee for 7 minutes and 46 seconds was widely commemorated as a "moment of silence" to honour Floyd.



Hundreds of people marched to the 3rd Precinct of the Minneapolis Police. Over 60 countries internationally protested. While the majority of protests were peaceful, in some cities riots and looting happened which caused more display of police brutality notably against peaceful protestors and reporters. At least 200 cities in the U.S. had imposed curfews by June 3. When the protests became too violent where stations windows were broken and the station was set on fire, police in riot gears used tear gas, flash grenades, rubber bullets and smoke bombs while still some protestors threw rocks at the police. It was seen that there wasn't just one particular colour protesting rather white people stood side by side along with them in unison and videos of some police officers supporting the protestors went viral all over the internet which showed how each one felt the same towards this injustice.



As Martin Luther King rightly said, "*Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.*" This mass movement showed how people said enough is enough and walked for a cause to show that whatever the skin colour is, **WE ALL BLEED THE SAME COLOUR.** Although the whole world realised the importance of the black lives matter movement, there were people who came out with another slogan, "All Lives Matter" in relation to equality for all. This isn't a wrong term but we all need to understand that all lives won't matter until black lives matter. **We wouldn't have "Black Lives Matter" if we hadn't had 300 years of Black Lives Don't Matter**. It is of utmost importance for people supporting the "All Lives Matter" slogan to understand that we aren't saying that only black lives matter. We know all lives matter. We just need your help for black lives because they are in DANGER. Police brutality against black people depicts how black people are already convicted guilty without given a chance to prove their innocence.

The pain that people faced due to racism is beyond inhuman. From being treated as slaves and untouchables to being victims of racism and losing one's life is unjust. To quote American Political Activist, philosopher and author Angela Davis, "**Until the colour of your skin is the target you will not understand**". So we as people of the society need to become sensitive and accepting keeping aside all these discriminations. We need not treat anyone as special and we need to behave normally and unbiased with everyone. We are not anyone to decide that we are superior to others because no matter how good you are there will always be someone better. How can we claim to be superior when we don't even have the power to control our own fate?

Black revolutionists like Barack Obama, Oprah Winfrey, Frederick Douglass, Nelson Mandela, Maya Angelou rose above their black status, fought for their position in the world where the whites ruled and denied to be controlled and reduced to nothing based on their colour. All of their efforts paid off and brought some kind of justice to people who are looked down upon.



Still black people live with the thought that they will not fit in and look for people similar to them. If you are someone who believes that this racial discrimination should be ended then remember that it can only happen when you decide to take a step towards changing yourself by raising your voice and take action against anything wrong. The killing of George Floyd raised awareness about others like Breyonna Taylor, Freddie Gray, and Atatiana Jefferson who were victims of police racism. The whole incident highlighted this racism and injustice. The world needs to become a better place for every human being and the change has to begin now. ***BE THE CHANGE!*** for us in India, it needs to begin with undoing castes discrimination and privileging.

Salesian College
Siliguri Campus

ENTREPRENEURSHIP
DEVELOPMENT CELL
Innovation . Knowledge . Growth

ESSENCE

STAY HUNGRY,
STAY FOOLISH.

- Steve Jobs



EDITION I : CROSSROADS

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Entrepreneurship is like spending a few years of your life in a way most people won't, so that you can spend the rest of your life like most people can't.

Entrepreneurship is not a discipline which merely helps you learn to earn but it is a way of life for those who believe in their ideas and are determined to turn them into adamant realities for the betterment of humanity. Keeping in mind the growth prospects of the nation and simultaneously realising how well it can sustain the budding entrepreneurs, the college authority decided to move a step forward and explore the possibilities of excelling in this field.

Entrepreneurship Development Cell (EDC), Salesian College Siliguri Campus, is a student association of young and enthusiastic individuals who are willing to commit themselves towards spreading the word of entrepreneurship among the youth. The Entrepreneurship Development Cell upholds its motto of innovation, knowledge and growth, which they believe, are the tools to propel any big idea in this world because when young minds are inspired, knowledge seeps in, innovation finds a way and with it growth is inevitable. The cell is committed towards the development of potential future Entrepreneurs who are going to be the holding pillars in this era of economic sustainment.

EDC welcomes you to be a part of this visionary journey and help in igniting this glorious flame all across.

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Fr. (Dr.) George Thadathil SDB

My dear friends,

It is probably time to share something personal. Over the years, being in Higher Education, which practically means, being associated with one and later two college campuses, I have often asked myself the question, are we doing things right? When can college administration, college faculty gauge for sure that the task they are at is bearing fruit?

Over the years, I have come across my own yardstick for answering the question that I posed above. The answer is that when a group of students, nudged or otherwise, by a set of faculty accompanying them, come up with something one can identify as "their own" on campus, then the trigger pulled has struck the target. I would ofcourse immediately own it up as "our own"! Why? Because they would not have come with something of "their own" if we were not there welcoming them, backing them, nurturing them, goading them to let them know and believe that they very well can. EDC, Entrepreneurship Development Cell, of the Siliguri Campus is indeed one such "home grown" feature that comes to limelight even in these Covid times, with their own eNewsLetter. Congratulations to each and everyone who conceived it, contributed to it, edited it and have designed it to perfection, as to lay claim to one more benchmark the college can proudly claim: an enterprise conceived and executed by students for students.

This is indeed what the college Annual Magazine is meant to do by show casing the hidden talents, especially writing skills, on display. The talent to lead comes from thought. The ability to think gets concretized when one can write or speak. Often one may think it is easy to speak, and maybe it is. The difference in one who writes before speaking is that he or she will begin to measure the words. He or she will bring precision to the ideas being thrown out. One will begin to notice a sea change in the attitude of one who begins to verbalize on paper. In fact management gurus talk of writing it out, each and every task. The act of writing gives a definite shape and target to your intended action.

Well in the Newsletter of the EDC, you are reading, is one such "written accomplishment" of a group of young minds who dared to dream, and dared to show that dreams are actionable. May this experience, my dear friends, take each one of you - those who were at it and those who have a right over it by way of membership in the cell, and even those who are partners by deciding to read them through - to being positively oriented to take on the new world emerging before us. May you all be "dreamers" all be agents like the BLM and DLM stalwarts, intend on not giving into the pessimism and negativity that strangulate but dare Breathe... Breathe freedom and Hope!

Congratulations and Happy reading.

Fr. George Thadathil SDB
Principal
Salesian College Sonada & Siliguri

Vice Principal's Message



Fr. Aju Kurian SDB

Dear Friends,

It gives me immense pleasure to script few lines from my part as you bring out the first ever newsletter of Entrepreneurship Development Cell. I must concede that you have really made a mark by enhancing the spirit and life of the College during the academic session 2019-2020, by truly committing yourself to the motto "Invention, Knowledge and Growth."

After having researched more than forty millionaires to find out what made them the men that they were Napoleon Hill, the author of the book Think and Grow Rich, arrived at a very thought provoking conclusion that "whatever the mind can conceive and believe the mind can achieve", which he believed to be the guiding principle of one's life. The opportunities are galore, few see them and still few seize them. It is pertinent to remember that "opportunity has a sly habit of slipping in by the back door, often disguised in the form of misfortune or temporary defeat which is why so many fail to recognize opportunity." (Napoleon Hill)

To see and seize the opportunities and translate them into achievement one must begin with intense desire. That is why we often say all achievements, no matter what may be the nature or purpose must begin with an intense, burning aspiration for something concrete. When our thought patterns, energies and efforts are synchronized in such a way with definiteness of purpose, persistence and a burning desire, there is no scope for failing in our endeavor to seize the opportunity and translate it into achievement.

However, neither it may happen all of a sudden nor can one give Midas touch to it without a tinge of failure or momentary ups and downs. On such occasions, we need to gently remind ourselves that quitting is never a solution to the problem but consider it as a signal that your plans are not strong enough and a clarion call to rework strategies to set sail once more towards the coveted dream your mind has perceived. Antony Robbins in his book Awaken the Giant Within would say "any time you sincerely want to make a change, the first thing you must do is to raise your standards and believe you can meet them". By altering a bit of our belief system, developing a sense of certainty that we can and we will, and with a consistent approach we can meet the new standards before we actually venture out to do something.

Considering and analyzing the present state of affairs due to the outbreak of the Covid-19, the economic plummet, surging unemployment problems and uprising migrant issues, there is a sense of inadequacy at times and at times we remain confined to our own comfort zones with a feeling that we are not affected, but the question is not about our internal state of feelings but how we need to transit from such a gloomy scenario to a more positive outlook. You, your laptop, a good Wi-Fi connection, mobile, little land you possess, the house you own etc are at your disposal to see and seize the opportunities, to create something out of nothing without overrating the hurdles. Hard work coupled with willingness and consistency can guide you through the process you choose. These are the new rules of life and business. Get used to it and keep your day going, by making necessary changes, thus, becoming a CEO of your way and style.

Make choices... take chances... bring changes to live the new normal.
God bless you!

Fr. Aju Kurian SDB
Vice Principal
Salesian College, Siliguri

VICE PRINCIPAL

Chief Editor's Note



Mr. Anirbhan Ghosh

Dear Friends,

Greetings to you all!
I welcome you all to read the ensuing pages. This publication is the first creative venture of the Entrepreneurship Development Cell (EDC). At the onset I must congratulate the EDC Team for covering a long journey within a short span of time. Seldom do we see such enthusiasm and vigour amongst young men and women to actualize what is taught in lecture halls and expected to be materialised after the completion of one's studies. It is this enthusiasm that keeps our hopes high for a positive and brighter future for the younger generation. Though Entrepreneurship Cell was in incubation for a long time, its fruition happened with the constant efforts of the present managing committee and proactive college Management. The EDC is formed as an institutional mechanism for supporting budding student entrepreneurs and to foster better linkages between industry and our institution. It is designed in order to help students learn through practical exposure. It is the students who design, organise and execute every event of the Cell. We believe in their consistent efforts in successfully organising an event. It builds them up to face the entrepreneurial world in the near future. In fact the activities of the Cell have been a constant engagement during the dull and anxious Covid-19 lockdown days.

The articles in this publication cover various aspects of contemporary societal affairs. Of course, it will bring us to the most impactful agent of our present-day situation – Covid 19. The article on Covid-19 and China is an interesting read with its deliberation on the Chinese political role and responsibility. Interestingly the article on 'Educational Dropouts' is something of a pleasant surprise coming from a student. It is welcoming to see that students do realise the importance of education despite being almost immersed into social media platforms that sometimes portray education in a dubious light. With the fear of data sharing and nations fighting over it, the article on data being the new oil tries to peer into the importance of big data in the modern world. Though women in the entrepreneurial sphere are limited due to various hurdles yet we find them trying to create their own niche as entrepreneurs. The article on women finding space in the entrepreneurial arena highlights the fact.

Racism is one of the most obnoxious concoction of human minds and it has been given due importance especially when the visuals of the American shame was all over the social media. The beauty of isolation during the pandemic has been observed well in the article of family coming together which otherwise was always a matter of being available if business permitted. Education in India is an interesting article coming from a student as they are the ones at the receiving end. The article on inhibition is an important reading for me as it highlights the plight of many students who are forced to compromise on their career growth due to the shyness or fear of speaking up. The plight of migrant workers that was witnessed throughout the nation has also been given due place in the magazine. Feminism and Womanism often considered being the same has been clearly brought forth to the readers. The feminism that society is in need is touched upon very aptly. The Cell being primarily of a business nature has contributed an article on Financial Inclusion. It is an area of importance for the nation and, thus finds a place in the magazine. Well, when the magazine is going to have an e-version we cannot forget social media. The article on social media and creativity is timely too. If one knows to take social media to one's advantage, it is a boon.

A special feature on the various activities undertaken by the Cell comes under the reports section. It was indeed heartening to see persistent efforts by the students to organise various activities during the ongoing lockdown. I must confess that it is their activities that have kept me engaged besides the routine online sessions. There is a positive side to every difficult situation and our students have proved it by taking the Covid-19 lockdown scenario on their stride in the most productive manner. I feel joyous for the entire EDC team, for they have added a feather to our vision of an ever inclusive and vibrant college. I wish the Cell an energetic, vibrant and futuristic growth with a hope for an incubation centre in the near future. I end with a quote "Caterpillar grows wings during a season of isolation" by Mandy Hale.

May God bless you all in your endeavours.

-Mr. Anirban Ghosh
Asst. Prof. Dept. of Management Studies

Cell Animator's Message



Ms. Priyanka Shaw

"The greatest discovery of all time is that a person can change his future by merely changing his attitude."-Oprah Winfrey

For an entrepreneur the most important factor is motivation and a positive attitude towards the challenges that comes in the way. Every day is different for different people. For some, the challenges are not difficult, for some, these changes are meant to work against expectations. This is just a state of mind about how people look at it. We are often told that success depends on creativity and effort. Throughout history we have seen many exemplary cases of people overcoming adversity. Now, it is time for the young generation who have the ability and most importantly the zeal to change the world. The futures of the young entrepreneur are very bright but it is becoming extremely competitive and due to the COVID -19 outbreaks the situation has become more challenging for them. Perhaps this is how hurdles come on the path of achieving something worthy which will be priceless; incubating standards for the next generation and encouraging them too. Young minds have a remarkable obstinacy when it comes to chalking their path, and I am sure they will incredibly influence on the future of entrepreneurship in India, for they know how to convert quandary into opportunities.

As an animator of this cell, I feel privileged and profoundly motivated to work with these very passionate members of EDC who will prove their existence and give some remarkable impression on the future generations of students to come. I wish them the best of luck for their future endeavours.

Best Wishes!

Ms. Priyanka Shaw
Asst. Prof. Dept. of Commerce



Mr. Chandan Gupta

"The sign of intelligence is not knowledge but imagination". Being the animator, I have witnessed this budding cell blossom into passionate battalion. The formation of the Entrepreneurship Development Cell is a story in itself. Salesian College is the epicentre of dreamers and visionaries. I believe that it's not just the 'grades' that a student attain which takes him to the door of success rather the vision of an individual fuelled by passion which gives him/her the taste of success.

This Cell is a pious attempt to enable our budding entrepreneurs to shape their vision and polish their skills. I believe that success depends upon the power to perceive, the power to observe and the power to explore. This magazine is nothing but a testimony to the creativity of the members' of the cell as well as the students of the college. What thrill me the most is that this is not just a Cell of few but the Cell of the entire commerce department and how it is eager to engulf all the departments of the college. It is important for an individual to be adroit to attain his/her aim. In today's era opportunities are waiting at every nook and corner, what is important is to hunt down the right one according to your aptitude. I believe that even the sky cannot be the limit for dreamers, for individuals who want to run the world their way.

It was really inspirational to see that how a cell formed by few, is working from pillar to post and is ready to travel seven seas to transform it into an eminent cell. As I said it earlier, Salesian College is the hotspot of talent and now all that the students need to learn is to direct their talents to right direction. The rare key is just to turn adverse situation into powerful opportunities because '' when life throws lemons rather than to sit an cry, it's advisable to make lemonade.''

Mr. Chandan Gupta
Asst. Prof. Dept. of Commerce

Cell Representative's Message



Sandeep Agarwal
Director, EDC

Entrepreneurship is a fire, fueled by motivated individuals.

To function as the Director of the Cell, fills me with utmost pride but not without the definitive and huge responsibility of spreading the word about this unique culture of ideation and implementation. Nonetheless, the weight of this responsibility seems ethereal when I know it is being shared equally and efficiently by a team of energetic and dedicated students. Being a part of this association is an honour, as it endows me with the pleasure of being a contributor towards this esteemed cause.

The Father of our Nation urged us to "Be the change that we wish to see in the world" Often I find myself asking whether it's the same thing that the Entrepreneurial discipline demands too. Well, I firmly believe that the two ideas resonate completely since in being an entrepreneur requires you to be a master of yourself first; a person who has the determination to mould himself in the face of adversity.

The spirit of bringing change inspires us to stay true to our motto; *Innovation, Knowledge and Growth*, and so far we have learnt that this is never easy but definitely worthwhile. The establishment and incubation of the Cell itself is a fine example of change which has brought dynamism to the students' affairs as it is the first of its kind establishment which is developed and managed by the students. This change was received with appreciation and at the same time with inevitable criticism. However, it has definitely enriched all of us with an experience to remember.

