Note from Principal’s Desk

Message

St. John’s College, Agra is committed to holistic development of its students to make them leaders in a rapidly transforming world. The rapid transformation of modern workplace and societal structures leaves little room for complacency and requires people who have a mix of competence, flexibility and resilience. In order to develop these attributes in our students, opportunities to participate in various activities are provided. Participation in various activities and opportunities of interaction with leaders in various fields can facilitate a process of the optimal development of students.

Modern communication technologies have resulted in ubiquitous access to information through various inexpensive gadgets. This trend has empowered individuals to speak to a boundary-less world. People with good content can find a worldwide audience and make their creative works visible on multiple platforms. The college has started a quarterly electronic magazine *Shabd: The Power to Express*. I hope that students and faculty would make use of it to reach out to the world.

The electronic format makes its dissemination widespread and enables readers to access it from their mobile phones and other such devices.

This e-magazine would also connect students to the college providing them an overview of various activities going on in different departments of the college. We also look to it as the space, which can be used by our distinguished alumni to speak to the present generations of students and inspire them with their expertise and experience. I also take this opportunity in thanking the entire e-zine committee for their commendable hard work in bringing out the first issue.

Prof. S.P. Singh
Principal

Volume 1, No:1, Autumn, 2019
A Word from the Editor

Dear Readers,

It gives me immense pleasure to place this first issue of a new magazine before you for your perusal.

In an era where the visual and the verbal dominate, the word seems rather mundane, ordinary, bereft of the prominence it once commanded. Contrarily, everyone writes, and a sea of writing, much of it ordinary, threatens a deluge! It is incumbent upon us to save our literary heritage, to encourage good writing and reward the literary imagination.

Even in the humblest of submissions, I see a hunger for expression in language, the desire to push words out and pull them in. Ironically, on the internet these days, I see creative interaction in the way words are used, in entirely new connotations. That is the new world we live in, full of energies seeking expression; it is these energies, that I hope will find a platform here. The voice of an articulate, young and vibrant India, struggling to be heard over the many challenges that seek to silence it.

This new culture is neither exclusive nor simplistic, but representative of the diversities that make our country the kaleidoscope of voices and colours and cultures, all thriving, argumentative and imaginative.

The team of editors and moderators has put in considerable effort to make this magazine, once merely a thought, nay just a dream, a reality. My congratulations to all of them. My thanks to our Principal, Professor S P Singh, for trusting us with what was essentially his dream, for support in nurturing it thus far and, in the future, further.

Needless to say, each author is individually responsible for the views expressed in their articles.

May a thousand “volumes” bloom forth.

Dr Vinny Jain
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Shubhangi Pasricha M.A.(Final) English
A multidisciplinary talks was organized on “Developing Big Data System and Predictive Analytics” at department of Botany on 24th July 2019. Dr. David Sathiaraj, Associate Professor of Louisiana State University, United States, the invited speaker emphasized the use of “Big Data” in political, social, education, healthcare, research and environmental issues. Dr. S K Dubey, Director, ICAR-IISWCC, Agra was Hon’ble Chief Guest. Apart from our students, the talk was well attended by professors and scholars from various colleges and institutions like JALMA, SLS, DEI, IBS, Agra College, RBS, College, Aryan Institute etc.
Botanical Society Inauguration and Installation of Office Bearers

The 20th Executive Committee (2019-20) of the Botanical Society (BOTSO) was installed on 9th Aug. '19. BOTSO provides a forum for students to hone their talents while raising awareness about the environment. The Chief Guest for the occasion Padma Shri Prof. D.K. Hazra delivered a scintillating talk on Botany: Then, Now and the Future. Dr S P Singh, Principal inspired all the students and also appreciated everyone to keep up the spirit and motivated all to be active towards the department. Also present were Rev. Dr. B. Sundara Singh, and other academicians of the city and of course our budding botanists. The programme ran like clockwork thanks to our untiring undergraduate and postgraduate students ably guided by Dr. S. G. Singh, HOD and Patron BOTSO and Dr. (Mrs.) Manjula Thomas, Coordinator BOTSO.
From left :

Dr. Samuel Gorden Singh Head, Dept. of Botany,
Rev. Dr. B. S. Singh Retd. Head, Dept. of Botany,
Prof S. P. Singh, Principal,
Padma Shri Prof. D. K. Hazra.
The Botanical Society Group 2019-20

The Installation Ceremony (on the 9th Aug. 2019) of the Botanical Society
Distinguished Former Faculty Members
Motivational Talk on 09-08-19 organised by Dept of Chemistry.

Chemical Society, Dept of Chemistry, St. John's College, Agra organised a motivational talk on 'Can you metaphorize?' by Dr. V.U. Vishnoi, Former Head, Dept. of Economics.

On 09-08-19 Prof S P Singh, Principal, St. John’s College, Agra inaugurated the programme. Dr. Ashok Kumar (Founder Director, CHEMSO, Former Head, Dept. of Chemistry), Dr. H.B. Singh (Former Co-Ordinator, CHEMSO, Former Associate Professor Dept of Chemistry), Dr. Susan Verghese P. (Director, CHEMSO, Head, Dept. of Chemistry) welcomed the guests, Dr. Raju V. John (Co-Ordinator), Dr. Mohd. Anis (Co-ordinator), Dr. Anita Anand (Treasurer). Mr. Praveen Tyagi, Mr. Ram Kumar Saraswat, Dr. Padmamalika Hazra & Dr. David D Massey were also present. Eighty students participated in the event.
St. John’s College, Agra celebrated the 73rd Independence Day with great éclat, pomp and show on the 15th of August, 2019 in the college premises. The 169 year old college was resplendent with patriotism echoing in its very spirit. The Independence Day programme began early morning at 7:45 am with a special thanksgiving service in the college chapel. The thanksgiving service was taken by Dr. Sharon Moses. Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Moses highlighted the need for Independence in every sphere of our lives. Inspite of being independent, we are still caught in the shackles of some kind of slavery. We are slaves to our habits, we are addicted to social media forgetting our responsibilities towards the society and the nation. Many of us are hooked on to looks, luxuries and outer appearances failing to realize that it is what is inside that counts and not what is outside. Dr. Moses also reminded us of the very fundamentals of our democracy which are Justice, Liberty, Equality and Fraternity. A prayer was offered to Almighty for peace, harmony and progress of this mighty nation.

After the thanksgiving service, it was the time to remember the man who gave us freedom, none other than our very own Bapu, Mahatma Gandhi, who with his ideas of non-violence, and satyagraha played the most essential role in one of the greatest revolutions on the earth, without much blood-shed. It was Gandhiji, who
through his movements of non-cooperation, civil disobedience and Quit India, made the British bend on their knees to leave this great nation. First thing in the morning, a photograph of Mahatma Gandhi was garlanded as a tribute to the Father of the Nation. Following that, our honourable Principal, Prof. S.P. Singh hoisted the Tricolor. The proud unfurling of the national flag was followed by the National Anthem in front of the college building. The anthem, the singing of which is always a proud moment for every Indian, was led by the girls of the Davies House. The cadets displayed the motto of NCC ‘unity and discipline’ through their march past.
This was followed by the message of Dr. Vandana Sharma, Director Higher Education, U.P., read by our Chief Proctor, Dr. Madhurima Sharma. The message stressed on the fact that though we are free politically, we are lacking in the freedom of spirit. As Tagore once said, it is not the freedom of body but the freedom of mind, what we must aspire for. The message also contained the sacrifices made by our martyrs - both before and after independence including our soldiers who have laid down their lives protecting their fellow citizens. Dr. Sharma also talked of realizing the true value of freedom and contributing to the nation-building process. Talking about the government policies for the future nation-builders, she also stressed on the responsibilities that each student has towards the society and the nation as a whole, each drop makes an ocean. In the same way, each one of us must contribute to see our national flag at the pinnacle of glory.

The further proceedings were conducted in the college hall. The function in the hall began with a speech by Dr. Poonam Das, The Head, Department of Psychology, who exhorted the students to enrich the nation by utilizing their full potential. Dr. Das’ speech was followed by a speech by Nidhi Khowara, a student of B.A. Part 1.

After the meaningful and inspiring speeches, was the time for some patriotic songs. Group songs were performed by Aleena Verghese, Akash Mishra, Ashna Christina Das and Animesh Saxena. The students performed a medley of wonderful songs like ‘Maula mere lelemerijaan’, with the message of secularism, ‘Bandemeinthadum’ talking of Gandhiji, ‘Desh mere Desh mere’, ‘Kandho se miltehainkandhe’ and ‘Haitujhe salaam India’. The songs filled the hearts of the audience with pride, giving each and everyone goose bumps and the emotional fervor could be seen and felt.
The patriotic songs were followed by the prayer for the nation and prayer for the college. The celebrations were enriched by the message of the quintessential educator, the vibrant and judicious Principal, Prof. S.P. Singh. In his message, Prof.Singh spoke about the responsibility that comes hand-in-hand with freedom. The rights should always go on with duties. Talking about India’s glorious past, he pointed out that we were great in ancient time, powers and once again we have to attain the glory that once we cherished. The onus lies on the youth of today. He exhorted the students to work hard, be responsible citizens and thus be a part of the nation’s journey to progress and development. The principal then expressed his hope to see each and every student of St. John’s College, become an asset to the institute, the society and the nation. The entire proceedings were conducted in an efficient and time-bound manner under the valuable guidance of Dr. Vinny Jain, The Convener of the College Cultural Committee.
The NCC Army wing wasn’t left behind in the celebrations. They organized a plantation drive in which the Principal himself and the teachers of the college participated along with the cadets.
The jubilant function successfully concluded with a staff photograph.
Dwindling freshwater resources, especially groundwater, is one of the major issues of the 21st century. The pressure of economic development and population growth is combined with the variable natural distribution of water make sustainable management of this resource a challenge. The Botanical Society organized an Essay Writing Competition on the topic “Sustainable Management of our Water Resources” on August 16, 2019, where our young minds poured out their concern and possible solutions with all the expertise of skilled wordsmiths. Content given by the students on the topic was very informative. Students gave some very bold and innovative ideas. The strong message given by the students that “they can only bring the change” inspired and motivated everyone. The winners will be rewarded in BOTSO annual function.

Meena Rochani, M.A. 1st year

A highly professional and informative workshop was organized at St. John’s College, Agra from 16th – 31st August 2019 by the endorsement and authorisation of our respected Principal Prof. S.P. Singh and convener Dr. Vinny Jain.

Students who had participated in the workshop were trained by a very proficient and adept trainer Mr. Rohit Chauhan, who is a distinguished alumnus of BhartenduNatiya Academy, Lucknow and has been serving in the field of theatre for a long time in Agra. We were also upskilled for four days by Mr. Prakhar Singh who is an alumnus of this institute and is himself a trained theatre artist.

“...a training workshop is defined as an exemplified abstraction of developing nimble and graceful skills and knowledge concentrated and focused on an intense subject with a single-eyed aim to help blossom one’s performance, personality, and creative energies”.

Yes, this training workshop has nailed its objective to sow the seeds of expressions through acting and drama in its participants which will definitely reap beautiful fruits in the form of creation of vivid artists.

Participants were taught with every possible adroit concepts of drama where not even a single stone was left unturned.