Entrepreneurship Development Cell in its year long journey of starting right from its foundation to building a team of students who are committed towards its cause, has successfully associated with 500+ individuals through 6 events in this session. The journey has been nothing less than a challenge for each one of us as it has constantly tested us at each stage, whilst bringing collaboration, attracting registration and also fighting through the difficult times. We are extremely proud to admit that the guidance and support from the faculty members and college administration has been the constant source of our motivation and persistence to do more each time.

Essence is the first Annual Magazine of the Cell and it tries to encapsulate our vision for the future as well as our efforts of the past. Essence takes meaning from two key words essential for us- "Entrepreneurial zeal" and "Inspiration" to create something new. Crossroads - Essence: Edition 1- aptly represents the current situation in which the world is during this pandemic, where we are compelled to weigh the soulful memories of the past with the incessant opportunities underlying for future. We have all travelled coast to coast in bringing together the first edition of "Essence" and trying to reach the highest impeccable aspirations.

I hope that this read is pleasant as well as inspirational for all the readers. Best wishes.

Mr. Sandeep Agarwal
Year- II, B.Com (Honours)

ARTICLES



THE DROPOUT CONJECTURE

NO COLLEGE = BIG MONEY ??

"IT'S FINE TO CELEBRATE SUCCESS BUT IT'S IMPORTANT
TO HEED THE LESSONS OF FAILIURE"
– BILL GATES

Bill Gates and Mark Zuckerberg dropped out of Harvard. Steve Jobs left Reed College. Today, all three are emblematic billionaires. So, if you want to be a billionaire, being a college graduate first is not the way to go, right? Well, it may sound so, but this is not exactly the case. As far as I recall, higher education has generally been perceived as a precursor to success. We have all been told the same by our parents. Apparently, you either go to a university to get a degree or you will be a rickshaw puller for your entire life – no middle ground. College is like puberty, everyone has to go through it. However, the primary question that arises is whether success in collegial academics translates to success in one's career and life? Personally, I believe that following the regulations and clearing examinations for obtaining a professional degree is all fine and dandy, but how can a college degree expand your knowledge and enhance your personality when all it really does is force you to throng information in your head by pulling off all-nighters? The reality is, top grades are just a reflection of a good test-taker and not a good student. It's a process wherein a buck load of data is stuffed in our heads to last for twenty-four hours with the objective of acing just one more test. By the twenty-fifth hour, all this data becomes hokum. This is a serious problem. The current collegial academic system is simply geared towards fact retention and regurgitation, gradually throttling the students to their degrees. This does not help much in preparing a student for the real world, which entails risk taking, exposure to new things and putting your own personalized spin on them.

Perhaps, this is the reason why an increasingly familiar and seductive trend has been circulating among the youngsters who draw inspiration from the likes of aforementioned Zuckerberg, Gates and Jobs to drop out of college in order to fast track to business and why not? These billionaire dropouts are obviously doing something right. They are exceptional individuals whose hard work, intelligence and determination made up for the lack of a college degree. But, if they could do it, why not everybody?

Such a question ignores the outlier status of these prodigious entrepreneurs and innovators. They rely on a set of skills already mastered before college. They know how to educate themselves, get a bank loan, sell their vision and manage their time and money. Moreover, they benefit from a network of family, friends and acquaintances who provide a safety net. So, the point isn't to declare a college degree antithetical to launch an entrepreneurial juggernaut but to infer that a college degree is not essential to effective entrepreneurship. There is a world of difference between scaling an 'A' in robotics class and winning a 'bot' competition. MIT's motto is not Mens et Manus (Mind and Hand) by accident. Great knowledge does not equal great skill. Even worse, in today's highly populated world decent knowledge also does not equal decent skills. But what happens to youngsters who do not have access to the resources. For them, skipping college to pursue entrepreneurial success is like investing their money in lottery tickets and hoping to become a multimillion dollar winner.

The harsh reality, however, is that they will most likely belong to the uncountable millions of dropouts you do not hear the press fawn about. Appealing as it may be, the 'against all odds' story of the college dropouts is not the story we should be selling our youth. In fact, taking numbers into account we find that the average salary of a college dropout is considerably lesser than someone holding a college degree.

What we sometimes tend to forget is that not all students come from financially sound backgrounds. Numerous students, especially those from disadvantaged families, need college to improve their circumstances. Such underprivileged kids benefit most from a college degree. The part that is often left out of the debate is that the purpose of higher education is not just to provide a pathway paved with gold for aspiring elitists. If you move with that target, you unintentionally serve o disparage the people who are in charge of the daily management, maintenance and smooth operation of our civilization.

The purpose of education, whatever its source, is not simply enabling one to earn a living but to prepare one for living over the course of a lifetime with all the ups and downs that come our way. Quite simply, great ideas don't belong only to the highly educated. Innovators can be any age, come from any background, with any level of education. What they share in common is not a prestigious degree but a passion for innovation, a great idea and strength of purpose to make people listen. This focus on talent over pedigree is what makes the entrepreneurial dream so great.

I conclude by recalling Derek Bok's famous statement that if you think education is costly, compare it to the price of ignorance.

- Mikul Agarwal,
Year II, B.Com (Hons)





COVID-19 : THE MUCH NEGLECTED Brighter SIDE

I've seen my dad wake up with the sun and work until midnight to rake in more and more money, to be ahead in the game, neglecting all social norms, family gatherings and even personal health. However, with the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, I have seen a massive change in my dad's mindset; on a greater scale the society as a whole. Now he wakes up early, not to run to his office, but to meditate and perform yoga. Now he prefers spending his 'work-loaded evening time' with us, helping my mom cook dinner, teaching us how to fly a kite and narrating his 'heroic childhood'.

The impulse of accumulating more and more money dates as back as 6th century B.C., when Judas accepted to sell Jesus's life in exchange for 30 silver coins. Until Covid-19 happened, people continued this same trait of trading their mental or physical health, their peace of mind, their joy and happiness and even family time solely for money and other worldly pleasures which, very ironically, they didn't even have enough time to cherish. However, it didn't take much time since the lockdown began, society started understanding the real meaning of life. Families who barely knew each other are now seen having dinner together, participating willingly in the daily chores of their household, which was formerly, always considered as the concern of the mother and her maids.

Young ones who used to feel aggravated with the thought of even entering the kitchen are now seen sharing recipes on social media. The elderly who always seemed concerned with procuring wealth for their family are now seen spending quality time with their loved ones, thus fulfilling their moral duties and responsibilities towards those whom they call "family". It is said that we are where we are supposed to be at this very moment. Every experience is a part of God's divine plan.

In the words of Pema Chodron – "No one knows yet how the pandemic will come to an end. But when it does, we must not forget the manners and etiquette that we picked up during the pandemic like spending quality time with our near-and-dear ones and pursuing our passion and practicing our hobbies; keeping in mind that our personal health and hygiene is our priority and making money is secondary."

- Siddhant Sharma,
Year I, B.Com (Hons)

IS DATA THE NEW OIL ?

Since the foundation of the industrial revolution was laid down in the 18th century, oil has been one of the most precious and coveted natural resources which has not only been the driver of the steam engine of industrial revolution but has also made nations and individuals prosperous and wealthy. And now, in the information technology era of the 21st Century, data is playing the same role which not only determines the success or failure of brands but is also a valuable asset for both the individuals and the corporates.

So, would it be wrong to term data as the new oil? Well, let's identify why is this comparison being made and on what grounds, but before that here's a trivia - 'An average human being stores 150 trillion Gb data in the form of his or her own DNA'.

The debate is rising as oil in the past has left massive footprints of not only development but also ruins of conflicts, hazardous effects of pollution and battles that are still going on in the oil rich states. Since the time Clive Humby, the man that built Clubcard, world's first supermarket loyalty scheme, raised the notion of 'Data as the new oil', it has propelled humans toward prosperity but parallelly like oil it has also created several risks associated with individual privacy and intellectual rights.

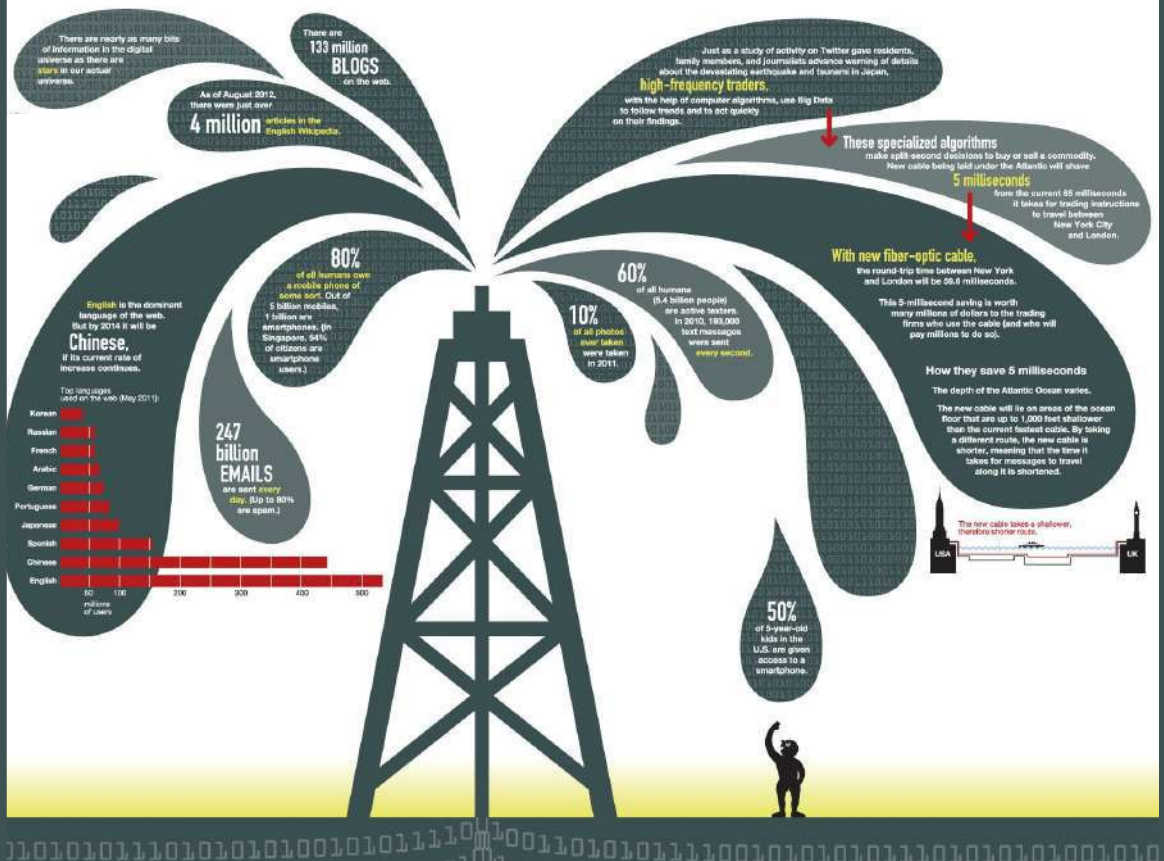
A point that is to be noted here is that the top five brands in the world are either information driven or invest a large amount in maintaining customer relations through active use of customer information. Also, few of the world's most wealthy or economically advanced nations have large oil refinement and extraction facilities.

Although, numerous similarities suggest data as the perfect metaphor for oil, but differences between these two extremely vivid and valuable items cannot be taken out of consideration. An oil tank containing fifty thousand litres of oil standing in your backyard is a valuable commodity and can be sold in the market instantaneously without any further need for processing but fifty thousand gigabytes of data cannot be sold until refined, categorized, and made useful according to the requirements of the users.

When we think about it, as a resource, oil is limited and will become scarce with growing use by humans but data on the other hand will grow exponentially with continued usage of technology. Humby's Clubcard scheme increased Tesco's share by 200% and made it UK's biggest supermarket chain back then. This is one of the first example of 'Big Data'.

The debate is never ending but a dotted line can be drawn by concluding that these two giants are two distinct points of a never ending spectrum.

- Sandeep Agarwal,
Year II, B.Com (Hons)



HOMEMAKERS HOMELESS:

THE EXODUS OF MIGRANT WORKERS



India – a country that has sent a mission to Mars, plans to land man on moon, a country with the aim of becoming the superpower; all of these sounds excellent on papers. So let's get an insight of the reality. On March 25, 2020, government of India imposed a nationwide lockdown in order to stop the spread of COVID-19. Most of us appreciated this step from the comfort of our homes but we forgot about a section of the society; the section which always fails to get the required attention, goes under reported, and is remembered by politicians only at the time of elections. They are the ones who build our homes, the ones who build roads, bridges etc. Yes, I am talking about the poor daily wage earners, the migrant workers and their miserable state in this lockdown.

"A 40 year old walks 898 kilometer back home" read the words in the corner column of the newspaper. Yes, I am not talking about the ancient era rather I am talking about the country which has reached Mars but sadly was unable to make these migrants reach home. This wasn't the only case. Thousands of migrant workers were forced to walk back to their native places because they did not have money to pay their rents and therefore they were thrown out of their houses.

The 40 degree heat which is unbearable to us for even a minute, these migrant workers walked thousands of kilometers under the same scorching sun. This was not the end of their miseries. Not all the workers set on the trail, to return to their homes, were able to reach the destination. Some were stranded on the border as their native states were not ready to accept them as the authorities feared that they would be virus carriers. Some were beaten up by the police for not maintaining social distancing and also for coming out on the streets in this lockdown. Above all few of these workers met with accidents, some died on the road due to dehydration and hunger, and few due to fatigue.

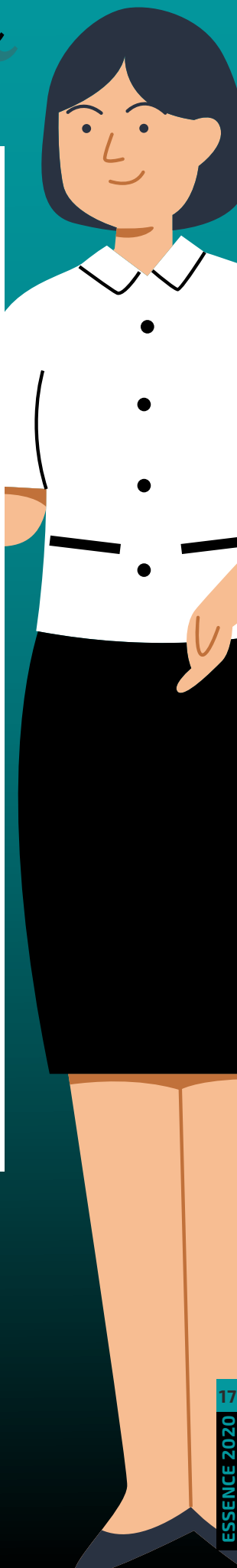
Finally the miseries of the workers were noticed by the government and they decided to run special trains to help these migrant workers reach their homes. By May 30, Indian Railways carried 57 lakh migrant workers back to their homes. However, these trains were not in proper conditions and some of the trains were running upto 40 hours late. Over 80 workers died during their journey in these trains due to various reasons, the most frequent one being hunger. The blame game was on its peak. Few of them argued that these trains started too late and majority of the workers had already started their treacherous journey back towards their homes, via other modes, risking their lives.

The exodus of the migrants in the COVID-19 lockdown has given us reality check that how inappropriately the resources have been divided in our country and this inappropriate distribution needs a serious haul in order to make the lives of these workers better.

- Akash Kumar Jaiswal,
Year II, B.Com (Hons)

STREEDOM





"From an Indian context, we need more women entrepreneurs. It is important not only for economic well-being, and that it makes business sense, etc., but also from a societal perspective. If children have working mothers, they treat women very differently, with a lot of respect." says Yeshasvini Ramaswamy, Managing Director at e2e people practices, in an interview. Yeshasvini's story is similar to many of those female entrepreneurs who stumbled upon the path, broke through the walls of restrictions they were caged in and managed to hold their ground to finally take a look at the sky. Toad, apart from being a successful entrepreneur she also carries the honour of being one of the core members of Confederation of Indian Industry and Women Business Leadership Forum. Her journey is influential if any one can think of and of course being a successful female entrepreneur in such a conservative country understandably attracts the awe.