When it came to ingrain inputs related to pronunciation, diction and articulation of dialogues, the nimble efficiency of comprehending the given text, to correlate with the character’s situation and circumstances by putting ourselves in his shoes, by evoking in us the same emotions, feelings & sensibility with appropriate voice modulation we were taught the art of “dialoguedelivery”. How physical exercises accompanied with meditation & concentration plays a vital and crucial role in the journey to be an actor was made to be seen by us in this workshop only.
It all began from scratch when our trainer had asked us all to introduce ourselves. It was that moment we had realised that we were neither confident nor clear with our voices to even speak out our names and courses we pursue and nor were having balance over our own bodies while standing during the introduction round. The reason for these difficulties was lack of physical exercises, yoga and meditation. Thereafter we were taught all the necessary breathing exercises which controls five resonators of our body namely stomach, chest, throat, nose and skull. If we were able to cultivate an intense command and control over them, then one of the very crucial tools of an actor that is his “voice” is ready to be brought into action in any situation. For representing an art form especially drama, an actor holds three precious and priceless belongings namely his body, voice and soul. To get himself adjusted in the shoes of any character an actor needs his body and mind to be flexible enough to break his own comfort zone and get drowned into the circumstances of the character while enacting him well and simultaneously the actor to find a place in the hearts and minds of the audience. To bring in us that pliancy and suppleness we were made to do intense physical and emotion evoking exercises along with different styles of walking, running, dancing, sitting and standing. This was all done to rid us all of the bars of consciousness and hesitation and get the best performance from our inner self. Another unconventional concept of impulses which are triggered in our body whenever we articulate a dialogue was made to be realised by us only by reinvigorating dialogues and poetry time and again.
The art of comprehending, contemplating and being aware of the authenticity of the background of the play, knowing about the life of the author and getting well versed with the emotions, body language, aura and grace of the character was taught and practised in great detail. If one is asked to express in brevity then, it was as if we were trained in the subtle art of actually living the life of a character. How yoga and meditation would help us to drown in the mood of the character and would also assist to come out of it was generously made to be practised by us in the workshop. we had also worked out on our dialogues on the rhyme and rhythm of music in order to understand how far have we improved when it came to voice modulation and control over our breathing system. We had also been given various tasks and exercises on mime on a common situation in which we were informed with every microscopic mistake we had committed in our performance and the ways to eliminate them regarding future performances. We were also practically explained and enlightened about the grace with which an actor should cover the stage and set a tight bonding with the audience with all coherent reasons.

The fine art of inventiveness and innovation should uncompromisingly run in the mind of an actor. The horsepower and dynamism of our creative energies was tested when we were all given a task to inject life in the given dead properties and create a show of our own choice. It was then we had confronted the truth that we should try and think beyond what we already know and what others have already thought about and even implemented. a strong signal of energising our potential creativity and to confidently be ourselves directly reached us that day. There should exist an alignment and bonding amongst the co-actors.

They should very well synchronize and hold each other’s emotions during the time of dialogue delivery. This needs unbreakable concentration and reliance on each other. We wereagain made to practise this art in a very utilitarian way.
The most astounding and aesthetic learning in the workshop was to read alluring works by different authors which made us realise that life was much more beautiful than what we take it to be.

It was a grand, exceptional and majestic learning experience to have a session with Sir DimpyMisra –Director of RangloksanskritiSansthan, Agra. He has also been appraised for his high spirited contribution in theatre by UP SangeetNatyakala Academy Award 2018. It was for all of us a life changing experience.

On the final day of valedictory that is on 3rd September 2019, we all fell in love with the “stage”. We were made to truly inculcate in ourselves respect and reverence for that stage where we stand on and perform as an artist which is the purest form of our entreaty to almighty.

The confidence and credence we had developed as beginners in the field of performing arts, its replica cannot be made in words but then its sparkle and shine would always be illuminating in our eyes. It was on this day we had lived the experience of “team-work”.

With wholehearted gratitude and sense of obligation we would like to show our gratitude to Almighty and to all our teachers, instructors and helpers without whom this workshop could never have taken a shape of a successful reality and we as participants would never have found a new self in a time span of 15 days.

Sir DimpyMisra made us learn in a great detail about folk songs and their culture in Indian along with the way in which we should practice them to come up with a finer version of it. Adding to this we were also instructed about different important notions of drama by him which was a complementary dose of knowledge for our performances.

**Valedictory Performance**
Names and Courses of the participants

1) Ajay Vikram  B.A.1st year  
2) Alex Wilson  M.Com(APP. BUSS. ECO.).2nd year  
3) Anant Agarwal  B.A.1st year  
4) Gargi Singh  B.A.2nd year  
5) Madhu Kumari  B.A.2nd year  
6) Manvendra Singh  B.A.1st year  
7) Meena Rochani  M.A.1st year  
8) Mohd. Talib Khan  B.B.A.2nd year  
9) Mritunjay Chauhan  B.Com.3rd year  
10) Nidhi Khowara  B.A..1st year  
11) Priyank Katheria  B.B.A.3rd year  
12) Ridhima Yadav  B.A.2nd year  
13) Sameer Kureshi  B.Com.1st year  
14) Shreshthanar Wariya  B.A.,2nd year  
15) Sony Wadhwa  B.B.A.3rd year  
16) Utkarsh  M.A.1st year
RELEASE OF BROCHURE ON 19-08-19

Released the brochure on 19-08-19 of an International Seminar on Recent advances in Environmental protection (RAEP-2019)&an Alumni meet of CHEMSO (Golden jubilee) to be held on 1st &2nd Nov,2019 in Chemistry Department, St.John's College, Agra
Workshop on Miniature and Fairy Garden: An initiative towards Entrepreneurship Development

‘Big Things Come in Small Packages’. Bringing out the truth of the statement, a workshop was organized by Department of Botany on 20\textsuperscript{th} September 2019.

Dr. Sumita Dodia, Coordinator of Aryan Institute, mesmerized the students with her lively talk and demonstration. Dr. Dodia has been an almuna of the institution. She has been practicing art of Bonsai Making and Miniature Gardening for some years now. She has been conferred with an award in the field, recently, by the Commissioner of Agra. A plant lover as she is, she conveyed to the students that plants need to be taken care of as humans. She pointed out that Miniature Gardening can be used as therapy too.

She has been working as a consultant for PPDC, an MSME by Govt of India. Here, she has been providing her valuable advice for poly houses and green houses. A
new form of Miniature Gardening ‘Penjing’ has caught attention of Dr.Dodia. It is the art of developing a plant on the rock. This is the first of its kind in Agra.

Dr. Dodia clearly brought out how a small investment in this field can earn multiplied returns. A number of her exhibits have already been taken at a much higher price.

During the workshop, she demonstrated technique of setting up a miniature garden. She suggested plants that can be used, laying down of soil, fertilizers and compost to be used and beautification of the same. She strongly advocated use of the Snake plant (Sansevieria trifasciata) which are great contributors for purifying air. She also pointed out the preliminary precautions to be taken before setting up the garden. Students saw with great interest, how a particular theme can be developed into a fairy garden. As a token of love and appreciation, she has gifted one exhibit to the department.

Workshop was attended by faculty of other Departments too.

Dr. Samuel Gorden Singh, Head of the Department, applauded Dr. Dodia for the laurels she has won in this field. He also encouraged students to learn this art along with their studies.

Entire faculty is thankful to Principal, Dr. S. P. Singh, for encouraging the department to carry out this activity. BOTSO, continues to endeavour to guide students towards scientific and independent thinking.
Dr. Dodia
Sharing her Experiences
NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME: FIT INDIA MOVEMENT
REPORT

The live streaming of the central governments “Fit India Movement” program telecast on television was organized by the two NSS units of St John’s College on Thursday, 29th August, 2019 at 10.15 a.m. The highlight of the hour long physical fitness programme was the speech by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on the benefits of physical exercises and yoga for a sound body and mind. About 200 students, the Principal Prof. Dr S. P. Singh, members of the college staff and NSS programme officers Dr Vidhu Grace Noel and Dr Isaac A. Ghosh were present on the occasion.
A tree plantation drive was initiated by the two NSS units of St John’s College, on Saturday, 31 August, 2019. The drive was inaugurated by the Principal Prof. Dr S. P. Singh with the planting of the first treesapling in front of the College Chapel. About 150 NSS volunteers enthusiastically participated in the drive by digging holes in the ground, planting and watering the plants at the periphery of the college cricket ground. Dr Rajeev Philip, Dr Sanjay Jain, Dr Sanjeev Sharma, Dr Preeti Masih, Ms Atisha Srivastava were some of the staff members present on the occasion along with the NSS Programme officers, Ms Vidhu Grace Noel and Dr Isaac A. Ghosh.
A seminar was organized on "Band Theory and Semiconductors" in Seminar Room of Dept. of Chemistry on 28-09-19. Mr. Abinay Jain of M.Sc Inorganic Chemistry was the speaker. He covered the concepts of energy band theory, Fermi energy levels, band structure diagram, band structure in nano technology, Extrinsic and Intrinsic semiconductor -n junctions, Organic and inorganic semiconductor through illustrations. Dr Susan Verghese P, Head, Dept of Chemistry, is the Mentor. Dr Raju V John, Dr Shalini Nelson, Mr Praveen Tyagi, Dr David D Massey and M.Sc (F) students were also participated in the seminar.
The Orientation Programme of the two units of the National Service Scheme (NSS) of St John’s College was organized on Monday, 2nd September, 2019 in the main College Hall. The two hour long programme commenced at 12.30 p.m. Principal of the college, Prof. Dr S. P. Singh chaired the programme. The ChiefGuest on the occasion was Dr Ramvir Singh Chauhan, Programme Coordinator, NSS, Dr Bhim RaoAmbedkar University, Agra. The Programme began with the lighting of the lamp by the Principal, the Chief Guest, the two speakers for the orientation, Dr Samuel Stanley and Dr Sanjay Jain, Dr WijeeshSimon and the NSS Programme officers, Ms Vidhu Grace Noel and Dr Isaac A. Ghosh.

Prof. S.P.Singh addressed the students and motivated them to actively participate in NSS activities. Dr Chauhan and Dr Jain oriented the students on the vision, mission and the activities of the NSS. Dr Stanley presented a special song on the occasion and exhorted the student volunteers about giving their best to the college and the NSS.

There was a colourful cultural programme of song, dance, skit, poetry recitation, etc., also enthusiastically organized by the NSS volunteers, which was much appreciated by the audience. The Orientation programme was excellently conducted and anchored by our student volunteers Ms Priya Yadav and Mr
Saurabh Karwani. The programme concluded with the singing of the national anthem.

**51st Inaugural Function of CHEMICAL SOCIETY and 1st Installation ceremony of Office bearers**

The Function started with a word of prayer by Dr Anita V K Anand and prayer on 3rd Sept. 2019 song sung by M.Sc (F) students. Dr Susan Verghese P, Director(CHEMSO), Head Dept. of Chemistry welcomed the dignitaries and guests and also pointed out the need to reduce environmental pollution caused by chemical laboratory directly or indirectly.

“India vision 2020-Air Pollution perception” Key note address given by Prof Ajay Taneja (Alumnus), Institute of Basic Sciences, Dr B R A university, Agra on the occasion of 51st Inaugural Function of CHEMSO and 1st Installation ceremony of Office bearers on 3rd Sep 2019 in Dept. Chemistry. He spoke about the vision of the former President of India Dr A P J Abdul Kalam and implementation strategies adopted by the Niti Aayog, for creating a New India. He was hopeful of achieving the target of 20% reduction in Particulate matter (PM 2.5 & 10) by 2020. Prof S P Singh, Patron CHEMSO, Principal St. John’s college encouraged and motivated the students through his address.

Dr Raju V John announced the names of office bearers and Prof S P Singh installed them by administering an oath of office and prayer of dedication. Ms. Anjali Sharma, President, CHEMSO expressed vote of thanks , Ms. Kiran Kumari, Cultural Secretary was the Master of Ceremony. Ashoka trees were also planted in departmental garden to reduce the impact of greenhouse gases.
Workshop on "Health Hazards of Plastic and Solutions"

A workshop was organized by Botanical Society on the topic ‘Health hazards of Plastic and Solutions’ on 3rd September 2019. Resource person Dr Meeta Kulshreshtha and team of the ‘Unfold Foundation’ emphasized the danger of chemicals like BPA, Dioxins and Styrene found in plastics and the need to rethink our lifestyles. She went on to inform the audience how to reduce the use of plastic as well as its proper waste management and recycling through various practical demonstrations. Currently “eco-bricks” are a viable option to keep plastic waste away from landfills. Dr Samuel Gorden Singh exhorted the students to take this threat to the environment and our future seriously. He stressed that we needed to protect our future generations from this menace. The workshop was a great success attested by the interest taken by our students and the
Career Counseling for UG (ii and iii) classes

Department of Chemistry organized a Career Counseling Session for UG (ii and iii) classes on 04 Sep 2019 to plan their career after graduation by Career Launcher Agra, in C-3, Department of Chemistry. Dr Susan Verghese welcomed the Team of Career Launcher. Dr Raju V John, Dr Anita Anand, Dr Mohd. Anis, Mr Praveen Tyagi and Dr David D Massey participated in the event. 62 students from UG (ii&iii) attended and benefitted from this programme.
Teacher’s day celebration was organized by MSc. (P) and MSc. (F) in PG wing on 5th September. The program was compared by Swati Yadav in which all the teaching and non-teaching staff members of Botany Department were invited. Students expressed their views on the teacher’s day. Head of the Department, Dr. Samuel G. Singh blessed the students with his motivational speech. The programme ended with a vote of thanks.
Teacher’s day celebration on 5th Sep. 2019

On September 5th, 2019 students of M. Sc Chemistry got together on the occasion of teacher’s day to appreciate their teachers for everything they do to bring out the best in their students as a mentor, philosopher and guide. Students expressed their love, gratitude towards their teachers by cutting cakes, reciting poems and speeches in PG open library. It was followed by tree plantation to symbolize that the seed of knowledge planted in students by teachers become a tree and provide shelter, shade and protection for others.
TEACHER’S DAY CELEBRATION ON 5TH SEPTEMBER 2019 – A REPORT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
A vibrant programme was organized to celebrate Teacher’s Day at the Department of Education, St. John’s College, Agra by the students of Department of Education on 5th September 2019. Teachers Day is celebrated on 5th of September every year since 1962 as it is the birth anniversary of Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan-First Vice President of India and the Second President of India, a prominent thinker, philosopher and an educator. We remember his great work on this day. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. S. P. Singh, Principal St. John’s College, Agra and several faculty members of the college participated. The whole function was planned by the faculty teachers with faculty coordinator. As per the Indian culture, the programme was started with a prayer by the students of B.Ed. & D.El.Ed. Students express their gratitude and appreciation for their teachers on this day. Teacher’s Day was celebrated as a tribute to the valuable contribution made by teachers to the society by imparting knowledge and enlightening and shaping the carrier of students. So, pupil teachers of the Department of Education celebrated Teacher’s Day in order to realize that teachers have been the architect of our society. Pupil teachers spoke on the importance of teachers in our life. They recited a poem expressing their emotions to honor their teachers. Performances of dance, singing, skit were carried out by the combined efforts of
B.Ed. & D.El.Ed. students. The celebration party was organized by pupil teachers of the Department. Cake cutting ceremony was done by the teachers and the programme ended with a lunch for all the staff members & the students.

**Glimpses of the Celebration**

**Teacher’s Day Programme Report**
No other profession as rewarding, no other reward as satisfying. Teacher’s day is a day to reckon and to contemplate as a Guru. 5th September of 2019 was made indelible by our students and the celebration they put up became the prism to gauge the gratitude they held for their teachers. The flow of fervency and enthusiasm marked the event successful...!

"A teacher's purpose is not to create students in his own image, but to develop students who can create their own image"

A teacher's day celebration was organised in the college hall by the students, on 5/9/19 at 2 pm. This programme, organised by the students for all the teachers of the college as well as the office staff, was organised at this scale for the very first time. Leadership for this was provided by Prerna Benjamin and Pratyasha Evangeline, students of the college.

The programme began with the Lord's prayer and the lighting of the lamp. A short cultural programme followed, poetry was recited, there was music and dance and a mimicry performance. Mementos were presented by the students to all the members of the staff to mark the occasion.
The principal of the college, Professor S P Singh, thanked the students on behalf of the college family for having organised such a celebration in such a dignified manner. The students were inspired in their efforts towards the programme by the Bible verse "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" Philippians:4:13.
Few Glimpses of the teachers day celebration
Singing Competition

A break from stress filled competition season was welcomed in the form of our CHEMSO activity held on September 6th, 2019. Mr Praveen Tyagi, Coordinator, conducted the Singing Competition which filled our hearts with joy and happiness. Dr Hemant Kulshretha (Former Director of CHEMSO, Head of Dept of Chemistry) was the Chief Guest. Dr Susan Verghese, P. motivated students by narrating ‘Ant’s labour’. Dr Shalini Nelson, Dr Anita Anand, Dr David D Massey were the judges and Dr Raju V John declared the result.
Ms Akansha Agarwal of M.Sc (Organic Chemistry) was the speaker on “Thermodynamics of Bio polymer”. Her presentation comprised of the role of entropy, temperature, enthalphy and free energy in the stability of bio polymers and also mentioned the significance of Osmotic pressure in maintaining life. Dr Susan Verghese P (mentor), Dr Raju V John, Dr Mohd. Anis, Dr Shalini Nelson, Dr Anita Anand and Mr Praveen Tyagi were also attended the seminar along with M.Sc (F) students.
What is more real than reality? ‘A Photograph’ Freezing fraction of a second to decode each and every strand of truth. The first-ever 3-day Photography workshop started from 9/9/19 in St. John's College which was attended by 22 students. The workshop was organised by Mr. Bob Gardner and inaugurated by Dr. Vinny Jain.

Our resource person Mr. Dheeraj Katara, a passionate wildlife and travel photographer explained the essentials of composition. Mr. Katara’s work is exhibited in the national-level exhibition in Indian Habitat Centre New Delhi. He has a book published on photography and is the founder member of 'Taj Photographers Club' and his articles and blogs are constantly published in leading media publications.
The main aim of the workshop was to expose students to the basic functioning of a digital SLR. Before jumping to the elements of composition the myth that good photos require a great camera was addressed and debunked. Mobile camera coming in handy and capturing great stories pre-sets the passion towards this art form. A DSLR is a mere instrument for capturing light. The triad of Shutter, Aperture and ISO controls the entry of rays through the mirror. Basic understanding of these three unleashes absolute control thereby off-setting the reliance on automated modes and presents a canvas blank enough to produce desired images.

Last day of the workshop our little photographers were taught about framing and practical function of a camera. They were taken out to hone their artistry where they captured nature, architecture and people.

The enthusiasm and energy of students marked a successful event.
“The photography workshop helped students like me in bettering our photography skills, the practical session helped a lot in understanding the basics of creating a strong photograph. The highlight for me was the photo exhibition, I really appreciate our college's continuous efforts encouraging students to develop their hobbies and passion into skills!”
Archit Sharma (BA II)
"The experience of this workshop was phenomenal and I wish to be a part of such workshops as it widens our scope and cognitive behaviour"
Sony Wadhwa (BBA III)

“The workshop was very enriching. We learned the fundamentals of photography and practical session helped us in improving our skills.”
Mudit Sharma (MA Previous)

The experience was enriching as well as rewarding at the same time as the workshop was followed by an International Photography Exhibition, Workshop and Competition which was inaugurated by our Principal Prof. S. P. Singh. Many of the students who attended the workshop qualified for the exhibition, where their photos were displayed at an international platform. The competition was tough and the talks augmented the experience and elevated the spirits of the participants. Mr. Jatin Jain and Nimit Nigam (Renowned photographers and mentors), Mr. Praveen Koli (PCCF UP), Mr. Manish Mittal (DFO Social Forest), Mr. Anand Srivastav (DFO Chambal) were also present and part of this exhibition.
Youth, today, is faced by many challenges. One of the foremost being means of sustenance. A number of opportunities have presented themselves to the contemporary generation. These range widely from academics to research, to various creative fields. A lucrative option which integrates the innovative genius of a young mind is desirable by the present generation.

Keeping the above in mind, a scientific talk entitled ‘Algae: Aligned to Light the Green Antenna Entities.’ was organized by Botanical Society on September 18, 2019. The keynote speaker was Dr. Randhir Singh Gajraj. Dr. Gajraj is Managing Director of Sabran Bioentrii Pvt., Ltd., Mumbai. He is also an alumnus of the institution. He is an internationally renowned entrepreneur and has 8 patents and 6 trademarks to his credit. Currently, he is associated with a dairy making feed for Amul at Gujarat and Rajasthan.
Through his presentation, he showcased various aspects of algal biotechnology like nutraceuticals, biofertilizers, cosmetics, pigments, vitamins and minerals, biofuels, green fodder for animal nutrition.

He shared a few interesting findings about Spirulina: The Single Cell Protein. Few innovations like Gold, Smell free and Chocolate brown Spirulina. He also introduced non saline version of alga Dunaliella.

The talk was attended by faculty members of other departments. Various distinguished guests from other colleges and research scholars were present too. After the talk, students from Under graduate and Post graduate classes got involved in an interactive session with Dr. Gajraj. He was more than delighted to addresses their queries regarding setting up their own ventures.

Our chief guest, Principal, Prof. S.P. Singh encouraged the students for developing entrepreneurship skills. He greatly appreciated the scope of these ‘green entities’. The department and faculty members are indebted to him for providing this opportunity.

Dr. Samuel Gorden Singh, Head of the Department, and other faculty members found the talk enriching and fruitful. They aim to conduct such interactions, for the benefits of students in the future too.
Inter Collegiate Football Tournament, for men, of Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar University, Agra was organized by St. John’s College, Agra, from 22nd September to 24th September 2019 and for women on 24th September 2019. This was the first time when 14 colleges affiliated to University participated in the tournament for men & three college colleges participated in the women category. The tournament was inaugurated by the honorable Vice-Chancellor of Dr. Arvind Kumar Dixit on 22nd September giving his blessing to the students. The guest of honour for the programmer was Dr. S. P. Singh, Principal St. John’s College, Agra.
St. John’s College defeated Ganjdundwara College in the quarter finals by 2-1 and then defeated R. B. S College, Agra in semi finals by 4-3 in penalty shootout. The final of the tournament was played between St. John’s College, Agra and Agra College, Agra on 24th of September in which St. John’s College, Agra defeated Agra college, Agra by 3-2 and became the champion of the Inter Collegiate Football tournament(men) of Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar University, Agra for year 2019-20. Five of the college team players namely Ashley John, Gaurav Kumar, Rahul Chahar, Advait & Krishan Kant was selected for the University Football Team to play for the North Zone which is to be held in Punjab in the month of November 2019.

The Chief Guest for final match was Mr. Har Vijay Bahia, a social worker and former student of St. John’s College, Agra. The anchoring of the tournament was conducted by Dr. Vinny Jain & Dr. Sanjay Jain. Vote of thanks was given by Dr. Rajiv Phillip.
The final of Inter Collegiate Women Football Championship was played between KRPG College, Mathura & Krishna College, Agra in which Krishna College defeated KRPG College, Mathura by 2-1 and became the woman football champion of Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar University for 2019-20. The organization of the programme was supervised by Dr. Anuranjan Minj, Sports Director St. John’s College, Agra and the Athletic Committee of St. John’s College, Agra.
REPORT OF UNIFEST 2019

Sony Wadhwa, B.B.A. 5th Semester

Unifest 2019 was held from 26th September – 28th September 2019 at Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar University, Khandari, Agra. There were approximately 29 various events in the Unifest under the main categories of Music, Dance, Literary, Theatre and Fine Arts. St. John’s College, Agra participated in all the events and very graciously won various events with 1st, 2nd and 3rd positions.