Entrepreneurship demands the power to think freely in the face of adversity. But is it as easy for the women of a country that has been witness to societal customs, where the thought about women working to earn was disgusted even before it was properly planted. Why should a woman work? She has a house to manage and a family to take care of. Perhaps anyone reading this will confess that the person voicing such thought can only be either a die-hard misogynist or a too proud egomaniac. Though I know you also won't deny when I say, knowingly or unknowingly we all have lived in the very same society where these women have been the victim of oppression and condemnation even for conceiving the idea of standing on their own feet.

Just like all other things, human thoughts change inevitably and we know this when a Global Entrepreneurship Summit in our country is devoted to the theme of "Women first, Prosperity for all". While addressing this summit in the year 2017, our honourable Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, glorified the immense contribution made by millions of women who dared to be different in their respective walks of life and effectively contributed towards uplifting the honour of our country.

India has been an incubator of creativity and innovation. Lately it has been striving to propel development in the country in all possible ways; women entrepreneurship being one among those many. The government has launched numerous schemes to foster the budding ideas and turning them into a fortunate reality. Stree Shakti, Annapurna Scheme, Bharatiya Mahila Bank, Udyogini Scheme are examples of efforts of the government towards sustaining the demanding culture of entrepreneurship which some brave minds choose to pursue.

We have come a long way and there's still a long way to go. As I conclude I recall a thought by Swami Vivekananda where he says "Each work has to pass through three stages - ridicule, opposition and then acceptance". Those who believe in the future will certainly be mocked for running after the non-existent but that's a very small cost you can pay if you believe in your dreams.

- Parag Verma
Year II, B.Com (Hons)

TOP 5 INDIAN WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS



AFRAID OF RAISING YOUR HAND?



Imagine a class setting and the teacher has asked a question. You have the answer to the question but you wait for someone else to answer first. You don't want to be the first one, but why? Because you fear making a fool out of yourself or you don't want to be termed as a nerd in the class? Many students find themselves going numb when they try to speak up, not only in class but also while facing real life situations. If this sounds familiar, you're not alone. There are so many inhibitions within majority of us, we always think so much that we end up procrastinating, be it before giving an answer or before launching an idea that we already have and that's where we miss out on big opportunities that might be waiting for us.

Albert Einstein once said 'Great spirits have always encountered violent opposition from mediocre minds.' Be who you are and say what you feel, because those who mind don't matter and those who matter don't mind. If your mind is filled with pre-conceived notions and you're trying to please someone else's expectations, then it may lead you to insanity. You have no responsibility to oblige others all the time.

This very stigma of being afraid of raising your hand when you were at high school has led many to get trapped in a vicious cycle of fear; an illusion of "लोग क्या कहेंगे?". One of my friend who began with his entrepreneurial journey right after he graduated was barely making any profits with his startup and often faced many prejudices from his near ones. He was judged, compared with others and was even instigated if he would have studied then he could have got a decent job in any good company. This leads to demotivation that eventually lead to the shutdown of his startup without knowing and realising the opportunities it could have opened. Others simply can't look at the potential of your innovative ideas as they may not know what starting up is all about. People who advises to join Microsoft often forget that the very company is also a startup. Mark Zuckerberg, Steve Jobs, Bill Gates are few among those we take inspiration from. But the inimical society doesn't understand that the secret of getting ahead is getting started and to start you need to overcome your fear and have to believe in yourself. In an entrepreneurial journey there are instances where one gets bewildered about what should be done next, one gets tired of hearing from the judgemental society but stopping is never an option. One can simply take a break because even machine starts heating up after an extent and we are just humans. You are afraid of raising your hand because of the fear of making mistakes? But making mistakes is a proof that you are trying hard which will eventually turn into experience.

"Believe in yourself and there will come a day when others will have no choice but to believe with you" - Cynthia Kersey

So next time if there's a chance for you to answer, be it in your classroom or in the real world, raise your hand. Be the first one to bring the change. Your time is limited, don't waste it by not being the real you, कुछ तो लोग कहेंगे लोगों का काम है कहते रहना । छोड़ो बेकार के बातों में कहीं बीत ना जाए रैना।

- Abhinav Agarwal
Year I, B.Com (Hons)



RACE: WHERE NO ONE WINS

Since our childhood, we read stories about good versus evil where the good was portrayed as 'shining knights of honour' while the bad was depicted like 'heartless dark shadows'. With the passage of time, this has found its place in the stereotypical concept where white is presented as good and black as evil, thus, nurturing our interpretations in a wrong manner. This color discrimination has affected the very soul of mankind.

Racism is not a new concept that has just sprang to life all of a sudden. It has existed throughout the human history; the belief that a particular group or race is superior to the other in terms of skin colour, language, customs, place of birth or any other demographics which characterizes the basic nature of that person.

Undoubtedly, it boosts the self-confidence of those who consider themselves superior; it is a backlash for those who are suppressed. It also inflates the ego of the perpetrators and hands them the liberty to act in any manner whatsoever towards the weak. In a world where everyone is entitled to equality, racism is a tight slap to humanity. It's human to fight for oneself and one's kin but trampling on others to do so is unjustifiable.

Today, the world is experiencing a deadly pandemic and racism joining hands with it will make it even vulnerable. Racism is not an innate concept. A child is never born a racist. It is the many small occurrences that conjure huge impact on the mindset of people. Say, there is this famous Indian advertisement where a fair skin man is presented to be the handsome icon while the one with a dark complexion is depicted as ugly. The fun fact here is that our celebrities are endorsing and promoting these advertisements despite the fact that Indian youth look up to these celebrities as their role model.

A footage flooded the internet a few weeks ago wherein a black man named George Floyd died in Minnesota, U.S. after a white police officer knelt on his neck for 8 minutes and 46 seconds. The video spread all over the internet like wildfire. Though this brutality on George Floyd at the hands of the police was a recent spark, the fuel for the same has been pouring in for decades. This brutality and inequality on the Blacks of U.S. has led them to overwhelm the streets. Millions of people flooded the state, fighting for rights which are rightfully theirs. People are chanting slogans “BLACK LIVES MATTER”. Should this happen? Do people need to demand their rights which are already theirs? Is this an equal world we dream of living in? Shouldn't all lives be given the same value? Shall people be categorized on the basis of caste, colour and creed? Are we moving towards the right direction? These are the questions which we, the self proclaimed superior people should ask ourselves and ponder because no one, but we have the answer. After all we are not born racist, it is taught to us and we have an option to exercise racism or stand against it for equality.

- Harshit Bansal,
Year II, B.Com (Hons)



IT'S A POSITIVE FORCE





Feminism is a positive force in women's lives. This term is not a trial against any gender and isn't just about praising women. The patriarchy-conditioned society often ends up assuming that a woman, without her man, is nothing. Let us certify once and for all, that the presence of 'man' in the word 'woman' does not really add up to anything; it has no symbolic significance.

How to boost the situation of a woman? The answer is feminism. Many tend to harbour many biases against women, and further extend their biases against the very movement of feminism itself. Contrary to their misconceptions, feminism is the belief that men and women should have equal rights and opportunities. Indeed, what could possibly be wrong with that? Look around you and you will see how women are underrepresented almost in every lucrative field. Ms. Wangari Maathai, the late Kenyan Nobel peace laureate, rightly pointed out that “the higher you go, the fewer women there are.” This has been going on for ages. Why then, when women, the victims of systematic discrimination since ages, take a stand for themselves, it's suddenly self-serving and inward-looking? Is it that the Right to Speech and expression under Article 19 (1A) is not for them?

Well, the engine of feminism is not exclusively propelled by the comparison of women to men but when the society itself has created differences in the status and authority of its inhabitants, clearly favouring one sex over the other, is it not natural that the women now will give vent to their hitherto repressed anger and talk about gender inequality? It is a common jab (and a cheap and uninformed one at that, if you ask me) against feminism that this movement concerns only some women and seeks to spread hatred against men. It, in reality, is anything but that. Feminism is about upliftment- upliftment of the oppressed. If the feminist movement is only for women, then what about men? "How do they talk about their issues, the violence they face, the sexual harassment, etc?" These are some commonly asked questions. Well, the answer is simple (and not as dramatic as some would expect): feminism is about you too; it’s a sledgehammer, and it is an umbrella for those who want to save themselves and others from age-old dogma and discrimination. Women are standing up themselves and taking their fight for justice and equality on to the various social media platforms, by protesting and fighting for their rights, and that hasn't been easy.

It's unfortunate and indeed infuriating how even those women who bravely come up with their traumatic stories, are often vilified by men who go around hijacking the narrative of these women by insisting how even men too face various traumatic experiences. Indeed, men do but that is no reason for one to diminish the importance of a woman's story every time she opens her mouth. If the only time you talk about male survivors is when you're interrupting women talking about their experiences of sexual, physical or mental assault, then please do not pretend to care about the male survivors, because using a man's suffering or agony as a comeback and as a means of retaliation, is not only inhumane but also despicable.

Feminism propagates gender equality and does not embrace misandrists who claim to advocate gender equality by preaching that all men are oppressive, rapists, or just bad beings, in the name of feminism. Besides, just because she is a woman doesn't mean she is frail, or accommodating, or dependant and just because he is a man, doesn’t mean he is oppressive or misogynistic or a rapist.

God made the anatomies of both man and woman to complement each other and when he himself didn't discriminate between the two or favour any one of them, who are we to do so? Therefore, please, do not confuse pseudo-feminism with feminism and sabotage a much needed movement in today's world, a movement beyond just me and you and our impractically oversized ego, a movement bigger than this sickening and unproductive war over genders.

- Rashi Goenka
Year I, Mass. Communication

INDIA'S EDUCATION SYSTEM

IT'S KILLING THE INNOVATIVE BRAINS OF THE YOUTH. THEY ARE EXPECTING A FISH TO CLIMB A TREE!!! STRANGE!!! ISN'T IT???

IT'S A SEVERAL YEAR'S LONG PROCESS OF CONVERTING A DREAMER CHILD INTO CONFUSED AND UNEMPLOYABLE YOUNGSTER

Education may have many definitions. It may be defined as a necessary skill or mere bookish knowledge or a set of moral values and manners. Over the past few years there have been various changes in the Indian education system. Our country has always focused more on educating the younger ones to shape their own future and the future of the country. Government is providing necessary assistance to the children who are below poverty line by introducing to them, various schemes such as Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, Midday Meal scheme and many more.

Indian education has always been only about academic performance. Students are judged by their grades in the examination. It is evident that the only purpose of Indian education is to achieve high grades in an exam. The system hardly cares whether the students understand what they are studying. Compared to theoretical knowledge, less focus is given on practical knowledge.

Education is turning into business as earlier the institutions used to focus on learning and understanding, but now they are all turning into profit centers for businesses. Since higher grades are more in demand, people grab this opportunity by commencing many institutions, tuitions, coaching classes and crash courses. People always believe that higher the price, better the quality, regardless of applicability of the things taught.

It's not wrong to join a coaching class or an institution, but we must keep in mind that real education is about understanding and questioning. The future is in our hands; let's make our education system more vibrant and meaningful.

"Empower yourselves with good education, then get out there and use that education to build a country worthy of your boundless promise." - Michelle Obama

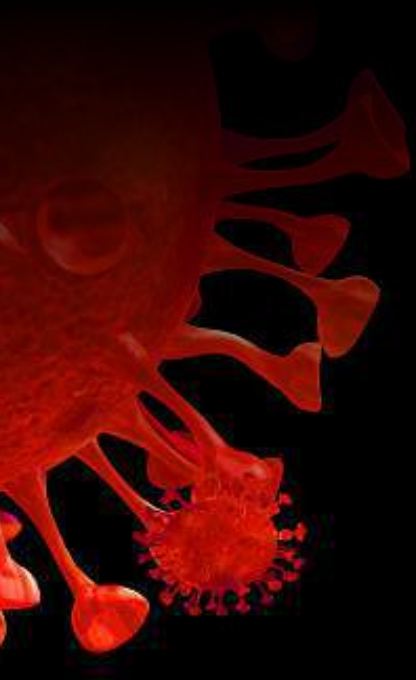
- Tenzing Choden Bhutia,
Year II, B.Com prog.

A CHANGE
from how much you scored, to what did you learn
IS NEED OF THE HOUR

CHINA AND COVID
An Opinion

CHINA'S POLITICAL POSITION, ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

"THIS EPIDEMIC IS A DEVIL. WE WILL NOT LET IT HIDE."
~Xi Jinping.



There are a lot of conspiracy theories that have been circulating ever since the corona virus pandemic broke out. I personally do not align myself with the American view of calling COVID-19 a Chinese virus. However, we cannot deny the fact that it originated from Wuhan and therefore I believe that China must be held accountable for the spread of the virus and for not informing the international communities on time about the developments and the exact nature of the virus. The President of the United States, Mr. Donald Trump, says, "I am a little upset with China. They should have told us earlier. The WHO should also be ashamed of themselves. They are nothing more than China's public relations agency."

We know that China is a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council which gives them one of the most powerful instruments in international politics and diplomacy, the VETO power. This places a lot of responsibility on China to discharge this power effectively. However, in this case, the general opinion of the academia has been that China has actually mishandled this power.

There was a meeting in the UNSC in the month of March, where Estonia had brought in a draft proposal suggesting a need for transparency in the information sharing process regarding the spread of the virus. While the western countries including USA, UK and France agreed to it, the proposal was negated by China and Russia (China's strong ally). Since China was the President of the council in the month of March, the proposal was not put on the agenda. Even if China would not have been the President, it could have simply vetoed against the proposal and so could have Russia. This is a serious folly with the working methods of the UNSC, that Veto applies even to procedural decisions, which needs to be reformed, but that's a different debate. The problem that China had with the Estonian proposal was with the word 'transparency', which again raises obvious concerns as to why China is so reluctant in there being transparency in the information sharing process regarding the virus. This put China in a precarious political position, raising a lot of questions because this does not conform to the ideals of the UN charter.



However, few days later, a meeting regarding the discussion of Covid-19 ultimately took place in the UNSC. It was nothing but just a futile war of words and there was no conclusive decision taken. Even severely affected countries like Britain and France used very mild words and talked about maintaining global ceasefire and showing solidarity. Nothing was said against China. It was only the United States that used diplomatic words to say that there is a need for transparency in the information sharing process and that concerned parties need to be made accountable for the spread of the virus, which was a clear indication towards China. China, on the other hand, went against the US and said that this was not the time to play the blame-game. The whole meeting just seemed like a show. When the topmost diplomatic body of the world is inconclusive about such a global pandemic, it compels one to think about the effectiveness and the legitimacy of the global order. This is where, I believe, potentially strong countries like China should take an enhanced role. Unfortunately, due to their narrowed self-interest, China was not looking for world peace at all.

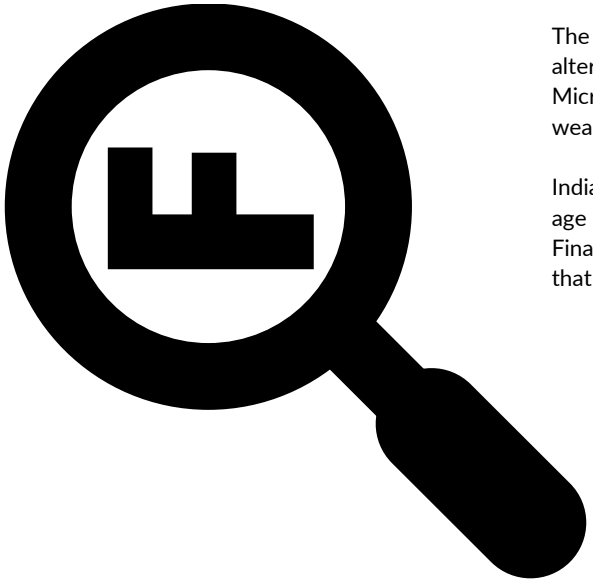
Even looking beyond the UN, China has shown very little cooperation with the rest of the world during this difficult time. The deliberate lack of information during the initial stages of the virus shows their lack of accountability and makes President Xi look like a hypocrite. The number of cases in China is also very less and the recovery rate is about 95%. Whereas, in countries like USA, the condition is direful. Now, given the fact that Wuhan is the epicentre of the virus, these statistics raises a lot of concerns. During the initial stages, when the virus was mainly affecting China, Italy had sent PPE's to china as a gesture of solidarity. When it was China's turn to return the favour, they showed no generosity and rather sold inferior quality PPE's to Italy at a much higher price. China's behaviour in the global share market is also something that shows how business minded they are during such a critical time. The wet markets in China have started operating again which goes on to show that the Chinese government simply doesn't care about its own citizens or anyone else in the world. This type of deportment does not reflect well on the normative roles and responsibilities that powerful countries like China should have. Some people such as the United States Senator Kelly Loeffler, say that we should not politicize the crisis by assigning blame, but focus on pulling together in the common fight against a global disease that makes no distinction between people and recognizes no borders. Now, personally, I strongly disagree with this because the crisis is inherently political in my opinion. It was caused due to the incompetence and maliciousness of corrupt politicians in the first place. To ignore the political dimension of the coronavirus pandemic is an excellent way to ensure it happens again. These are problems of governance, not science. Governments have to act like they are responsible for public health. They have to welcome transparency, willingly share information (even about their failures and ignorance), and order their bureaucracies to cooperate with one another, the international health organizations and foreign governments.