The practices for the Unifest began almost a month ago from the dates on which various competitions were to be held. There was a humongous amount of excitement and dedication in all the participant of various events and their mentors as well. The duty of the whole cultural mentor steam that is made up of various skilled teachers like our Principal Prof. S.P. Singh Sir, Dr. Vinny Jain, Mr. Bob Gardner, Ms. Atisha Srivastava, Dr. Isaac Ghosh, Ms. Pallavi Ma’am and contribution of various other teachers was of great importance for making this Unifest a success for the college.

The committee owes a debt to our Principal, Professor S.P. Singh and the Bursar of the College, Dr. P.A. Joy, who were both unstinting in their encouragement and support.

Two students were made team captains to take care of all the events happening during this time of Unifest. Girl’s team captain was Sony Wadhwa and Boy’s team captain was Alex Wilson.

From 6th September, 2019 practices for Unifest began. There was an atmosphere of great enthusiasm and determination spread around the Alumni Hall and Music Room where most of the performing arts participants used to practice. A proper procedure of auditions was conducted to select the eligible candidates for various events. Not only this but also trainers were invited to pursue the best out of them. Alpana Bhatnagar was invited to teach folk dance, Ajit Singh Sircamet to teach classical dance, Rahul Gupta taught mime, Chotu Bhaiya played dholak, Gayatri (Didi) played tabla, Ram (Bhaiya) played harmonium. Many of them also came as accompanists for various events.
Thededicationoftheparticipantswascommendable,theyusedtospendhourspracticingfortheirconcernedeveventsandthewayinwhichmanyofthemperformedinthecontestsshowedhowhardworkalwayspayseyourageachoneofthemirrespectiveofwinningorlosingtheeventblossomedlikeabuddingflowerassomeonehasrightlysaidyouneverlose,eitheryouwinoryoulearn.So,allofushadahandfuloflearninglessonsalongwithjoyinourheartsandhappinessonfaceforfetching1st,2ndand3rdpositionsforvariousotherevents.

Timefliesofastandonemonthpassedinjusttheblinkofan
eye. ThethreedaysofUnifestwereclosebutwewerealso
preparedtoshowcaseourhardworkandtalent. Therewasarush
ofmixedemotionswithinallofus, wewereexcitedaboutthe
Unifestyetwewerealsoconcernedabouttheevents.

26thSeptember 2019

Thefirstdayofunifestwaspreathrillingone, allthestudentsalongwithconcerned
teachers met at J.P. Auditorium of the Dr. B.R.A. Uniiv. for team registration.

There are mainly four venues where the events of various
categories of Music, Dance, Literary, Theatre and Fine Arts were to
beheld, these are J.P. Auditorium, Institute Of Life Sciences, Dau
Dayal Institute Of Vocational Education and Seth Padam Chand
Jain Institute Of Management.

AUDITORIUM

➤ Classical Singing;
➤ Classical Instrumental Solo (Percussion);
➤ Classical Instrumental Solo (Non-Percussion);
➤ Classical Solo Dance;
➤ Western Group Singing;
➤ Western Solo Singing;

INSTITUTE OF LIFE SCIENCES
➤ Painting;
Collage;
Poster Making ;

DAUDAYALINSTITUTEOFVOCATIONAL EDUCATION
Written Quiz;
Essay Writing;

SETH PADAM CHAND JAIN INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT.
Seminar;
Elocution;

The above mentioned were the events that were held on the very first day of Unifest. All of the participants did quite well on their parts and so were the results of the first day.

27th September 2019

The energy was still high on the second day which continued until we won the OVERALL CHAMPION TROPHY. The following events were held on the next day of Unifest:

J.P. AUDITORIUM
Solo Light Vocal;
Folk Solo Singing;
Mime;
Mono Acting;
Mimicry ;

INSTITUTE OF LIFE SCIENCES
Spot Photography;
Cartoon;
Clay Modelling ;
Second Day was also up to our expectations and many of our students fetched prizes in various events which increased the enthusiasm of the whole team.

28th September 2019

The third and final day was beside us in just a blink of an eye. The fervor was on peak and each one of us were eagerly waiting for the final results. The following were the events held on the last day of Unifest:

**AUDITORIUM**

- Oral Quiz;
- Folk Group Dance;
- Folk Solo Dance;
- Rangoli

**INSTITUTE OF LIFE SCIENCES**

- Installation

**SETH PADAM CHAND JAIN INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT.**

- English Debate;

Littledid we realizethat the time finally approached us when the results were to be declared. All of us were related when the results were being announced, therewasacheerfulatmosphereandOur
Team could smell the fragrance of victory as the results were being proclaimed. The students of the college performed very well and won the following awards:
1. **WESTERNGROUPSINGING–1st PRIZE**

Akash Mishra, Ritusha Joel, Steve Antony, ReshuGupta, Aleena Varghese, Alex Wilson And Animesh Chauhan (Accompanist).

2. **FOLKDANCESOLO-1st PRIZE** (Kanishka Baghel)
3. QUIZ – 1\textsuperscript{ST} PRIZE (Shruti Mahesari)

4. HINDIDEBATE – 1\textsuperscript{ST} PRIZE (Drishti Kulshrestha)

AND

5. ENGLISHDEBATE – 1\textsuperscript{ST} PRIZE (Drishti Kulshresha)
6. MIMICRY – 1ST PRIZE (Mritunjay Chauhan)

7. CARTOONING – 1ST PRIZE (Poorti Kapoor’s Work)
8. SPOTPHOTOGRAPHY–1ST PRIZE (Mudit Sharma)

Mudit’s Photograph that won 1st prize
9. **MONOACTING – 1ST PRIZE** (Yash Uprati)

10. **MIME – 1ST PRIZE** (Mritunay Chauhan and Alex Wilson)
11. **ENGLISHDEBATE–2^{\text{ND}}\text{PRIZE}** (Lakshya Dandotiiya)

![Image of prize ceremony for English Debate 2nd Prize]

12. **SHASTRIYASWARVADYA–2^{\text{ND}}\text{PRIZE}** (Aryushi Bharambhatt)

![Image of prize ceremony for Shastriya Swarvadya 2nd Prize]
13. MEHENDI – 2\textsuperscript{ND} PRIZE (Mehak Tiwari)

14. LOK GAAYAN – 3\textsuperscript{RD} PRIZE (Archana Kumari)
Finally, the most awaited results were to be proclaimed—The Overall Champions Trophy: JITENDRA RAGHUVANSHI MEMORIAL CHAL VAIJAYANTI. Yet again ST. JOHN’S COLLEGE, AGRA won the overall first position for the third time in a row which happens once in a blue moon but it was possible because of the hard work of each and every person involved in it.
Not only this, but also the college has won 3 of 5 trophies, the prestigious Gangadhar Shastri Trophy for Hindi Debate, the Pannalal Trophy for English Debate and the overall trophy, the Jitendra Raghuvanshi Memorial Chal Vaijayanti.

In a nutshell, Unifest 2019 has been full of adventures which was successfully persevered by the whole team. The efforts of each and every person whether it be teachers or participants, mentors or volunteers were of great significance and contributed in the glorious moment of winning the all-over champion trophy. The J.P. Auditorium of Khandari Parisar was echoing with the cheers and hooting for St. John’s College, Agra which made us all feel so elated and proud that the feelings of that moment cannot be even put into words.
The Installation, of the office bearers, and Candle Light service of the Student Christian Movement of India (SCMI), St. John’s College Unit, Agra, was conducted on Tuesday, 24th September, 2019 from 5:00 PM in The Chapel of Invitation of the College.

SCMI Convener, Dr. Manjula R. Thomas, extended a warm welcome to the Chief Guest Principal Prof. S. P. Singh, main speaker, Rev. Dr. B. S. Singh (former Chaplin and H.O.D. of Botany), special guest Dr. Mrs. Geetha Singh (former H.O.D. of Botany), Rev. Deacon & Chaplin Dr. J Andrew, team members, faculty members and all those who were present.

The SCMI Choir, Ashna Das and team, worshipped the Lord by singing very melodious and inspirational choruses at the beginning.

Dr. Anita Anand and Dr. Vandana Patankar led the gathering in the responsive reading and Intercessory Prayers respectively.

Prof. S. P. Singh exhorted the students to follow the examples of Moses and David in the service to the Lord and people even in the present times.

Dr. Raju Thomas and Dr. Rohan D’Souza read the scripture portions from Isaiah 61: 1-3, 8-9 and I John 1: 5-10 respectively.

Rev. Dr. B. S. Singh encouraged the students and the staff to imitate Timothy and St. Paul as learner and teacher in following Christ Jesus. He asked the gathering to set the fivefold example; in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity as written in the book of I Timothy 4:12. Then after he conducted the installation service by lighting the candles of the student office bearers.

Dr. Manish Masih highlighted the aims and objectives of SCMI, Dr. David Masih and Dr. Shalomin Sharma helped in Oath and affirmation service respectively, as the Principal pinned up the badges to the SCMI office bearers as a mark of their leadership, the choir presented a very meaningful SCMI solidarity song.

Dr. Manjula R. Thomas proposed the vote of thanks; Rev. Deacon Dr. J. Andrew prayed the closing prayer, Rev. Dr. B. S. Singh pronounced the benediction. The program ended after the group photo session and fellowship in coffee/refreshment with the newly formed committee.
An Entrepreneurship Development Programme, under the aegis of The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Govt. of India, was conducted primarily for final year Graduate students of all faculties, on 2th September, 2019, in the College Assembly Hall. The resource persons present were Mr. Praveen Satya, Programme Coordinator, MSME, and Mr. Rajeev Kumar, Assistant Director, MSME and the chief patron, our college Principal, Prof. S.P. Singh. The purpose was essentially to build awareness among the students in relation to the unlimited avenues of entrepreneurship open to them, if only they are finely tuned to the present day situations, and alert enough to visualize future possibilities and opportunities as well.

Mr. Praveen Satya reminded the students of the greatest success stores built around extremely innovative ideas from the likes of Ritesh Agarwal of OYO fame,
Mark Zuckerberg, Steve Jobs, Bill Gates, Dhirubai Ambani among others, further motivating students to draw upon their inner potential in a unique way, with grit and determination.

Mr. Rajeev Kumar presented a 13 point PPP enlightening students on various factors required for SSI, from taking a decision, selecting and preparing a project to arrangement of funds and finance and assessing the profits. He spoke of several Govt. of India Schemes and Support such as Credit Guarantee Fund, and promising business propositions. He also highlighted that National Awards for such Innovations and schemes and the ZED certificate for ‘zero effect, zero defect’ was indeed an encouraging factor.

We are pleased to inform you that the college has already set up an Incubator Cell to motivate and guide students with fresh ideas.

**Unifest Victory celebration report**

Volume 1, No:1, Autumn, 2019
A celebration was organised in the college hall to felicitate the team that won the overall championship at the UNIFEST 2019, on 4/10/19. The celebrations were attended by several members of the college family as well as the winning team of staff and students. The Principal, Prof. S. P Singh, congratulated the team on their achievement, third year in a row, and motivated them to continue striving to do their best. The atmosphere was joyous and celebratory.

The students who participated in the UNIFEST, representing the college, received their trophies and certificates from our Principal, assisted by Dr Rachita Sharma and Ms Atisha Srivastav. Mr Bob Gardner was master of ceremonies and Dr Vinny Jain, proposed a formal vote of thanks to all those who helped, supported, guided and motivated the students in their preparations for the event.
Mr, Mudit Sharma, clicked the photographs that appear along with this write up. He happens to be the winner of the first prize in the photography category at the UNIFEST.
The staff and students present partook of the tea and snacks served after the ceremonies were over.
Contributions of the Faculty
Ragging: A Serious Offence

Dr. Raju Thomas, Member Anti-Ragging Cell, (Department of Applied Business Economics)

The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India says, "Ragging is an Offence". Any student found to be directly or indirectly involved in ragging, not only loses his/her candidature from the institution but, is also liable for punishment under clauses 7 & 9.1 of the regulations.

Human Rights Commission has taken the act of ragging very seriously and advocated punishments to the guilty. In accordance with the Supreme Court/Human Rights Commission, the St. John’s college administration has adopted zero tolerance policy with regard to ragging and sufficient measures have been taken to prevent the act of ragging in and around the campus. Anti ragging committee consisting of senior faculty members has been formed in the college to ensure ragging free campus. The Proctorial board/Anti-ragging committees consisting of senior members from staff consistently monitor the daily activities of the students inside the campus. Posters containing message against ragging have been posted on the walls and website of the college, to deter and warn the senior students about the consequences of ragging.

Punishments against Ragging:- Depending upon the nature and gravity of the offence as established by the Anti-Ragging Committee of the Institution, the possible punishments for those found guilty of ragging shall be any one or any combination of the following:
1. Suspension from attending classes and academic privileges
2. Withholding/withdrawing scholarship/fellowship and other benefits
3. Forfeiting campus placement opportunities/recommendations
4. Debarring from appearing in any test/examination or other evaluation process.
5. Withholding of results.
6. Debarring from representing the institution in any regional, national or international meet, tournament, youth festival etc.
7. Suspension/expulsion from the hostel
8. Cancellation of Admission
9. Rustication from the institution for a period, ranging from 1 to 3 years.
10. Expulsion from the institution and consequent debarring from admission to any other institution for a specific period.
11. Fine of INR 25,000/-
12. In addition, in every single case or incident of ragging, a First Information Report (FIR) will be filed with the local authorities. The possible punishment includes rigorous imprisonment (in compliance with order Supreme Court of India).

Reference: Anti-Ragging, UGC@http://www.antiragging.in
Charles Robert Darwin (1809-1882)

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“Was simply a blank”, “Gas”, “The man who walks with Henslow” were nicknames earned by famous Charles Robert Darwin (1809-1882), a British naturalist and biologist well known for his theory of evolution. Darwin is one of the most prominent scientists who ever lived. Today, more than 163 years after he first published ‘On the Origin of Species’, his theory remains one of the most essential and omnipresent scientific tools. Jean-Baptiste de Lamarck and many others have already proposed how evolutions bring changes but there
were objections against those theories, Darwin was merely the first to come up with a series of examples to support his hypothesis, which he was observing since his childhood.

**Life**

Sir Francis Darwin, son of Charles Darwin wrote the biography of Charles Darwin in 1876 for his children. Robert Warring and Susannah were father and mother of Charles Darwin. He was born at Shrewsbury on Feb. 12, 1809. His mother died when he was 8 years old. He was looked after by his elder sister Caroline. In 1817, he was sent to a school in Shrewsbury, where he proved to be a much slower learner as compared to his younger sister Catherine, but he had a passion for collecting all sorts of things, like shells, seals, coins, and minerals. Darwin studied plant variability and thought that by watering them with certain colored liquids he could generate different colored primroses. Charles went to the great school of Dr. Butler in Shrewsbury in 1818 and stayed there until 1825 for seven years. Only classical topics have been taught in school, viz. Ancient history and geography in which he was considered to be an average student. Considering school years of Charles Darwin, in accordance to his parents and teachers "was simply a blank". He was fond of reading and read the book, "Wonders of the world", which gave him a desire to travel to remote areas of the world. His brother had set up a tiny tool-house laboratory where Darwin was permitted to work as an assistant. They used to create gases and compounds late at night. The news in the college was somehow known and Darwin was nicknamed as "Gas" by his friends.

His dad admitted him to study medicine at Edinburgh University (Scotland) in Oct. 1825. He was never interested in medicine and hated theaters of surgery. He was somehow confident that his dad would leave him sufficient estate to survive in a comfortable life that would dissuade him from any hard work.

Charles had friendship with the zoologist Robert Grant and the geologist Robert Jameson at the university. He also read and was greatly impressed with "Zoonomia," written by his grandpa, Sir Erasmus Darwin. He learned here taxidermy as well. He attended lectures on geology and zoology during his second year.

His father came to know that Charles didn't like the idea of being a doctor, so he decided to become a clergyman for whom a degree from one of the English universities was needed. So Charles was sent in 1828 to study theology at
Christ's College at Cambridge University. He remained there until 1831. Here he gathered many insects. One day after tearing off some old bark, he saw two rare beetles and seized one in each hand, then he saw the third one of the new kind, which he couldn't bear to lose. So he popped one in his mouth!

Darwin was friendly at Cambridge with Professor John Stevens Henslow, who had an extensive understanding of botany, entomology, chemistry, mineralogy, and geology. He used to take long walks with him, so some of his colleagues called him, "the man who walks with Henslow." Henslow also convinced Darwin to study geology and introduced him to Professor Sedgwick.

Professor Henslow informed Darwin that Capt. Fitz Roy was prepared to surrender the portion of his cabin to a young person who would go with him as a naturalist on the Beagle's journey without pay. Darwin was anxious to accept the offer, but his dad firmly objected to it, but his uncle later persuaded his dad. The journey enhanced Darwin's observation strength. He gathered and made thorough notes on a big amount of animals and fossils. Capt. Fitz Roy could never comprehend why Darwin brought all kinds of "useless junk" on board the boat Darwin visited Tenerife, Brazil, Montevideo, Fuego Land, Buenos Aires, Chile, Galapagos, Tahiti, New Zealand, and Tasmania. Darwin resided first in Cambridge and then in London on his return to England. He prepared his travel accounts and prepared his evolution theory. He married his cousin Emma Wedgwood on January 29, 1839, and left nearly immediately after the ceremony for London, disturbing visitors. They had 10 kids (2 died in infancy).

During the journey, Darwin was struck by the discovery of fossil animals and by how strongly related animals substitute each other in moving south over the continent and by the character of most of the Galapagos Archipelago communities in South America and by how they vary slightly in each group of islands. It was obvious that such facts could be explained only on the assumption that species would gradually change.

In October 1838, Darwin read Malthus' paper, "The Population Principle," and it immediately hit him that, in the scenario of struggle, favorable differences tended to be maintained and unfavorable ones destroyed; the outcome would be the formation of new species. At the beginning of 1856, on the recommendation of Lyell, Darwin began to write his opinions completely on' species problem,' but Darwin knew that going against the church and keeping
unorthodox opinions were dangerous and blasphemous, for which the church could punish him.

In 1858, Alfred Russell Wallace, whose job was on zoogeography in the archipelago of Malaya, sent Darwin an essay, "On the tendency of varieties to depart indefinitely from the original type," with a note that he should send it to Lyell for perusal if he thought well of the essay. This essay contained the same theory on which Darwin worked. An abstract of Darwin's manuscript and Wallace's essay was sent to Asa Gray at the invitation of Charles Lyell and Joseph Hooker, to be submitted to the Linnaean Society and subsequently published in the society's journal. During the lecture none of the writers were present.

The joint paper's headline was as follows: "On the tendency of species to form varieties and on the perpetuation by natural selection of varieties and species." Darwin released his book, "The Origin of Species through Natural Selection," within a year in 1859, which made him a celebrity overnight. "Man's descent" was released on February 1871, bringing comprehensive criticism to him. He was a prolific writer and published a lot of study academic papers.

Charles Darwin died on April 19, 1882. He was suffering from Chagas disease; he has been thought to pick infection during beagle's journey. Chagas disease is a tropical parasitic disease caused by the protist Trypanosoma cruzi. It is spread mostly by insects known as Triatominae, or "kissing bugs".

**Lessons to be learned**

1. **Importance of observation**

Observation helps us decide whether it's safe to cross the road. Scientists use observation to collect and record data, which enables them to construct and then test hypotheses and theories. Scientists observe in many ways – with their senses or with tools such as microscopes.

Darwin was an average student, but with a passion to collect things, like shells, seals, coins and minerals, a quality that leads a man to become a systematic naturalist. On the voyage of the beagle, he brought so much so from places where the ship stopped for exploration that by the end of the journey he was hardly left with space to sleep in cabin allotted to him. It was during
this time on the Beagle that he made the observations that led to pieces of evidence to build his hypothesis.

2. The Three C’s of Innovation: Combination, Collaboration, and Chance

Darwin's work on the voyage of beagle encompasses collection, identification and analyzing pieces of evidence. With ample amount of time, he also read many books and was influenced by Charles Lyell's Principles of Geology, which described the new theory that helped Darwin translate his observations of seashells found on hilltops.

In his article, Thomas Malthus described how population increases quicker than the resources from which they find support. It was that paper that completed Darwin's hypothesis of Darwin's natural selection hypothesis.

If the world was constantly changing, as Lyell had suggested, and there was always more life than means to sustain it, as Malthus had shown, then there must be continuous survival competition. Under these circumstances, environment-friendly features would be passed on and those unfavorable would die out.

So Darwin's theory was a blend of Lyell's geology concepts, Malthus's demographic observations, and his explorations, which he had closely recorded during the journey. It is hard to see how Darwin, without each of the three parts, could have thought of his hypothesis.

He was continuously writing letters to other authors and was lucky enough to combine them and produce something new.

3. We commit fantastic mistakes

Darwin's theory of natural selection has proved to be one of the most successful in the history of science, but it wasn't perfect. Blending inheritance and theory of pangenesis aspects of this theory were fantastically wrong. Darwin required fuel for his theories, without explaining the cause of variations he can't propound his theory, so he suggested two supportive theories to explain his work.

Theory of blending inheritance, which suggested that offspring take on an average of their parent's traits. It is almost laughably wrong, as Darwin realized soon after his book was published. If traits were passed down that way, then they would become more similar over time rather than more
diverse. Since natural selection depends on variability to produce adaptations, the idea of blending inheritance undermined the very theory Darwin was trying to establish.

Theory of pangenesis- Every cell in our bodies sheds tiny particles called gemmules, “which are dispersed throughout the whole system,” Darwin wrote, and “these, when supplied with proper nutriment, multiply by self-division, and are ultimately developed into units like those from which they were originally derived.” Gemmules are, in essence, seeds of cells. “They are collected from all parts of the system to constitute the sexual elements, and their development in the next generation forms a new being.” Because both parents contribute these cell seeds, offspring end up blending the features of mom and dad; theory when seen in recent light, turns to be senseless.

4. Harder, you work luckier you get

Hard work is the prerequisite to have luck. In a modern sense, we can say that the option of luck gets activated only when you have signed for the option of hard work. The contradiction of comparison between hard work and luck is that the majority of people believe more in the latter and less in the former. It has been seen that people generally set out the path to success depending on luck alone which is sheer folly. They end up disappointed and unsuccessful. On the other hand, some people are inspired by hard work and take the same as their path to success. Hard work appears to be drudgery but in reality, it is sheer blessedness!!

Charles Darwin worked hard with perseverance and patience. Charles Darwin was only 22 years old in 1831 when he sailed as ship's naturalist on the H.M.S. Beagle on what would turn out to be a five-year voyage circumnavigating the globe. He collected diverse pieces of evidence to support his theory. It took him his life to collect and analyze it. He published papers on biology, geology, evolution, plants, humans and also on emotions; ‘The Expression of the Emotions in Men and Animals’. Here, he explored the connections between literature, understanding, and emotional states. He devoted his life to academics.