The thesis that China ran a conspiracy and invested in the virus might totally be a conjecture. The virus may not have been manufactured but I firmly believe that whatever has followed was definitely orchestrated.

- Mikul Agarwal,
  Year II, B.Com hons.



SHOULD FINANCIAL INCLUSION IN INDIA ASCEND?



"Poverty is the deprivation of opportunity", said Nobel Laureate Amartya Sen. Financial inclusion gives financially weak the chance to change their economic circumstances and lead better lives.

Why does financial inclusion matter for economic prosperity of a nation? Put simply, once the financially weak become part of the mainstream financial system, they have access to microcredit which helps to generate additional income streams, to channel their savings into investments, create assets, buy insurance that protects them financially in times of disease, disability and death. In the last seven years, India has taken massive strides towards financial inclusion. When the first Global Findex Database was released by the World Bank in 2011, it stated that 40% of adult Indians owned a bank account. An overwhelming majority of Indians, especially in rural areas, were financially weak and were effectively excluded from formal economy. Now seven years later, according to the report published in April 2018, almost 80% of adult Indians own bank accounts.

Powering this dramatic rise is a series of financial inclusion measures launched by the government. These include Aadhar, a biometric database that provides a unique identity to each Indian citizen; no-frills savings bank accounts called Jan Dhan; the direct transfer of social benefit payments into these Jan Dhan accounts; and a digital payment infrastructure called BHIM.

These are creditable achievements for our country. However, getting a unique identity, having a bank account and using digital payments are just the foundation of financial inclusion. Now as the basics have been addressed, the government along with the private sector must take necessary steps to build a superstructure of economic prosperity, as majority of India's population still remains unbanked. Financial inclusion is seen as a critical indicator of development, which is why startups are working to change this by offering financial services at affordable costs to the underserved. 11% of the global population remains unbanked, and as many as 465 million people in India do not have access to credit. The challenges to successfully address these problems are many. Organisations must have extremely low cost of operations as the ticket sizes of the loans are very small. The lack of adequate data to underwrite the loans, in order to minimise the risk, also crops up as does the time taken to disburse the credit. Traditional banking systems cannot keep up, and that's where fintech companies like Davinta become crucial. It provides micro ATM services for rural India; the other key focus is on lending.

Admittedly, most of this growth has come from urban areas. But as financial inclusion takes hold, and more of the rural population is able to meet basic needs such as housing, they will look at investing their surplus to create long- term assets through financial investments.

The way to address this issue is by providing rural communities with additional and alternative income streams. This can only be done by greater financial inclusion. Microcredit products, for example, have the potential to transform the financially weak into micro-entrepreneurs, as well as create jobs in the local community.

India has the world's largest share of young people – half the country is below the age of 25, who are no longer satisfied with status quo, and have soaring ambitions. Financial inclusion will necessarily have to be at the core of any economic strategy that the nation puts in place to meet these aspirations.

- Neha Chowdhary
Year II, B.Com (Hons)



LOST IN THE CROWD



It has always left me wondering and dumb, to see how this world always gains it's equilibrium in the two extremes... Extremes which "they" tell cannot be connected by a bridge ...a place where the tombs are filled with dead dreams...

"They" teach us that to be called normal in this world, in one of these extremes you need to build your home... It's all about Winners and Losers ...about Right and Wrong ...either a Girl or a Boy...a Rich human or an Exploited toy.

Is there a vacuum in between these two extremes?
Or is it illegal to be somewhere in between?

I grew up thinking this world is my canvas...my power will be my brushes and I will paint the perfect strokes of my passion...

Today I am an adult, a responsible robot that's what "they" ask me to be..."they" punish me for committing the crime of being a free bird, yes! "They" want an apology...

Now, I try just to breathe... ruthlessly locking my dreams and passion in some unwanted briefcase...
But please teach me to ignore globally 264 million people in depression, in every 40 seconds 1 suicide case...

I want to survive...live in this crowd, so I will somehow try to kill this perfectly imperfect kid in me...
Deep within, I am lost...I know I don't fit here...for this is a world of perfection and here, it's considered a sin for ordinary dreamers to be free...

Why did "they" always narrate stories which were only filled with heroism, being ordinary "they" sarcastically coined you as a "black sheep".
"They" always highlighted words like billionaire, hero, star, perfect...not falling in this range would label you as 'unwanted' and 'cheap'.

You must be thinking who those "they" are and what makes them powerful enough to convert lively humans into emotionless robots.
I too am desperately finding them...they must be no inferior to God because they can leave your soul bleeding without a gunshot...

If you have a plan...take me in, let's make a new world in between these two extremes...
A world where the entry for "they" will be prohibited...where it will be okay to be ordinary... where there will be no "ME" or "THEM" just "WE"...
Till then I would still be wondering sitting in the cemetery filled with tombs of dead dreams.

- Diksha Jain
Year II, B.Com (Hons)

देखो अभी सांझ ढली नहीं

देखो अभी सांझ ढली नहीं,
तारों की चादर तनी नहीं,
पंछी के स्वर भी गूंज रहे,
अंबर में बादल घिरा नहीं।
बच्चों की किलकारी भी है।
बागों में हरियाली भी है।
सागर की लहरे उमंगित हो,
अपने तट को निहार रही।

देखो अभी सांझ ढली नहीं।

सूरज की किरणों को देखो,
अभी भी उसमें तेज है।
प्रकाश की
लपटें सजाकर,
नए भोर का वेग है।
हवाओं के प्रचलन में,
खुशियों का संदेश है,
आशाओं के दीपक में,
अभी भी रोशनी शेष है।

देखो अभी सांझ ढली नहीं।

- Shivani Rani
Year I, B.Com (Hons)

सधैँ परिश्रमी बनिनु पर्दछ...

मनुष्य यस संसारमा आउनसाथ जिउनुको निम्ति, अगाडि बढ्नका निम्ति प्रत्येक क्षण, प्रत्येक दिन उसले एउटा कोशिश, प्रयत्न गरिरहेको हुनुपर्दछ। समय परिवर्तनशील हो। समयको साथ हामीले आफ्नो गतिविधिहरू गरेनौं भने हामी पछाडिन्छौं। हामीलाई समयले पखिदैन। त्यसैले समयको साथ-साथ जसले आफ्नो कर्तव्य ठीकसित गर्दछ त्यो यस सदैव व्यक्ति जीवनमा सफल बन्दछ। यही शिक्षा हामीलाई माता-पिता अनि शिक्षक शिक्षिकाहरूले पनि दिनुहुन्छ।मनुष्य जीवन एउटा सुन्दर सृष्टि हो भगवानको तर यस जीवनलाई सफल र सुंदर बनाउनका निम्ति सबैले नै प्रयत्न गर्नु पर्दछ।

सानो छंदादेखि नै स्कूलमा भर्ना हुनुसाथ अध्ययनमा ध्यान दिनुपर्छ। शरीरलाई स्वस्थ राख्नका निम्ति थुप्रै किसिमको शारीरिक व्यायाम आदि गर्नु जरूरी छ। आफूलाई अनुशासनमा राख्नपर्छ। सदैव मनले चाहेको अनुसार मात्र कर्म गर्नु हुँदैन जो उचित हुँदैन। उमेर बढ्न साथ साथै आफ्नो दायित्व पनि बुझ्न जरूरी छ। समयको साथ साथ जीवनमा अघि बढ्न अनि सफल बन्नका निम्ति सङ्घर्ष गरे मात्र केही पाउन सकिन्छ। यस कुरालाई हामी सबैले राम्ररी बुझ्नपर्छ।

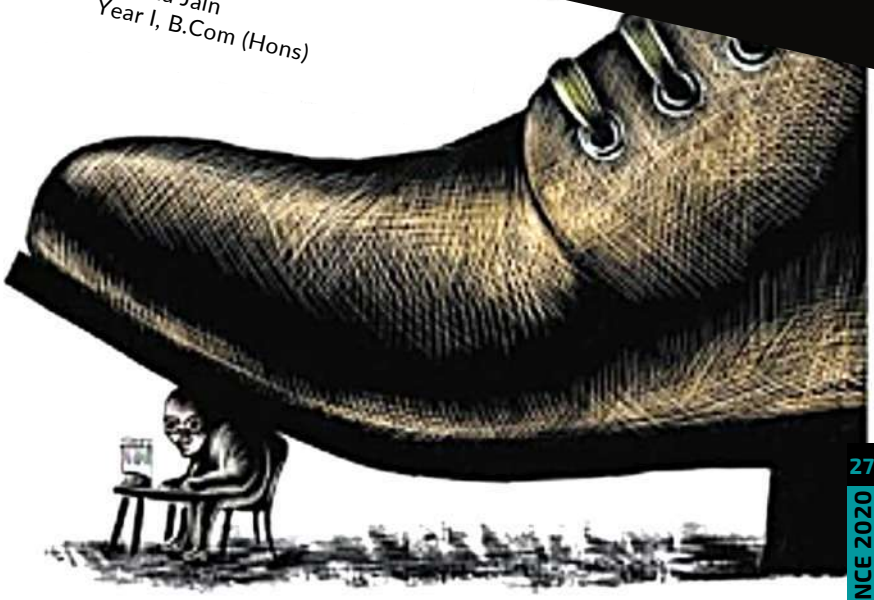
कहिलेकाहीं परिश्रम गरे अनुसार परिणाम पाउँदैनौं। तर हामी निराश हनु हँदैन। त्यस परिणाममा पनि आफूलाई केही न केही सिक्नका लागि अझै कोशिश गर्नका निम्ति एउटा उपदेश रहेको हुन्छ।

आजको यस संसारमा प्रत्येक क्षेत्रमा प्रतियोगिता भइरहेछन्। जसले श्रेष्ट गर्दछ, त्यही व्यक्ति अगाडि। बढ्दछ। त्यसैले हामीले आफूलाई श्रेष्ठ, राम्रो गर्नका निम्ति सदैव कोशिश गर्नुपर्छ। जसले आफूलाई यस प्रतियोगिताको निम्ति तयार पार्छ त्यो व्यक्ति जरूर सफल बन्दछ परिश्रमको फल गुलियो हुन्छ। परिश्रमबिना यस जीवनमा केही गर्न सकिँदैन। त्यसैले परिश्रम गर्नु हामीले अल्छी मान्नु हुँदैन।

अनुशासन अनि परिश्रम यो दुइवटा गुण जुन व्यक्तिमा हुन्छ त्यो व्यक्ति जीन्दगीमा कहिले पनि असफल हुँदैन। यस्ता कैयौं उदाहरण हामीले आफ्नै समाजमा देख्छौं। हामी सबैले यसको अनुकरण गरे हामी पनि सफल बनिन सक्छौं, यसमा कुनै दुईमत छैन।

जीवन एउटा संघर्ष हो, यसलाई हामीले सकारात्मक रूपमा लिनुपर्छ। संघर्ष गर्नुमा सकारात्मक भावहामीले-लियौं भने संघर्ष गर्नमा हामीले थप आनन्द पाउँछौं, उर्जान आउँछौं। त्यसैले सबै संघर्षशील बनिनुपर्छ, परिश्रमी बनिनुपर्छ।

- Diksha Jain
Year I, B.Com (Hons)



ধ্বংসাত্মক করোনা ভাইরাসের

অর্থনীতি

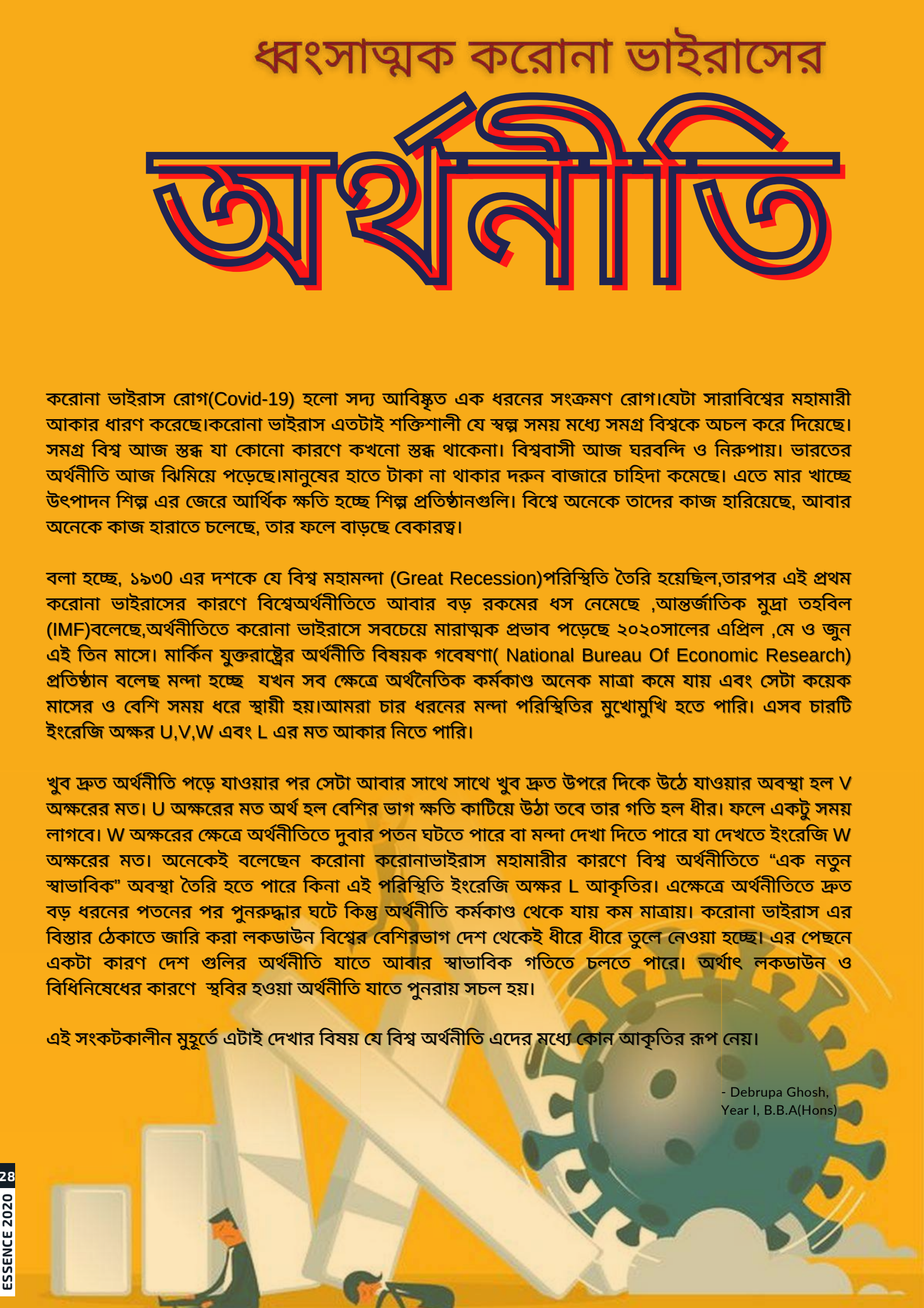
করোনা ভাইরাস রোগ(Covid-19) হলো সদ্য আবিষ্কৃত এক ধরনের সংক্রমণ রোগ।যেটা সারাবিশ্বের মহামারী আকার ধারণ করেছে।করোনা ভাইরাস এতটাই শক্তিশালী যে স্বল্প সময় মধ্যে সমগ্র বিশ্বকে অচল করে দিয়েছে। সমগ্র বিশ্ব আজ স্তব্ধ যা কোনো কারণে কখনো স্তব্ধ থাকেনা। বিশ্ববাসী আজ ঘরবন্দি ও নিরুপায়। ভারতের অর্থনীতি আজ ঝিমিয়ে পড়েছে।মানুষের হাতে টাকা না থাকার দরুন বাজারে চাহিদা কমেছে। এতে মার খাচ্ছে উৎপাদন শিল্প এর জেরে আর্থিক ক্ষতি হচ্ছে শিল্প প্রতিষ্ঠানগুলি। বিশ্বে অনেকে তাদের কাজ হারিয়েছে, আবার অনেকে কাজ হারাতে চলেছে, তার ফলে বাড়ছে বেকারত্ব।

বলা হচ্ছে, ১৯৩0 এর দশকে যে বিশ্ব মহামন্দা (Great Recession)পরিস্থিতি তৈরি হয়েছিল,তারপর এই প্রথম করোনা ভাইরাসের কারণে বিশ্বেঅর্থনীতিতে আবার বড় রকমের ধস নেমেছে ,আন্তর্জাতিক মুদ্রা তহবিল (IMF)বলেছে,অর্থনীতিতে করোনা ভাইরাসে সবচেয়ে মারাত্মক প্রভাব পড়েছে ২০২০সালের এপ্রিল ,মে ও জুন এই তিন মাসে। মার্কিন যুক্তরাষ্ট্রের অর্থনীতি বিষয়ক গবেষণা(National Bureau Of Economic Research) প্রতিষ্ঠান বলেছ মন্দা হচ্ছে যখন সব ক্ষেত্রে অর্থনৈতিক কর্মকাণ্ড অনেক মাত্রা কমে যায় এবং সেটা কয়েক মাসের ও বেশি সময় ধরে স্থায়ী হয়।আমরা চার ধরনের মন্দা পরিস্থিতির মুখোমুখি হতে পারি। এসব চারটি ইংরেজি অক্ষর U,V,W এবং L এর মত আকার নিতে পারি।

খুব দ্রুত অর্থনীতি পড়ে যাওয়ার পর সেটা আবার সাথে সাথে খুব দ্রুত উপরে দিকে উঠে যাওয়ার অবস্থা হল V অক্ষরের মত। U অক্ষরের মত অর্থ হল বেশির ভাগ ক্ষতি কাটিয়ে উঠা তবে তার গতি হল ধীর। ফলে একটু সময় লাগবে। W অক্ষরের ক্ষেত্রে অর্থনীতিতে দুবার পতন ঘটতে পারে বা মন্দা দেখা দিতে পারে যা দেখতে ইংরেজি W অক্ষরের মত। অনেকেই বলেছেন করোনা করোনাভাইরাস মহামারীর কারণে বিশ্ব অর্থনীতিতে “এক নতুন স্বাভাবিক” অবস্থা তৈরি হতে পারে কিনা এই পরিস্থিতি ইংরেজি অক্ষর L আকৃতির। এক্ষেত্রে অর্থনীতিতে দ্রুত বড় ধরনের পতনের পর পুনরুদ্ধার ঘটে কিন্তু অর্থনীতি কর্মকাণ্ড থেকে যায় কম মাত্রায়। করোনা ভাইরাস এর বিস্তার ঠেকাতে জারি করা লকডাউন বিশ্বের বেশিরভাগ দেশ থেকেই ধীরে ধীরে তুলে নেওয়া হচ্ছে। এর পেছনে একটা কারণ দেশ গুলির অর্থনীতি যাতে আবার স্বাভাবিক গতিতে চলতে পারে। অর্থাৎ লকডাউন ও বিধিনিষেধের কারণে স্থবির হওয়া অর্থনীতি যাতে পুনরায় সচল হয়।

এই সংকটকালীন মুহূর্তে এটাই দেখার বিষয় যে বিশ্ব অর্থনীতি এদের মধ্যে কোন আকৃতির রূপ নেয়।

- Debrupa Ghosh,
Year I, B.B.A(Hons)



जीवन का उद्देश्य

"हमेशा गतिशील बने रहना"

इस आधुनिक काल में मनुष्य सब कुछ हासिल करने की कामना रखता है परंतु " चाह की आग में अपनी राह भूल जाता है"। मनुष्य इस बात को भूल जाता है कि उसका परम धर्म केवल कर्तव्य परायणता है और अगर वह दिलो जान से अपना काम करेगा तो अवश्य वह जीवन में अग्रसर होगा। इस कथन की पुष्टि में अपनी एक रचना से करना चाहता हूं।

एक व्यक्ति के घर के हॉल में दो पंखे थे बैठक के अनुसार एक पंखा बहुत कम इस्तेमाल होता थाऔर दूसरा ज्यादा इस्तेमाल होता। कम इस्तेमाल होने वाला पंखा अक्सर दूसरे पंखे का मजाक उड़ा कर कहता था कि " तुझे ज्यादा मेहनत भी करनी पड़ती है और तू तो गंदा भी रहता है। मुझे देख काम भी ज्यादा नहीं है और साफ-सुथरा भी रहता हूँ"। ज्यादा इस्तेमाल होने वाला पंखा मुस्कुरा कर कहता मुझे गतिशील रहना पसंद है। अगर मैं कर्म नहीं करूंगा तो मैं अस्वस्थ होकर आलसी और रोगी बन जाऊंगा और मैं तो तुम भी गतिशील बनने की सलाह दूंगा परंतु कम चलने वाला पंखा अब कर्म ना करने की वजह से आलसी बन चुका था और इसी कारण कुछ समय बाद वह बीमार पड़ गया और उसकी तेजी में भी कमी आ गई और इसलिए उस घर के मालिक ने ऐसा किया कि उस पंखे को कबाड़ वाले भैया को बेच दिया और उसकी जगह एक नया पंखा लगवा लिया। इस रचना से मैं यही सीख लेना और देना चाहता हूं की जिंदगी में कर्मशील और गतिशील बने रहना चाहिए तभी हम जीवन में प्रगति की ओर अग्रसर हो सकते हैं।

- Kshitiz Mittal,
Year I, B.Com(Hons)





IF SOMETHING IS IMPORTANT ENOUGH YOU SHOULD TRY. EVEN IF THE PROBABLE OUTCOME IS FAILURE

- ELON MUSK

SILIGURI STARTUPS





IF YOU LOOK CLOSELY

MOST OVERNIGHT SUCCESS

TOOK REALLY LONG TIME

Desi Laundry was started in 2019 with a motive of providing an aid to those residents who were deprived of easy access to laundries. Being the first to introduce an online laundry service along with door to door delivery and wash in 'kg units' provided us with the first mover advantage.

It was founded 7 months ago, within which we have a customer base of 300 plus people with more than 5 franchises in the city itself. Along with retail care, we have also started with institutional services, collaborated with various hotels, schools and colleges in North Bengal and now we are also providing home cleaning services with flexible variants in cleaning regime. The idea behind starting Desi Laundry came from multiple brainstorming sessions which we would go through every day, because finding an adequate solution to the problem which majority of the people in society are facing is quite a tedious task. Once at a cafe in Bangalore we were complaining about our soiled clothes, and how we had to wash it ourselves. It was then when I decided to launch an online, professional laundromat in Siliguri. Also, being a cleanliness freak myself, I wanted to professionally deliver quality laundry services to every home in the town and I, along with my friends, started working on executing the ideation into a startup.

Alike every other entrepreneur, challenges and difficulties were a part of the journey. Initially we started as an aggregator where we had entered into an agreement with a third party laundromat. We would collect clothes from the customers, get it washed by the third party and deliver it to the customer. Our office then was a 60 Square feet servant quarter, which was in my apartment. There were connectivity issues which was a major hindrance to an online based startup, also we lacked substantial funds. We soon started getting complaints about the quality of washing clothes; they weren't satisfied. Soon we managed our own laundromat and things started getting on track. We started off with nominal funds which were from our savings and after we started expanding, we bootstrapped.

Started with a mere area of 60 square feet, with no machines and working with a single staff, we now own 2400 Square Feet workshop, a fleet of 6 machines, vehicles for delivery and a workforce of 10 employees. All this has been achieved in less than a year. All thanks to Siligurians. Siliguri being my home town has always gave me the notion that it has multiple untapped hidden opportunities to foster the growth of a venture. Siliguri being a very important junction to the North East India, bordered by four international boundaries i.e. Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh and China, makes this city to play a very important strategic role in contributing to the economy of the region and towards India as a whole. There are corporates coming in from different states, infrastructural development is at its peak. The residents here are adapting to the changes and hence professional services are warmly welcomed and accepted. But there are problems here which still persists, such as labour shortage and enthusiasm within the workers to work hard. After huge struggle we developed a team of motivated people with the zeal and desire to bring a change and make an impact, thus we are ready to give you all the comfort you need at your door step. Currently we are operating only in Siliguri and the future course of action is to expand in the entire region of North Bengal and gradually covering the North East India. A message to each and every budding entrepreneur in the making is that "A startup is not a start of a very exciting business prospect by some young geeky guy, once kicked out of school with a long list of struggles. It is the beginning of an undying patience, a venture of cautiously calculated dream capable of turning into reality. It is an adventure where an idea is deeply thought and worked on and executed, to make it a possibility." The problem is not with the idea. It is with the execution; we slog and fail. One sutra that our team follows is, "Purity in heart, clarity in mind and sincerity in action is the formula for happiness." - Gurudev Sri Sri Ravishankar Ji. We are inspired by our Guru Sri Sri Ravishankar. His ideals have always inspired us to work for a bigger vision in the field. According to Gurudev, there are 5 ingredients for success -- 1. Function in a team, 2. Manage your mind, 3. Be courageous like a lion, 4. Develop your intuition and 5. Meditate.

We congratulate Team EDC of Salesian College for taking such an initiative. This will not only keep the youth informed, but will also motivate them to work on their dreams. We feel grateful to Salesian College for inviting us and letting us be a part of this publication.

Co-founders
Siddhant Agarwal | Rachit Agarwal



Musafiri

SHOW YOU CARE.GIVE YOUR SHARE.

NOT ALL OF US CAN DO GREAT THINGS

BUT

WE CAN DO SMALL THINGS WITH GREAT LOVE



The Musafiri organisation was set up by two high school students of Don Bosco School, Siliguri-Siddhant Agarwal and Rachit Agarwal.

The Musafiri organisation has been working for the welfare of the society since 24th of January 2020, having succoured 20000 individuals and has been featured on the official United Nations major group for children and youth list of youth led initiatives. Starting with the very noble initiative of distributing milk to 100 children per day, we have fed 6000 kids in total. After which it was suspended due to the lockdown in India, to keep in check the coronavirus pandemic. Nevertheless, now the Musafiri organisation is working in close collaboration with the local police to distribute ration kits and personal protection kits to Daily wage labourers; having helped 20000 of them. Even though working for an NGO can be a challenging activity, it is also one of the most satisfying job.. NGO's offer a great pathway to alleviate the sufferings of the society. As a youth run and newly founded NGO, there remained numerous challenges such as fundraising, limited financial & management expertise, limited institutional capacity, low levels of self-sustainability, isolation/lack of inter-organizational communication and/or coordination. The obstacle of insufficient funding was overcome by cohesive & strategic plans that aimed at solving the root problems faced by the society and would in turn facilitate members of the privileged society to contribute. Deficiency of organisational management still remains a major obstacle but it has been overcome to a certain extent by recruiting members experienced in organisational management. As students it was extremely difficult for us to manage our academics, co-curricular activities alongside management of NGO. The organisation is fully dependant on crowd funding and organises various competitions in order to raise funds for continuation of each services. We would request other students to be a part of non-profit organisations and play their role by raising awareness, about the problems faced by the underprivileged classes, among the masses. The Musafiri looks forward to execute its plan of installing sanitary pad machines in government schools across the city and improve the current sanitation standards.

The Entrepreneurship Development cell (EDC) of Salesian College is in our view a great platform for future entrepreneurs and is one of a kind in the city. Wish them all the luck for their future activities!

SILIGURI STARTUPS | FARMITY

Co-Founders
Dhruv Kumar Agarwal | Twinkle Agarwal





There will come a time when only those who know how to plant will be eating.

- CHIEF OREN LYONS

Farmity, A Siliguri based start-up founded during the first phase of lockdown, delivers Ozone Treated fruits and vegetables to households. It's main focus is to provide local farmers a good platform to sell their produce and help consumers to avail fresh, healthy & immunity building but "Safe" produce.

With a background of family business in Water filtration, the know-how of technology was almost innate; uses and benefits of Ozone treated fruits and veggies was well known to us but with the virus outbreak, it felt more like a necessity. Everyone buys fruits and veggies from the street vendors, where hundreds of people touch and smell the same items one after the other without any safety equipment or following social distancing norms. That's when; the seed of Farmity was sown because Ozone Treatment removes harmful contaminants.

One of our biggest challenges was setting up machinery, procuring resources & taking permissions from the authority amid Lockdown, After all, what better test of integrity than a calamity? Creating awareness among people was another major challenges we faced. To overcome this challenge, we initially started a Farmity Fruit Truck, where we supplied ozone treated, sterilised and packed immunity building fruits to apartments, following a Zero Touch Delivery System and as people started recognising us, we started taking orders over phone, website and other platforms. Initially, we outsourced our deliveries but now we have an in-house delivery system which consists of two delivery persons. With an increasing customer base we expect to expand our team in the near future to make our services more prompt.

Unlike other Tier 2 cities, people of Siliguri are very accommodating to new ideas. Our abilities can be proved by how we respond at a time of unease. We think, this pandemic might be the start of this era's biggest start-ups in Siliguri and who knows if Siliguri becomes the start-up capital of North-Bengal? On the administrative level we are a team of two individuals, at Farmity. We are learning new things every day, be it the variety of enriching super foods or knowing what our customers desire for. We started with a minimal capital from our family savings and we consider ourselves lucky to have satisfied over 400 happy customers till now. We are now planning to increase our plant capacity, working on building an advanced application and a website.

What gives us the zeal to keep going is when our customers accede us, their repeated orders, their valuable feedback and so on. Our message to the budding entrepreneur is make sure your start-up is solving a real problem, trust your instincts and never stop learning because knowledge is power. We thank budding minds of the EDC of Salesian College, who seem already prepared for the future and are creating such a healthy ecosystem from where student can get transinspired (transformed + inspired) to start their journey.

ASAL is an authentic, traditional, handcrafted skin care brand with its foundations in the ancient science of Ayurveda. ASAL is trying to become the quintessential Indian Skincare Brand that combines the ancient beauty rituals of Ayurveda with a stylish modern aesthetic with emphasis on efficacy, sensorial experience and pleasure of usage.

Having grown up around the beautiful surroundings of organic plants and herbs with my grandmother, the applications of Ayurveda always intrigued me. Rising from a small town - Dinhata, has always been an addition to the difficulty and struggle to my entrepreneurial journey yet I had a constant support from my family. Initially, it was a challenge in itself to enter into the market where people weren't familiar with the word 'organic'. Gradually with time people started understanding the true meaning and worth of 'organic' which aided the brand in its growth. New doors of opportunities had opened after I won the Young Indians (CII) Start Up Siliguri Competition, 2019. Under the expert guidance of Dr. Tej Chingtham, Director, Sikkim Manipal University of Technology, I was motivated and optimistic enough to take ASAL to greater heights. Being a Siliguri based startup provided ASAL with an edge as Siliguri is the gateway of North East. The location of hill stations and the farming areas nearby was indeed a huge opportunity to be exploited. People started approaching and accepting the vision of ASAL warmly.