After seeing Charles Darwin life, what turns out naturally is that one can be sincere, constant, and slow in working things out yet, at last, produce innovative ideas. Darwin does not fit the format of "genius" that has been given to us from the universes of physical science and arithmetic, yet the results of his work exhibit exceptional understanding of nature.
In brief, the lessons we learn from Charles Darwin's life are:

- Adaptability is essential to our own survival and growth
- You will succeed only once you have evolved
- Persistence is essential to attaining anything in life.

References:


GENDER EQUALITY: AN ANALYSIS

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Gender equality is seeing males and females as being of equal status and value. It is judging a person based on their merit, and not viewing them as inferior or superior purely based on their gender. Women have been fighting for equal rights for generations, for the right to vote, the right to control their bodies and the right to equality in the workplace. These battles have been hard fought, but there’s still a long way to go.

The issue of gender equality is by far the most burning issue of present times. Varied views are put forth by various sections of the society. ‘Gender equality’ is attributed to upliftment of women, to their emancipation, to their emerging as ‘empowered’ etc. For several years now they have been ‘oppressed’ and ‘subdued’. In the Indian context, since times immemorial they have been depicted as goddesses, and glorified as objects of worship in Hindu mythology. But if their current roles are to be analysed they are nowhere close to even being respected. Before proceeding to enumerate the steps towards gender equality let us examine what it actually means. When we talk about gender equality, it does not mean ‘snatching’ rights from men to be given to women. At this point I would like to mention ‘transgenders’. This section of the society is fast emerging as an influential element of progress.

Let us briefly discuss the role of transgenders, as our main discourse is targeted towards placing of men and women on the same platform. The main challenge before this section is the social stigma attached with their acceptance as normal human beings. It is our moral responsibility to realize that their physical state is not by choice but due to natural accidents during development in the mother’s womb. Our main focus should be on realizing that they are forced to adopt a public display of disgrace to earn. If we provide them opportunities to progress, they too will contribute towards the betterment of the society. Article 15 of the Indian Constitution prohibits discrimination against any citizen on the grounds of religion, race, caste, sex etc.

At the international level, prohibition against sex discrimination was first articulated in the United Nation’s Charter of 1945 and later reiterated in the
Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948. If we go by the above, disparity on the basis of sex is banned both at national and international levels. Transgenders are now readily accepted across the globe. We as Indians need to accept them mentally and socially. Perhaps then we can have the fabric of a progressive society ready.

Coming back to gender equality in terms of equal rights for men and women, the root cause of the problem lies in the mental barriers that the Indian mind is presently enjoying. Why women are oppressed and suppressed in the Indian society is largely due to their being treated as commodities. Commodities of exchange. Exchange in marriage. A huge amount of dowry to be specific. Mostly such an ideology results in mourning in the Indian houses on the birth of girl child. An average Indian who lives below Rs.20/day finds no way to accumulate this huge amount but to curb all resources like education, health and social welfare for the female child. The onus now lies on the parents of the groom. They need to analyse if by demanding such an ‘item’ they are selling their son or getting him married. A life partner who complements and completes oneself is truly the foundation of a healthy marriage. An educated bride not only brings with her a storehouse of values but also the promise of healthy future generations. What will one prefer—someone who brings a hefty dowry and can in no way contribute to the betterment of race or someone who not only is able to glorify the present but also proves to be an instrument of radical change for all future generations.

Education is the key to empowerment. According to a study published by the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative on ‘Human Rights and Poverty Eradication’, two-thirds of illiterate people are women. This non-educated section of the society is also responsible for the suppression of their female counterparts. They contribute equally in achieving this subordination as well as being led into supporting, reflecting, conniving with and maintaining patriarchy. As an educator, I would like to emphasize upon the golden rule of preaching education to one and all. Education should not be restricted to the classroom. The fruits of education in terms of liberation should be disseminated to one and all. Educators are influencers too. They can bring about a phenomenal change if they truly utilize their potentials.

Then we have women in extreme poverty, destitute women, women in conflict situations, women affected by natural calamities, women in less developed regions, the disabled widows, elderly women, single women in difficult
circumstances, women heading households, those displaced from employment, migrants, women who are victims of marital violence, deserted women and prostitutes etc. Targeted efforts are required in order to achieve rescue of the above. Organizations working towards this goal need to be encouraged. At an individual level, a person can report a case in time for action is effective only if taken within the time frame.

For working women, the battle is more cumbersome. Often, they face instances of sexual harassment or less pay administered for same amount of work. Cases of inhumane conditions and refusal of maternity relief have been reported.

We need role models to follow and Aisha is one such name that comes to my mind. It is about two Arab women who challenged patriarchal traditions and became successful because they believed in themselves. Shalatin is an Egyptian city near the Red Sea about 1000 kilometers east of Cairo. The individuals residing on the shore of the Red Sea are mostly Arab ethnic groups or Bedouins involved in pastoralism, camel hunting and trading. The primary function of males in the community is to provide subsistence and take responsibility for the family. Shalatin is one of Egypt's most marginalized towns as it is far from the main capital and is not deemed one of the tourist spots. Women's craft has emerged since ancient times. They produce wicker jewelry, storage products and decorative objects. They also create beads and leather products for accessories. However, it was hard for females to get out of their homes and market their products because their traditions restrict their roles to family care and household chores.

Aisha decided not to adhere to customs and traditions that would discourage females from leaving home or seeking employment. She collected the products from the craftsmen and put them on the market in villages where tourists visit. She also agreed to create an exhibition for visitors with many hotels and reinforced relationships with permanent customers such as Fair-Trade Egypt.

Fair Trade Egypt today operates to gain extra revenue with females like Aisha. A group of 80 females has been helped by the project that Aisha began. Her tale is a living evidence of being a successful Bedouin businesswoman. Aisha is a mother of three children—the oldest is a university student, and the younger kids are high school students, making Aisha proud as her job let her provide her kids with an education.
The Constitution of India imposes a fundamental duty on every citizen through Article 51A(e) to renounce practices derogatory to the dignity of women. Any such case of violation of the Constitution should be reported and dealt with utmost strictness. The accused should be punished to set an example for all misdemeanors. Also, it is the responsibility of both the male and female colleagues of the worker to stand as pillars of support of the victim.

Perhaps, the most important conceptual advance in the international law of women’s rights is the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). It provides that women be given rights equal to those of men. The Preamble of CEDAW maintains that ‘the full and complete development of a country, the welfare of the world and cause of peace requires the maximum participation of women on equal terms with men in all fields.’

At last, it can be concluded that gender equality cannot be achieved if the most important instruments of progress are neglected. Men cannot be barred of their rights as humans. But women should be treated as humans too.

In spite of women being given powers through the constitution, they are refused the basic right of life and freedom. As educators, our main emphasis should be on spread of correct thought process. Each individual should be trained to keep one thing in mind and that alone should be the progress of the nation. Social evils like discrimination on the basis of sex should be uprooted. The tools to attain the above contribute to environmental sustainability too.

Proper health conditions, elimination of violence against women, equal participation at all levels of the society are greatly sought for. Today, the women world over are expanding their horizons. Gender equality can be achieved; it is not an impossible task. The greatest need is to change the ‘precipitated attitude towards women. And as educators, we hold the key.
LINKING EDUCATION AND LOCAL CULTURE

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Educational institutes have been developed to give people the skills and knowledge they would need in the world. They help us develop an understanding of self, heritage and environment. An inclusion of local culture and heritage is therefore, essential in any educational institute. Taking an in depth look, education and culture are strongly inter-related. As we all know that most educational institutions in the country are found on European models to fulfil the requirements of the government at that time. In fact, in many countries it was the settlers, or conquerors that introduced formal education. Fast forward to today and we find education focusing on trying to improve the results of indigenous students.

The lack of indigenous education would keep indigenous youth ignorant of their very own culture. In order for indigenous students to succeed within the education system it is necessary that students are able to develop a sense of belonging. To develop a sense of belonging, a student needs to find commonalities with their own life and living situation. They need to see similarity with their own context. The inclusion of cultural practice within the education curriculum can develop this sense of belonging. For some students it will be the sense of familiarity that they respond to, for others it will be the age-old human desire to know where they come from that will attract them. Providing the opportunity for a student to know oneself and one’s heritage will ensure that student develops a strong sense of identity, leading to greater self-confidence.

Our school education relies almost exclusively on predetermined sets of ‘competencies’ to be acquired through rote memorization, thereby denying our children opportunities to exercise their innate thinking capabilities and their individual creativity. Our classroom pedagogy deprives children opportunities to learn in a collaborative, reflective manner that would have at least helped them acquire basic social skills. The declining awareness among our children about their own cultural background is a matter of concern.
The New Education Policy, 2019 envisions to create a new system that is aligned with the aspirational goals of 21st century education, while remaining consistent with India’s traditions and value systems. Language is a medium of expression of the individual, society and its collective continuity in culture, in addition to being a tool for communication. Language has a direct bearing as the mediator in all cognitive and social capacities, including knowledge acquisition and production. The science of child development and language acquisition suggests that young children become literate in (as a language) and learn best through (as a medium of instruction) their “local language” i.e. the language spoken at home.

Despite the rich, expressive and scientific nature of Indian languages, there has been an unfortunate trend in schools and society towards English as a medium of instruction and as a medium of conversation. Moreover, Indian languages are very scientifically structured, and do not have unphonetic, complicated spellings of words and numerous grammatical exceptions; they also have a vast and highly sophisticated ancient, medieval, and modern literature in the Indian context; as a consequence, they have a certain home-feel and “apnaapan” quality in the Indian context, making them easier, more relatable, and more relevant for children and adults alike to learn and speak. The advantage in communicating the culture of the group to the child through education is that he/she is thereby acquainted with the traditions, customs, values and patterns of conduct prevailing in his group. This knowledge enables him to adapt to social environment and thus achieve his socialization. The cultural resources of one’s country help make the people, human beings equipped with cultural values, identity, and expression, which is necessary to work efficiently, creatively, and with happiness.