"If you cannot eat it, do not use it on your skin", is the philosophy that the company works upon. We believe that beauty products made of living substances such as plants or their extracts are balanced by nature and contain the energy that constitutes life. They are the perfect food for our skin. The culture and practice of farming and planting has been inculcated in the company in order to give back to nature of what we take from it, which is also the very premise of Ayurveda.

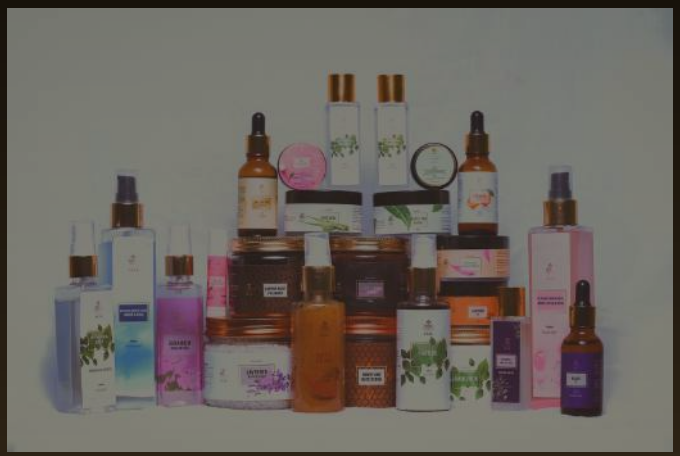
It took a lot of research to develop a philosophy that deeply imbibes the spirit and identity of Indian Ayurveda, a 6000-year-old science. After I launched it in 2019, I never thought of taking it forward wholly as a business venture but as the brand started growing nationally and internationally, I thought of turning it into a brand with a connotation of luxury. We always try to make the use of such products soothing and delectating. This serves as our USP. Having an Ayurveda brand which is a bootstrap venture where customization is an important part because of the variants in skin types made it difficult with limited resources available. Making it profitable and formulating an enthusiastic and dedicating team was even more challenging.

Addressing the importance of 'Made in India' initiative has been a very crucial concept for me and hence I made sure to deliver the best quality products. My aim is to represent the brand globally (vocal for local). The satisfied customers of ASAL acts as an inspiration for me, aiding in moving forward despite the challenges.

A message to all the future entrepreneurs in the making is to never give up on your dreams and never stop working towards it. Chase the purpose, things will fall in place. Grab each opportunity you get and make the best of it. EDC of Salesian College is always been a great platform which encourages young business minds to grow by helping them in providing opportunities, letting them ace their potential and making them connect to the masses.



EMBRACE YOUR SKIN EVERYDAY





OUR JOURNEY

2019-2020



QUEST?

"A Pursuit to Perception"

All individuals' posses a different set of cognitive abilities, perspective and perception. They come from varied backgrounds and acquire different level of learning. We know it's widely believed that if you have the right people working, every agenda follows. Thus, following this thought direction of each individual is important because the people you choose are the ones who assist in furtherance of the entity's goal.

The Entrepreneurship Development Cell, Salesian College, Siliguri Campus, hosted its first induction program "QUEST" - a multi-stage induction, assessment and selection procedure on January 11, 2020. The event progressed in the form of various activities such as quizzical questionnaires, group discussions and personal interviews.

EDC undertook this activity with this very motive of recruiting the first years from the Department of Commerce and the Department of Management Studies, into the cell, who are determined to be a part of a creation and are eager to prove their mettle. The event witnessed a healthy and enthusiastic participation and proved to be fruitful as the deserving students did find their way into the cell to lay the foundation for the development of a healthy EDC family.

WHERE IT ALL BEGAN !!











ZENITH

" JOURNEY TO THE TOP "

Vitae Virtue Workshop

We humans are so engrossed in anticipating the wavering future that we forget, our future, more than often, is a mere reflection of the actions which we commit today. It is not that one shouldn't wonder what the future holds, but what about shaping it to suit best to one's interests?

The Entrepreneurship Development Cell, Salesian College, Siliguri Campus, hosted its first ever workshop under its series "ZENITH- A journey to the top" titled as VITAE VIRTUE, on January 28, 2020. ZENITH is an initiative of the the Entrepreneurship Development Cell towards educating students and helping them enhance their skills required in day to day lives as well as their career. 'Zenith' is aimed towards being a series of workshops and seminars wherein speakers from various walks of life impart their knowledge to the students in order to prepare them for what await them in the future. 'Vitae Virtue', as stated above, was the first workshop conducted under the ZENITH series. The workshop aimed towards providing the students with an insight on the importance of developing a good Curriculum Vitae in their best capacity. The workshop was planned upon this topic, keeping in mind the changing trends of the era where a prestigious educational record is no more a sufficient qualification to hint at the excellence which one may possess. The event witnessed an enthralling participation of over eighty students from various departments of the college. The event commenced with a welcome address by a student representative followed by a motivational address by Rev. Fr. Aju Kurian - Vice Principal, and Mr. Anirban Ghosh - Campus Coordinator. The keynote speaker for the day, Mr. Shayan Iqbal, discussed various aspects which are to be considered while writing a CV and how a good CV can reflect your acumen. The session ended on the note of developing ourselves as zealous individuals who are not slaves to the commandments of the unpredictable but as fervent humans who are determined in situating themselves well in this demanding era.

"As it's very rightly said "The best way to predict the future is to create it."

THE BIG BUDGET THEORY

"A Youth Forum"

For a country like India which envelopes deep roots of social, cultural and economic diversity, challenges are always imminent. We can bravely encounter such challenges only when an effective strategic plan is complemented with wise allocation of the scarce resources.

It's important for the government to implement a well-planned budget but it's even more important for the countrymen to recognize the true facets of this script of pen and paper. An individual is awake only if he is aware.

Recognizing the need of the hour and to help the youth know what 'their government' is doing for 'them', The Entrepreneurship Development Cell, Salesian College, Siliguri Campus, organized a youth forum titled -"The Big Budget Theory", on February 29, 2020.

"The Big Budget Theory" was organized with the intention of broadening the horizon of the students and assisting them in gaining individual perspective, and manifest them into rational & educated Indian citizens.

The event was housed at Salesian College Siliguri Campus with a total footfall of over 120 students. The event commenced with a welcome address by the student members followed by an address by Rev. Fr. Aju Kurian. The plenary session began with the delieveires of our refined orators - CA Varun Lakhotia, CA Nilesh Mundra and CS Pintu Jaiswal. With their expertise in concerned fields they indicated their views on budget 2020 and its effect on the individuals of the country.

The second session was a general trivia quiz which saw an active and enthusiastic participation from all the attendees. The quiz session was followed by "Pain or Gain" session where CS Pintu Jaiswal was the moderator and our ebullient students got engaged in energetic discussion with the panel.

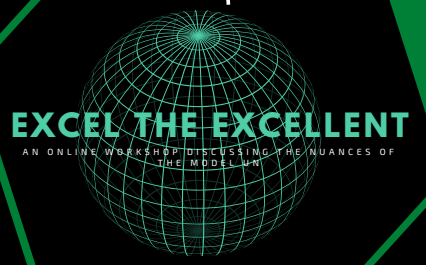
The youth forum was quite healthy and interactive which witnessed zestful participation on parts the teachers as well as the students. The session proved to be informative, giving an insight on the Union budget 2020 to all.



WHEN VIRTUAL BECAME THE NEW NORMAL

Debates and divergence of views have made our country's history rich, as debate seeks truth without any bias to win. MUN or a parliamentary debate workshop is one where knowledgeable personalities guide the viewers with all the aspects of such debating patterns and also help them with tips and tricks.

Entrepreneurship Development Cell, Salesian College, Siliguri Campus, hosted its first ever online workshop titled 'Excel the Excellent' on March 28, 2020. It was an online live session on our social media handles, with the purpose of providing people across the city with details about Model United Nations conference and its differences with the traditional debating patterns. It was presided over by Master Arko Jyoti Mitra, a distinguished member of the MUN panel of Siliguri.





250+
ATTENDEES

With the aim of making the best out of the quarantine period, under the guidance of the animators, the cell organized a national level online interschool and inter-collegiate case study competition from 3rd to 6th April 2020.

Realizing the importance of various facets of the corporate world the case studies were divided into four range of disciplines; Marketing, Public Relation, Human Resource and Entrepreneurial Challenge. The cases were based on varied realistic scenarios which helped the participants develop a perspective about the trade world. The event was a huge success and witnessed over 200 registrations from around 55 different educational institutions across India.



210+
REGISTRATIONS





55+
EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTES



Recreational deprivation has been linked to declining creativity. Our brain needs indulgence with something that gives it an opportunity to think, learn and grow, and at the time of quarantine, when we all were locked inside our homes, it was really important to unlock our minds. Riddles are fun and provide an opportunity to learn; in fact they have the potential to rewire your brain.

Entrepreneurship Development Cell hosted its last event of the academic session 2019-2020; brainTzer on April 20, 2020. It was a four-day online riddle competition where one could enjoy the cognitive challenges provided in our social media pages, fostering one's brain by providing them the opportunity to think and comprehend.



90+
REGISTRATIONS

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT



CA VARUN LAKHOTIA,
FCA, DISA,
Founder - VLNM & Associates

Entrepreneurship Development Cell of Salesian College Siliguri Campus is a truly inspiring group of young dynamic people with entrepreneurial outlook. Their efforts to ignite the flame of entrepreneurship is praiseworthy and the effect is indeed visible. It has been a wonderful experience being associated with the EDC and its members for The Big Budget Theory 2020. Their determination to Make a difference is remarkable.
Wish the entire team great success and good luck for the future.



CA PINTU PRASAD JAISWAL
Asst. Professor,
KGTM, Bagdogra

Kudos to all the team members of EDC, Salesian College for your innovative and out of box initiative taken during the year in the field of skill development ranging from Quiz, Workshop, seminar, online competition and other various events. You all have included students from different colleges providing them the platform to showcase their skill and improve on it.
Heartiest congratulations to untiring effort of the whole team. I believe you all have set the benchmark for the upcoming batches and gradually EDC will prosper more in coming days.



DEBARATI DEB
Asst. Professor,
Department of Management Studies, Salesian College, Siliguri Campus

The entrepreneur development cell of Salesian College is extremely enthusiastic and energetic managed by some real active and efficient students and faculty members who are always ready to take up challenges no matter what. I truly admire the cell for their huge hard work till now and I wish the members many more successes ahead.



PRASUN SANKAR SANYAL
Asst. Professor,
School of Media Science, Inspiria Knowledge Campus, Siliguri

During this lockdown period, Entrepreneurship Development Cell of Salesian College has taken the initiative to organise "ENCASE- A Case Study Competition" - which is enriching in all its aspects, it served as a way to keep students engaged with some sort activity boosting their creative imagination. The event was no doubt very well organised avoiding any unnecessary hassles, keeping in mind the limitations faced during lockdown.
Judging by the standards of the events, I can well say that it has risen our expectations from the college as it engages students with some fruitful work in this period of inactivity. We expec more and more students to come forward and participate and many such events from the college in the times to come.

TEAM 2019-



Isha Agarwal



Amisha Kothari



Aditi Gupta



Sandeep Agarwal



Harshit Bansal



Mikul Agarwal



Vikshit Bansal



Shubham Guha



Debrupa Ghosh



Ayush Pandey



Diksha Jain



Navin Singhal

EDC -2020



Parag Verma



Akash Kumar Jaiswal



Sagar Agarwal



Rajil Kumar Singhal



Neha Chowdhary



Sejal Agarwal



Tenzing Choden Bhutia



Shivani Rani



Kshitiz Mittal



Vinit Marodia



Abhinav Agarwal

ESSENCE

"We keep moving forward, opening new doors, and doing new things, because we're curious and curiosity keeps leading us down new paths."

CROSSROADS is the first edition of " ESSENCE ", the annual journal of Entrepreneurship Development Cell of Salesian College Siliguri Campus. In this edition we have published some notable articles from our students and interviews of some luminaries in the Start up sector of Siliguri.

Our society today thrives on the achievements of our predecessors who have moulded our generation and passed on the baton for us to further their vision of an idealist civilization. In the face of exponential progress, the foundation of humanity must not lose faith in its ability to maintain the core values of mankind. With that thought in mind, ESSENCE resonates the vision of encouraging a healthy society that uses failures as a stepping stone to build a society that emulates the true essence of human values.

Light doesn't exist in spite of darkness, but because of it. It is the shadowy footsteps along the stairway that define the quest for incandescence and it is at this CROSSROADS of ideas and quests where light and darkness shall affiliate and bring glory to you.

This magazine is an endeavour that serves as platform to encompass the principles of this generation and their passion to be the leaders of a better tomorrow. We would like to thank each and every member of the faculty and administration for their constant support and guidance, that has helped in the successful launching of this journal.

As you delve into the intricacies of entrepreneurship and anylyse the determination behind human behaviour, we proudly present to you the very first edition of ESSENCE.

Contact us: edcsalesianslg@gmail.com | salesiancollege.ac.in

/edcscsc /edcscsc /edcscsc /edcscsc

EUDAIMONIA

WILLPOWER



CALLIGRAPHY :
ANKITA PAUL

Cover :
Akanksha Narayan

vol-1

No-1

Acknowledgement

We, the Brainbow Association would like to thank Fr. Prof, George Thadathil, sdb, Principal, Salesian college Sonada and Siliguri campus and Fr. Prof. Molekunnel James Chacko, sdb, HoD, Psychology Department for allowing us to implement this idea. We would also like to thank, Fr. CM Paul, sdb, for giving us some wonderful suggestions.

We would like to thank our faculty incharge Dr. Paramita Datta Rej for guiding us out through.
We would like to thank the core team members (Br. Sudip Mondol, Ankita Sharma, Saloni Gurung, Rohan Gupta, Shaili Sarkar, Br. Banhunlang Lyngdoh, Rituja Biswas, Daipayan Das) for coming up with such an idea.

We would like to thank the editorial team (Daipyan Das, Preetika Agarwal, Praweshika Pradhan, Mohinovo Chanda, Pujitha M) for organising everything.
Last but not the least, we would like to thank all the members of Brainbow Association who have contributed their ideas towards this maiden issue of the magazine.

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Message from the Principal



In Search of Eudaimonia

Dear Reader,

“The Perfect Life” is what it means. The Psychological association of the Students – PG and UG – and Faculty of the School of Psychology could not have come up with a better name for their magazine. All the more, after having named very daringly or submissively – depending on your stress or accent – their association as “Brainbow”!

Congratulations, first of all, to everyone who has contributed by way of art, calligraphy, design, proofreading and copy editing, and all other gimmicks of knowhow in this digital age which go to creating a flipbook – something so far I had only known as flipping the pages of a book in my hand. It has now become, without any exertion, possible at the click of a mouse or keypad to flip the book around – of course not in your hand; rather, in your hand held mobile version of the virtual book that it is, yes. Till you get to see a hardcopy of this work at your doorstep – only if you have contributed to it – as and when the restricted copies will be printed post-lockdown with the arrival of normalcy, much longed for.

Let us get back to "Eudaimonia", the Greek word for the perfected life. It refers to an ideal life in an idyllic state of wellbeing – irrespective of the location you are in being scenic or not; though not without an invitation to you to make it so: first inside, and because inside you are perfected; it spills over into the room you occupy, your home and then, beyond - into the lives of your friends.

There is a tremendous attraction in desiring to be perfect. It first of all implies, you have an eye for detail, an ability to pick on small bickerings or big fights that have ensued from the crevices of thought - the unguarded speech as well as the regretted retort. Being aware one works to overcome, the discontent; and does indeed one day arrive at the perfect notion of a contented life: as did the Stoics and Neo-Platonists, Augustine and Spinoza, Dante and Mahler. If they could, why not you?

The question, now on your mind is, I guess, how to get there? Well, read Eudaemonia – you will get an idea or two, if not from the reflections and poems, from psychedelics, for sure.
Let me invite you to read on, with every good wish for the members of “Brainbow” and their daring to take on ‘Willpower’ as the first step on the Road to Perfection.