For true equity and inclusion in society, and in the education and employment systems across the country, the power structure of language must be stopped at the earliest. An importance and prominence must be returned to Indian languages that has been lost in recent years. Language teaching jobs must be created in schools and universities across the country to help connect together Indians from differing geographical areas as well as from differing socio-economic strata. The entire schooling should be based on the culture of the locality/community. Learning should be made ‘culture sensitive.’ The school curriculum should be process based experiential with sufficient flexibility to integrate local culture. The curriculum should have sufficient flexibility to accommodate the
hopes, aspirations, needs and culture of the local community. The ‘dominant’ nature of the textbook should be toned down. There must be sufficient space for accommodating local art forms, practices, places, institutions, festivals, rituals, artefacts, literature, even local riddles and humour. The teacher should become a friend and facilitator encouraging different cultural patterns and processes. Conscious efforts should be made to ensure that the Teaching Learning process does not become culturally sterile: consciously or unconsciously promoting one particular culture / sub-culture.
“WE FIRST MAKE OUR HABITS, AND THEN OUR HABITS MAKE US”

**Dr. Rachita Sharma**  
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Habits are not destiny but we are what we repeatedly do, so we need to track our habits to shape our life in better way. All big things come from small beginnings. Our habits are like tiny seeds when they are sown but as that decision is repeated a habit sprouts and grows stronger. Roots go deeper and branches emerge stronger day by day. We sometimes categorize habits into good or bad but if people know that certain habit is bad than why they find it difficult to give up. The reason behind it is that all habits serve a person in some ways – that’s why we repeat them. Therefore we can say that habits are only effective at solving problems at that point of time. Smoking a cigarette may reduce stress right now so a person feel it’s an effective habit at that point of time but what about in long run? All habits gradually have compounding effects either in favor or against, so there may be positive or negative compounding effects. When we learn one new thing or study about some new idea we will turn into genius, but when we commit to lifelong learning, we will get transformed i.e. knowledge compounds. When we love, care, help people around us, people reflect our behavior back to us. Every good deed comes back to us in one form or the other. Being nicer in each interaction will result in broad and strong connections overtime i.e. relationships compound. When we accomplish one extra task with the given assignment, it will look negligible but it counts a lot over an entire career i.e. Productive Compounding. On the other hand, negative compounding will cut us down. When we have habit of doing things at last moment, we pile up things and there is a frustration, which results in stress compounding, and serious health issues. When we develop a habit of looking oneself as worthless, incapable, ugly, we start developing inferiority complex and our approach towards people and life is grey and black i.e. Negative thoughts compound. We can say habits can be maker or breaker, it’s like a double-edged sword. The key to use this sword is to sharpen your positive habits and breaking bad ones by understanding fundamental law.
एक विचार जो बदल दे आपकी जिन्दगी: चिंतन

डा० विजीस रोनित साइमन
असित प्रोफेसर, राजनीतिक विज्ञान विभाग

यह बात अधिक चिंतन योग्य है किसी भी दायरे में न बंधने का हर व्यक्ति का स्वाभाविक
नेवर होता है, लेकिन अपने वाले उसको सीमाओं में बंधने का भरसक प्रयास करते हैं। बच्चे
के जन्म के साथ ही हम उसे अपने धर्म से बांध देते हैं। क्या कभी उसको बड़े होने पर हम
यह कहने की हिम्मत जुटा पाते हैं कि तुम यह धर्म बदल कर अपनी मर्जी का धर्म चुन लो?
हम चाहते हैं कि हमारा बच्चा हमारी भाषा सीखे, जबकि बचपन से ही उसे ऐसी दूसरी भाषा
सिखाई जा सकती है, जो जिंदगी में उसकी ज्यादा काम आए, लेकिन डर रहता है कि कहीं
वो बड़ा होकर हमसे दूर न चला जाये। ऐसे ही, पत्नी अपने पति का और पति अपनी पत्नी
को दोनों हमेशा अपने ही ख्यालों के अनुपयोग दूसरे को बांधने की कोशिश करते हैं। बंधन हमें
कभी भी बड़ा नहीं बनाता, हमेशा छोटा बनाता है। वह हमारी बुद्धि को विशाल नहीं, बल्कि
सीमित करता है। जबकि हमारे भीतर सब कुछ जानने की लगन लगी होनी चाहिये।

दुनिया के सभी धर्मों में जो भी अच्छी बातें हैं, वो सीखनी चाहिये।

जैसे भरत नाटयम से लेकर बेली तक, जो भी डांस होता है, वो देखें, उसकी खूबसूरती को
सराहें और वह नृत्य सीखें। स्टेज नाटक से लेकर ओपेरा तक सब पता हो। अच्छी से लेकर
प्रेंच तक – सबको जानने की ललक हो। संगी हो या आर्ट, भारतीय हो या पश्चिमी सब के
लिये समान भाव से उत्सुक रहें। सभी खेलों की जानकारी हो। हमें किसी भी संस्कृति से
अछूता नहीं रहना चाहिये।

दुनिया में जो भी बेस्ट से बेस्ट कल्चर है, उसको अपनाना चाहिये। ये सब नामुमकिन नहीं,
लेकिन इसमें हमारी कृपा मंडूकता (कुएं के मेंढक वाली सोच) बाधक बन जाती है। छोटे से
दायरे में देखने की हमारी आवश्यकता हमें दूर–दूर तक देखने नहीं देती है। जबकि संसार हम
जितना देखते हैं, जितना हम सोचते हैं– यह सिर्फ उत्तर न ही नहीं है। यहां हर क्षेत्र में आगे
बढ़ने की हजारों संभावनाओं छिपी हैं। बस आपको अपना नजरिया व्यापक और विशाल करना
होगा। हमें अपने बच्चों की भी जीवन में सभी संभावनाओं के बारे में बताना होगा, ताकि वो
और ऊंचाइयों को देख सके और उन्हें छूने की कोशिश कर सके।

गुरु शिष्य की सभी संभावनाओं को देख कर उसको सीमाओं से बाहर निकालता है, लेकिन
माता–पिता बच्चों को बांधने की कोशिश में रहते हैं, क्योंकि बुढ़ापे में कठिनाई होगी, और इस
सोच की बजाय से मां–बाप खुद तो बुढ़ापे में निराधार बनते ही हैं, बच्चे को भी उसके बचपन
में कमजोर बना देते हैं। वे बच्चे को इतना प्रोटेक्शन देते हैं, इतना ख्याल रखते हैं कि आगे
खुद संघर्ष करने और अपने पैरों पर खड़े होने की उसकी ताकत कम हो जाती है। बच्चा
जितना निराधार हो, उसका उत्तन की ज्यादा विकास होगा। यह एक्सरसाइज है, जो हमारे राइट ब्रेन को विकसित करने का तरीका है। इसके विकसित होने से हम स्वयं नई खोज करते हैं – कला, संगीत, साहित्य, प्रेम और अध्यात्म के क्षेत्र में आगे बढ़ते हैं।

हर व्यक्ति का व्यक्तित्व उसके विचारों पर निर्भर करता है, वहीं अच्छे विचार व्यक्ति को विकास के पथ पर अग्रसर करते हैं।
Contributions

Of

the Students
Ode to an Indian Naari

Jessica Joel

She was born amidst the ardent expectations,
And celebrations for a baby boy.
But as soon as the nurse announced her gender,
The laddoo box was shoved off,
Candles lit in prayers blown off,
She crooned under her mother’s empathic gaze,
The anguish of being an Indian Naari.

She learnt to walk and talk,
She learnt to read and write.
She learnt to massage her grandpa’s feet,
And learnt to serve the chai.
She rode her brother’s motorbike,
And swung the bat hard for six.
Unperturbed by the ordeals of Indian Naari.

She excelled in studies and became an engineer,
She was catcalled even before she hit puberty,
And sat on wads of thousands.
She was groped umpteen number of times
But still her brother was forced to accompany her,
She was banned from going to Holy Places,
For any task during the dark hues of dusk,
When she had her periods.
Be it during the midnight shifts,
She had to face the irate stalkers,
Or the late night strolls in the neighbourhood.
And drape a scarf in the metros.
And thus, a stigma of being an Indian Naari.
The vulnerable Indian Naari.

But she hadn’t learnt to be a ‘victim’
She learnt the knack of fiery cold glares,
And the tact of hitting hard in the groins or breaking bones,
She learnt to bleed with pride in womanhood,
She walked with poise, undaunted and valiant,
She embraced her body’s magnificence, each cut and curve.
And stood on the rostrum of a powerful Indian Naari.

She dealt with hundreds of men with respect,
And learnt to say a resolute No!
She reached where other women had cringed,
And turned the impossible into remarkable.
With her cerebration, embraced all endeavours,
And above all deeply respected both men and women,
An incredibly absolute Indian Naari!
**WE ARE WHERE!**

**Sankalp Deep Singh BA I Year**

We are where
Where we dare

We are where
Where we care

We are here to
Learn good

We are here to
Be good

We are here to
Make a move

We are here to
Do good

So let us
Be together

And make our
Nation best Forever!
WHAT BOOKS CAN GIVE YOU.

AYAAN HUSSAIN
B.Sc. Part III (BIO)

“What an astonishing thing a book is. It’s a flat object made from a tree with flexible parts on which are imprinted lots of funny dark squiggles. But one glance at it and you're inside the Mind of another person, maybe somebody dead for thousands of years. Across the millennia, an author is speaking clearly and silently inside your head, directly to you. Writing is perhaps the greatest of human inventions, binding together people who never knew each other, citizens of distant epochs. Books break the shackles of time. A book is proof that humans are capable of working magic." – Carl Sagan

When today most of the information from around the world is received through the web which randomly keeps us glued to our electronic devices. What most fail to understand is they are being transformed into consumers rather than learners. When today most kids brag about their high scores in computer games, feel bliss with increasing likes on Instagram, they do not realize that they are turning to instant gratifiers rather than learners. This increased shift in material desires & entertainment bonanza has finally led to the wisdom crisis. Most men and women are failing to keep up with a good lifestyle. Daily troubles at home, work, in relationships and personal life indicates the lack of a cultured mind. It becomes very concerning when almost every other person in society is reporting the same pains and sufferings in life. So what can anyone do? The easy part is when a large group has a common problem you can bring out a common solution. To anyone inspiring for a good job, preparing for competitive exams, starting relationships, building startups and doing anything that could promote social, personal, economic welfare of theiras well as their family should at least read a book on life lessons, learn principles from the lives of great leaders, and go through self-help books to at least pick up something from them that could help in life. People have to be reminded that they nearly spent the first two decades in life educating, learning, studying which has built their minds to absorb almost any relevant information that could help them in better survival. Reading some books provides you core knowledge on a subject and brings discipline, time management, inculcates some principles and
values, helps figure out how to think and what actions to take. Books convert the information you hold in your brain into knowledge because it has to be understood that devouring large volumes of facts and figures doesn’t help in becoming successful, it is actually the processing of information into knowledge that shapes the blocks of the mind. Books can change the ordinary mind that is mostly deviated, vulnerable to corruption and poorly learnt. Books can uplift your personality and shape your thoughts, these good thoughts will decide your actions, these actions become habit and then these habits become your character and at last your character decides your destiny.
FEDERALISM: UNIFYING DIVERSITY

Piyush Yadav B.A.-II

With the commencement of the constitution on 26 Jan 1950, India adopted federalism as the structure of the government. Ironically with no mention of the word 'Federation' in the whole text, instead article 1 states Bharat i.e. India is the union of states.

BACKGROUND

There lies two types of federations on the basis of their formation. Firstly, federation by the way of integration where several weak states come together by an agreement to form a big and powerful federation with the guaranteed right to secede from it. USA is the chief paradigm of it. Which is the oldest federation of the world.

Secondly, federation by way of disintegration with Canada as its main proponent and India its Chief emulator. Here the big state is divided into several units granting them autonomy and efficient administration.

Unlike USA both Canada and India are neither the product of any agreement between the states nor they have the right to secede from the federation. Which is the major cause of use of word union over federation in fundamental law of land i.e. constitution. Therefore, India is the indestructible union of destructible states.

SIGNIFICANCE

With the dissolution of power between the national and the regional authority along with legislative sovereignty in their respective field as prescribed by the constitution there is the creation of political culture where diverse as well as regional aspirations could bloom which is the basic requirement of democracy.

Healthy democracy requires every distinct voice to be heard with full fledged rational support to it, whether in majority or in minority which could only be possible with the decentralisation of power.
Apart from federal structure 73rd constitutional act was the further decentralisation of power bringing democracy to fulfill the regional interest to the grassroot level. More or less federalism is the competent answer to the governance of the country which is a country of diverse culture.

**IN INDIAN CONTEXT**

From one end to another whether longitudinally or latitudinally, heterogeneity of culture, language, tradition resides in the veins of India. Keeping in mind all the above traits India has with evolution assumed the asymmetrical form of federalism (non uniform/variable autonomy to various states due to regional interests) which is evident from article 371-371 J of the Indian constitution granting special provisions to several states as required to preserve the interests of the people.

Asymmetry is imperative to Indian federalism as it was the basis for the integration of several states into the union of India. Though India is a federal states but not absolute rather quasi-federal in nature which is expressed by certain provisions of the constitution.

Firstly while altering the name, increase or decrease in area of state or demotion of state to UT as done in case of J&K, the parliament does not require the concurrence of the state.

Secondly, the parliament has overriding power over concurrent list and residuary power also lies with the centre unlike the USA where it lies with the state.

**MENACE / THREAT**

When there is no enemy within, the enemy outside can do is no harm. The demotion of J&K to the status of Union territory in an unprecedented way is the threat to other states also and to federalism too. In the upcoming future any political party with enormous mandate at centre, to fulfill the political aspiration at state level where it was unable to do so would have the constitutional but immoral authority to demote any state to the status of UT. As the state assembly of Jammy and Kashmir was dissolved the state legislature even did not get the right to express its opinion for bifurcation and demotion of state into UT under Art 3.

All these current scenarios are prevailing, the wind blowing towards a unitary state from a culturally diversified state bound by federalism.
Why Teaching is not just a Profession
But a Noble Profession

ANKIT YADAV BA First Year

Profession may be defined as any occupation which helps a person to get his or her livelihood or in other words, we may say bread and butter. There are various professions in the present era through which a person can get his or her livelihood but teaching is considered not only as a task but a noble profession. It is important for a person to know what is noble. Noble is something which is very lofty and dignified. Teaching is considered as a noble task because in this profession, a teacher touches the lives of many children and tries to teach them not only the curriculum or syllabus but the moral values. Before teaching others, the moral values, the person himself or herself needs to apply all the values to his/her own life. The teaching profession can be considered noble because a teacher can change the whole life of child by creating good impact on him. Even a spoiled child can be a good person after getting inspiration from the teacher. Although inspiration can be got from any person or from any place but a teacher directly influences the lives of thousands of students and play a crucial role in making them good citizens and especially good human beings.

Thus the teaching profession can be considered as a noble profession because the aim of a teacher is not just to earn money but to make a child a good human being.
The Irony of the Female Imperfection

NANDINI VERMA

She's a girl, yes she's imperfect
Yet she tries to be perfect,
She's a girl, yes she's immature
Yet she behaves maturely,
She's a girl, yes she's unloved
Yet she nourishes love,
She's a girl, yes she cries
Yet she wipes eyes,
She's a girl, yes she's alone
Yet she seeks to give you a home
She's a girl, yes she needs you sometimes
Yet she's afraid not to disturb you anytime,
She's a girl, yes she make mistakes
Yet she never argues for loves sake,
She's a girl, yes she's imperfect,
But you O man, are you perfect?
GOOD BYE

Shumayala Aftab, B.A. III

I can’t tell you how difficult it is to describe how sad I am to be leaving.

When I got here three years ago, I would never have realized how connected we get to people. Many a times I have been humbled by the kindness of their hearts. Three years ago, everything was difficult. And now that I look back, I realize that three years can do a lot to a person.

Tomorrow I will wake up in my new life, full of yet to be realized opportunities, and empty of their company…………. I will be in a strange limbo.

I will always miss these days. All three years of graduation have now ended, with renewed dreams though with heavy hearts. Some friendships stand still in the middle of the long way and some are yet to be continued. I am really going to miss all the silly things done- the fun, the frolic, tea with samosas, everything.
A Soulful Cry

Shubhangi Pasricha, M.A Final (English)

Where were you mom when I needed you?
When I needed someone to hold tight to?
Where were you mom when I had slit my wrists?
And let my blood flow like Christmas gifts?
Why did you do that to me dad?
I’m your daughter, I’m not so bad!
You’ve beaten me with hand, foot and belt
While bruising me, did your heart never melt?
Do you not know how hard I’ve tried?
And drowned myself in liquor and wished I died!
You’ve made me bleed, bruise and swell
My relationship with you now is a foul, foul smell!
These are my last words and my cry
This is now my final and forever goodbye!
क्या लिखूँ
खुशमिजाज या गमगीन
पर हाय लिखूं कसे
मैं ठहरी अनुभवहीन
इन्हीं विचारों में खोकर
टूटे–फूटे शब्दों में सारी कथा कह डाली
आशा है पढ़ लेंगे सभी जन इसको
इसी से होगी पहचान हमारी।

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मैं कुछ कहना चाहती हूँ
मानवेन्द्र सिंह यादव बी0ए0 प्रथम वर्ष

मैं कुछ कहना चाहती हूँ
अपने हिस्से का जीवन जीना चाहती हूँ।
इस रंग-बिरंगी दुनिया में
मैं भी सुख-भोगना चाहती हूँ।
जन्म लेने दो बेटी को भी
वह बेटे से बढ़कर दिखलायेगी
धरा का सुख क्या चीज है,
आसमान से तारे तोड़ लायेगी।
अगर बेटी नहीं होती तो
माँ की ममता कहाँ से आयेगी?
भाई के हाथों में राखी बांधने
बहन भला कहाँ से आयेगी?
मेरा तो कहना यही है
बचाओ जीवन अजन्मी बेटी का
वरना अस्तित्व मिट जायेगा,
इस दुनिया से मानव का।
बच्चों का आभासीकरण: बच्चों का सामाजिक जीवन से बढ़ता अलगाव
अधिता शर्मा (एम0ए0 द्वितीय वर्ष, राजनीतिक शास्त्र)

वर्तमान चतुर्थ ऑडियोग्राम नेटवर्क के दौर में सूचना एवं संचार प्रौद्योगिकी का महत्व बढ़ता जा रहा है जिसका प्रभाव नकारात्मक व सकारात्मक संदर्भों में समाज के प्रत्येक तबके पर देखा जा रहा है जैसे- सूचना का तब्रित आदान प्रदान, सोशल मीडिया की बढ़ती आदत, ऑनलाइन गेम्स (पब जी0, ब्लू वेल इत्यादि) का आदी होना आदि। 18 वर्ष से कम उम्र के बच्चों पर इसका प्रभाव बढ़ता जा रहा है जैसे पोर्नोग्राफी, गेम्स, फेसबुक, आदि के द्वारा भी बच्चों की मनोदशा को प्रभावित किया जाता है, जिससे बच्चे अपराध की ओर आत्मसमर्पित हो रहे हैं एवं सामाजिक जीवन से उनका अलगाव बढ़ता जा रहा है। वे ऑनलाइन दुनिया या आभासी दुनिया में रहना पसंद करते हैं। इसके फलस्वरूप बच्चों व उनके माता-पिता के बीच की दूरी बढ़ रही है एवं उनमें निरंतर संबंध नहीं हो रहा है, जिससे बच्चों मानसिक अवसाद, धूम्रपान, आत्महत्या आदि जैसे कदम उठा रहे हैं, जिससे समाज में बलात्कार, गैंग कलर आदि जैसे अपराधों में बढ़ोतरी होती है। नेशनल क्राइड रिकॉर्ड ब्यूरो के अनुसार-समाज में बलात्कार जैसे जागतिक अपराधों के लिये अधिकांश 16 से 18 वर्ष की उम्र के बच्चे ही दोषी पाये जा रहे हैं हालांकि भारत सरकार न इन अपराधों पर नियंत्रण बनाने हेतु (पोक्सो एक्ट) का भी क्रियान्वयन किया है यह सकारात्मक कदम है बल्कि इसके अलावा समाज को भी कुछ कदम उठाने होंगे जैसे- बच्चों को सोशल मीडिया की पहुंच से दूर रखा जाये, (आउट डोर गेम्स), को बढ़ावा दें, बच्चों को सामाजिक मूल्यों से परिचित कराये, अर्थात उचित सामाजिक आदर्श जानाये ताकि बच्चों की आभासी दुनिया से दूर किया जा सके एवं उनको समाज की वास्तविकताओं से परिचित किया जा सके।

अतः सूचना एवं संचार प्रौद्योगिकी का सही उपयोग ही सच्चे अर्थों में समाज को समावेशी रूप से लाभानिव कर सकता है।
"Patriotism is when love for your own people comes first, nationalism is when hate for people other than your own comes first."

These differentiating lines by the French military general and president Charles de Gaulle so aptly describe the current scenario and the havoc of hatred caused by the resurgent wave of nationalism in India. The abrogation of article 370 has been seen as a historic moment and the highest wave in this resurgence, homogenous to other such decisions like surgical strikes, the air strikes or the demonetisation. Is this the single most important steps towards the integration of our country and is Mr. Modi the true "Unifier in chief of India"?

The foremost question that arises out of this rhetoric and hatred is, "Whether we would be patriotic if Pakistan instead of being a terror heaven was a peaceful nation"? Answer is that without our foolishly tyrannical neighbour we would have no scapegoat to exert our current pseudo nationalism.

Reasons

The foremost reason of this shallow and dangerous movement is the inability of the bourgeois to differentiate between the state and the government. The stifling of rational and erudite voices beneath the false narrative and loud rhetoric leading to the dying of dissent comes fine tuned with the politicising of media and creating a political space for the army as a supreme organism. This portrays the regime as the sole representative of the general good and the ultimate protector, which is one of the most toxic things that can happen to a democracy.

LOOMING FASCISM
IN the Martin longman list of the 12 early signs of fascism the very foremost is "Powerful and continuing nationalism". Apart from this, doubling up government with religious affairs and many others are equally at large and obvious today. When these false and hollow causes of hatred becomes thenationalistic heartthrob of a nation, the entire country becomes like a herd of sheep who gradually become blind and aggressively indignant towards anyone outside the herd and what other example to quote of this current phenomenon than the rise of mob Lynchings and hate crimes on communal or cattle lines.

Where are we heading?

This blatant disregard for human rights and subsuming of Constitution in this fire of nationalism is just the closest milestone towards our own destruction. Lately when the total proof of one's nationalism has been reduced to three slogans in the sequence, BHARAT MATA KI JAI, JAISHREE RAM and hurling abuses at Pakistan. The great slogans of the truly unifying freedom movement has been maligned in the most disgusting way, today lies the need to once again revitalize the true spirit of freedom struggle and the oneness achieved then. The true patriotism is love and working towards a better future for the person next to you, your countrymen, an Indian. It is respect for our struggles of emancipation from the British shackles as a unified nation, respect for our institutions and being subordinate to the Constitution for its right functioning, performing our duties in letter and spirit and treating none as second class citizens but only as a son of this great motherland.

If Otherwise?

Or else the form of far right wing authoritarian ultranationalism characterized by dictatorial power, forcible suppression of opposition, dying dissent along with strong regimentation of society that came to prominence in the 20th century Europe is spreading its roots in India of the 21st century. The true testimony of our patriotism lies today in identifying these malicious roots and chop them off to never return in this democratic temple.
FIRST POINT

Prime minister Narendra modi launched the ‘FIT INDIA MOVEMENT’ on Thursday 29 August saying the initiative is the need of the hour and will take the country towards a healthier future

SECOND POINT

At a colourful ceremony which included a presentation of India’s indigenous martial art forms dances and sports. Modi ji said technology has contributed to a sedentary lifestyle. “Fitness is zero percent investment with infinite returns; Modi ji said at the event.

THIRD POINT

The campaign is aimed at encouraging people to include physical activity and sports in their every day lives. A committee headed by Kiren Rijiju and government officials members of Indian Olympic association (IOA)National sports federation and private bodies and fitness promoters has been formed to take the movement forward.

FOURTH POINT

Fitness has always been an integral part our culture. But there is indifference towards fitness issue now. A few decades back A normal person would walk 8- 10 km in a day do cycling or run. But with technology physical activity has reduced. we walk less now and the same technology tells us that we are not walking enough he added.

FIFTH POINT

Modi ji said the younger generation grappling with lifestyle disease is a worrying trend. There is surge in diabetes and hypertension cases and many more. We hear sometimes a 12or 15 year old is suffering from diabetes or a 30 year old has had a heart attack. It is worrying trend but I still find positives form. I am a positive person. these are lifestyle disorders and can be fixed with change in lifestyle.
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