Fr. George Thadathil sdb,
Principal

Message from the HoD



St. Paul, the most eloquent preacher of the Christian faith, in his letter to the disciples in Corinth writes: “we are in difficulties on all sides, but never cornered, we see no answer to our problems, but never despair; we have been persecuted but never deserted”(2Cor. 4:8-10). Psychologists, as helping professionals are pro-active people, ever on the lookout for lighting a lamp in the lives of people. The social milieu that we live through is witnessing an increasingly stressful time, that too at the global level! Psychological interventions have a more direct focus on a person’s social environment in interaction with their psychological functioning. Such interventions can also be used to promote good mental health in order to prevent mental disorders. In this context EUDAIMONIA, a quarterly magazine being published by the Brainbow Association of Salesian College Siliguri, is a timely step in the right direction.

They will to make the most appropriate choices and steer through turbulences of varying nature, is undoubtedly the most important psychological skill needed to maintain psycho-social homeostasis in the world today. As this issue focuses on ‘Will Power’, I wish every reader a personally profitable perusal and the contributors of its contents, the consolation of having become good Samaritans unto themselves and the readers.

Fr. James C. Molekunnel sdb,
HoD

Somewhere, Something is Getting Better

Paramita Lama
2nd semester

After the chill wind throughout the day,
Late in the evening,
The sky darkens
Winds become furious
Firebolt shows its streak
Then roars the earth.

The cycle continues...

The wind seems angrier now
Firebolt shows off frequently
Roaring is much louder now
Poor soft cloud is finding it hard to bear now
She no longer can bear the wrath of the wind,
She no longer can bear the fulmination of the fireboat,
She no longer can bear the rudeness of roar.

After trying so hard, she eventually breaks down
I can see the droplets falling from the sky...
Some big ...Some small...
They are falling

They are falling more heavily now
The scenario is full of grief
Meanwhile, I can smell the earth...
One of the most pleasant ever satisfying smell
More I am aware, the more it smell
Then I realise, somewhere something is changing.



Just let it be

Daipayan Das
2nd semester



Whatever has happened, has happened,
just leave it.
Things never remain the same forever,
The situation never remains the same forever,
It always changes, however.

Now there's no point looking back,
cause it's not a solution or a hack.
Look forward, cause pain is temporary,
I'm pretty sure that you have the potential to do something legendary.

You are the writer of your own story,
I'm pretty sure that the ending will be in great glory.
Now you may debate saying "not in my case, I'm an exception",
Well, I guess you need to change your perception.

Everyone is great in their way,
You just need to keep all the negativity away.
Everything in this life happens at their own pace,
You just need to be patient with some grace.

24.365

Rohan Kumar Gupta
2nd Semester

Hello beautiful, wonderful and advance Mortals!
Span of average 70 years has lot of things kept to be unrevealed by us. Its so amazing to realise that whatever this mind can think has become a reality!

Captain Gorur Ramaswamy Iyengar Gopinath, Indian entrepreneur, the founder of Air Deccan, a retired Captain of the Indian Army, the man who changed the core of aviation in India, gentleman who had a vision to establish their own aviation company and bring the cost of flying as low so that anyone can avail flight.

To establish an aviation company was impossible to even think of, this gentleman got straight to make it real. And yes, he and this team made it a reality. What I am trying to convey is that nothing is impossible. You have the hunger to achieve it, universe will align itself for you. But nothing exists without balance! In return the Universe will see your dedication, how you react to every situation. It's not that the situations are thrown at you, instead it's the process of making the path on which you will travel to your achievements!

Distraction is the most learned skill of humans! This skill is so learned with so much flexibility that you can practise and make it work wherever you are! Distraction is also the reason that makes you go terrible about your current situation you are stuck in!

Routine and Discipline: the philosophy or life?! Every person has vision and mission. The professional life is responsible for so many inventions and development all around us. The most critical agreement we all do everytime through the day without realising is Decision making. Everytime you drop the idea to workout and move it for next day you lose your time that you could have invested and it would have multipled and gave you returns in future. Similiarly to make the plan to spend your time with family on weekends and talk to them instead of scrolling through social media will surely water the plant of family to grow into a strong tree with sweet fruits! All these things will balance and yield once you put your mind and body into a fixed distinguishable and productive routine and be disciplined to follow it everyday. This will eventually shift your learned skill termed as distraction to learned skill termed as active attraction and being productive.

There are many things human are really doing wrong and the consequences are real, what we are facing today are the results of man made tensions. Nature has provided us with such a great structure and mechanism, what might distinguish us from others would be the way we make our decision and how discipline we are.

Thank You...



DONE BY SHAILI SARKAR



WILLPOWER PAVES THE WAY...

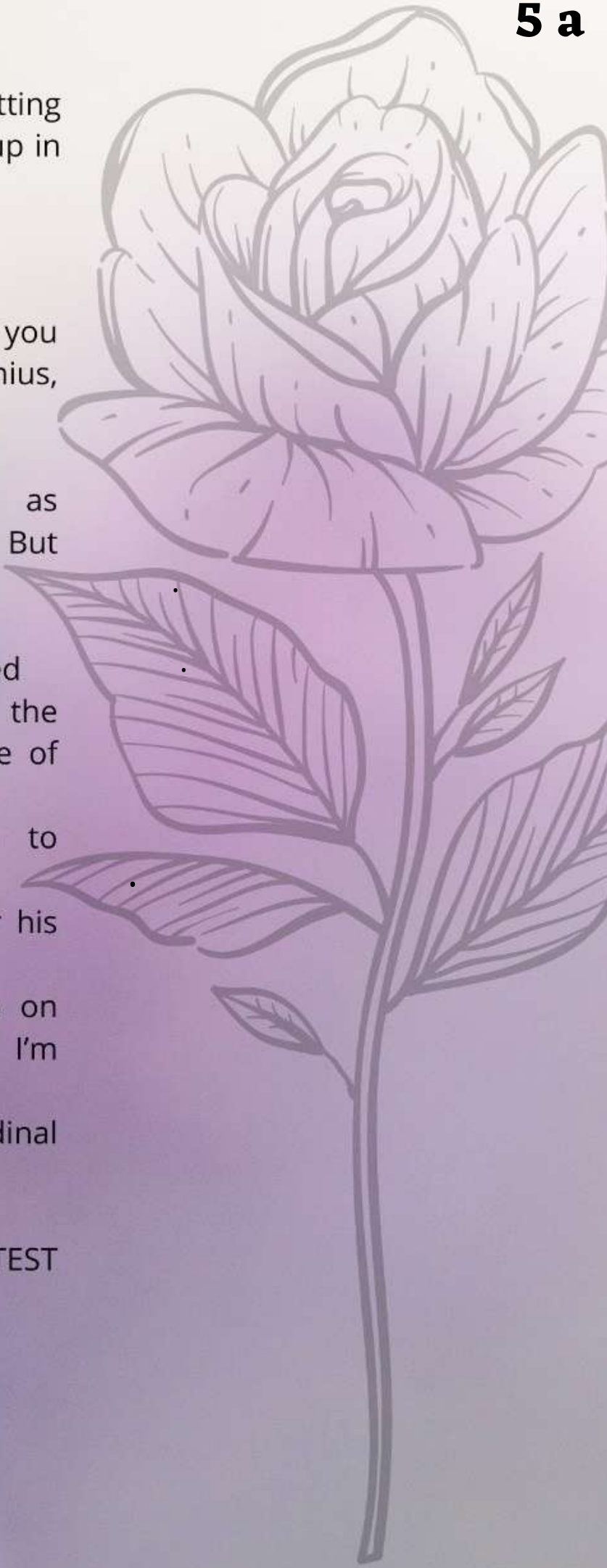
Rajasree Kargupta
2nd Semester

Resistance can't be reasoned with,
Resistance will say anything and do anything to prevent you from doing your work,
Resistance is strongest close to the end.
There will never be a moment when we are unable to change our destiny,
Resistance can and has been beaten,
Respect Resistance because it can beat you on any given day.
The artist pursuing his calling has volunteered for hell, whether he knows it or not.
Taking a few blows is the price of standing in the arena and not on the sidelines.
Resistance is like a telemarketer: Once you so much say hello, you're finished.



It's better to be in the arena getting stamped by the bull than to be up in the stands or the-
parking lot.

"Whatever you can do, or believe you can, begin it. Boldness has genius, magic, and power in
it. Begin it now."(– Goethe)
Dreams and inspiration are as common as dirt. So are sunrises. But that doesn't make them
any less of a miracle.
We most fear that We Will Succeed
If we were born to throw off the order of injustice and ignorance of the world, then it's our job
to realize it, and get down to business.
The artist must do his work for his own sake.
Ask, "If I were the last person on earth, would I still do what I'm planning to do?"
Contempt for failure is our cardinal virtue.
—
WILL POWER IS THE GREATEST STUPENDOUS VIRTUE: IS IT?



NATURAL SORROW

Sudip Mondol
4th semester

Every journey of a living being is a constant process of healing from the various experiential changes. Hence, 'Natural Sorrow' is a vivid process of healing in the life of an individual and where the role of 'will power' becomes the stand point in this journey. None of us can avoid natural sorrow in different circumstances of our life at the same time; none of us can dwell in this for long.

Since, our life is a journey we need to move on. Here, is a short life experience of 'Natural Sorrow' of a boy named Raju who shared with me, how 'Will Power' played a vital role in his life to come out of his natural sorrow. He shares that he was totally disappointed at the loss of his mother at an early age. He found himself all alone and everything meant meaningless to him. Even, he started losing faith in God. Because he explains, "he always believed that God loves and cares for everyone and so how God could make this happen in his life". Slowly, his prospect of life changed and he explains "I was deeply wounded and was feeling weak day after day".

Several days later, he meets a man who lost his only son. Having met that man, Raju enquired the man how he managed to come out of this agony. Then, he explains that we all are bound by natural sorrow in our life and we all have to go through this at certain point of life. He further explains that natural sorrow is a process of healing but dwelling on it for a longer period of time that makes an individual weaker day by day. But to come out of this situation we need 'Will Power' because we need to move on in our life with all our ups and downs. Having said these, the man departed from Raju.

These pieces of advice really touched Raju very much. That very night, he experienced a deep awakening within himself, and that led him to weep bitterly, he had this experience for two days continuously, thereafter he started accepting the sudden loss of his mother and that led him to let go things that he was suffering within himself. Few days later, he experienced a sense of joy and peace and that started to create a strong 'will power' within him. He then makes a personal reflection based on his situation which he shares, "now I realize the worth of my existence and further he adds that natural sorrow is the positive struggle that one go through and it only can be called positive when one can stop it at right time with the weapon called "Will power".

Different

By Sony Limbu
2nd semster

A world ruled by conformity,
Judgement at every turn.
Taboo is any activity,
That's different from the norm.

Fear of being shunned,
So everyone complies.
Complying till one is ruined,
No one stops even when someone dies.

Asking for change,
protests everywhere.
Despising the strange,
Being treated unfair.

The price of conformity,
Being liked by all except yourself,
In a state of dormancy,
Everyone's true self.

Going against the current,
Hoping to break free.
I'd rather be different,
I'd rather be me.

Art by sonylimbu2.0



IT'S THE WILL NOT THE SKILL

Prashanti Rai
4th semester

HIWAGA

Ankita Sharma
4th Semester

We all at some point in our lives have heard about the word willpower and also lines like "you have to have strong willpower if you want to achieve this". But did anyone ever stop you and explained why willpower is that important? What difference does strong willpower make in your life?

Willpower is another word for self-control, determination or self-discipline.

Discipline reminds me of my school days and how my PT teacher had given us long lectures while make us stand under the scorching heat or the morning prayers when we had to stand in straight lines.

"Beta, you all don't understand the importance of it, this determines your whole identity ".

Now when I walk down the memory lane, I feel they even when trying to make us understand failed to explain its meaning. Or maybe it is on those days have I learned the meaning of it without really knowing.

What can we not achieve if we have enough strength to resist our short term gratification? I for one could have finished my syllabus on time rather than reading all the fanfictions that I read or maybe gotten out of bed a little earlier and done some yoga.

There are so many things that could have been better, I would have been happier.

But willpower isn't the only crucial, part is it?

Oh, willpower you little mystery why had not you come to me when I was getting distracted?

Oh, have I learned my lessons yet? Can I achieve my goals now?

I have to learn. I have to practice.



Your only limit is your mind

Prashanti Rai
4th semester

PsYCHeDELiCS

Subhadeep Chakrabarti
4th semester

Millions of years have passed and our consciousness has evolved to a point that today we humans have shifted from forests to huge concrete building and our food is processed in factories. 'The brain' does its wonder as being our body's engine which makes the conscious. We travel from one place aluminium.

Soon in few years, we will be able to build flying cars and to your surprise, this is just a rough estimation. Between this rapid evolution and our cultural transformation, we are forgetting about our one special ability that is to manipulate our consciousness. It is a state where we feel aware of our existence and our surrounding and differentiate it into categories like that's male-female, land, water, love, watered.

We experience this because we are in a conscious state or you can say the normal state of the brain. But sometimes some people travel from this normal state and can enter a special dimension of that brain which is done through " psychedelics".



Psychedelics is made of two words “psyche” which means mind and “Delos” means revealing. It is basically of 4 types and the main type is serotonergic which gives a vast and deep feeling like DMT, cannabinoids, psilocybin mushrooms. The mysterious part is that its molecular structures match with the serotonin in our brain and when we ingest it, it binds with the serotonin receptors without causing any harm to it and we get a mystical experience that is way different from the other harmful drugs.

According to some top psychologists and philosophers, we can know from these natural drugs that the normal reality in front of our eyes is incomplete. What we consider as reality is not what it seems like but in the psychedelic state, we can see the actual reality in front of us which is way beyond impossible to see in what we call a normal state.

Years of research from top medical universities like John Hopkins University states that one dose of these natural drugs like magic mushroom, ayahuasca plant or DMT combined with psychotherapy can help in drastically reducing the symptoms of depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, many neurological disorders can treat our smoking habits and also abnormal drinking habits as this substance is innocuous to use.

One of the most mind-bending experiment was done by John Hopkins university where they got 30 participants, who were last stage, cancer patients. As we know that they are the worst psychological sufferers of anxiety, depression, sadness. They were given a dose of DMT and LSD, as part of the experiment. The participants thereby informed that their psychological suffering reduced dramatically and it again gave them the meaning of life and purpose. It drastically reduced their fear of death and gave them a new perspective on life.

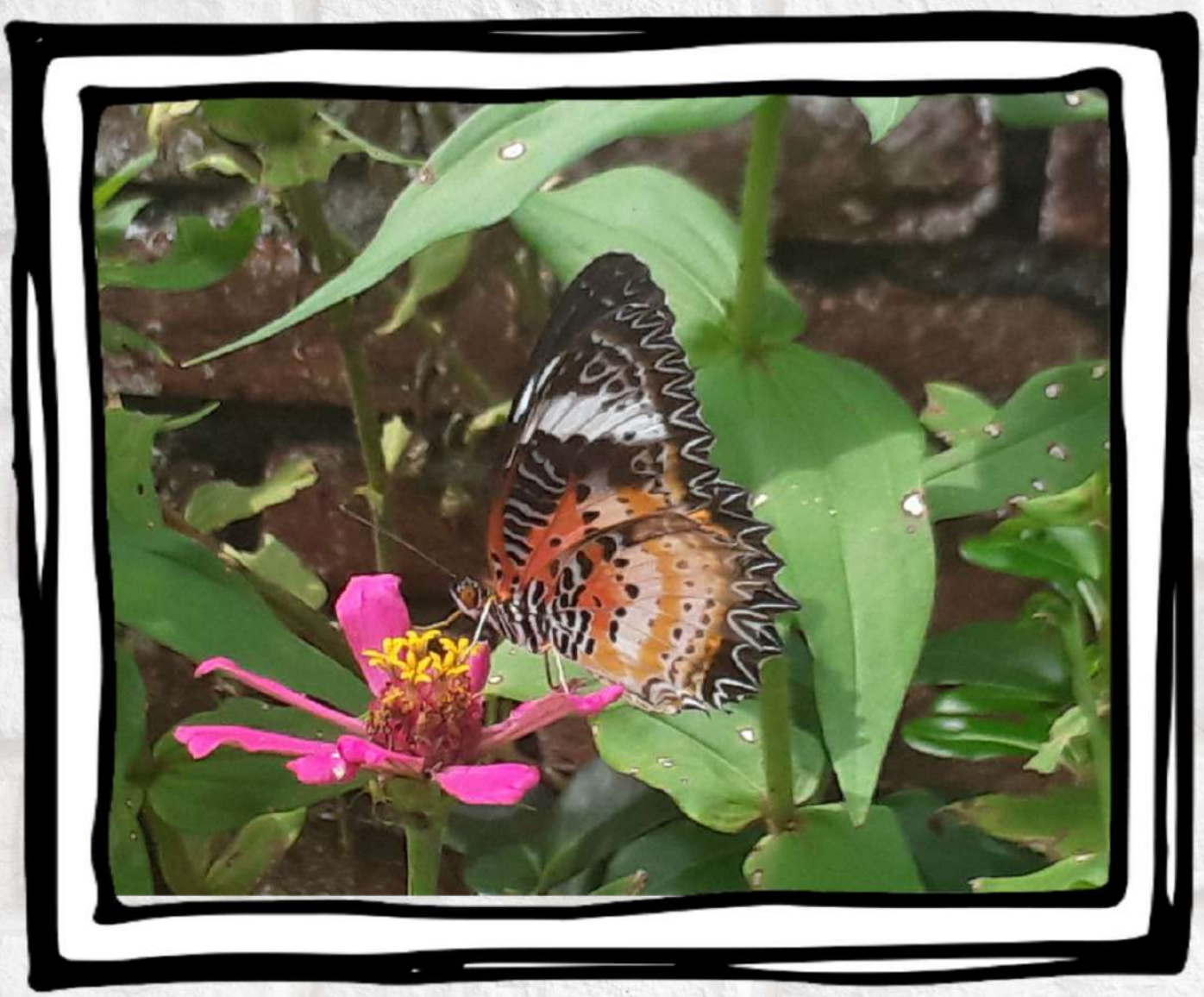
Sigmund Freud called dreaming 'the royal road to the unconscious' then this internal visual element of the psychedelics experience is more like an only superhighway to the unconscious. Some researchers have suggested that humans accidentally ingesting psychedelic plants explain the rapid advancement from spiritually gracious primitives to spirit worshipping humans that we have evolved from.

It is known for certain that classic psychedelic drugs played a part in the beginnings of most modern religions. The 1200 texts that make up the Hindu Rig Veda out of those 100 texts are dedicated to mythical "SOMA" which the Hindus call as Amrit- “elixir of life” and today’s mythological researchers claim it to be some kind of ancient ritual psychedelic drink dated back 2000 years ago.

The field of consciousness research could take great use of psychedelic drugs. After all, they are organic compounds with known structures and well-understood pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics, that have profound psychological effects on the user. These classic natural mind-altering drugs could inform us about the parapsychology, ESP (extra sensory perception) even provide preconscious and near-death experiences. All of this is regarded as an area of "pseudoscience" as of now for the mainstream of psychological research.

PSYCHEDELICS WHEN USED RESPONSIBLY WITH PROPER CAUTION, WOULD BE THE MEANS FOR PSYCHOLOGY, LIKE, HOW MICROSCOPE IS FOR BIOLOGY, MEDICINE, OR, TELESCOPE, IS FOR ASTRONOMY.

It would be obvious thinking that if it's so beneficial to mankind then why it isn't legal worldwide and why it is not prescribed by the doctors or accessible at the nearest pharmacy. The reason behind it is if everyone gets to know about the positive benefits of these substances then the major pharmaceutical companies that produce these SSRIs (selective serotonin re-uptake inhibitors) like antidepressant pills which are prescribed to mentally ill people will go bankrupt by pulling down the medical drug economy and henceforth they declared it illegal to administer and possession of it (till today) in 1972.



The butterfly looks charming with its beautiful wings... It's the willpower to undergo the process of change from its initial stage that makes the difference.

Juli Rai
4th semester

When There's a Will, There's a Way

Rituja Biswas
2nd semester

Each day I wake up,
Each night I sleep with the will to
See the next rising sun.
Each day I hope,
Each day I pray to
Keep myself going in the long run.

Each day I wish
I get to live
The day like no other,
Each day I wish
I get to hear
From the people that matter.

Will they stay?
Will they leave?
You always think it over.

My will to survive through the hard days
My will to build the life I dreamt of
My will to find my ways
Out of the hurdles I spoke of.

Some days you just breathe through
When you can't help,
"I can and I will"
Keep reminding this to yourself.



Akansha Narayan
2nd semester

Grit

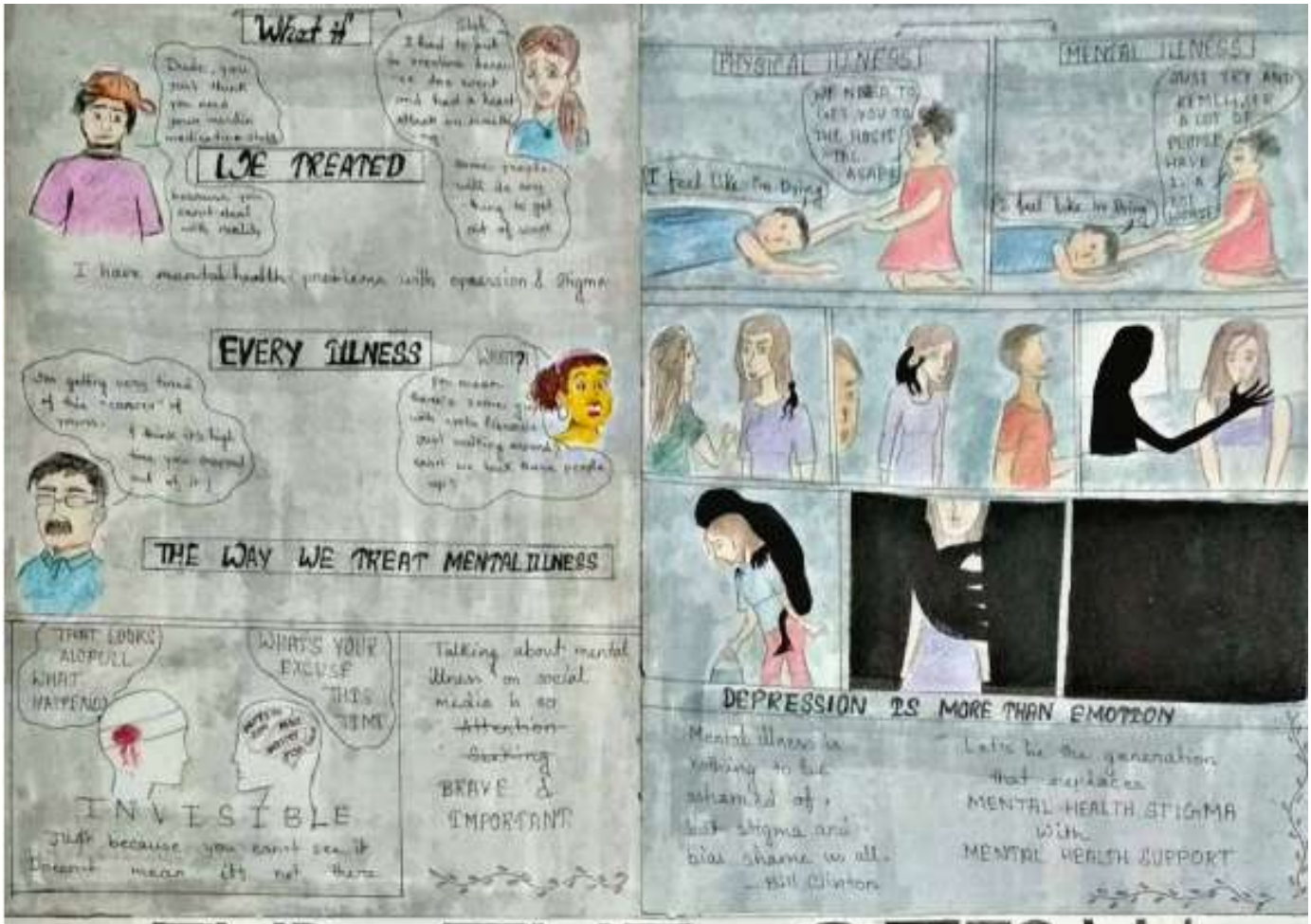
Banhunlang Lyngdoh
2nd semester

"When students fail, it actually builds the character and helps them develop 'Grit', mental toughness or courage that leads to perseverance", says Angela Lee Duckworth. 'Grit' was something new for me until I first met Fr. John Berger who introduced me to psychology. This was way back in 2018, at Salesian College Sonada. Ever since, I am passionate about 'Grit' and I want to share it with all of you readers. Moreover, it is far from being obsolete but, ever relevant.

Grit: The Power of Passion and Perseverance, was released in May 2016. Angela Lee Duckworth, an American psychologist and researcher defined this term for the first time in her book. She defines it as the passion and sustained persistence that implies resilience, ambition and self-control in the pursuit of long term goals. I agree with Vince Lombardi, "The difference between a successful person and others is not a lack of strength, not a lack of knowledge but rather a lack of will." Bandel 2014 experience taught me this lesson. I was not the only one with an interest to learn piano. However, only those who dare to put up with the theory classes and daily exercises succeeded. It was not easy. At one point in time I thought I would never be able to do it. However, the goal was always in my mind and this sustained my interest. The author notes the three main components of grit: sustained interest, sustained effort and long term goals. This 'Grit' is true for anybody who wills to use it for one's own life's benefit. This helps anyone to achieve and be successful, independent of and beyond what talent and intelligence contribute. Here are the five characteristics of grit. See if you have them already.

(i) Courage: Follow your vision no matter what.
(ii) Conscientiousness: "Allow no sleep to your eyelids," (Proverbs 6:4) thinking about it and devote a single-minded effort.
(iii) Perseverance: Taking 'a step' makes a difference, we know that; keep moving.
(iv) Resilience: When something untoward comes up, take a gaze at the beauty of your goal and bounce back with greater courage.
(v) Passion: Take courage to know that you are beautiful and of worth, and that your goal is lofty.

Mahatma Gandhi says, "Strength does not come from physical capacity, it comes from indomitable will. " Well, I believe Grit is the key to success and self confidence. It works for students in school, adults in profession and the elderly, searching to retain their happiness.



END THE STIGMA



Our teachers



Fr. Prof. Molekunnel James Chacko, Sdb



Fr. Prof. Molekunnel James Chacko,Sdb is a clinical psychologist and a practising counsellor. Currently he spearheads the Psychology Department as the HoD in Salesian College Siliguri. Why do global firms prefer Indian CEOs? Surprisingly humility stood second in the list among the five reasons. Well, father James too is easily noted for his humility. This mother of all virtues expands, enabling him to understand the weak and the poorer ones (Intellectually and economically). He is sociable and warmhearted and many feel attracted to encounter him. "All that is in his office is yours" said one of his students alluding to his generosity. Music is another aspect that is in his blood. His passion for hardwork and dedication is noted.

Dr. Paramita Datta Rej



Q1. Introduce yourself as a faculty at Salesian:

- I am Dr Paramita Datta Rej, currently the Associate Professor of Psychology.

Q2. How do you spend your leisure time?

- I usually spend my leisure time with my husband and my kid, other than cooking and reading books.

Q3. What did you struggle with the most as a student of Psychology?

- As a student I mostly struggled with statistics in psychology but surprisingly now I'm teaching my students and I'm loving it currently.

Q4.Tell me something about your favourite books and movies?

- One of my favourite books is "The Hope Circuit, A psychologist's Journey from Helplessness to Optimism" . I usually watch a lot of movies but "A beautiful mind" will definitely be on top of the list.

Q5. Tell us about your most memorable moment in Salesian College as a faculty.

- My most memorable moment in Salesian was on 9th April,2021when my dear students decided to come up with Brainbow association and when it came to reality in its inauguration.

DIPANKAR RAI:



Q1. INTRODUCE YOURSELF AS A FACULTY AT SALESIAN:

• I have been affiliated as member of faculty with the Dept of Psychology, Salesian college for the last 3 years for which I feel extremely privileged, and honored for the opportunity to impart and share the knowledge and ideas of psychology. Since, Salesian today stands as the only higher institution in the entire North Bengal region to cater the need of exploring the field of psychology among the aspiring generations of students. Overall the institution based culture and climate has surely helped me in terms of enhancing my psychological strength and capacities and that's how I see the transitions that I have made on the self concept and self knowledge as a teacher from where I started to where I see myself today.

Q3. What did you aspire to become in your childhood?

• While everyone in childhood have many dreams and fantasies I always dreamt of inspiring and leading a team, form of a group and shaping society through my reach and belonging.

Q4. What did you struggle with the most as a student of Psychology?

• The most common struggle that every individual pursuing psychology faces is to breakdown the stereotypical thoughts of people that studying psychology would enable a person to read mind and others perspective on psychology as being limited to the study of mental issues.

Q6. How do you spend your leisure time?

• Bike rides, playing music, journaling thoughts-poems are some of my recreational activities that I would indulge in to spend my leisure time.

Q7. Tell me something about your favorite books and movies?

• I often find my priority of reading and watching non fictional books and movies, which are inspired by true life events.

Q8. Tell us about your most memorable moment in Salesian College as a faculty.

• Every moment in the college has been memorable whether it be with the students or with the colleagues on different account of experiences and learning.



NIKITA CHETTRI



Q1. Introduce yourself as a faculty at Salesian;

-Hi , I am Nikita Chettri , lecturer at the Department of Psychology, Salesian College, Siliguri Campus.

Q2. What did you aspire to become in your childhood?

Well, speaking about my childhood there's a whole list of things that I wanted to be. At the top of the list was a Commercial Airline Pilot.

Q3. What did you struggle with the most as a student of Psychology?

- I wouldn't say I struggled with it but Social psychology has always been my Achilles heels.

Q4. How do you spend your leisure time?

- I usually spend my free time doing what most of us love to do i.e watching series and movies, reading books and listening to music. I also like to learn new languages so I try to practise my rusty Spanish.
-

Q5. Tell me something about your favourite books and movies?

- My most recent favourite book would be Pachinko and To Kill a Mocking bird has been my all time love. For movies I enjoy watching most movies.

Q6. Tell us about your most memorable moment in Salesian College as a faculty.

- As I joined Salesian last November. I mostly took my classes online . So, I'd say the day I first saw all of you on campus and look my first class offline would be the most memorable day for me.

AJANTA TAMANG:



Q1. INTRODUCE YOURSELF AS A FACULTY AT SALESIAN:

ANS: Hi, everyone myself Ajanta Tamang for the department of Psychology working as Assistant Professor at Salesian College, Siliguri Campus.

Q2. What did you aspire to become in your childhood?

Ans: As a child I was not clear with what I wanted but the only thing that I liked was the teaching profession. Therefore, now I want to teach, my thoughts are like 'what if I could make a small difference in someone's life?' I would really feel that I have achieved something. Obviously not only the traditional teaching of academic only but also ways of life when I teach psychology and especially the practical use of how one can use the theoretical knowledge one has learned in class in real life.

Q3. What did you struggle with the most as a student of Psychology?

Ans: As a student I really enjoyed learning and still I learn new aspects of psychology now and then. The only thing I feel I struggled was the practicality or opportunities for practical and internship. This are, I feel very essential for a student to pursue.

Q4. How do you spend your leisure time?

Ans: I do all sort of things; I like trying everything. In my leisure time I would like to engage myself in art works like painting, doodling, making mandalas, etc. I love movies therefore I watch movies. Apart from that I listen to music all the time, helps me to concentrate.

Q5. Tell me something about your favorite books and movies?

Ans: My favorite movies are "sybil", "breaking bad", "forest gump" and many more. Talking about books there are two books I love, they are "the road less travelled" & "ikigai".

Q6. Tell us about your most memorable moment in Salesian College as a faculty.

Ans: I have joined Salesian recently, and I started my career with online teaching. Therefore I don't have much of experience but one thing that was memorable was during the FDP program in Sonada, at the end of the program we were suppose to remember the names of all the new faculty and had to tell. As I have hard time recalling name, that something I am bad at, but I was challenged to do, but surprisingly I could recall may be around 20+ names. And I was shocked. Ha-ha!


Thank you